NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION OF

The Holy Bible



இயேசு கிறிஸ்துவின் நாமத்தில் அன்பின் வாழ்த்துக்கள்

ஏறக்குறைய 7 ஆண்டுகளாக பல இடங்களிலிருந்து சேகரித்த சுமார் 200 ஆண்டுகளுக்கு முன்பு வரை அச்சடிக்கப்பட்ட, ஆரோக்கிய உபதேசங்கள் அடங்கிய, கிறிஸ்தவ ஆவிக்குரிய புத்தகங்களை, பல மணி நேரம் கொடுத்து, பல இலட்சங்கள் செலவு செய்து மின் நூல்களாக (E-Books) இலவசமாக (மத்தேயு 10:8) உங்கள் கரங்களில் கொடுப்பதற்கு, அற்பரும் நீசருமான எங்களை பயன்படுத்தின உன்னத தேவனுக்கே சகல கனமும் மகிமையும் துதியும் உரித்தாவதாக. இதைப் போன்ற இன்னும் ஆயிரக்கணக்கான புத்தகங்களை தரவிறக்கம் (Download) செய்ய எங்களுடைய இணையதளத்தை சொடுக்கவும்/பார்க்கவும்: www.WordOfGod.in

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The HOLY BIBLE

NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION

Containing The Old Testament and The New Testament

BHARATIYA BIBLE LEAGUE



God's Word for the World

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Preface

THE NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION is a completely new translation of the Holy Bible made by over a hundred scholars working directly from the best available Hebrew, Aramaic and Greek texts. It had its beginning in 1965 when, after several years of exploratory study by committees from the Christian Reformed Church and the National Association of Evangelicals, a group of scholars met at Palos Heights, Illinois, and concurred in the need for a new translation of the Bible in contemporary English. This group, though not made up of official church representatives, was transdenominational. Its conclusion was endorsed by a large number of leaders from many denominations who met in Chicago in 1966.

Responsibility for the new version was delegated by the Palos Heights group to a self-governing body of fifteen, the Committee on Bible Translation, composed for the most part of biblical scholars from colleges, universities and seminaries. In 1967 the New York Bible Society (now the International Bible Society) generously undertook the financial sponsorship of the project—a sponsorship that made it possible to enlist the help of many distinguished scholars. The fact that participants from the United States, Great Britain, Canada, Australia and New Zealand worked together gave the project its international scope. That they were from many denominations—including Anglican, Assemblies of God, Baptist, Brethren, Christian Reformed, Church of Christ, Evangelical Free, Lutheran, Mennonite, Methodist, Nazarene, Presbyterian, Wesleyan and other churches—helped to safeguard the translation from sectarian bias.

How it was made helps to give the New International Version its distinctiveness. The translation of each book was assigned to a team of scholars. Next, one of the Intermediate Editorial Committees revised the initial translation, with constant reference to the Hebrew, Aramaic or Greek. Their work then went to one of the General Editorial Committees, which checked it in detail and made another thorough revision. This revision in turn was carefully reviewed by the Committee on Bible Translation, which made further changes and then released the final version for publication. In this way the entire Bible underwent three revisions, during each of which the translation was examined for its faithfulness to the original languages and for its English style.

All this involved many thousands of hours of research and discussion regarding the meaning of the texts and the precise way of putting them into English. It may well be that no other translation has been made by a more thorough process of review and revision from committee to committee than this one.

From the beginning of the project, the Committee on Bible Translation held to certain goals for the New International Version: that it would be an accurate translation and one that would have clarity and literary quality and so prove suitable for public and private reading, teaching, preaching, memorizing and liturgical use. The Committee also sought to preserve some measure of continuity with the long tradition of translating the Scriptures into English.

In working toward these goals, the translators were united in their commitment to the authority and infallibility of the Bible as God's Word in written form. They believe that it contains the divine answer to the deepest needs of humanity, that it sheds unique light on our path in a dark world, and that it sets forth the way to our eternal well-being.

The first concern of the translators has been the accuracy of the translation and its fidelity to the thought of the biblical writers. They have weighed the significance of the lexical and grammatical details of the Hebrew, Aramaic and Greek texts. At the same time, they have

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striven for more than a word-for-word translation. Because thought patterns and syntax differ from language to language, faithful communication of the meaning of the writers of the Bible demands frequent modifications in sentence structure and constant regard for the contextual meanings of words.

A sensitive feeling for style does not always accompany scholarship. Accordingly the Committee on Bible Translation submitted the developing version to a number of stylistic consultants. Two of them read every book of both Old and New Testaments twice—once before and once after the last major revision—and made invaluable suggestions. Samples of the translation were tested for clarity and ease of reading by various kinds of people—young and old, highly educated and less well educated, ministers and laymen.

Concern for clear and natural English—that the New International Version should be idiomatic but not idiosyncratic, contemporary but not dated—motivated the translators and consultants. At the same time, they tried to reflect the differing styles of the biblical writers. In view of the international use of English, the translators sought to avoid obvious Americanisms on the one hand and obvious Anglicisms on the other. A British edition reflects the comparatively few differences of significant idiom and of spelling.

As for the traditional pronouns "thou," "thee" and "thine" in reference to the Deity, the translators judged that to use these archaisms (along with the old verb forms such as "doest," "wouldest" and "hadst") would violate accuracy in translation. Neither Hebrew, Aramaic nor Greek uses special pronouns for the persons of the Godhead. A present-day translation is not enhanced by forms that in the time of the King James Version were used in everyday speech, whether referring to God or man.

For the Old Testament the standard Hebrew text, the Masoretic Text as published in the latest editions of *Biblia Hebraica*, was used throughout. The Dead Sea Scrolls contain material bearing on an earlier stage of the Hebrew text. They were consulted, as were the Samaritan Pentateuch and the ancient scribal traditions relating to textual changes. Sometimes a variant Hebrew reading in the margin of the Masoretic Text was followed instead of the text itself. Such instances, being variants within the Masoretic tradition, are not specified by footnotes. In rare cases, words in the consonantal text were divided differently from the way they appear in the Masoretic Text. Footnotes indicate this. The translators also consulted the more important early versions—the Septuagint; Aquila, Symmachus and Theodotion; the Vulgate; the Syriac Peshitta; the Targums; and for the Psalms the *Juxta Hebraica* of Jerome. Readings from these versions were occasionally followed where the Masoretic Text seemed doubtful and where accepted principles of textual criticism showed that one or more of these textual witnesses appeared to provide the correct reading. Such instances are footnoted. Sometimes vowel letters and vowel signs did not, in the judgment of the translators, represent the correct vowels for the original consonantal text. Accordingly some words were read with a different set of vowels. These instances are usually not indicated by footnotes.

The Greek text used in translating the New Testament was an eclectic one. No other piece of ancient literature has such an abundance of manuscript witnesses as does the New Testament. Where existing manuscripts differ, the translators made their choice of readings according to accepted principles of New Testament textual criticism. Footnotes call attention to places where there was uncertainty about what the original text was. The best current printed texts of the Greek New Testament were used.

There is a sense in which the work of translation is never wholly finished. This applies to all great literature and uniquely so to the Bible. In 1973 the New Testament in the New International Version was published. Since then, suggestions for corrections and revisions have been received from various sources. The Committee on Bible Translation carefully considered the suggestions and adopted a number of them. These were incorporated in the first printing of the entire Bible in 1978. Additional revisions were made by the Committee on Bible Translation in 1983 and appear in printings after that date.

As in other ancient documents, the precise meaning of the biblical texts is sometimes uncertain. This is more often the case with the Hebrew and Aramaic texts than with the Greek text. Although archaeological and linguistic discoveries in this century aid in understanding difficult passages, some uncertainties remain. The more significant of these have been called to the reader's attention in the footnotes.

In regard to the divine name *YHWH*, commonly referred to as the *Tetragrammaton*, the translators adopted the device used in most English versions of rendering that name as "LORD" in capital letters to distinguish it from *Adonai*, another Hebrew word rendered "Lord," for which small letters are used. Wherever the two names stand together in the Old Testament as a compound name of God, they are rendered "Sovereign LORD."

Because for most readers today the phrases "the LORD of hosts" and "God of hosts" have little meaning, this version renders them "the LORD Almighty" and "God Almighty." These renderings convey the sense of the Hebrew, namely, "he who is sovereign over all the 'hosts' (powers) in heaven and on earth, especially over the 'hosts' (armies) of Israel." For readers unacquainted with Hebrew this does not make clear the distinction between *Sabaoth* ("hosts" or "Almighty") and *Shaddai* (which can also be translated "Almighty"), but the latter occurs infrequently and is always footnoted. When *Adonai* and *YHWH Sabaoth* occur together, they are rendered "the Lord, the LORD Almighty."

As for other proper nouns, the familiar spellings of the King James Version are generally retained. Names traditionally spelled with "ch," except where it is final, are usually spelled in this translation with "k" or "c," since the biblical languages do not have the sound that "ch" frequently indicates in English—for example, in *chant*. For well-known names such as Zechariah, however, the traditional spelling has been retained. Variation in the spelling of names in the original languages has usually not been indicated. Where a person or place has two or more different names in the Hebrew, Aramaic or Greek texts, the more familiar one has generally been used, with footnotes where needed.

To achieve clarity the translators sometimes supplied words not in the original texts but required by the context. If there was uncertainty about such material, it is enclosed in brackets. Also for the sake of clarity or style, nouns, including some proper nouns, are sometimes substituted for pronouns, and vice versa. And though the Hebrew writers often shifted back and forth between first, second and third personal pronouns without change of antecedent, this translation often makes them uniform, in accordance with English style and without the use of footnotes.

Poetical passages are printed as poetry, that is, with indentation of lines and with separate stanzas. These are generally designed to reflect the structure of Hebrew poetry. This poetry is normally characterized by parallelism in balanced lines. Most of the poetry in the Bible is in the Old Testament, and scholars differ regarding the scansion of Hebrew lines. The translators determined the stanza divisions for the most part by analysis of the subject matter. The stanzas therefore serve as poetic paragraphs.

As an aid to the reader, italicized sectional headings are inserted in most of the books. They are not to be regarded as part of the NIV text, are not for oral reading, and are not intended to dictate the interpretation of the sections they head.

The footnotes in this version are of several kinds, most of which need no explanation. Those giving alternative translations begin with "Or" and generally introduce the alternative with the last word preceding it in the text, except when it is a single-word alternative; in poetry quoted in a footnote a slant mark indicates a line division. Footnotes introduced by "Or" do not have uniform significance. In some cases two possible translations were considered to have about equal validity. In other cases, though the translators were convinced that the translation in the text was correct, they judged that another interpretation was possible and of sufficient importance to be represented in a footnote.

In the New Testament, footnotes that refer to uncertainty regarding the original text are introduced by "Some manuscripts" or similar expressions. In the Old Testament, evidence for the reading chosen is given first and evidence for the alternative is added after a semicolon (for example: Septuagint; Hebrew *father*). In such notes the term "Hebrew" refers to the Masoretic Text.

It should be noted that minerals, flora and fauna, architectural details, articles of clothing and jewelry, musical instruments and other articles cannot always be identified with precision. Also measures of capacity in the biblical period are particularly uncertain (see the table of weights and measures following the text).

Like all translations of the Bible, made as they are by imperfect man, this one undoubtedly

falls short of its goals. Yet we are grateful to God for the extent to which he has enabled us to realize these goals and for the strength he has given us and our colleagues to complete our task. We offer this version of the Bible to him in whose name and for whose glory it has been made. We pray that it will lead many into a better understanding of the Holy Scriptures and a fuller knowledge of Jesus Christ the incarnate Word, of whom the Scriptures so faithfully testify.

The Committee on Bible Translation

June 1978
(Revised August 1983)

Names of the translators and editors may be secured
from the International Bible Society
144 Tices Lane, East Brunswick, New Jersey 08816.

Introduction

HISTORY

The *NIV Cross-Reference Bible* began with a vision of one individual more than a decade ago. By the time the project was completed, however, it involved more than forty individuals and a half dozen computers.

Dr. Donald Madvig, then of Bethel Theological Seminary in St. Paul, began work on the *NIV Cross-Reference Bible* in 1973, shortly after the first text edition of the NIV New Testament was released. His plan was to collate by hand all the cross references from the best available study Bibles and to refine and rearrange the material. The New Testament was completed in essence in 1980. As Madvig began his work on the Old Testament, he realized the poor quality of the content and organization of the study Bibles on which he had been basing his work. However, ill health prevented his continued involvement with the project. In 1981 Zondervan Bible Publishers invited John Kohlenberger of Portland, Oregon, to continue the work on the Old Testament. Because of the massive nature of this phase of the project five Old Testament experts were called in to help. These men, most of whom had served as translators of the NIV, gathered teams of students from their respective educational institutions to collate and evaluate Old Testament cross references as Madvig had done for the New Testament.

Since an enormous amount of sorting of data was necessary for the Old Testament, it was apparent that this could best be done by computers; therefore Zondervan contacted the Control Data Corporation to develop the software needed for this undertaking.

The material the contributors accumulated amounted to nearly 5,000 hand-written pages that were edited and keyed into a massive computer data-base. By June of 1982 the input was completed and the material was sorted into Biblical order. The computer printout that was used for further editing was more than 2,500 pages, or 150,000 lines long. The material was first edited for obvious errors, corrected, resorted and sent back to the original contributors in October of 1982 for their interaction.

During this process the New Testament materials were reworked to match the format that had by now been adopted for the Old Testament. The Old Testament contributors' references to the New Testament were also evaluated in order to tie them into New Testament "chains," further assuring the cohesiveness of the two Testaments whose materials had been assembled by such different processes. During 1983 the references were organized into "chains," which after a final phase of thorough examination and editing totaled just over 82,000 references—without any loss of information.

In December of 1983, these references were merged by computer with the NIV—a process that essentially proofread the Old Testament materials—and a tape of Genesis through Job was computer typeset at Auto-Graphics, Inc. in Los Angeles. The rest of the Old Testament was completed and typeset at the beginning of February 1984.

FEATURES OF THE NIV CROSS-REFERENCE BIBLE

Because of the exacting manual work on the New Testament and the precision of the computer process for the Old Testament, the *NIV Cross-Reference Bible* is one of the most thorough, accurate and best organized reference Bibles available. And, as is clear from the title and introduction to this Bible, the major features are the text of the New International Version and the cross-reference system.

But before examining each feature independently, you should become familiar with the general layout of the page. The first pages of Matthew will serve this purpose well. Most important is the text of the NIV. You will notice that it is not laid out verse-by-verse and margin-to-margin in each of the two columns of text. Verse numbers still appear as raised letters preceding the words that start each verse, but the text is organized in **paragraph** form, a more meaningful way of dividing the text.

Further, the structure of the text is pointed out by **special indentations.** The structure of

chapter 1, as explained in verse 17, is emphasized by double spacing between the three groups of genealogical materials and by indenting each of the fourteen generations under their heads: Abraham (vv. 2-6a), David (vv. 6b-11) and the exile of Babylon (vv. 12-16). Other examples of special indentation include poetry (Mt 2:6, 18), letters (Ac 15:23-29) and lists (Ne 7:8-63).

Paragraphs show the logical organization of the verses or sentences of the text. **Sectional headings** show the logical organization of the paragraphs. The materials of Matthew 1:1-17 are therefore titled "The Genealogy of Jesus."

Footnotes to the NIV text are indicated by raised, bold-faced letters following the words or phrases they explain. They point out such things as alternate translations (Mt 2:2**c**), meanings of Hebrew and Greek terms (Mt 1:17**b**, 21**c**), Old Testament quotations (Mt 2:6**h**, 15**j**, 18**k**) and alternate readings in ancient Biblical manuscripts (Mt 5:22**u**, 44**b**). These footnotes appear at the bottom of the right-hand column, preceded by the footnote letter and verse number.

Cross-Reference materials are also indicated by raised letters, but this system employs a different typeface than the one for footnotes: NIV footnotes use a **bold** typeface, while cross-reference footnotes use a *light italic* typeface. When a single word is addressed by both types of footnotes, the bold NIV footnote comes first, as in Matthew 1:21, "Jesus, **c***t*".

Further, though the cross-reference materials normally appear in the center column, they sometimes completely fill the center column, as on the first page of Genesis. In such cases they continue at the bottom of the right-hand column *preceding* the NIV footnotes.

To locate the cross-reference materials for any word or phrase, first find the **chapter and verse** (in bold print) in the center column. Then, match the *raised italic* letter that follows the word or phrase in the text to the *raised italic* letter following your chapter and verse designation in the center column. It is important to begin with the chapter and verse designations, because each footnote letter can be repeated two or three times on each *page* but can be used only once in a single *verse*.

One final feature of the page is the system of **Parallel and Reference Passages.** When two or more passages of Scripture are nearly identical or deal with the same event, this "parallel" is noted at the sectional headings for those passages. At Matthew 1:1, verses 1-17 are noted as "parallel" (*pp*) to Luke 3:23-38, as are verses 3-6 to Ruth 4:18-22 and 7-11 to 1 Chronicles 3:10-17. Similar events in the Gospels and narrative portions of the Old Testament are designated "reference passages" and are indicated by the abbreviation "*Ref*," as at Matthew 8:23.

THE CROSS-REFERENCE SYSTEM

The cross-reference system resembles a chain with many "links." The "links" in the chain, rather than referring individually to each other, refer instead to the first link. This organizing head of the chain is called the "See" reference and is indicated by the letter "S" preceding the book-chapter-verse designation.

Two exceptions must immediately be noted to this basic scheme. First, because of limits of space, the initial reference is not always the organizing head. Second, the links in long chains are not always gathered at one location. In other words, a chain is sometimes subdivided into shorter chains.

An example of the first instance occurs in Matthew 1:20, where the reference to the word "angel" is listed in the center column as "S Ac 5:19." The "See" reference relating to angels is in Acts, not in its first appearance in Matthew (otherwise the books of Genesis and Matthew would be all references and little text). An example of the second occurs in Matthew 1:1, where the phrase "son of David" is referenced to twelve contexts as well as to "S Mt 9:27." At Matthew 9:27 "Son of David" is referenced to an additional eight contexts.

A further examination of this "son of David" chain would reveal that the subdivision is based on specific subject matter. The materials at Matthew 1:1 relate to the Old Testament background of Jesus' descent from David while the materials at Matthew 9:27 are all statements or confessions proclaiming Jesus as the son of David. This is also true of the "angel" list at Acts 5:27. The texts listed in the center column generally relate to the "angel of the Lord," while the texts listed at "S Jn 20:12" refer to angels in general.

Because the New Testament was done by hand, the subdivision of the chains is often based on the specifics of content. Because the Old Testament was done by computer, the subdivision is not usually so specific. In both Testaments, however, you will want to work through *all* of the references and all of *their* references, to whatever degree you desire. Whether they are "S" references or not, they all have significant points of contact with the words and concepts you are studying.

The materials at Genesis 1:1 provide a good example of the resources of the *NIV Cross-Reference Bible*. There are four lists of references to the first verse of the Bible. All relate to creation, but from different perspectives and applications. Note *a* deals with creation as having taken place "in the beginning." Note *b* lists the three other occurrences of the word "created" in Genesis 1-2. Note *c* focuses on "the heavens" as God's creation. Note *d*, because it is attached to the end of the verse as well as to the word "earth," deals with the word "earth," the phrase "the heavens and the earth" and with creation itself (the whole verse).

Just as all of these facets and elements of creation are contained in this one verse, so they will be in others. The various chains will intersect and diverge; your perspectives will be sharpened as well as broadened as you work through the cross-reference system. This will be true of any subject you study. The materials of the *NIV Cross-Reference Bible* are virtually inexhaustible—but you must decide how far you want to work through each study.

There are two additional features regarding the lists of references that you should note. First, as you work through each list, you will find that they are in Biblical order with one exception. If reference is made to a verse within the same chapter you are studying, that "ver" reference is first in the list, regardless of Biblical order (see note *c* at Matthew 9:26). Second, if an Old Testament verse is quoted in the New Testament, the New Testament reference is marked with an asterisk (*).

PARALLEL AND REFERENCE PASSAGES

When two or more passages of Scripture are nearly identical or deal with the same event, this "parallel" is noted at the sectional headings for those passages. These passages are especially common in the Gospels and in Samuel, Kings and Chronicles. (Parallel passages in the Psalms are noted directly after the Psalm number, as in Psalm 14. Parallels in Obadiah simply precede verse 1, as there are no subheadings in the book.)

When the two (or more) passages are identical or nearly identical, as at Ezra 1:1, this "parallel" is noted with "*pp.*" When the passages are similar, though not the same event, as at Genesis 12:10, this similarity is noted with "*Ref.*" Both types of passages are always ranges of verses. Individual parallel verses, such as Judges 17:6 and 21:25, are connected in the cross references, but are not marked as parallel passages.

Two things should be kept in mind when studying parallel and reference passages. First, these passages are noted at the sectional headings but do not necessarily cover the entire range of verses the sectional headings do. For example, at 2 Chronicles 36:15 the sectional heading "The Fall of Jerusalem" covers verses 15-23. But the first parallel covers only verses 17-20 and the second, verses 22-23.

Second, when a parallel or reference passage is noted at a sectional heading *no further parallels are listed in the cross-reference system*. This was done to conserve space and avoid repetition. Thus, whenever you are studying any verse in any passage of Scripture, check the sectional heading to see if there are parallel passages to include in your study for further illumination and further references.

CONCORDANCE

Besides the cross-reference system and the parallel and reference passages, your Bible contains the largest concordance ever bound together with an English Bible.

You can use the Concordance to find "lost verses"—verses that you remember in essence but not in location—by looking up their key words. If you wanted to find the verse that states "iron sharpens iron," you could locate it under either the word "iron" or "sharpens." But if you wanted to locate the verse that states that the Word of God is "sharper than any double-edged sword," you would have to be more selective with your words, for neither "than" nor "any" is listed. For more information on the Concordance see the Introduction to the Concordance on page 1153.

The Old Testament

Genesis

The Beginning

1 In the beginning[a] God created[b]
the heavens[c] and the earth.[d]
2 Now the earth was[a] formless[e]
and empty,[f] darkness was over
the surface of the deep,[g] and the
Spirit of God[h] was hovering[i]
over the waters.

3 And God said,[j] "Let there be light,"
and there was light.[k] 4 God saw
that the light was good,[l] and he
separated the light from the dark-
ness.[m] 5 God called[n] the light
"day," and the darkness he called
"night."[o] And there was eve-
ning, and there was morn-
ing[p]—the first day.

6 And God said,[q] "Let there be an ex-
panse[r] between the waters[s] to
separate water from water." 7 So
God made the expanse and sepa-
rated the water under the ex-
panse from the water above it.[t]
And it was so.[u] 8 God called[v] the
expanse "sky."[w] And there was
evening, and there was morn-
ing[x]—the second day.

9 And God said, "Let the water under
the sky be gathered to one place,[y]
and let dry ground[z] appear."
And it was so.[a] 10 God called[b] the
dry ground "land," and the gath-
ered waters[c] he called "seas."[d]
And God saw that it was good.[e]

11 Then God said, "Let the land
produce vegetation:[f] seed-bear-
ing plants and trees on the land
that bear fruit with seed in it, ac-
cording to their various kinds."[g]
And it was so.[h] 12 The land pro-
duced vegetation: plants bearing
seed according to their kinds[i]
and trees bearing fruit with seed
in it according to their kinds. And
God saw that it was good.[j] 13 And
there was evening, and there was
morning[k]—the third day.

14 And God said, "Let there be lights[l]
in the expanse of the sky to sepa-
rate the day from the night,[m] and
let them serve as signs[n] to mark
seasons[o] and days and years,[p]
15 and let them be lights in the ex-
panse of the sky to give light on
the earth." And it was so.[q] 16 God
made two great lights—the
greater light[r] to govern[s] the day
and the lesser light to govern[t] the
night.[u] He also made the stars.[v]
17 God set them in the expanse of
the sky to give light on the earth,
18 to govern the day and the
night,[w] and to separate light from
darkness. And God saw that it
was good.[x] 19 And there was eve-
ning, and there was morn-
ing[y]—the fourth day.

20 And God said, "Let the water teem
with living creatures,[z] and let
birds fly above the earth across
the expanse of the sky."[a] 21 So
God created[b] the great creatures
of the sea[c] and every living and
moving thing with which the
water teems,[d] according to their
kinds, and every winged bird ac-
cording to its kind.[e] And God
saw that it was good.[f] 22 God
blessed them and said, "Be fruit-
ful and increase in number and
fill the water in the seas, and let
the birds increase on the earth."[g]
23 And there was evening, and
there was morning[h]—the fifth
day.

24 And God said, "Let the land produce
living creatures[i] according to
their kinds:[j] livestock, creatures

1:1 [a]Ps 102:25; Pr 8:23; Isa 40:21; 41:4, 26; Jn 1:1-2 [b]ver 21,27; Ge 2:3 [c]ver 6; Ne 9:6; Job 9:8; 37:18; Ps 96:5; 104:2; 115:15; 121:2; 136:5; Isa 40:22; 42:5; 51:13; Jer 10:12; 51:15 [d]Ge 14:19; 2Ki 19:15; Ne 9:6; Job 38:4; Ps 90:2; 136:6; 146:6; Isa 37:16; 40:28; 42:5; 44:24; 45:12,18; Jer 27:5; 32:17; Ac 14:15; 17:24; Eph 3:9; Col 1:16; Heb 3:4; 11:3; Rev 4:11; 10:6 **1:2** [e]Isa 23:1; 24:10; 27:10; 32:14; 34:11 [f]Isa 45:18; Jer 4:23 [g]Ge 8:2; Job 7:12; 26:8; 38:9; Ps 36:6; 42:7; 104:6; 107:24; Pr 30:4 [h]Ge 2:7; Job 33:4; Ps 104:30; Isa 32:15 [i]Dt 32:11; Isa 31:5 **1:3** [j]ver 6; Ps 33:6,9; 148:5; Heb 11:3 [k]2Co 4:6*; 1Jn 1:5-7 **1:4** [l]ver 10,12, 18,21,25,31; Ps 104:31; 119:68; Jer 31:35 [m]ver 14; Ex 10:21-23; Job 26:10; 38:19; Ps 18:28; 104:20; 105:28; Isa 42:16; 45:7 **1:5** [n]ver 8,10; Ge 2:19,23 [o]Ps 74:16 [p]ver 8, 13,19,23,31 **1:6** [q]S ver 3 [r]S ver 1; Isa 44:24; 2Pe 3:5 [s]ver 9; Ps 24:2; 136:6 **1:7** [t]Ge 7:11; Job 26:10; 38:8-11,16; Ps 68:33; 148:4; Pr 8:28 [u]ver 9, 11,15,24 **1:8** [v]S ver 5 [w]Job 9:8; 37:18; Ps 19:1; 104:2; Isa 40:22; 44:24; 45:12; Jer 10:12; Zec 12:1 [x]S ver 5 **1:9** [y]Job 38:8-11; Ps 33:7; 104:6-9; Pr 8:29; Jer 5:22; 2Pe 3:5 [z]Ps 95:5; Jnh 1:9; Hag 2:6 [a]S ver 7 **1:10** [b]S ver 5 [c]Ps 33:7 [d]Job 38:8; Ps 90:2; 95:5 [e]S ver 4 **1:11** [f]Ps 65:9-13; 104:14 [g]ver 12,21,24, 25; Ge 2:5; 6:20; 7:14; Lev 11:14,19,22; Dt 14:13,18; 1Co 15:38 [h]S ver 7 **1:12** [i]S ver 11 [j]S ver 4 **1:13** [k]S ver 5 **1:14** [l]Ps 74:16; 136:7 [m]S ver 4 [n]Jer 10:2 [o]Ps 104:19 [p]Ge 8:22; Jer 31:35-36; 33:20,25 **1:15** [q]S ver 7 **1:16** [r]Dt 17:3; Job 31:26; Jer 43:13; Eze 8:16 [s]Ps 136:8 [t]Ps 136:9 [u]Job 38:33; Ps 74:16; 104:19; Jer 31:35; Jas 1:17 [v]Dt 4:19; Job 9:9; 38:7,31-32; Ps 8:3; 33:6; Ecc 12:2; Isa 40:26; Jer 8:2; Am 5:8 **1:18** [w]Jer 33:20,25 [x]S ver 4 **1:19** [y]S ver 5 **1:20** [z]Ps 146:6 [a]Ge 2:19 **1:21** [b]S ver 1 [c]Job 3:8; 7:12; Ps 74:13; 148:7; Isa 27:1; Eze 32:2 [d]Ps 104:25-26 [e]S ver 11 [f]S ver 4 **1:22** [g]ver 28; Ge 8:17; 9:1,7,19; 47:27; Lev 26:9; Eze 36:11 **1:23** [h]S ver 5 **1:24** [i]Ge 2:19 [j]S ver 11

[a]2 Or possibly *became*

that move along the ground, and
wild animals, each according to
its kind." And it was so.[a] 25God
made the wild animals[b] accord-
ing to their kinds, the livestock
according to their kinds, and all
the creatures that move along the
ground according to their kinds.[c]
And God saw that it was good.[d]
26Then God said, "Let us[e] make
man[f] in our image,[g] in our like-
ness,[h] and let them rule[i] over
the fish of the sea and the birds of
the air,[j] over the livestock, over
all the earth,[b] and over all the
creatures that move along the
ground."

27So God created[k] man[l] in his own
image,[m]
in the image of God[n] he created
him;
male and female[o] he created
them.[p]

28God blessed them and said to
them,[q] "Be fruitful and increase
in number;[r] fill the earth[s] and
subdue it. Rule over[t] the fish of
the sea and the birds of the air
and over every living creature
that moves on the ground.[u]"
29Then God said, "I give you
every seed-bearing plant on the
face of the whole earth and every
tree that has fruit with seed in it.
They will be yours for food.[v]
30And to all the beasts of the earth
and all the birds of the air and all
the creatures that move on the
ground—everything that has the
breath of life[w] in it—I give every
green plant for food.[x]" And it
was so.
31God saw all that he had
made,[y] and it was very good.[z]
And there was evening, and there
was morning[a]—the sixth day.

2 Thus the heavens and the earth
were completed in all their vast
array.[b]

2By the seventh day[c] God had fin-
ished the work he had been do-
ing; so on the seventh day he
rested[c] from all his work.[d] 3And
God blessed the seventh day and
made it holy,[e] because on it he
rested[f] from all the work of creat-
ing[g] that he had done.

Adam and Eve

4This is the account[h] of the heavens
and the earth when they were
created.[i]

When the LORD God made the earth
and the heavens— 5and no shrub of the
field had yet appeared on the earth[d]
and no plant of the field had yet
sprung up,[j] for the LORD God had not
sent rain on the earth[d][k] and there was
no man to work the ground, 6but
streams[e] came up from the earth and
watered the whole surface of the
ground— 7the LORD God formed[l] the
man[f][m] from the dust[n] of the ground[o]
and breathed into his nostrils the
breath[p] of life,[q] and the man became a
living being.[r]
8Now the LORD God had planted a
garden in the east, in Eden;[s] and there
he put the man he had formed. 9And
the LORD God made all kinds of trees
grow out of the ground—trees[t] that
were pleasing to the eye and good for
food. In the middle of the garden were
the tree of life[u] and the tree of the
knowledge of good and evil.[v]
10A river[w] watering the garden
flowed from Eden;[x] from there it was
separated into four headwaters. 11The
name of the first is the Pishon; it winds
through the entire land of Havilah,[y]
where there is gold. 12(The gold of that
land is good; aromatic resin[g][z] and
onyx are also there.) 13The name of the
second river is the Gihon; it winds
through the entire land of Cush.[h] 14The
name of the third river is the Tigris;[a] it
runs along the east side of Asshur.
And the fourth river is the Euphrates.[b]
15The LORD God took the man and
put him in the Garden of Eden[c] to
work it and take care of it. 16And the
LORD God commanded the man, "You
are free to eat from any tree in the gar-
den;[d] 17but you must not eat from the
tree of the knowledge of good and
evil,[e] for when you eat of it you will
surely die."[f]
18The LORD God said, "It is not good

1:24 [a]S ver 7 **1:25** [b]Ge 7:21-22; Jer 27:5 [c]S ver 11 [d]S ver 4 **1:26** [e]Ge 3:5,22; 11:7; Ps 100:3; Isa 6:8 [f]Isa 45:18 [g]ver 27; Ge 5:3; 9:6; Ps 8:5; 82:6; 89:6; 1Co 11:7; 2Co 4:4; Col 1:15; 3:10; Jas 3:9 [h]Ac 17:28-29 [i]Ge 9:2; Ps 8:6-8 [j]Ps 8:8 **1:27** [k]S ver 1 [l]Ge 2:7; Ps 103:14; 119:73 [m]S ver 26 [n]Ge 5:1 [o]Ge 5:2; Mt 19:4*; Mk 10:6*; Gal 3:28 [p]Dt 4:32 **1:28** [q]Ge 33:5; Jos 24:3; Ps 113:9; 127:3,5 [r]S Ge 17:6 [s]S ver 22; Ge 6:1; Ac 17:26 [t]ver 26; Ps 115:16 [u]Ps 8:6-8 **1:29** [v]Ge 9:3; Dt 12:15; Ps 104:14; 1Ti 4:3 **1:30** [w]Ge 2:7; 7:22 [x]Job 38:41; Ps 78:25; 104:14, 27; 111:5; 136:25; 145:15; 147:9 **1:31** [y]Ps 104:24; 136:5; Pr 3:19; Jer 10:12 [z]S ver 4; 1Ti 4:4 [a]S ver 5 **2:1** [b]Dt 4:19; 17:3; 2Ki 17:16; 21:3; Ps 104:2; Isa 44:24; 45:12; 48:13; 51:13 **2:2** [c]Dt 5:14 [d]ver 2-3; Ex 20:11; 31:17; 34:21; Jn 5:17; Heb 4:4* **2:3** [e]Ex 16:23; 20:10; 23:12; 31:15; 35:2; Lev 23:3; Ne 9:14; Isa 58:13; Jer 17:22 [f]Ps 95:11; Heb 4:1-11 [g]S Ge 1:1 **2:4** [h]Ge 5:1; 6:9; 10:1; 11:10,27; 25:12,19; 36:1,9; 37:2 [i]Ge 1:1; Job 38:8-11 **2:5** [j]S Ge 1:11 [k]Job 38:28; Ps 65:9-10; Jer 10:13 **2:7** [l]Isa 29:16; 43:1,21; 44:2 [m]S Ge 1:27 [n]Ge 3:19; 18:27; Job 4:19; 10:9; 17:16; 34:15; Ps 90:3; Ecc 3:20; 12:7 [o]Ge 3:23; 4:2; Ps 103:14; Jer 18:6; 1Co 15:47 [p]S Ge 1:2; Job 27:3; Isa 2:22 [q]S Ge 1:30; Isa 42:5; Ac 17:25 [r]Job 12:10; 32:8; 33:4; 34:14; Ps 104:29; Isa 57:16; Eze 37:5; 1Co 15:45* **2:8** [s]ver 10,15; Ge 3:23,24; 4:16; 13:10; Isa 51:3; Eze 28:13; 31:9,16; 36:35; Joel 2:3 **2:9** [t]Eze 31:8 [u]Ge 3:22,24; Pr 3:18; 11:30; S Rev 2:7 [v]Eze 47:12 **2:10** [w]Nu 24:6; Ps 46:4; Eze 47:5 [x]S ver 8 **2:11** [y]Ge 10:7; 25:18 **2:12** [z]Nu 11:7 **2:14** [a]Ge 41:1; Da 10:4 [b]Ge 15:18; 31:21; Ex 23:31; Nu 22:5; Dt 1:7; 11:24; Jos 1:4; 2Sa 8:3; 1Ki 4:21; 2Ki 23:29; 24:7; 1Ch 5:9; 18:3; 2Ch 35:20; Jer 13:4; 46:2; 51:63; S Rev 9:14 **2:15** [c]S ver 8 **2:16** [d]Ge 3:1-2 **2:17** [e]Ge 3:11,17 [f]Ge 3:1,3; 5:5; 9:29; Dt 30:15,19; Jer 42:16; Eze 3:18; S Ro 5:12; S 6:23

[b]26 Hebrew; Syriac *all the wild animals* [c]2 Or *ceased*; also in verse 3 [d]5 Or *land*; also in verse 6 [e]6 Or *mist* [f]7 The Hebrew for *man (adam)* sounds like and may be related to the Hebrew for *ground (adamah)*; it is also the name *Adam* (see Gen. 2:20). [g]12 Or *good; pearls* [h]13 Possibly southeast Mesopotamia

for the man to be alone. I will make a
helper suitable for him."[a]
19Now the LORD God had formed out
of the ground all the beasts of the
field[b] and all the birds of the air.[c] He
brought them to the man to see what
he would name them; and whatever
the man called[d] each living creature,[e]
that was its name. 20So the man gave
names to all the livestock, the birds of
the air and all the beasts of the field.
But for Adam[i] no suitable helper[f]
was found. 21So the LORD God caused
the man to fall into a deep sleep;[g] and
while he was sleeping, he took one of
the man's ribs[j] and closed up the place
with flesh. 22Then the LORD God made a
woman from the rib[k][h] he had taken
out of the man, and he brought her to
the man.

23The man said,

"This is now bone of my bones
and flesh of my flesh;[i]
she shall be called[l] 'woman,[j]'
for she was taken out of man.[k]"

24For this reason a man will leave his
father and mother and be united[l] to
his wife, and they will become one
flesh.[m]

25The man and his wife were both
naked,[n] and they felt no shame.

The Fall of Man

3 Now the serpent[o] was more crafty
than any of the wild animals the
LORD God had made. He said to the
woman, "Did God really say, 'You
must not eat from any tree in the gar-
den'?[p]"

2The woman said to the serpent,
"We may eat fruit from the trees in the
garden,[q] 3but God did say, 'You must
not eat fruit from the tree that is in the
middle of the garden, and you must
not touch it, or you will die.'"[r]

4"You will not surely die," the ser-
pent said to the woman.[s] 5"For God
knows that when you eat of it your
eyes will be opened, and you will be
like God,[t] knowing good and evil."

6When the woman saw that the fruit
of the tree was good for food and pleas-
ing to the eye, and also desirable[u] for
gaining wisdom, she took some and ate
it. She also gave some to her hus-
band,[v] who was with her, and he ate
it.[w] 7Then the eyes of both of them
were opened, and they realized they
were naked;[x] so they sewed fig leaves
together and made coverings for them-
selves.[y]

2:18 [a]Pr 31:11; 1Co 11:9; 1Ti 2:13
2:19 [b]Ps 8:7 [c]S Ge 1:20 [d]S Ge 1:5 [e]Ge 1:24
2:20 [f]Ge 3:20; 4:1
2:21 [g]Ge 15:12; 1Sa 26:12; Job 33:15
2:22 [h]1Co 11:8, 9,12; 1Ti 2:13
2:23 [i]Ge 29:14; Eph 5:28-30 [j]S Ge 1:5 [k]1Co 11:8
2:24 [l]Mal 2:15 [m]Mt 19:5*; Mk 10:7-8*; 1Co 6:16*; Eph 5:31*
2:25 [n]Ge 3:7, 10-11; Isa 47:3; La 1:8
3:1 [o]Job 1:7; 2:2; 2Co 11:3; Rev 12:9; 20:2 [p]S Ge 2:17
3:2 [q]Ge 2:16
3:3 [r]S Ge 2:17
3:4 [s]S Jn 8:44; 2Co 11:3
3:5 [t]S Ge 1:26; 14:18,19; Ps 7:8; Isa 14:14; Eze 28:2
3:6 [u]Jas 1:14-15; 1Jn 2:16 [v]Nu 30:7-8; Jer 44:15,19,24 [w]2Co 11:3; 1Ti 2:14
3:7 [x]Ge 2:25 [y]ver 21
3:8 [z]Lev 26:12; Dt 23:14 [a]Job 13:16; 23:7; 31:33; 34:22,23; Ps 5:5; 139:7-12; Isa 29:15; Jer 16:17; 23:24; 49:10; Rev 6:15-16
3:9 [b]Ge 4:9; 16:8; 18:9; 1Ki 19:9,13
3:10 [c]Ex 19:16; 20:18; Dt 5:5; 1Sa 12:18 [d]Ge 2:25
3:11 [e]Ge 2:25 [f]S Ge 2:17
3:12 [g]Ge 2:22
3:13 [h]Ro 7:11; 2Co 11:3; 1Ti 2:14
3:14 [i]Dt 28:15-20 [j]Ps 72:9; Isa 49:23; 65:25; Mic 7:17
3:15 [k]Jn 8:44; Ac 13:10; 1Jn 3:8 [l]Ge 16:11; Jdg 13:5; Isa 7:14; 8:3; 9:6; Mt 1:23; Lk 1:31; Gal 4:4; Rev 12:17 [m]Ro 16:20; Heb 2:14
3:16 [n]Ps 48:5-6; Isa 13:8; 21:3; 26:17; Jer 4:31; 6:24; Mic 4:9; 1Ti 2:15 [o]1Co 11:3; S Eph 5:22
3:17 [p]S Ge 2:17 [q]Ge 5:29; Nu 35:33; Ps 106:39; Isa 24:5; Jer 3:1; Ro 8:20-22 [r]Ge 6:13; 8:21;

8Then the man and his wife heard
the sound of the LORD God as he was
walking[z] in the garden in the cool of
the day, and they hid[a] from the LORD
God among the trees of the garden.
9But the LORD God called to the man,
"Where are you?"[b]

10He answered, "I heard you in the
garden, and I was afraid[c] because I
was naked;[d] so I hid."

11And he said, "Who told you that
you were naked?[e] Have you eaten
from the tree that I commanded you
not to eat from?[f]"

12The man said, "The woman you
put here with me[g]—she gave me some
fruit from the tree, and I ate it."

13Then the LORD God said to the
woman, "What is this you have done?"
The woman said, "The serpent de-
ceived me,[h] and I ate."

14So the LORD God said to the ser-
pent, "Because you have done this,

"Cursed[i] are you above all the
livestock
and all the wild animals!
You will crawl on your belly
and you will eat dust[j]
all the days of your life.
15And I will put enmity
between you and the woman,
and between your offspring[m][k] and
hers;[l]
he will crush[n] your head,[m]
and you will strike his heel."

16To the woman he said,

"I will greatly increase your pains in
childbearing;
with pain you will give birth to
children.[n]
Your desire will be for your
husband,
and he will rule over you.[o]"

17To Adam he said, "Because you lis-
tened to your wife and ate from the
tree about which I commanded you,
'You must not eat of it,'[p]

"Cursed[q] is the ground[r] because of
you;
through painful toil[s] you will eat
of it
all the days of your life.[t]

Isa 54:9 [s]Ge 29:32; 31:42; Ex 3:7; Ps 66:11; 127:2; Ecc 1:13 [t]Ge 47:9; Job 5:7; 7:1; 14:1; Ecc 2:23; Jer 20:18

[i]20 Or *the man* [j]21 Or *took part of the man's side* [k]22 Or *part* [l]23 The Hebrew for *woman* sounds like the Hebrew for *man*. [m]15 Or *seed* [n]15 Or *strike*

18 It will produce thorns and thistles[a]
for you,
and you will eat the plants of the
field.[b]
19 By the sweat of your brow[c]
you will eat your food[d]
until you return to the ground,
since from it you were taken;
for dust you are
and to dust you will return."[e]

20 Adam[o] named his wife Eve,[p f] be-
cause she would become the mother of
all the living.
21 The LORD God made garments of
skin for Adam and his wife and clothed
them.[g] 22 And the LORD God said, "The
man has now become like one of us,[h]
knowing good and evil. He must not
be allowed to reach out his hand and
take also from the tree of life[i] and eat,
and live forever." 23 So the LORD God
banished him from the Garden of
Eden[j] to work the ground[k] from
which he had been taken. 24 After he
drove the man out, he placed on the
east side[q] of the Garden of Eden[l] cher-
ubim[m] and a flaming sword[n] flashing
back and forth to guard the way to the
tree of life.[o]

Cain and Abel

4 Adam[p] lay with his wife[q] Eve,[r]
and she became pregnant and gave
birth to Cain.[r r] She said, "With the
help of the LORD I have brought forth[s]
a man." 2 Later she gave birth to his
brother Abel.[s]
Now Abel kept flocks, and Cain
worked the soil.[t] 3 In the course of time
Cain brought some of the fruits of the
soil as an offering[u] to the LORD.[v] 4 But
Abel brought fat portions[w] from some
of the firstborn of his flock.[x] The LORD
looked with favor on Abel and his of-
fering,[y] 5 but on Cain and his offering
he did not look with favor. So Cain was
very angry, and his face was downcast.
6 Then the LORD said to Cain, "Why
are you angry?[z] Why is your face
downcast? 7 If you do what is right, will
you not be accepted? But if you do not
do what is right, sin is crouching at
your door;[a] it desires to have you, but
you must master it.[b]"
8 Now Cain said to his brother Abel,
"Let's go out to the field."[t] And while
they were in the field, Cain attacked
his brother Abel and killed him.[c]
9 Then the LORD said to Cain, "Where
is your brother Abel?"[d]

"I don't know,"[e] he replied. "Am I
my brother's keeper?"
10 The LORD said, "What have you
done? Listen! Your brother's blood
cries out to me from the ground.[f]
11 Now you are under a curse[g] and
driven from the ground, which opened
its mouth to receive your brother's
blood from your hand. 12 When you
work the ground, it will no longer yield
its crops for you.[h] You will be a restless
wanderer[i] on the earth.[j]"
13 Cain said to the LORD, "My punish-
ment is more than I can bear. 14 Today
you are driving me from the land, and I
will be hidden from your presence;[k] I
will be a restless wanderer on the
earth,[l] and whoever finds me will kill
me."[m]
15 But the LORD said to him, "Not so[u];
if anyone kills Cain,[n] he will suffer
vengeance[o] seven times over.[p]" Then
the LORD put a mark on Cain so that no
one who found him would kill him.
16 So Cain went out from the LORD's
presence[q] and lived in the land of
Nod,[v] east of Eden.[r]
17 Cain lay with his wife,[s] and she
became pregnant and gave birth to
Enoch. Cain was then building a city,[t]
and he named it after his son[u] Enoch.
18 To Enoch was born Irad, and Irad was
the father of Mehujael, and Mehujael
was the father of Methushael, and Me-
thushael was the father of Lamech.
19 Lamech married[v] two women,[w]
one named Adah and the other Zillah.
20 Adah gave birth to Jabal; he was the
father of those who live in tents and
raise livestock. 21 His brother's name
was Jubal; he was the father of all who
play the harp[x] and flute.[y] 22 Zillah also
had a son, Tubal-Cain, who forged[z] all
kinds of tools out of[w] bronze and iron.
Tubal-Cain's sister was Naamah.
23 Lamech said to his wives,

"Adah and Zillah, listen to me;
wives of Lamech, hear my words.

3:18 [a] Job 31:40; Isa 5:6; Heb 6:8 [b] Ps 104:14 **3:19** [c] Ps 104:23 [d] Ge 14:18; Dt 8:3,9; 23:4; Ru 1:6; 2:14; 2Th 3:10 [e] S Ge 2:7; S Job 7:21; S Ps 146:4; 1Co 15:47; Heb 9:27 **3:20** [f] S Ge 2:20; 2Co 11:3; 1Ti 2:13 **3:21** [g] S ver 7 **3:22** [h] S Ge 1:26 [i] S Ge 2:9; S Rev 2:7 **3:23** [j] S Ge 2:8 [k] S Ge 2:7 **3:24** [l] S Ge 2:8 [m] Ex 25:18-22; 1Sa 4:4; 2Sa 6:2; 22:11; 1Ki 6:27; 8:6; 2Ki 19:15; 2Ch 5:8; Ps 18:10; 80:1; 99:1; Isa 37:16; Eze 10:1; 28:16 [n] Job 40:19; Ps 104:4; Isa 27:1 [o] S Ge 2:9 **4:1** [p] ver 17,25 [q] S Ge 2:20 [r] Heb 11:4; 1Jn 3:12; Jude 1:11 **4:2** [s] Mt 23:35; Lk 11:51; Heb 11:4; 12:24 [t] S Ge 2:7 **4:3** [u] Lev 2:1-2; Isa 43:23; Jer 41:5 [v] Nu 18:12 **4:4** [w] Lev 3:16; 2Ch 29:35 [x] Ex 13:2,12; Dt 15:19 [y] Heb 11:4 **4:6** [z] Jnh 4:4 **4:7** [a] Ge 44:16; Nu 32:23; Isa 59:12 [b] Job 11:15; 22:27; Ps 27:3; 46:2; S Ro 6:16 **4:8** [c] Mt 23:35; Lk 11:51; 1Jn 3:12; Jude 1:11 **4:9** [d] S Ge 3:9 [e] S Jn 8:44 **4:10** [f] Ge 9:5; 37:20,26; Ex 21:12; Nu 35:33; Dt 21:7,9; 2Sa 4:11; Job 16:18; 24:2; 31:38; Ps 9:12; 106:38; Heb 12:24; Rev 6:9-10 **4:11** [g] Dt 11:28; 2Ki 2:24 **4:12** [h] Dt 28:15-24 [i] Ps 37:25; 59:15; 109:10 [j] ver 14 **4:14** [k] 2Ki 17:18; Ps 51:11; 139:7-12; Jer 7:15; 52:3 [l] ver 12; Dt 28:64-67 [m] Ge 9:6; Ex 21:12,14; Lev 24:17; Nu 35:19,21,27,33; 1Ki 2:32; 2Ki 11:16 **4:15** [n] Eze 9:4,6 [o] Ex 21:20 [p] ver 24; Lev 26:21; Ps 79:12 **4:16** [q] Jude 1:11 [r] S Ge 2:8 **4:17** [s] S ver 1 [t] Ps 55:9 [u] Ps 49:11 **4:19** [v] Ge 6:2 [w] Ge 29:28; Dt 21:15; Ru 4:11; 1Sa 1:2 **4:21** [x] Ge 31:27; Ex 15:20; 1Sa 16:16; 1Ch 25:3; Ps 33:2; 43:4; Isa 16:11; Da 3:5 [y] Job 21:12; 30:31; Ps 150:4 **4:22** [z] Ex 35:35; 1Sa 13:19; 2Ki 24:14

[o]20 Or *The man* [p]20 *Eve* probably means *living*. [q]24 Or *placed in front* [r]1 *Cain* sounds like the Hebrew for *brought forth* or *acquired*. [s]1 Or *have acquired* [t]8 Samaritan Pentateuch, Septuagint, Vulgate and Syriac; Masoretic Text does not have *"Let's go out to the field."* [u]15 Septuagint, Vulgate and Syriac; Hebrew *Very well* [v]16 *Nod* means *wandering* (see verses 12 and 14). [w]22 Or *who instructed all who work in*

I have killed[x] a man for wounding
me,
a young man for injuring me.
24If Cain is avenged seven times,
then Lamech seventy-seven
times."

25Adam lay with his wife again, and
she gave birth to a son and named him
Seth,[y] saying, "God has granted me
another child in place of Abel, since
Cain killed him." 26Seth also had a
son, and he named him Enosh.
At that time men began to call on[z]
the name of the LORD.

From Adam to Noah

5 This is the written account of
Adam's line.
When God created man, he made
him in the likeness of God. 2He
created them male and female and
blessed them. And when they were
created, he called them "man.[a]"
3When Adam had lived 130 years, he
had a son in his own likeness, in his
own image; and he named him Seth.
4After Seth was born, Adam lived 800
years and had other sons and daugh-
ters. 5Altogether, Adam lived 930
years, and then he died.
6When Seth had lived 105 years, he
became the father[b] of Enosh. 7And af-
ter he became the father of Enosh, Seth
lived 807 years and had other sons and
daughters. 8Altogether, Seth lived 912
years, and then he died.
9When Enosh had lived 90 years, he
became the father of Kenan. 10And af-
ter he became the father of Kenan,
Enosh lived 815 years and had other
sons and daughters. 11Altogether,
Enosh lived 905 years, and then he
died.
12When Kenan had lived 70 years, he
became the father of Mahalalel. 13And
after he became the father of Mahalalel,
Kenan lived 840 years and had other
sons and daughters. 14Altogether, Ke-
nan lived 910 years, and then he died.
15When Mahalalel had lived 65 years,
he became the father of Jared. 16And
after he became the father of Jared,
Mahalalel lived 830 years and had other
sons and daughters. 17Altogether,
Mahalalel lived 895 years, and then he
died.
18When Jared had lived 162 years, he
became the father of Enoch. 19And af-
ter he became the father of Enoch,
Jared lived 800 years and had other
sons and daughters. 20Altogether,
Jared lived 962 years, and then he died.
21When Enoch had lived 65 years, he
became the father of Methuselah.
22And after he became the father of Me-
thuselah, Enoch walked with God 300
years and had other sons and daugh-
ters. 23Altogether, Enoch lived 365
years. 24Enoch walked with God; then
he was no more, because God took him
away.
25When Methuselah had lived 187
years, he became the father of La-
mech. 26And after he became the fa-
ther of Lamech, Methuselah lived 782
years and had other sons and daugh-
ters. 27Altogether, Methuselah lived
969 years, and then he died.
28When Lamech had lived 182 years,
he had a son. 29He named him Noah[c]
and said, "He will comfort us in the
labor and painful toil of our hands
caused by the ground the LORD has
cursed." 30After Noah was born, La-
mech lived 595 years and had other
sons and daughters. 31Altogether, La-
mech lived 777 years, and then he
died.
32After Noah was 500 years old, he
became the father of Shem, Ham and
Japheth.

The Flood

6 When men began to increase in
number on the earth and daugh-
ters were born to them, 2the sons of
God saw that the daughters of men
were beautiful, and they married
any of them they chose. 3Then the LORD
said, "My Spirit will not contend
with[d] man forever; for he is mortal[e];
his days will be a hundred and twenty
years."
4The Nephilim were on the earth in
those days—and also afterward—when
the sons of God went to the daughters
of men and had children by them.
They were the heroes of old, men of
renown.
5The LORD saw how great man's
wickedness on the earth had become,
and that every inclination of the
thoughts of his heart was only evil all
the time. 6The LORD was grieved that
he had made man on the earth, and his
heart was filled with pain. 7So the LORD
said, "I will wipe mankind, whom I

4:23 [illegible] Ex 20:13; 21:12; 23:7; Lev 19:18; [illegible] 12:35
4:24 [illegible] Dt 32:35; 2Ki 9:7; Ps 18:47; 94:1; Isa 35:4; Jer 51:56; Na 1:2; S ver 15; Mt 18:22
4:25 ver 1; Ge 5:3; 1Ch 1:1; ver 8
4:26 Ge 5:6; 1Ch 1:1; Lk 3:38; Ge 12:8; 13:4; 21:33; 22:9; 26:25; 33:20; Ex 17:15; 1Ki 18:24; Ps 116:17; Joel 2:32; Zep 3:9; Ac 2:21
5:1 S Ge 2:4; 1Ch 1:1; S Ge 1:27; Col 3:10
5:2 Ge 1:28; S Ge 1:27; Mt 19:4; Mk 10:6; Gal 3:28
5:3 S Ge 1:26; 1Co 15:49; S Ge 4:25; Lk 3:38
5:5 S Ge 2:17; Heb 9:27
5:6 S Ge 4:26; Lk 3:38
5:9 1Ch 1:2; Lk 3:37
5:12 1Ch 1:2; Lk 3:37
5:15 1Ch 1:2; Lk 3:37
5:18 1Ch 1:3; Lk 3:37; Jude 1:14
5:21 1Ch 1:3; Lk 3:37
5:22 ver 24; Ge 6:9; 17:1; 24:40; 48:15; 2Ki 20:3; Ps 116:9; Mic 6:8; Mal 2:6
5:24 S ver 22; 2Ki 2:1,11; Ps 49:15; 73:24; 89:48; Heb 11:5
5:25 1Ch 1:3; Lk 3:36
5:29 1Ch 1:3; Lk 3:36; S Ge 3:17; Ro 8:20
5:32 Ge 7:6,11; 8:13; Lk 3:36; Ge 6:10; 9:18; 10:1; 1Ch 1:4; Isa 65:20
6:1 S Ge 1:28
6:2 Job 1:6 fn; 2:1 fn; ver 4; Dt 21:11; S Ge 4:19
6:3 Job 34:14; Gal 5:16-17; Isa 57:16; 1Pe 3:20; Job 10:9; Ps 78:39; 103:14; Isa 40:6
6:4 Nu 13:33; ver 2; Ge 11:4
6:5 Ge 38:7; Job 34:26; Jer 1:16; 44:5; Eze 3:19; Ge 8:21; Ps 14:1-3
6:6 Ex 32:14; 1Sa 15:11,35; 2Sa 24:16; 1Ch 21:15; Isa 63:10; Jer 18:7-10; Eph 4:30

x23 Or *I will kill* y25 *Seth* probably means *granted.* z26 Or *to proclaim* a2 Hebrew *adam* b6 *Father* may mean *ancestor;* also in verses 7-26. c29 *Noah* sounds like the Hebrew for *comfort.* d3 Or *My spirit will not remain in* e3 Or *corrupt*

have created, from the face of the
earth[a]—men and animals, and crea-
tures that move along the ground, and
birds of the air—for I am grieved that I
have made them."[b] 8 But Noah[c] found
favor in the eyes of the LORD.[d]

9 This is the account[e] of Noah.

Noah was a righteous man, blame-
less[f] among the people of his time,[g]
and he walked with God.[h] 10 Noah had
three sons: Shem,[i] Ham and Japheth.[j]
11 Now the earth was corrupt[k] in
God's sight and was full of violence.[l]
12 God saw how corrupt[m] the earth had
become, for all the people on earth had
corrupted their ways.[n] 13 So God said to
Noah, "I am going to put an end to all
people, for the earth is filled with vio-
lence because of them. I am surely go-
ing to destroy[o] both them and the
earth.[p] 14 So make yourself an ark of cy-
press[f] wood;[q] make rooms in it and
coat it with pitch[r] inside and out.
15 This is how you are to build it: The
ark is to be 450 feet long, 75 feet wide
and 45 feet high.[g] 16 Make a roof for it
and finish[h] the ark to within 18 inches[i]
of the top. Put a door in the side of the
ark and make lower, middle and upper
decks. 17 I am going to bring floodwa-
ters[s] on the earth to destroy all life un-
der the heavens, every creature that
has the breath of life in it. Everything
on earth will perish.[t] 18 But I will estab-
lish my covenant with you,[u] and you
will enter the ark[v]—you and your sons
and your wife and your sons' wives
with you. 19 You are to bring into the
ark two of all living creatures, male and
female, to keep them alive with you.[w]
20 Two[x] of every kind of bird, of every
kind of animal and of every kind[y] of
creature that moves along the ground
will come to you to be kept alive.[z]
21 You are to take every kind of food
that is to be eaten and store it away as
food for you and for them."

22 Noah did everything just as God
commanded him.[a]

7 The LORD then said to Noah, "Go
into the ark, you and your whole
family,[b] because I have found you
righteous[c] in this generation. 2 Take
with you seven[j] of every kind of
clean[d] animal, a male and its mate, and
two of every kind of unclean animal, a
male and its mate, 3 and also seven of
every kind of bird, male and female, to
keep their various kinds alive[e]
throughout the earth. 4 Seven days
from now I will send rain[f] on the

earth[g] for forty days[h] and forty
nights,[i] and I will wipe from the face
of the earth every living creature I have
made."[j]

5 And Noah did all that the LORD com-
manded him.[k]

6 Noah was six hundred years old[l]
when the floodwaters came on the
earth. 7 And Noah and his sons and his
wife and his sons' wives entered the
ark[m] to escape the waters of the flood.
8 Pairs of clean and unclean[n] animals,
of birds and of all creatures that move
along the ground, 9 male and female,
came to Noah and entered the ark, as
God had commanded Noah.[o] 10 And af-
ter the seven days[p] the floodwaters
came on the earth.

11 In the six hundredth year of Noah's
life,[q] on the seventeenth day of the
second month[r]—on that day all the
springs of the great deep[s] burst forth,
and the floodgates of the heavens[t]
were opened. 12 And rain fell on the
earth forty days and forty nights.[u]

13 On that very day Noah and his
sons,[v] Shem, Ham and Japheth, to-
gether with his wife and the wives of
his three sons, entered the ark.[w] 14 They
had with them every wild animal ac-
cording to its kind, all livestock accord-
ing to their kinds, every creature that
moves along the ground according to
its kind and every bird according to its
kind,[x] everything with wings. 15 Pairs
of all creatures that have the breath of
life in them came to Noah and entered
the ark.[y] 16 The animals going in were
male and female of every living thing,
as God had commanded Noah.[z] Then
the LORD shut him in.

17 For forty days[a] the flood kept com-
ing on the earth, and as the waters in-
creased they lifted the ark high above
the earth. 18 The waters rose and in-
creased greatly on the earth, and the
ark floated on the surface of the water.
19 They rose greatly on the earth, and all
the high mountains under the entire
heavens were covered.[b] 20 The waters
rose and covered the mountains to a

6:7 [a]Eze 33:28; Zep 1:2,18 [b]ver 17; Ge 7:4,21; Dt 28:63; 29:20 **6:8** [c]Eze 14:14 [d]Ge 19:19; 39:4; Ex 33:12,13,17; 34:9; Nu 11:15; Ru 2:2; Lk 1:30; Ac 7:46 **6:9** [e]S Ge 2:4 [f]Ge 17:1; Dt 18:13; 2Sa 22:24; Job 1:1; 4:6; 9:21; 12:4; 31:6; Ps 15:2; 18:23; 19:13; 37:37; Pr 2:7 [g]Ge 7:1; Ps 37:39; Jer 15:1; Eze 14:14,20; Da 10:11; S Lk 1:6; Heb 11:7; 2Pe 2:5 [h]S Ge 5:22 **6:10** [i]Lk 3:36 [j]S Ge 5:32 **6:11** [k]Dt 31:29; Jdg 2:19 [l]Ps 7:9; 73:6; Eze 7:23; 8:17; 28:16; Mal 2:16 **6:12** [m]Ex 32:7; Dt 4:16; 9:12,24 [n]Ps 14:1-3 **6:13** [o]Dt 28:63; 2Ki 8:19; Ezr 9:14; Jer 44:11 [p]ver 17; Ge 7:4,21-23; Job 34:15; Isa 5:6; 24:1-3; Jer 44:27; Eze 7:2-3 **6:14** [q]Heb 11:7; 1Pe 3:20 [r]Ex 2:3 **6:17** [s]Ps 29:10 [t]S ver 7,S 13; 2Pe 2:5 **6:18** [u]Ge 9:9-16; 17:7; 19:12; Ex 6:4; 34:10,27; Dt 29:13,14-15; Ps 25:10; 74:20; 106:45; Isa 55:3; Jer 32:40; Eze 16:60; Hag 2:5; 1Pe 3:20 [v]Ge 7:1,7,13 **6:19** [w]Ge 7:15 **6:20** [x]Ge 7:15 [y]S Ge 1:11 [z]Ge 7:3 **6:22** [a]Ge 7:5,9,16; Ex 7:6; 39:43; 40:16,19,21,23,25,27,29,32 **7:1** [b]S Ge 6:18; Mt 24:38; Lk 17:26-27; Heb 11:7; 1Pe 3:20; 2Pe 2:5 [c]S Ge 6:9; Eze 14:14 **7:2** [d]ver 8; Ge 8:20; Lev 10:10; 11:1-47; Dt 14:3-20; Eze 44:23; Hag 2:12; Ac 10:14-15 **7:3** [e]Ge 6:20 **7:4** [f]Ge 8:2 [g]1Ki 13:34; Jer 28:16 [h]Nu 13:25; Dt 9:9; 1Sa 17:16; 1Ki 19:8 [i]ver 12, 17; Ex 24:18; 32:1; 34:28; Dt 9:9,11,18,25; 10:10; Job 37:6; 13; Mt 4:2 [j]S Ge 6:7,13 **7:5** [k]S Ge 6:22 **7:6** [l]S Ge 5:32 **7:7** [m]S Ge 6:18 **7:8** [n]S ver 2 **7:9** [o]S Ge 6:22 **7:10** [p]S ver 4 **7:11** [q]S Ge 5:32 [r]Ge 8:4,14 [s]S Ge 1:7; Job 28:11; Ps 36:6; 42:7; Pr 8:24; Isa 51:10; Eze 26:19 [t]Ge 8:2; 2Ki 7:2; Ps 78:23; Isa 24:18; Mal 3:10 **7:12** [u]S ver 4; S 1Sa 12:17; S Job 2:26 **7:13** [v]Ge 8:16; 1Pe 3:20; 2Pe 2:5 [w]S Ge 6:18 **7:14** [x]S Ge 1:11 **7:15** [y]ver 8-9; Ge 6:19 **7:16** [z]S Ge 6:22 **7:17** [a]S ver 4 **7:19** [b]Ps 104:6

[f]14 The meaning of the Hebrew for this word is uncertain. [g]15 Hebrew *300 cubits long, 50 cubits wide and 30 cubits high* (about 140 meters long, 23 meters wide and 13.5 meters high) [h]16 Or *Make an opening for light by finishing* [i]16 Hebrew *a cubit* (about 0.5 meter) [j]2 Or *seven pairs*; also in verse 3

depth of more than twenty feet.[k,l][a] 21 Every living thing that moved on the earth perished—birds, livestock, wild animals, all the creatures that swarm over the earth, and all mankind.[b] 22 Everything on dry land that had the breath of life[c] in its nostrils died. 23 Every living thing on the face of the earth was wiped out; men and animals and the creatures that move along the ground and the birds of the air were wiped from the earth.[d] Only Noah was left, and those with him in the ark.[e]

24 The waters flooded the earth for a hundred and fifty days.[f]

8 But God remembered[g] Noah and all the wild animals and the livestock that were with him in the ark, and he sent a wind over the earth,[h] and the waters receded. 2 Now the springs of the deep and the floodgates of the heavens[i] had been closed, and the rain[j] had stopped falling from the sky. 3 The water receded steadily from the earth. At the end of the hundred and fifty days[k] the water had gone down, 4 and on the seventeenth day of the seventh month[l] the ark came to rest on the mountains[m] of Ararat.[n] 5 The waters continued to recede until the tenth month, and on the first day of the tenth month the tops of the mountains became visible.

6 After forty days[o] Noah opened the window he had made in the ark 7 and sent out a raven,[p] and it kept flying back and forth until the water had dried up from the earth.[q] 8 Then he sent out a dove[r] to see if the water had receded from the surface of the ground. 9 But the dove could find no place to set its feet because there was water over all the surface of the earth; so it returned to Noah in the ark. He reached out his hand and took the dove and brought it back to himself in the ark. 10 He waited seven more days and again sent out the dove from the ark. 11 When the dove returned to him in the evening, there in its beak was a freshly plucked olive leaf! Then Noah knew that the water had receded from the earth.[s] 12 He waited seven more days and sent the dove out again, but this time it did not return to him.

13 By the first day of the first month of Noah's six hundred and first year,[t] the water had dried up from the earth. Noah then removed the covering from the ark and saw that the surface of the ground was dry. 14 By the twenty-seventh day of the second month[u] the earth was completely dry.

15 Then God said to Noah, 16 "Come out of the ark, you and your wife and your sons and their wives.[v] 17 Bring out every kind of living creature that is with you—the birds, the animals, and all the creatures that move along the ground—so they can multiply on the earth and be fruitful and increase in number upon it."[w]

18 So Noah came out, together with his sons and his wife and his sons' wives.[x] 19 All the animals and all the creatures that move along the ground and all the birds—everything that moves on the earth—came out of the ark, one kind after another.

20 Then Noah built an altar to the LORD[y] and, taking some of all the clean animals and clean[z] birds, he sacrificed burnt offerings[a] on it. 21 The LORD smelled the pleasing aroma[b] and said in his heart: "Never again will I curse the ground[c] because of man, even though[m] every inclination of his heart is evil from childhood.[d] And never again will I destroy[e] all living creatures,[f] as I have done.

22 "As long as the earth endures,
seedtime and harvest,[g]
cold and heat,
summer and winter,[h]
day and night
will never cease."[i]

God's Covenant With Noah

9 Then God blessed Noah and his sons, saying to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number and fill the earth.[j] 2 The fear and dread of you will fall upon all the beasts of the earth and all the birds of the air, upon every creature that moves along the ground, and upon all the fish of the sea; they are given into your hands.[k] 3 Everything that lives and moves will be food for you.[l] Just as I gave you the green plants, I now give you everything.[m]

4 "But you must not eat meat that has its lifeblood still in it.[n] 5 And for your lifeblood I will surely demand an accounting.[o] I will demand an accounting from every animal.[p] And from each

7:20 a Ge 8:4-5; 2Pe 3:6
7:21 b S Ge 6:7, 13; 2Pe 3:6
7:22 c S Ge 1:30
7:23 d Job 14:19; 21:18; 22:11,16; Ps 90:5; Isa 28:2; Mt 24:39; Lk 17:27; 1Pe 3:20; 2Pe 2:5 e Heb 11:7
7:24 f Ge 8:3; Job 12:15
8:1 g Ge 9:15; 19:29; 21:1; 30:22; Ex 2:24; Nu 10:9; Ru 4:13; 1Sa 1:11,19; 2Ki 20:3; 1Ch 16:15; Ne 1:8; 5:19; 13:14,22,31; Job 14:13; Ps 105:42; 106:4; Lk 1:54,72 h Ex 14:21; Jos 2:10; 3:16; Job 12:15; Ps 66:6; Isa 11:15; 44:27; Na 1:4
8:2 i S Ge 7:11 j S Ge 7:4
8:3 k S Ge 7:24
8:4 l S Ge 7:11 m Ge 7:20 n 2Ki 19:37; Jer 51:27
8:6 o Ge 7:12
8:7 p Lev 11:15; Dt 14:14; 1Ki 17:4,6; Job 38:41; Ps 147:9; Pr 30:17; Isa 34:11; Lk 12:24 q ver 11
8:8 r Job 30:31; Ps 55:6; 74:19; SS 2:12,14; Isa 38:14; 59:11; 60:8; Jer 48:28; Eze 7:16; Hos 7:11; 11:11; Na 2:7; Mt 3:16; 10:16; Jn 1:32
8:11 s ver 7
8:13 t S Ge 5:32
8:14 u S Ge 7:11
8:16 v S Ge 7:13
8:17 w S Ge 1:22
8:18 x 1Pe 3:20; 2Pe 2:5
8:20 y Ge 12:7-8; 13:18; 22:9; 26:25; 33:20; 35:7; Ex 17:15; 24:4 z S Ge 7:8 a Ge 22:2,13; Ex 10:25; 20:24; 40:29; Lev 1:3; 4:29; 6:8-13; Nu 6:11; Jdg 6:26; 11:31; 1Sa 20:29; Job 1:5; 42:8
8:21 b Ex 29:18, 25; Lev 1:9,13; 2:9; 4:31; Nu 15:3,7; 2Co 2:15 c S Ge 3:17 d Ge 6:5; Ps 51:5; Jer 17:9; Mt 15:19; Ro 1:21 e Jer 44:11 f Ge 9:11,15; Isa 54:9
8:22 g Jos 3:15; Ps 67:6; Jer 5:24 h Ps 74:17; Zec 14:8 i S Ge 1:14

9:1 j S Ge 1:22 **9:2** k S Ge 1:26 **9:3** l S Ge 1:29 m S Ac 10:15; Col 2:16 **9:4** n Lev 3:17; 7:26; 17:10-14; 19:26; Dt 12:16,23-25; 15:23; 1Sa 14:33; Eze 33:25; Ac 15:20,29 **9:5** o Ge 42:22; 50:15; 1Ki 2:32; 2Ch 24:22; Ps 9:12 p Ex 21:28-32

k20 Hebrew *fifteen cubits* (about 6.9 meters) l20 Or *rose more than twenty feet, and the mountains were covered* m21 Or *man, for*

man, too, I will demand an accounting
for the life of his fellow man.[a]

6"Whoever sheds the blood of man,
by man shall his blood be shed;[b]
for in the image of God[c]
has God made man.

7As for you, be fruitful and increase in
number; multiply on the earth and in-
crease upon it."[d]
8Then God said to Noah and to his
sons with him: 9"I now establish my
covenant with you[e] and with your de-
scendants after you 10and with every
living creature that was with you—the
birds, the livestock and all the wild ani-
mals, all those that came out of the ark
with you—every living creature on
earth. 11I establish my covenant[f] with
you:[g] Never again will all life be cut off
by the waters of a flood; never again
will there be a flood to destroy the
earth.[h]"
12And God said, "This is the sign of
the covenant[i] I am making between
me and you and every living creature
with you, a covenant for all generations
to come:[j] 13I have set my rainbow[k] in
the clouds, and it will be the sign of the
covenant between me and the earth.
14Whenever I bring clouds over the
earth and the rainbow[l] appears in the
clouds, 15I will remember my cov-
enant[m] between me and you and all liv-
ing creatures of every kind. Never
again will the waters become a flood to
destroy all life.[n] 16Whenever the rain-
bow[o] appears in the clouds, I will see it
and remember the everlasting cov-
enant[p] between God and all living
creatures of every kind on the earth."
17So God said to Noah, "This is the
sign of the covenant[q] I have estab-
lished between me and all life on the
earth."

The Sons of Noah

18The sons of Noah who came out of
the ark were Shem, Ham and
Japheth.[r] (Ham was the father of Ca-
naan.)[s] 19These were the three sons of
Noah,[t] and from them came the
people who were scattered over the
earth.[u]
20Noah, a man of the soil, pro-
ceeded[n] to plant a vineyard. 21When he
drank some of its wine,[v] he became
drunk and lay uncovered inside his
tent. 22Ham, the father of Canaan, saw
his father's nakedness[w] and told his
two brothers outside. 23But Shem and
Japheth took a garment and laid it
across their shoulders; then they
walked in backward and covered their
father's nakedness. Their faces were
turned the other way so that they
would not see their father's nakedness.
24When Noah awoke from his wine
and found out what his youngest son
had done to him, 25he said,

"Cursed[x] be Canaan![y]
The lowest of slaves
will he be to his brothers.[z]"

26He also said,

"Blessed be the LORD, the God of
Shem![a]
May Canaan be the slave[b] of
Shem.[o]
27May God extend the territory of
Japheth[p];[c]
may Japheth live in the tents of
Shem,[d]
and may Canaan be his[q] slave."

28After the flood Noah lived 350
years. 29Altogether, Noah lived 950
years, and then he died.[e]

The Table of Nations

10 This is the account[f] of Shem,
Ham and Japheth,[g] Noah's
sons,[h] who themselves had sons after
the flood.

The Japhethites

10:2-5pp — 1Ch 1:5-7

2The sons[r] of Japheth:
Gomer,[i] Magog,[j] Madai,
Javan,[k] Tubal,[l] Meshech[m] and
Tiras.
3The sons of Gomer:
Ashkenaz,[n] Riphath and Togar-
mah.[o]
4The sons of Javan:
Elishah,[p] Tarshish,[q] the Kit-
tim[r] and the Rodanim.[s] 5(From
these the maritime peoples
spread out into their territories
by their clans within their na-
tions, each with its own lan-
guage.)[s]

The Hamites

10:6-20pp — 1Ch 1:8-16

6The sons of Ham:

9:5 [a]S Ge 4:10 **9:6** [b]S Ge 4:14; S Jdg 9:24; S Mt 26:52 [c]S Ge 1:26 **9:7** [d]S Ge 1:22 **9:9** [e]ver 11; S Ge 6:18 **9:11** [f]ver 16; Isa 24:5; 33:8; Hos 6:7 [g]S ver 9 [h]S Ge 8:21 **9:12** [i]ver 17; Ge 17:11 [j]Ge 17:12; Ex 12:14; Lev 3:17; 6:18; 17:7; Nu 10:8 **9:13** [k]ver 14; Eze 1:28; Rev 4:3; 10:1 **9:14** [l]S ver 13 **9:15** [m]S Ge 8:1; Ex 2:24; 6:5; 34:10; Lev 26:42, 45; Dt 7:9; Ps 89:34; 103:18; 105:8; 106:45; Eze 16:60 [n]S Ge 8:21 **9:16** [o]ver 13 [p]S ver 11; Ge 17:7,13,19; 2Sa 7:13; 23:5; Ps 105:9-10; Isa 9:7; 54:10; 55:3; 59:21; 61:8; Jer 31:31-34; 32:40; 33:21; Eze 16:60; 37:26; S Heb 13:20 **9:17** [q]S ver 12 **9:18** [r]S Ge 5:32; Lk 3:36 [s]ver 25-27; Ge 10:6, 15 **9:19** [t]Ge 5:32 [u]S Ge 1:22; 10:32; 11:4,8,9 **9:21** [v]Ge 19:35 **9:22** [w]Hab 2:15

9:25 [x]Ge 27:12 [y]ver 18; Ex 20:5; Ps 79:8; Isa 14:21; Jer 31:29; 32:18 [z]Ge 25:23; 27:29, 37,40; 37:10; 49:8; Nu 24:18; Jos 9:23 **9:26** [a]Ge 14:20; Ex 18:10; Ps 7:17 [b]1Ki 9:21 **9:27** [c]Ge 10:2-5 [d]Eph 2:13-14; 3:6 **9:29** [e]S Ge 2:17 **10:1** [f]S Ge 2:4 [g]S Ge 5:32 [h]ver 32; 1Ch 1:4 **10:2** [i]Eze 38:6 [j]Eze 38:2; 39:6; Rev 20:8 [k]Eze 27:19 [l]Isa 66:19; Eze 27:13; 32:26 [m]Eze 39:1 **10:3** [n]Jer 51:27 [o]Eze 27:14; 38:6 **10:4** [p]Eze 27:7 [q]Ps 48:7; 72:10; Isa 2:16; 23:1,6, 10,14; 60:9; 66:19; Jer 10:9; Eze 27:12,25; 38:13; Jnh 1:3 [r]Nu 24:24; Isa 23:12; Jer 2:10; Eze 27:6; Da 11:30 **10:5** [s]Ge 9:27

[n]20 Or *soil, was the first* [o]26 Or *be his slave*
[p]27 *Japheth* sounds like the Hebrew for *extend*.
[q]27 Or *their* [r]2 *Sons* may mean *descendants* or *successors* or *nations*; also in verses 3, 4, 6, 7, 20-23, 29 and 31. [s]4 Some manuscripts of the Masoretic Text and Samaritan Pentateuch (see also Septuagint and 1 Chron. 1:7); most manuscripts of the Masoretic Text *Dodanim*

Cush,[a] Mizraim,[t] Put[b] and Canaan.[c]

7The sons of Cush:

Seba,[d] Havilah,[e] Sabtah, Raamah[f] and Sabteca.

The sons of Raamah:

Sheba[g] and Dedan.[h]

8Cush was the father[u] of Nimrod,[i]
who grew to be a mighty warrior on
the earth. 9He was a mighty[j] hunter[k]
before the LORD; that is why it is said,
"Like Nimrod, a mighty hunter before
the LORD." 10The first centers of his
kingdom were Babylon,[l] Erech,[m] Akkad and Calneh,[n] in[v] Shinar.[w][o] 11From
that land he went to Assyria,[p] where
he built Nineveh,[q] Rehoboth Ir,[x]
Calah 12and Resen, which is between
Nineveh and Calah; that is the great
city.

13Mizraim was the father of

the Ludites, Anamites, Lehabites, Naphtuhites, 14Pathrusites, Casluhites (from whom the Philistines[r] came) and Caphtorites.[s]

15Canaan[t] was the father of

Sidon[u] his firstborn,[y][v] and of
the Hittites,[w] 16Jebusites,[x] Amorites,[y] Girgashites,[z] 17Hivites,[a]
Arkites, Sinites, 18Arvadites,[b]
Zemarites and Hamathites.[c]

Later the Canaanite[d] clans scattered
19and the borders of Canaan[e] reached
from Sidon[f] toward Gerar[g] as far as
Gaza,[h] and then toward Sodom,
Gomorrah, Admah and Zeboiim,[i] as
far as Lasha.

20These are the sons of Ham by their clans and languages, in their territories and nations.

The Semites

10:21-31pp — Ge 11:10-27; 1Ch 1:17-27

21Sons were also born to Shem, whose older brother was[z] Japheth; Shem was the ancestor of all the sons of Eber.[j]

22The sons of Shem:

Elam,[k] Asshur,[l] Arphaxad,[m] Lud and Aram.[n]

23The sons of Aram:

Uz,[o] Hul, Gether and Meshech.[a]

24Arphaxad was the father of[b] Shelah,

and Shelah the father of Eber.[p]

25Two sons were born to Eber:

One was named Peleg,[c] because in his time the earth was divided; his brother was named Joktan.

26Joktan was the father of

Almodad, Sheleph, Hazarmaveth, Jerah, 27Hadoram,
Uzal,[q] Diklah, 28Obal, Abimael,
Sheba,[r] 29Ophir,[s] Havilah and
Jobab. All these were sons of Joktan.

30The region where they lived stretched from Mesha toward Sephar, in the eastern hill country.

31These are the sons of Shem by their clans and languages, in their territories and nations.

32These are the clans of Noah's
sons,[t] according to their lines of descent, within their nations. From these
the nations spread out over the earth[u]
after the flood.

The Tower of Babel

11 Now the whole world had one
language[v] and a common
speech. 2As men moved eastward,[d]
they found a plain in Shinar[w][w] and settled there.

3They said to each other, "Come,
let's make bricks[x] and bake them
thoroughly." They used brick instead
of stone,[y] and tar[z] for mortar. 4Then
they said, "Come, let us build ourselves a city, with a tower that reaches
to the heavens,[a] so that we may make
a name[b] for ourselves and not be scattered[c] over the face of the whole
earth."[d]

5But the LORD came down[e] to see the
city and the tower that the men were
building. 6The LORD said, "If as one
people speaking the same language[f]
they have begun to do this, then noth-

10:6 [a]2Ki 19:9; 2Ch 12:3; 16:8; Isa 11:11; 18:1; 20:3; 43:3; Jer 46:9; Eze 30:4,9; 38:5; Na 3:9; Zep 2:12; 3:10 [b]Eze 27:10; 38:5 [c]S Ge 9:18 **10:7** [d]Isa 43:3 [e]S Ge 2:11 [f]Eze 27:22 [g]Ge 25:3; 1Ki 10:1; 2Ch 9:1; Job 1:15; 6:19; 16:11; Ps 72:10, 15; Isa 60:6; Jer 6:20; Eze 27:22; 38:13; Joel 3:8 [h]1Ch 1:32; Isa 21:13; Jer 25:23-24; 49:8; Eze 27:15, 20; 38:13 **10:8** [i]Mic 5:6 **10:9** [j]2Ch 14:9; 16:8; Isa 18:2 [k]Ge 25:27; 27:3 **10:10** [l]Ge 11:9; 2Ch 36:17; Isa 13:1; 47:1; Jer 21:2; 25:12; 50:1 [m]Ezr 4:9 [n]Isa 10:9; Am 6:2 [o]Ge 11:2; 14:1; Zec 5:11 **10:11** [p]Ps 83:8; Mic 5:6 [q]2Ki 19:36; Isa 37:37; Jnh 1:2; 3:2,3; 4:11; Na 1:1; Zep 2:13 **10:14** [r]Ge 21:32,34; 26:1,8; Jos 13:2; Jdg 3:3; Isa 14:31; Jer 47:1,4; Am 9:7 [s]Dt 2:23; 1Ch 1:12 **10:15** [t]S Ge 9:18 [u]ver 19; Jos 11:8; Jdg 10:6; Isa 23:2,4; Jer 25:22; 27:3; 47:4; Eze 28:21; 32:30; Joel 3:4; Zec 9:2 [v]Ex 4:22; Nu 1:20; 3:2; 18:15; 26:5; 33:4 [w]Ge 15:20; 23:3, 20; 25:10; 26:34; 27:46; 49:32; Nu 13:29; Jos 1:4; 1Sa 26:6; Eze 16:3 **10:16** [x]Jdg 19:10; 1Ch 11:4; Ezr 9:1 [y]Ex 3:8; Nu 13:29; 21:13; 32:39; Dt 1:4; Jos 2:10; 2Ch 8:7 [z]Ge 15:18-21; Dt 7:1 **10:17** [a]Ge 34:2; 36:2; Ex 3:8; Dt 7:1; Jdg 3:3 **10:18** [b]Eze 27:8 [c]1Ch 18:3 [d]Ge 12:6; 13:7; 50:11; Ex 13:11; Nu 13:29; 14:25; 21:3; 33:40; Dt 1:7; Jdg 1:1 **10:19** [e]Ge 11:31; 12:1; 13:12; 17:8; 24:3; 26:34; 27:46; 28:1,6,8; 31:18; 35:6; 37:1; Lev 25:38 [f]S ver 15; Ge 49:13; Jos 19:28; Jdg 1:31; 18:28; 2Sa 24:6 [g]2Ch 14:13 [h]Dt 2:23; Jos 10:41; 11:22; 15:47; Jdg 1:18; 6:4; 16:1,21; 1Sa 6:17; Jer 25:20; 47:1; Am 1:6; Zep 2:4 [i]Ge 14:2; Dt 29:23 **10:21** [j]ver 24; Nu 24:24 **10:22** [k]Ge 14:1; Isa 11:11; 21:2; Jer 25:25; 49:34; Eze 32:24; Da 8:2 [l]Nu 24:22,24; Eze 27:23 [m]Lk 3:36 [n]Jdg 3:10; 1Ki 11:25; 19:15; 20:34; 22:31; 2Ki 5:1; 8:7 **10:23** [o]Ge 22:21; Job 1:1; Jer 25:20; La 4:21 **10:24** [p]S ver 21; Lk 3:35 **10:27** [q]Eze 27:19 **10:28** [r]1Ki 10:1; Job 6:19; Ps 72:10,15; Isa 60:6; Eze 27:22 **10:29** [s]1Ki 9:28; 10:11; 1Ch 29:4; Job 22:24; 28:16; Ps 45:9; Isa 13:12 **10:32** [t]S ver 1 [u]S Ge 9:19 **11:1** [v]ver 6 **11:2** [w]S Ge 10:10 **11:3** [x]Ex 1:14; 5:7; Jer 43:9 [y]Isa 9:10; Am 5:11 [z]Ge 14:10 **11:4** [a]Dt 1:28; 6:10; 9:1; Job 20:6; Jer 51:53 [b]Ge 6:4 [c]Dt 30:3; 1Ki 22:17; Est 3:8; Ps 44:11; Jer 31:10; 40:15; Eze 6:8; Joel 3:2 [d]S Ge 9:19; Dt 4:27 **11:5** [e]ver 7; Ge 18:21; Ex 3:8; 19:11,18, 20; Ps 18:9; 144:5 **11:6** [f]S ver 1

[t]6 That is, Egypt; also in verse 13 [u]8 *Father* may mean *ancestor* or *predecessor* or *founder;* also in verses 13, 15, 24 and 26. [v]10 Or *Erech and Akkad—all of them in* [w]10,2 That is, Babylonia [x]11 Or *Nineveh with its city squares* [y]15 Or *of the Sidonians, the foremost* [z]21 Or *Shem, the older brother of* [a]23 See Septuagint and 1 Chron. 1:17; Hebrew *Mash.* [b]24 Hebrew; Septuagint *father of Cainan, and Cainan was the father of* [c]25 *Peleg* means *division.* [d]2 Or *from the east;* or *in the east*

ing they plan to do will be impossible
for them. 7Come, let us[a] go down[b]
and confuse their language so they will
not understand each other."[c]
8So the LORD scattered them from
there over all the earth,[d] and they
stopped building the city. 9That is why
it was called Babel[e][e]—because there
the LORD confused the language[f] of the
whole world.[g] From there the LORD
scattered[h] them over the face of the
whole earth.

From Shem to Abram

11:10-27pp — Ge 10:21-31; 1Ch 1:17-27

10This is the account[i] of Shem.

Two years after the flood, when
Shem was 100 years old, he became the
father[f] of Arphaxad.[j] 11And after he
became the father of Arphaxad, Shem
lived 500 years and had other sons and
daughters.
12When Arphaxad had lived 35 years,
he became the father of Shelah.[k] 13And
after he became the father of Shelah,
Arphaxad lived 403 years and had
other sons and daughters.[g]
14When Shelah had lived 30 years, he
became the father of Eber.[l] 15And after
he became the father of Eber, Shelah
lived 403 years and had other sons and
daughters.
16When Eber had lived 34 years, he
became the father of Peleg.[m] 17And af-
ter he became the father of Peleg, Eber
lived 430 years and had other sons and
daughters.
18When Peleg had lived 30 years, he
became the father of Reu.[n] 19And after
he became the father of Reu, Peleg
lived 209 years and had other sons and
daughters.
20When Reu had lived 32 years, he
became the father of Serug.[o] 21And af-
ter he became the father of Serug, Reu
lived 207 years and had other sons and
daughters.
22When Serug had lived 30 years, he
became the father of Nahor.[p] 23And af-
ter he became the father of Nahor,
Serug lived 200 years and had other
sons and daughters.
24When Nahor had lived 29 years, he
became the father of Terah.[q] 25And af-
ter he became the father of Terah, Na-
hor lived 119 years and had other sons
and daughters.
26After Terah had lived 70 years, he
became the father of Abram,[r] Nahor[s]
and Haran.[t]

27This is the account[u] of Terah.

Terah became the father of Abram,
Nahor[v] and Haran. And Haran
became the father of Lot.[w] 28While his
father Terah was still alive, Haran died
in Ur of the Chaldeans,[x] in the land of
his birth. 29Abram and Nahor[y] both
married. The name of Abram's wife
was Sarai,[z] and the name of Nahor's
wife was Milcah;[a] she was the daugh-
ter of Haran, the father of both Milcah
and Iscah. 30Now Sarai was barren; she
had no children.[b]
31Terah took his son Abram, his
grandson Lot[c] son of Haran, and his
daughter-in-law[d] Sarai, the wife of his
son Abram, and together they set out
from Ur of the Chaldeans[e] to go to Ca-
naan.[f] But when they came to Haran,[g]
they settled there.
32Terah[h] lived 205 years, and he died
in Haran.

The Call of Abram

12 The LORD had said to Abram,
"Leave your country, your
people and your father's household[i]
and go to the land[j] I will show you.[k]

2"I will make you into a great nation[l]
and I will bless you;[m]
I will make your name great,
and you will be a blessing.[n]
3I will bless those who bless you,
and whoever curses you I will
curse;[o]
and all peoples on earth
will be blessed through you.[p]"

4So Abram left, as the LORD had told
him; and Lot[q] went with him. Abram
was seventy-five years old[r] when he
set out from Haran.[s] 5He took his wife
Sarai,[t] his nephew Lot, all the posses-
sions they had accumulated[u] and the
people[v] they had acquired in Haran,
and they set out for the land of Ca-
naan,[w] and they arrived there.
6Abram traveled through the land[x]
as far as the site of the great tree of

11:7 [a]S Ge 1:26 [b]S ver 5 [c]Ge 42:23; Dt 28:49; Isa 28:11; 33:19; Jer 5:15; 1Co 14:2,11 **11:8** [d]S Ge 9:19; Dt 32:8; S Lk 1:51 **11:9** [e]S Ge 10:10 [f]Ps 55:9 [g]Ac 2:5-11 [h]Isa 2:10,21; 13:14; 24:1 **11:10** [i]S Ge 2:4 [j]Lk 3:36 **11:12** [k]Lk 3:35 **11:14** [l]Lk 3:35 **11:16** [m]Lk 3:35 **11:18** [n]Lk 3:35 **11:20** [o]Lk 3:35 **11:22** [p]Lk 3:34 **11:24** [q]Lk 3:34 **11:26** [r]Lk 3:34 [s]Jos 24:2 [t]2Ki 19:12; Isa 37:12; Eze 27:23 **11:27** [u]S Ge 2:4 [v]ver 29; Ge 31:53 [w]ver 31; Ge 12:4; 13:1,5,8,12; 14:12; 19:1; Lk 17:28; 2Pe 2:7 **11:28** [x]ver 31; Ge 15:7; Ne 9:7; Job 1:17; 16:11; Eze 23:23; Ac 7:4 **11:29** [y]S ver 27, 31; Ge 22:20,23; 24:10,15,24; 29:5 [z]Ge 12:5,11; 16:1; 17:15 [a]Ge 22:20 **11:30** [b]Ge 16:1; 18:11; 25:21; 29:31; 30:1,22; Jdg 13:2; 1Sa 1:5; Ps 113:9; Lk 1:7, 36 **11:31** [c]S ver 27 [d]Ge 38:11; Lev 18:15; 20:12; Ru 1:6,22; 2:20; 4:15; 1Sa 4:19; 1Ch 2:4; Eze 22:11; Mic 7:6 [e]S ver 28; Ac 7:4 [f]S Ge 10:19 [g]S ver 29; Ge 12:4; 27:43; 28:5,10; 29:4; 2Ki 19:12; Eze 27:23 **11:32** [h]Jos 24:2 **12:1** [i]Ge 20:13; 24:4,27,40 [j]S Ge 10:19 [k]Ge 15:7; 26:2; Jos 24:3; Ac 7:3*; Heb 11:8 **12:2** [l]Ge 13:16; 15:5; 17:2,4; 18:18; 22:17; 26:4; 28:3,14; 32:12; 35:11; 41:49; 46:3; 47:27; 48:4,16, 19; Ex 1:7; 5:5; 32:13; Dt 1:10; 10:22; 13:17; 26:5; Jos 11:4; 24:3; 2Sa 17:11; 1Ki 3:8; 4:20; 1Ch 27:23; 2Ch 1:9; Ne 9:23; Ps 107:38; Isa 6:13; 10:22; 48:19; 51:2; 54:3; 60:22; Jer 33:22; Mic 4:7 [m]Ge 24:1,35; 25:11; 26:3; 28:4; Ex 20:24; Nu 22:12; 23:8,20; 24:9; Ps 67:6; 115:12; Isa 44:3; 61:9; 65:23; Mal 3:12 [n]Ge 22:18; Isa 19:24; Jer 4:2; Hag 2:19; Zec 8:13 **12:3** [o]Ge 27:29; Ex 23:22; Nu 24:9; Dt 30:7 [p]Ge 15:5; 18:18; 22:18; 26:4; 28:4,14; Dt 9:5; Ps 72:17; Isa 19:25; Ac 3:25; Gal 3:8* **12:4** [q]S Ge 11:27 [r]Ge 16:3,16; 17:1,17,24; 21:5 [s]S Ge 11:31 **12:5** [t]S Ge 11:29 [u]ver 16; Ge 13:2,6; 31:18; 46:6 [v]Ge 14:14; 15:3; 17:23; Ecc 2:7 [w]Ge 11:31; 16:3; Heb 11:8 **12:6** [x]Heb 11:9

[e]9 That is, Babylon; *Babel* sounds like the Hebrew for *confused*. [f]10 *Father* may mean *ancestor*; also in verses 11-25. [g]12,13 Hebrew; Septuagint (see also Luke 3:35, 36 and note at Gen. 10:24) *35 years, he became the father of Cainan. 13And after he became the father of Cainan, Arphaxad lived 430 years and had other sons and daughters, and then he died. When Cainan had lived 130 years, he became the father of Shelah. And after he became the father of Shelah, Cainan lived 330 years and had other sons and daughters*

Moreh at Shechem. At that time the
Canaanites were in the land. 7The
LORD appeared to Abram and said,
"To your offspring[h] I will give this
land." So he built an altar there to
the LORD, who had appeared to him.
8From there he went on toward the
hills east of Bethel and pitched his
tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai
on the east. There he built an altar to
the LORD and called on the name of the
LORD. 9Then Abram set out and con-
tinued toward the Negev.

Abram in Egypt

12:10-20pp — Ge 20:1-18; 26:1-11

10Now there was a famine in the
land, and Abram went down to Egypt
to live there for a while because the
famine was severe. 11As he was about
to enter Egypt, he said to his wife
Sarai, "I know what a beautiful
woman you are. 12When the Egyp-
tians see you, they will say, 'This is his
wife.' Then they will kill me but will let
you live. 13Say you are my sister, so
that I will be treated well for your sake
and my life will be spared because of
you."

14When Abram came to Egypt, the
Egyptians saw that she was a very
beautiful woman. 15And when Phar-
aoh's officials saw her, they praised her
to Pharaoh, and she was taken into his
palace. 16He treated Abram well for her
sake, and Abram acquired sheep and
cattle, male and female donkeys, men-
servants and maidservants, and cam-
els.

17But the LORD inflicted serious dis-
eases on Pharaoh and his household[u]
because of Abram's wife Sarai. 18So
Pharaoh summoned Abram. "What
have you done to me?"[v] he said. "Why
didn't you tell me she was your wife?[w]
19Why did you say, 'She is my sister,'[x]
so that I took her to be my wife? Now
then, here is your wife. Take her and
go!" 20Then Pharaoh gave orders about
Abram to his men, and they sent him
on his way, with his wife and every-
thing he had.

Abram and Lot Separate

13 So Abram went up from Egypt[y]
to the Negev,[z] with his wife and
everything he had, and Lot[a] went with
him. 2Abram had become very
wealthy[b] in livestock[c] and in silver
and gold.

3From the Negev[d] he went from
place to place until he came to Bethel,[e]
to the place between Bethel and Ai[f]
where his tent had been earlier 4and
where he had first built an altar.[g]
There Abram called on the name of the
LORD.[h]

5Now Lot,[i] who was moving about
with Abram, also had flocks and herds
and tents. 6But the land could not sup-
port them while they stayed together,
for their possessions were so great that
they were not able to stay together.[j]
7And quarreling[k] arose between
Abram's herdsmen and the herdsmen
of Lot. The Canaanites[l] and Periz-
zites[m] were also living in the land[n] at
that time.

8So Abram said to Lot,[o] "Let's not
have any quarreling between you and
me,[p] or between your herdsmen and
mine, for we are brothers.[q] 9Is not the
whole land before you? Let's part com-
pany. If you go to the left, I'll go to the
right; if you go to the right, I'll go to the
left."[r]

10Lot looked up and saw that the
whole plain[s] of the Jordan[t] was well
watered, like the garden of the LORD,[u]
like the land of Egypt,[v] toward Zoar.[w]
(This was before the LORD destroyed
Sodom[x] and Gomorrah.)[y] 11So Lot
chose for himself the whole plain of the
Jordan and set out toward the east. The
two men parted company: 12Abram
lived in the land of Canaan,[z] while
Lot[a] lived among the cities of the
plain[b] and pitched his tents near
Sodom.[c] 13Now the men of Sodom[d]
were wicked and were sinning greatly
against the LORD.[e]

14The LORD said to Abram after Lot
had parted from him, "Lift up your
eyes from where you are and look
north and south, east and west.[f] 15All
the land that you see I will give to you
and your offspring[i] forever.[g] 16I will
make your offspring like the dust of the
earth, so that if anyone could count the
dust, then your offspring could be
counted.[h] 17Go, walk through the

12:6 Ge 35:4; Dt 11:30; Jos 24:26; Jdg 7:1; 9:6 S Ge 33:18-20; Jos 17:7; 20:7; 24:1; Jdg 9:1; 1Ki 12:1; Ps 60:6; 108:7 S Ge 10:18 **12:7** S Ge 17:1; 18:1; 26:2; 35:9; Ex 6:3; Ac 7:2 Ex 3:8; Nu 10:29; Dt 30:5; Heb 11:8 S Ge 13:15,17; 15:18; 17:8; 23:18; 24:7; 26:3-4; 28:13; 35:12; 48:4; 50:24; Ex 6:4,8; 13:5,11; 32:13; 33:1; Nu 11:12; Dt 1:8; 2:31; 9:5; 11:9; 34:4; 2Ki 25:21; 1Ch 16:16; 2Ch 20:7; Ps 105:9-11; Jer 25:5; Eze 47:14; Ac 7:5; Ro 4:13; Gal 3:16* S Ge 8:20; 13:4 **12:8** Ge 13:3; 28:11,19; 35:1,8,15; Jos 7:2; 8:9; 1Sa 7:16; 1Ki 12:29; Hos 12:4; Am 3:14; 4:4 Ge 26:25; 33:19; Heb 11:9 Jos 7:2; 12:9; Ezr 2:28; Ne 7:32; Jer 49:3 S Ge 4:26; S 8:20 **12:9** Ge 13:1,3; 20:1; 24:62; Nu 13:17; 33:40; Dt 34:3; Jos 10:40 **12:10** Ge 41:27,57; 42:5; 43:1; 47:4,13; Ru 1:1; 2Sa 21:1; 2Ki 8:1; Ps 105:19 Ge 41:30,54,56; 47:20; Ps 105:16 **12:11** S Ge 11:29 ver 14; Ge 24:16; 26:7; 29:17; 39:6 **12:13** Ge 20:2; 26:7 **12:14** S ver 11 **12:16** S ver 5; Ge 24:35; 26:14; 30:43; 32:5; 34:23; 47:17; Job 1:3; 31:25 **12:17** 2Ki 15:5; Job 30:11; Isa 53:4,10 1Ch 16:21; Ps 105:14 **12:18** Ge 20:9; 26:10; 29:25; 31:26; 44:15 Isa 43:27; 51:2; Eze 16:3 **12:19** Ge 20:5; 26:9 **13:1** Ge 45:25 S Ge 12:9 S Ge 11:27 **13:2** S Ge 12:5; 26:13; Pr 10:22 Ge 32:15; Job 1:3; 42:12 **13:3** S Ge 12:9 S Ge 12:8 Jos 7:2

13:4 [g]S Ge 12:7 [h]S Ge 4:26 **13:5** [i]S Ge 11:27 **13:6** [j]S Ge 12:5; 33:9; 36:7 **13:7** [k]Ge 26:20,21; Nu 20:3 [l]S Ge 10:18 [m]Ge 15:20; 34:30; Ex 3:8; Jdg 1:4 [n]Ge 12:6; 34:30 **13:8** [o]S Ge 11:27 [p]Pr 15:18; 20:3 [q]Ge 19:9; Ex 2:14; Nu 16:13; Ps 133:1 **13:9** [r]Ge 20:15; 34:10; 47:6; Jer 40:4 **13:10** [s]1Ki 7:46; 2Ch 4:17 [t]Nu 13:29; 33:48 [u]Ge 2:8-10; Isa 51:3; Eze 31:8-9 [v]Ge 46:7 [w]Ge 14:2; 19:22,30; Dt 34:3; Isa 15:5; Jer 48:34 [x]Dt 29:23; Job 39:6; Ps 107:34; Jer 4:26 [y]Ge 14:8; 19:17-29 **13:12** [z]S Ge 10:19 [a]S Ge 11:27 [b]S ver 10; Ge 19:17,25,29 [c]Ge 14:12 **13:13** [d]Ge 19:4; Isa 1:10; 3:9 [e]Ge 18:20; 19:5; 20:6; 39:9; Nu 32:23; 1Sa 12:23; 2Sa 12:13; Ps 51:4; Eze 16:49-50; 2Pe 2:8 **13:14** [f]Ge 28:14; 32:12; 48:16; Dt 3:27; 13:17; Isa 54:3 **13:15** [g]S Ge 12:7; Gal 3:16* **13:16** [h]S Ge 12:2; 16:10; 17:20; 21:13,18; 25:16; Nu 23:10

[h]7 Or *seed* [i]15 Or *seed;* also in verse 16

length and breadth of the land,[a] for I
am giving it to you."[b]
18 So Abram moved his tents and
went to live near the great trees of
Mamre[c] at Hebron,[d] where he built an
altar to the LORD.[e]

Abram Rescues Lot

14 At this time Amraphel king of
Shinar,[i][f] Arioch king of Ellasar,
Kedorlaomer[g] king of Elam[h] and Tidal
king of Goiim 2 went to war against
Bera king of Sodom, Birsha king of
Gomorrah, Shinab king of Admah,
Shemeber king of Zeboiim,[i] and the
king of Bela (that is, Zoar).[j] 3 All these
latter kings joined forces in the Valley
of Siddim[k] (the Salt Sea[k][l]). 4 For
twelve years they had been subject to
Kedorlaomer,[m] but in the thirteenth
year they rebelled.
5 In the fourteenth year, Kedorlao-
mer[n] and the kings allied with him
went out and defeated the Rephaites[o]
in Ashteroth Karnaim, the Zuzites in
Ham, the Emites[p] in Shaveh Kiria-
thaim 6 and the Horites[q] in the hill
country of Seir,[r] as far as El Paran[s]
near the desert. 7 Then they turned back
and went to En Mishpat (that is, Ka-
desh),[t] and they conquered the whole
territory of the Amalekites,[u] as well as
the Amorites[v] who were living in
Hazazon Tamar.[w]
8 Then the king of Sodom, the king of
Gomorrah,[x] the king of Admah, the
king of Zeboiim[y] and the king of Bela
(that is, Zoar)[z] marched out and drew
up their battle lines in the Valley of Sid-
dim[a] 9 against Kedorlaomer[b] king of
Elam,[c] Tidal king of Goiim, Amraphel
king of Shinar and Arioch king of Ella-
sar—four kings against five. 10 Now the
Valley of Siddim[d] was full of tar[e] pits,
and when the kings of Sodom and
Gomorrah[f] fled, some of the men fell
into them and the rest fled to the hills.[g]
11 The four kings seized all the goods[h]
of Sodom and Gomorrah and all their
food; then they went away. 12 They also
carried off Abram's nephew Lot[i] and
his possessions, since he was living in
Sodom.
13 One who had escaped came and re-
ported this to Abram the Hebrew.[j]
Now Abram was living near the great
trees of Mamre[k] the Amorite, a broth-
er[l] of Eshcol[l] and Aner, all of whom
were allied with Abram. 14 When
Abram heard that his relative[m] had
been taken captive, he called out the
318 trained[n] men born in his house-
hold[o] and went in pursuit as far as
Dan.[p] 15 During the night Abram di-
vided his men[q] to attack them and he
routed them, pursuing them as far as
Hobah, north of Damascus.[r] 16 He
recovered[s] all the goods[t] and brought
back his relative Lot and his posses-
sions, together with the women and
the other people.
17 After Abram returned from defeat-
ing Kedorlaomer[u] and the kings allied
with him, the king of Sodom[v] came
out to meet him in the Valley of Shaveh
(that is, the King's Valley).[w]
18 Then Melchizedek[x] king of
Salem[m][y] brought out bread[z] and
wine.[a] He was priest of God Most
High,[b] 19 and he blessed Abram,[c] say-
ing,

"Blessed be Abram by God Most
High,[d]
Creator[n] of heaven and earth.[e]
20 And blessed be[o] God Most High,[f]
who delivered your enemies into
your hand."

Then Abram gave him a tenth of every-
thing.[g]
21 The king of Sodom[h] said to Abram,
"Give me the people and keep the
goods[i] for yourself."
22 But Abram said to the king of
Sodom,[j] "I have raised my hand[k] to
the LORD, God Most High,[l] Creator of
heaven and earth,[m] and have taken an
oath 23 that I will accept nothing belong-
ing to you,[n] not even a thread or the
thong of a sandal, so that you will nev-
er be able to say, 'I made Abram rich.'
24 I will accept nothing but what my
men have eaten and the share that be-
longs to the men who went with me—
to Aner, Eshcol and Mamre.[o] Let them
have their share."

God's Covenant With Abram

15 After this, the word of the LORD
came to Abram[p] in a vision:[q]

13:17 [a]ver 15; Nu 13:17-25 [b]S Ge 12:7; 15:7 **13:18** [c]Ge 14:13,24; 18:1; 23:17,19; 25:9; 49:30; 50:13 [d]Ge 23:2; 35:27; 37:14; Nu 13:22; Jos 10:3,36; Jdg 1:10; 1Sa 30:31; 2Sa 2:1,3,11; 1Ch 11:1 [e]S Ge 8:20 **14:1** [f]S Ge 10:10 [g]ver 4,9,17 [h]S Ge 10:22 **14:2** [i]S Ge 10:19 [j]S Ge 13:10 **14:3** [k]ver 8,10 [l]Nu 34:3,12; Dt 3:17; Jos 3:16; 12:3; 15:2,5; 18:19 **14:4** [m]S ver 1 **14:5** [n]S ver 1 [o]Ge 15:20; Dt 2:11,20; 3:11,13; Jos 12:4; 13:12; 17:15; 1Ch 20:4 [p]Dt 2:10 **14:6** [q]Ge 36:20; Dt 2:12,22 [r]Ge 32:3; 33:14,16; 36:8; Dt 1:2; 2:1,5,22; Jos 11:17; 24:4; 1Ch 4:42; Isa 34:5; Eze 25:8; 35:2; Am 1:6 [s]Ge 21:21; Nu 10:12; 12:16; 13:3,26; Hab 3:3 **14:7** [t]Ge 16:14; 20:1; Nu 13:26; 20:1; 32:8; Dt 1:2; Jos 10:41; Jdg 11:16; Ps 29:8 [u]Ex 17:8; Nu 13:29; 14:25; 24:20; Dt 25:17; Jdg 3:13; 6:3; 10:12; 12:15; 1Sa 14:48; 15:2; 28:18; 2Sa 1:1; 1Ch 4:43; Ps 83:7 [v]Nu 13:29; Dt 1:4; Jos 2:10; 13:4 [w]2Ch 20:2; Eze 48:28 **14:8** [x]S Ge 13:10 [y]Dt 29:23; Hos 11:8 [z]S Ge 13:10 [a]S ver 3 **14:9** [b]S ver 1 [c]S Ge 10:22 **14:10** [d]S ver 3 [e]Ge 11:3 [f]ver 17, 21 [g]Ge 19:17,30; Jos 2:16; Ps 11:1 **14:11** [h]ver 16, 21 **14:12** [i]S Ge 11:27 **14:13** [j]Ge 37:28; 39:14,17; 40:15; 41:12; 43:32; Ex 3:18; 1Sa 4:6; 14:11 [k]S Ge 13:18 [l]Nu 13:23; 32:9; Dt 1:24 **14:14** [m]ver 12 [n]Dt 4:9; Pr 22:6 [o]S Ge 12:5 [p]Dt 34:1; Jdg 18:29; 1Ki 15:20 **14:15** [q]Jdg 7:16 [r]Ge 15:2; 2Sa 8:5; 1Ki 20:34; 2Ki 16:9; Isa 7:8; 8:4; 10:9; 17:1; Jer 49:23,27; Eze 27:18; Am 1:3-5 **14:16** [s]1Sa 30:8,18 [t]S ver 11 **14:17** [u]S ver 1 [v]S ver 10 [w]2Sa 18:18 **14:18** [x]Ps 110:4; Heb 5:6; 7:17,21 [y]Ps 76:2; Heb 7:2 [z]S Ge 3:19 [a]Jdg 9:13; 19:19; Est 1:10; Ps 104:15; Pr 31:6; Ecc 10:19; SS 1:2 [b]ver 22; Ps 7:8,17; Da 7:27 **14:19** [c]Heb 7:6 [d]ver 18 [e]ver 22; S Ge 1:1; 24:3; Jos 2:11; Ps 148:5; Mt 11:25 **14:20** [f]S Ge 9:26; S 24:27 [g]Ge 28:22; Dt 14:22; 26:12; Lk 18:12; Heb 7:4 **14:21** [h]S ver 10 [i]S ver 11 **14:22** [j]S ver 10 [k]Ex 6:8; Nu 14:30; Dt 32:40; Ne 9:15; Eze 20:5; Da 12:7; Rev 10:5-6 [l]S ver 18 [m]S ver 19 **14:23** [n]1Sa 15:3,19; 2Ki 5:16; Est 8:11; 9:10,15 **14:24** [o]S Ge 13:18 **15:1** [p]1Sa 15:10; 2Sa 7:4; 1Ki 6:11; 12:22; Jer 1:13; Eze 3:16; Da 10:1 [q]Ge 46:2; Nu 12:6; 24:4; Ru 1:20; Job 33:15

[i]1 That is, Babylonia; also in verse 9 [k]3 That is, the Dead Sea [l]13 Or *a relative; or an ally* [m]18 That is, Jerusalem [n]19 Or *Possessor;* also in verse 22 [o]20 Or *And praise be to*

"Do not be afraid,[a] Abram.
I am your shield,[p][b]
your very great reward.[q][c]"

2 But Abram said, "O Sovereign
LORD,[d] what can you give me since I
remain childless[e] and the one who will
inherit[f] my estate is Eliezer of Damas-
cus?"[r] 3 And Abram said, "You have
given me no children; so a servant[g] in
my household[h] will be my heir."
4 Then the word of the LORD came to
him: "This man will not be your heir,
but a son coming from your own body
will be your heir."[i] 5 He took him out-
side and said, "Look up at the heavens
and count the stars[j]—if indeed you
can count them." Then he said to him,
"So shall your offspring be."[k]
6 Abram believed the LORD, and he
credited it to him as righteousness.[l]
7 He also said to him, "I am the LORD,
who brought you out[m] of Ur of the
Chaldeans[n] to give you this land to
take possession of it."[o]
8 But Abram said, "O Sovereign
LORD,[p] how can I know[q] that I will gain
possession of it?"[r]
9 So the LORD said to him, "Bring me a
heifer,[s] a goat and a ram, each three
years old,[t] along with a dove and a
young pigeon.[u]"
10 Abram brought all these to him, cut
them in two and arranged the halves
opposite each other;[v] the birds, how-
ever, he did not cut in half.[w] 11 Then
birds of prey came down on the car-
casses,[x] but Abram drove them away.
12 As the sun was setting, Abram fell
into a deep sleep,[y] and a thick and
dreadful darkness came over him.
13 Then the LORD said to him, "Know for
certain that your descendants will be
strangers in a country not their own,
and they will be enslaved[z] and mis-
treated four hundred years.[a] 14 But I
will punish the nation they serve as
slaves, and afterward they will come
out[b] with great possessions.[c] 15 You,
however, will go to your fathers[d] in
peace and be buried at a good old age.[e]
16 In the fourth generation[f] your de-
scendants will come back here,[g] for the
sin of the Amorites[h] has not yet
reached its full measure."
17 When the sun had set and darkness
had fallen, a smoking firepot with a
blazing torch[i] appeared and passed
between the pieces.[j] 18 On that day the
LORD made a covenant with Abram[k]
and said, "To your descendants I give
this land,[l] from the river[s] of Egypt[m] to

15:1 [a]Ge 21:17; 26:24; 46:3; Ex 14:13; 20:20; 2Ki 6:16; 2Ch 20:15,17; Ps 27:1; Isa 7:4; 41:10,13-14; 43:1,5; Jer 1:8; Hag 2:5 [b]Dt 33:29; 2Sa 22:3,31; Ps 3:3; 5:12; 18:2; 28:7; 33:20; 84:11; 119:114; 144:2; Pr 2:7; 30:5 [c]Ps 18:20; 37:25; 58:11; Isa 3:10 **15:2** [d]ver 8; Isa 49:22; Jer 44:26; Eze 5:11; 16:48 [e]Ac 7:5 [f]S Ge 14:15 **15:3** [g]Ge 24:2,34 [h]S Ge 12:5 **15:4** [i]Gal 4:28 **15:5** [j]Job 11:8; 35:5; Ps 8:3; 147:4; Jer 33:22 [k]S Ge 12:2; S Jer 30:19; Ro 4:18*; Heb 11:12 **15:6** [l]Ps 106:31; Ro 4:3*,20-24*; Gal 3:6*; Jas 2:23* **15:7** [m]Ge 12:1; Ex 20:2; Ac 7:3; Heb 11:8 [n]S Ge 11:28; Ac 7:4 [o]S Ge 13:17; 17:8; 28:4; 35:12; 48:4; Ex 6:8; Dt 9:5 **15:8** [p]S ver 2 [q]Lk 1:18 [r]Dt 12:20; 19:8 **15:9** [s]Nu 19:2; Dt 21:3; Hos 4:16; Am 4:1 [t]1Sa 1:24 [u]Lev 1:14; 5:7,11; 12:8 **15:10** [v]ver 17; Jer 34:18 [w]Lev 1:17; 5:8 **15:11** [x]Dt 28:26; Jer 7:33 **15:12** [y]S Ge 2:21 **15:13** [z]Ex 1:11; 3:7; 5:6,10-14,18; 6:5; Dt 5:15; Job 3:18 [a]ver 16; Ex 12:40; Nu 20:15; Ac 7:6,17; Gal 3:17 **15:14** [b]Ge 50:24; Ex 3:8; 6:6-8; 12:25; Nu 10:29; Jos 1:2; Ac 7:7* [c]Ex 12:32-38 **15:15** [d]Ge 47:30; 49:29; Dt 31:16; 2Sa 7:12; 1Ki 1:21; Ps 49:19 [e]Ge 25:8; 35:29; Ex 23:26; Dt 34:7; Jos 14:11; Jdg 8:32; 1Ch 29:28; Job 5:26; 21:23; 42:17; Ps 91:16; Pr 3:16; 9:11; Isa 65:20 **15:16** [f]S ver 13; Ex 12:40 [g]Ge 28:15; 46:4; 48:21; 50:24; Ex 3:8,17

the great river, the Euphrates[n]— 19 the
land of the Kenites,[o] Kenizzites, Kad-
monites, 20 Hittites,[p] Perizzites,[q] Reph-
aites,[r] 21 Amorites, Canaanites, Girga-
shites and Jebusites."[s]

Hagar and Ishmael

16 Now Sarai,[t] Abram's wife, had
borne him no children.[u] But she
had an Egyptian maidservant[v] named
Hagar;[w] 2 so she said to Abram, "The
LORD has kept me from having chil-
dren.[x] Go, sleep with my maidservant;
perhaps I can build a family through
her."[y]
Abram agreed to what Sarai said. 3 So
after Abram had been living in Ca-
naan[z] ten years,[a] Sarai his wife took
her Egyptian maidservant Hagar and
gave her to her husband to be his wife.
4 He slept with Hagar,[b] and she con-
ceived.
When she knew she was pregnant,
she began to despise her mistress.[c]
5 Then Sarai said to Abram, "You are
responsible for the wrong I am suffer-
ing. I put my servant in your arms, and
now that she knows she is pregnant,
she despises me. May the LORD judge
between you and me."[d]
6 "Your servant is in your hands,"[e]
Abram said. "Do with her whatever
you think best." Then Sarai mistreat-
ed[f] Hagar; so she fled from her.
7 The angel of the LORD[g] found Hagar
near a spring[h] in the desert; it was the
spring that is beside the road to Shur.[i]
8 And he said, "Hagar,[j] servant of
Sarai, where have you come from, and
where are you going?"[k]
"I'm running away from my mistress
Sarai," she answered.
9 Then the angel of the LORD told her,
"Go back to your mistress and submit
to her." 10 The angel added, "I will so

[h]Lev 18:28; Jos 13:4; Jdg 10:11; 1Ki 21:26; 2Ki 16:3; 21:11; Eze 16:3 **15:17** [i]Jdg 7:16,20; 15:4,5 [j]S ver 10 **15:18** [k]Ge 17:2,4,7; Ex 6:4; 34:10,27; 1Ch 16:16; Ps 105:9 [l]S Ge 12:7 [m]Nu 34:5; Jos 15:4,47; 1Ki 8:65; 2Ki 24:7; 2Ch 7:8; Isa 27:12; Jer 37:5; 46:2; La 4:17; Eze 30:22; 47:19 [n]S Ge 2:14 **15:19** [o]Nu 24:21; Jdg 1:16; 4:11,17; 5:24; 1Sa 15:6; 27:10; 30:29; 1Ch 2:55 **15:20** [p]S Ge 10:15; S Dt 7:1 [q]S Ge 13:7 [r]S Ge 14:5 **15:21** [s]S Ge 10:16; Jos 3:10; 24:11; Ne 9:8 **16:1** [t]S Ge 11:29 [u]S Ge 11:30; Lk 1:7,36; Gal 4:24-25 [v]Ge 24:61; 29:24,29; 31:33; 46:18 [w]ver 3-4,8,15; Ge 21:14; 25:12 **16:2** [x]Ge 29:31; 30:2 [y]Ge 19:32; 30:3-4,9-10 **16:3** [z]S Ge 12:5 [a]S Ge 12:4 **16:4** [b]S ver 1 [c]Ge 30:1; 1Sa 1:6 **16:5** [d]Ge 31:53; Ex 5:21; Jdg 11:27; 1Sa 24:12,15; 26:10,23; Ps 50:6; 75:7 **16:6** [e]Jos 9:25 [f]Ge 31:50 **16:7** [g]ver 11; Ge 21:17; 22:11,15; 24:7,40; 31:11; 48:16; Ex 3:2; 14:19; 23:20,23; 32:34; 33:2; Nu 22:22; Jdg 2:1; 6:11; 13:3; 2Sa 24:16; 1Ki 19:5; 2Ki 1:3; 19:35; Ps 34:7; Zec 1:11; S Ac 5:19 [h]ver 14; Ge 21:19 [i]Ge 20:1; 25:18; Ex 15:22; 1Sa 15:7; 27:8 **16:8** [j]S ver 1 [k]S Ge 3:9

[p]1 Or *sovereign* [q]1 Or *shield; / your reward will be very great* [r]2 The meaning of the Hebrew for this phrase is uncertain. [s]18 Or *Wadi*

increase your descendants that they
will be too numerous to count."[a]
11The angel of the LORD[b] also said to
her:

"You are now with child
and you will have a son.[c]
You shall name him[d] Ishmael,[e][u]
for the LORD has heard of your
misery.[f]
12He will be a wild donkey[g] of a man;
his hand will be against everyone
and everyone's hand against him,
and he will live in hostility
toward[v] all his brothers.[h]"

13She gave this name to the LORD who
spoke to her: "You are the God who
sees me,[i]" for she said, "I have now
seen[w] the One who sees me."[j] 14That
is why the well[k] was called Beer Lahai
Roi[x];[l] it is still there, between Ka-
desh[m] and Bered.
15So Hagar[n] bore Abram a son,[o] and
Abram gave the name Ishmael[p] to the
son she had borne. 16Abram was
eighty-six years old[q] when Hagar bore
him Ishmael.

The Covenant of Circumcision

17 When Abram was ninety-nine
years old,[r] the LORD appeared to
him[s] and said, "I am God Almighty[x];[t]
walk before me and be blameless.[u] 2I
will confirm my covenant between me
and you[v] and will greatly increase your
numbers."[w]
3Abram fell facedown,[x] and God
said to him, 4"As for me, this is my
covenant with you:[y] You will be the
father of many nations.[z] 5No longer
will you be called Abram[y]; your name
will be Abraham,[z][a] for I have made
you a father of many nations.[b] 6I will
make you very fruitful;[c] I will make
nations of you, and kings will come
from you.[d] 7I will establish my cov-
enant[e][f] as an everlasting covenant[g][h]
between me and you and your de-
scendants after you for the generations
to come, to be your God[i] and the God
of your descendants after you.[j] 8The
whole land of Canaan,[k] where you are
now an alien,[l] I will give as an ever-
lasting possession to you and your de-
scendants after you;[m] and I will be their
God.[n]"
9Then God said to Abraham, "As for
you, you must keep my covenant,[o]
you and your descendants after you for
the generations to come.[p] 10This is my
covenant with you and your descend-
ants after you, the covenant you are to
keep: Every male among you shall be
circumcised.[q] 11You are to undergo cir-
cumcision,[r] and it will be the sign of
the covenant[s] between me and you.
12For the generations to come[t] every
male among you who is eight days old
must be circumcised,[u] including those
born in your household or bought with
money from a foreigner—those who
are not your offspring. 13Whether born
in your household or bought with your
money, they must be circumcised.[v] My
covenant in your flesh is to be an ever-
lasting covenant.[w] 14Any uncircum-
cised male, who has not been circum-
cised[x] in the flesh, will be cut off from
his people;[y] he has broken my cov-
enant.[z]"
15God also said to Abraham, "As for
Sarai[a] your wife, you are no longer to
call her Sarai; her name will be Sarah.[b]
16I will bless her and will surely give
you a son by her.[c] I will bless her so
that she will be the mother of nations;[d]
kings of peoples will come from her."
17Abraham fell facedown;[e] he
laughed[f] and said to himself, "Will a
son be born to a man a hundred years
old?[g] Will Sarah bear a child at the age
of ninety?"[h] 18And Abraham said to
God, "If only Ishmael[i] might live un-
der your blessing!"[j]
19Then God said, "Yes, but your wife
Sarah will bear you a son,[k] and you
will call him Isaac.[a][l] I will establish my
covenant with him[m] as an everlasting
covenant[n] for his descendants after
him. 20And as for Ishmael, I have heard
you: I will surely bless him; I will make
him fruitful and will greatly increase
his numbers.[o] He will be the father of
twelve rulers,[p] and I will make him
into a great nation.[q] 21But my cov-
enant[r] I will establish with Isaac,

16:10 [a]S Ge 13:16 **16:11** [b]S ver 7; S Ac 5:19 [c]S Ge 3:15 [d]Ge 12:2-3; 18:19; Ne 9:7; Isa 44:1; Am 3:2; Mt 1:21; Lk 1:13, 31 [e]Ge 17:19; 21:3; 37:25,28; 39:1; Jdg 8:24 [f]Ge 29:32; 31:42; Ex 2:24; 3:7,9; 4:31; Nu 20:16; Dt 26:7; 1Sa 9:16 **16:12** [g]Job 6:5; 11:12; 24:5; 39:5; Ps 104:11; Jer 2:24; Hos 8:9 [h]Ge 25:18 **16:13** [i]Ps 139:1-12 [j]Ge 32:30; 33:10; Ex 24:10; 33:20, 23; Nu 12:8; Jdg 6:22; 13:22; Isa 6:5 **16:14** [k]S ver 7 [l]Ge 24:62; 25:11 [m]S Ge 14:7 **16:15** [n]S ver 1 [o]Ge 21:9; Gal 4:22 [p]Ge 17:18; 25:12; 28:9 **16:16** [q]S Ge 12:4 **17:1** [r]S Ge 12:4 [s]S Ge 12:7 [t]Ge 28:3; 35:11; 43:14; 48:3; 49:25; Ex 6:3; Ru 1:20; Job 5:17; 6:4,14; 22:21; 33:19; 36:16; Isa 13:6; Joel 1:15; Mic 6:9 [u]S Ge 5:22; 20:5; Dt 18:13; 1Ki 3:6; 9:4; Job 1:1; Ps 15:2; 18:23; 78:72; 101:2 **17:2** [v]S Ge 15:18; S 22:16-18 [w]S Ge 12:2 **17:3** [x]ver 17; Ge 18:2; 19:1; 33:3; Ex 18:7; Nu 14:5; Jos 5:14; 7:6; Jdg 13:20; Eze 1:28; 3:23 **17:4** [y]S Ge 15:18 [z]ver 16; S Ge 12:2; 25:23 **17:5** [a]ver 15; Ge 32:28; 35:10; 37:3,13; 43:6; 46:2; 1Ki 18:31; 2Ki 17:34; 1Ch 1:34; Ne 9:7; Isa 48:1; S Jn 1:42 [b]Ro 4:17* **17:6** [c]Ge 1:28; 22:17; 26:22; 28:3; 35:11; 41:52; 47:27; 48:4; 49:22; Lev 26:9; Dt 7:13 [d]ver 16,19; Ge 18:10; 21:1; 36:31; Isa 51:2; Mt 1:6 **17:7** [e]S Ge 15:18; Lev 26:9,15 [f]S Ge 6:18 [g]S Heb 13:20 [h]S Ge 9:16 [i]Ex 6:7; 20:2; 29:45,46; Lev 11:44-45; 18:2; 22:33; 25:38; 26:12,45; Nu 15:41; Dt 4:20; 7:6,21; 29:13; 2Sa 7:24; Jer 14:9; Rev 21:7 [j]Ro 9:8; Gal 3:16 **17:8** [k]S Ge 10:19 [l]Ge 23:4; 28:4; 35:27; 37:1; Ex 6:4; 1Ch 29:15 [m]S Ge 12:7; S 15:7 [n]S ver 7; Jer 31:1 **17:9** [o]Ge 22:18; Ex 19:5; Dt 5:2 [p]Ge 18:19 **17:10** [q]ver 23; Ge 21:4; Lev 12:3; Jos 5:2,5,7; Jn 7:22; Ac 7:8; Ro 4:11 **17:11** [r]Ex 12:48; Dt 10:16 [s]S Ge 9:12; Ro 4:11 **17:12** [t]S Ge 9:12 [u]Ge 21:4; Lev 12:3; Jos 5:2; S Lk 1:59 **17:13** [v]Ex 12:44,48 [w]S Ge 9:16 **17:14** [x]ver 23 [y]Ex 4:24-26; 12:15,19; 30:33; Lev 7:20,25; 17:4; 18:29; 19:8; 20:17; Nu 9:13; 15:30; 19:13; Dt 17:12; Jos 5:2-8; Job 38:15; Ps 37:28 [z]Eze 44:7 **17:15** [a]S Ge 11:29 [b]S ver 5 **17:16** [c]S ver 6; S Isa 29:22 [d]S ver 4; Ge 24:60; Gal 4:31 **17:17** [e]S ver 3 [f]Ge 18:12; 21:6 [g]S Ge 12:4 [h]Ge 18:11,13; 21:7; 24:1,36; Jer 20:15; Lk 1:18; Ro 4:19; Gal 4:23; Heb 11:11 **17:18** [i]S Ge 16:15 [j]Ge 21:11 **17:19** [k]S ver 6,21; Ge 18:14; 21:2; 1Sa 1:20 [l]S Ge 16:11; Mt 1:21; Lk 1:13,31 [m]Ge 26:3; 50:24; Ex 13:11; Dt 1:8 [n]S Ge 9:16; S Gal 3:16 **17:20** [o]S Ge 13:16 [p]Ge 25:12-16 [q]Ge 25:18; 48:19 **17:21** [r]Ex 34:10

[u]11 *Ishmael* means *God hears.* [v]12 Or *live to the east of* [w]13 Or *seen the back of* [x]14 *Beer Lahai Roi* means *well of the Living One who sees me.* [x]1 Hebrew *El-Shaddai* [y]5 *Abram* means *exalted father.* [z]5 *Abraham* means *father of many.* [a]19 *Isaac* means *he laughs.*

whom Sarah will bear to you by this
time next year." 22When he had fin-
ished speaking with Abraham, God
went up from him.
23On that very day Abraham took his
son Ishmael and all those born in his
household or bought with his money,
every male in his household, and cir-
cumcised them, as God told him.
24Abraham was ninety-nine years old
when he was circumcised, 25and his
son Ishmael was thirteen; 26Abraham
and his son Ishmael were both circum-
cised on that same day. 27And every
male in Abraham's household, in-
cluding those born in his household or
bought from a foreigner, was circum-
cised with him.

The Three Visitors

18 The LORD appeared to Abraham[j]
near the great trees of Mamre[k]
while he was sitting at the entrance to
his tent[l] in the heat of the day. 2Abra-
ham looked up[m] and saw three men[n]
standing nearby. When he saw them,
he hurried from the entrance of his tent
to meet them and bowed low to the
ground.[o]
3He said, "If I have found favor in
your eyes,[p] my lord,[b] do not pass your
servant[q] by. 4Let a little water be
brought, and then you may all wash
your feet[r] and rest under this tree. 5Let
me get you something to eat,[s] so you
can be refreshed and then go on your
way—now that you have come to your
servant."
"Very well," they answered, "do as
you say."
6So Abraham hurried into the tent to
Sarah. "Quick," he said, "get three
seahs[c] of fine flour and knead it and
bake some bread."[t]
7Then he ran to the herd and selected
a choice, tender calf[u] and gave it to a
servant, who hurried to prepare it. 8He
then brought some curds[v] and milk[w]
and the calf that had been prepared,
and set these before them.[x] While they
ate, he stood near them under a tree.
9"Where is your wife Sarah?"[y] they
asked him.
"There, in the tent,"[z] he said.
10Then the LORD[d] said, "I will surely
return to you about this time next
year,[a] and Sarah your wife will have a
son."[b]
Now Sarah was listening at the en-
trance to the tent, which was behind
him. 11Abraham and Sarah were al-
ready old and well advanced in years,[c]
and Sarah was past the age of child-
bearing.[d] 12So Sarah laughed[e] to her-
self as she thought, "After I am worn
out and my master[e] is old, will I now
have this pleasure?"[f]
13Then the LORD said to Abraham,
"Why did Sarah laugh and say, 'Will I
really have a child, now that I am
old?'[g] 14Is anything too hard for the
LORD?[h] I will return to you at the ap-
pointed time next year[i] and Sarah will
have a son."[j]
15Sarah was afraid, so she lied and
said, "I did not laugh."
But he said, "Yes, you did laugh."

Abraham Pleads for Sodom

16When the men[k] got up to leave,
they looked down toward Sodom, and
Abraham walked along with them to
see them on their way. 17Then the LORD
said, "Shall I hide from Abraham[l]
what I am about to do?[m] 18Abraham
will surely become a great and power-
ful nation,[n] and all nations on earth
will be blessed through him. 19For I
have chosen him[o], so that he will di-
rect his children[p] and his household af-
ter him to keep the way of the LORD[q] by
doing what is right and just,[r] so that
the LORD will bring about for Abraham
what he has promised him."[s]
20Then the LORD said, "The outcry
against Sodom[t] and Gomorrah is so
great[u] and their sin so grievous[v] 21that
I will go down[w] and see if what they
have done is as bad as the outcry that
has reached me. If not, I will know."
22The men[x] turned away and went
toward Sodom,[y] but Abraham re-
mained standing before the LORD.[f][z]
23Then Abraham approached him and
said: "Will you sweep away the right-
eous with the wicked?[a] 24What if there
are fifty righteous people in the city?
Will you really sweep it away and not
spare[g] the place for the sake of the fifty
righteous people in it?[b] 25Far be it from
you to do such a thing[c]—to kill the
righteous with the wicked, treating the
righteous[d] and the wicked alike.[e] Far

17:21 [illegible] **17:22** [illegible] **17:23** [illegible] **17:24** [illegible] **17:25** [illegible] **17:27** [illegible] **18:1** [illegible] Heb 11:9 **18:2** m Ge 24:63 n ver 16,22; Ge 19:1,10; 32:24; Jos 5:13; Jdg 13:6-11; Heb 12:14; Heb 13:2 o S Ge 17:3; S 19:28 **18:3** p Ge 19:19; 30:4; Ru 2:2,10, 13; 1Sa 1:18; Est 2:15 q Ge 32:4,18,20; 33:5 **18:4** r Ge 19:2; 24:32; 43:24; Jdg 19:21; 2Sa 11:8; S Lk 7:44 **18:5** s Jdg 13:15; 19:5 **18:6** t Ge 19:3; 2Sa 13:8 **18:7** u 1Sa 28:24; Lk 15:23 **18:8** v Isa 7:15, 22 w Jdg 4:19; 5:25 x Jdg 6:19 **18:9** y S Ge 3:9 z Ge 24:67; Heb 11:9 **18:10** a S Ge 17:21; 21:2; 2Ki 4:16 b S Ge 17:6; Ro 9:9* **18:11** c S Ge 17:17; Lk 1:18 d S Ge 11:30; Ro 4:19; Heb 11:11-12 **18:12** e S Ge 17:17 f 1Pe 3:6 **18:13** g S Ge 17:17 **18:14** h Job 42:2; Isa 40:29; 50:2; 51:9; Jer 32:17, 27; S Mt 19:26; Ro 4:21 i S ver 10 j S Ge 17:19; Ro 9:9*; Gal 4:23 **18:16** k S ver 2 **18:17** l Am 3:7 m Ge 19:24; Job 1:16; Ps 107:34 **18:18** n S Ge 12:2; Gal 3:8* **18:19** o Ge 17:9 p Dt 4:9-10; 6:7 q Jos 24:15; Eph 6:4 r Ge 22:12,18; 26:5; 2Sa 8:15; Ps 17:2; 99:4; Jer 23:5 s S Ge 16:11; S Isa 14:1 **18:20** t Isa 1:10; Jer 23:14; Eze 16:46 u Ge 19:13 v S Ge 13:13

18:21 w S Ge 11:5 **18:22** x S ver 2 y Ge 19:1 z Ge 19:27 **18:23** a Ex 23:7; Lev 4:3,22,27; Nu 16:22; Dt 27:25; 2Sa 24:17; Ps 11:4-7; 94:21; Eze 18:4; 2Pe 2:9 **18:24** b ver 26; Jer 5:1 **18:25** c Ge 44:7,17; Dt 32:4; Job 8:3-7; 34:10 d Isa 5:20; Am 5:15; Mal 2:17; 3:18 e Dt 1:16-17

b3 Or *O Lord* c6 That is, probably about 20 quarts (about 22 liters) d10 Hebrew *Then he* e12 Or *husband* f22 Masoretic Text; an ancient Hebrew scribal tradition *but the LORD remained standing before Abraham* g24 Or *forgive;* also in verse 26

be it from you! Will not the Judge[h][a] of
all the earth do right?"[b]
26 The LORD said, "If I find fifty right-
eous people in the city of Sodom, I will
spare the whole place for their sake."[c]
27 Then Abraham spoke up again:
"Now that I have been so bold as to
speak to the Lord, though I am nothing
but dust and ashes,[d] 28 what if the
number of the righteous is five less
than fifty? Will you destroy the whole
city because of five people?"
"If I find forty-five there," he said, "I
will not destroy it."
29 Once again he spoke to him, "What
if only forty are found there?"
He said, "For the sake of forty, I will
not do it."
30 Then he said, "May the Lord not be
angry,[e] but let me speak. What if only
thirty can be found there?"
He answered, "I will not do it if I
find thirty there."
31 Abraham said, "Now that I have
been so bold as to speak to the Lord,
what if only twenty can be found
there?"
He said, "For the sake of twenty, I
will not destroy it."
32 Then he said, "May the Lord not be
angry, but let me speak just once
more.[f] What if only ten can be found
there?"
He answered, "For the sake of ten,[g]
I will not destroy it."
33 When the LORD had finished speak-
ing[h] with Abraham, he left,[i] and
Abraham returned home.[j]

Sodom and Gomorrah Destroyed

19 The two angels[k] arrived at
Sodom[l] in the evening, and
Lot[m] was sitting in the gateway of the
city.[n] When he saw them, he got up to
meet them and bowed down with his
face to the ground.[o] 2 "My lords," he
said, "please turn aside to your ser-
vant's house. You can wash your feet[p]
and spend the night and then go on
your way early in the morning."
"No," they answered, "we will
spend the night in the square."[q]
3 But he insisted[r] so strongly that
they did go with him and entered his
house.[s] He prepared a meal for them,
baking bread without yeast,[t] and they
ate.[u] 4 Before they had gone to bed, all
the men from every part of the city of
Sodom[v]—both young and old—sur-
rounded the house. 5 They called to Lot,
"Where are the men who came to you
tonight? Bring them out to us so that
we can have sex with them."[w]
6 Lot went outside to meet them[x] and
shut the door behind him 7 and said,
"No, my friends. Don't do this wicked
thing. 8 Look, I have two daughters
who have never slept with a man. Let
me bring them out to you, and you can
do what you like with them. But don't
do anything to these men, for they
have come under the protection of my
roof."[y]
9 "Get out of our way," they replied.
And they said, "This fellow came here
as an alien,[z] and now he wants to play
the judge![a] We'll treat you worse than
them." They kept bringing pressure on
Lot and moved forward to break down
the door.
10 But the men[b] inside reached out
and pulled Lot back into the house and
shut the door. 11 Then they struck the
men who were at the door of the
house, young and old, with blindness[c]
so that they could not find the door.
12 The two men said to Lot, "Do you
have anyone else here—sons-in-law,
sons or daughters, or anyone else in
the city who belongs to you?[d] Get
them out of here, 13 because we[e] are go-
ing to destroy this place. The outcry to
the LORD against its people is so great[f]
that he has sent us to destroy it."[g]
14 So Lot went out and spoke to his
sons-in-law, who were pledged to
marry[i] his daughters. He said, "Hurry
and get out of this place, because the
LORD is about to destroy the city![h]" But
his sons-in-law thought he was jok-
ing.[i]
15 With the coming of dawn, the an-
gels urged Lot, saying, "Hurry! Take
your wife and your two daughters who
are here, or you will be swept away[j]
when the city is punished.[k]"
16 When he hesitated, the men
grasped his hand and the hands of his
wife and of his two daughters[l] and led
them safely out of the city, for the LORD
was merciful to them.[m] 17 As soon as
they had brought them out, one of
them said, "Flee for your lives![n] Don't
look back,[o] and don't stop anywhere
in the plain![p] Flee to the mountains[q] or
you will be swept away!"
18 But Lot said to them, "No, my
lords,[j] please! 19 Your[k] servant has
found favor in your[k] eyes,[r] and you[k]

18:25 [a]Jdg 11:27; Job 9:15; Ps 7:11; 94:2; Heb 12:23 [b]Ge 20:4; Dt 32:4; 2Ch 19:7; Ezr 9:15; Ne 9:33; Job 8:3, 20; 34:10; 36:23; Ps 58:11; 75:7; 94:2; 119:137; Isa 3:10-11; Eze 18:25; Da 4:37; 9:14; Mal 2:17; Ro 3:6 **18:26** [c]S ver 24 **18:27** [d]S Ge 2:7; S Job 2:8 **18:30** [e]ver 32; Ge 44:18; Ex 32:22 **18:32** [f]S ver 30; Jdg 6:39 [g]Jer 5:1 **18:33** [h]Ex 31:18 [i]S Ge 17:22 [j]Ge 31:55 **19:1** [k]S Ge 18:2; Heb 13:2 [l]Ge 18:22 [m]S Ge 11:27 [n]S Ge 18:1 [o]S Ge 17:3; 48:12; Ru 2:10; 1Sa 25:23; 2Sa 14:33; 2Ki 2:15 **19:2** [p]S Ge 18:4; Lk 7:44 [q]Jdg 19:15,20 **19:3** [r]Ge 33:11 [s]Job 31:32 [t]Ex 12:39 [u]S Ge 18:6 **19:4** [v]S Ge 13:13 **19:5** [w]S Ge 13:13; Lev 18:22; Dt 23:18; Jdg 19:22; Ro 1:24-27 **19:6** [x]Jdg 19:23 **19:8** [y]Jdg 19:24; 2Pe 2:7-8 **19:9** [z]Ge 23:4 [a]S Ge 13:8; Ac 7:27 **19:10** [b]S Ge 18:2 **19:11** [c]Dt 28:28-29; 2Ki 6:18; Ac 13:11 **19:12** [d]S Ge 6:18 **19:13** [e]Ex 12:29; 2Sa 24:16; 2Ki 19:35; 1Ch 21:12; 2Ch 32:21 [f]Ge 18:20 [g]1Ch 21:15; Ps 78:49; Jer 21:12; 25:18; 44:22; 51:45 **19:14** [h]Nu 16:21; Rev 18:4 [i]Ex 9:21; 1Ki 13:18; Jer 5:12; 43:2; Lk 17:28 **19:15** [j]Nu 16:26; Job 21:18; Ps 58:9; 73:19; 90:5 [k]Rev 18:4 **19:16** [l]2Pe 2:7 [m]Ex 34:6; Ps 33:18-19 **19:17** [n]1Ki 19:3; Jer 48:6 [o]ver 26 [p]S Ge 13:12 [q]S ver 19; S Ge 14:10; Mt 24:16

19:19 [r]S Ge 6:8; S 18:3

[h]25 Or *Ruler* [i]14 Or *were married to* [j]18 Or *No, Lord;* or *No, my lord* [k]19 The Hebrew is singular.

have shown great kindness[a] to me in
sparing my life. But I can't flee to the
mountains;[b] this disaster will overtake
me, and I'll die. 20Look, here is a town
near enough to run to, and it is small.
Let me flee to it—it is very small, isn't
it? Then my life will be spared."
21He said to him, "Very well, I will
grant this request[c] too; I will not over-
throw the town you speak of. 22But flee
there quickly, because I cannot do any-
thing until you reach it." (That is why
the town was called Zoar.[l][d])
23By the time Lot reached Zoar,[e] the
sun had risen over the land. 24Then the
LORD rained down burning sulfur[f] on
Sodom and Gomorrah[g]—from the
LORD out of the heavens.[h] 25Thus he
overthrew those cities[i] and the entire
plain,[j] including all those living in the
cities—and also the vegetation in the
land.[k] 26But Lot's wife looked back,[l]
and she became a pillar of salt.[m]
27Early the next morning Abraham
got up and returned to the place where
he had stood before the LORD.[n] 28He
looked down toward Sodom and
Gomorrah, toward all the land of the
plain, and he saw dense smoke rising
from the land, like smoke from a fur-
nace.[o]
29So when God destroyed the cities
of the plain,[p] he remembered[q] Abra-
ham, and he brought Lot out of the
catastrophe[r] that overthrew the cities
where Lot had lived.[s]

Lot and His Daughters

30Lot and his two daughters left
Zoar[t] and settled in the mountains,[u]
for he was afraid to stay in Zoar. He
and his two daughters lived in a cave.
31One day the older daughter said to
the younger, "Our father is old, and
there is no man around here to lie with
us, as is the custom all over the earth.
32Let's get our father to drink wine and
then lie with him and preserve our
family line[v] through our father."[w]
33That night they got their father to
drink wine, and the older daughter
went in and lay with him. He was not
aware of it when she lay down or when
she got up.[x]
34The next day the older daughter
said to the younger, "Last night I lay
with my father. Let's get him to drink
wine again tonight, and you go in and
lie with him so we can preserve our
family line through our father."[y] 35So
they got their father to drink wine[z]
that night also, and the younger
daughter went and lay with him. Again
he was not aware of it when she lay
down or when she got up.[a]
36So both of Lot's daughters became
pregnant by their father.[b] 37The older
daughter had a son, and she named
him Moab[m];[c] he is the father of the
Moabites[d] of today. 38The younger
daughter also had a son, and she
named him Ben-Ammi[n]; he is the fa-
ther of the Ammonites[e] of today.

Abraham and Abimelech

20:1-18Ref — Ge 12:10-20; 26:1-11

20 Now Abraham moved on from
there[f] into the region of the
Negev[g] and lived between Kadesh[h]
and Shur.[i] For a while[j] he stayed in
Gerar,[k] 2and there Abraham said of his
wife Sarah, "She is my sister.[l]" Then
Abimelech[m] king of Gerar sent for Sar-
ah and took her.[n]
3But God came to Abimelech[o] in a
dream[p] one night and said to him,
"You are as good as dead[q] because of
the woman you have taken; she is a
married woman."[r]
4Now Abimelech had not gone near
her, so he said, "Lord, will you destroy
an innocent nation?[s] 5Did he not say to
me, 'She is my sister,[t]' and didn't she
also say, 'He is my brother'? I have
done this with a clear conscience[u] and
clean hands.[v]"
6Then God said to him in the dream,
"Yes, I know you did this with a clear
conscience, and so I have kept[w] you
from sinning against me.[x] That is why
I did not let you touch her. 7Now re-
turn the man's wife, for he is a
prophet,[y] and he will pray for you[z]
and you will live. But if you do not re-
turn her, you may be sure that you and
all yours will die."[a]
8Early the next morning Abimelech
summoned all his officials, and when
he told them all that had happened,
they were very much afraid. 9Then
Abimelech called Abraham in and said,
"What have you done to us? How have
I wronged you that you have brought
such great guilt upon me and my king-
dom? You have done things to me that

19:19 [a]Ge 24:12; 39:21; 40:14; 47:29; Ru 1:8; 2:20; 3:10 [b]S ver 17,30 **19:21** [c]1Sa 25:35; 2Sa 14:8; Job 42:9 **19:22** [d]S Ge 13:10 **19:23** [e]S Ge 13:10 **19:24** [f]Job 18:15; Ps 11:6; Isa 30:33; 34:9; Eze 38:22 [g]Dt 29:23; Isa 1:9; 13:19; Jer 49:18; 50:40; Am 4:11 [h]S Ge 18:17; S Lev 10:2; S Mt 10:15; Lk 17:29 **19:25** [i]S ver 24; Eze 26:16; Zep 3:8; Hag 2:22 [j]S Ge 13:12 [k]Ps 107:34; Isa 1:10; Jer 20:16; 23:14; La 4:6; Eze 16:48 **19:26** [l]S ver 17 [m]Lk 17:32 **19:27** [n]Ge 18:22 **19:28** [o]Ge 15:17; Ex 19:18; Rev 9:2; 18:9 **19:29** [p]S Ge 13:12 [q]S Ge 8:1 [r]2Pe 2:7 [s]Ge 14:12; Eze 14:16 **19:30** [t]ver 22; S Ge 13:10 [u]S ver 19; S Ge 14:10 **19:32** [v]S Ge 16:2 [w]ver 34,36; Ge 38:18 **19:33** [x]ver 35 **19:34** [y]S ver 32 **19:35** [z]Ge 9:21 [a]ver 33 **19:36** [b]S ver 32 **19:37** [c]Ge 36:35; Ex 15:15; Nu 25:1; Isa 15:1; 25:10; Jer 25:21; 48:1; Eze 25:8; Zep 2:9 [d]Nu 22:4; 24:17; Dt 2:9; Jdg 3:28; Ru 1:4,22; 1Sa 14:47; 22:3-4; 2Sa 8:2; 2Ki 1:1; 3:4; Ezr 9:1; Ps 108:9; Jer 48:1 **19:38** [e]Nu 21:24; Dt 2:19; 23:3; Jos 12:2; Jdg 3:13; 10:6,7; 1Sa 11:1-11; 14:47; 1Ch 19:1; 2Ch 20:23; 26:8; 27:5; Ne 2:19; 4:3; Jer 25:21; 40:14; 49:1; Eze 21:28; 25:2; Am 1:13 **20:1** [f]Ge 18:1 [g]S Ge 12:9 [h]S Ge 14:7 [i]S Ge 16:7 [j]Ge 26:3 [k]Ge 26:1,6,17 **20:2** [l]S Ge 12:13 [m]ver 14; Ge 21:22; 26:1

[n]S Ge 12:15 **20:3** [o]Nu 22:9,20 [p]Ge 28:12; 31:10,24; 37:5,9; 40:5; 41:1; Nu 12:6; Dt 13:1; Job 33:15; Da 2:1; 4:5 [q]Ex 10:7; 12:33; Ps 105:38 [r]ver 7; Ge 26:11; 1Ch 16:21; Ps 105:14 **20:4** [s]S Ge 18:25 **20:5** [t]S Ge 12:19 [u]S Ge 17:1 [v]Ps 7:8; 25:21; 26:6; 41:12 **20:6** [w]1Sa 25:26,34 [x]S Ge 13:13; Ps 41:4; 51:4 **20:7** [y]Dt 18:18; 34:10; 2Ki 3:11; 5:3; 1Ch 16:22; Ps 105:15 [z]ver 17; Ex 8:8; Nu 11:2; 12:13; 1Sa 7:5; 1Ki 13:6; Job 42:8; Jer 18:20; 37:3; 42:2 [a]S ver 3; S Ps 9:5

[l]22 *Zoar* means *small.* [m]37 *Moab* sounds like the Hebrew for *from father.* [n]38 *Ben-Ammi* means *son of my people.*

should not be done."[a] 10And Abime-
lech asked Abraham, "What was your
reason for doing this?"
11Abraham replied, "I said to myself,
'There is surely no fear of God[b] in this
place, and they will kill me because of
my wife.'[c] 12Besides, she really is my
sister,[d] the daughter of my father
though not of my mother; and she
became my wife. 13And when God had
me wander[e] from my father's house-
hold,[f] I said to her, 'This is how you
can show your love to me: Everywhere
we go, say of me, "He is my broth-
er." ' "
14Then Abimelech[g] brought sheep
and cattle and male and female slaves
and gave them to Abraham,[h] and he
returned Sarah his wife to him. 15And
Abimelech said, "My land is before
you; live wherever you like."[i]
16To Sarah he said, "I am giving your
brother a thousand shekels[o] of silver.
This is to cover the offense against you
before all who are with you; you are
completely vindicated."
17Then Abraham prayed to God,[j]
and God healed Abimelech, his wife
and his slave girls so they could have
children again, 18for the LORD had
closed up every womb in Abimelech's
household because of Abraham's wife
Sarah.[k]

The Birth of Isaac

21 Now the LORD was gracious to
Sarah[l] as he had said, and the
LORD did for Sarah what he had prom-
ised.[m] 2Sarah became pregnant and
bore a son[n] to Abraham in his old
age,[o] at the very time God had prom-
ised him.[p] 3Abraham gave the name
Isaac[p][q] to the son Sarah bore him.
4When his son Isaac was eight days
old, Abraham circumcised him,[r] as
God commanded him. 5Abraham was a
hundred years old[s] when his son Isaac
was born to him.
6Sarah said, "God has brought me
laughter,[t] and everyone who hears
about this will laugh with me." 7And
she added, "Who would have said to
Abraham that Sarah would nurse chil-
dren? Yet I have borne him a son in his
old age."[u]

Hagar and Ishmael Sent Away

8The child grew and was weaned,[v]
and on the day Isaac was weaned
Abraham held a great feast. 9But Sarah
saw that the son whom Hagar the
Egyptian had borne to Abraham[w] was
mocking,[x] 10and she said to Abraham,
"Get rid of that slave woman[y] and her
son, for that slave woman's son will
never share in the inheritance with my
son Isaac."[z]
11The matter distressed Abraham
greatly because it concerned his son.[a]
12But God said to him, "Do not be so
distressed about the boy and your
maidservant. Listen to whatever Sarah
tells you, because it is through Isaac
that your offspring[q] will be reckoned.[b]
13I will make the son of the maid-
servant into a nation[c] also, because he
is your offspring."
14Early the next morning Abraham
took some food and a skin of water and
gave them to Hagar.[d] He set them on
her shoulders and then sent her off
with the boy. She went on her way and
wandered in the desert of Beersheba.[e]
15When the water in the skin was
gone, she put the boy under one of the
bushes. 16Then she went off and sat
down nearby, about a bowshot away,
for she thought, "I cannot watch the
boy die." And as she sat there nearby,
she[r] began to sob.[f]
17God heard the boy crying,[g] and the
angel of God[h] called to Hagar from
heaven[i] and said to her, "What is the
matter, Hagar? Do not be afraid;[j] God
has heard the boy crying as he lies
there. 18Lift the boy up and take him by
the hand, for I will make him into a
great nation.[k]"
19Then God opened her eyes[l] and
she saw a well of water.[m] So she went
and filled the skin with water and gave
the boy a drink.
20God was with the boy[n] as he grew
up. He lived in the desert and became
an archer. 21While he was living in the
Desert of Paran,[o] his mother got a wife
for him[p] from Egypt.

The Treaty at Beersheba

22At that time Abimelech[q] and Phicol
the commander of his forces[r] said to
Abraham, "God is with you in every-
thing you do.[s] 23Now swear[t] to me
here before God that you will not deal
falsely with me or my children or my
descendants.[u] Show to me and the
country where you are living as an

20:9 [a]S Ge 12:18; 34:7 **20:11** [b]Ge 42:18; Ne 5:15; Job 31:23; Ps 36:1; Pr 16:6 [c]S Ge 12:12; 31:31 **20:12** [d]S Ge 12:13 **20:13** [e]Dt 26:5; 1Ch 16:20; Isa 30:28; 63:17 [f]S Ge 12:1 **20:14** [g]S ver 2 [h]S Ge 12:16 **20:15** [i]S Ge 13:9; S 45:18 **20:17** [j]S ver 7; Job 42:9 **20:18** [k]Ge 12:17 **21:1** [l]1Sa 2:21 [m]S Ge 8:1; S 17:6,21; 18:14; Gal 4:23; Heb 11:11 **21:2** [n]S Ge 17:19; S 30:6 [o]Gal 4:22; Heb 11:11 [p]S Ge 18:10 **21:3** [q]S Ge 16:11; S 17:19; Jos 24:3 **21:4** [r]S Ge 17:10,12; Ac 7:8 **21:5** [s]S Ge 12:4; Heb 6:15 **21:6** [t]Ge 17:17; Job 8:21; Ps 126:2; Isa 12:6; 35:2; 44:23; 52:9; 54:1 **21:7** [u]S Ge 17:17 **21:8** [v]1Sa 1:23 **21:9** [w]S Ge 16:15 [x]Ge 39:14; Gal 4:29 **21:10** [y]Ge 39:17 [z]Ge 25:6; Gal 4:30* **21:11** [a]Ge 17:18 **21:12** [b]Mt 1:2; Ro 9:7*; Heb 11:18* **21:13** [c]S Ge 13:16 **21:14** [d]S Ge 16:1 [e]ver 31,32; Ge 22:19; 26:33; 28:10; 46:1,5; Jos 15:28; 19:2; Jdg 20:1; 1Sa 3:20; 1Ch 4:28; Ne 11:27 **21:16** [f]Jer 6:26; Am 8:10; Zec 12:10 **21:17** [g]Ex 3:7; Nu 20:16; Dt 26:7; Ps 6:8 [h]S Ge 16:7 [i]Ge 22:11,15 [j]S Ge 15:1 **21:18** [k]S Ge 17:20 **21:19** [l]Nu 22:31 [m]S Ge 16:7 **21:20** [n]Ge 26:3, 24; 28:15; 39:2, 21,23; Lk 1:66 **21:21** [o]S Ge 14:6 [p]Ge 24:4,38; 28:2; 34:4,8; Jdg 14:2 **21:22** [q]S Ge 20:2 [r]ver 32; Ge 26:26 [s]ver 23; Ge 26:28; 28:15; 31:3,5,42; 39:2,3; 1Sa 3:19; 16:18; 2Ch 1:1; Ps 46:7; Isa 7:14; 8:8,10; 41:10; 43:5 **21:23** [t]ver 31; Ge 25:33; 26:31; 31:53; Jos 2:12; 1Ki 2:8 [u]1Sa 24:21

[o]16 That is, about 25 pounds (about 11.5 kilograms)
[p]3 *Isaac* means *he laughs.* [q]12 Or *seed*
[r]16 Hebrew; Septuagint *the child*

alien the same kindness I have shown
to you."[a]
24Abraham said, "I swear it."
25Then Abraham complained to
Abimelech about a well of water that
Abimelech's servants had seized.[b]
26But Abimelech said, "I don't know
who has done this. You did not tell me,
and I heard about it only today."
27So Abraham brought sheep and
cattle and gave them to Abimelech, and
the two men made a treaty.[c] 28Abra-
ham set apart seven ewe lambs from
the flock, 29and Abimelech asked Abra-
ham, "What is the meaning of these
seven ewe lambs you have set apart by
themselves?"
30He replied, "Accept these seven
lambs from my hand as a witness[d] that
I dug this well.[e]"
31So that place was called Beer-
sheba,[s][f] because the two men swore
an oath[g] there.
32After the treaty[h] had been made at
Beersheba,[i] Abimelech and Phicol the
commander of his forces[j] returned to
the land of the Philistines.[k] 33Abraham
planted a tamarisk tree[l] in Beersheba,
and there he called upon the name of
the LORD,[m] the Eternal God.[n] 34And
Abraham stayed in the land of the Phil-
istines[o] for a long time.

Abraham Tested

22 Some time later God tested[p]
Abraham. He said to him,
"Abraham!"
"Here I am,"[q] he replied.
2Then God said, "Take your son[r],
your only son, Isaac, whom you love,
and go to the region of Moriah.[s] Sacri-
fice him there as a burnt offering[t] on
one of the mountains I will tell you
about.[u]"
3Early the next morning[v] Abraham
got up and saddled his donkey. He
took with him two of his servants and
his son Isaac. When he had cut enough
wood for the burnt offering, he set out
for the place God had told him about.
4On the third day Abraham looked up
and saw the place in the distance. 5He
said to his servants, "Stay here with
the donkey while I and the boy go over
there. We will worship and then we
will come back to you.[w]"
6Abraham took the wood for the
burnt offering and placed it on his son
Isaac,[x] and he himself carried the fire
and the knife.[y] As the two of them
went on together, 7Isaac spoke up and
said to his father Abraham, "Father?"
"Yes, my son?" Abraham replied.
"The fire and wood are here," Isaac
said, "but where is the lamb[z] for the
burnt offering?"
8Abraham answered, "God himself
will provide[a] the lamb[b] for the burnt
offering, my son." And the two of
them went on together.
9When they reached the place God
had told him about,[c] Abraham built an
altar[d] there and arranged the wood[e]
on it. He bound his son Isaac and laid
him on the altar,[f] on top of the wood.
10Then he reached out his hand and
took the knife[g] to slay his son.[h] 11But
the angel of the LORD[i] called out to him
from heaven,[j] "Abraham! Abra-
ham!"[k]
"Here I am,"[l] he replied.
12"Do not lay a hand on the boy," he
said. "Do not do anything to him. Now
I know that you fear God,[m] because
you have not withheld from me your
son, your only son.[n]"
13Abraham looked up and there in a
thicket he saw a ram[t] caught by its
horns.[o] He went over and took the
ram and sacrificed it as a burnt offering
instead of his son.[p] 14So Abraham
called[q] that place The LORD[r] Will Pro-
vide. And to this day it is said, "On the
mountain of the LORD it will be pro-
vided.[s]"
15The angel of the LORD[t] called to
Abraham from heaven[u] a second time
16and said, "I swear by myself,[v] de-
clares the LORD, that because you have
done this and have not withheld your
son, your only son,[w] 17I will surely
bless you[x] and make your descend-
ants[y] as numerous as the stars in the
sky[z] and as the sand on the seashore.[a]
Your descendants will take possession
of the cities of their enemies,[b] 18and
through your offspring[u] all nations on
earth will be blessed,[c] because you
have obeyed me."[d]
19Then Abraham returned to his ser-
vants, and they set off together for
Beersheba.[e] And Abraham stayed in
Beersheba.

21:23 aS ver 22; Jos 2:12 **21:25** bGe 26:15,18, 20-22 **21:27** cver 31, 32; Ge 26:28,31; 31:44,53 **21:30** dGe 31:44,47,48, 50,52; Jos 22:27, 28,34; 24:27; Isa 19:20; Mal 2:14 ever 25; Ge 26:25,32 **21:31** fS ver 14 gS ver 23,S 27 **21:32** hS ver 27 iS ver 14 jS ver 22 kS Ge 10:14 **21:33** l1Sa 22:6; 31:13 mS Ge 4:26 nEx 15:18; Dt 32:40; 33:27; Job 36:26; Ps 10:16; 45:6; 90:2; 93:2; 102:24; 103:19; 146:10; Isa 40:28; Jer 10:10; Hab 1:12; 3:6; Heb 13:8 **21:34** oS Ge 10:14 **22:1** pEx 15:25; 16:4; 20:20; Dt 8:2,16; 13:3; Jdg 2:22; 3:1; 2Ch 32:31; Ps 66:10; Heb 11:17; Jas 1:12-13 qver 11; Ge 31:11; 46:2; 1Sa 3:4,6,8; Isa 6:8 **22:2** rver 12,16; Jn 3:16; Heb 11:17; 1Jn 4:9 s2Ch 3:1 tS Ge 8:20 uver 9 **22:3** vJos 8:10 **22:5** wEx 24:14 **22:6** xJn 19:17 yver 10; Jdg 19:29 **22:7** zEx 29:38-42; Lev 1:10; Rev 13:8 **22:8** aver 14 bver 13; S Jn 1:29 **22:9** cver 2 dS Ge 4:26; S 8:20 eLev 1:7; 1Ki 18:33 fHeb 11:17-19; Jas 2:21 **22:10** gS ver 6 hver 3; S Ge 18:19 **22:11** iS Ge 16:7 jS Ge 21:17 kGe 46:2 lS ver 1 **22:12** mS Ge 18:19; 42:18; Ex 18:21; 1Sa 15:22; Job 1:1; 37:24; Pr 8:13; Jas 2:21-22 nS ver 2; Jn 3:16; 1Jn 4:9 **22:13** oS ver 8 pS Ge 8:20; Ro 8:32 **22:14** qEx 17:15; Jdg 6:24 rIsa 30:29 sver 8 **22:15** tS Ge 16:7 uS Ge 21:17 **22:16** vEx 13:11; 32:13; 33:1; Isa 45:23; 62:8; Jer 22:5; 44:26; 49:13; 51:14; Am 6:8; Lk 1:73; Heb 6:13 wS ver 2 **22:17** xS Ge 12:2 yHeb 6:14* zS Ge 15:5; Ex 32:13; Dt 7:7; 28:62 aS Ge 12:2; S 26:24; Hos 1:10; Ro 9:27; Heb 11:12 bGe 24:60; Est 9:2 **22:18** cS Ge 12:2,3; Ac 3:25*; Gal 3:8* dS ver 10; Ge 17:2,9; Ps 105:9 **22:19** eGe 21:14; 26:23; 28:10

s31 *Beersheba* can mean *well of seven* or *well of the oath.*
t13 Many manuscripts of the Masoretic Text, Samaritan Pentateuch, Septuagint and Syriac; most manuscripts of the Masoretic Text *a ram behind him*
u18 Or *seed*

Nahor's Sons

20Some time later Abraham was told,
"Milcah is also a mother; she has borne
sons to your brother Nahor:[a] 21Uz[b] the
firstborn, Buz[c] his brother, Kemuel
(the father of Aram), 22Kesed, Hazo,
Pildash, Jidlaph and Bethuel."[d] 23Be-
thuel became the father of Rebekah.[e]
Milcah bore these eight sons to Abra-
ham's brother Nahor.[f] 24His concu-
bine,[g] whose name was Reumah, also
had sons: Tebah, Gaham, Tahash and
Maacah.

The Death of Sarah

23 Sarah lived to be a hundred and
twenty-seven years old. 2She
died at Kiriath Arba[h] (that is, Hebron)[i]
in the land of Canaan, and Abraham
went to mourn for Sarah and to weep
over her.[j]
3Then Abraham rose from beside his
dead wife and spoke to the Hittites.[v][k]
He said, 4"I am an alien and a
stranger[l] among you. Sell me some
property for a burial site here so I can
bury my dead.[m]"
5The Hittites replied to Abraham,
6"Sir, listen to us. You are a mighty
prince[n] among us. Bury your dead in
the choicest of our tombs. None of us
will refuse you his tomb for burying
your dead."
7Then Abraham rose and bowed
down before the people of the land, the
Hittites. 8He said to them, "If you are
willing to let me bury my dead, then
listen to me and intercede with Ephron
son of Zohar[o] on my behalf 9so he will
sell me the cave of Machpelah,[p] which
belongs to him and is at the end of his
field. Ask him to sell it to me for the
full price as a burial site among you."
10Ephron the Hittite was sitting
among his people and he replied to
Abraham in the hearing of all the Hit-
tites[q] who had come to the gate[r] of his
city. 11"No, my lord," he said. "Listen
to me; I give[w][s] you the field, and I
give[w] you the cave that is in it. I give[w]
it to you in the presence of my people.
Bury your dead."
12Again Abraham bowed down be-
fore the people of the land 13and he
said to Ephron in their hearing, "Listen
to me, if you will. I will pay the price of
the field. Accept it from me so I can
bury my dead there."
14Ephron answered Abraham, 15"Lis-
ten to me, my lord; the land is worth
four hundred shekels[x] of silver,[t] but
what is that between me and you? Bury
your dead."
16Abraham agreed to Ephron's terms
and weighed out for him the price he
had named in the hearing of the Hit-
tites: four hundred shekels of silver,[u]
according to the weight current among
the merchants.[v]
17So Ephron's field in Machpelah[w]
near Mamre[x]—both the field and the
cave in it, and all the trees within the
borders of the field—was deeded 18to
Abraham as his property[y] in the pres-
ence of all the Hittites[z] who had come
to the gate[a] of the city. 19Afterward
Abraham buried his wife Sarah in the
cave in the field of Machpelah[b] near
Mamre (which is at Hebron[c]) in the
land of Canaan.[d] 20So the field and the
cave in it were deeded[e] to Abraham by
the Hittites as a burial site.[f]

Isaac and Rebekah

24 Abraham was now old and well
advanced in years,[g] and the
LORD had blessed[h] him in every way.[i]
2He said to the chief[y] servant[j] in his
household, the one in charge of all that
he had,[k] "Put your hand under my
thigh.[l] 3I want you to swear[m] by the
LORD, the God of heaven[n] and the God
of earth,[o] that you will not get a wife
for my son[p] from the daughters of the
Canaanites,[q] among whom I am liv-
ing,[r] 4but will go to my country and
my own relatives[s] and get a wife for
my son Isaac.[t]"
5The servant asked him, "What if the
woman is unwilling to come back with
me to this land?[u] Shall I then take your
son back to the country you came
from?[v]"
6"Make sure that you do not take my
son back there,"[w] Abraham said. 7"The
LORD, the God of heaven,[x] who
brought me out of my father's house-
hold and my native land[y] and who
spoke to me and promised me on oath,
saying, 'To your offspring[z][z] I will give
this land'[a]—he will send his angel be-
fore you[b] so that you can get a wife for
my son from there. 8If the woman is
unwilling to come back with you, then
you will be released from this oath[c] of
mine. Only do not take my son back
there."[d] 9So the servant put his hand

22:20 [a]S Ge 11:29
22:21 [b]S Ge 10:23 [c]Job 32:2; Jer 25:23
22:22 [d]Ge 24:15,47; 25:20
22:23 [e]Ge 24:15 [f]S Ge 11:29
22:24 [g]Ge 25:6; 35:22; 36:12; Jdg 8:31; 2Sa 3:7; 1Ki 2:22; 11:3; 1Ch 1:32; SS 6:8
23:2 [h]Jos 14:15; 15:13; 20:7; 21:11 [i]S Ge 13:18 [j]Ge 24:67
23:3 [k]S Ge 10:15
23:4 [l]S Ge 17:8; 19:9; Ex 2:22; Lev 25:23; Ps 39:12; 105:12; 119:19; Heb 11:9,13 [m]Ge 49:30; Ac 7:16
23:6 [n]Ge 14:14-16; 24:35
23:8 [o]Ge 25:9
23:9 [p]ver 17,19; Ge 25:9; 47:30; 49:30; 50:13
23:10 [q]ver 18 [r]S Ge 18:1; Dt 22:15; 25:7; Jos 20:4; Ru 4:11; 2Sa 15:2; 2Ki 15:35; Ps 127:5; Pr 31:23; Jer 26:10; 36:10
23:11 [s]2Sa 24:23
23:15 [t]Eze 45:12
23:16 [u]2Sa 24:24; Jer 32:9; Zec 11:12 [v]2Sa 14:26
23:17 [w]S ver 9 [x]S Ge 13:18
23:18 [y]S Ge 12:7 [z]ver 10 [a]S Ge 18:1
23:19 [b]S ver 9 [c]S Ge 13:18; Jos 14:13; 1Ch 29:27 [d]Ge 49:31
23:20 [e]Jer 32:10 [f]S Ge 10:15; 35:29; 47:30; 49:30; 50:5,13
24:1 [g]S Ge 17:17; Jos 23:1 [h]Ge 12:2; Gal 3:9 [i]ver 35
24:2 [j]S Ge 15:3 [k]Ge 39:4-6 [l]ver 9; Ge 47:29
24:3 [m]Ge 47:31; 50:25 [n]ver 7 [o]S Ge 14:19; S Nu 20:14 [p]Dt 7:3; 2Co 6:14-17 [q]S Ge 10:15-19 [r]ver 37
24:4 [s]S Ge 12:1; Jdg 14:3 [t]S ver 29; S Ge 21:21
24:5 [u]ver 39 [v]Heb 11:15
24:6 [w]ver 8
24:7 [x]ver 3 [y]Ge 12:1 [z]Ro 4:13; Gal 3:16* [a]S Ge 12:7 [b]S Ge 16:7
24:8 [c]ver 41; Jos 2:12,17,20; 9:20 [d]S ver 6

[v]3 Or *the sons of Heth;* also in verses 5, 7, 10, 16, 18 and 20 [w]11 Or *sell* [x]15 That is, about 10 pounds (about 4.5 kilograms) [y]2 Or *oldest* [z]7 Or *seed*

under the thigh[a] of his master[b] Abra-
ham and swore an oath to him con-
cerning this matter.
10 Then the servant took ten of his
master's camels[c] and left, taking with
him all kinds of good things[d] from his
master. He set out for Aram Naha-
raim[a][e] and made his way to the town
of Nahor.[f] 11 He had the camels kneel
down near the well[g] outside the town;
it was toward evening, the time the
women go out to draw water.[h]
12 Then he prayed, "O LORD, God of
my master Abraham,[i] give me suc-
cess[j] today, and show kindness[k] to
my master Abraham. 13 See, I am stand-
ing beside this spring, and the daugh-
ters of the townspeople are coming out
to draw water.[l] 14 May it be that when I
say to a girl, 'Please let down your jar
that I may have a drink,' and she says,
'Drink,[m] and I'll water your camels
too'[n]—let her be the one you have cho-
sen for your servant Isaac.[o] By this I
will know[p] that you have shown kind-
ness to my master."
15 Before he had finished praying,[q]
Rebekah[r] came out with her jar on her
shoulder. She was the daughter of Be-
thuel[s] son of Milcah,[t] who was the
wife of Abraham's brother Nahor.[u]
16 The girl was very beautiful,[v] a vir-
gin;[w] no man had ever lain with her.
She went down to the spring, filled her
jar and came up again.
17 The servant hurried to meet her
and said, "Please give me a little water
from your jar."[x]
18 "Drink,[y] my lord," she said, and
quickly lowered the jar to her hands
and gave him a drink.
19 After she had given him a drink,
she said, "I'll draw water for your cam-
els[z] too,[a] until they have finished
drinking." 20 So she quickly emptied
her jar into the trough, ran back to the
well to draw more water, and drew
enough for all his camels.[b] 21 Without
saying a word, the man watched her
closely to learn whether or not the LORD
had made his journey successful.[c]
22 When the camels had finished
drinking, the man took out a gold nose
ring[d] weighing a beka[b] and two gold
bracelets[e] weighing ten shekels.[c]
23 Then he asked, "Whose daughter are
you?[f] Please tell me, is there room in
your father's house for us to spend the
night?[g]"
24 She answered him, "I am the
daughter of Bethuel, the son that Mil-
cah bore to Nahor.[h]" 25 And she added,
"We have plenty of straw and fodder,[i]
as well as room for you to spend the
night."
26 Then the man bowed down and
worshiped the LORD,[j] 27 saying, "Praise
be to the LORD,[k] the God of my master
Abraham,[l] who has not abandoned
his kindness and faithfulness[m] to my
master. As for me, the LORD has led me
on the journey[n] to the house of my
master's relatives."[o]
28 The girl ran and told her mother's
household about these things.[p] 29 Now
Rebekah had a brother named Laban,[q]
and he hurried out to the man at the
spring. 30 As soon as he had seen the
nose ring, and the bracelets on his sis-
ter's arms,[r] and had heard Rebekah
tell what the man said to her, he went
out to the man and found him standing
by the camels near the spring.
31 "Come, you who are blessed by the
LORD,"[s] he said. "Why are you stand-
ing out here? I have prepared the
house and a place for the camels."
32 So the man went to the house, and
the camels were unloaded. Straw and
fodder[t] were brought for the camels,
and water for him and his men to wash
their feet.[u] 33 Then food was set before
him, but he said, "I will not eat until I
have told you what I have to say."
"Then tell us," Laban said.
34 So he said, "I am Abraham's ser-
vant.[v] 35 The LORD has blessed[w] my
master abundantly,[x] and he has
become wealthy.[y] He has given him
sheep and cattle, silver and gold, men-
servants and maidservants, and camels
and donkeys.[z] 36 My master's wife Sar-
ah has borne him a son in her[d] old
age,[a] and he has given him everything
he owns.[b] 37 And my master made me
swear an oath,[c] and said, 'You must
not get a wife for my son from the
daughters of the Canaanites, in whose
land I live,[d] 38 but go to my father's
family and to my own clan, and get a
wife for my son.'[e]
39 "Then I asked my master, 'What if
the woman will not come back with
me?'[f]
40 "He replied, 'The LORD, before
whom I have walked,[g] will send his
angel with you[h] and make your jour-
ney a success,[i] so that you can get a

24:9 [a]S ver 2 [b]Ge 32:4; 33:8 **24:10** [c]ver 19; 1Ki 10:2; 1Ch 12:40; Isa 30:6 [d]ver 22, 30,47,53; Ge 43:11; 45:23 [e]Nu 23:7; Dt 23:4; Jdg 3:8 [f]S Ge 11:29 **24:11** [g]Ex 2:15 [h]ver 13; Ge 29:2, 9-10; Ex 2:16; 1Sa 9:11; Jn 4:7 **24:12** [i]ver 27, 42,48; Ge 26:24; 28:13; 31:42,53; 32:9; 43:23; 46:3; Ex 3:6,15,16; 4:5; 1Ki 18:36; Ps 75:9; 94:7 [j]ver 21,40,51,56; Ge 27:20; Ne 1:11 [k]S Ge 19:19; Jos 2:12; Job 10:12 **24:13** [l]S ver 11, 43; Ge 29:8 **24:14** [m]ver 18, 46 [n]ver 19 [o]ver 44 [p]Jos 2:12; Jdg 6:17,37; 1Sa 14:10; 1Ki 13:3; Ps 86:17; Isa 38:7; Jer 44:29 **24:15** [q]ver 45 [r]S Ge 22:23 [s]S Ge 22:22 [t]S Ge 11:29 [u]S Ge 11:29 **24:16** [v]S Ge 12:11 [w]Dt 22:15-21 **24:17** [x]ver 45; 1Ki 17:10; Jn 4:7 **24:18** [y]S ver 14 **24:19** [z]S ver 10 [a]ver 14 **24:20** [b]ver 46 **24:21** [c]S ver 12 **24:22** [d]ver 47; Ge 41:42; Isa 3:21; Eze 16:11-12 [e]S ver 10 **24:23** [f]ver 47 [g]Jdg 19:15; 20:4 **24:24** [h]ver 29, 47; S Ge 11:29 **24:25** [i]ver 32; Jdg 19:19 **24:26** [j]ver 48, 52; Ex 4:31; 12:27; 1Ch 29:20; 2Ch 20:18 **24:27** [k]Ge 14:20; Ex 18:10; Ru 4:14; 1Sa 25:32; 2Sa 18:28; 1Ki 1:48; 8:56; Ps 28:6; 41:13; 68:19; 106:48; Lk 1:68 [l]S ver 12 [m]ver 49; Ge 32:10; 47:29; Jos 2:14; Ps 98:3 [n]ver 21 [o]S ver 12,48; S Ge 12:1 **24:28** [p]Ge 29:12 **24:29** [q]ver 4; Ge 25:20; 27:43; 28:2,5; 29:5,12, 13 **24:30** [r]S ver 10; Eze 23:42 **24:31** [s]Ge 26:29; Ps 115:15 **24:32** [t]S ver 25 [u]S Ge 18:4

24:34 [v]S Ge 15:3 **24:35** [w]S Ge 12:2 [x]ver 1 [y]S Ge 23:6 [z]S Ge 12:16 **24:36** [a]S Ge 17:17 [b]Ge 25:5; 26:14 **24:37** [c]Ge 50:5,25 [d]ver 3 **24:38** [e]S Ge 21:21 **24:39** [f]S ver 5 **24:40** [g]S Ge 5:22 [h]S Ge 16:7 [i]S ver 12

[a]*10* That is, Northwest Mesopotamia [b]22 That is, about 1/5 ounce (about 5.5 grams) [c]22 That is, about 4 ounces (about 110 grams) [d]36 Or *his*

wife for my son from my own clan and
from my father's family.[a] 41Then,
when you go to my clan, you will be
released from my oath even if they
refuse to give her to you—you will be
released from my oath.'[b]
42"When I came to the spring today, I
said, 'O LORD, God of my master Abra-
ham, if you will, please grant success[c]
to the journey on which I have come.
43See, I am standing beside this
spring;[d] if a maiden[e] comes out to
draw water and I say to her, "Please let
me drink a little water from your jar,"[f]
44and if she says to me, "Drink, and I'll
draw water for your camels too," let
her be the one the LORD has chosen for
my master's son.'[g]
45"Before I finished praying in my
heart,[h] Rebekah came out, with her jar
on her shoulder.[i] She went down to
the spring and drew water, and I said
to her, 'Please give me a drink.'[j]
46"She quickly lowered her jar from
her shoulder and said, 'Drink, and I'll
water your camels too.'[k] So I drank,
and she watered the camels also.[l]
47"I asked her, 'Whose daughter are
you?'[m]
"She said, 'The daughter of Bethuel[n]
son of Nahor, whom Milcah bore to
him.'[o]
"Then I put the ring in her nose[p]
and the bracelets on her arms,[q] 48and I
bowed down and worshiped the
LORD.[r] I praised the LORD, the God of
my master Abraham,[s] who had led me
on the right road to get the grand-
daughter of my master's brother for his
son.[t] 49Now if you will show kindness
and faithfulness[u] to my master, tell
me; and if not, tell me, so I may know
which way to turn."
50Laban and Bethuel[v] answered,
"This is from the LORD;[w] we can say
nothing to you one way or the other.[x]
51Here is Rebekah; take her and go, and
let her become the wife of your mas-
ter's son, as the LORD has directed."[y]
52When Abraham's servant heard
what they said, he bowed down to the
ground before the LORD.[z] 53Then the
servant brought out gold and silver
jewelry and articles of clothing[a] and
gave them to Rebekah; he also gave
costly gifts[b] to her brother and to her
mother. 54Then he and the men who
were with him ate and drank and spent
the night there.
When they got up the next morning,
he said, "Send me on my way[c] to my
master."

24:40 [a]S Ge 12:1 **24:41** [b]S ver 8 **24:42** [c]S ver 12 **24:43** [d]S ver 13 [e]Pr 30:19; Isa 7:14 [f]S ver 14 **24:44** [g]ver 14 **24:45** [h]1Sa 1:13 [i]ver 15 [j]S ver 17; Jn 4:7 **24:46** [k]ver 18-19 [l]ver 20 **24:47** [m]ver 23 [n]S Ge 22:22 [o]S ver 24 [p]S ver 22 [q]S ver 10; Isa 3:19; Eze 16:11-12 **24:48** [r]S ver 26 [s]S ver 12 [t]S ver 27 **24:49** [u]S ver 27 **24:50** [v]Ge 22:22 [w]Ps 118:23 [x]Ge 31:7,24,29; 42; 48:16 **24:51** [y]S ver 12 **24:52** [z]S ver 26 **24:53** [a]Ge 45:22; Ex 3:22; 12:35; 2Ki 5:5 [b]S ver 10 **24:54** [c]ver 56, 59; Ge 30:25

24:55 [d]Jdg 19:4 **24:56** [e]S ver 12 [f]S ver 54 **24:57** [g]Jdg 19:3 **24:58** [h]Ru 1:16 **24:59** [i]S ver 54 [j]Ge 35:8 **24:60** [k]Ge 27:4, 19; 28:1; 31:55; 48:9,15,20; Jos 22:6 [l]S Ge 17:16 [m]Ge 22:17; Ps 127:5; Pr 27:11 **24:61** [n]S Ge 16:1; 30:3; 46:25 **24:62** [o]S Ge 16:14 [p]S Ge 12:9 **24:63** [q]Jos 1:8; Ps 1:2; 77:12; 119:15,27,48,97, 148; 143:5; 145:5 [r]Ge 18:2 **24:64** [s]Ge 31:17,34; 1Sa 30:17 **24:65** [t]Ge 38:14; SS 1:7; 4:1,3; 6:7; Isa 47:2 **24:67** [u]Ge 31:33 [v]S Ge 18:9 [w]Ge 25:20; 49:31 [x]Ge 29:18,20; 34:3; Jdg 16:4 [y]Ge 23:1-2 **25:2** [z]Jer 25:25 [a]Ge 36:35; 37:28, 36; Ex 2:15; Nu 22:4; 25:6,18; 31:2; Jos 13:21; Jdg 6:1,3; 7:1; 8:1,22,24; 9:17; 1Ki 11:18; Ps 83:9; Isa 9:4; 10:26; 60:6; Hab 3:7 [b]Job 2:11; 8:1 **25:3** [c]S Ge 10:7 [d]S Ge 10:7 **25:4** [e]Isa 60:6 **25:5** [f]S Ge 24:36

55But her brother and her mother re-
plied, "Let the girl remain with us ten
days or so;[d] then you[e] may go."
56But he said to them, "Do not detain
me, now that the LORD has granted suc-
cess[e] to my journey. Send me on my
way[f] so I may go to my master."
57Then they said, "Let's call the girl
and ask her about it."[g] 58So they called
Rebekah and asked her, "Will you go
with this man?"
"I will go,"[h] she said.
59So they sent their sister Rebekah on
her way,[i] along with her nurse[j] and
Abraham's servant and his men. 60And
they blessed[k] Rebekah and said to her,

"Our sister, may you increase
to thousands upon thousands;[l]
may your offspring possess
the gates of their enemies."[m]

61Then Rebekah and her maids[n] got
ready and mounted their camels and
went back with the man. So the servant
took Rebekah and left.
62Now Isaac had come from Beer
Lahai Roi,[o] for he was living in the
Negev.[p] 63He went out to the field one
evening to meditate,[f][q] and as he
looked up,[r] he saw camels approach-
ing. 64Rebekah also looked up and saw
Isaac. She got down from her camel[s]
65and asked the servant, "Who is that
man in the field coming to meet us?"
"He is my master," the servant an-
swered. So she took her veil[t] and
covered herself.
66Then the servant told Isaac all he
had done. 67Isaac brought her into the
tent[u] of his mother Sarah,[v] and he
married Rebekah.[w] So she became his
wife, and he loved her;[x] and Isaac was
comforted after his mother's death.[y]

The Death of Abraham

25:1-4pp — 1Ch 1:32-33

25 Abraham took[g] another wife,
whose name was Keturah. 2She
bore him Zimran,[z] Jokshan, Medan,
Midian,[a] Ishbak and Shuah.[b] 3Jokshan
was the father of Sheba[c] and Dedan;[d]
the descendants of Dedan were the
Asshurites, the Letushites and the
Leummites. 4The sons of Midian were
Ephah,[e] Epher, Hanoch, Abida and El-
daah. All these were descendants of
Keturah.
5Abraham left everything he owned
to Isaac.[f] 6But while he was still living,

[e]55 Or *she* [f]63 The meaning of the Hebrew for this word is uncertain. [g]1 Or *had taken*

he gave gifts to the sons of his concu-
bines[a] and sent them away from his
son Isaac[b] to the land of the east.[c]
7 Altogether, Abraham lived a hun-
dred and seventy-five years.[d] 8 Then
Abraham breathed his last and died at
a good old age,[e] an old man and full of
years; and he was gathered to his
people.[f] 9 His sons Isaac and Ishmael
buried him[g] in the cave of Machpelah[h]
near Mamre,[i] in the field of Ephron[j]
son of Zohar the Hittite,[k] 10 the field
Abraham had bought from the Hit-
tites.[h][l] There Abraham was buried
with his wife Sarah. 11 After Abraham's
death, God blessed his son Isaac,[m] who
then lived near Beer Lahai Roi.[n]

Ishmael's Sons

25:12-16pp — 1Ch 1:29-31

12 This is the account[o] of Abraham's
son Ishmael, whom Sarah's maid-
servant, Hagar[p] the Egyptian, bore to
Abraham.[q]

13 These are the names of the sons of
Ishmael, listed in the order of their
birth: Nebaioth[r] the firstborn of Ish-
mael, Kedar,[s] Adbeel, Mibsam,
14 Mishma, Dumah,[t] Massa, 15 Hadad,
Tema,[u] Jetur,[v] Naphish and Kede-
mah. 16 These were the sons of Ishmael,
and these are the names of the twelve
tribal rulers[w] according to their settle-
ments and camps.[x] 17 Altogether, Ish-
mael lived a hundred and thirty-seven
years. He breathed his last and died,
and he was gathered to his people.[y]
18 His descendants[z] settled in the area
from Havilah to Shur,[a] near the border
of Egypt, as you go toward Asshur.
And they lived in hostility toward[i] all
their brothers.[b]

Jacob and Esau

19 This is the account[c] of Abraham's
son Isaac.

Abraham became the father of Isaac,
20 and Isaac was forty years old[d] when
he married Rebekah[e] daughter of Be-
thuel[f] the Aramean from Paddan
Aram[j][g] and sister of Laban[h] the Ara-
mean.[i]

21 Isaac prayed to the LORD on behalf
of his wife, because she was barren.[j]
The LORD answered his prayer,[k] and
his wife Rebekah became pregnant.
22 The babies jostled each other within
her, and she said, "Why is this hap-
pening to me?" So she went to inquire
of the LORD.[l]

23 The LORD said to her,

"Two nations[m] are in your womb,
and two peoples from within you
will be separated;
one people will be stronger than the
other,
and the older will serve the
younger."[n]

24 When the time came for her to give
birth,[o] there were twin boys in her
womb.[p] 25 The first to come out was
red,[q] and his whole body was like a
hairy garment;[r] so they named him
Esau.[k][s] 26 After this, his brother came
out,[t] with his hand grasping Esau's
heel;[u] so he was named Jacob.[l][v] Isaac
was sixty years old[w] when Rebekah
gave birth to them.

27 The boys grew up, and Esau
became a skillful hunter,[x] a man of the
open country,[y] while Jacob was a quiet
man, staying among the tents. 28 Isaac,
who had a taste for wild game,[z] loved
Esau, but Rebekah loved Jacob.[a]

29 Once when Jacob was cooking
some stew,[b] Esau came in from the
open country,[c] famished. 30 He said to
Jacob, "Quick, let me have some of that
red stew![d] I'm famished!" (That is why
he was also called Edom.[m])[e]

31 Jacob replied, "First sell me your
birthright.[f]"

32 "Look, I am about to die," Esau
said. "What good is the birthright to
me?"

33 But Jacob said, "Swear[g] to me
first." So he swore an oath to him, sell-
ing his birthright[h] to Jacob.

34 Then Jacob gave Esau some bread
and some lentil stew.[i] He ate and
drank, and then got up and left.

So Esau despised his birthright.

Isaac and Abimelech

26:1-11Ref -- Ge 12:10-20; 20:1-18

26 Now there was a famine in the
land[j]—besides the earlier fam-
ine of Abraham's time—and Isaac went
to Abimelech king of the Philistines[k] in
Gerar.[l] 2 The LORD appeared[m] to Isaac
and said, "Do not go down to Egypt;[n]

25:6 [a]S Ge 22:24 [b]S Ge 21:10 [c]Ge 29:1; Jdg 6:3,33; 1Ki 4:30; Job 1:3; Eze 25:4 **25:7** [d]ver 26; Ge 12:4; 35:28; 47:9,28; 50:22, 26; Job 42:16 **25:8** [e]S Ge 15:15 [f]ver 17; Ge 35:29; 49:29, 33; Nu 20:24; 31:2; Dt 31:14; 32:50; 34:5 **25:9** [g]Ge 35:29; 47:30; 49:31 [h]S Ge 23:9 [i]S Ge 13:18 [j]Ge 23:8 [k]Ge 49:29; 50:13 **25:10** [l]S Ge 10:15 **25:11** [m]S Ge 12:2 [n]S Ge 16:14 **25:12** [o]S Ge 2:4 [p]S Ge 16:1 [q]S Ge 17:20; 21:18 **25:13** [r]Ge 28:9; 36:3 [s]Ps 120:5; SS 1:5; Isa 21:16; 42:11; 60:7; Jer 2:10; 49:28; Eze 27:21 **25:14** [t]Jos 15:52; Isa 21:11; Ob 1:1 **25:15** [u]Job 6:19; Isa 21:14; Jer 25:23 [v]1Ch 5:19 **25:16** [w]Ge 17:20 [x]S Ge 13:16; Ps 83:6 **25:17** [y]S ver 8 **25:18** [z]S Ge 17:20; 21:18 [a]S Ge 16:7 [b]Ge 16:12 **25:19** [c]S Ge 2:4 **25:20** [d]ver 26; Ge 26:34; 35:28 [e]S Ge 24:67 [f]S Ge 22:22 [g]Ge 28:2,5,6; 30:20; 31:18; 33:18; 35:9,26; 46:15; 48:7 [h]S Ge 24:29 [i]Ge 31:20,24; Dt 26:5 **25:21** [j]S Ge 11:30 [k]Ge 30:17,22; 1Sa 1:17,23; 1Ch 5:20; 2Ch 33:13; Ezr 8:23; Ps 127:3 **25:22** [l]Ex 18:15; 28:30; 33:7; Lev 24:12; Nu 9:6-8; 27:5, 21; Dt 17:9; Jdg 18:5; 1Sa 9:9; 10:22; 14:36; 22:10; 1Ki 22:8; 2Ki 3:11; 22:13; Isa 30:2; Jer 21:2; 37:7,17; Eze 14:7; 20:1,3 **25:23** [m]S Ge 17:4 [n]S Ge 9:25; 48:14,19; Ro 9:11-12* **25:24** [o]Lk 1:57; 2:6 [p]Ge 38:27 **25:25** [q]1Sa 16:12 [r]Ge 27:11 [s]Ge 27:1,15

25:26 [t]Ge 38:29 [u]Hos 12:3 [v]Ge 27:36; 32:27; Dt 23:7; Jos 24:4; Ob 1:10,12 [w]S ver 7,S 20 **25:27** [x]S Ge 10:9 [y]ver 29; Ge 27:3,5 **25:28** [z]Ge 27:3,4,9,14,19 [a]Ge 27:6; 37:3 **25:29** [b]2Ki 4:38-40 [c]S ver 27 **25:30** [d]ver 34 [e]Ge 32:3; 36:1,8,8-9,19; Nu 20:14; Dt 23:7; Ps 137:7; Jer 25:21; 40:11; 49:7 **25:31** [f]Dt 21:16-17; 1Ch 5:1-2 **25:33** [g]S Ge 21:23; S 47:31 [h]Ge 27:36; Heb 12:16 **25:34** [i]ver 30 **26:1** [j]S Ge 12:10; S Dt 32:24 [k]S Ge 10:14; Jdg 10:6 [l]S Ge 20:1 **26:2** [m]S Ge 12:7 [n]Ge 46:3

[h]10 Or *the sons of Heth* [i]18 Or *lived to the east of* [j]20 That is, Northwest Mesopotamia [k]25 *Esau* may mean *hairy*; he was also called Edom, which means *red*. [l]26 *Jacob* means *he grasps the heel* (figuratively, *he deceives*). [m]30 *Edom* means *red*.

live in the land where I tell you to
live.[a] 3Stay in this land for a while,[b]
and I will be with you[c] and will bless
you.[d] For to you and your descendants
I will give all these lands[e] and will con-
firm the oath I swore to your father
Abraham.[f] 4I will make your descend-
ants[g] as numerous as the stars in the
sky[h] and will give them all these
lands,[i] and through your offspring[n]
all nations on earth will be blessed,[j]
5because Abraham obeyed me[k] and
kept my requirements, my commands,
my decrees[l] and my laws."[m] 6So Isaac
stayed in Gerar.[n]

7When the men of that place asked
him about his wife, he said, "She is my
sister,[o]" because he was afraid to say,
"She is my wife." He thought, "The
men of this place might kill me on ac-
count of Rebekah, because she is
beautiful."

8When Isaac had been there a long
time, Abimelech king of the Philis-
tines[p] looked down from a window
and saw Isaac caressing his wife Re-
bekah. 9So Abimelech summoned Isaac
and said, "She is really your wife! Why
did you say, 'She is my sister'?[q]"

Isaac answered him, "Because I
thought I might lose my life on account
of her."

10Then Abimelech said, "What is this
you have done to us?[r] One of the men
might well have slept with your wife,
and you would have brought guilt
upon us."

11So Abimelech gave orders to all the
people: "Anyone who molests[s] this
man or his wife shall surely be put to
death."[t]

12Isaac planted crops in that land and
the same year reaped a hundredfold,[u]
because the LORD blessed him.[v] 13The
man became rich, and his wealth con-
tinued to grow until he became very
wealthy.[w] 14He had so many flocks and
herds and servants[x] that the Philistines
envied him.[y] 15So all the wells[z] that
his father's servants had dug in the
time of his father Abraham, the Philis-
tines stopped up,[a] filling them with
earth.

16Then Abimelech said to Isaac,
"Move away from us;[b] you have
become too powerful for us.[c]"

17So Isaac moved away from there
and encamped in the Valley of Gerar[d]
and settled there. 18Isaac reopened the
wells[e] that had been dug in the time of
his father Abraham, which the Philis-
tines had stopped up after Abraham
died, and he gave them the same
names his father had given them.

19Isaac's servants dug in the valley
and discovered a well of fresh water
there. 20But the herdsmen of Gerar
quarreled[f] with Isaac's herdsmen and
said, "The water is ours!"[g] So he
named the well Esek,[o] because they
disputed with him. 21Then they dug
another well, but they quarreled[h] over
that one also; so he named it Sitnah.[p]
22He moved on from there and dug an-
other well, and no one quarreled over
it. He named it Rehoboth,[q][i] saying,
"Now the LORD has given us room[j]
and we will flourish[k] in the land."

23From there he went up to Beer-
sheba.[l] 24That night the LORD appeared
to him and said, "I am the God of your
father Abraham.[m] Do not be afraid,[n]
for I am with you;[o] I will bless you and
will increase the number of your de-
scendants[p] for the sake of my servant
Abraham."[q]

25Isaac built an altar[r] there and called
on the name of the LORD.[s] There he
pitched his tent, and there his servants
dug a well.[t]

26Meanwhile, Abimelech had come
to him from Gerar, with Ahuzzath his
personal adviser and Phicol the com-
mander of his forces.[u] 27Isaac asked
them, "Why have you come to me,
since you were hostile to me and sent
me away?[v]"

28They answered, "We saw clearly
that the LORD was with you;[w] so we
said, 'There ought to be a sworn agree-
ment between us'—between us and
you. Let us make a treaty[x] with you
29that you will do us no harm,[y] just as
we did not molest you but always treat-
ed you well and sent you away in
peace. And now you are blessed by the
LORD."[z]

30Isaac then made a feast[a] for them,
and they ate and drank. 31Early the
next morning the men swore an oath[b]
to each other. Then Isaac sent them
on their way, and they left him in
peace.

32That day Isaac's servants came and
told him about the well[c] they had dug.
They said, "We've found water!" 33He
called it Shibah,[r] and to this day the

26:2 [a]S Ge 12:1
26:3 [b]Ge 20:1
[c]S Ge 21:20;
27:45; 31:3,5;
32:9; 35:3; 48:21;
Ex 3:12;
33:14-16;
Nu 23:21;
Dt 31:23; Jos 1:5;
Isa 43:2; Jer 1:8,
19; Hag 1:13
[d]ver 12;
S Ge 12:2
[e]S Ge 12:7;
Ac 7:5
[f]S Ge 17:19
26:4 [g]ver 24;
Ge 48:4
[h]S Ge 12:2;
S Nu 10:36
[i]S Ge 12:7
[j]S Ge 12:3;
Ac 3:25*; Gal 3:8
26:5
[k]S Ge 18:19
[l]Ps 119:80,112;
Eze 18:21
[m]Lev 18:4,5,26;
19:19,37; 20:8,
22; 25:18; 26:3;
Nu 15:40;
Dt 4:40; 6:2;
11:1; 1Ki 2:3
26:6 [n]S Ge 20:1
26:7
[o]S Ge 12:13
26:8
[p]S Ge 10:14
26:9
[q]S Ge 12:19
26:10
[r]S Ge 12:18
26:11 [s]1Sa 24:6;
26:9; Ps 105:15
[t]S Ge 20:3
26:12 [u]Mt 13:8
[v]S ver 3
26:13
[w]S Ge 13:2;
S Dt 8:18
26:14
[x]S Ge 12:16;
S 24:36; 32:23
[y]Ge 37:11
26:15
[z]S Ge 21:30
[a]S Ge 21:25
26:16 [b]ver 27;
Jdg 11:7 [c]Ex 1:9;
Ps 105:24-25
26:17
[d]S Ge 20:1
26:18
[e]S Ge 21:30
26:20 [f]S Ge 13:7
[g]Ge 21:25
26:21
[h]S Ge 13:7
26:22 [i]Ge 36:37
[j]Ps 18:19;
Isa 33:20; 54:2;
Am 9:11
[k]S Ge 17:6
26:23
[l]S Ge 22:19
26:24
[m]S Ge 24:12
[n]S Ge 15:1;
S Jos 8:1
[o]S Ge 21:20
[p]S ver 4 [q]ver 4;
Ge 17:7; S 22:17;
28:14; 30:27;
39:5; Dt 13:17
26:25
[r]S Ge 8:20
[s]S Ge 4:26;
S Ac 2:21
[t]S Ge 21:30
26:26
[u]S Ge 21:22
26:27 [v]S ver 16
26:28
[w]S Ge 21:22
[x]S Ge 21:27;
Jos 9:6
26:29 [y]Ge 31:29,52 [z]S Ge 24:31 **26:30** [a]Ge 31:54; Ex 18:12;
24:11; 1Sa 20:27 **26:31** [b]S Ge 21:23,27 **26:32** [c]S Ge 21:30

[n]4 Or *seed* [o]20 *Esek* means *dispute.* [p]21 *Sitnah*
means *opposition.* [q]22 *Rehoboth* means *room.*
[r]33 *Shibah* can mean *oath* or *seven.*

name of the town has been Beersheba.[a][a]

34When Esau was forty years old,[b] he married Judith daughter of Beeri the Hittite, and also Basemath daughter of Elon the Hittite.[c] 35They were a source of grief to Isaac and Rebekah.[d]

Jacob Gets Isaac's Blessing

27 When Isaac was old and his eyes were so weak that he could no longer see,[e] he called for Esau his older son[f] and said to him, "My son."

"Here I am," he answered.

2Isaac said, "I am now an old man and don't know the day of my death.[g] 3Now then, get your weapons—your quiver and bow—and go out to the open country[h] to hunt some wild game for me. 4Prepare me the kind of tasty food I like[i] and bring it to me to eat, so that I may give you my blessing[j] before I die."[k]

5Now Rebekah was listening as Isaac spoke to his son Esau. When Esau left for the open country[l] to hunt game and bring it back, 6Rebekah said to her son Jacob,[m] "Look, I overheard your father say to your brother Esau, 7'Bring me some game and prepare me some tasty food to eat, so that I may give you my blessing in the presence of the LORD before I die.'[n] 8Now, my son, listen carefully and do what I tell you:[o] 9Go out to the flock and bring me two choice young goats,[p] so I can prepare some tasty food for your father, just the way he likes it.[q] 10Then take it to your father to eat, so that he may give you his blessing[r] before he dies."

11Jacob said to Rebekah his mother, "But my brother Esau is a hairy man,[s] and I'm a man with smooth skin. 12What if my father touches me?[t] I would appear to be tricking him and would bring down a curse[u] on myself rather than a blessing."

13His mother said to him, "My son, let the curse fall on me.[v] Just do what I say;[w] go and get them for me."

14So he went and got them and brought them to his mother, and she prepared some tasty food, just the way his father liked it.[x] 15Then Rebekah took the best clothes[y] of Esau her older son,[z] which she had in the house, and put them on her younger son Jacob. 16She also covered his hands and the smooth part of his neck with the goatskins.[a] 17Then she handed to her son Jacob the tasty food and the bread she had made.

18He went to his father and said, "My father."

"Yes, my son," he answered. "Who is it?"[b]

19Jacob said to his father, "I am Esau your firstborn.[c] I have done as you told me. Please sit up and eat some of my game[d] so that you may give me your blessing."[e]

20Isaac asked his son, "How did you find it so quickly, my son?"

"The LORD your God gave me success,[f]" he replied.

21Then Isaac said to Jacob, "Come near so I can touch you,[g] my son, to know whether you really are my son Esau or not."

22Jacob went close to his father Isaac,[h] who touched[i] him and said, "The voice is the voice of Jacob, but the hands are the hands of Esau." 23He did not recognize him, for his hands were hairy like those of his brother Esau;[j] so he blessed him. 24"Are you really my son Esau?" he asked.

"I am," he replied.

25Then he said, "My son, bring me some of your game to eat, so that I may give you my blessing."[k]

Jacob brought it to him and he ate; and he brought some wine and he drank. 26Then his father Isaac said to him, "Come here, my son, and kiss me."

27So he went to him and kissed[l] him[m]. When Isaac caught the smell of his clothes,[n] he blessed him and said,

"Ah, the smell of my son
is like the smell of a field
that the LORD has blessed.[o]
28May God give you of heaven's dew[p]
and of earth's richness[q]—
an abundance of grain[r] and new
wine.[s]
29May nations serve you
and peoples bow down to you.[t]
Be lord over your brothers,
and may the sons of your mother
bow down to you.[u]
May those who curse you be cursed
and those who bless you be
blessed.[v]"

30After Isaac finished blessing him and Jacob had scarcely left his father's presence, his brother Esau came in from hunting. 31He too prepared some tasty food and brought it to his father. Then he said to him, "My father, sit up

26:33 [a]S Ge 21:14 **26:34** [b]S Ge 25:20 [c]S Ge 10:15; 28:9; 36:2; Jos 3:10; 1Sa 26:6; 1Ki 10:29 **26:35** [d]Ge 27:46; 28:8; Job 7:16 **27:1** [e]Ge 48:10; Dt 34:7; 1Sa 3:2 [f]S Ge 25:25 **27:2** [g]Ge 47:29; 1Ki 2:1 **27:3** [h]S Ge 25:27 **27:4** [i]S Ge 25:28 [j]ver 10,25,31; S Ge 24:60; 49:28; Dt 33:1; Heb 11:20 [k]ver 7 **27:5** [l]S Ge 25:27 **27:6** [m]S Ge 25:28 **27:7** [n]ver 4 **27:8** [o]ver 13,43 **27:9** [p]1Sa 16:20 [q]S Ge 25:28 **27:10** [r]S ver 4 **27:11** [s]Ge 25:25 **27:12** [t]ver 22 [u]S Ge 9:25 **27:13** [v]Mt 27:25 [w]S ver 8 **27:14** [x]S Ge 25:28 **27:15** [y]ver 27; SS 4:11 [z]S Ge 25:25 **27:16** [a]ver 22-23

27:18 [b]ver 32 **27:19** [c]ver 32 [d]S Ge 25:28 [e]S ver 4 **27:20** [f]S Ge 24:12 **27:21** [g]ver 12 **27:22** [h]Ge 45:4 [i]ver 12 **27:23** [j]ver 16 **27:25** [k]S ver 4 **27:27** [l]Ge 31:28,55; 33:4; 48:10; Ex 4:27; 18:7; Ru 1:9; 1Sa 20:41; 2Sa 14:33; 19:39 [m]Heb 11:20 [n]S ver 15 [o]Ps 65:9-13 **27:28** [p]Dt 33:13; 2Sa 1:21; Job 18:16; 29:19; Pr 3:20; Isa 26:19; Hos 14:5; Hag 1:10; Zec 8:12 [q]ver 39; Ge 49:25; Lev 26:20; Dt 33:13 [r]Ps 65:9; 72:16 [s]ver 37; Nu 18:12; Dt 7:13; 33:28; 2Ki 18:32; Ps 4:7; Isa 36:17; Jer 31:12; 40:10 **27:29** [t]2Sa 8:14; Ps 68:31; 72:11; Isa 19:21,23; 27:13; 45:14,23; 49:7,23; 60:12,14; 66:23; Jer 12:17; Da 2:44; Zec 14:17-18 [u]S Ge 9:25; S 25:23; S 37:7 [v]ver 33; Ge 12:3

[a]33 *Beersheba* can mean *well of the oath* or *well of seven.*

and eat some of my game, so that you
may give me your blessing."[a]
32His father Isaac asked him, "Who
are you?"[b]
"I am your son," he answered,
"your firstborn, Esau.[c]"
33Isaac trembled violently and said,
"Who was it, then, that hunted game
and brought it to me?[d] I ate it just be-
fore you came and I blessed him—and
indeed he will be blessed![e]"
34When Esau heard his father's
words, he burst out with a loud and
bitter cry[f] and said to his father,
"Bless[g] me—me too, my father!"
35But he said, "Your brother came
deceitfully[h] and took your blessing."[i]
36Esau said, "Isn't he rightly named
Jacob[t]?[j] He has deceived[k] me these
two times: He took my birthright,[l] and
now he's taken my blessing!"[m] Then he
asked, "Haven't you reserved any
blessing for me?"
37Isaac answered Esau, "I have made
him lord over you and have made all
his relatives his servants, and I have
sustained him with grain and new
wine.[n] So what can I possibly do for
you, my son?"
38Esau said to his father, "Do you
have only one blessing, my father?
Bless me too, my father!" Then Esau
wept aloud.[o]
39His father Isaac answered him,[p]

"Your dwelling will be
away from the earth's richness,
away from the dew[q] of heaven
above.[r]
40You will live by the sword
and you will serve[s] your brother.[t]
But when you grow restless,
you will throw his yoke
from off your neck.[u]"

Jacob Flees to Laban

41Esau held a grudge[v] against Jacob[w]
because of the blessing his father had
given him. He said to himself, "The
days of mourning[x] for my father are
near; then I will kill[y] my brother
Jacob."[z]
42When Rebekah was told what her
older son Esau[a] had said, she sent for
her younger son Jacob and said to him,
"Your brother Esau is consoling him-
self with the thought of killing you.[b]
43Now then, my son, do what I say:[c]
Flee at once to my brother Laban[d] in
Haran.[e] 44Stay with him for a while[f]
until your brother's fury subsides.
45When your brother is no longer angry
with you and forgets what you did to
him,[g] I'll send word for you to come
back from there.[h] Why should I lose
both of you in one day?"
46Then Rebekah said to Isaac, "I'm
disgusted with living because of these
Hittite[i] women. If Jacob takes a wife
from among the women of this land,[j]
from Hittite women like these, my life
will not be worth living."[k]

28 So Isaac called for Jacob and
blessed[u][l] him and commanded
him: "Do not marry a Canaanite
woman.[m] 2Go at once to Paddan
Aram,[v][n] to the house of your mother's
father Bethuel.[o] Take a wife for your-
self there, from among the daughters
of Laban, your mother's brother.[p]
3May God Almighty[w][q] bless[r] you and
make you fruitful[s] and increase your
numbers[t] until you become a commu-
nity of peoples. 4May he give you and
your descendants the blessing given to
Abraham,[u] so that you may take
possession of the land[v] where you
now live as an alien,[w] the land God
gave to Abraham." 5Then Isaac sent
Jacob on his way,[x] and he went to Pad-
dan Aram,[y] to Laban son of Bethuel
the Aramean,[z] the brother of Re-
bekah,[a] who was the mother of Jacob
and Esau.
6Now Esau learned that Isaac had
blessed Jacob and had sent him to Pad-
dan Aram to take a wife from there,
and that when he blessed him he com-
manded him, "Do not marry a Canaan-
ite woman,"[b] 7and that Jacob had
obeyed his father and mother and had
gone to Paddan Aram. 8Esau then real-
ized how displeasing the Canaanite
women[c] were to his father Isaac;[d] 9so
he went to Ishmael[e] and married
Mahalath, the sister of Nebaioth[f] and
daughter of Ishmael son of Abraham,
in addition to the wives he already
had.[g]

Jacob's Dream at Bethel

10Jacob left Beersheba[h] and set out
for Haran.[i] 11When he reached a cer-
tain place,[j] he stopped for the night
because the sun had set. Taking one of
the stones there, he put it under his
head[k] and lay down to sleep. 12He had
a dream[l] in which he saw a stairway[x]
resting on the earth, with its top
reaching to heaven, and the angels of

27:31 [a]S ver 4
27:32 [b]ver 18 [c]ver 19
27:33 [d]ver 35 [e]S ver 29
27:34 [f]Heb 12:17 [g]Ex 12:32
27:35 [h]Jer 9:4; 12:6 [i]ver 19,45
27:36 [j]S Ge 25:26 [k]Ge 29:25; 31:20, 26; 34:13; 1Sa 28:12 [l]S Ge 25:33 [m]Heb 12:16-17
27:37 [n]S ver 28; Dt 16:13; Ezr 6:9; Isa 16:10; Jer 40:12
27:38 [o]Ge 29:11; Nu 14:1; Jdg 2:4; 21:2; Ru 1:9; 1Sa 11:4; 30:4; Heb 12:17
27:39 [p]Heb 11:20 [q]ver 28 [r]Ge 36:6
27:40 [s]2Sa 8:14 [t]S Ge 9:25 [u]2Ki 8:20-22
27:41 [v]Ge 37:4; 49:23; 50:15; 1Sa 17:28 [w]Ge 31:17; 32:11; Hos 10:14 [x]Ge 50:4,10; Nu 20:29 [y]ver 42 [z]Ob 1:10
27:42 [a]Ge 32:3, 11; 33:4 [b]ver 41
27:43 [c]S ver 8 [d]S Ge 24:29 [e]S Ge 11:31
27:44 [f]Ge 31:38,41
27:45 [g]S ver 35 [h]S Ge 26:3
27:46 [i]S Ge 10:15 [j]S Ge 10:15-19 [k]S Ge 26:35; S Job 7:7
28:1 [l]S Ge 24:60 [m]Ge 24:3
28:2 [n]S Ge 25:20 [o]S Ge 25:20 [p]S Ge 21:21; S 24:29
28:3 [q]S Ge 17:1 [r]Ge 48:16; Nu 6:24; Ru 2:4; Ps 129:8; 134:3; Jer 31:23 [s]S Ge 17:6 [t]S Ge 12:2
28:4 [u]S Ge 12:2, 3 [v]S Ge 15:7 [w]S Ge 17:8
28:5 [x]S Ge 11:31 [y]Hos 12:12 [z]S Ge 25:20 [a]S Ge 24:29
28:6 [b]S ver 1
28:8 [c]S Ge 10:15-19 [d]S Ge 26:35
28:9 [e]S Ge 16:15 [f]S Ge 25:13 [g]S Ge 26:34
28:10 [h]S Ge 21:14 [i]S Ge 11:31
28:11 [j]S Ge 12:8 [k]ver 18
28:12 [l]S Ge 20:3; 37:19

[t]36 *Jacob* means *he grasps the heel* (figuratively, *he deceives*). [u]1 Or *greeted* [v]2 That is, Northwest Mesopotamia; also in verses 5, 6 and 7 [w]3 Hebrew *El-Shaddai* [x]12 Or *ladder*

God were ascending and descending
on it.[a] 13There above it[y] stood the
LORD,[b] and he said: "I am the LORD, the
God of your father Abraham and the
God of Isaac.[c] I will give you and your
descendants the land[d] on which you
are lying.[e] 14Your descendants will be
like the dust of the earth, and you[f] will
spread out to the west and to the east,
to the north and to the south.[g] All peo-
ples on earth will be blessed through
you and your offspring.[h] 15I am with
you[i] and will watch over you[j][k]
wherever you go,[l] and I will bring you
back to this land.[m] I will not leave you[n]
until I have done what I have promised
you.[o]"[p]
16When Jacob awoke from his sleep,[q]
he thought, "Surely the LORD is in this
place, and I was not aware of it." 17He
was afraid and said, "How awesome is
this place![r] This is none other than the
house of God;[s] this is the gate of
heaven."
18Early the next morning Jacob took
the stone he had placed under his
head[t] and set it up as a pillar[u] and
poured oil on top of it.[v] 19He called
that place Bethel,[z][w] though the city
used to be called Luz.[x]
20Then Jacob made a vow,[y] saying,
"If God will be with me and will watch
over me[z] on this journey I am taking
and will give me food to eat and clothes
to wear[a] 21so that I return safely[b] to
my father's house,[c] then the LORD[a]
will be my God[d] 22and[b] this stone that
I have set up as a pillar[e] will be God's
house,[f] and of all that you give me I
will give you a tenth.[g]"

Jacob Arrives in Paddan Aram

29 Then Jacob continued on his
journey and came to the land of
the eastern peoples.[h] 2There he saw a
well in the field, with three flocks of
sheep lying near it because the flocks
were watered from that well.[i] The
stone[j] over the mouth of the well was
large. 3When all the flocks were gath-
ered there, the shepherds would roll
the stone[k] away from the well's mouth
and water the sheep.[l] Then they
would return the stone to its place over
the mouth of the well.
4Jacob asked the shepherds, "My
brothers, where are you from?"[m]
"We're from Haran,[n]" they replied.
5He said to them, "Do you know La-
ban, Nahor's grandson?"[o]
"Yes, we know him," they an-
swered.
6Then Jacob asked them, "Is he
well?"
"Yes, he is," they said, "and here
comes his daughter Rachel[p] with the
sheep.[q]"
7"Look," he said, "the sun is still
high; it is not time for the flocks to be
gathered. Water the sheep and take
them back to pasture."
8"We can't," they replied, "until all
the flocks are gathered and the stone[r]
has been rolled away from the mouth
of the well. Then we will water[s] the
sheep."
9While he was still talking with them,
Rachel came with her father's sheep,[t]
for she was a shepherdess. 10When
Jacob saw Rachel[u] daughter of Laban,
his mother's brother, and Laban's
sheep, he went over and rolled the
stone[v] away from the mouth of the
well and watered[w] his uncle's sheep.[x]
11Then Jacob kissed[y] Rachel and began
to weep aloud.[z] 12He had told Rachel
that he was a relative[a] of her father
and a son of Rebekah.[b] So she ran and
told her father.[c]
13As soon as Laban[d] heard the news
about Jacob, his sister's son, he hurried
to meet him. He embraced him[e] and
kissed him and brought him to his
home, and there Jacob told him all
these things. 14Then Laban said to him,
"You are my own flesh and blood."[f]

Jacob Marries Leah and Rachel

After Jacob had stayed with him for a
whole month, 15Laban said to him,
"Just because you are a relative[g] of
mine, should you work for me for
nothing? Tell me what your wages[h]
should be."
16Now Laban had two daughters; the
name of the older was Leah,[i] and the
name of the younger was Rachel.[j]
17Leah had weak[c] eyes, but Rachel[k]
was lovely in form, and beautiful.[l]
18Jacob was in love with Rachel[m] and
said, "I'll work for you seven years in
return for your younger daughter Ra-
chel."[n]
19Laban said, "It's better that I give
her to you than to some other man.
Stay here with me." 20So Jacob served

28:12 [a]Jn 1:51 **28:13** [b]S Ge 12:7; 35:7, 9; 48:3 [c]S Ge 24:12; 48:16; 49:25; 50:17 [d]S Ge 12:7 [e]Ge 46:4; 48:21 **28:14** [f]Ge 26:4 [g]S Ge 12:2; S 13:14; S 26:24 [h]S Ge 12:3; Ac 3:25; Gal 3:8 **28:15** [i]S Ge 21:20 [j]Ps 121:5,7-8 [k]ver 20 [l]ver 22; Ge 35:3 [m]ver 21; S Ge 15:16; 30:25; 31:30 [n]Dt 31:6,8; Jos 1:5; Ne 4:14; Ps 9:10 [o]Lev 26:42 [p]Ps 105:10 **28:16** [q]1Ki 3:15; Jer 31:26 **28:17** [r]Ex 3:5; 19:21; Jos 5:15; Ps 68:24,35 [s]ver 22; Ge 32:2; 1Ch 22:1; 2Ch 3:1 **28:18** [t]ver 11 [u]ver 22; Ge 31:13,45,51; 35:14; Ex 24:4; Jos 24:26,27; Isa 19:19 [v]Lev 8:11; Jos 4:9 **28:19** [w]S Ge 12:8 [x]Ge 35:6; 48:3; Jos 16:2; 18:13; Jdg 1:23,26 **28:20** [y]Ge 31:13; Lev 7:16; 22:18; 23:38; 27:2,9; Nu 6:2; 15:3; Dt 12:6; Jdg 11:30; 1Sa 1:21; 2Sa 15:8 [z]S ver 15 [a]1Ti 6:8 **28:21** [b]Jdg 11:31 [c]S ver 15 [d]Ex 15:2; Dt 26:17; Jos 24:18; Ps 48:14; 118:28 **28:22** [e]S ver 18; 1Sa 7:12 [f]S ver 17 [g]S Ge 14:20; S Nu 18:21; Lk 18:12 **29:1** [h]S Ge 25:6 **29:2** [i]S Ge 24:11 [j]ver 3,8,10 **29:3** [k]S ver 2 [l]ver 8 **29:4** [m]Ge 42:7; Jdg 19:17 [n]S Ge 11:31 **29:5** [o]S Ge 11:29 **29:6** [p]Ge 30:22-24; 35:16; 46:19,22 [q]Ex 2:16 **29:8** [r]S ver 2 [s]S Ge 24:13 **29:9** [t]Ex 2:16 **29:10** [u]ver 16 [v]S ver 2 [w]S Ge 24:11 [x]ver 3; Ex 2:17 **29:11** [y]ver 13 [z]Ge 33:4; 42:24; 43:30; 45:2, 14-15; 46:29; 50:1,17; Ru 1:9 **29:12** [a]ver 15 [b]S Ge 24:29 [c]Ge 24:28

29:13 [d]S Ge 24:29 [e]Ge 33:4; 45:14-15,14; 48:10; Ex 4:27; 18:7; Lk 15:20 **29:14** [f]Ge 2:23; 37:27; Jdg 9:2; 2Sa 5:1; 19:12-13; 20:1; Ne 5:5; Isa 58:7 **29:15** [g]ver 12 [h]Ge 30:28,32; 31:7,41 **29:16** [i]ver 17,23,28,30; Ge 30:9; 35:23; 47:30; 49:31; Ru 4:11 [j]ver 9-10 **29:17** [k]S ver 16 [l]S Ge 12:11 **29:18** [m]S Ge 24:67 [n]ver 20,27,30; Ge 30:26; Hos 12:12

[y]13 Or *There beside him* [z]19 *Bethel* means *house of God.* [a]20,21 Or *Since God . . . father's house, the* LORD [b]21,22 Or *house, and the* LORD *will be my God,* [22]*then* [c]17 Or *delicate*

seven years to get Rachel,[a] but they
seemed like only a few days to him be-
cause of his love for her.[b]
21Then Jacob said to Laban, "Give me
my wife. My time is completed, and I
want to lie with her.[c]"
22So Laban brought together all the
people of the place and gave a feast.[d]
23But when evening came, he took his
daughter Leah[e] and gave her to Jacob,
and Jacob lay with her. 24And Laban
gave his servant girl Zilpah[f] to his
daughter as her maidservant.[g]
25When morning came, there was
Leah! So Jacob said to Laban, "What is
this you have done to me?[h] I served
you for Rachel, didn't I? Why have you
deceived me?[i]"
26Laban replied, "It is not our custom
here to give the younger daughter in
marriage before the older one.[j] 27Fin-
ish this daughter's bridal week;[k] then
we will give you the younger one also,
in return for another seven years of
work.[l]"
28And Jacob did so. He finished the
week with Leah, and then Laban gave
him his daughter Rachel to be his
wife.[m] 29Laban gave his servant girl Bil-
hah[n] to his daughter Rachel as her
maidservant.[o] 30Jacob lay with Rachel
also, and he loved Rachel more than
Leah.[p] And he worked for Laban an-
other seven years.[q]

Jacob's Children

31When the LORD saw that Leah was
not loved,[r] he opened her womb,[s] but
Rachel was barren. 32Leah became
pregnant and gave birth to a son.[t] She
named him Reuben,[d][u] for she said, "It
is because the LORD has seen my mis-
ery.[v] Surely my husband will love me
now."
33She conceived again, and when she
gave birth to a son she said, "Because
the LORD heard that I am not loved,[w] he
gave me this one too." So she named
him Simeon.[e][x]
34Again she conceived, and when
she gave birth to a son she said, "Now
at last my husband will become at-
tached to me,[y] because I have borne
him three sons." So he was named
Levi.[f][z]
35She conceived again, and when she
gave birth to a son she said, "This time
I will praise the LORD." So she named
him Judah.[g][a] Then she stopped hav-
ing children.[b]

30 When Rachel saw that she was
not bearing Jacob any children,[c]
she became jealous of her sister.[d] So
she said to Jacob, "Give me children, or
I'll die!"
2Jacob became angry with her and
said, "Am I in the place of God,[e] who
has kept you from having children?"[f]
3Then she said, "Here is Bilhah,[g] my
maidservant.[h] Sleep with her so that
she can bear children for me and that
through her I too can build a family."[i]
4So she gave him her servant Bilhah
as a wife.[j] Jacob slept with her,[k] 5and
she became pregnant and bore him a
son. 6Then Rachel said, "God has vin-
dicated me;[l] he has listened to my plea
and given me a son."[m] Because of this
she named him Dan.[h][n]
7Rachel's servant Bilhah[o] conceived
again and bore Jacob a second son.
8Then Rachel said, "I have had a great
struggle with my sister, and I have
won."[p] So she named him Naphtali.[i][q]
9When Leah[r] saw that she had
stopped having children,[s] she took her
maidservant Zilpah[t] and gave her to
Jacob as a wife.[u] 10Leah's servant Zil-
pah[v] bore Jacob a son. 11Then Leah
said, "What good fortune!"[j] So she
named him Gad.[k][w]
12Leah's servant Zilpah bore Jacob a
second son. 13Then Leah said, "How
happy I am! The women will call me[x]
happy."[y] So she named him Asher.[l][z]
14During wheat harvest,[a] Reuben
went out into the fields and found
some mandrake plants,[b] which he
brought to his mother Leah. Rachel
said to Leah, "Please give me some of
your son's mandrakes."
15But she said to her, "Wasn't it
enough[c] that you took away my hus-
band? Will you take my son's man-
drakes too?"
"Very well," Rachel said, "he can
sleep with you tonight in return for
your son's mandrakes."[d]
16So when Jacob came in from the
fields that evening, Leah went out to

29:20 [a]S ver 18; Ge 31:15 [b]SS 8:7; Hos 12:12 **29:21** [c]Jdg 15:1 **29:22** [d]Jdg 14:10; Isa 25:6; Jn 2:1-2 **29:23** [e]S ver 16 **29:24** [f]Ge 30:9 [g]S Ge 16:1 **29:25** [h]S Ge 12:18 [i]S Ge 27:36 **29:26** [j]Jdg 15:2; 1Sa 14:49; 18:17, 20; 2Sa 6:23 **29:27** [k]Jdg 14:12 [l]S ver 18; Ge 31:41 **29:28** [m]S ver 16; S Ge 4:19 **29:29** [n]Ge 30:3; 35:22; 49:4; Dt 22:30; 1Ch 5:1 [o]S Ge 16:1 **29:30** [p]S ver 16 [q]S ver 20 **29:31** [r]ver 33; Dt 21:15-17 [s]S Ge 11:30; S 16:2; Ru 4:13; 1Sa 1:19; Ps 127:3 **29:32** [t]Ge 30:23; Ru 4:13; 1Sa 1:20 [u]Ge 37:21; 46:8; 48:5,14; 49:3; Ex 6:14; Nu 1:5, 20; 26:5; Dt 33:6; Jos 4:12; 1Ch 5:1,3 [v]S Ge 16:11 **29:33** [w]S ver 31 [x]Ge 34:25; 46:10; 48:5; 49:5; Ex 6:15; Nu 1:6, 22; 34:20; 1Ch 4:24; Eze 48:24 **29:34** [y]Ge 30:20; 1Sa 1:2-4 [z]Ge 34:25; 46:11; 49:5-7; Ex 2:1; 6:16,19; Nu 1:47; 3:17-20; 26:57; Dt 33:8; 1Ch 6:1, 16; 23:6-24,13-14 **29:35** [a]Ge 35:23; 37:26; 38:1; 43:8; 44:14, 18; 46:12; 49:8; 1Ch 2:3; 4:1; Isa 48:1; Mt 1:2-3 [b]Ge 30:9 **30:1** [c]S Ge 11:30; Isa 49:21; 54:1 [d]S Ge 16:4; Lev 18:18 **30:2** [e]Ge 50:19; Dt 32:35; 2Ki 5:7 [f]S Ge 16:2 **30:3** [g]ver 7; S Ge 29:29 [h]S Ge 24:61 [i]Ge 16:2 **30:4** [j]ver 9,18 [k]Ge 16:3-4 **30:6** [l]Ps 35:24; 43:1 [m]ver 23; Ge 21:2; Ru 4:13; 1Sa 1:20 [n]Ge 46:23; 49:16-17; Nu 26:42-43; Jos 19:40-48; Jdg 1:34; 13:2; 18:2; Jer 4:15; 8:16; Eze 48:1 **30:7** [o]S ver 3 **30:8** [p]Ge 32:28; Hos 12:3-4 [q]Ge 35:25; 46:24; 49:21; Nu 1:42; 26:48; Dt 33:23; Jdg 4:6; 5:18; 1Ch 7:13 **30:9** [r]S Ge 29:16 [s]Ge 29:35 [t]Ge 29:24 [u]S ver 4 **30:10** [v]Ge 46:18 **30:11** [w]Ge 35:26; 46:16; 49:19; Ex 1:4; Nu 1:24; 26:18; Jos 4:12; 1Ch 5:11; 12:8; Jer 49:1 **30:13** [x]Ps 127:3 [y]Ru 4:14; Ps 127:4-5; Lk 1:48 [z]Ge 35:26; 46:17; 49:20; Nu 1:40; 26:47; Dt 33:24; Jos 19:24-31; 1Ch 7:30-31 **30:14** [a]Ex 34:22; Jdg 15:1; Ru 2:23; 1Sa 6:13; 12:17 [b]ver 15,16; SS 7:13 **30:15** [c]Nu 16:9,13; Isa 7:13; Eze 34:18 [d]Ge 38:16; Eze 16:33; Hos 9:1

[d]32 *Reuben* sounds like the Hebrew for *he has seen my misery;* the name means *see, a son.* [e]33 *Simeon* probably means *one who hears.* [f]34 *Levi* sounds like and may be derived from the Hebrew for *attached.* [g]35 *Judah* sounds like and may be derived from the Hebrew for *praise.* [h]6 *Dan* here means *he has vindicated.* [i]8 *Naphtali* means *my struggle.* [j]11 Or *"A troop is coming!"* [k]11 *Gad* can mean *good fortune* or *a troop.* [l]13 *Asher* means *happy.*

meet him. "You must sleep with me,"
she said. "I have hired you with my
son's mandrakes."[a] So he slept with
her that night.
[17] God listened to Leah,[b] and she
became pregnant and bore Jacob a fifth
son. [18] Then Leah said, "God has re-
warded me for giving my maidservant
to my husband."[c] So she named him
Issachar.[m][d]
[19] Leah conceived again and bore
Jacob a sixth son. [20] Then Leah said,
"God has presented me with a precious
gift. This time my husband will treat
me with honor,[e] because I have borne
him six sons." So she named him
Zebulun.[n][f]
[21] Some time later she gave birth to a
daughter and named her Dinah.[g]
[22] Then God remembered Rachel;[h] he
listened to her[i] and opened her
womb.[j] [23] She became pregnant and
gave birth to a son[k] and said, "God has
taken away my disgrace."[l] [24] She
named him Joseph,[o][m] and said, "May
the LORD add to me another son."[n]

Jacob's Flocks Increase

[25] After Rachel gave birth to Joseph,
Jacob said to Laban, "Send me on my
way[o] so I can go back to my own
homeland.[p] [26] Give me my wives and
children, for whom I have served
you,[q] and I will be on my way. You
know how much work I've done for
you."
[27] But Laban said to him, "If I have
found favor in your eyes,[r] please stay.
I have learned by divination[s] that[p] the
LORD has blessed me because of you."[t]
[28] He added, "Name your wages,[u] and
I will pay them."
[29] Jacob said to him, "You know how
I have worked for you[v] and how your
livestock has fared under my care.[w]
[30] The little you had before I came has
increased greatly, and the LORD has
blessed you wherever I have been.[x]
But now, when may I do something for
my own household?[y]"
[31] "What shall I give you?" he asked.
"Don't give me anything," Jacob re-
plied. "But if you will do this one thing
for me, I will go on tending your flocks
and watching over them: [32] Let me go
through all your flocks today and re-
move from them every speckled or
spotted sheep, every dark-colored
lamb and every spotted or speckled
goat.[z] They will be my wages.[a] [33] And
my honesty will testify for me in the
future, whenever you check on the

30:16 [a]S ver 14
30:17 [b]S Ge 25:21
30:18 [c]S ver 4 [d]Ge 46:13; 49:14; Nu 1:8,28,29; 26:25; Dt 27:12; 33:18; Jos 17:10; 19:17; 21:6,28; Jdg 5:15; 10:1; 1Ch 7:1
30:20 [e]S Ge 29:34; 1Pe 3:7 [f]Ge 35:23; 46:14; 49:13; Nu 1:30; 26:27; 34:25; Dt 33:18; Jdg 5:18
30:21 [g]Ge 34:1; 46:15
30:22 [h]S Ge 8:1 [i]S Ge 25:21 [j]S Ge 11:30
30:23 [k]S ver 6; S Ge 29:32 [l]Isa 4:1; 25:8; 45:17; 54:4; Lk 1:25
30:24 [m]S Ge 29:6; 32:22; 33:2,7; 35:24; 37:2; 39:1; 49:22-26; Dt 33:13 [n]Ge 35:17; 1Sa 4:20
30:25 [o]S Ge 24:54 [p]S Ge 28:15
30:26 [q]S Ge 29:18
30:27 [r]Ge 33:10; 50:4; Est 2:15 [s]Ge 44:5,15; Lev 19:26; Nu 22:7; 23:23; 24:1; Jos 13:22; 2Ki 17:17; Jer 27:9 [t]ver 30; S Ge 26:24; 31:38; Dt 28:11; 2Sa 6:11
30:28 [u]S Ge 29:15
30:29 [v]Ge 31:6 [w]Ge 31:38-40
30:30 [x]S ver 27 [y]1Ti 5:8
30:32 [z]ver 33, 35,39,40; Ge 31:8,12 [a]S Ge 29:15
30:33 [b]S ver 32 [c]Ge 31:39
30:35 [d]S ver 32 [e]Ge 31:1
30:36 [f]Ge 31:22; Ex 3:18; 5:3; 8:27
30:37 [g]Jer 1:11 [h]Eze 31:8 [i]ver 38,41
30:38 [j]S ver 37 [k]Ex 2:16 [l]ver 41; Jer 2:24
30:39 [m]ver 41 [n]S ver 32
30:40 [o]S ver 32
30:41 [p]S ver 38 [q]S ver 37
30:42 [r]Ge 31:1, 9,16,43
30:43 [s]S Ge 12:16
31:1 [t]Ge 30:35 [u]S Ge 30:42
31:2 [v]ver 5
31:3 [w]ver 13; Ge 32:9; Dt 30:3; Isa 10:21; 35:10; Jer 30:3; 42:12

wages you have paid me. Any goat in
my possession that is not speckled or
spotted, or any lamb that is not dark-
colored,[b] will be considered stolen.[c]"
[34] "Agreed," said Laban. "Let it be as
you have said." [35] That same day he re-
moved all the male goats that were
streaked or spotted, and all the speck-
led or spotted female goats (all that had
white on them) and all the dark-colored
lambs,[d] and he placed them in the care
of his sons.[e] [36] Then he put a three-day
journey[f] between himself and Jacob,
while Jacob continued to tend the rest
of Laban's flocks.
[37] Jacob, however, took fresh-cut
branches from poplar, almond[g] and
plane trees[h] and made white stripes on
them by peeling the bark and exposing
the white inner wood of the branches.[i]
[38] Then he placed the peeled branches[j]
in all the watering troughs,[k] so that
they would be directly in front of the
flocks when they came to drink. When
the flocks were in heat[l] and came to
drink, [39] they mated in front of the
branches.[m] And they bore young that
were streaked or speckled or spotted.[n]
[40] Jacob set apart the young of the flock
by themselves, but made the rest face
the streaked and dark-colored ani-
mals[o] that belonged to Laban. Thus he
made separate flocks for himself and
did not put them with Laban's animals.
[41] Whenever the stronger females were
in heat,[p] Jacob would place the
branches in the troughs in front of the
animals so they would mate near the
branches,[q] [42] but if the animals were
weak, he would not place them there.
So the weak animals went to Laban
and the strong ones to Jacob.[r] [43] In this
way the man grew exceedingly pros-
perous and came to own large flocks,
and maidservants and menservants,
and camels and donkeys.[s]

Jacob Flees From Laban

31 Jacob heard that Laban's sons[t]
were saying, "Jacob has taken
everything our father owned and has
gained all this wealth from what be-
longed to our father."[u] [2] And Jacob no-
ticed that Laban's attitude toward him
was not what it had been.[v]
[3] Then the LORD said to Jacob, "Go
back[w] to the land of your fathers and to

[m]18 *Issachar* sounds like the Hebrew for *reward*.
[n]20 *Zebulun* probably means *honor*.
[o]24 *Joseph* means *may he add*.
[p]27 Or *possibly have become rich and*

your relatives, and I will be with
you."[a]
4So Jacob sent word to Rachel and
Leah to come out to the fields where
his flocks were. 5He said to them, "I
see that your father[b]'s attitude toward
me is not what it was before,[c] but the
God of my father has been with me.[d]
6You know that I've worked for your
father with all my strength,[e] 7yet your
father has cheated[f] me by changing
my wages[g] ten times.[h] However, God
has not allowed him to harm me.[i] 8If
he said, 'The speckled ones will be
your wages,' then all the flocks gave
birth to speckled young; and if he said,
'The streaked ones will be your
wages,'[j] then all the flocks bore
streaked young. 9So God has taken
away your father's livestock[k] and has
given them to me.[l]
10"In breeding season I once had a
dream[m] in which I looked up and saw
that the male goats mating with the
flock were streaked, speckled or spot-
ted. 11The angel of God[n] said to me in
the dream,[o] 'Jacob.' I answered, 'Here
I am.'[p] 12And he said, 'Look up and see
that all the male goats mating with the
flock are streaked, speckled or spot-
ted,[q] for I have seen all that Laban has
been doing to you.[r] 13I am the God of
Bethel,[s] where you anointed a pillar[t]
and where you made a vow[u] to me.
Now leave this land at once and go
back to your native land.[v]' "
14Then Rachel and Leah replied, "Do
we still have any share[w] in the inheri-
tance of our father's estate? 15Does he
not regard us as foreigners?[x] Not only
has he sold us, but he has used up
what was paid for us.[y] 16Surely all the
wealth that God took away from our
father belongs to us and our children.[z]
So do whatever God has told you."
17Then Jacob put his children and his
wives[a] on camels,[b] 18and he drove all
his livestock ahead of him, along with
all the goods he had accumulated[c] in
Paddan Aram,[q][d] to go to his father
Isaac[e] in the land of Canaan.[f]
19When Laban had gone to shear his
sheep,[g] Rachel stole her father's
household gods.[h] 20Moreover, Jacob
deceived[i] Laban the Aramean[j] by not
telling him he was running away.[k] 21So
he fled[l] with all he had, and crossing
the River,[r][m] he headed for the hill
country of Gilead.[n]

Laban Pursues Jacob

22On the third day[o] Laban was told
that Jacob had fled.[p] 23Taking his rela-
tives[q] with him,[r] he pursued Jacob for
seven days and caught up with him in
the hill country of Gilead.[s] 24Then God
came to Laban the Aramean[t] in a
dream at night and said to him,[u] "Be
careful not to say anything to Jacob,
either good or bad."[v]
25Jacob had pitched his tent in the hill
country of Gilead[w] when Laban over-
took him, and Laban and his relatives
camped there too. 26Then Laban said to
Jacob, "What have you done?[x] You've
deceived me,[y] and you've carried off
my daughters like captives in war.[z]
27Why did you run off secretly and de-
ceive me? Why didn't you tell me,[a] so I
could send you away with joy and
singing to the music of tambourines[b]
and harps?[c] 28You didn't even let me
kiss my grandchildren and my daugh-
ters good-by.[d] You have done a foolish
thing. 29I have the power to harm
you;[e] but last night the God of your
father[f] said to me, 'Be careful not to
say anything to Jacob, either good or
bad.'[g] 30Now you have gone off be-
cause you longed to return to your fa-
ther's house.[h] But why did you steal[i]
my gods?[j]"
31Jacob answered Laban, "I was
afraid, because I thought you would
take your daughters away from me by
force.[k] 32But if you find anyone who
has your gods, he shall not live.[l] In the
presence of our relatives, see for your-
self whether there is anything of yours
here with me; and if so, take it." Now
Jacob did not know that Rachel had
stolen the gods.[m]
33So Laban went into Jacob's tent and
into Leah's tent[n] and into the tent of
the two maidservants,[o] but he found
nothing.[p] After he came out of Leah's
tent, he entered Rachel's tent. 34Now
Rachel had taken the household gods[q]
and put them inside her camel's sad-
dle[r] and was sitting on them. Laban
searched[s] through everything in the
tent but found nothing.
35Rachel said to her father, "Don't be
angry, my lord, that I cannot stand up
in your presence;[t] I'm having my pe-

31:3 [a]S Ge 21:22; S 26:3 **31:5** [b]ver 29,42,53; Ge 43:23; Da 2:23 [c]ver 2 [d]S Ge 21:22; S 26:3 **31:6** [e]Ge 30:29 **31:7** [f]Lev 6:2; Am 8:5 [g]S Ge 29:15 [h]ver 41; Nu 14:22; Job 19:3 [i]ver 52; S Ge 24:50 **31:8** [j]S Ge 30:32 **31:9** [k]Job 39:2; Eze 31:6 [l]S Ge 30:42 **31:10** [m]S Ge 20:3 **31:11** [n]S Ge 16:7 [o]S Ge 20:3 [p]S Ge 22:1; S Ex 3:4 **31:12** [q]S Ge 30:32 [r]Ex 3:7 **31:13** [s]Ge 28:10-22 [t]S Ge 28:18 [u]S Ge 28:20 [v]S ver 3 **31:14** [w]2Sa 20:1; 1Ki 12:16 **31:15** [x]Dt 15:3; 23:20; Ru 2:10; 2Sa 15:19; 1Ki 8:41; Ob 1:11 [y]S Ge 29:20 **31:16** [z]S Ge 30:42 **31:17** [a]S Ge 27:41 [b]S Ge 24:63-64 **31:18** [c]S Ge 12:5 [d]S Ge 25:20 [e]Ge 35:27 [f]S Ge 10:19 **31:19** [g]Ge 38:12,13; 1Sa 25:2,4,7; 2Sa 13:23 [h]ver 30,32,34-35; Ge 35:2; Jos 24:14; Jdg 17:5; 18:14,17,24,30; 1Sa 7:3; 19:13; 2Ki 23:24; Hos 3:4 **31:20** [i]S Ge 27:36 [j]S Ge 25:20 [k]ver 27 **31:21** [l]ver 22; Ex 2:15; 14:5; 1Ki 18:46; 19:3; Jer 26:21 [m]S Ge 2:14 [n]ver 23,25; Ge 37:25; Nu 26:30; 32:1; Dt 3:10; Jos 12:2; Jer 22:6 **31:22** [o]S Ge 30:36 [p]S ver 21 **31:23** [q]ver 37 [r]Ex 14:9 [s]S ver 21 **31:24** [t]S Ge 25:20 [u]S Ge 20:3 [v]S Ge 24:50 **31:25** [w]S ver 21 **31:26** [x]S Ge 12:18 [y]S Ge 27:36 [z]Ge 34:29; 1Sa 30:2-3 **31:27** [a]ver 20 [b]Ex 15:20; Jdg 11:34; 1Sa 10:5; 2Sa 6:5; Ps 68:25; Isa 24:8; Jer 31:4 [c]S Ge 4:21 **31:28** [d]S Ge 27:27; Ru 1:14; Ac 20:37 **31:29** [e]S ver 7; S Ge 26:29 [f]S ver 5 [g]S Ge 24:50 **31:30** [h]S Ge 28:15; Job 29:2 [i]Ge 44:8 [j]S ver 19 **31:31** [k]S Ge 20:11 **31:32** [l]Ge 44:9 [m]S ver 19 **31:33** [n]Ge 24:67 [o]S Ge 16:1 [p]ver 37 **31:34** [q]S ver 19 [r]S Ge 24:63-64 [s]ver 37; Ge 44:12 **31:35** [t]Ex 20:12; Lev 19:3,32; Dt 21:18; 27:16; Jer 35:18

[q]18 That is, Northwest Mesopotamia [r]21 That is, the Euphrates

riod.[a]" So he searched but could not
find the household gods.[b]
36 Jacob was angry and took Laban to
task. "What is my crime?" he asked La-
ban. "What sin have I committed[c] that
you hunt me down?[d] 37 Now that you
have searched through all my goods,
what have you found that belongs to
your household?[e] Put it here in front
of your relatives[f] and mine, and let
them judge between the two of us.[g]
38 "I have been with you for twenty
years now.[h] Your sheep and goats
have not miscarried,[i] nor have I eaten
rams from your flocks. 39 I did not bring
you animals torn by wild beasts; I bore
the loss myself. And you demanded
payment from me for whatever was
stolen[j] by day or night.[k] 40 This was
my situation: The heat consumed me in
the daytime and the cold at night, and
sleep fled from my eyes.[l] 41 It was like
this for the twenty years[m] I was in your
household. I worked for you fourteen
years for your two daughters[n] and six
years for your flocks,[o] and you
changed my wages[p] ten times.[q] 42 If the
God of my father,[r] the God of Abra-
ham[s] and the Fear of Isaac,[t] had not
been with me,[u] you would surely have
sent me away empty-handed. But God
has seen my hardship and the toil of
my hands,[v] and last night he rebuked
you.[w]"
43 Laban answered Jacob, "The
women are my daughters, the children
are my children, and the flocks are my
flocks.[x] All you see is mine. Yet what
can I do today about these daughters of
mine, or about the children they have
borne? 44 Come now, let's make a cov-
enant,[y] you and I, and let it serve as a
witness between us."[z]
45 So Jacob took a stone and set it up
as a pillar.[a] 46 He said to his relatives,
"Gather some stones." So they took
stones and piled them in a heap,[b] and
they ate there by the heap. 47 Laban
called it Jegar Sahadutha,[a] and Jacob
called it Galeed.[b][c]
48 Laban said, "This heap[d] is a wit-
ness between you and me today."[e]
That is why it was called Galeed. 49 It
was also called Mizpah,[c][f] because he
said, "May the LORD keep watch be-
tween you and me when we are away
from each other. 50 If you mistreat[g] my
daughters or if you take any wives be-
sides my daughters, even though no
one is with us, remember that God is a
witness[h] between you and me."[i]
51 Laban also said to Jacob, "Here is
this heap,[j] and here is this pillar[k] I
have set up between you and me.
52 This heap is a witness, and this pillar
is a witness,[l] that I will not go past this
heap to your side to harm you and that
you will not go past this heap[m] and pil-
lar to my side to harm me.[n] 53 May the
God of Abraham[o] and the God of Na-
hor,[p] the God of their father, judge be-
tween us."[q]
So Jacob took an oath[r] in the name
of the Fear of his father Isaac.[s] 54 He
offered a sacrifice[t] there in the hill
country and invited his relatives to a
meal.[u] After they had eaten, they
spent the night there.
55 Early the next morning Laban
kissed his grandchildren and his
daughters[v] and blessed[w] them. Then
he left and returned home.[x]

Jacob Prepares to Meet Esau

32 Jacob also went on his way, and
the angels of God[y] met him.
2 When Jacob saw them, he said, "This
is the camp of God!"[z] So he named
that place Mahanaim.[d][a]
3 Jacob sent messengers[b] ahead of
him to his brother Esau[c] in the land of
Seir,[d] the country of Edom.[e] 4 He in-
structed them: "This is what you are to
say to my master[f] Esau: 'Your ser-
vant[g] Jacob says, I have been staying
with Laban[h] and have remained there
till now. 5 I have cattle and donkeys,
sheep and goats, menservants and
maidservants.[i] Now I am sending this
message to my lord,[j] that I may find
favor in your eyes.[k]'"
6 When the messengers returned to
Jacob, they said, "We went to your
brother Esau, and now he is coming to
meet you, and four hundred men are
with him."[l]
7 In great fear[m] and distress[n] Jacob di-
vided the people who were with him
into two groups,[e][o] and the flocks and
herds and camels as well. 8 He thought,
"If Esau comes and attacks one
group,[f] the group[f] that is left may es-
cape."
9 Then Jacob prayed, "O God of my
father Abraham,[p] God of my father
Isaac,[q] O LORD, who said to me, 'Go

31:35 a Lev 15:19-23 b ver 19 **31:36** c 1Sa 19:5; 20:32 d 1Sa 23:23; 24:11 **31:37** e ver 33 f ver 23 g Dt 1:16; 16:18 **31:38** h S Ge 27:44 i S Ge 30:27 **31:39** j Ge 30:33 k Ex 22:13 **31:40** l Ps 132:4; 2Co 11:27 **31:41** m S Ge 27:44 n Ge 29:30 o S Ge 30:32 p S Ge 29:15 q S ver 7 **31:42** r S ver 5; S Ex 3:15 s S Ge 24:12 t ver 53; Ge 46:1 u S Ge 21:22; Ps 124:1-2 v S Ge 3:17 w S Ge 24:50 **31:43** x Ge 30:32,42 **31:44** y S Ge 21:27 z S Ge 21:30 **31:45** a S Ge 28:18 **31:46** b ver 48, 51,52 **31:47** c S Ge 21:30 **31:48** d S ver 46 e S Ge 21:30; Jer 29:23; 42:5 **31:49** f Jos 11:3; Jdg 10:17; 11:29 **31:50** g Ge 16:6 h Dt 31:19; Jos 24:27; Jdg 11:10; 1Sa 12:5; 20:14, 23,42; Job 16:19; Jer 29:23; 42:5; Mic 1:2 i S Ge 21:30; S Dt 4:26; S Jer 7:11 **31:51** j S ver 46 k S Ge 28:18 **31:52** l S Ge 21:30 m S ver 46 n S ver 7; S Ge 26:29 **31:53** o S Ge 24:12 p S Ge 11:27 q S Ge 16:5 r S Ge 21:23,27 s S ver 42 **31:54** t Ge 46:1; Ex 24:5; Lev 3:1 u S Ge 26:30 **31:55** v S ver 28; Ru 1:9 w S Ge 24:60; S Ex 39:43 x Ge 18:33 **32:1** y S Ge 16:11; 2Ki 6:16-17; 1Ch 21:15; Ps 34:7; 35:5; 91:11; Da 6:22 **32:2** z S Ge 28:17 a Jos 13:26,30; 21:38; 2Sa 2:8, 29; 17:24; 19:32; 1Ki 2:8; 4:14; 1Ch 6:80 **32:3** b Nu 21:21; Jdg 11:17 c S Ge 27:41-42 d S Ge 14:6; S Nu 24:18 e S Ge 25:30; S 36:16

32:4 f S Ge 24:9 g S Ge 18:3 h Ge 31:41 **32:5** i S Ge 12:16 j S Ge 24:9 k Ge 33:8,10,15; 34:11; 47:25,29; 50:4; Ru 2:13 **32:6** l Ge 33:1 **32:7** m ver 11 n Ge 35:3; Ps 4:1; 77:2; 107:6 o ver 10; Ge 33:1 **32:9** p S Ge 24:12 q S Ge 28:13

a47 The Aramaic *Jegar Sahadutha* means *witness heap.*
b47 The Hebrew *Galeed* means *witness heap.*
c49 *Mizpah* means *watchtower.*
d2 *Mahanaim* means *two camps.*
e7 Or *camps;* also in verse 10
f8 Or *camp*

back to your country and your relatives, and I will make you prosper,'[a] 10I am unworthy of all the kindness and faithfulness[b] you have shown your servant. I had only my staff[c] when I crossed this Jordan, but now I have become two groups.[d] 11Save me, I pray, from the hand of my brother Esau, for I am afraid[e] he will come and attack me,[f] and also the mothers with their children.[g] 12But you have said, 'I will surely make you prosper and will make your descendants like the sand[h] of the sea, which cannot be counted.[i]' "

13He spent the night there, and from what he had with him he selected a gift[j] for his brother Esau: 14two hundred female goats and twenty male goats, two hundred ewes and twenty rams,[k] 15thirty female camels with their young, forty cows and ten bulls, and twenty female donkeys and ten male donkeys.[l] 16He put them in the care of his servants, each herd by itself, and said to his servants, "Go ahead of me, and keep some space between the herds."[m]

17He instructed the one in the lead: "When my brother Esau meets you and asks, 'To whom do you belong, and where are you going, and who owns all these animals in front of you?' 18then you are to say, 'They belong to your servant[n] Jacob. They are a gift[o] sent to my lord Esau, and he is coming behind us.' "

19He also instructed the second, the third and all the others who followed the herds: "You are to say the same thing to Esau when you meet him. 20And be sure to say, 'Your servant[p] Jacob is coming behind us.' " For he thought, "I will pacify him with these gifts[q] I am sending on ahead;[r] later, when I see him, perhaps he will receive me."[s] 21So Jacob's gifts[t] went on ahead of him, but he himself spent the night in the camp.

Jacob Wrestles With God

22That night Jacob got up and took his two wives, his two maidservants and his eleven sons[u] and crossed the ford of the Jabbok.[v] 23After he had sent them across the stream, he sent over all his possessions.[w] 24So Jacob was left alone,[x] and a man[y] wrestled with him till daybreak. 25When the man saw that he could not overpower him, he touched the socket of Jacob's hip[z] so that his hip was wrenched as he wrestled with the man. 26Then the man said, "Let me go, for it is daybreak."

But Jacob replied, "I will not let you go unless you bless me."[a]

27The man asked him, "What is your name?"

"Jacob,"[b] he answered.

28Then the man said, "Your name[c] will no longer be Jacob, but Israel,[y][d] because you have struggled with God and with men and have overcome."[e]

29Jacob said, "Please tell me your name."[f]

But he replied, "Why do you ask my name?"[g] Then he blessed[h] him there.

30So Jacob called the place Peniel,[z] saying, "It is because I saw God face to face,[i] and yet my life was spared."

31The sun rose above him as he passed Peniel,[a][j] and he was limping because of his hip. 32Therefore to this day the Israelites do not eat the tendon attached to the socket of the hip,[k] because the socket of Jacob's hip was touched near the tendon.

Jacob Meets Esau

33 Jacob looked up and there was Esau, coming with his four hundred men;[l] so he divided the children among Leah, Rachel and the two maidservants.[m] 2He put the maidservants and their children[n] in front, Leah and her children next, and Rachel and Joseph[o] in the rear. 3He himself went on ahead and bowed down to the ground[p] seven times[q] as he approached his brother.

4But Esau[r] ran to meet Jacob and embraced him; he threw his arms around his neck and kissed him.[s] And they wept.[t] 5Then Esau looked up and saw the women and children. "Who are these with you?" he asked.

Jacob answered, "They are the children God has graciously given your servant.[u]"

6Then the maidservants and their children[v] approached and bowed down.[w] 7Next, Leah and her children[x] came and bowed down.[y] Last of all came Joseph and Rachel,[z] and they too bowed down.

8Esau asked, "What do you mean by all these droves I met?"[a]

"To find favor in your eyes, my lord,"[b] he said.

9But Esau said, "I already have

32:9 [a]S Ge 26:3; 31:13
32:10 [b]S Ge 24:27 [c]Ge 38:18; 47:31; Nu 17:2 [d]S ver 7
32:11 [e]S ver 7 [f]Ge 43:18; Ps 59:2 [g]S Ge 27:41
32:12 [h]S Ge 22:17; 1Ki 4:20,29 [i]S Ge 12:2; S 13:14; Hos 1:10; Ro 9:27
32:13 [j]ver 13-15,18,20,21; Ge 33:10; 43:11, 15,25,26; 1Sa 16:20; Pr 18:16; 21:14
32:14 [k]Nu 7:88
32:15 [l]S Ge 13:2; 42:26; 45:23
32:16 [m]Ge 33:8
32:18 [n]S Ge 18:3 [o]S ver 13
32:20 [p]S Ge 18:3 [q]S ver 13; 1Sa 9:7; 2Ki 8:8; Jer 40:5 [r]1Sa 25:19 [s]Ge 33:10; Ex 28:38; Lev 1:4; Mal 1:8
32:21 [t]S ver 13
32:22 [u]S Ge 30:24 [v]Nu 21:24; Dt 2:37; 3:16; Jos 12:2
32:23 [w]S Ge 26:14
32:24 [x]Da 10:8 [y]S Ge 18:2
32:25 [z]ver 32
32:26 [a]Hos 12:4
32:27 [b]S Ge 25:26
32:28 [c]Isa 1:26; 56:5; 60:14; 62:2, 4,12; 65:15 [d]S Ge 17:5 [e]S Ge 30:8
32:29 [f]Ex 3:13; 6:3; Jdg 13:17 [g]Jdg 13:18 [h]Ge 25:11; 35:9; 48:3
32:30 [i]S Ge 16:13; 1Co 13:12
32:31 [j]Jdg 8:9
32:32 [k]ver 25
33:1 [l]S Ge 32:6 [m]S Ge 32:7
33:2 [n]ver 6 [o]S Ge 30:24
33:3 [p]ver 6,7; S Ge 17:3; 37:7-10; 42:6; 43:26; 44:14; 48:12; 1Sa 20:41 [q]2Ki 5:10,14
33:4 [r]S Ge 27:41-42 [s]S Ge 29:11; Lk 15:20 [t]S Ge 27:27
33:5 [u]S Ge 18:3; Ge 48:9; Ps 127:3; Isa 8:18
33:6 [v]ver 2 [w]S ver 3
33:7 [x]ver 2 [y]S ver 3 [z]S Ge 30:24
33:8 [a]Ge 32:14-16 [b]S Ge 24:9; S 32:5

[y]28 *Israel* means *he struggles with God.* [z]30 *Peniel* means *face of God.* [a]31 Hebrew *Penuel,* a variant of *Peniel*

plenty,[z] my brother. Keep what you
have for yourself."
10 "No, please!" said Jacob. "If I have
found favor in your eyes,[b] accept this
gift[c] from me. For to see your face is
like seeing the face of God,[d] now that
you have received me favorably.[e]
11 Please accept the present[f] that was
brought to you, for God has been gra-
cious to me[g] and I have all I need."[h]
And because Jacob insisted,[i] Esau ac-
cepted it.
12 Then Esau said, "Let us be on our
way; I'll accompany you."
13 But Jacob said to him, "My lord[j]
knows that the children are tender and
that I must care for the ewes and cows
that are nursing their young.[k] If they
are driven hard just one day, all the
animals will die. 14 So let my lord go on
ahead of his servant, while I move
along slowly at the pace of the droves[l]
before me and that of the children, un-
til I come to my lord in Seir.[m]"
15 Esau said, "Then let me leave some
of my men with you."
"But why do that?" Jacob asked.
"Just let me find favor in the eyes of my
lord."[n]
16 So that day Esau started on his way
back to Seir.[o] 17 Jacob, however, went
to Succoth,[p] where he built a place for
himself and made shelters for his live-
stock. That is why the place is called
Succoth.[b]
18 After Jacob came from Paddan
Aram,[c][q] he arrived safely at the[d] city
of Shechem[r] in Canaan and camped
within sight of the city. 19 For a hundred
pieces of silver,[e] he bought from the
sons of Hamor,[s] the father of She-
chem,[t] the plot of ground[u] where he
pitched his tent.[v] 20 There he set up an
altar[w] and called it El Elohe Israel.[f]

Dinah and the Shechemites

34 Now Dinah,[x] the daughter Leah
had borne to Jacob, went out to
visit the women of the land. 2 When
Shechem[y] son of Hamor[z] the Hivite,[a]
the ruler of that area, saw her, he took
her and violated her.[b] 3 His heart was
drawn to Dinah[c] daughter of Jacob,[d]
and he loved[e] the girl and spoke ten-
derly[f] to her. 4 And Shechem said to
his father Hamor, "Get me this girl as
my wife."[g]
5 When Jacob heard that his daughter
Dinah had been defiled,[h] his sons were
in the fields with his livestock; so he
kept quiet about it until they came
home.

6 Then Shechem's father Hamor went
out to talk with Jacob.[i] 7 Now Jacob's
sons had come in from the fields as
soon as they heard what had hap-
pened. They were filled with grief[j]
and fury,[k] because Shechem had done
a disgraceful thing in[g] Israel[l] by lying
with Jacob's daughter—a thing that
should not be done.[m]
8 But Hamor said to them, "My son
Shechem has his heart set on your
daughter. Please give her to him as his
wife.[n] 9 Intermarry with us; give us
your daughters and take our daughters
for yourselves.[o] 10 You can settle
among us;[p] the land is open to you.[q]
Live in it, trade[h] in it,[r] and acquire
property in it.[s]"
11 Then Shechem said to Dinah's fa-
ther and brothers, "Let me find favor
in your eyes,[t] and I will give you
whatever you ask. 12 Make the price for
the bride[u] and the gift I am to bring as
great as you like, and I'll pay whatever
you ask me. Only give me the girl as
my wife."
13 Because their sister Dinah had been
defiled,[v] Jacob's sons replied deceitful-
ly[w] as they spoke to Shechem and his
father Hamor. 14 They said to them,
"We can't do such a thing; we can't
give our sister to a man who is not cir-
cumcised.[x] That would be a disgrace to
us. 15 We will give our consent to you
on one condition[y] only: that you
become like us by circumcising all your
males.[z] 16 Then we will give you our
daughters and take your daughters for
ourselves.[a] We'll settle among you and
become one people with you.[b] 17 But if
you will not agree to be circumcised,
we'll take our sister[i] and go."
18 Their proposal seemed good to Ha-
mor and his son Shechem. 19 The young
man, who was the most honored[c] of
all his father's household, lost no time
in doing what they said, because he
was delighted with Jacob's daughter.[d]
20 So Hamor and his son Shechem went
to the gate of their city[e] to speak to
their fellow townsmen. 21 "These men
are friendly toward us," they said. "Let
them live in our land and trade in it;[f]
the land has plenty of room for them.

33:9 [z]ver 11; S Ge 13:6 **33:10** [b]S Ge 30:27; S 32:5 [c]S Ge 32:13 [d]S Ge 16:13 [e]S Ge 32:20 **33:11** [f]1Sa 25:27; 30:26 [g]Ge 30:43 [h]S ver 9 [i]Ge 19:3 **33:13** [j]ver 8 [k]Isa 40:11; Jer 31:8 **33:14** [l]Ex 12:38 [m]S Ge 14:6 **33:15** [n]S Ge 32:5 **33:16** [o]S Ge 14:6 **33:17** [p]Jos 13:27; Jdg 8:5,6,8,14,14-16,15,16; 1Ki 7:46; 2Ch 4:17; Ps 60:6; 108:7 **33:18** [q]S Ge 25:20 [r]S Ge 12:6 **33:19** [s]Ge 34:2; Jdg 9:28; Ac 7:16 [t]Ge 34:2; Jos 24:32 [u]Ge 34:10,16,21; 47:27; Jn 4:5 [v]S Ge 12:8 **33:20** [w]S Ge 4:26; S 8:20 **34:1** [x]S Ge 30:21 **34:2** [y]S Ge 33:19 [z]S Ge 33:19 [a]S Ge 10:17 [b]Dt 21:14; 2Sa 13:14 **34:3** [c]ver 26 [d]ver 19 [e]S Ge 24:67 [f]Ge 50:21; Isa 14:1; 40:2 **34:4** [g]S Ge 21:21 **34:5** [h]ver 2,13,27; Ge 35:22; 49:4; Dt 27:20; 33:6; 1Ch 5:1 **34:6** [i]Jdg 14:2-5 **34:7** [j]1Co 5:2 [k]Ge 39:19; 49:6-7; 2Sa 12:5; 13:21; Est 7:7; Pr 6:34 [l]Dt 22:21; Jdg 19:23; 20:6; 2Sa 13:12; Jer 29:23 [m]S Ge 20:9 **34:8** [n]S Ge 21:21; Dt 21:11 **34:9** [o]ver 16,21; Dt 7:3; Jos 23:12 **34:10** [p]ver 23; Ge 46:34; 47:6,27 [q]S Ge 13:9 [r]Ge 42:34 [s]S Ge 33:19 **34:11** [t]S Ge 32:5 **34:12** [u]Ex 22:16; Dt 22:29; 1Sa 18:25 **34:13** [v]S ver 5 [w]S Ge 27:36 **34:14** [x]Ge 17:14; Jdg 14:3; 1Sa 31:4; Isa 52:1 **34:15** [y]1Sa 11:2 [z]ver 22; Ex 12:48 **34:16** [a]S ver 9 [b]S Ge 33:19

34:19 [c]Ge 49:3; 1Ch 11:21 [d]ver 3 **34:20** [e]S Ge 18:1 **34:21** [f]S Ge 33:19

[b]17 *Succoth* means *shelters*. [c]18 That is, Northwest Mesopotamia [d]18 Or *arrived at Shalem, a* [e]19 Hebrew *hundred kesitahs*; a kesitah was a unit of money of unknown weight and value. [f]20 *El Elohe Israel* can mean *God, the God of Israel* or *mighty is the God of Israel*. [g]7 Or *against* [h]10 Or *move about freely*; also in verse 21 [i]17 Hebrew *daughter*

We can marry their daughters and they
can marry ours.[a] 22But the men will
consent to live with us as one people
only on the condition that our males be
circumcised,[b] as they themselves are.
23Won't their livestock, their property
and all their other animals become
ours?[c] So let us give our consent to
them, and they will settle among us.[d]"
24All the men who went out of the
city gate[e] agreed with Hamor and his
son Shechem, and every male in the
city was circumcised.
25Three days later, while all of them
were still in pain,[f] two of Jacob's sons,
Simeon[g] and Levi,[h] Dinah's brothers,
took their swords[i] and attacked the
unsuspecting city,[j] killing every
male.[k] 26They put Hamor and his son
Shechem to the sword[l] and took
Dinah[m] from Shechem's house and
left. 27The sons of Jacob came upon the
dead bodies and looted the city[n]
where[j] their sister had been defiled.[o]
28They seized their flocks and herds
and donkeys[p] and everything else of
theirs in the city and out in the fields.[q]
29They carried off all their wealth and
all their women and children,[r] taking
as plunder[s] everything in the houses.[t]
30Then Jacob said to Simeon and
Levi, "You have brought trouble[u] on
me by making me a stench[v] to the Ca-
naanites and Perizzites, the people liv-
ing in this land.[w] We are few in num-
ber,[x] and if they join forces against me
and attack me, I and my household will
be destroyed."
31But they replied, "Should he have
treated our sister like a prostitute?[y]"

Jacob Returns to Bethel

35 Then God said to Jacob, "Go up
to Bethel[z] and settle there, and
build an altar[a] there to God,[b] who ap-
peared to you[c] when you were fleeing
from your brother Esau."[d]
2So Jacob said to his household[e] and
to all who were with him, "Get rid of
the foreign gods[f] you have with you,
and purify yourselves and change your
clothes.[g] 3Then come, let us go up to
Bethel, where I will build an altar to
God,[h] who answered me in the day of
my distress[i] and who has been with
me wherever I have gone.[j]" 4So they
gave Jacob all the foreign gods they
had and the rings in their ears,[k] and
Jacob buried them under the oak[l] at
Shechem.[m] 5Then they set out, and the
terror of God[n] fell upon the towns all
around them so that no one pursued
them.[o]
6Jacob and all the people with him
came to Luz[p] (that is, Bethel) in the
land of Canaan.[q] 7There he built an al-
tar,[r] and he called the place El Beth-
el,[k][s] because it was there that God re-
vealed himself to him[t] when he was
fleeing from his brother.[u]
8Now Deborah, Rebekah's nurse,[v]
died and was buried under the oak[w]
below Bethel.[x] So it was named Allon
Bacuth.[l]
9After Jacob returned from Paddan
Aram,[m][y] God appeared to him again
and blessed him.[z] 10God said to him,
"Your name is Jacob,[n] but you will no
longer be called Jacob; your name will
be Israel.[o]"[a] So he named him Israel.
11And God said to him, "I am God
Almighty[p];[b] be fruitful and increase in
number.[c] A nation[d] and a community
of nations will come from you, and
kings will come from your body.[e]
12The land I gave to Abraham and Isaac
I also give to you, and I will give this
land to your descendants after you.[f]"[g]
13Then God went up from him[h] at the
place where he had talked with him.
14Jacob set up a stone pillar[i] at the
place where God had talked with him,
and he poured out a drink offering[j] on
it; he also poured oil on it.[k] 15Jacob
called the place where God had talked
with him Bethel.[q][l]

The Deaths of Rachel and Isaac

35:23-26pp — 1Ch 2:1-2

16Then they moved on from Bethel.
While they were still some distance
from Ephrath,[m] Rachel[n] began to give
birth and had great difficulty. 17And as
she was having great difficulty in child-
birth, the midwife[o] said to her, "Don't
be afraid, for you have another son."[p]
18As she breathed her last—for she was
dying—she named her son Ben-Oni.[r][q]
But his father named him Benjamin.[s][r]
19So Rachel died and was buried on
the way to Ephrath[s] (that is, Beth-

34:21 [a]S ver 9 **34:22** [b]S ver 15 **34:23** [c]ver 28; S Ge 12:16 [d]S ver 10 **34:24** [e]S Ge 18:1 **34:25** [f]Jos 5:8 [g]S Ge 29:33 [h]S Ge 29:34 [i]Ge 49:5; Mal 2:16 [j]Jdg 18:7,10,27; Eze 38:11 [k]Ge 49:7 **34:26** [l]S ver 7; Ge 48:22 [m]ver 3 **34:27** [n]2Ki 21:14 [o]S ver 5 **34:28** [p]Ge 43:18 [q]S ver 23 **34:29** [r]S Ge 31:26 [s]Nu 14:3; 31:9, 53; Dt 2:35; Jos 7:21 [t]2Ki 8:12; Isa 13:16; La 5:11; Am 1:13; Zec 14:2 **34:30** [u]Ge 43:6; Ex 5:23; Nu 11:11 [v]Ex 5:21; 6:9; 1Sa 13:4; 27:12; 2Sa 10:6; 1Ch 19:6 [w]S Ge 13:7 [x]Ge 35:26; 46:27; Ex 1:5; Dt 10:22; 26:5; 1Ch 16:19; Ps 105:12 **34:31** [y]ver 2 **35:1** [z]S Ge 12:8 [a]S Ge 4:26; 8:20 [b]ver 3 [c]S Ge 12:7 [d]ver 7; Ge 27:43 **35:2** [e]Ge 18:19; Jos 24:15 [f]S Ge 31:19; S Jos 24:14 [g]Ex 19:10,14; Nu 8:7,21; 19:19 **35:3** [h]ver 1 [i]S Ge 32:7; S Jdg 2:15 [j]S Ge 26:3 **35:4** [k]S Ge 24:22; Ex 32:3; 35:22; Jdg 8:24; Pr 25:12 [l]ver 8 [m]S Ge 12:6 **35:5** [n]Ex 15:16; 23:27; Dt 2:25; Jos 2:9; 1Sa 7:10; 13:7; 14:15; 2Ch 14:14; 17:10; 20:29; Ps 9:20; Isa 19:17; Zec 14:13 [o]Ps 105:14 **35:6** [p]S Ge 28:19 [q]S Ge 10:19 **35:7** [r]S Ge 8:20 [s]Ge 28:19 [t]S Ge 28:13 [u]S ver 1 **35:8** [v]Ge 24:59 [w]ver 4 [x]S Ge 12:8; 1Sa 10:3 **35:9** [y]S Ge 25:20 [z]S Ge 28:13; S 32:29 **35:10** [a]S Ge 17:5 **35:11** [b]S Ge 17:1 [c]S Ge 12:2 [d]S Ge 12:2 [e]S Ge 17:6

35:12 [f]S Ge 28:13 [g]S Ge 12:7; S 15:7 **35:13** [h]S Ge 17:22 **35:14** [i]S Ge 28:22 [j]Ex 29:40; Lev 23:13; Nu 6:15,17; 15:5; 28:7,14; 2Sa 23:16; 2Ch 29:35 [k]S Ge 28:18 **35:15** [l]S Ge 12:8 **35:16** [m]ver 19; Ge 48:7; Ru 1:2; 4:11; 1Sa 17:12; Mic 5:2 [n]S Ge 29:6 **35:17** [o]Ge 38:28; Ex 1:15 [p]S Ge 30:24 **35:18** [q]1Sa 4:21; 14:3 [r]ver 24; Ge 42:4; 43:16,29; 45:12,14; 49:27; Nu 1:36; Dt 33:12 **35:19** [s]S ver 16

[j]27 Or *because* [k]7 *El Bethel* means *God of Bethel.* [l]8 *Allon Bacuth* means *oak of weeping.* [m]9 That is, Northwest Mesopotamia; also in verse 26 [n]10 *Jacob* means *he grasps the heel* (figuratively, *he deceives*). [o]10 *Israel* means *he struggles with God.* [p]11 Hebrew *El-Shaddai* [q]15 *Bethel* means *house of God.* [r]18 *Ben-Oni* means *son of my trouble.* [s]18 *Benjamin* means *son of my right hand.*

lehem[a]). 20Over her tomb Jacob set up
a pillar, and to this day[b] that pillar
marks Rachel's tomb.[c]
21Israel moved on again and pitched
his tent beyond Migdal Eder.[d] 22While
Israel was living in that region, Reuben
went in and slept with his father's con-
cubine[e] Bilhah,[f] and Israel heard of it.

Jacob had twelve sons:
23The sons of Leah:[g]
Reuben the firstborn[h] of Jacob,
Simeon, Levi, Judah,[i] Issachar
and Zebulun.[j]
24The sons of Rachel:
Joseph[k] and Benjamin.[l]
25The sons of Rachel's maidservant
Bilhah:[m]
Dan and Naphtali.[n]
26The sons of Leah's maidservant
Zilpah:[o]
Gad[p] and Asher.[q]
These were the sons of Jacob,[r] who
were born to him in Paddan Aram.[s]

27Jacob came home to his father
Isaac[t] in Mamre,[u] near Kiriath Arba[v]
(that is, Hebron),[w] where Abraham
and Isaac had stayed.[x] 28Isaac lived a
hundred and eighty years.[y] 29Then he
breathed his last and died and was
gathered to his people,[z] old and full of
years.[a] And his sons Esau and Jacob
buried him.[b]

Esau's Descendants

36:10-14pp — 1Ch 1:35-37
36:20-28pp — 1Ch 1:38-42

36 This is the account[c] of Esau (that
is, Edom).[d]

2Esau took his wives from the
women of Canaan:[e] Adah daugh-
ter of Elon the Hittite,[f] and
Oholibamah[g] daughter of Anah[h]
and granddaughter of Zibeon the
Hivite[i]— 3also Basemath[j] daugh-
ter of Ishmael and sister of
Nebaioth.[k]
4Adah bore Eliphaz to Esau,
Basemath bore Reuel,[l] 5and
Oholibamah bore Jeush, Jalam and
Korah.[m] These were the sons of
Esau, who were born to him in Ca-
naan.
6Esau took his wives and sons
and daughters and all the members
of his household, as well as his
livestock and all his other animals
and all the goods he had acquired
in Canaan,[n] and moved to a land
some distance from his brother
Jacob.[o] 7Their possessions were
too great for them to remain to-
gether; the land where they were
staying could not support them
both because of their livestock.[p]
8So Esau[q] (that is, Edom)[r] settled
in the hill country of Seir.[s]

9This is the account[t] of Esau the fa-
ther of the Edomites[u] in the hill coun-
try of Seir.

10These are the names of Esau's
sons:
Eliphaz, the son of Esau's wife
Adah, and Reuel, the son of
Esau's wife Basemath.[v]
11The sons of Eliphaz:[w]
Teman,[x] Omar, Zepho, Gatam
and Kenaz.[y]
12Esau's son Eliphaz also had a
concubine[z] named Timna, who
bore him Amalek.[a] These were
grandsons of Esau's wife
Adah.[b]
13The sons of Reuel:
Nahath, Zerah, Shammah and
Mizzah. These were grandsons
of Esau's wife Basemath.[c]
14The sons of Esau's wife Oholiba-
mah[d] daughter of Anah and
granddaughter of Zibeon, whom
she bore to Esau:
Jeush, Jalam and Korah.[e]

15These were the chiefs[f] among
Esau's descendants:
The sons of Eliphaz the firstborn of
Esau:
Chiefs Teman,[g] Omar, Zepho,
Kenaz,[h] 16Korah,[t] Gatam and
Amalek. These were the chiefs
descended from Eliphaz[i] in
Edom;[j] they were grandsons of
Adah.[k]
17The sons of Esau's son Reuel:[l]
Chiefs Nahath, Zerah, Sham-
mah and Mizzah. These were
the chiefs descended from Reuel
in Edom; they were grandsons
of Esau's wife Basemath.[m]
18The sons of Esau's wife Oholiba-
mah:[n]
Chiefs Jeush, Jalam and Korah.[o]
These were the chiefs descend-
ed from Esau's wife Oholiba-
mah daughter of Anah.
19These were the sons of Esau[p] (that
is, Edom),[q] and these were their
chiefs.[r]

35:19 [a]Ge 48:7; Jos 19:15; Jdg 12:8; 17:7; 19:1,18; Ru 1:1,19; 1Sa 17:12; Mic 5:2 **35:20** [b]Jos 4:9; 7:26; 8:28; 10:27; 1Sa 6:18 [c]1Sa 10:2 **35:21** [d]Jos 15:21 **35:22** [e]S Ge 22:24 [f]S Ge 29:29; S 34:5; S Lev 18:8 **35:23** [g]S Ge 29:16 [h]Ge 43:33; 46:8 [i]S Ge 29:35 [j]S Ge 30:20 **35:24** [k]S Ge 30:24 [l]S ver 18 **35:25** [m]Ge 37:2 [n]S Ge 30:8 **35:26** [o]Ge 37:2 [p]S Ge 30:11 [q]S Ge 30:13 [r]S Ge 34:30; 46:8; Ex 1:1-4 [s]S Ge 25:20 **35:27** [t]Ge 31:18 [u]S Ge 13:18 [v]Ge 23:2; Jos 15:54; Jdg 1:10; Ne 11:25 [w]S Ge 13:18 [x]S Ge 17:8 **35:28** [y]S Ge 25:7,20 **35:29** [z]S Ge 25:8 [a]S Ge 15:15 [b]S Ge 23:20; S 25:9 **36:1** [c]S Ge 2:4 [d]S Ge 25:30 **36:2** [e]Ge 28:8-9 [f]Ge 26:34 [g]ver 14,18 [h]ver 25; 1Ch 1:40 [i]ver 24; S Ge 10:17; 1Ch 1:40 **36:3** [j]ver 4,10, 13,17 [k]S Ge 25:13 **36:4** [l]S ver 3; 1Ch 1:35 **36:5** [m]ver 14, 18; 1Ch 1:35 **36:6** [n]Ge 12:5 [o]Ge 27:39 **36:7** [p]S Ge 13:6 **36:8** [q]Dt 2:4 [r]S Ge 25:30 [s]S Ge 14:6 **36:9** [t]S Ge 2:4 [u]ver 1,43 **36:10** [v]S ver 3 **36:11** [w]ver 15-16; 1Ch 1:45; Job 2:11; 4:1 [x]Jer 49:7,20; Eze 25:13; Am 1:12; Ob 1:9; Hab 3:3 [y]ver 15 **36:12** [z]S Ge 22:24 [a]Ex 17:8,16; Nu 24:20; Dt 25:17,19; 1Sa 15:2; 27:8 [b]ver 16 **36:13** [c]S ver 3 **36:14** [d]S ver 2 [e]S ver 5 **36:15** [f]ver 19, 40; Ex 15:15 [g]Job 2:11; Jer 49:7; Eze 25:13; Am 1:12; Hab 3:3 [h]S ver 11

36:16 [i]S ver 11 [j]Ge 32:3; Ex 15:15; Nu 20:14; 33:37 [k]ver 12 **36:17** [l]1Ch 1:37 [m]S ver 3 **36:18** [n]S ver 2 [o]S ver 5 **36:19** [p]1Ch 1:35 [q]S Ge 25:30 [r]S ver 15

[t]16 Masoretic Text; Samaritan Pentateuch (see also Gen. 36:11 and 1 Chron. 1:36) does not have *Korah*.

20These were the sons of Seir the Horite,[a] who were living in the region:

Lotan, Shobal, Zibeon, Anah,[b]
21Dishon, Ezer and Dishan. These sons of Seir in Edom were Horite chiefs.[c]

22The sons of Lotan:

Hori and Homam.[u] Timna was Lotan's sister.

23The sons of Shobal:

Alvan, Manahath, Ebal, Shepho and Onam.

24The sons of Zibeon:[d]

Aiah and Anah. This is the Anah who discovered the hot springs[v][e] in the desert while he was grazing the donkeys[f] of his father Zibeon.

25The children of Anah:[g]

Dishon and Oholibamah[h] daughter of Anah.

26The sons of Dishon[w]:

Hemdan, Eshban, Ithran and Keran.

27The sons of Ezer:

Bilhan, Zaavan and Akan.

28The sons of Dishan:

Uz and Aran.

29These were the Horite chiefs:

Lotan, Shobal, Zibeon, Anah,[i]
30Dishon, Ezer and Dishan. These were the Horite chiefs,[j] according to their divisions, in the land of Seir.

The Rulers of Edom

36:31-43pp — 1Ch 1:43-54

31These were the kings who reigned in Edom before any Israelite king[k] reigned[x]:

32Bela son of Beor became king of Edom. His city was named Dinhabah.
33When Bela died, Jobab son of Zerah from Bozrah[l] succeeded him as king.
34When Jobab died, Husham from the land of the Temanites[m] succeeded him as king.
35When Husham died, Hadad son of Bedad, who defeated Midian[n] in the country of Moab,[o] succeeded him as king. His city was named Avith.
36When Hadad died, Samlah from Masrekah succeeded him as king.
37When Samlah died, Shaul from Rehoboth[p] on the river[y] succeeded him as king.
38When Shaul died, Baal-Hanan son of Acbor succeeded him as king.
39When Baal-Hanan son of Acbor died, Hadad[z] succeeded him as king. His city was named Pau, and his wife's name was Mehetabel daughter of Matred, the daughter of Me-Zahab.

40These were the chiefs[q] descended from Esau, by name, according to their clans and regions:

Timna, Alvah, Jetheth, 41Oholibamah, Elah, Pinon, 42Kenaz, Teman, Mibzar, 43Magdiel and Iram. These were the chiefs of Edom, according to their settlements in the land they occupied.

This was Esau the father of the Edomites.[r]

Joseph's Dreams

37 Jacob lived in the land where his
father had stayed,[s] the land of
Canaan.[t]

2This is the account[u] of Jacob.

Joseph,[v] a young man of seventeen,[w] was tending the flocks[x] with his brothers, the sons of Bilhah[y] and the sons of Zilpah,[z] his father's wives, and he brought their father a bad report[a] about them.

3Now Israel[b] loved Joseph more than
any of his other sons,[c] because he had
been born to him in his old age;[d] and
he made a richly ornamented[a] robe[e]
for him.[f] 4When his brothers saw that
their father loved him more than any of
them, they hated him[g] and could not
speak a kind word to him.

5Joseph had a dream,[h] and when he
told it to his brothers,[i] they hated him
all the more.[j] 6He said to them, "Lis-
ten to this dream I had: 7We were bind-
ing sheaves[k] of grain out in the field
when suddenly my sheaf rose and
stood upright, while your sheaves
gathered around mine and bowed
down to it."[l]

8His brothers said to him, "Do you
intend to reign over us? Will you actu-
ally rule us?"[m] And they hated him all

36:20 [a]S Ge 14:6 [b]ver 29
36:21 [c]ver 30
36:24 [d]S ver 2 [e]Jos 15:19 [f]Job 1:14
36:25 [g]S ver 2 [h]S ver 2
36:29 [i]ver 20
36:30 [j]ver 21
36:31 [k]S Ge 17:6
36:33 [l]Isa 34:6; 63:1; Jer 49:13,22
36:34 [m]Jer 49:7; Eze 25:13; Ob 1:9
36:35 [n]S Ge 25:2 [o]S Ge 19:37; Nu 21:11; 22:1; Dt 1:5; Jdg 3:30; Ru 1:1,6
36:37 [p]Ge 26:22
36:40 [q]S ver 15
36:43 [r]S ver 9
37:1 [s]S Ge 17:8 [t]S Ge 10:19
37:2 [u]S Ge 2:4 [v]S Ge 30:24 [w]Ge 41:46; 2Sa 5:4 [x]Ge 46:32; 1Sa 16:11; 17:15; Ps 78:71; Am 7:15 [y]Ge 35:25 [z]Ge 35:26 [a]1Sa 2:24
37:3 [b]S Ge 17:5 [c]S Ge 25:28 [d]Ge 43:27; 44:20 [e]ver 23,31,32; 2Sa 13:18-19 [f]Ge 43:34; 45:22; 1Sa 1:4-5; Est 2:9
37:4 [g]S ver 24; S Ge 27:41; Ac 7:9
37:5 [h]S Ge 20:3; S 28:12 [i]ver 10 [j]ver 8
37:7 [k]Ru 2:7,15 [l]ver 9,10; Ge 27:29; 42:6,9; 43:26,28; 44:14; 50:18; 2Sa 1:2; 9:6
37:8 [m]Ge 41:44; 42:10; 44:16,18; 48:22; 49:26; Dt 33:16

[u]22 Hebrew *Hemam*, a variant of *Homam* (see 1 Chron. 1:39) [v]24 Vulgate; Syriac *discovered water*; the meaning of the Hebrew for this word is uncertain. [w]26 Hebrew *Dishan*, a variant of *Dishon* [x]31 Or *before an Israelite king reigned over them* [y]37 Possibly the Euphrates [z]39 Many manuscripts of the Masoretic Text, Samaritan Pentateuch and Syriac (see also 1 Chron. 1:50); most manuscripts of the Masoretic Text *Hadar* [a]3 The meaning of the Hebrew for *richly ornamented* is uncertain; also in verses 23 and 32.

the more[a] because of his dream and
what he had said.
9 Then he had another dream,[b] and
he told it to his brothers. "Listen," he
said, "I had another dream, and this
time the sun and moon and eleven
stars[c] were bowing down to me."[d]
10 When he told his father as well as
his brothers,[e] his father rebuked[f] him
and said, "What is this dream you had?
Will your mother and I and your broth-
ers actually come and bow down to the
ground before you?"[g] 11 His brothers
were jealous of him,[h] but his father
kept the matter in mind.[i]

Joseph Sold by His Brothers

12 Now his brothers had gone to graze
their father's flocks near Shechem,[j]
13 and Israel[k] said to Joseph, "As you
know, your brothers are grazing the
flocks near Shechem.[l] Come, I am go-
ing to send you to them."
"Very well," he replied.
14 So he said to him, "Go and see if all
is well with your brothers[m] and with
the flocks, and bring word back to
me." Then he sent him off from the
Valley of Hebron.[n]
When Joseph arrived at Shechem, 15 a
man found him wandering around in
the fields and asked him, "What are
you looking for?"
16 He replied, "I'm looking for my
brothers. Can you tell me where they
are grazing their flocks?"
17 "They have moved on from here,"
the man answered. "I heard them say,
'Let's go to Dothan.'[o]"
So Joseph went after his brothers and
found them near Dothan. 18 But they
saw him in the distance, and before he
reached them, they plotted to kill
him.[p]
19 "Here comes that dreamer![q]" they
said to each other. 20 "Come now, let's
kill him and throw him into one of
these cisterns[r] and say that a ferocious
animal[s] devoured him.[t] Then we'll
see what comes of his dreams."[u]
21 When Reuben[v] heard this, he tried
to rescue him from their hands. "Let's
not take his life," he said.[w] 22 "Don't
shed any blood. Throw him into this
cistern[x] here in the desert, but don't
lay a hand on him." Reuben said this to
rescue him from them and take him
back to his father.[y]
23 So when Joseph came to his broth-
ers, they stripped him of his robe—the
richly ornamented robe[z] he was wear-
ing— 24 and they took him and threw
him into the cistern.[a] Now the cistern
was empty; there was no water in it.
25 As they sat down to eat their meal,
they looked up and saw a caravan of
Ishmaelites[b] coming from Gilead.[c]
Their camels were loaded with spices,
balm[d] and myrrh,[e] and they were on
their way to take them down to
Egypt.[f]
26 Judah[g] said to his brothers, "What
will we gain if we kill our brother and
cover up his blood?[h] 27 Come, let's sell
him to the Ishmaelites and not lay our
hands on him; after all, he is our broth-
er,[i] our own flesh and blood.[j]" His
brothers agreed.
28 So when the Midianite[k] merchants
came by, his brothers pulled Joseph up
out of the cistern[l] and sold[m] him for
twenty shekels[b] of silver[n] to the Ish-
maelites,[o] who took him to Egypt.[p]
29 When Reuben returned to the cis-
tern and saw that Joseph was not
there, he tore his clothes.[q] 30 He went
back to his brothers and said, "The boy
isn't there! Where can I turn now?"[r]
31 Then they got Joseph's robe,[s]
slaughtered a goat and dipped the robe
in the blood.[t] 32 They took the orna-
mented robe[u] back to their father and
said, "We found this. Examine it to see
whether it is your son's robe."
33 He recognized it and said, "It is my
son's robe! Some ferocious animal[v] has
devoured him. Joseph has surely been
torn to pieces."[w]
34 Then Jacob tore his clothes,[x] put on
sackcloth[y] and mourned for his son
many days.[z] 35 All his sons and daugh-
ters came to comfort him,[a] but he
refused to be comforted.[b] "No," he
said, "in mourning will I go down to
the grave[c][c] to my son.[d]" So his father
wept for him.
36 Meanwhile, the Midianites[d][e] sold
Joseph[f] in Egypt to Potiphar, one of
Pharaoh's officials, the captain of the
guard.[g]

Judah and Tamar

38 At that time, Judah[h] left his
brothers and went down to stay
with a man of Adullam[i] named

37:8 [a]ver 5 **37:9** [b]S ver 7; Ge 28:12 [c]Rev 12:1 [d]Dt 4:19; 17:3 **37:10** [e]ver 5 [f]Ru 2:16; Ps 9:5; 68:30; 106:9; 119:21; Isa 17:13; 54:9; Zec 3:2 [g]S ver 7; S Ge 9:25; S 33:3 **37:11** [h]Ge 26:14; Ac 7:9 [i]Lk 2:19, 51 **37:12** [j]S Ge 12:6 **37:13** [k]S Ge 17:5 [l]Ge 33:19 **37:14** [m]1Sa 17:18 [n]S Ge 13:18 **37:17** [o]2Ki 6:13 **37:18** [p]1Sa 19:1; 2Ch 24:21; Ps 31:13,20; 37:12,32; S Mt 12:14; Mk 14:1; Ac 23:12 **37:19** [q]S Ge 28:12 **37:20** [r]ver 22; Jer 38:6,9 [s]ver 33; Lev 26:6,22; Dt 32:24; 2Ki 17:25; Eze 34:25 [t]ver 31-33; S Ge 4:10 [u]Ge 50:20 **37:21** [v]S Ge 29:32 [w]Ge 42:22 **37:22** [x]S ver 20 [y]ver 29-30 **37:23** [z]ver 3 **37:24** [a]S ver 4; Ge 49:23; Jer 38:6; 41:7; Eze 22:27 **37:25** [b]S Ge 16:11 [c]S Ge 31:21; S SS 4:1 [d]Jer 8:22; 22:6; 46:11 [e]Ge 43:11; Ex 30:23; Ps 45:8; Pr 7:17; SS 1:13; Mt 2:11 [f]ver 28; Ge 39:1; Ps 105:17 **37:26** [g]S Ge 29:35 [h]S Ge 4:10 **37:27** [i]Ge 42:21 [j]S Ge 29:14 **37:28** [k]S Ge 25:2 [l]Jer 38:13 [m]Ex 21:16 [n]Lev 27:5; Mt 26:15 [o]S Ge 16:11 [p]ver 36; Ge 39:1; 45:4-5; Ps 105:17; Jer 12:6; Ac 7:9 **37:29** [q]ver 34; Ge 44:13; Nu 14:6; Jos 7:6; 2Sa 1:11; 2Ki 2:12; 5:7; 11:14; 22:11; Job 1:20; 2:12; Isa 36:22; 37:1; Jer 36:24; 41:5; Joel 2:13 **37:30** [r]ver 22 **37:31** [s]S ver 3 [t]Rev 19:13 **37:32** [u]S ver 3 **37:33** [v]S ver 20 [w]Ge 42:13,38; 44:20,28 **37:34** [x]S ver 29 [y]2Sa 3:31; 1Ki 20:31; 21:27; 2Ki 6:30; 19:1,2; Job 16:15; Ps 69:11; Isa 3:24; 15:3; 22:12; 32:11; 37:1; Jer 48:37; 49:3; Joel 1:13 [z]Ge 50:3,10,11; Nu 20:29; Dt 34:8 **37:35** [a]Job 2:11; 15:11; 16:5; 42:11 [b]2Sa 12:17; Ps 77:2; Jer 31:15 [c]Ge 42:38; 44:22,29,31 [d]2Sa 12:23 **37:36** [e]S Ge 25:2 [f]S ver 28 [g]Ge 39:1; 40:3; 41:10,12; 1Sa 22:14 **38:1** [h]S Ge 29:35 [i]Jos 12:15; 15:35; 1Sa 22:1; 2Sa 23:13; 2Ch 11:7

[b]*28* That is, about 8 ounces (about 0.2 kilogram)
[c]*35* Hebrew *Sheol* [d]*36* Samaritan Pentateuch, Septuagint, Vulgate and Syriac (see also verse 28); Masoretic Text *Medanites*

Hirah.[a] 2There Judah met the daughter
of a Canaanite man named Shua.[b] He
married her and lay with her; 3she
became pregnant and gave birth to a
son, who was named Er.[c] 4She con-
ceived again and gave birth to a son
and named him Onan.[d] 5She gave
birth to still another son and named
him Shelah.[e] It was at Kezib that she
gave birth to him.

6Judah got a wife for Er, his firstborn,
and her name was Tamar.[f] 7But Er,
Judah's firstborn, was wicked in the
LORD's sight;[g] so the LORD put him to
death.[h]

8Then Judah said to Onan, "Lie with
your brother's wife and fulfill your
duty to her as a brother-in-law to pro-
duce offspring for your brother."[i] 9But
Onan knew that the offspring would
not be his; so whenever he lay with his
brother's wife, he spilled his semen on
the ground to keep from producing off-
spring for his brother. 10What he did
was wicked in the LORD's sight; so he
put him to death also.[j]

11Judah then said to his daughter-in-
law[k] Tamar,[l] "Live as a widow in
your father's house[m] until my son She-
lah[n] grows up."[o] For he thought, "He
may die too, just like his brothers." So
Tamar went to live in her father's
house.

12After a long time Judah's wife, the
daughter of Shua,[p] died. When Judah
had recovered from his grief, he went
up to Timnah,[q] to the men who were
shearing his sheep,[r] and his friend
Hirah the Adullamite[s] went with
him.

13When Tamar[t] was told, "Your fa-
ther-in-law is on his way to Timnah to
shear his sheep,"[u] 14she took off her
widow's clothes,[v] covered herself with
a veil[w] to disguise herself, and then sat
down[x] at the entrance to Enaim, which
is on the road to Timnah.[y] For she saw
that, though Shelah[z] had now grown
up, she had not been given to him as
his wife.

15When Judah saw her, he thought
she was a prostitute,[a] for she had
covered her face. 16Not realizing[b] that
she was his daughter-in-law,[c] he went
over to her by the roadside and said,
"Come now, let me sleep with you."[d]

"And what will you give me to sleep
with you?"[e] she asked.

17"I'll send you a young goat[f] from
my flock," he said.

"Will you give me something as a
pledge[g] until you send it?" she asked.

18He said, "What pledge should I
give you?"

"Your seal[h] and its cord, and the
staff[i] in your hand," she answered. So
he gave them to her and slept with her,
and she became pregnant by him.[j]
19After she left, she took off her
veil and put on her widow's clothes[k]
again.

20Meanwhile Judah sent the young
goat by his friend the Adullamite[l] in
order to get his pledge[m] back from the
woman, but he did not find her. 21He
asked the men who lived there,
"Where is the shrine prostitute[n] who
was beside the road at Enaim?"

"There hasn't been any shrine prosti-
tute here," they said.

22So he went back to Judah and said,
"I didn't find her. Besides, the men
who lived there said, 'There hasn't
been any shrine prostitute here.' "

23Then Judah said, "Let her keep
what she has,[o] or we will become a
laughingstock.[p] After all, I did send
her this young goat, but you didn't
find her."

24About three months later Judah
was told, "Your daughter-in-law Ta-
mar is guilty of prostitution, and as a
result she is now pregnant."

Judah said, "Bring her out and have
her burned to death!"[q]

25As she was being brought out, she
sent a message to her father-in-law. "I
am pregnant by the man who owns
these," she said. And she added, "See
if you recognize whose seal and cord
and staff these are."[r]

26Judah recognized them and said,
"She is more righteous than I,[s] since
I wouldn't give her to my son She-
lah.[t]" And he did not sleep with her
again.

27When the time came for her to give
birth, there were twin boys in her
womb.[u] 28As she was giving birth, one
of them put out his hand; so the mid-
wife[v] took a scarlet thread and tied it
on his wrist[w] and said, "This one came
out first." 29But when he drew back his
hand, his brother came out,[x] and she
said, "So this is how you have broken
out!" And he was named Perez.[e][y]
30Then his brother, who had the scarlet
thread on his wrist,[z] came out and he
was given the name Zerah.[f][a]

38:1 [a]ver 12,20
38:2 [b]ver 12; 1Ch 2:3
38:3 [c]ver 6; Ge 46:12; Nu 26:19
38:4 [d]ver 8,9; Ge 46:12; Nu 26:19
38:5 [e]Nu 26:20; 1Ch 2:3; 4:21
38:6 [f]ver 11,13
38:7 [g]S Ge 6:5 [h]ver 10; Ge 46:12; Lev 10:1-2; 1Ch 2:3
38:8 [i]Dt 25:5-6; Ru 4:5; Mt 22:24-28
38:10 [j]S ver 7; Dt 25:7-10
38:11 [k]S Ge 11:31 [l]S ver 6 [m]Ru 1:8 [n]ver 14,26 [o]Ru 1:13
38:12 [p]S ver 2 [q]ver 14; Jos 15:10,57; 19:43; Jdg 14:1,2; 2Ch 28:18 [r]S Ge 31:19 [s]S ver 1
38:13 [t]S ver 6 [u]S Ge 31:19
38:14 [v]ver 19 [w]S Ge 24:65 [x]Jer 3:2 [y]S ver 12 [z]S ver 11
38:15 [a]Jdg 11:1; 16:1
38:16 [b]Ge 42:23 [c]Lev 18:15; 20:12; Ru 1:6 [d]Ge 39:7,12; 2Sa 13:11 [e]S Ge 30:15
38:17 [f]Jdg 15:1 [g]ver 20
38:18 [h]ver 25; 1Ki 21:8; Est 3:12; 8:8; SS 8:6; Isa 49:16; Jer 22:24; Hag 2:23; 2Co 1:22; Eph 1:13 [i]S Ge 32:10; S Ex 4:2 [j]S Ge 19:32
38:19 [k]ver 14
38:20 [l]S ver 1 [m]ver 17
38:21 [n]S Ge 19:5; Lev 19:29; Dt 22:21; 23:17; 2Ki 23:7; Hos 4:14
38:23 [o]ver 18 [p]Ex 32:25; Job 12:4; Jer 20:7; La 3:14
38:24 [q]Lev 20:10,14; 21:9; Dt 22:21,22; Jos 7:25; Jdg 15:6; 1Sa 31:12; Job 31:11,28; Eze 16:38
38:25 [r]S ver 18
38:26 [s]1Sa 24:17 [t]S ver 11
38:27 [u]Ge 25:24
38:28 [v]S Ge 35:17 [w]ver 30
38:29 [x]Ge 25:26 [y]Ge 46:12; Nu 26:20,21; Ru 4:12,18; 2Sa 5:20; 6:8; 1Ch 2:4; 9:4; Isa 28:21; Mt 1:3
38:30 [z]ver 28 [a]Ge 46:12; 1Ch 2:4; Ne 11:24

[e]29 *Perez* means *breaking out.* [f]30 *Zerah* can mean *scarlet* or *brightness.*

Joseph and Potiphar's Wife

39 Now Joseph[a] had been taken
down to Egypt. Potiphar, an
Egyptian who was one of Pharaoh's of-
ficials, the captain of the guard,[b]
bought him from the Ishmaelites who
had taken him there.[c]
2The LORD was with Joseph[d] and he
prospered, and he lived in the house of
his Egyptian master. 3When his master
saw that the LORD was with him[e] and
that the LORD gave him success in
everything he did,[f] 4Joseph found fa-
vor in his eyes[g] and became his atten-
dant. Potiphar put him in charge of his
household,[h] and he entrusted to his
care everything he owned.[i] 5From the
time he put him in charge of his house-
hold and of all that he owned, the LORD
blessed the household[j] of the Egyptian
because of Joseph.[k] The blessing of the
LORD was on everything Potiphar had,
both in the house and in the field.[l] 6So
he left in Joseph's care everything he
had;[m] with Joseph in charge, he did not
concern himself with anything except
the food he ate.
Now Joseph was well-built and
handsome,[n] 7and after a while his mas-
ter's wife took notice of Joseph and
said, "Come to bed with me!"[o]
8But he refused.[p] "With me in
charge," he told her, "my master does
not concern himself with anything in
the house; everything he owns he has
entrusted to my care.[q] 9No one is
greater in this house than I am.[r] My
master has withheld nothing from me
except you, because you are his wife.
How then could I do such a wicked
thing and sin against God?"[s] 10And
though she spoke to Joseph day after
day, he refused[t] to go to bed with her
or even be with her.
11One day he went into the house to
attend to his duties,[u] and none of the
household servants[v] was inside. 12She
caught him by his cloak[w] and said,
"Come to bed with me!"[x] But he left
his cloak in her hand and ran out of the
house.[y]
13When she saw that he had left his
cloak in her hand and had run out of
the house, 14she called her household
servants.[z] "Look," she said to them,
"this Hebrew[a] has been brought to us
to make sport of us![b] He came in here
to sleep with me, but I screamed.[c]
15When he heard me scream for help,
he left his cloak beside me and ran out
of the house."[d]

39:1 aS Ge 30:24 bS Ge 37:36 cS Ge 37:25
39:2 dS Ge 21:20,22; Jos 1:5; 6:27; Jdg 1:19; 1Sa 18:14; Ac 7:9
39:3 eS Ge 21:22 fver 23; 1Sa 18:14; 2Ki 18:7; 2Ch 20:20; Ps 1:3; 128:2; Isa 33:6
39:4 gS Ge 6:8; S 18:3 hGe 47:6; 1Ki 11:28; Pr 22:29 iver 8, 22; Ge 40:4; 42:37
39:5 j2Sa 6:11 kS Ge 26:24 lDt 28:3; Ps 128:4
39:6 mGe 24:2 nS Ge 12:11; Ex 2:2; 1Sa 9:2; 16:12; 17:42; Est 2:7; Da 1:4
39:7 oS Ge 38:16; Pr 7:15-18
39:8 pPr 6:23-24 qS ver 4
39:9 rGe 41:33, 40 sS Ge 13:13; S Nu 22:34
39:10 tEst 3:4
39:11 uEx 18:20; Dt 1:18 vver 14
39:12 w2Sa 13:11; Pr 7:13 xS Ge 38:16 yver 15; Pr 5:8; 2Ti 2:22
39:14 zver 11 aS Ge 14:13 bS Ge 21:9 cDt 22:24,27
39:15 dS ver 12
39:17 eEx 20:16; 23:1,7; Dt 5:20; Ps 101:5 fS Ge 14:13 gGe 21:10
39:19 hS Ge 34:7; S Est 1:12
39:20 iGe 40:3; 41:10; Ps 105:18
39:21 jS Ge 21:20 kS Ge 19:19 lEx 3:21; 11:3; 12:36; Est 2:9; Ps 106:46; Pr 16:7; Da 1:9
39:22 mS ver 4
39:23 nS Ge 21:20; S Nu 14:43 oS ver 3
40:1 pver 9,13, 21; Ne 1:11 qver 16,20
40:2 rPr 16:14, 15; 19:12 sGe 41:10; Est 2:21
40:3 tS Ge 37:36; S 39:20
40:4 uS Ge 37:36 vS Ge 39:4 wver 7; Ge 42:17
40:5 xS Ge 20:3 yGe 41:11
40:7 zS ver 4 aNe 2:2
40:8 bGe 41:8, 15 cGe 41:16,25, 28,32; Dt 29:29; Da 2:22,28,47
40:9 dS ver 1

16She kept his cloak beside her until
his master came home. 17Then she told
him this story:[e] "That Hebrew[f] slave[g]
you brought us came to me to make
sport of me. 18But as soon as I screamed
for help, he left his cloak beside me and
ran out of the house."
19When his master heard the story
his wife told him, saying, "This is how
your slave treated me," he burned with
anger.[h] 20Joseph's master took him and
put him in prison,[i] the place where
the king's prisoners were confined.
But while Joseph was there in the
prison, 21the LORD was with him;[j] he
showed him kindness[k] and granted
him favor in the eyes of the prison war-
den.[l] 22So the warden put Joseph in
charge of all those held in the prison,
and he was made responsible for all
that was done there.[m] 23The warden
paid no attention to anything under Jo-
seph's[n] care, because the LORD was
with Joseph and gave him success in
whatever he did.[o]

The Cupbearer and the Baker

40 Some time later, the cupbearer[p]
and the baker[q] of the king of
Egypt offended their master, the king
of Egypt. 2Pharaoh was angry[r] with
his two officials,[s] the chief cupbearer
and the chief baker, 3and put them in
custody in the house of the captain of
the guard,[t] in the same prison where
Joseph was confined. 4The captain of
the guard[u] assigned them to Joseph,[v]
and he attended them.
After they had been in custody[w] for
some time, 5each of the two men—the
cupbearer and the baker of the king of
Egypt, who were being held in pris-
on—had a dream[x] the same night, and
each dream had a meaning of its own.[y]
6When Joseph came to them the next
morning, he saw that they were deject-
ed. 7So he asked Pharaoh's officials
who were in custody[z] with him in his
master's house, "Why are your faces so
sad today?"[a]
8"We both had dreams," they an-
swered, "but there is no one to inter-
pret them."[b]
Then Joseph said to them, "Do not
interpretations belong to God?[c] Tell
me your dreams."
9So the chief cupbearer[d] told Joseph
his dream. He said to him, "In my
dream I saw a vine in front of me, 10and
on the vine were three branches. As

soon as it budded, it blossomed,[a] and
its clusters ripened into grapes. 11Phar-
aoh's cup was in my hand, and I took
the grapes, squeezed them into Phar-
aoh's cup and put the cup in his
hand."
12"This is what it means,[b]" Joseph
said to him. "The three branches are
three days.[c] 13Within three days[d]
Pharaoh will lift up your head[e] and re-
store you to your position, and you will
put Pharaoh's cup in his hand, just as
you used to do when you were his cup-
bearer.[f] 14But when all goes well with
you, remember me[g] and show me
kindness;[h] mention me to Pharaoh[i]
and get me out of this prison. 15For I
was forcibly carried off from the land of
the Hebrews,[j] and even here I have
done nothing to deserve being put in a
dungeon."[k]
16When the chief baker[l] saw that Jo-
seph had given a favorable interpreta-
tion,[m] he said to Joseph, "I too had a
dream: On my head were three bas-
kets[n] of bread.[g] 17In the top basket
were all kinds of baked goods for Phar-
aoh, but the birds were eating them out
of the basket on my head."
18"This is what it means," Joseph
said. "The three baskets are three
days.[o] 19Within three days[p] Pharaoh
will lift off your head[q] and hang you
on a tree.[h][r] And the birds will eat
away your flesh."[s]
20Now the third day[t] was Pharaoh's
birthday,[u] and he gave a feast for all
his officials.[v] He lifted up the heads of
the chief cupbearer and the chief
baker[w] in the presence of his officials:
21He restored the chief cupbearer[x] to
his position,[y] so that he once again put
the cup into Pharaoh's hand,[z] 22but he
hanged[i] the chief baker,[a] just as Jo-
seph had said to them in his interpreta-
tion.[b]
23The chief cupbearer, however, did
not remember Joseph; he forgot him.[c]

Pharaoh's Dreams

41 When two full years had passed,
Pharaoh had a dream:[d] He was
standing by the Nile,[e] 2when out of the
river there came up seven cows, sleek
and fat,[f] and they grazed among the
reeds.[g] 3After them, seven other cows,
ugly and gaunt, came up out of the
Nile and stood beside those on the
riverbank. 4And the cows that were
ugly and gaunt ate up the seven sleek,
fat cows. Then Pharaoh woke up.[h]
5He fell asleep again and had a sec-

40:10 [a]Isa 27:6; 35:1-2; Hos 14:7 **40:12** [b]ver 16; Ge 41:12,15,25; Da 2:36; 4:19 [c]ver 18 **40:13** [d]ver 19, 20; Jos 1:11; 3:2; Ezr 8:32; Ne 2:11 [e]ver 19 [f]S ver 1 **40:14** [g]1Sa 25:31; Lk 23:42 [h]S Ge 19:19; 1Sa 20:14,42; 2Sa 9:1; 1Ki 2:7 [i]ver 23; Ge 41:9; Ecc 9:15 **40:15** [j]S Ge 14:13 [k]Ge 39:20; Job 13:27 **40:16** [l]S ver 1 [m]S ver 12 [n]Am 8:1-2 **40:18** [o]ver 12 **40:19** [p]ver 13 [q]S ver 13 [r]ver 22; Dt 21:22-23; Est 2:23; 7:10 [s]Dt 28:26; 1Sa 17:44; 2Sa 21:10; 1Ki 14:11; 16:4; 21:24; Eze 39:4 **40:20** [t]S ver 13 [u]Mt 14:6-10 [v]Est 2:18; Mk 6:21 [w]S ver 1 **40:21** [x]S ver 1 [y]2Ki 25:27; Jer 52:31 [z]ver 13 **40:22** [a]S ver 19 [b]Ge 41:13; Ps 105:19 **40:23** [c]S ver 14; S Ecc 1:11 **41:1** [d]S Ge 20:3 [e]ver 17; S Ge 2:14; Ex 1:22; 2:5; 7:15 **41:2** [f]ver 26; Jer 5:28 [g]ver 18; Ex 2:3; Job 40:21; Isa 19:6 **41:4** [h]ver 7 **41:5** [i]Jos 13:3; 2Ki 4:42; 1Ch 13:5; Isa 23:3; Jer 2:18 **41:6** [j]Ex 10:13; 14:21; Job 6:26; 11:2; 15:2; Ps 11:6; 48:7; Isa 11:15; 27:8; Jer 4:11; 18:17; Eze 19:12; 27:26; Hos 12:1; 13:15; Jnh 4:8 **41:7** [k]ver 4 **41:8** [l]Job 7:14; Da 2:1,3; 4:5,19 [m]Ex 7:11,22; Da 1:20; 2:2,27; 4:7; 5:7 [n]ver 24; S Ge 40:8; Da 4:18 **41:9** [o]S Ge 40:14 **41:10** [p]S Ge 40:2 [q]S Ge 37:36; S 39:20 **41:11** [r]Ge 40:5 **41:12** [s]S Ge 14:13; 39:17 [t]S Ge 37:36; 40:4 [u]S Ge 40:12 **41:13** [v]S Ge 40:22 **41:14** [w]Ps 105:20 [x]Isa 18:2,7 [y]S Ge 35:2; 45:22; Ru 3:3;

ond dream: Seven heads of grain,[i]
healthy and good, were growing on a
single stalk. 6After them, seven other
heads of grain sprouted—thin and
scorched by the east wind.[j] 7The thin
heads of grain swallowed up the seven
healthy, full heads. Then Pharaoh
woke up;[k] it had been a dream.
8In the morning his mind was trou-
bled,[l] so he sent for all the magicians[m]
and wise men of Egypt. Pharaoh told
them his dreams, but no one could in-
terpret them for him.[n]
9Then the chief cupbearer said to
Pharaoh, "Today I am reminded of my
shortcomings.[o] 10Pharaoh was once
angry with his servants,[p] and he im-
prisoned me and the chief baker in the
house of the captain of the guard.[q]
11Each of us had a dream the same
night, and each dream had a meaning
of its own.[r] 12Now a young Hebrew[s]
was there with us, a servant of the cap-
tain of the guard.[t] We told him our
dreams, and he interpreted them for
us, giving each man the interpretation
of his dream.[u] 13And things turned out
exactly as he interpreted them to us: I
was restored to my position, and the
other man was hanged.[i][v]"
14So Pharaoh sent for Joseph, and he
was quickly brought from the dun-
geon.[w] When he had shaved[x] and
changed his clothes,[y] he came before
Pharaoh.
15Pharaoh said to Joseph, "I had a
dream, and no one can interpret it.[z]
But I have heard it said of you that
when you hear a dream you can inter-
pret it."[a]
16"I cannot do it," Joseph replied to
Pharaoh, "but God will give Pharaoh
the answer he desires."[b]
17Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, "In
my dream I was standing on the bank
of the Nile,[c] 18when out of the river
there came up seven cows, fat and
sleek, and they grazed among the
reeds.[d] 19After them, seven other cows
came up—scrawny and very ugly and
lean. I had never seen such ugly cows
in all the land of Egypt. 20The lean,
ugly cows ate up the seven fat cows
that came up first. 21But even after they
ate them, no one could tell that they
had done so; they looked just as ugly
as before. Then I woke up.
22"In my dreams I also saw seven

2Sa 12:20 **41:15** [z]S Ge 40:8 [a]S Ge 40:12; Da 4:18; 5:16 **41:16** [b]S Ge 40:8 **41:17** [c]S ver 1 **41:18** [d]S ver 2

[g]16 *Or three wicker baskets* [h]19 *Or and impale you on a pole* [i]22,13 *Or impaled*

heads of grain, full and good, growing
on a single stalk. 23After them, seven
other heads sprouted—withered and
thin and scorched by the east wind.
24The thin heads of grain swallowed up
the seven good heads. I told this to the
magicians, but none could explain it to
me.[a]"
25Then Joseph said to Pharaoh, "The
dreams of Pharaoh are one and the
same.[b] God has revealed to Pharaoh
what he is about to do.[c] 26The seven
good cows[d] are seven years, and the
seven good heads of grain are seven
years; it is one and the same dream.
27The seven lean, ugly cows that came
up afterward are seven years, and so
are the seven worthless heads of grain
scorched by the east wind: They are
seven years of famine.[e]
28"It is just as I said to Pharaoh: God
has shown Pharaoh what he is about to
do.[f] 29Seven years of great abun-
dance[g] are coming throughout the
land of Egypt, 30but seven years of fam-
ine[h] will follow them. Then all the
abundance in Egypt will be forgotten,
and the famine will ravage the land.[i]
31The abundance in the land will not be
remembered, because the famine that
follows it will be so severe. 32The rea-
son the dream was given to Pharaoh in
two forms is that the matter has been
firmly decided[j] by God, and God will
do it soon.[k]
33"And now let Pharaoh look for a
discerning and wise man[l] and put him
in charge of the land of Egypt.[m] 34Let
Pharaoh appoint commissioners[n] over
the land to take a fifth[o] of the harvest
of Egypt during the seven years of
abundance.[p] 35They should collect all
the food of these good years that are
coming and store up the grain under
the authority of Pharaoh, to be kept in
the cities for food.[q] 36This food should
be held in reserve for the country, to be
used during the seven years of famine
that will come upon Egypt,[r] so that the
country may not be ruined by the fam-
ine."
37The plan seemed good to Pharaoh
and to all his officials.[s] 38So Pharaoh
asked them, "Can we find anyone like
this man, one in whom is the spirit of
God[j]?"[t]
39Then Pharaoh said to Joseph,
"Since God has made all this known to
you,[u] there is no one so discerning and
wise as you.[v] 40You shall be in charge
of my palace,[w] and all my people are to
submit to your orders.[x] Only with re-
spect to the throne will I be greater
than you.[y]"

Joseph in Charge of Egypt

41So Pharaoh said to Joseph, "I here-
by put you in charge of the whole land
of Egypt."[z] 42Then Pharaoh took his
signet ring[a] from his finger and put it
on Joseph's finger. He dressed him in
robes[b] of fine linen[c] and put a gold
chain around his neck.[d] 43He had him
ride in a chariot[e] as his second-in-com-
mand,[k][f] and men shouted before him,
"Make way[l]!"[g] Thus he put him in
charge of the whole land of Egypt.[h]
44Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, "I am
Pharaoh, but without your word no
one will lift hand or foot in all Egypt."[i]
45Pharaoh gave Joseph[j] the name
Zaphenath-Paneah and gave him
Asenath daughter of Potiphera, priest[k]
of On,[m][l] to be his wife.[m] And Joseph
went throughout the land of Egypt.
46Joseph was thirty years old[n] when
he entered the service[o] of Pharaoh
king of Egypt. And Joseph went out
from Pharaoh's presence and traveled
throughout Egypt. 47During the seven
years of abundance[p] the land pro-
duced plentifully. 48Joseph collected all
the food produced in those seven years
of abundance in Egypt and stored it in
the cities.[q] In each city he put the food
grown in the fields surrounding it. 49Jo-
seph stored up huge quantities of
grain, like the sand of the sea;[r] it was
so much that he stopped keeping
records because it was beyond mea-
sure.
50Before the years of famine came,
two sons were born to Joseph by
Asenath daughter of Potiphera, priest
of On.[s] 51Joseph named his firstborn[t]
Manasseh[n][u] and said, "It is because
God has made me forget all my trouble
and all my father's household." 52The
second son he named Ephraim[o][v] and
said, "It is because God has made me
fruitful[w] in the land of my suffering."
53The seven years of abundance in
Egypt came to an end, 54and the seven
years of famine[x] began,[y] just as Joseph
had said. There was famine in all the
other lands, but in the whole land of
Egypt there was food. 55When all Egypt

41:24 aS ver 8
41:25 bS Ge 40:12 cS Ge 40:8; Isa 46:11; Da 2:45
41:26 dS ver 2
41:27 eS Ge 12:10
41:28 fS Ge 40:8
41:29 gver 47
41:30 hver 54; Ge 45:6,11; 47:13; Ps 105:16 iver 56; S Ge 12:10
41:32 jDa 2:5 kS Ge 40:8
41:33 lver 39 mS Ge 39:9
41:34 nEst 2:3 oGe 47:24,26; 1Sa 8:15 pver 48; Ge 47:14
41:35 qver 48
41:36 rver 56; Ge 42:6; 47:14
41:37 sGe 45:16; Est 2:4; Isa 19:11
41:38 tNu 27:18; Dt 34:9; Da 2:11; 4:8,8-9,18; 5:11,14
41:39 uDa 2:11; 5:11 vver 33
41:40 wS 1Ki 4:6; 2Ki 15:5; Isa 22:15; 36:3 xS Ge 39:9; Ps 105:21-22; Ac 7:10 yEst 10:3
41:41 zver 43, 55; Ge 42:6; 45:8,13,26; Est 8:2; Jer 40:7; Da 6:3
41:42 aS Ge 24:22; Est 3:10; 8:2,8 b1Sa 17:38; 18:4; 1Ki 19:19; Est 6:8,11; Da 5:29; Zec 3:4 cEx 25:4; Est 8:15; Da 5:29 dPs 73:6; SS 4:9; Isa 3:18; Eze 16:11; Da 5:7,16,29
41:43 eGe 46:29; 50:9; Isa 2:7; 22:18 fEst 10:3 gEst 6:9 hS ver 41
41:44 iS Ge 37:8; Est 10:2; Ps 105:22
41:45 jEst 2:7 kEx 2:16 lEze 30:17 mver 50; Ge 46:20,27
41:46 nS Ge 37:2 o1Sa 8:11; 16:21; Pr 22:29; Da 1:19
41:47 pver 29
41:48 qS ver 34
41:49 rS Ge 12:2
41:50 sS ver 45
41:51 tGe 48:14,18,20; 49:3 uGe 46:20; 48:1; 50:23; Nu 1:34; Dt 33:17; Jos 4:12; 17:1; 1Ch 7:14
41:52 vGe 46:20; 48:1,5; 50:23; Nu 1:32; 26:28; Dt 33:17; Jos 14:4; Jdg 5:14; 1Ch 7:20; 2Ch 30:1; Ps 60:7; Jer 7:15; Ob 1:19 wS Ge 17:6 **41:54** xS Ge 12:10 yAc 7:11

j38 Or *of the gods* k43 Or *in the chariot of his second-in-command;* or *in his second chariot* l43 Or *Bow down* m45 That is, Heliopolis; also in verse 50
n51 *Manasseh* sounds like and may be derived from the Hebrew for *forget.* o52 *Ephraim* sounds like the Hebrew for *twice fruitful.*

began to feel the famine,[a] the people
cried to Pharaoh for food. Then Phar-
aoh told all the Egyptians, "Go to Jo-
seph and do what he tells you."[b]
56When the famine had spread over
the whole country, Joseph opened the
storehouses and sold grain to the Egyp-
tians,[c] for the famine[d] was severe
throughout Egypt.[e] 57And all the coun-
tries came to Egypt to buy grain from
Joseph,[f] because the famine was
severe in all the world.[g]

Joseph's Brothers Go to Egypt

42 When Jacob learned that there
was grain in Egypt,[h] he said to
his sons, "Why do you just keep look-
ing at each other?" 2He continued, "I
have heard that there is grain in Egypt.
Go down there and buy some for us,[i]
so that we may live and not die."[j]
3Then ten of Joseph's brothers went
down to buy grain[k] from Egypt. 4But
Jacob did not send Benjamin,[l] Joseph's
brother, with the others, because he
was afraid that harm might come to
him.[m] 5So Israel's sons were among
those who went to buy grain,[n] for the
famine was in the land of Canaan[o]
also.[p]
6Now Joseph was the governor of the
land,[q] the one who sold grain to all its
people.[r] So when Joseph's brothers ar-
rived, they bowed down to him with
their faces to the ground.[s] 7As soon as
Joseph saw his brothers, he recognized
them, but he pretended to be a
stranger and spoke harshly to them.[t]
"Where do you come from?"[u] he
asked.
"From the land of Canaan," they re-
plied, "to buy food."
8Although Joseph recognized his
brothers, they did not recognize him.[v]
9Then he remembered his dreams[w]
about them and said to them, "You are
spies![x] You have come to see where
our land is unprotected."[y]
10"No, my lord,[z]" they answered.
"Your servants have come to buy
food.[a] 11We are all the sons of one
man. Your servants[b] are honest men,[c]
not spies.[d]"
12"No!" he said to them. "You have
come to see where our land is unpro-
tected."[e]
13But they replied, "Your servants[f]
were twelve brothers, the sons of one
man, who lives in the land of Canaan.[g]
The youngest is now with our father,
and one is no more."[h]
14Joseph said to them, "It is just as I
told you: You are spies![i] 15And this is
how you will be tested: As surely as
Pharaoh lives,[j] you will not leave this
place unless your youngest brother
comes here.[k] 16Send one of your num-
ber to get your brother;[l] the rest of you
will be kept in prison,[m] so that your
words may be tested to see if you are
telling the truth.[n] If you are not, then
as surely as Pharaoh lives, you are
spies![o]" 17And he put them all in custo-
dy[p] for three days.
18On the third day, Joseph said to
them, "Do this and you will live, for I
fear God:[q] 19If you are honest men,[r]
let one of your brothers stay here in
prison,[s] while the rest of you go and
take grain back for your starving
households.[t] 20But you must bring
your youngest brother to me,[u] so that
your words may be verified and that
you may not die." This they proceeded
to do.
21They said to one another, "Surely
we are being punished because of our
brother.[v] We saw how distressed he
was when he pleaded with us for his
life, but we would not listen; that's
why this distress[w] has come upon us."
22Reuben replied, "Didn't I tell you
not to sin against the boy?[x] But you
wouldn't listen! Now we must give an
accounting[y] for his blood."[z] 23They
did not realize[a] that Joseph could un-
derstand them,[b] since he was using an
interpreter.
24He turned away from them and be-
gan to weep,[c] but then turned back
and spoke to them again. He had Sim-
eon taken from them and bound before
their eyes.[d]
25Joseph gave orders to fill their bags
with grain,[e] to put each man's silver
back in his sack,[f] and to give them
provisions[g] for their journey.[h] After
this was done for them, 26they loaded
their grain on their donkeys[i] and left.
27At the place where they stopped for
the night one of them opened his sack
to get feed for his donkey,[j] and he saw
his silver in the mouth of his sack.[k]
28"My silver has been returned," he
said to his brothers. "Here it is in my
sack."
Their hearts sank[l] and they turned
to each other trembling[m] and said,
"What is this that God has done to
us?"[n]
29When they came to their father
Jacob in the land of Canaan,[o] they told

41:55 [a]Dt 32:24; 2Ch 20:9; Isa 51:19; Jer 5:12; 27:8; 42:16; 44:27 [b]S ver 41; Jn 2:5 **41:56** [c]S ver 36 [d]S Ge 12:10 [e]S ver 30 **41:57** [f]Ge 42:5; 47:15 [g]S Ge 12:10 **42:1** [h]Ac 7:12 **42:2** [i]Ge 43:2,4; 44:25 [j]ver 19,33; Ge 43:8; 47:19; Ps 33:18-19 **42:3** [k]ver 10; Ge 43:20 **42:4** [l]S Ge 35:18 [m]ver 38 **42:5** [n]S Ge 41:57 [o]ver 13,29; Ge 31:18; 45:17 [p]S Ge 12:10; S Dt 32:24; Ac 7:11 **42:6** [q]S Ge 41:41; S Ne 5:14 [r]S Ge 41:36 [s]S Ge 33:3 **42:7** [t]ver 30 [u]S Ge 29:4 **42:8** [v]Ge 37:2 **42:9** [w]S Ge 37:7 [x]ver 14,16,30; Dt 1:22; Jos 2:1; 6:22 [y]ver 12 **42:10** [z]S Ge 37:8 [a]S ver 3 **42:11** [b]ver 13; Ge 44:7,9,16,19, 21,31; 46:34; 47:3 [c]ver 15,16, 19,20,34 [d]ver 31 **42:12** [e]ver 9 **42:13** [f]S ver 11 [g]S ver 5; Ge 46:31; 47:1 [h]ver 24,32,36; S Ge 37:33; 43:7, 29,33; 44:8; Jer 31:15 **42:14** [i]S ver 9 **42:15** [j]1Sa 17:55 [k]S ver 11; Ge 43:3,5,7; 44:21,23 **42:16** [l]ver 15 [m]ver 19 [n]S ver 11 [o]S ver 9 **42:17** [p]S Ge 40:4 **42:18** [q]S Ge 20:11; S 22:12; Lev 19:14; 25:43; 2Sa 23:3 **42:19** [r]S ver 11 [s]ver 16 [t]S ver 2 **42:20** [u]S ver 15 **42:21** [v]Ge 37:26-28 [w]Ge 45:5 **42:22** [x]Ge 37:21-22 [y]S Ge 9:5 [z]Ge 45:24 **42:23** [a]Ge 38:16 [b]S Ge 11:7 **42:24** [c]S Ge 29:11 [d]S ver 13; Ge 43:14,23 **42:25** [e]Ge 43:2 [f]ver 27,35; Ge 43:12,18,21; 44:1,8 [g]Jer 40:5 [h]Ge 45:21,23 **42:26** [i]S Ge 32:15; 44:13; 45:17; 1Sa 25:18; Isa 30:6

42:27 [j]Jdg 19:19; Job 39:9; Isa 1:3 [k]S ver 25 **42:28** [l]Jos 2:11; 5:1; 7:5 [m]Mk 5:33 [n]Ge 43:23 **42:29** [o]S ver 5

him all that had happened to them.
They said, 30"The man who is lord over
the land spoke harshly to us and
treated us as though we were spying
on the land. 31But we said to him, 'We
are honest men; we are not spies.
32We were twelve brothers, sons of one
father. One is no more, and the youn-
gest is now with our father in Ca-
naan.'
33"Then the man who is lord over the
land said to us, 'This is how I will know
whether you are honest men: Leave
one of your brothers here with me, and
take food for your starving households
and go. 34But bring your youngest
brother to me so I will know that you
are not spies but honest men. Then I
will give your brother back to you,
and you can trade in the land.'"
35As they were emptying their sacks,
there in each man's sack was his pouch
of silver! When they and their father
saw the money pouches, they were
frightened. 36Their father Jacob said to
them, "You have deprived me of my
children. Joseph is no more and Sim-
eon is no more, and now you want to
take Benjamin. Everything is against
me!"
37Then Reuben said to his father,
"You may put both of my sons to death
if I do not bring him back to you. En-
trust him to my care, and I will bring
him back."
38But Jacob said, "My son will not go
down there with you; his brother is
dead and he is the only one left. If
harm comes to him on the journey
you are taking, you will bring my gray
head down to the grave in sor-
row."

The Second Journey to Egypt

43 Now the famine was still severe
in the land. 2So when they had
eaten all the grain they had brought
from Egypt, their father said to them,
"Go back and buy us a little more
food."
3But Judah said to him, "The man
warned us solemnly, 'You will not see
my face again unless your brother is
with you.' 4If you will send our broth-
er along with us, we will go down and
buy food for you. 5But if you will not
send him, we will not go down, be-
cause the man said to us, 'You will not
see my face again unless your brother
is with you.'"
6Israel asked, "Why did you bring
this trouble on me by telling the man
you had another brother?"
7They replied, "The man questioned
us closely about ourselves and our
family. 'Is your father still living?' he
asked us. 'Do you have another broth-
er?' We simply answered his ques-
tions. How were we to know he would
say, 'Bring your brother down here'?"
8Then Judah said to Israel his fa-
ther, "Send the boy along with me and
we will go at once, so that we and you
and our children may live and not
die. 9I myself will guarantee his
safety; you can hold me personally re-
sponsible for him. If I do not bring
him back to you and set him here be-
fore you, I will bear the blame before
you all my life. 10As it is, if we had not
delayed, we could have gone and re-
turned twice."
11Then their father Israel said to
them, "If it must be, then do this: Put
some of the best products of the land
in your bags and take them down to
the man as a gift—a little balm and a
little honey, some spices and myrrh,
some pistachio nuts and almonds.
12Take double the amount of silver
with you, for you must return the sil-
ver that was put back into the mouths
of your sacks. Perhaps it was a mis-
take. 13Take your brother also and go
back to the man at once. 14And may
God Almighty grant you mercy be-
fore the man so that he will let your
other brother and Benjamin come back
with you. As for me, if I am bereaved,
I am bereaved."
15So the men took the gifts and dou-
ble the amount of silver, and Benja-
min also. They hurried down to Egypt
and presented themselves to Joseph.
16When Joseph saw Benjamin with
them, he said to the steward of his
house, "Take these men to my house,
slaughter an animal and prepare din-
ner; they are to eat with me at
noon."
17The man did as Joseph told him
and took the men to Joseph's house.
18Now the men were frightened when
they were taken to his house. They
thought, "We were brought here be-
cause of the silver that was put back
into our sacks the first time. He wants
to attack us and overpower us and
seize us as slaves and take our don-
keys."

42:29 [illegible] 42:30 [illegible] 42:31 ver 11 42:32 [illegible] 42:33 [illegible] 42:34 [illegible] 42:35 S ver 25 42:36 S ver 13 42:37 [illegible] 42:38 [illegible] 43:1 S Ge 12:10 43:2 S Ge 42:25 S Ge 42:2 43:3 ver 8; Ge 44:14,18 43:4 S Ge 42:2 43:5 S Ge 42:15; 44:26; 2Sa 3:13 43:6 ver 8,11; S Ge 17:5 S Ge 34:30 43:7 ver 27; Ge 45:3 S Ge 42:13; 44:19 S Ge 42:15 43:8 S ver 3 S Ge 29:35 S ver 6 S Ge 42:2; Ps 33:18-19 43:9 1Sa 23:20 Ge 44:10,17 S Ge 42:37; Phm 1:18-19 43:10 Ge 45:9 43:11 S ver 6 S Ge 24:10 S Ge 32:13 S Ge 37:25; Eze 27:17 Ex 30:23; 1Ki 10:2; Eze 27:22 S Ge 37:25 43:12 ver 15; Ex 22:4,7; Pr 6:31 S Ge 42:25 43:13 ver 3 43:14 S Ge 17:1 Dt 13:17; Ps 25:6 S Ge 42:24 2Sa 18:33; Est 4:16 43:15 ver 12 Ge 45:9,13 Ge 47:2,7; Mt 2:11 43:16 S Ge 35:18 ver 17,24,26; Ge 44:1,4,12; 2Sa 19:17; Isa 22:15 ver 31; Lk 15:23 43:17 S ver 16 43:18 Ge 42:35 Ge 44:14 S Ge 42:28 S Ge 32:11 Ge 44:9,16,33; 50:18 Ge 34:28

34 Or move about freely 38 Hebrew Sheol
14 Hebrew El-Shaddai

19So they went up to Joseph's stew-
ard[a] and spoke to him at the entrance
to the house. 20"Please, sir," they said,
"we came down here the first time to
buy food.[b] 21But at the place where we
stopped for the night we opened our
sacks and each of us found his silver—
the exact weight—in the mouth of his
sack. So we have brought it back with
us.[c] 22We have also brought additional
silver with us to buy food. We don't
know who put our silver in our sacks."
23"It's all right," he said. "Don't be
afraid. Your God, the God of your fa-
ther,[d] has given you treasure in your
sacks;[e] I received your silver." Then he
brought Simeon out to them.[f]
24The steward took the men into Jo-
seph's house,[g] gave them water to
wash their feet[h] and provided fodder
for their donkeys. 25They prepared
their gifts[i] for Joseph's arrival at
noon,[j] because they had heard that
they were to eat there.
26When Joseph came home,[k] they
presented to him the gifts[l] they had
brought into the house, and they
bowed down before him to the
ground.[m] 27He asked them how they
were, and then he said, "How is your
aged father[n] you told me about? Is he
still living?"[o]
28They replied, "Your servant our fa-
ther[p] is still alive and well." And they
bowed low[q] to pay him honor.[r]
29As he looked about and saw his
brother Benjamin, his own mother's
son,[s] he asked, "Is this your youngest
brother, the one you told me about?"[t]
And he said, "God be gracious to
you,[u] my son." 30Deeply moved[v] at
the sight of his brother, Joseph hurried
out and looked for a place to weep. He
went into his private room and wept[w]
there.
31After he had washed his face, he
came out and, controlling himself,[x]
said, "Serve the food."[y]
32They served him by himself, the
brothers by themselves, and the Egyp-
tians who ate with him by themselves,
because Egyptians could not eat with
Hebrews,[z] for that is detestable to
Egyptians.[a] 33The men had been seat-
ed before him in the order of their ages,
from the firstborn[b] to the youngest;[c]
and they looked at each other in aston-
ishment. 34When portions were served
to them from Joseph's table, Benja-
min's portion was five times as much
as anyone else's.[d] So they feasted[e] and
drank freely with him.

43:19 [a]ver 16
43:20 [b]S Ge 42:3
43:21 [c]S ver 15; S Ge 42:25
43:23 [d]S Ge 24:12; S 31:5; Ex 3:6 [e]Ge 42:28 [f]S Ge 42:24
43:24 [g]S ver 16 [h]S Ge 18:4
43:25 [i]S Ge 32:13 [j]ver 16
43:26 [k]S ver 16 [l]S Ge 32:13; Mt 2:11 [m]S Ge 33:3
43:27 [n]S Ge 37:3 [o]S ver 7
43:28 [p]Ge 44:24,27,30 [q]Ge 18:2; Ex 18:7 [r]S Ge 37:7
43:29 [s]S Ge 35:18 [t]S Ge 42:13 [u]Nu 6:25; Ps 67:1; 119:58; Isa 30:18-19; 33:2
43:30 [v]Jn 11:33, 38 [w]S Ge 29:11
43:31 [x]Ge 45:1; Isa 30:18; 42:14; 63:15; 64:12 [y]S ver 16
43:32 [z]S Ge 14:13; Gal 2:12 [a]Ge 46:34; Ex 8:26
43:33 [b]S Ge 35:23 [c]S Ge 42:13; 44:12
43:34 [d]S Ge 37:3; S 2Ki 25:30 [e]Lk 15:23

44:1 [f]S Ge 43:16 [g]S Ge 42:25
44:2 [h]ver 5,10, 12,16 [i]ver 8
44:3 [j]Jdg 19:9
44:4 [k]S Ge 43:16 [l]Ps 35:12; 38:20; 109:5; Pr 17:13; Jer 18:20
44:5 [m]S ver 2 [n]S Ge 30:27; Dt 18:10-14
44:7 [o]S Ge 42:11 [p]S Ge 18:25
44:8 [q]S Ge 42:13 [r]ver 2 [s]S Ge 42:25; S 43:15 [t]Ge 31:30
44:9 [u]S Ge 42:11 [v]Ge 31:32 [w]S ver 10; S Ge 43:18
44:10 [x]S ver 2 [y]ver 9,17,33 [z]S Ge 43:9
44:12 [a]S Ge 43:16 [b]S Ge 31:34 [c]S Ge 43:33 [d]ver 2
44:13 [e]S Ge 37:29 [f]S Ge 42:26
44:14 [g]Ge 43:18 [h]ver 16; S Ge 29:35; S 43:3 [i]S Ge 33:3
44:15 [j]S Ge 12:18 [k]S Ge 30:27
44:16 [l]ver 22, 24; S Ge 37:8

A Silver Cup in a Sack

44 Now Joseph gave these instruc-
tions to the steward of his
house:[f] "Fill the men's sacks with as
much food as they can carry, and put
each man's silver in the mouth of his
sack.[g] 2Then put my cup,[h] the silver
one,[i] in the mouth of the youngest
one's sack, along with the silver for his
grain." And he did as Joseph said.
3As morning dawned, the men were
sent on their way with their donkeys.[j]
4They had not gone far from the city
when Joseph said to his steward,[k] "Go
after those men at once, and when you
catch up with them, say to them, 'Why
have you repaid good with evil?[l] 5Isn't
this the cup[m] my master drinks from
and also uses for divination?[n] This is a
wicked thing you have done.'"
6When he caught up with them, he
repeated these words to them. 7But
they said to him, "Why does my lord
say such things? Far be it from your
servants[o] to do anything like that![p]
8We even brought back to you from the
land of Canaan[q] the silver[r] we found
inside the mouths of our sacks.[s] So
why would we steal[t] silver or gold
from your master's house? 9If any of
your servants[u] is found to have it, he
will die;[v] and the rest of us will become
my lord's slaves.[w]"
10"Very well, then," he said, "let it
be as you say. Whoever is found to
have it[x] will become my slave;[y] the
rest of you will be free from blame."[z]
11Each of them quickly lowered his
sack to the ground and opened it.
12Then the steward[a] proceeded to
search,[b] beginning with the oldest and
ending with the youngest.[c] And the
cup was found in Benjamin's sack.[d]
13At this, they tore their clothes.[e] Then
they all loaded their donkeys[f] and re-
turned to the city.
14Joseph was still in the house[g] when
Judah[h] and his brothers came in, and
they threw themselves to the ground
before him.[i] 15Joseph said to them,
"What is this you have done?[j] Don't
you know that a man like me can find
things out by divination?[k]"
16"What can we say to my lord?[l]"
Judah[m] replied. "What can we say?
How can we prove our innocence?[n]
God has uncovered your servants'[o]
guilt. We are now my lord's
slaves[p]—we ourselves and the one
who was found to have the cup.[q]"

[m]S ver 14 [n]Ps 26:6; 73:13 [o]S Ge 42:11 [p]S Ge 43:18 [q]S ver 2

17But Joseph said, "Far be it from me
to do such a thing! Only the man who
was found to have the cup will become
my slave. The rest of you, go back to
your father in peace."
18Then Judah went up to him and
said: "Please, my lord, let your ser-
vant speak a word to my lord. Do not
be angry with your servant, though
you are equal to Pharaoh himself. 19My
lord asked his servants, 'Do you have
a father or a brother?' 20And we an-
swered, 'We have an aged father, and
there is a young son born to him in his
old age. His brother is dead, and he
is the only one of his mother's sons
left, and his father loves him.'
21"Then you said to your servants,
'Bring him down to me so I can see him
for myself.' 22And we said to my
lord, 'The boy cannot leave his father;
if he leaves him, his father will die.'
23But you told your servants, 'Unless
your youngest brother comes down
with you, you will not see my face
again.' 24When we went back to your
servant my father, we told him what
my lord had said.
25"Then our father said, 'Go back and
buy a little more food.' 26But we said,
'We cannot go down. Only if our youn-
gest brother is with us will we go. We
cannot see the man's face unless our
youngest brother is with us.'
27"Your servant my father said to
us, 'You know that my wife bore me
two sons. 28One of them went away
from me, and I said, "He has surely
been torn to pieces." And I have not
seen him since. 29If you take this one
from me too and harm comes to him,
you will bring my gray head down to
the grave[a][z] in misery.'[a]
30"So now, if the boy is not with us
when I go back to your servant my fa-
ther[b] and if my father, whose life is
closely bound up with the boy's life,[c]
31sees that the boy isn't there, he will
die.[d] Your servants[e] will bring the
gray head of our father down to the
grave[f] in sorrow. 32Your servant guar-
anteed the boy's safety to my father. I
said, 'If I do not bring him back to you,
I will bear the blame before you, my
father, all my life!'[g]
33"Now then, please let your servant
remain here as my lord's slave[h] in
place of the boy,[i] and let the boy re-
turn with his brothers. 34How can I go
back to my father if the boy is not with
me? No! Do not let me see the misery[j]
that would come upon my father."[k]

Joseph Makes Himself Known

45 Then Joseph could no longer
control himself[l] before all his at-
tendants, and he cried out, "Have
everyone leave my presence!"[m] So
there was no one with Joseph when he
made himself known to his brothers.
2And he wept[n] so loudly that the
Egyptians heard him, and Pharaoh's
household heard about it.[o]
3Joseph said to his brothers, "I am
Joseph! Is my father still living?"[p] But
his brothers were not able to answer
him,[q] because they were terrified at his
presence.[r]
4Then Joseph said to his brothers,
"Come close to me."[s] When they had
done so, he said, "I am your brother
Joseph, the one you sold into Egypt![t]
5And now, do not be distressed[u] and
do not be angry with yourselves for
selling me here,[v] because it was to
save lives that God sent me ahead of
you.[w] 6For two years now there has
been famine[x] in the land, and for the
next five years there will not be plow-
ing and reaping. 7But God sent me
ahead of you to preserve for you a rem-
nant[y] on earth and to save your lives
by a great deliverance.[z][b]
8"So then, it was not you who sent
me here, but God.[a] He made me fa-
ther[b] to Pharaoh, lord of his entire
household and ruler of all Egypt.[c]
9Now hurry[d] back to my father and say
to him, 'This is what your son Joseph
says: God has made me lord of all
Egypt. Come down to me; don't
delay.[e] 10You shall live in the region of
Goshen[f] and be near me—you, your
children and grandchildren, your
flocks and herds, and all you have.[g] 11I
will provide for you there,[h] because
five years of famine[i] are still to come.
Otherwise you and your household
and all who belong to you will become
destitute.'[j]
12"You can see for yourselves, and so
can my brother Benjamin,[k] that it is
really I who am speaking to you.[l]
13Tell my father about all the honor ac-
corded me in Egypt[m] and about every-
thing you have seen. And bring my fa-
ther down here quickly."[n]
14Then he threw his arms around his
brother Benjamin and wept, and Benja-

44:17 [illegible]
44:18 [illegible]
44:19 [illegible]
44:20 [illegible]
44:21 [illegible]
44:22 [illegible] ver 18 [illegible]
44:23 [illegible]
44:24 [illegible]
44:25 [illegible] Ge 43:2
44:26 S Ge 43:5
44:27 S Ge 43:28 Ge 46:19
44:28 S Ge 37:33 Ge 45:26,28; 46:30; 48:11
44:29 z S Ge 37:35 a S Ge 42:38
44:30 b S Ge 43:28 c 1Sa 18:1; 2Sa 1:26
44:31 d S ver 22 e S Ge 42:11 f S Ge 37:35
44:32 g S Ge 42:37
44:33 h S ver 10; S Ge 43:18 i Jn 15:13
44:34 j S Ge 42:38 k Est 8:6
45:1 l S Ge 43:31 m 2Sa 13:9
45:2 n S Ge 29:11 o ver 16; Ac 7:13
45:3 p S Ge 43:7 q ver 15 r Ge 44:20; Job 21:6; 23:15; Mt 17:6; Mk 6:49-50
45:4 s Ge 27:21-22 t Ge 37:28
45:5 u Ge 42:21 v Ge 42:22 w ver 7-8; Ge 50:20; Job 10:12; Ps 105:17
45:6 x S Ge 41:30
45:7 y 2Ki 19:4, 30,31; Ezr 9:8, 13; Isa 1:9; 10:20,21; 11:11, 16; 46:3; Jer 6:9; 42:2; 50:20; Mic 4:7; 5:7; Zep 2:7 z S ver 5; Ge 49:18; Ex 15:2; 1Sa 14:45; 2Ki 13:5; Est 4:14; Isa 25:9; Mic 7:7
45:8 a ver 5 b Jdg 17:10; 2Ki 6:21; 13:14 c S Ge 41:41
45:9 d S Ge 43:15 e Ge 43:10; Ac 7:14 **45:10** f Ge 46:28,34; 47:1,11,27; 50:8; Ex 8:22; 9:26; 10:24 g Ge 46:6-7 **45:11** h Ge 47:12; 50:21 i S Ge 41:30 j Ps 102:17 **45:12** k S Ge 35:18 l Mk 6:50 **45:13** m S Ge 41:41 n S Ge 43:15; Ac 7:14

a29 Hebrew *Sheol;* also in verse 31   b7 Or *save you as a great band of survivors*

min[a] embraced him,[b] weeping. 15And
he kissed[c] all his brothers and wept
over them.[d] Afterward his brothers
talked with him.[e]

16When the news reached Pharaoh's
palace that Joseph's brothers had
come,[f] Pharaoh and all his officials[g]
were pleased.[h] 17Pharaoh said to Jo-
seph, "Tell your brothers, 'Do this:
Load your animals[i] and return to the
land of Canaan,[j] 18and bring your fa-
ther and your families back to me. I will
give you the best of the land of Egypt[k]
and you can enjoy the fat of the land.'[l]

19"You are also directed to tell them,
'Do this: Take some carts[m] from Egypt
for your children and your wives, and
get your father and come. 20Never
mind about your belongings,[n] because
the best of all Egypt[o] will be yours.'"

21So the sons of Israel did this. Jo-
seph gave them carts,[p] as Pharaoh had
commanded, and he also gave them
provisions for their journey.[q] 22To each
of them he gave new clothing,[r] but to
Benjamin he gave three hundred
shekels[u] of silver and five sets of
clothes.[s] 23And this is what he sent to
his father: ten donkeys[t] loaded with
the best things[u] of Egypt, and ten
female donkeys loaded with grain and
bread and other provisions for his jour-
ney.[v] 24Then he sent his brothers
away, and as they were leaving he said
to them, "Don't quarrel on the way!"[w]

25So they went up out of Egypt[x] and
came to their father Jacob in the land of
Canaan.[y] 26They told him, "Joseph is
still alive! In fact, he is ruler of all
Egypt."[z] Jacob was stunned; he did
not believe them.[a] 27But when they
told him everything Joseph had said to
them, and when he saw the carts[b] Jo-
seph had sent to carry him back, the
spirit of their father Jacob revived.
28And Israel said, "I'm convinced![c] My
son Joseph is still alive. I will go and
see him before I die."[d]

Jacob Goes to Egypt

46 So Israel[e] set out with all that
was his, and when he reached
Beersheba,[f] he offered sacrifices[g] to
the God of his father Isaac.[h]

2And God spoke to Israel[i] in a vision
at night[j] and said, "Jacob! Jacob!"

"Here I am,"[k] he replied.

3"I am God, the God of your fa-
ther,"[l] he said. "Do not be afraid[m] to
go down to Egypt,[n] for I will make you
into a great nation[o] there.[p] 4I will go
down to Egypt with you, and I will
surely bring you back again.[q] And Jo-
seph's own hand will close your
eyes.[r]"

5Then Jacob left Beersheba,[s] and Is-
rael's[t] sons took their father Jacob and
their children and their wives in the
carts[u] that Pharaoh had sent to trans-
port him. 6They also took with them
their livestock and the possessions[v]
they had acquired[w] in Canaan, and
Jacob and all his offspring went to
Egypt.[x] 7He took with him to Egypt[y]
his sons and grandsons and his daugh-
ters and granddaughters—all his off-
spring.[z]

8These are the names of the sons of
Israel[a] (Jacob and his descendants)
who went to Egypt:

Reuben the firstborn[b] of Jacob.
9The sons of Reuben:[c]
Hanoch, Pallu,[d] Hezron and
Carmi.[e]
10The sons of Simeon:[f]
Jemuel,[g] Jamin, Ohad, Jakin,
Zohar[h] and Shaul the son of a
Canaanite woman.
11The sons of Levi:[i]
Gershon,[j] Kohath[k] and Me-
rari.[l]
12The sons of Judah:[m]
Er,[n] Onan,[o] Shelah, Perez[p] and
Zerah[q] (but Er and Onan had
died in the land of Canaan).[r]
The sons of Perez:[s]
Hezron and Hamul.[t]
13The sons of Issachar:[u]
Tola, Puah,[v v] Jashub[w w] and
Shimron.
14The sons of Zebulun:[x]
Sered, Elon and Jahleel.

15These were the sons Leah bore to
Jacob in Paddan Aram,[x y] besides his
daughter Dinah.[z] These sons and
daughters of his were thirty-three in
all.

16The sons of Gad:[a]
Zephon,[y b] Haggi, Shuni, Ez-
bon, Eri, Arodi and Areli.
17The sons of Asher:[c]

45:14 [a]S Ge 35:18 [b]S Ge 29:13 **45:15** [c]S Ge 29:11; Lk 15:20 [d]S Ge 29:11,13; S 46:4 [e]ver 3 **45:16** [f]S ver 2; Ac 7:13 [g]Ge 50:7 [h]S Ge 41:37 **45:17** [i]S Ge 42:26 [j]S Ge 42:5 **45:18** [k]ver 20; Ge 20:15; 46:34; 47:6,11,27; Jer 40:4 [l]Ezr 9:12; Ps 37:19; Isa 1:19 **45:19** [m]ver 21, 27; Ge 46:5; Nu 7:3-8 **45:20** [n]Ge 46:6, 32 [o]S ver 18 **45:21** [p]S ver 19 [q]S Ge 42:25 **45:22** [r]S Ge 24:53 [s]S Ge 37:3; S 41:14; Jdg 14:12,13; 2Ki 5:22 **45:23** [t]S Ge 42:26 [u]S Ge 24:10 [v]S Ge 42:25 **45:24** [w]Ge 42:21-22 **45:25** [x]Ge 13:1 [y]Ge 42:29 **45:26** [z]S Ge 41:41 [a]S Ge 44:28; 1Ki 10:7 **45:27** [b]S ver 19 **45:28** [c]Lk 16:31 [d]S Ge 44:28 **46:1** [e]ver 5 [f]S Ge 21:14 [g]S Ge 31:54 [h]S Ge 31:42 **46:2** [i]S Ge 17:5 [j]S Ge 15:1 [k]S Ge 22:1 **46:3** [l]S Ge 28:13 [m]S Ge 15:1 [n]Ge 26:2 [o]S Ge 12:2 [p]Ex 1:7 **46:4** [q]S Ge 15:16; S 28:13 [r]ver 29; Ge 45:14-15; 50:1 **46:5** [s]S Ge 21:14 [t]ver 1 [u]S Ge 45:19 **46:6** [v]S Ge 45:20 [w]S Ge 12:5 [x]Nu 20:15; Dt 26:5; Jos 24:4; 1Sa 12:8; Ps 105:23; Isa 52:4; Ac 7:15 **46:7** [y]Ge 13:10 [z]ver 6; Ge 45:10 **46:8** [a]S Ge 35:26; Ex 1:1; Nu 26:4 [b]S Ge 29:32 **46:9** [c]Ex 6:14; Nu 1:20; 26:7; 1Ch 5:3 [d]Nu 26:5; 1Ch 5:3 [e]Nu 26:6 **46:10** [f]S Ge 29:33; Nu 26:14 [g]Ex 6:15; Nu 26:12 [h]Nu 26:13 **46:11** [i]S Ge 29:34; S Nu 3:17 [j]Ex 6:16; Nu 3:21; 4:38 [k]Ex 6:16; Nu 3:27; 1Ch 23:12 [l]Ex 6:19; Nu 3:20,33; 4:29; 26:57; 1Ch 6:19 **46:12** [m]S Ge 29:35 [n]S Ge 38:3 [o]S Ge 38:4 [p]S Ge 38:29 [q]S Ge 38:30 [r]S Ge 38:7; Nu 26:19 [s]1Ch 2:5; Mt 1:3 [t]Nu 26:21 **46:13** [u]S Ge 30:18 [v]Nu 26:23; Jdg 10:1; 1Ch 7:1 [w]Nu 26:24 **46:14** [x]S Ge 30:20 **46:15** [y]S Ge 25:20; 29:31-35 [z]S Ge 30:21 **46:16** [a]S Ge 30:11; S Nu 1:25 [b]Nu 26:15 **46:17** [c]S Ge 30:13

[u]22 That is, about 7 1/2 pounds (about 3.5 kilograms)
[v]13 Samaritan Pentateuch and Syriac (see also 1 Chron. 7:1); Masoretic Text *Puvah* [w]13 Samaritan Pentateuch and some Septuagint manuscripts (see also Num. 26:24 and 1 Chron. 7:1); Masoretic Text *Iob*
[x]15 That is, Northwest Mesopotamia
[y]16 Samaritan Pentateuch and Septuagint (see also Num. 26:15); Masoretic Text *Ziphion*

Imnah, Ishvah, Ishvi and Be-
riah.
Their sister was Serah.
The sons of Beriah:
Heber and Malkiel.
18These were the children born to
Jacob by Zilpah,[a] whom Laban had
given to his daughter Leah[b]—sixteen
in all.

19The sons of Jacob's wife Rachel:[c]
Joseph and Benjamin.[d] 20In
Egypt, Manasseh[e] and Ephra-
im[f] were born to Joseph[g] by
Asenath daughter of Poti-
phera, priest of On.[xh]
21The sons of Benjamin:[i]
Bela, Beker, Ashbel, Gera, Naa-
man, Ehi, Rosh, Muppim, Hup-
pim and Ard.[j]
22These were the sons of Rachel[k]
who were born to Jacob—fourteen in
all.

23The son of Dan:[l]
Hushim.[m]
24The sons of Naphtali:[n]
Jahziel, Guni, Jezer and Shillem.
25These were the sons born to Jacob
by Bilhah,[o] whom Laban had given to
his daughter Rachel[p]—seven in all.

26All those who went to Egypt with
Jacob—those who were his direct de-
scendants, not counting his sons'
wives—numbered sixty-six persons.[q]
27With the two sons[a] who had been
born to Joseph in Egypt,[r] the members
of Jacob's family, which went to Egypt,
were seventy[b] in all.[s]

28Now Jacob sent Judah[t] ahead of
him to Joseph to get directions to Go-
shen.[u] When they arrived in the region
of Goshen, 29Joseph had his chariot[v]
made ready and went to Goshen to
meet his father Israel.[w] As soon as Jo-
seph appeared before him, he threw
his arms around his father[c] and wept[x]
for a long time.[y]
30Israel[z] said to Joseph, "Now I am
ready to die, since I have seen for my-
self that you are still alive."[a]
31Then Joseph said to his brothers
and to his father's household, "I will
go up and speak to Pharaoh and will
say to him, 'My brothers and my fa-
ther's household, who were living in
the land of Canaan,[b] have come to
me.[c] 32The men are shepherds;[d] they
tend livestock,[e] and they have brought
along their flocks and herds and every-
thing they own.'[f] 33When Pharaoh
calls you in and asks, 'What is your oc-

46:18 [a]Ge 30:10 [b]S Ge 16:1
46:19 [c]S Ge 29:6 [d]Ge 44:27
46:20 [e]S Ge 41:51 [f]S Ge 41:52 [g]Nu 26:28-37 [h]S Ge 41:45
46:21 [i]Nu 26:38-41; 1Ch 7:6-12; 8:1 [j]Nu 26:40; 1Ch 8:3
46:22 [k]S Ge 29:6
46:23 [l]S Ge 30:6 [m]Nu 26:42
46:24 [n]S Ge 30:8
46:25 [o]Ge 30:8 [p]S Ge 24:61
46:26 [q]ver 5-7; Ex 1:5; Dt 10:22
46:27 [r]S Ge 41:45 [s]S Ge 34:30; Ac 7:14
46:28 [t]S Ge 43:3 [u]S Ge 45:10
46:29 [v]S Ge 41:43 [w]ver 1,30; S Ge 32:28; 47:29,31 [x]S Ge 29:11 [y]S ver 4; Lk 15:20
46:30 [z]S ver 29 [a]S Ge 44:28
46:31 [b]S Ge 42:13 [c]S Ge 45:10
46:32 [d]Ge 47:3 [e]S Ge 37:2 [f]S Ge 45:20
46:33 [g]Ge 47:3
46:34 [h]S Ge 42:11 [i]Ge 47:3 [j]S Ge 34:10 [k]S Ge 45:10 [l]S Ge 43:32
47:1 [m]S Ge 42:13 [n]S Ge 46:31
47:2 [o]S Ge 43:15
47:3 [p]Ge 46:33 [q]S Ge 42:11 [r]Ge 46:32
47:4 [s]Ru 1:1 [t]S Ge 12:10 [u]1Ki 18:5; Jer 14:5-6; Joel 1:18 [v]Ge 46:34
47:6 [w]S Ge 34:10 [x]S Ge 13:9; S 45:18 [y]Ex 18:21,25; Dt 1:13,15; 2Ch 19:5; Ps 15:2 [z]S Ge 39:4
47:7 [a]S Ge 43:15 [b]ver 10; 2Sa 14:22; 19:39; 1Ki 8:66
47:9 [c]S Ge 25:7 [d]S Ge 3:17; Ps 39:4; 89:47 [e]Job 8:9; Ps 39:12
47:10 [f]S ver 7
47:11 [g]S Ge 45:10,18 [h]Ex 1:11; 12:37; Nu 33:3,5
47:12 [i]S Ge 45:11

cupation?'[g] 34you should answer,
'Your servants[h] have tended livestock
from our boyhood on, just as our fa-
thers did.'[i] Then you will be allowed
to settle[j] in the region of Goshen,[k] for
all shepherds are detestable to the
Egyptians.[l]"

47 Joseph went and told Pharaoh,
"My father and brothers, with
their flocks and herds and everything
they own, have come from the land of
Canaan[m] and are now in Goshen."[n]
2He chose five of his brothers and
presented them[o] before Pharaoh.
3Pharaoh asked the brothers, "What
is your occupation?"[p]
"Your servants[q] are shepherds,"[r]
they replied to Pharaoh, "just as our
fathers were." 4They also said to him,
"We have come to live here awhile,[s]
because the famine is severe in Ca-
naan[t] and your servants' flocks have
no pasture.[u] So now, please let your
servants settle in Goshen."[v]
5Pharaoh said to Joseph, "Your fa-
ther and your brothers have come to
you, 6and the land of Egypt is before
you; settle[w] your father and your
brothers in the best part of the land.[x]
Let them live in Goshen. And if you
know of any among them with special
ability,[y] put them in charge of my own
livestock.[z]"
7Then Joseph brought his father
Jacob in and presented him[a] before
Pharaoh. After Jacob blessed[d] Phar-
aoh,[b] 8Pharaoh asked him, "How old
are you?"
9And Jacob said to Pharaoh, "The
years of my pilgrimage are a hundred
and thirty.[c] My years have been few
and difficult,[d] and they do not equal
the years of the pilgrimage of my fa-
thers.[e]" 10Then Jacob blessed[e] Phar-
aoh[f] and went out from his presence.
11So Joseph settled his father and his
brothers in Egypt and gave them prop-
erty in the best part of the land,[g] the
district of Rameses,[h] as Pharaoh direct-
ed. 12Joseph also provided his father
and his brothers and all his father's
household with food, according to the
number of their children.[i]

Joseph and the Famine

13There was no food, however, in the
whole region because the famine was

[x]20 That is, Heliopolis [a]27 Hebrew; Septuagint *the nine children* [b]27 Hebrew (see also Exodus 1:5 and footnote); Septuagint (see also Acts 7:14) *seventy-five* [c]29 Hebrew *around him* [d]7 Or *greeted* [e]10 Or *said farewell to*

severe; both Egypt and Canaan wasted
away because of the famine.[a] 14Joseph
collected all the money that was to be
found in Egypt and Canaan in payment
for the grain they were buying,[b] and
he brought it to Pharaoh's palace.[c]
15When the money of the people of
Egypt and Canaan was gone,[d] all
Egypt came to Joseph[e] and said, "Give
us food. Why should we die before
your eyes?[f] Our money is used up."
16"Then bring your livestock,[g]" said
Joseph. "I will sell you food in ex-
change for your livestock, since your
money is gone.[h]" 17So they brought
their livestock to Joseph, and he gave
them food in exchange for their
horses,[i] their sheep and goats, their
cattle and donkeys.[j] And he brought
them through that year with food in ex-
change for all their livestock.
18When that year was over, they
came to him the following year and
said, "We cannot hide from our lord
the fact that since our money is gone[k]
and our livestock belongs to you,[l]
there is nothing left for our lord except
our bodies and our land. 19Why should
we perish before your eyes[m]—we and
our land as well? Buy us and our land
in exchange for food,[n] and we with our
land will be in bondage to Pharaoh.[o]
Give us seed so that we may live and
not die,[p] and that the land may not
become desolate."
20So Joseph bought all the land in
Egypt for Pharaoh. The Egyptians, one
and all, sold their fields, because the
famine was too severe[q] for them. The
land became Pharaoh's, 21and Joseph
reduced the people to servitude,[f] [r]
from one end of Egypt to the other.
22However, he did not buy the land of
the priests,[s] because they received a
regular allotment from Pharaoh and
had food enough from the allotment[t]
Pharaoh gave them. That is why they
did not sell their land.
23Joseph said to the people, "Now
that I have bought you and your land
today for Pharaoh, here is seed[u] for
you so you can plant the ground.[v]
24But when the crop comes in, give a
fifth[w] of it to Pharaoh. The other four-
fifths you may keep as seed for the
fields and as food for yourselves and
your households and your children."
25"You have saved our lives," they
said. "May we find favor in the eyes of
our lord;[x] we will be in bondage to
Pharaoh."[y]
26So Joseph established it as a law
concerning land in Egypt—still in force
today—that a fifth[z] of the produce be-
longs to Pharaoh. It was only the land
of the priests that did not become Phar-
aoh's.[a]
27Now the Israelites settled in Egypt
in the region of Goshen.[b] They ac-
quired property there[c] and were fruit-
ful and increased greatly in number.[d]
28Jacob lived in Egypt[e] seventeen
years, and the years of his life were a
hundred and forty-seven.[f] 29When the
time drew near for Israel[g] to die,[h] he
called for his son Joseph and said to
him, "If I have found favor in your
eyes,[i] put your hand under my thigh[j]
and promise that you will show me
kindness[k] and faithfulness.[l] Do not
bury me in Egypt, 30but when I rest
with my fathers,[m] carry me out of
Egypt and bury me where they are bur-
ied."[n]
"I will do as you say," he said.
31"Swear to me,"[o] he said. Then Jo-
seph swore to him,[p] and Israel[q] wor-
shiped as he leaned on the top of his
staff.[g] [r]

Manasseh and Ephraim

48 Some time later Joseph was told,
"Your father is ill." So he took
his two sons Manasseh and Ephraim[s]
along with him. 2When Jacob was told,
"Your son Joseph has come to you,"
Israel[t] rallied his strength and sat up
on the bed.
3Jacob said to Joseph, "God Al-
mighty[h] [u] appeared to me at Luz[v] in
the land of Canaan, and there he
blessed me[w] 4and said to me, 'I am go-
ing to make you fruitful and will in-
crease your numbers.[x] I will make you
a community of peoples, and I will give
this land[y] as an everlasting possession
to your descendants after you.'[z]
5"Now then, your two sons born to
you in Egypt[a] before I came to you
here will be reckoned as mine; Ephraim
and Manasseh will be mine,[b] just as
Reuben[c] and Simeon[d] are mine. 6Any
children born to you after them will be
yours; in the territory they inherit they
will be reckoned under the names of
their brothers. 7As I was returning from
Paddan,[i] [e] to my sorrow[f] Rachel died
in the land of Canaan while we were
still on the way, a little distance from

47:13 [a]S Ge 12:10; S 41:30
47:14 [b]S Ge 41:36 [c]S Ge 41:34; Ex 7:23; 8:24; Jer 43:9
47:15 [d]ver 16, 18 [e]S Ge 41:57 [f]ver 19; Ex 16:3
47:16 [g]ver 18, 19 [h]ver 15
47:17 [i]Ex 14:9 [j]S Ge 12:16
47:18 [k]S ver 15 [l]S ver 16
47:19 [m]S ver 15 [n]S ver 16 [o]ver 21,25 [p]S Ge 42:2
47:20 [q]S Ge 12:10
47:21 [r]S ver 19
47:22 [s]ver 26 [t]Dt 14:28-29
47:23 [u]Isa 55:10; 61:11 [v]Ne 5:3
47:24 [w]S Ge 41:34
47:25 [x]S Ge 32:5 [y]S ver 19
47:26 [z]S Ge 41:34 [a]ver 22
47:27 [b]S Ge 45:10,18 [c]S Ge 33:19 [d]S Ge 1:22; S 12:2; S 17:6
47:28 [e]Ps 105:23 [f]S Ge 25:7
47:29 [g]S Ge 46:29 [h]S Ge 27:2 [i]S Ge 32:5 [j]S Ge 24:2 [k]S Ge 19:19 [l]S Ge 24:27; Jdg 1:24; 2Sa 2:6
47:30 [m]S Ge 15:15 [n]S Ge 23:20; S 25:9; S 29:16; 50:25; Ex 13:19; Jos 24:32; Ac 7:15-16
47:31 [o]Ge 21:23; Jos 2:20; Jdg 15:12; 1Sa 24:21; 30:15 [p]S Ge 24:3 [q]S Ge 46:29 [r]S Ge 32:10; Heb 11:21 *fn* 1Ki 1:47
48:1 [s]S Ge 41:52; Heb 11:21
48:2 [t]ver 8,9, 11,14,20
48:3 [u]S Ge 17:1 [v]S Ge 28:19 [w]S Ge 28:13; S 32:29
48:4 [x]S Ge 12:2; S 17:6 [y]S Ge 12:7; S 28:13 [z]S Ge 15:7
48:5 [a]S Ge 41:50-52 [b]1Ch 5:1 [c]S Ge 29:32 [d]S Ge 29:33
48:7 [e]S Ge 25:20 [f]S Ge 42:38

f21 Samaritan Pentateuch and Septuagint (see also Vulgate); Masoretic Text *and he moved the people into the cities* g31 Or *Israel bowed down at the head of his bed* h3 Hebrew *El-Shaddai* i7 That is, Northwest Mesopotamia

Ephrath. So I buried her there beside the road to Ephrath" (that is, Bethlehem).[a]
8When Israel[b] saw the sons of Joseph,[c] he asked, "Who are these?"
9"They are the sons God has given me here,"[d] Joseph said to his father.
Then Israel said, "Bring them to me so I may bless[e] them."
10Now Israel's eyes were failing because of old age, and he could hardly see.[f] So Joseph brought his sons close to him, and his father kissed them[g] and embraced them.[h]
11Israel[i] said to Joseph, "I never expected to see your face again,[j] and now God has allowed me to see your children too."[k]
12Then Joseph removed them from Israel's knees[l] and bowed down with his face to the ground.[m] 13And Joseph
took both of them, Ephraim on his right toward Israel's left hand and Manasseh on his left toward Israel's right hand,[n] and brought them close to him.
14But Israel[o] reached out his right hand and put it on Ephraim's head,[p] though he was the younger,[q] and crossing his arms, he put his left hand on Manasseh's head, even though Manasseh was the firstborn.[r]
15Then he blessed[s] Joseph and said,

"May the God before whom my
fathers
Abraham and Isaac walked,[t]
the God who has been my
shepherd[u]
all my life to this day,
16the Angel[v] who has delivered me
from all harm[w]
—may he bless[x] these boys.[y]
May they be called by my name
and the names of my fathers
Abraham and Isaac,[z]
and may they increase greatly
upon the earth."[a]

17When Joseph saw his father placing his right hand[b] on Ephraim's head[c] he was displeased; so he took hold of his father's hand to move it from Ephraim's head to Manasseh's head.
18Joseph said to him, "No, my father, this one is the firstborn; put your right hand on his head."[d]
19But his father refused and said, "I know, my son, I know. He too will become a people, and he too will become great.[e] Nevertheless, his younger brother will be greater than he,[f] and his descendants will become a group of nations.[g]" 20He blessed[h] them that day[i] and said,

"In your[j] name will Israel[j]
pronounce this blessing:[k]
'May God make you like Ephraim[l]
and Manasseh.[m]' "

So he put Ephraim ahead of Manasseh.
21Then Israel said to Joseph, "I am about to die, but God will be with you[k][n] and take you[k] back to the land of your[k] fathers.[o] 22And to you, as one who is over your brothers,[p] I give the ridge of land[l][q] I took from the Amorites with my sword[r] and my bow."

Jacob Blesses His Sons

49:1-28Ref — Dt 33:1-29

49 Then Jacob called for his sons and said: "Gather around so I can tell you what will happen to you in days to come.[s]

2"Assemble[t] and listen, sons of
Jacob;
listen to your father Israel.[u]

3"Reuben, you are my firstborn,[v]
my might, the first sign of my
strength,[w]
excelling in honor,[x] excelling in
power.
4Turbulent as the waters,[y] you will
no longer excel,
for you went up onto your father's
bed,
onto my couch and defiled it.[z]

5"Simeon[a] and Levi[b] are brothers—
their swords[m] are weapons of
violence.[c]
6Let me not enter their council,
let me not join their assembly,[d]
for they have killed men in their
anger[e]
and hamstrung[f] oxen as they
pleased.
7Cursed be their anger, so fierce,
and their fury,[g] so cruel![h]
I will scatter them in Jacob
and disperse them in Israel.[i]

8"Judah,[n][j] your brothers will praise
you;
your hand will be on the neck[k] of
your enemies;

48:7 [a]Ge 35:19; Ru 1:2; 1Sa 16:4 **48:8** [b]S ver 2 [c]ver 10 **48:9** [d]S Ge 33:5 [e]S Ge 24:60 **48:10** [f]S Ge 27:1 [g]S Ge 27:27 [h]S Ge 29:13 **48:11** [i]S ver 2 [j]S Ge 44:28 [k]Ge 50:23; Job 42:16; Ps 103:17; 128:6 **48:12** [l]Ge 50:23; Job 3:12 [m]S Ge 19:1; S 33:3; 37:10 **48:13** [n]Ps 16:8; 73:23; 110:1; Mt 25:33 **48:14** [o]S ver 2 [p]ver 17,18 [q]S Ge 25:23 [r]S Ge 29:32; S 41:51 **48:15** [s]S Ge 24:60 [t]S Ge 5:22 [u]Ge 49:24; 2Sa 5:2; Ps 23:1; 80:1; Isa 40:11; Jer 23:4 **48:16** [v]S Ge 16:7 [w]S Ge 24:50; 2Sa 4:9; Ps 71:4; Jer 15:21; Da 3:17 [x]S Ge 28:3 [y]1Ch 5:1; Eze 47:13; Heb 11:21 [z]S Ge 28:13 [a]S Ge 12:2; S 13:14 **48:17** [b]ver 13 [c]S ver 14 **48:18** [d]S ver 14 **48:19** [e]S Ge 17:20 [f]S Ge 25:23 [g]S Ge 12:2 **48:20** [h]S Ge 24:60 [i]Heb 11:21 [j]S ver 2 [k]Lev 9:22; Nu 6:23; Dt 10:8; 21:5 [l]Nu 2:18; Jer 31:9 [m]S Ge 41:51; Nu 2:20; 10:23; Ru 4:11 **48:21** [n]S Ge 26:3 [o]S Ge 15:16; S 28:13; Dt 30:3; Ps 126:1; Jer 29:14; Eze 34:13 **48:22** [p]S Ge 37:8 [q]Jos 24:32; Jn 4:5 [r]S Ge 34:26 **49:1** [s]Nu 24:14; Dt 31:29; Jer 23:20; Da 2:28,45 **49:2** [t]Jos 24:1 [u]ver 16,28; Ps 34:11 **49:3** [v]S Ge 29:32; S 41:51 [w]Dt 21:17; Ps 78:51; 105:36 [x]S Ge 34:19 **49:4** [y]Isa 57:20; Jer 49:23 [z]S Ge 29:29; S 34:5 **49:5** [a]S Ge 29:33 [b]Ge 29:34 [c]S Ge 34:25; S Pr 4:17

49:6 [d]Ps 1:1; Pr 1:15; Eph 5:11 [e]S Ge 34:26 [f]Jos 11:6,9; 2Sa 8:4; 1Ch 18:4 **49:7** [g]Ge 34:7 [h]Ge 34:25 [i]Jos 19:1,9; 21:1-42 **49:8** [j]S Ge 29:35 [k]Dt 28:48

[j]20 The Hebrew is singular. [k]21 The Hebrew is plural. [l]22 Or *And to you I give one portion more than to your brothers—the portion* [m]5 The meaning of the Hebrew for this word is uncertain. [n]8 *Judah* sounds like and may be derived from the Hebrew for *praise*.

your father's sons will bow down
to you.[z]
9You are a lion's[a] cub,[b] O Judah;[c]
you return from the prey,[d] my
son.
Like a lion he crouches and lies
down,
like a lioness—who dares to rouse
him?
10The scepter will not depart from
Judah,[e]
nor the ruler's staff from between
his feet,
until he comes to whom it belongs[o][f]
and the obedience of the nations is
his.[g]
11He will tether his donkey[h] to a vine,
his colt to the choicest branch;[i]
he will wash his garments in wine,
his robes in the blood of grapes.[j]
12His eyes will be darker than wine,
his teeth whiter than milk.[p][k]

13"Zebulun[l] will live by the seashore
and become a haven for ships;
his border will extend toward
Sidon.[m]

14"Issachar[n] is a rawboned[q] donkey
lying down between two
saddlebags.[r][o]
15When he sees how good is his
resting place
and how pleasant is his land,[p]
he will bend his shoulder to the
burden[q]
and submit to forced labor.[r]

16"Dan[s][t] will provide justice for his
people
as one of the tribes of Israel.[u]
17Dan[v] will be a serpent by the
roadside,
a viper along the path,[w]
that bites the horse's heels[x]
so that its rider tumbles backward.

18"I look for your deliverance,[y]
O LORD.[z]

19"Gad[t][a] will be attacked by a band of
raiders,
but he will attack them at their
heels.[b]

20"Asher's[c] food will be rich;[d]
he will provide delicacies fit for a
king.[e]

21"Naphtali[f] is a doe set free
that bears beautiful fawns.[u][g]

22"Joseph[h] is a fruitful vine,[i]
a fruitful vine near a spring,
whose branches[j] climb over a
wall.[v]
23With bitterness archers attacked
him;[k]
they shot at him with hostility.[l]
24But his bow remained steady,[m]
his strong arms[w] stayed[n] limber,
because of the hand of the Mighty
One of Jacob,[o]
because of the Shepherd,[p] the
Rock of Israel,[q]
25because of your father's God,[r] who
helps[s] you,
because of the Almighty,[x][t] who
blesses you
with blessings of the heavens above,
blessings of the deep that lies
below,[u]
blessings of the breast[v] and
womb.[w]
26Your father's blessings are greater
than the blessings of the ancient
mountains,
than[y] the bounty of the age-old
hills.[x]
Let all these rest on the head of
Joseph,[y]
on the brow of the prince among[z]
his brothers.[z]

27"Benjamin[a] is a ravenous wolf;[b]
in the morning he devours the
prey,[c]
in the evening he divides the
plunder."[d]

28All these are the twelve tribes of Is-
rael,[e] and this is what their father said
to them when he blessed them, giving
each the blessing[f] appropriate to him.

The Death of Jacob

29Then he gave them these instruc-
tions:[g] "I am about to be gathered to
my people.[h] Bury me with my fathers[i]
in the cave in the field of Ephron the
Hittite,[j] 30the cave in the field of Mach-
pelah,[k] near Mamre[l] in Canaan,
which Abraham bought as a burial
place[m] from Ephron the Hittite, along
with the field.[n] 31There Abraham[o] and

49:8 [z]S Ge 9:25; 1Ch 5:2 **49:9** [a]Nu 24:9; Ps 7:2; 10:9; Eze 19:5; Mic 5:8 [b]Eze 19:2 [c]Rev 5:5 [d]ver 27; Nu 23:24; Job 38:39; Ps 17:12; 22:13; 104:21 **49:10** [e]Nu 24:17,19; Jdg 1:1-2; 20:18; 1Ch 5:2; 28:4; Ps 60:7; 108:8 [f]Eze 21:27 [g]Ps 2:9; 72:8-11; 98:3; 110:2; Isa 2:4; 26:18; 42:1,4; 45:22; 48:20; 49:6; 52:15 **49:11** [h]Jdg 5:10; 10:4; Zec 9:9 [i]Dt 8:8; 2Ki 18:32 [j]Dt 32:14; Isa 63:2 **49:12** [k]SS 5:12 **49:13** [l]S Ge 30:20 [m]S Ge 10:19 **49:14** [n]S Ge 30:18 [o]Jdg 5:16; Ps 68:13 **49:15** [p]Jos 19:17-23 [q]Eze 29:18 [r]1Ki 4:6; 5:13; 9:21; Isa 14:2; 31:8 **49:16** [t]Ge 30:6 [u]S ver 2 **49:17** [v]Jdg 18:27 [w]Jer 8:17; Am 9:3 [x]ver 19 **49:18** [y]S Ge 45:7; Ps 40:1-3 [z]Ps 119:166,174 **49:19** [a]S Ge 30:11 [b]ver 17 **49:20** [c]S Ge 30:13 [d]Isa 25:6 [e]Job 29:6 **49:21** [f]S Ge 30:8 [g]Job 39:1 **49:22** [h]Ge 30:24 [i]S Ge 17:6; Ps 128:3; Eze 19:10 [j]Ps 80:10 **49:23** [k]1Ch 10:3 [l]S Ge 27:41; S 37:24 **49:24** [m]Job 29:20 [n]Ps 18:34; Isa 63:12 [o]Ps 132:2,5; Isa 1:24; 10:34; 49:26; 60:16 [p]S Ge 48:15 [q]Dt 32:4,15,18,31; 1Sa 2:2; 2Sa 22:32; Ps 18:2,31; 19:14; 78:35; 89:26; 144:1; Isa 17:10; 26:4; 30:29; 44:8; Hab 1:12 **49:25** [r]S Ge 28:13 [s]Ex 18:4; Ps 27:9 [t]S Ge 17:1 [u]S Ge 27:28 [v]Isa 66:11 [w]Dt 7:13; 28:4; Ps 107:38; Pr 10:22 **49:26** [x]Hab 3:6 [y]1Ch 5:1; Eze 47:13 [z]S Ge 37:8 **49:27** [a]Ge 35:18; Jdg 20:12-13 [b]Hab 1:8; Zep 3:3 [c]S ver 9 [d]Nu 31:11; Dt 2:35; Jos 7:21; 8:2; 22:8; Jdg 8:24 **49:28** [e]S ver 2 [f]S Ge 27:4 **49:29** [g]Ge 50:16 [h]S Ge 25:8 [i]S Ge 15:15; 50:25; 2Sa 2:32; 19:37 [j]S Ge 25:9 **49:30** [k]S Ge 23:9 [l]S Ge 13:18 [m]S Ge 23:4 [n]S Ge 23:20 **49:31** [o]Ge 25:9

[o]10 Or *until Shiloh comes;* or *until he comes to whom tribute belongs* [p]12 Or *will be dull from wine, / his teeth white from milk* [q]14 Or *strong* [r]14 Or *campfires* [s]16 *Dan* here means *he provides justice.* [t]19 *Gad* can mean *attack* and *band of raiders.* [u]21 Or *free; / he utters beautiful words* [v]22 Or *Joseph is a wild colt, / a wild colt near a spring, / a wild donkey on a terraced hill* [w]23,24 Or *archers will attack . . . will shoot . . . will remain . . . will stay* [x]25 Hebrew *Shaddai* [y]26 Or *of my progenitors, / as great as* [z]26 Or *the one separated from*

his wife Sarah[a] were buried, there
Isaac and his wife Rebekah[b] were bur-
ied, and there I buried Leah.[c] 32The
field and the cave in it were bought
from the Hittites.[a][d]"
33When Jacob had finished giving in-
structions to his sons, he drew his feet
up into the bed, breathed his last and
was gathered to his people.[e]

50 Joseph threw himself upon his
father and wept over him and
kissed him.[f] 2Then Joseph directed the
physicians in his service to embalm his
father Israel. So the physicians em-
balmed him,[g] 3taking a full forty days,
for that was the time required for em-
balming. And the Egyptians mourned
for him seventy days.[h]
4When the days of mourning[i] had
passed, Joseph said to Pharaoh's
court,[j] "If I have found favor in your
eyes,[k] speak to Pharaoh for me. Tell
him, 5'My father made me swear an
oath[l] and said, "I am about to die;[m]
bury me in the tomb I dug for myself[n]
in the land of Canaan."[o] Now let me
go up and bury my father;[p] then I will
return.' "
6Pharaoh said, "Go up and bury your
father, as he made you swear to do."
7So Joseph went up to bury his fa-
ther. All Pharaoh's officials[q] accom-
panied him—the dignitaries of his
court[r] and all the dignitaries of
Egypt— 8besides all the members of Jo-
seph's household and his brothers and
those belonging to his father's house-
hold.[s] Only their children and their
flocks and herds were left in Goshen.[t]
9Chariots[u] and horsemen[b] also went
up with him. It was a very large com-
pany.
10When they reached the threshing
floor[v] of Atad, near the Jordan, they
lamented loudly and bitterly;[w] and
there Joseph observed a seven-day pe-
riod[x] of mourning[y] for his father.[z]
11When the Canaanites[a] who lived
there saw the mourning at the thresh-
ing floor of Atad, they said, "The
Egyptians are holding a solemn
ceremony of mourning."[b] That is why
that place near the Jordan is called Abel
Mizraim.[c]
12So Jacob's sons did as he had com-
manded them:[c] 13They carried him to
the land of Canaan and buried him in
the cave in the field of Machpelah,[d]
near Mamre,[e] which Abraham had
bought as a burial place from Ephron
the Hittite,[f] along with the field.[g] 14Af-
ter burying his father, Joseph returned
to Egypt, together with his brothers
and all the others who had gone with
him to bury his father.[h]

Joseph Reassures His Brothers

15When Joseph's brothers saw that
their father was dead, they said, "What
if Joseph holds a grudge[i] against us
and pays us back for all the wrongs we
did to him?"[j] 16So they sent word to
Joseph, saying, "Your father left these
instructions[k] before he died: 17'This is
what you are to say to Joseph: I ask you
to forgive your brothers the sins[l] and
the wrongs they committed in treating
you so badly.'[m] Now please forgive the
sins of the servants of the God of your
father.[n]" When their message came to
him, Joseph wept.[o]
18His brothers then came and threw
themselves down before him.[p] "We
are your slaves,"[q] they said.
19But Joseph said to them, "Don't be
afraid. Am I in the place of God?[r]
20You intended to harm me,[s] but God
intended[t] it for good[u] to accomplish
what is now being done, the saving of
many lives.[v] 21So then, don't be afraid.
I will provide for you and your chil-
dren.[w]" And he reassured them and
spoke kindly[x] to them.

The Death of Joseph

22Joseph stayed in Egypt, along with
all his father's family. He lived a hun-
dred and ten years[y] 23and saw the
third generation[z] of Ephraim's[a] chil-
dren.[b] Also the children of Makir[c] son
of Manasseh[d] were placed at birth on
Joseph's knees.[d][e]
24Then Joseph said to his brothers, "I
am about to die.[f] But God will surely
come to your aid[g] and take you up out
of this land to the land[h] he promised
on oath to Abraham,[i] Isaac[j] and
Jacob."[k] 25And Joseph made the sons
of Israel swear an oath[l] and said,
"God will surely come to your aid, and
then you must carry my bones[m] up
from this place."[n]
26So Joseph died[o] at the age of a hun-
dred and ten.[p] And after they em-
balmed him,[q] he was placed in a coffin
in Egypt.

49:31 [a]Ge 23:19 [b]S Ge 24:67 [c]S Ge 23:20; S 29:16 **49:32** [d]S Ge 10:15 **49:33** [e]S Ge 25:8; Ac 7:15 **50:1** [f]S Ge 29:11; S 46:4 **50:2** [g]ver 26; 2Ch 16:14; Mt 26:12; Mk 16:1; Jn 19:39-40 **50:3** [h]S Ge 37:34; S Dt 1:3 **50:4** [i]S Ge 27:41 [j]ver 7 [k]S Ge 30:27; S 32:5 **50:5** [l]S Ge 24:37 [m]ver 24 [n]2Sa 18:18; 2Ch 16:14; Isa 22:16; Mt 27:60 [o]Ge 47:31 [p]Mt 8:21 **50:7** [q]Ge 45:16 [r]ver 4 **50:8** [s]ver 14 [t]S Ge 45:10 **50:9** [u]S Ge 41:43 **50:10** [v]Nu 15:20; Ru 3:2; 2Sa 24:18; 1Ki 22:10 [w]2Sa 1:17; 3:33; 2Ch 35:25; Eze 32:16; Ac 8:2 [x]1Sa 31:13; Job 2:13; Eze 3:15 [y]S Ge 27:41; S Lev 10:6 [z]S Ge 37:34 **50:11** [a]S Ge 10:18 [b]S Ge 37:34 **50:12** [c]Ge 49:29 **50:13** [d]S Ge 23:9 [e]S Ge 13:18 [f]S Ge 25:9 [g]S Ge 23:20 **50:14** [h]ver 8 **50:15** [i]S Ge 27:41 [j]ver 17; S Ge 9:5; 37:28; Zep 3:11; 1Pe 3:9 **50:16** [k]Ge 49:29 **50:17** [l]S Mt 6:14 [m]S ver 15 [n]S Ge 28:13 [o]S Ge 29:11 **50:18** [p]S Ge 37:7 [q]S Ge 43:18 **50:19** [r]S Ge 30:2; S Ex 32:34; Ro 12:19; Heb 10:30 **50:20** [s]Ge 37:20 [t]Isa 10:7; Mic 4:11-12 [u]Ro 8:28 [v]S Ge 45:5; Est 4:14 **50:21** [w]S Ge 45:11 [x]S Ge 34:3; Eph 4:32 **50:22** [y]S Ge 25:7; Jos 24:29 **50:23** [z]Job 42:16 [a]S Ge 41:52 [b]S Ge 48:11 [c]Nu 26:29; 27:1; 32:39,40; 36:1; Dt 3:15; Jos 13:31; 17:1; Jdg 5:14 [d]S Ge 41:51 [e]S Ge 48:12 **50:24** [f]ver 5 [g]Ru 1:6; Ps 35:2; 106:4; Isa 38:14 [h]S Ge 15:14 [i]S Ge 13:17 [j]S Ge 17:19 [k]S Ge 12:7; S 15:16 **50:25** [l]S Ge 24:37 [m]S Ge 49:29 [n]S Ge 47:29-30; Heb 11:22 **50:26** [o]Ex 1:6 [p]S Ge 25:7 [q]S ver 2

[a]32 Or *the sons of Heth* [b]9 Or *charioteers*
[c]11 *Abel Mizraim* means *mourning of the Egyptians.*
[d]23 That is, were counted as his

Exodus

The Israelites Oppressed

1 These are the names of the sons of Israel[a] who went to Egypt with Jacob, each with his family: 2Reuben, Simeon, Levi and Judah; 3Issachar, Zebulun and Benjamin; 4Dan and Naphtali; Gad and Asher.[b] 5The descendants of Jacob numbered seventy[a] in all;[c] Joseph was already in Egypt.

6Now Joseph and all his brothers and all that generation died,[d] 7but the Israelites were fruitful and multiplied greatly and became exceedingly numerous,[e] so that the land was filled with them.

8Then a new king, who did not know about Joseph, came to power in Egypt.[f] 9"Look," he said to his people, "the Israelites have become much too numerous[g] for us.[h] 10Come, we must deal shrewdly[i] with them or they will become even more numerous and, if war breaks out, will join our enemies, fight against us and leave the country."[j]

11So they put slave masters[k] over them to oppress them with forced labor,[l] and they built Pithom and Rameses[m] as store cities[n] for Pharaoh. 12But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread; so the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites 13and worked them ruthlessly.[o] 14They made their lives bitter with hard labor[p] in brick[q] and mortar and with all kinds of work in the fields; in all their hard labor the Egyptians used them ruthlessly.[r]

15The king of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives,[s] whose names were Shiphrah and Puah, 16"When you help the Hebrew women in childbirth and observe them on the delivery stool, if it is a boy, kill him; but if it is a girl, let her live."[t] 17The midwives, however, feared[u] God and did not do what the king of Egypt had told them to do;[v] they let the boys live. 18Then the king of Egypt summoned the midwives and asked them, "Why have you done this? Why have you let the boys live?"

19The midwives answered Pharaoh, "Hebrew women are not like Egyptian women; they are vigorous and give birth before the midwives arrive."[w]

20So God was kind to the midwives[x] and the people increased and became even more numerous. 21And because the midwives feared[y] God, he gave them families[z] of their own.

22Then Pharaoh gave this order to all his people: "Every boy that is born[b] you must throw into the Nile,[a] but let every girl live."[b]

The Birth of Moses

2 Now a man of the house of Levi[c] married a Levite woman,[d] 2and she became pregnant and gave birth to a son. When she saw that he was a fine[e] child, she hid him for three months.[f] 3But when she could hide him no longer, she got a papyrus[g] basket for him and coated it with tar and pitch.[h] Then she placed the child in it and put it among the reeds[i] along the bank of the Nile. 4His sister[j] stood at a distance to see what would happen to him.

5Then Pharaoh's daughter went down to the Nile to bathe, and her attendants were walking along the river bank.[k] She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her slave girl to get it. 6She opened it and saw the baby. He was crying, and she felt sorry for him. "This is one of the Hebrew babies," she said.

7Then his sister asked Pharaoh's daughter, "Shall I go and get one of the Hebrew women to nurse the baby for you?"

8"Yes, go," she answered. And the girl went and got the baby's mother.

1:1 [a]S Ge 46:8 **1:4** [b]Ge 35:22-26; Nu 1:20-43 **1:5** [c]S Ge 46:26 **1:6** [d]Ge 50:26; Ac 7:15 **1:7** [e]ver 9; S Ge 12:2; Dt 7:13; Eze 16:7 **1:8** [f]Jer 43:11; 46:2 **1:9** [g]S ver 7 [h]S Ge 26:16 **1:10** [i]Ge 15:13; Ex 3:7; 18:11; Ps 64:2; 71:10; 83:3; Isa 53:3 [j]Ps 105:24-25; Ac 7:17-19 **1:11** [k]Ex 3:7; 5:10,13,14 [l]S Ge 15:13; Ex 2:11; 5:4; 6:6-7; Jos 9:27; 1Ki 9:21; 1Ch 22:2; Isa 60:10 [m]S Ge 47:11 [n]1Ki 9:19; 2Ch 8:4 **1:13** [o]ver 14; Ge 15:13-14; Ex 5:21; 16:3; Lev 25:43,46,53; Dt 4:20; 26:6; 1Ki 8:51; Ps 129:1; Isa 30:6; 48:10; Jer 11:4 **1:14** [p]Dt 26:6; Ezr 9:9; Isa 14:3 [q]S Ge 11:3 [r]Ex 2:23; 3:9; Nu 20:15; 1Sa 10:18; 2Ki 13:4; Ps 66:11; 81:6; Ac 7:19 **1:15** [s]S Ge 35:17 **1:16** [t]ver 22 **1:17** [u]ver 21; Pr 16:6 [v]1Sa 22:17; Da 3:16-18; Ac 4:18-20; 5:29 **1:19** [w]Lev 19:11; Jos 2:4-6; 1Sa 19:14; 2Sa 17:20 **1:20** [x]Pr 11:18; 22:8; Ecc 8:12; Isa 3:10; Heb 6:10 **1:21** [y]S ver 17 [z]1Sa 2:35; 2Sa 7:11,27-29; 1Ki 11:38; 14:10 **1:22** [a]S Ge 41:1 [b]ver 16; Ac 7:19 **2:1** [c]S Ge 29:34 [d]ver 2; Ex 6:20; Nu 26:59 **2:2** [e]S Ge 39:6 [f]Heb 11:23 **2:3** [g]Isa 18:2 [h]Ge 6:14 [i]S Ge 41:2; S Job 8:11; Ac 7:21 **2:4** [j]Ex 15:20 **2:5** [k]Ex 7:15; 8:20

[a]5 Masoretic Text (see also Gen. 46:27); Dead Sea Scrolls and Septuagint (see also Acts 7:14 and note at Gen. 46:27) *seventy-five* [b]22 Masoretic Text; Samaritan Pentateuch, Septuagint and Targums *born to the Hebrews*

9Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Take
this baby and nurse him for me, and I
will pay you." So the woman took the
baby and nursed him. 10When the child
grew older, she took him to Pharaoh's
daughter and he became her son. She
named[a] him Moses,[c] saying, "I drew[b]
him out of the water."

Moses Flees to Midian

11One day, after Moses had grown
up, he went out to where his own
people[c] were and watched them at
their hard labor.[d] He saw an Egyptian
beating a Hebrew, one of his own
people. 12Glancing this way and that
and seeing no one, he killed the Egyp-
tian and hid him in the sand. 13The
next day he went out and saw two He-
brews fighting. He asked the one in the
wrong, "Why are you hitting your fel-
low Hebrew?"[e]

14The man said, "Who made you rul-
er and judge over us?[f] Are you think-
ing of killing me as you killed the Egyp-
tian?" Then Moses was afraid and
thought, "What I did must have
become known."

15When Pharaoh heard of this, he
tried to kill[g] Moses, but Moses fled[h]
from Pharaoh and went to live in Midi-
an,[i] where he sat down by a well.
16Now a priest of Midian[j] had seven
daughters, and they came to draw
water[k] and fill the troughs[l] to water
their father's flock. 17Some shepherds
came along and drove them away, but
Moses got up and came to their res-
cue[m] and watered their flock.[n]

18When the girls returned to Reuel[o]
their father, he asked them, "Why
have you returned so early today?"

19They answered, "An Egyptian res-
cued us from the shepherds. He even
drew water for us and watered the
flock."

20"And where is he?" he asked his
daughters. "Why did you leave him?
Invite him to have something to eat."[p]

21Moses agreed to stay with the man,
who gave his daughter Zipporah[q] to
Moses in marriage. 22Zipporah gave
birth to a son, and Moses named him
Gershom,[d][r] saying, "I have become
an alien[s] in a foreign land."

23During that long period,[t] the king
of Egypt died.[u] The Israelites groaned
in their slavery[v] and cried out, and
their cry[w] for help because of their slav-
ery went up to God. 24God heard their
groaning and he remembered[x] his cov-
enant[y] with Abraham, with Isaac and
with Jacob. 25So God looked on the Is-
raelites and was concerned[z] about
them.

Moses and the Burning Bush

3 Now Moses was tending the flock
of Jethro[a] his father-in-law, the
priest of Midian,[b] and he led the flock
to the far side of the desert and came to
Horeb,[c] the mountain[d] of God. 2There
the angel of the LORD[e] appeared to him
in flames of fire[f] from within a bush.[g]
Moses saw that though the bush was
on fire it did not burn up. 3So Moses
thought, "I will go over and see this
strange sight—why the bush does not
burn up."

4When the LORD saw that he had
gone over to look, God called[h] to him
from within the bush,[i] "Moses!
Moses!"

And Moses said, "Here I am."[j]

5"Do not come any closer,"[k] God
said. "Take off your sandals, for the
place where you are standing is holy
ground."[l] 6Then he said, "I am the
God of your father, the God of Abra-
ham, the God of Isaac and the God of
Jacob."[m] At this, Moses hid[n] his face,
because he was afraid to look at God.[o]

7The LORD said, "I have indeed seen[p]
the misery[q] of my people in Egypt. I
have heard them crying out because of
their slave drivers, and I am con-
cerned[r] about their suffering.[s] 8So I
have come down[t] to rescue them from
the hand of the Egyptians and to bring
them up out of that land into a good
and spacious land,[u] a land flowing
with milk and honey[v]—the home of
the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Per-
izzites, Hivites[w] and Jebusites.[x] 9And
now the cry of the Israelites has
reached me, and I have seen the way
the Egyptians are oppressing[y] them.
10So now, go. I am sending[z] you to
Pharaoh to bring my people the Israel-
ites out of Egypt."[a]

11But Moses said to God, "Who am
I,[b] that I should go to Pharaoh and
bring the Israelites out of Egypt?"

12And God said, "I will be with
you.[c] And this will be the sign[d] to you

2:10 [a]1Sa 1:20 [b]2Sa 22:17 **2:11** [c]Ac 7:23; Heb 11:24-26 [d]S Ex 1:11 **2:13** [e]Ac 7:26 **2:14** [f]S Ge 13:8; Ac 7:27* **2:15** [g]Ex 4:19 [h]S Ge 31:21 [i]Heb 11:27 **2:16** [j]Ex 3:1; 18:1 [k]S Ge 24:11 [l]S Ge 30:38 **2:17** [m]1Sa 30:8; Ps 31:2 [n]S Ge 29:10 **2:18** [o]Ex 3:1; 4:18; 18:1,5,12; Nu 10:29 **2:20** [p]Ge 31:54 **2:21** [q]Ex 4:25; 18:2; Nu 12:1 **2:22** [r]Jdg 18:30 [s]S Ge 23:4; Heb 11:13 **2:23** [t]Ac 7:30 [u]Ex 4:19 [v]S Ex 1:14 [w]ver 24; Ex 3:7,9; 6:5; Nu 20:15-16; Dt 26:7; Jdg 2:18; 1Sa 12:8; Ps 5:2; 18:6; 39:12; 81:7; 102:1; Jas 5:4 **2:24** [x]S Ge 8:1 [y]S Ge 9:15; 15:15; 17:4; 22:16-18; 26:3; 28:13-15; Ex 32:13; 2Ki 13:23; Ps 105:10,42; Jer 14:21 **2:25** [z]Ex 3:7; 4:31; Lk 1:25 **3:1** [a]S Ex 2:18; Jdg 1:16 [b]S Ex 2:16 [c]ver 12; Ex 17:6; 19:1-11,5; 33:6; Dt 1:2,6; 4:10; 5:2; 29:1; 1Ki 19:8; Mal 4:4 [d]Ex 4:27; 18:5; 24:13; Dt 4:11,15 **3:2** [e]S Ge 16:7; S Ex 12:23; S Ac 5:19 [f]Ex 19:18; 1Ki 19:12 [g]ver 4; Ex 2:2-6; Dt 33:16; Mk 12:26; Lk 20:37; Ac 7:30 **3:4** [h]Ex 19:3; Lev 1:1 [i]Ex 4:5 [j]Ge 31:11; 1Sa 3:4; Isa 6:8 **3:5** [k]Jer 30:21 [l]S Ge 28:17; Ac 7:33* **3:6** [m]S Ge 24:12; S Ex 4:5; Mt 22:32*; Mk 12:26*; Lk 20:37*; Ac 3:13; 7:32* [n]1Ki 19:13 [o]Ex 24:11; 33:20; Jdg 13:22; Job 13:11; 23:16; 30:15; Isa 6:5 **3:7** [p]1Sa 9:16 [q]ver 16; S Ge 16:11; 1Sa 1:11; Ne 9:9; Ps 106:44 [r]S Ex 2:25; Ac 7:34* [s]S Ex 1:10 **3:8** [t]S Ge 11:5; Ac 7:34* [u]S Ge 12:7; S 15:14 [v]ver 17; Ex 13:5; 33:3; Lev 20:24; Nu 13:27; Dt 1:25; 6:3; 8:7-9; 11:9; 26:9; 27:3; Jos 5:6; Jer 11:5; 32:22; Eze 20:6 [w]Jos 11:3; Jdg 3:3; 2Sa 24:7 [x]S Ge 15:18-21; Ezr 9:1 **3:9** [y]S Ex 1:14; S Nu 10:9 **3:10** [z]Ex 4:12; Jos 24:5; 1Sa 12:8; Ps 105:26; Ac 7:34* [a]Ex 6:13,26; 12:41,51; 20:2; Dt 4:20; 1Sa 12:6; 1Ki 8:16; Mic 6:4 **3:11** [b]Ex 4:10; 6:12,30; Jdg 6:15; 1Sa 9:21; 15:17; 18:18; 2Sa 7:18; 2Ch 2:6; Isa 6:5; Jer 1:6 **3:12** [c]S Ge 26:3; S Ex 14:22; Ro 8:31 [d]Nu 26:10; Jos 2:12; Jdg 6:17; Ps 86:17; Isa 7:14; 8:18; 20:3; Jer 44:29

[c]10 *Moses* sounds like the Hebrew for *draw out*.
[d]22 *Gershom* sounds like the Hebrew for *an alien there*.

that it is I who have sent you: When
you have brought the people out of
Egypt, you[e] will worship God on this
mountain.[a]"
13Moses said to God, "Suppose I go
to the Israelites and say to them, 'The
God of your fathers has sent me to
you,' and they ask me, 'What is his
name?'[b] Then what shall I tell them?"
14God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM.[f]
This is what you are to say to the Israel-
ites: 'I AM[c] has sent me to you.' "
15God also said to Moses, "Say to the
Israelites, 'The LORD,[g] the God of your
fathers[d]—the God of Abraham, the
God of Isaac and the God of
Jacob[e]—has sent me to you.' This is
my name[f] forever, the name by which
I am to be remembered from genera-
tion to generation.[g]
16"Go, assemble the elders[h] of Israel
and say to them, 'The LORD, the God of
your fathers—the God of Abraham,
Isaac and Jacob[i]—appeared to me and
said: I have watched over you and have
seen[j] what has been done to you in
Egypt. 17And I have promised to bring
you up out of your misery in Egypt[k]
into the land of the Canaanites, Hit-
tites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites and
Jebusites—a land flowing with milk
and honey.'[l]
18"The elders of Israel will listen[m] to
you. Then you and the elders are to go
to the king of Egypt and say to him,
'The LORD, the God of the Hebrews,[n]
has met[o] with us. Let us take a three-
day journey[p] into the desert to offer
sacrifices[q] to the LORD our God.' 19But I
know that the king of Egypt will not let
you go unless a mighty hand[r] compels
him. 20So I will stretch out my hand[s]
and strike the Egyptians with all the
wonders[t] that I will perform among
them. After that, he will let you go.[u]
21"And I will make the Egyptians
favorably disposed[v] toward this
people, so that when you leave you
will not go empty-handed.[w] 22Every
woman is to ask her neighbor and any
woman living in her house for articles
of silver[x] and gold[y] and for clothing,
which you will put on your sons and
daughters. And so you will plunder[z]
the Egyptians."[a]

Signs for Moses

4 Moses answered, "What if they do
not believe me or listen[b] to me and
say, 'The LORD did not appear to you'?"
2Then the LORD said to him, "What is
that in your hand?"

"A staff,"[c] he replied.
3The LORD said, "Throw it on the
ground."
Moses threw it on the ground and it
became a snake,[d] and he ran from it.
4Then the LORD said to him, "Reach out
your hand and take it by the tail." So
Moses reached out and took hold of the
snake and it turned back into a staff in
his hand. 5"This," said the LORD, "is so
that they may believe[e] that the LORD,
the God of their fathers—the God of
Abraham, the God of Isaac and the
God of Jacob—has appeared to you."
6Then the LORD said, "Put your hand
inside your cloak." So Moses put his
hand into his cloak, and when he took
it out, it was leprous,[h] like snow.[f]
7"Now put it back into your cloak,"
he said. So Moses put his hand back
into his cloak, and when he took it out,
it was restored,[g] like the rest of his
flesh.
8Then the LORD said, "If they do not
believe[h] you or pay attention to the
first miraculous sign,[i] they may be-
lieve the second. 9But if they do not be-
lieve these two signs or listen to you,
take some water from the Nile and
pour it on the dry ground. The water
you take from the river will become
blood[j] on the ground."
10Moses said to the LORD, "O Lord, I
have never been eloquent, neither in
the past nor since you have spoken to
your servant. I am slow of speech and
tongue."[k]
11The LORD said to him, "Who gave
man his mouth? Who makes him deaf
or mute?[l] Who gives him sight or
makes him blind?[m] Is it not I, the LORD?
12Now go;[n] I will help you speak and
will teach you what to say."[o]
13But Moses said, "O Lord, please
send someone else to do it."[p]
14Then the LORD's anger burned[q]
against Moses and he said, "What
about your brother, Aaron the Levite? I
know he can speak well. He is already
on his way to meet[r] you, and his heart

3:12 [a]S ver 1; Ac 7:7 **3:13** [b]S Ge 32:29 **3:14** [c]Ex 6:2-3; Jn 8:58; Heb 13:8; Rev 1:8; 4:8 **3:15** [d]Ge 31:42; Da 2:23 [e]S Ge 24:12 [f]Ex 6:3,7; 15:3; 23:21; 34:5-7; Lev 24:11; Dt 28:58; Ps 30:4; 83:18; 96:2; 97:12; 135:13; 145:21; Isa 42:8; Jer 16:21; 33:2; Hos 12:5 [g]Ps 45:17; 72:17; 102:12 **3:16** [h]Ex 4:29; 17:5; Lev 4:15; Nu 11:16; 16:25; Dt 5:23; 19:12; Jdg 8:14; Ru 4:2; Pr 31:23; Eze 8:11 [i]S Ge 24:12 [j]Ex 4:31; 2Ki 19:16; 2Ch 6:20; Ps 33:18; 66:7 **3:17** [k]S Ge 15:16; 46:4; Ex 6:6 [l]S ver 8 **3:18** [m]Ex 4:1,8, 31; 6:12,30 [n]S Ge 14:13 [o]Nu 23:4,16 [p]S Ge 30:36 [q]Ex 4:23; 5:1,3; 6:11; 7:16; 8:20, 27; 9:13; 10:9,26 **3:19** [r]Ex 4:21; 6:6; 7:3; 10:1; 11:9; Dt 4:34; 2Ch 6:32 **3:20** [s]Ex 6:1,6; 7:4-5; 9:15; 13:3, 9,14,16; 15:6,12; Dt 4:34,37; 5:15; 7:8; 26:8; 2Ki 17:36; 2Ch 6:32; Ps 118:15-16; 136:12; Isa 41:10; 63:12; Jer 21:5; 51:25; Da 9:15 [t]Ex 4:21; 7:3; 11:9,10; 15:11; 34:10; Nu 14:11; Dt 3:24; 4:34; 6:22; Ne 9:10; Ps 71:19; 72:18; 77:14; 78:43; 86:10; 105:27; 106:22; 135:9; 136:4; Jer 32:20; Mic 7:15; Ac 7:36 [u]Ex 11:1; 12:31-33 **3:21** [v]S Ge 39:21 [w]Ex 11:2; 2Ch 30:9; Ne 1:11; Ps 105:37; 106:46; Jer 42:12 **3:22** [x]Job 27:16-17 [y]Ex 11:2; 12:35; Ezr 1:4,6; 7:16; Ps 105:37 [z]S Ge 15:14; Eze 39:10 [a]Eze 29:10 **4:1** [b]S Ex 3:18 **4:2** [c]ver 17,20; Ge 38:18; Ex 7:19; 8:5,16; 14:16,21; 17:5-6, 9; Nu 17:2; 20:8; Jos 8:18; Jdg 6:21; 1Sa 14:27; 2Ki 4:29 **4:3** [d]Ex 7:8-12,15 **4:5** [e]ver 31; S Ex 3:6; 14:31; 19:9 **4:6** [f]Lev 13:2,11; Nu 12:10; Dt 24:9; 2Ki 5:1,27; 2Ch 26:21 **4:7** [g]2Ki 5:14; Mt 8:3; Lk 17:12-14 **4:8** [h]S Ex 3:18 [i]ver 30; Jdg 6:17; 1Ki 13:3; Isa 7:14; Jer 44:29 **4:9** [j]Ex 7:17-21 **4:10** [k]S Ex 3:11 **4:11** [l]Lk 1:20,64 [m]Ps 94:9; 146:8; Mt 11:5; Jn 10:21 **4:12** [n]S Ex 3:10 [o]ver 15-16; Nu 23:5; Dt 18:15,18; Isa 50:4; 51:16; Jer 1:9; Mt 10:19-20; Mk 13:11; S Lk 12:12 **4:13** [p]Jnh 1:1-3 **4:14** [q]Nu 11:1,10,33; 12:9; 16:15; 22:22; 24:10; 32:13; Dt 7:25; Jos 7:1; Job 17:8 [r]ver 27; 1Sa 10:2-5

[e]12 The Hebrew is plural. [f]14 Or I WILL BE WHAT I WILL BE
[g]15 The Hebrew for LORD sounds like and may be derived from the Hebrew for I AM in verse 14.
[h]6 The Hebrew word was used for various diseases affecting the skin—not necessarily leprosy.

will be glad when he sees you. 15You
shall speak to him and put words in his
mouth;[a] I will help both of you speak
and will teach you what to do. 16He will
speak to the people for you, and it will
be as if he were your mouth[b] and as if
you were God to him.[c] 17But take this
staff[d] in your hand[e] so you can per-
form miraculous signs[f] with it."

Moses Returns to Egypt

18Then Moses went back to Jethro his
father-in-law and said to him, "Let me
go back to my own people in Egypt to
see if any of them are still alive."
Jethro said, "Go, and I wish you
well."
19Now the LORD had said to Moses in
Midian, "Go back to Egypt, for all the
men who wanted to kill[g] you are
dead.[h]" 20So Moses took his wife and
sons,[i] put them on a donkey and
started back to Egypt. And he took the
staff[j] of God in his hand.
21The LORD said to Moses, "When
you return to Egypt, see that you per-
form before Pharaoh all the wonders[k] I
have given you the power to do. But I
will harden his heart[l] so that he will
not let the people go.[m] 22Then say to
Pharaoh, 'This is what the LORD says:
Israel is my firstborn son,[n] 23and I told
you, "Let my son go,[o] so he may wor-
ship[p] me." But you refused to let him
go; so I will kill your firstborn son.' "[q]
24At a lodging place on the way, the
LORD met ˻Moses˼[i] and was about to
kill[r] him. 25But Zipporah[s] took a flint
knife, cut off her son's foreskin[t] and
touched ˻Moses'˼ feet with it.[j] "Surely
you are a bridegroom of blood to me,"
she said. 26So the LORD let him alone.
(At that time she said "bridegroom of
blood," referring to circumcision.)
27The LORD said to Aaron, "Go into
the desert to meet Moses." So he met
Moses at the mountain[u] of God and
kissed[v] him. 28Then Moses told Aaron
everything the LORD had sent him to
say,[w] and also about all the miraculous
signs he had commanded him to per-
form.
29Moses and Aaron brought together
all the elders[x] of the Israelites, 30and
Aaron told them everything the LORD
had said to Moses. He also performed
the signs[y] before the people, 31and
they believed.[z] And when they heard
that the LORD was concerned[a] about
them and had seen their misery,[b] they
bowed down and worshiped.[c]

Bricks Without Straw

5 Afterward Moses and Aaron went
to Pharaoh and said, "This is what
the LORD, the God of Israel, says: 'Let
my people go,[d] so that they may hold a
festival[e] to me in the desert.' "
2Pharaoh said, "Who is the LORD,[f]
that I should obey him and let Israel
go? I do not know the LORD and I will
not let Israel go."[g]
3Then they said, "The God of the He-
brews has met with us. Now let us take
a three-day journey[h] into the desert to
offer sacrifices to the LORD our God, or
he may strike us with plagues[i] or with
the sword."
4But the king of Egypt said, "Moses
and Aaron, why are you taking the
people away from their labor?[j] Get
back to your work!" 5Then Pharaoh
said, "Look, the people of the land are
now numerous,[k] and you are stopping
them from working."
6That same day Pharaoh gave this or-
der to the slave drivers[l] and foremen
in charge of the people: 7"You are no
longer to supply the people with straw
for making bricks;[m] let them go and
gather their own straw. 8But require
them to make the same number of
bricks as before; don't reduce the
quota.[n] They are lazy;[o] that is why
they are crying out, 'Let us go and sac-
rifice to our God.'[p] 9Make the work
harder for the men so that they keep
working and pay no attention to lies."
10Then the slave drivers[q] and the
foremen went out and said to the
people, "This is what Pharaoh says: 'I
will not give you any more straw. 11Go
and get your own straw wherever you
can find it, but your work will not be
reduced[r] at all.' " 12So the people scat-
tered all over Egypt to gather stubble to
use for straw. 13The slave drivers kept
pressing them, saying, "Complete the
work required of you for each day, just
as when you had straw." 14The Israelite
foremen appointed by Pharaoh's slave
drivers were beaten[s] and were asked,
"Why didn't you meet your quota of
bricks yesterday or today, as before?"
15Then the Israelite foremen went
and appealed to Pharaoh: "Why have
you treated your servants this way?
16Your servants are given no straw, yet
we are told, 'Make bricks!' Your ser-
vants are being beaten, but the fault is
with your own people."

4:15 [a]ver 30; Nu 23:5,12,16; Dt 18:18; Jos 1:8; Isa 51:16; 59:21; Jer 1:9; 31:33 **4:16** [b]Ex 7:1-2; Jer 15:19; 36:6 [c]Nu 33:1; Ps 77:20; 105:26; Mic 6:4 **4:17** [d]S ver 2 [e]ver 20; Ex 17:9 [f]Ex 7:9-21; 8:5, 16; 9:22; 10:12-15,21-23; 14:15-18,26; Nu 14:11; Dt 4:34; Ps 74:9; 78:43; 105:27 **4:19** [g]Ex 2:15 [h]Ex 2:23; Mt 2:20 **4:20** [i]Ex 2:22; 18:3; Ac 7:29 [j]S ver 2 **4:21** [k]S Ex 3:19, 20 [l]Ex 7:3,13; 8:15; 9:12,35; 10:1,20,27; 11:10; 14:4,8; Dt 2:30; Jos 11:20; 1Sa 6:6; Ps 105:25; Isa 6:10; 63:17; Jn 12:40; Ro 9:18 [m]Ex 8:32; 9:17 **4:22** [n]S Ge 10:15; Dt 32:6; Isa 9:6; 63:16; 64:8; Jer 3:19; 31:9; Hos 11:1; Mal 2:10; Ro 9:4; 2Co 6:18 **4:23** [o]Ex 5:1; 7:16 [p]S Ex 3:18 [q]Ge 49:3; Ex 11:5; 12:12, 29; Nu 8:17; 33:4; Ps 78:51; 105:36; 135:8; 136:10 **4:24** [r]Nu 22:22 **4:25** [s]S Ex 2:21 [t]Ge 17:14; Jos 5:2,3 **4:27** [u]S Ex 3:1 [v]S Ge 27:27; S 29:13 **4:28** [w]ver 16 **4:29** [x]S Ex 3:16 **4:30** [y]S ver 8 **4:31** [z]S Ex 3:18 [a]S Ex 2:25 [b]S Ge 16:11 [c]S Ge 24:26

5:1 [d]S Ex 4:23 [e]S Ex 3:18 **5:2** [f]Jdg 2:10; Job 21:15; Mal 3:14 [g]Ex 3:19 **5:3** [h]S Ge 30:36 [i]Lev 26:25; Nu 14:12; Dt 28:21; 2Sa 24:13 **5:4** [j]S Ex 1:11; 6:6-7 **5:5** [k]S Ge 12:2 **5:6** [l]S Ge 15:13 **5:7** [m]S Ge 11:3 **5:8** [n]ver 14,18 [o]ver 17 [p]Ex 10:11 **5:10** [q]ver 13; Ex 1:11 **5:11** [r]ver 19 **5:14** [s]ver 16; Isa 10:24

[i]24 Or *Moses' son*; Hebrew *him* [j]25 Or *and drew near Moses' feet*

17Pharaoh said, "Lazy, that's what
you are—lazy![a] That is why you keep
saying, 'Let us go and sacrifice to the
LORD.' 18Now get to work.[b] You will
not be given any straw, yet you must
produce your full quota of bricks."
19The Israelite foremen realized they
were in trouble when they were told,
"You are not to reduce the number of
bricks required of you for each day."
20When they left Pharaoh, they found
Moses and Aaron waiting to meet
them, 21and they said, "May the LORD
look upon you and judge[c] you! You
have made us a stench[d] to Pharaoh
and his officials and have put a sword[e]
in their hand to kill us."[f]

God Promises Deliverance

22Moses returned to the LORD and
said, "O Lord, why have you brought
trouble upon this people?[g] Is this why
you sent me? 23Ever since I went to
Pharaoh to speak in your name, he has
brought trouble upon this people, and
you have not rescued[h] your people at
all."

6 Then the LORD said to Moses, "Now
you will see what I will do to Phar-
aoh: Because of my mighty hand[i] he
will let them go;[j] because of my
mighty hand he will drive them out of
his country."[k]
2God also said to Moses, "I am the
LORD.[l] 3I appeared to Abraham, to
Isaac and to Jacob as God Almighty,[k][m]
but by my name[n] the LORD[l][o] I did not
make myself known to them.[m] 4I also
established my covenant[p] with them to
give them the land[q] of Canaan, where
they lived as aliens.[r] 5Moreover, I have
heard the groaning[s] of the Israelites,
whom the Egyptians are enslaving,
and I have remembered my covenant.[t]
6"Therefore, say to the Israelites: 'I
am the LORD, and I will bring you out
from under the yoke of the Egyptians.[u]
I will free you from being slaves to
them, and I will redeem[v] you with an
outstretched arm[w] and with mighty
acts of judgment.[x] 7I will take you as
my own people, and I will be your
God.[y] Then you will know[z] that I am
the LORD your God, who brought you
out from under the yoke of the Egyp-
tians. 8And I will bring you to the
land[a] I swore[b] with uplifted hand[c] to
give to Abraham, to Isaac and to
Jacob.[d] I will give it to you as a posses-
sion. I am the LORD.' "[e]
9Moses reported this to the Israelites,
but they did not listen to him because
of their discouragement and cruel
bondage.[f]
10Then the LORD said to Moses,
11"Go, tell[g] Pharaoh king of Egypt to
let the Israelites go out of his coun-
try."[h]
12But Moses said to the LORD, "If the
Israelites will not listen[i] to me, why
would Pharaoh listen to me, since I
speak with faltering lips[n]?"[j]

Family Record of Moses and Aaron

13Now the LORD spoke to Moses and
Aaron about the Israelites and Pharaoh
king of Egypt, and he commanded
them to bring the Israelites out of
Egypt.[k]
14These were the heads of their
families[o]:[l]
The sons of Reuben[m] the first-
born son of Israel were Hanoch and
Pallu, Hezron and Carmi. These
were the clans of Reuben.
15The sons of Simeon[n] were Je-
muel, Jamin, Ohad, Jakin, Zohar
and Shaul the son of a Canaanite
woman. These were the clans of
Simeon.
16These were the names of the
sons of Levi[o] according to their
records: Gershon,[p] Kohath and
Merari.[q] Levi lived 137 years.
17The sons of Gershon, by clans,
were Libni and Shimei.[r]
18The sons of Kohath[s] were Am-
ram, Izhar, Hebron and Uzziel.[t]
Kohath lived 133 years.
19The sons of Merari were Mahli
and Mushi.[u]
These were the clans of Levi ac-
cording to their records.
20Amram[v] married his father's
sister Jochebed, who bore him
Aaron and Moses.[w] Amram lived
137 years.
21The sons of Izhar[x] were Korah,
Nepheg and Zicri.
22The sons of Uzziel were Misha-
el, Elzaphan[y] and Sithri.
23Aaron married Elisheba,
daughter of Amminadab[z] and sis-

5:17 [a]ver 8
5:18
[b]S Ge 15:13
5:21 [c]S Ge 16:5
[d]S Ge 34:30
[e]Ex 16:3;
Nu 14:3; 20:3
[f]S Ex 1:13;
S 14:11
5:22 [g]Nu 11:11;
Dt 1:12; Jos 7:7
5:23 [h]Jer 4:10;
20:7; Eze 14:9
6:1 [i]S Ex 3:20;
S Dt 5:15
[j]S Ex 3:20
[k]Ex 11:1; 12:31,
33,39
6:2 [l]ver 6,7,8,
29; Ex 3:14,15;
7:5,17; 8:22;
10:2; 12:12; 14:4,
18; 16:12;
Lev 11:44; 18:21;
20:7; Isa 25:3;
41:20; 43:11;
49:23; 60:16;
Eze 13:9; 25:17;
36:38; 37:6,13;
Joel 2:27
6:3 [m]S Ge 17:1
[n]S Ex 3:15;
2Sa 7:26;
Ps 48:10; 61:5;
68:4; 83:18; 99:3;
Isa 52:6 [o]Ex 3:14;
Jn 8:58
6:4 [p]S Ge 6:18;
S 15:18
[q]S Ge 12:7;
Ac 7:5; Ro 4:13;
Gal 3:16;
Heb 11:8-10
[r]S Ge 17:8
6:5 [s]S Ex 2:23;
Ac 7:34
[t]S Ge 9:15
6:6 [u]ver 7;
Ex 3:8; 12:17,51;
16:1,6; 18:1;
19:1; 20:2; 29:46;
Lev 22:33; 26:13;
Dt 6:12;
Ps 81:10; 136:11;
Jer 2:6; Hos 13:4;
Am 2:10; Mic 6:4
[v]Ex 15:13;
Dt 7:8; 9:26;
1Ch 17:21;
Job 19:25;
Ps 19:14; 34:22;
74:2; 77:15;
107:2; Isa 29:22;
35:9; 43:1; 44:23;
48:20; Jer 15:21;
31:11; 50:34
[w]S Ex 3:19,20;
S Jer 32:21;
Ac 13:17
[x]Ex 3:20;
Ps 9:16; 105:27
6:7 [y]S Ge 17:7;
S Ex 34:9;
Eze 11:19-20;
Ro 9:4 [z]S ver 2;
1Ki 20:13,28;
Isa 43:10; 48:7;
Eze 39:6;
Joel 3:17
6:8 [a]S Ge 12:7;
Ex 3:8 [b]Jer 11:5;
Eze 20:6
[c]S Ge 14:22;
Rev 10:5-6
[d]Ps 136:21-22
[e]Lev 18:21

6:9 [f]S Ge 34:30;
Ex 2:23
6:11 [g]ver 29
[h]S Ex 3:18
6:12 [i]S Ex 3:18
[j]Ex 4:10
6:13 [k]S Ex 3:10
6:14 [l]Ex 13:3;
Nu 1:1; 26:4
[m]S Ge 29:32

6:15 [n]S Ge 29:33 **6:16** [o]S Ge 29:34 [p]S Ge 46:11 [q]Nu 3:17;
Jos 21:7; 1Ch 6:1,16 **6:17** [r]Nu 3:18; 1Ch 6:17 **6:18** [s]Nu 3:27;
1Ch 23:12 [t]Nu 3:19; 1Ch 6:2,18 **6:19** [u]Nu 3:20,33; 1Ch 6:19;
23:21 **6:20** [v]1Ch 23:13 [w]Ex 2:1-2; Nu 26:59 **6:21** [x]1Ch 6:38
6:22 [y]Lev 10:4; Nu 3:30; 1Ch 15:8; 2Ch 29:13 **6:23**
[z]Ru 4:19,20; 1Ch 2:10

[k]3 Hebrew *El-Shaddai* [l]3 See note at Exodus 3:15.
[m]3 Or *Almighty, and by my name the LORD did I not let myself be known to them?* [n]12 Hebrew *I am uncircumcised of lips;* also in verse 30 [o]14 The Hebrew for *families* here and in verse 25 refers to units larger than clans.

ter of Nahshon,[a] and she bore him
Nadab and Abihu,[b] Eleazar[c] and
Ithamar.[d]
24The sons of Korah[e] were Assir,
Elkanah and Abiasaph. These were
the Korahite clans.
25Eleazar son of Aaron married
one of the daughters of Putiel, and
she bore him Phinehas.[f]

These were the heads of the Levite families, clan by clan.

26It was this same Aaron and Moses
to whom the LORD said, "Bring the Isra-
elites out of Egypt[g] by their divi-
sions."[h] 27They were the ones who
spoke to Pharaoh[i] king of Egypt about
bringing the Israelites out of Egypt. It
was the same Moses and Aaron.[j]

Aaron to Speak for Moses

28Now when the LORD spoke to
Moses in Egypt, 29he said to him, "I am
the LORD.[k] Tell Pharaoh king of Egypt
everything I tell you."
30But Moses said to the LORD, "Since I
speak with faltering lips,[l] why would
Pharaoh listen to me?"

7 Then the LORD said to Moses, "See,
I have made you like God[m] to Phar-
aoh, and your brother Aaron will be
your prophet.[n] 2You are to say every-
thing I command you, and your broth-
er Aaron is to tell Pharaoh to let the
Israelites go out of his country. 3But I
will harden Pharaoh's heart,[o] and
though I multiply my miraculous signs
and wonders[p] in Egypt, 4he will not
listen[q] to you. Then I will lay my hand
on Egypt and with mighty acts of judg-
ment[r] I will bring out my divisions,[s]
my people the Israelites. 5And the
Egyptians will know that I am the
LORD[t] when I stretch out my hand[u]
against Egypt and bring the Israelites
out of it."
6Moses and Aaron did just as the
LORD commanded[v] them. 7Moses was
eighty years old[w] and Aaron eighty-
three when they spoke to Pharaoh.

Aaron's Staff Becomes a Snake

8The LORD said to Moses and Aaron,
9"When Pharaoh says to you, 'Perform
a miracle,[x]' then say to Aaron, 'Take
your staff and throw it down before
Pharaoh,' and it will become a
snake."[y]
10So Moses and Aaron went to Phar-
aoh and did just as the LORD com-
manded. Aaron threw his staff down in
front of Pharaoh and his officials, and it
became a snake. 11Pharaoh then sum-
moned wise men and sorcerers,[z] and
the Egyptian magicians[a] also did the
same things by their secret arts:[b]
12Each one threw down his staff and it
became a snake. But Aaron's staff swal-
lowed up their staffs. 13Yet Pharaoh's
heart[c] became hard and he would not
listen[d] to them, just as the LORD had
said.

The Plague of Blood

14Then the LORD said to Moses,
"Pharaoh's heart is unyielding;[e] he
refuses to let the people go. 15Go to
Pharaoh in the morning as he goes out
to the water.[f] Wait on the bank of the
Nile[g] to meet him, and take in your
hand the staff that was changed into a
snake. 16Then say to him, 'The LORD,
the God of the Hebrews, has sent me to
say to you: Let my people go, so that
they may worship[h] me in the desert.
But until now you have not listened.[i]
17This is what the LORD says: By this
you will know that I am the LORD:[j]
With the staff that is in my hand I will
strike the water of the Nile, and it will
be changed into blood.[k] 18The fish in
the Nile will die, and the river will
stink;[l] the Egyptians will not be able to
drink its water.'"[m]
19The LORD said to Moses, "Tell
Aaron, 'Take your staff[n] and stretch
out your hand[o] over the waters of
Egypt—over the streams and canals,
over the ponds and all the reser-
voirs'—and they will turn to blood.
Blood will be everywhere in Egypt,
even in the wooden buckets and stone
jars."
20Moses and Aaron did just as the
LORD had commanded.[p] He raised his
staff in the presence of Pharaoh and his
officials and struck the water of the
Nile,[q] and all the water was changed
into blood.[r] 21The fish in the Nile died,
and the river smelled so bad that the
Egyptians could not drink its water.
Blood was everywhere in Egypt.
22But the Egyptian magicians[s] did
the same things by their secret arts,[t]
and Pharaoh's heart[u] became hard; he
would not listen to Moses and Aaron,
just as the LORD had said. 23Instead, he
turned and went into his palace, and
did not take even this to heart. 24And
all the Egyptians dug along the Nile to
get drinking water[v], because they
could not drink the water of the river.

6:23 [a]Nu 1:7; 2:3; Mt 1:4 [b]Ex 24:1; 28:1; Lev 10:1 [c]Lev 10:6; Nu 3:2,32; 16:37,39; Dt 10:6; Jos 14:1 [d]Ex 28:1; Lev 10:12,16; Nu 3:2; 4:28; 26:60; 1Ch 6:3; 24:1
6:24 [e]ver 21; Nu 16:1; 1Ch 6:22,37
6:25 [f]Nu 25:7,11; 31:6; Jos 24:33; Ps 106:30
6:26 [g]S Ex 3:10 [h]Ex 7:4; 12:17,41,51
6:27 [i]Ex 5:1 [j]Nu 3:1; Ps 77:20
6:29 [k]S ver 2
6:30 [l]S Ex 3:11
7:1 [m]S Ex 4:16 [n]Ex 4:15; Ac 14:12
7:3 [o]S Ex 4:21; Ro 9:18 [p]S Ex 3:20; S 10:1; Ac 7:36
7:4 [q]ver 13,16,22; Ex 8:15,19; 9:12; 11:9 [r]S Ex 3:20; Ac 7:36 [s]S Ex 6:26
7:5 [t]S Ex 6:2 [u]Ex 3:20; Ps 138:7; Eze 6:14; 25:13
7:6 [v]ver 2,10,20; Ge 6:22
7:7 [w]Dt 31:2; 34:7; Ac 7:23,30
7:9 [x]Dt 6:22; 2Ki 19:29; Ps 78:43; 86:17; 105:27; 135:9; Isa 7:11; 37:30; 38:7-8; 55:13; S Jn 2:11 [y]Ex 4:2-5
7:11 [z]Ex 22:18; Dt 18:10; 1Sa 6:2; 2Ki 21:6; Isa 2:6; 47:12; Jer 27:9; Mal 3:5 [a]S Ge 41:8; 2Ti 3:8 [b]ver 22; Ex 8:7,18; S Mt 24:24
7:13 [c]S Ex 4:21 [d]S ver 4
7:14 [e]ver 22; Ex 8:15,32; 9:7; 10:1,20,27
7:15 [f]Ex 8:20 [g]S Ge 41:1
7:16 [h]S Ex 3:18 [i]S ver 4
7:17 [j]S Ex 6:2; 14:25 [k]ver 19-21; Ex 4:9; Rev 11:6; 16:4
7:18 [l]Isa 19:6 [m]ver 21,24; Ps 78:44
7:19 [n]S Ex 4:2 [o]Ex 14:21; 2Ki 5:11
7:20 [p]S ver 6 [q]Ex 17:5 [r]Ps 78:44; 105:29; 114:3; Hab 3:8
7:22 [s]S Ge 41:8 [t]S ver 11; S Mt 24:24 [u]ver 13,S 14; Ex 8:19; Ps 105:28
7:24 [v]S ver 18

The Plague of Frogs

25Seven days passed after the LORD struck the Nile. 8 1Then the LORD said to Moses, "Go to Pharaoh and say to him, 'This is what the LORD says: Let my people go, so that they may worship[a] me. 2If you refuse to let them go, I will plague your whole country with frogs.[b] 3The Nile will teem with frogs. They will come up into your palace and your bedroom and onto your bed, into the houses of your officials and on your people,[c] and into your ovens and kneading troughs.[d] 4The frogs will go up on you and your people and all your officials.' "

5Then the LORD said to Moses, "Tell Aaron, 'Stretch out your hand with your staff[e] over the streams and canals and ponds, and make frogs[f] come up on the land of Egypt.' "

6So Aaron stretched out his hand over the waters of Egypt, and the frogs[g] came up and covered the land. 7But the magicians did the same things by their secret arts;[h] they also made frogs come up on the land of Egypt.

8Pharaoh summoned Moses and Aaron and said, "Pray[i] to the LORD to take the frogs away from me and my people, and I will let your people go to offer sacrifices[j] to the LORD."

9Moses said to Pharaoh, "I leave to you the honor of setting the time[k] for me to pray for you and your officials and your people that you and your houses may be rid of the frogs, except for those that remain in the Nile."

10"Tomorrow," Pharaoh said.

Moses replied, "It will be as you say, so that you may know there is no one like the LORD our God.[l] 11The frogs will leave you and your houses, your officials and your people; they will remain only in the Nile."

12After Moses and Aaron left Pharaoh, Moses cried out to the LORD about the frogs he had brought on Pharaoh. 13And the LORD did what Moses asked.[m] The frogs died in the houses, in the courtyards and in the fields. 14They were piled into heaps, and the land reeked of them. 15But when Pharaoh saw that there was relief,[n] he hardened his heart[o] and would not listen to Moses and Aaron, just as the LORD had said.

The Plague of Gnats

16Then the LORD said to Moses, "Tell Aaron, 'Stretch out your staff[p] and strike the dust of the ground,' and throughout the land of Egypt the dust will become gnats." 17They did this, and when Aaron stretched out his hand with the staff and struck the dust of the ground, gnats[q] came upon men and animals. All the dust throughout the land of Egypt became gnats. 18But when the magicians[r] tried to produce gnats by their secret arts,[s] they could not. And the gnats were on men and animals.

19The magicians said to Pharaoh, "This is the finger[t] of God." But Pharaoh's heart[u] was hard and he would not listen,[v] just as the LORD had said.

The Plague of Flies

20Then the LORD said to Moses, "Get up early in the morning[w] and confront Pharaoh as he goes to the water and say to him, 'This is what the LORD says: Let my people go, so that they may worship[x] me. 21If you do not let my people go, I will send swarms of flies on you and your officials, on your people and into your houses. The houses of the Egyptians will be full of flies, and even the ground where they are.

22" 'But on that day I will deal differently with the land of Goshen,[y] where my people live;[z] no swarms of flies will be there, so that you will know[a] that I, the LORD, am in this land. 23I will make a distinction[p] between my people and your people.[b] This miraculous sign will occur tomorrow.' "

24And the LORD did this. Dense swarms of flies poured into Pharaoh's palace and into the houses of his officials, and throughout Egypt the land was ruined by the flies.[c]

25Then Pharaoh summoned[d] Moses and Aaron and said, "Go, sacrifice to your God here in the land."

26But Moses said, "That would not be right. The sacrifices we offer the LORD our God would be detestable to the Egyptians.[e] And if we offer sacrifices that are detestable in their eyes, will they not stone us? 27We must take a three-day journey[f] into the desert to offer sacrifices[g] to the LORD our God, as he commands us."

28Pharaoh said, "I will let you go to offer sacrifices to the LORD your God in the desert, but you must not go very far. Now pray[h] for me."

8:1 [a] Ex 3:12; 4:23; 5:1; 9:1 **8:2** [b] Ps 78:45; 105:30; Rev 16:13 **8:3** [c] Ex 10:6 [d] Ex 12:34 **8:5** [e] S Ex 4:2; 7:9-20; 9:23; 10:13,21-22; 14:27 [f] S Ex 4:17 **8:6** [g] Ps 78:45; 105:30 **8:7** [h] S Ex 7:11; S Mt 24:24 **8:8** [i] ver 28; Ex 9:28; 10:17; Nu 21:7; 1Sa 12:19; 1Ki 13:6; Jer 42:2; Ac 8:24 [j] ver 25; Ex 10:8, 24; 12:31 **8:9** [k] Ex 9:5 **8:10** [l] Ex 9:14; 15:11; Dt 3:24; 4:35; 33:26; 2Sa 7:22; 1Ki 8:23; 1Ch 17:20; 2Ch 6:14; Ps 71:19; 86:8; 89:6; 113:5; Isa 40:18; 42:8; 46:9; Jer 10:6; 49:19; Mic 7:18 **8:13** [m] Jas 5:16-18 **8:15** [n] Ecc 8:11 [o] S Ex 7:14 **8:16** [p] S Ex 4:2

8:17 [q] Ps 105:31 **8:18** [r] Ex 9:11; Da 5:8 [s] S Ex 7:11 **8:19** [t] Ex 7:5; 10:7; 12:33; 31:18; 1Sa 6:9; Ne 9:6; Ps 8:3; 33:6; Lk 11:20 [u] S Ex 7:22 [v] S Ex 7:4 **8:20** [w] Ex 7:15; 9:13 [x] S Ex 3:18 **8:22** [y] S Ge 45:10 [z] Ex 9:4,6,26; 10:23; 11:7; 12:13; 19:5; Dt 4:20; 7:6; 14:2; 26:18; 1Ki 8:36; Job 36:11; Ps 33:12; 135:4; Mal 3:17 [a] Ex 7:5; 9:29 **8:23** [b] Ex 9:4,6; 10:23; 11:7; 12:13,23,27 **8:24** [c] Ps 78:45; 105:31 **8:25** [d] ver 8; Ex 9:27; 10:16; 12:31 **8:26** [e] S Ge 43:32 **8:27** [f] S Ge 30:36 [g] S Ex 3:18 **8:28** [h] S ver 8; S Jer 37:3; Ac 8:24

p23 Septuagint and Vulgate; Hebrew *will put a deliverance*

29Moses answered, "As soon as I
leave you, I will pray to the LORD, and
tomorrow the flies will leave Pharaoh
and his officials and his people. Only
be sure that Pharaoh does not act de-
ceitfully[a] again by not letting the
people go to offer sacrifices to the
LORD."
30Then Moses left Pharaoh and
prayed to the LORD,[b] 31and the LORD did
what Moses asked: The flies left Phar-
aoh and his officials and his people; not
a fly remained. 32But this time also
Pharaoh hardened his heart[c] and
would not let the people go.

The Plague on Livestock

9 Then the LORD said to Moses, "Go
to Pharaoh and say to him, 'This is
what the LORD, the God of the He-
brews, says: "Let my people go, so that
they may worship[d] me." 2If you refuse
to let them go and continue to hold
them back, 3the hand[e] of the LORD will
bring a terrible plague[f] on your live-
stock in the field—on your horses and
donkeys and camels and on your cattle
and sheep and goats. 4But the LORD will
make a distinction between the live-
stock of Israel and that of Egypt,[g] so
that no animal belonging to the Israel-
ites will die.' "
5The LORD set a time and said, "To-
morrow the LORD will do this in the
land." 6And the next day the LORD did
it: All the livestock[h] of the Egyptians
died,[i] but not one animal belonging to
the Israelites died. 7Pharaoh sent men
to investigate and found that not even
one of the animals of the Israelites had
died. Yet his heart[j] was unyielding
and he would not let the people go.[k]

The Plague of Boils

8Then the LORD said to Moses and
Aaron, "Take handfuls of soot from a
furnace and have Moses toss it into the
air in the presence of Pharaoh. 9It will
become fine dust over the whole land
of Egypt, and festering boils[l] will
break out on men and animals
throughout the land."
10So they took soot from a furnace
and stood before Pharaoh. Moses
tossed it into the air, and festering boils
broke out on men and animals. 11The
magicians[m] could not stand before
Moses because of the boils that were on
them and on all the Egyptians. 12But
the LORD hardened Pharaoh's heart[n]
and he would not listen[o] to Moses and
Aaron, just as the LORD had said to
Moses.

The Plague of Hail

13Then the LORD said to Moses, "Get
up early in the morning, confront Phar-
aoh and say to him, 'This is what the
LORD, the God of the Hebrews, says:
Let my people go, so that they may
worship[p] me, 14or this time I will send
the full force of my plagues against you
and against your officials and your
people, so you may know[q] that there is
no one like[r] me in all the earth. 15For
by now I could have stretched out my
hand and struck you and your people[s]
with a plague that would have wiped
you off the earth. 16But I have raised
you up[a] for this very purpose,[t] that I
might show you my power[u] and that
my name might be proclaimed in all
the earth. 17You still set yourself
against my people and will not let them
go. 18Therefore, at this time tomorrow I
will send the worst hailstorm[v] that has
ever fallen on Egypt, from the day it
was founded till now.[w] 19Give an order
now to bring your livestock and every-
thing you have in the field to a place of
shelter, because the hail will fall on
every man and animal that has not
been brought in and is still out in the
field, and they will die.' "
20Those officials of Pharaoh who
feared[x] the word of the LORD hurried to
bring their slaves and their livestock in-
side. 21But those who ignored[y] the
word of the LORD left their slaves and
livestock in the field.
22Then the LORD said to Moses,
"Stretch out your hand toward the sky
so that hail will fall all over Egypt—on
men and animals and on everything
growing in the fields of Egypt."
23When Moses stretched out his staff
toward the sky, the LORD sent thunder[z]
and hail,[a] and lightning flashed down
to the ground. So the LORD rained hail
on the land of Egypt; 24hail fell and
lightning flashed back and forth. It was
the worst storm in all the land of Egypt
since it had become a nation.[b]
25Throughout Egypt hail struck every-
thing in the fields—both men and ani-
mals; it beat down everything growing
in the fields and stripped every tree.[c]
26The only place it did not hail was the
land of Goshen,[d] where the Israelites
were.[e]
27Then Pharaoh summoned Moses

8:29 a ver 15; Ex 9:30; 10:11; Isa 26:10 **8:30** b ver 12; Ex 9:33; 10:18 **8:32** c S Ex 7:14 **9:1** d S Ex 8:1 **9:3** e Ex 7:4; 1Sa 5:6; Job 19:21; Ps 32:4; 39:10; Ac 13:11 f Lev 26:25; Ps 78:50; Am 4:10 **9:4** g ver 26; S Ex 8:23 **9:6** h ver 19-21; Ex 11:5; 12:29 i Ps 78:48-50 **9:7** j S Ex 7:22 k Ex 7:14; 8:32 **9:9** l Lev 13:18, 19; Dt 28:27,35; 2Ki 20:7; Job 2:7; Isa 38:21; Rev 16:2 **9:11** m S Ex 8:18 **9:12** n S Ex 4:21 o S Ex 7:4

9:13 p S Ex 3:18 **9:14** q S Ex 8:10 r Ex 15:11; 1Sa 2:2; 2Sa 7:22; 1Ki 8:23; 1Ch 17:20; Ps 35:10; 71:19; 86:8; 89:6; Isa 46:9; Jer 10:6; Mic 7:18 **9:15** s Ex 3:20 **9:16** t Pr 16:4 u Ex 14:4,17,31; Ps 20:6; 25:11; 68:28; 71:18; 106:8; 109:21; Ro 9:17* **9:18** v ver 23; Jos 10:11; Ps 78:47-48; 105:32; 148:8; Isa 30:30; Eze 38:22; Hag 2:17 w ver 24; Ex 10:6 **9:20** x Pr 13:13 **9:21** y S Ge 19:14; Eze 33:4-5 **9:23** z Ex 20:18; 1Sa 7:10; 12:17; Ps 18:13; 29:3; 68:33; 77:17; 104:7 a S ver 18; Rev 8:7; 16:21 **9:24** b S ver 18 **9:25** c Ps 105:32-33; Eze 13:13 **9:26** d S ver 4; Isa 32:18-20 e Ex 10:23; 11:7; 12:13; Am 4:7

a16 *Or have spared you*

and Aaron. "This time I have
sinned,"[a] he said to them. "The LORD
is in the right,[b] and I and my people
are in the wrong. 28Pray[c] to the LORD,
for we have had enough thunder and
hail. I will let you go;[d] you don't have
to stay any longer."
29Moses replied, "When I have gone
out of the city, I will spread out my
hands[e] in prayer to the LORD. The
thunder will stop and there will be no
more hail, so you may know that the
earth[f] is the LORD's. 30But I know that
you and your officials still do not fear[g]
the LORD God."
31(The flax and barley[h] were de-
stroyed, since the barley had headed
and the flax was in bloom. 32The wheat
and spelt,[i] however, were not de-
stroyed, because they ripen later.)
33Then Moses left Pharaoh and went
out of the city. He spread out his hands
toward the LORD; the thunder and hail
stopped, and the rain no longer poured
down on the land. 34When Pharaoh
saw that the rain and hail and thunder
had stopped, he sinned again: He and
his officials hardened their hearts. 35So
Pharaoh's heart[j] was hard and he
would not let the Israelites go, just as
the LORD had said through Moses.

The Plague of Locusts

10 Then the LORD said to Moses,
"Go to Pharaoh, for I have hard-
ened his heart[k] and the hearts of his
officials so that I may perform these mi-
raculous signs[l] of mine among them
2that you may tell your children[m] and
grandchildren how I dealt harshly[n]
with the Egyptians and how I per-
formed my signs among them, and that
you may know that I am the LORD."[o]
3So Moses and Aaron went to Phar-
aoh and said to him, "This is what the
LORD, the God of the Hebrews, says:
'How long will you refuse to humble[p]
yourself before me? Let my people go,
so that they may worship me. 4If you
refuse[q] to let them go, I will bring lo-
custs[r] into your country tomorrow.
5They will cover the face of the ground
so that it cannot be seen. They will de-
vour what little you have left[s] after the
hail, including every tree that is grow-
ing in your fields.[t] 6They will fill your
houses[u] and those of all your officials
and all the Egyptians—something
neither your fathers nor your fore-
fathers have ever seen from the day
they settled in this land till now.' "[v]
Then Moses turned and left Pharaoh.
7Pharaoh's officials said to him,
"How long will this man be a snare[w] to
us? Let the people go, so that they may
worship the LORD their God. Do you
not yet realize that Egypt is ruined?"[x]
8Then Moses and Aaron were
brought back to Pharaoh. "Go, wor-
ship[y] the LORD your God," he said.
"But just who will be going?"
9Moses answered, "We will go with
our young and old, with our sons and
daughters, and with our flocks and
herds, because we are to celebrate a
festival[z] to the LORD."
10Pharaoh said, "The LORD be with
you—if I let you go, along with your
women and children! Clearly you are
bent on evil.[r] 11No! Have only the men
go; and worship the LORD, since that's
what you have been asking for." Then
Moses and Aaron were driven out of
Pharaoh's presence.
12And the LORD said to Moses,
"Stretch out your hand[a] over Egypt so
that locusts will swarm over the land
and devour everything growing in the
fields, everything left by the hail."
13So Moses stretched out his staff[b]
over Egypt, and the LORD made an east
wind blow across the land all that day
and all that night. By morning the
wind had brought the locusts;[c] 14they
invaded all Egypt and settled down in
every area of the country in great num-
bers. Never before had there been such
a plague of locusts,[d] nor will there ever
be again. 15They covered all the ground
until it was black. They devoured[e] all
that was left after the hail—everything
growing in the fields and the fruit on
the trees. Nothing green remained on
tree or plant in all the land of Egypt.
16Pharaoh quickly summoned[f]
Moses and Aaron and said, "I have
sinned[g] against the LORD your God and
against you. 17Now forgive[h] my sin
once more and pray[i] to the LORD your
God to take this deadly plague away
from me."
18Moses then left Pharaoh and
prayed to the LORD.[j] 19And the LORD
changed the wind to a very strong west
wind, which caught up the locusts and
carried them into the Red Sea.[s] Not a
locust was left anywhere in Egypt.
20But the LORD hardened Pharaoh's
heart,[k] and he would not let the Israel-
ites go.

9:27 [a]ver 34; Ex 10:16; Nu 14:40; Dt 1:41; Jos 7:11; Jdg 10:10; 1Sa 15:24; 24:17; 26:21 [b]Ps 11:7; 116:5; 119:137; 129:4; 145:17; Jer 12:1; La 1:18
9:28 [c]S Ex 8:8; Ac 8:24 [d]S Ex 8:8
9:29 [e]ver 33; 1Ki 8:22,38; Job 11:13; Ps 77:2; 88:9; 143:6; Isa 1:15 [f]Ex 19:5; Job 41:11; Ps 24:1; 50:12; 1Co 10:26
9:30 [g]S Ex 8:29
9:31 [h]Dt 8:8; Ru 1:22; 2:23; 2Sa 14:30; 17:28; Isa 28:25; Eze 4:9; Joel 1:11
9:32 [i]Isa 28:25
9:35 [j]S Ex 4:21
10:1 [k]S Ex 4:21 [l]S Ex 3:19; S 7:3; Jos 24:17; Ne 9:10; Ps 74:9; 105:26-36
10:2 [m]Ex 12:26-27; 13:8,14; Dt 4:9; 6:20; 32:7; Jos 4:6; Ps 44:1; 71:18; 78:4,5; Joel 1:3 [n]1Sa 6:6 [o]S Ex 6:2
10:3 [p]1Ki 21:29; 2Ki 22:19; 2Ch 7:14; 12:7; 33:23; 34:27; Job 42:6; Isa 58:3; Da 5:22; Jas 4:10; 1Pe 5:6
10:4 [q]Ex 8:2; 9:2 [r]Dt 28:38; Ps 105:34; Pr 30:27; Joel 1:4; Rev 9:3
10:5 [s]Ex 9:32; Joel 1:4 [t]ver 15
10:6 [u]Joel 2:9 [v]S Ex 9:18
10:7 [w]Ex 23:33; 34:12; Dt 7:16; 12:30; 20:18; Jos 23:7-13,13; Jdg 2:3; 8:27; 16:5; 1Sa 18:21; Ps 106:36; Ecc 7:26 [x]S Ge 20:3; S Ex 8:19
10:8 [y]S Ex 8:8
10:9 [z]S Ex 3:18
10:12 [a]Ex 7:19
10:13 [b]ver 21-22; Ex 4:17; 8:5,17; 9:23; 14:15-16,26-27; 17:5; Nu 20:8 [c]ver 4; 1Ki 8:37; Ps 78:46; 105:34; Am 4:9; Na 3:16
10:14 [d]Dt 28:38; Ps 78:46; Isa 33:4; Joel 1:4; 2:1-11,25; Am 4:9
10:15 [e]Dt 28:38; Ps 105:34-35; Joel 1:4; Am 7:2; Mal 3:11
10:16 [f]S Ex 8:25 [g]S Ex 9:27
10:17 [h]1Sa 15:25 [i]S Ex 8:8
10:18 [j]S Ex 8:30
10:20 [k]S Ex 4:21

[r]10 Or *Be careful, trouble is in store for you!*
[s]19 Hebrew *Yam Suph;* that is, Sea of Reeds

The Plague of Darkness

21 Then the LORD said to Moses,
"Stretch out your hand toward the sky
so that darkness[a] will spread over
Egypt—darkness that can be felt." 22 So
Moses stretched out his hand toward
the sky, and total darkness[b] covered all
Egypt for three days. 23 No one could
see anyone else or leave his place for
three days. Yet all the Israelites had
light in the places where they lived.[c]
24 Then Pharaoh summoned Moses
and said, "Go,[d] worship the LORD.
Even your women and children[e] may
go with you; only leave your flocks and
herds behind."[f]
25 But Moses said, "You must allow
us to have sacrifices and burnt offer-
ings[g] to present to the LORD our God.
26 Our livestock too must go with us;
not a hoof is to be left behind. We have
to use some of them in worshiping the
LORD our God, and until we get there
we will not know what we are to use to
worship the LORD."
27 But the LORD hardened Pharaoh's
heart,[h] and he was not willing to let
them go. 28 Pharaoh said to Moses, "Get
out of my sight! Make sure you do not
appear before me again! The day you
see my face you will die."
29 "Just as you say," Moses replied, "I
will never appear[i] before you again."

The Plague on the Firstborn

11 Now the LORD had said to
Moses, "I will bring one more
plague on Pharaoh and on Egypt. After
that, he will let you go[j] from here, and
when he does, he will drive you out
completely.[k] 2 Tell the people that men
and women alike are to ask their neigh-
bors for articles of silver and gold."[l]
3 (The LORD made the Egyptians favor-
ably disposed[m] toward the people, and
Moses himself was highly regarded[n] in
Egypt by Pharaoh's officials and by the
people.)
4 So Moses said, "This is what the
LORD says: 'About midnight[o] I will go
throughout Egypt.[p] 5 Every firstborn[q]
son in Egypt will die, from the firstborn
son of Pharaoh, who sits on the throne,
to the firstborn son of the slave girl,
who is at her hand mill,[r] and all the
firstborn of the cattle as well. 6 There
will be loud wailing[s] throughout
Egypt—worse than there has ever been
or ever will be again. 7 But among the
Israelites not a dog will bark at any
man or animal.' Then you will know
that the LORD makes a distinction[t] be-
tween Egypt and Israel. 8 All these offi-
cials of yours will come to me, bowing
down before me and saying, 'Go,[u] you
and all the people who follow you!' Af-
ter that I will leave."[v] Then Moses, hot
with anger, left Pharaoh.
9 The LORD had said to Moses, "Phar-
aoh will refuse to listen[w] to you—so
that my wonders[x] may be multiplied in
Egypt." 10 Moses and Aaron performed
all these wonders before Pharaoh, but
the LORD hardened Pharaoh's heart,[y]
and he would not let the Israelites go
out of his country.

The Passover

12:14-20pp — Lev 23:4-8; Nu 28:16-25; Dt 16:1-8

12 The LORD said to Moses and
Aaron in Egypt, 2 "This month is
to be for you the first month,[z] the first
month of your year. 3 Tell the whole
community of Israel that on the tenth
day of this month each man is to take a
lamb[t3][a] for his family, one for each
household.[b] 4 If any household is too
small for a whole lamb, they must
share one with their nearest neighbor,
having taken into account the number
of people there are. You are to deter-
mine the amount of lamb needed in
accordance with what each person will
eat. 5 The animals you choose must be
year-old males without defect,[c] and
you may take them from the sheep or
the goats. 6 Take care of them until the
fourteenth day of the month,[d] when all
the people of the community of Israel
must slaughter them at twilight.[e]
7 Then they are to take some of the
blood[f] and put it on the sides and tops
of the doorframes of the houses where
they eat the lambs. 8 That same night[g]
they are to eat the meat roasted[h] over
the fire, along with bitter herbs,[i] and
bread made without yeast.[j] 9 Do not
eat the meat raw or cooked in water,
but roast it over the fire—head, legs
and inner parts.[k] 10 Do not leave any of
it till morning;[l] if some is left till morn-
ing, you must burn it. 11 This is how
you are to eat it: with your cloak tucked
into your belt, your sandals on your
feet and your staff in your hand. Eat it
in haste;[m] it is the LORD's Passover.[n]
12 "On that same night I will pass
through[o] Egypt and strike down[p]

10:21 [a]Dt 28:29
10:22 [b]Ps 105:28; Isa 13:10; 45:7; 50:3; Rev 16:10
10:23 [c]S Ex 8:22; Am 4:7
10:24 [d]S Ex 8:8 [e]ver 8-10 [f]S Ge 45:10
10:25 [g]S Ge 8:20; S Ex 18:12
10:27 [h]S Ex 4:21
10:29 [i]Ex 11:8; Heb 11:27
11:1 [j]S Ex 3:20 [k]S Ex 6:1
11:2 [l]S Ex 3:21, 22
11:3 [m]S Ge 39:21 [n]Dt 34:11; 2Sa 7:9; 8:13; 22:44; 23:1; Est 9:4; Ps 89:27
11:4 [o]Ex 12:29; Job 34:20 [p]Ex 12:23; Ps 81:5
11:5 [q]S Ex 4:23 [r]Isa 47:2
11:6 [s]Ex 12:30; Pr 21:13; Am 5:17
11:7 [t]S Ex 8:22
11:8 [u]Ex 12:31-33 [v]Heb 11:27
11:9 [w]S Ex 7:4 [x]S Ex 3:20
11:10 [y]S Ex 4:21; Ro 2:5
12:2 [z]ver 18; Ex 13:4; 23:15; 34:18; 40:2; Dt 16:1
12:3 [a]Mk 14:12; 1Co 5:7 [b]ver 21
12:5 [c]Ex 29:1; Lev 1:3; 3:1; 4:3; 22:18-21; 23:12; Nu 6:14; 15:8; 28:3; Dt 15:21; 17:1; Heb 9:14; 1Pe 1:19
12:6 [d]ver 19; Lev 23:5; Nu 9:1-3,5,11; Jos 5:10; 2Ch 30:2 [e]Ex 16:12; Dt 16:4,6
12:7 [f]ver 13,23; Eze 9:6
12:8 [g]ver 10; Ex 16:19; 23:18; 34:25; Lev 7:15; Nu 9:12 [h]Dt 16:7; 2Ch 35:13 [i]Nu 9:11 [j]ver 19-20; Ex 13:3; Dt 16:3-4; 1Co 5:8
12:9 [k]Ex 29:13, 17,22; Lev 3:3
12:10 [l]S ver 8; Ex 13:7; 29:34; Lev 22:30; Dt 16:4
12:11 [m]ver 33; Dt 16:3; Isa 48:20; 52:12 [n]ver 13,21,27, 43; Lev 23:5; Nu 9:2,4; 28:16; Dt 16:1; Jos 5:10; 2Ki 23:21,23; 2Ch 30:1; Ezr 6:19; Isa 31:5; Eze 45:21
12:12 [o]Am 5:17 [p]Isa 10:33; 31:8; 37:36

t3 The Hebrew word can mean both *lamb* or *kid;* also in verse 4.

every firstborn[a]—both men and ani-
mals—and I will bring judgment on all
the gods[b] of Egypt. I am the LORD.[c]
13The blood will be a sign for you on
the houses where you are; and when I
see the blood, I will pass over[d] you. No
destructive plague will touch you when
I strike Egypt.[e]
14"This is a day you are to com-
memorate;[f] for the generations to
come you shall celebrate it as a festival
to the LORD—a lasting ordinance.[g] 15For
seven days you are to eat bread made
without yeast.[h] On the first day re-
move the yeast from your houses, for
whoever eats anything with yeast in it
from the first day through the seventh
must be cut off[i] from Israel. 16On the
first day hold a sacred assembly, and
another one on the seventh day. Do no
work[j] at all on these days, except to
prepare food for everyone to eat—that
is all you may do.
17"Celebrate the Feast of Unleavened
Bread,[k] because it was on this very day
that I brought your divisions out of
Egypt.[l] Celebrate this day as a lasting
ordinance for the generations to
come.[m] 18In the first month[n] you are to
eat bread made without yeast, from the
evening of the fourteenth day until the
evening of the twenty-first day. 19For
seven days no yeast is to be found in
your houses. And whoever eats any-
thing with yeast in it must be cut off[o]
from the community of Israel, whether
he is an alien[p] or native-born. 20Eat
nothing made with yeast. Wherever
you live,[q] you must eat unleavened
bread."[r]
21Then Moses summoned all the el-
ders of Israel and said to them, "Go at
once and select the animals for your
families and slaughter the Passover[s]
lamb. 22Take a bunch of hyssop,[t] dip it
into the blood in the basin and put
some of the blood[u] on the top and on
both sides of the doorframe. Not one of
you shall go out the door of his house
until morning. 23When the LORD goes
through the land to strike[v] down the
Egyptians, he will see the blood[w] on
the top and sides of the doorframe and
will pass over[x] that doorway, and he
will not permit the destroyer[y] to enter
your houses and strike you down.
24"Obey these instructions as a last-
ing ordinance[z] for you and your de-
scendants. 25When you enter the land[a]
that the LORD will give you as he prom-
ised, observe this ceremony. 26And
when your children[b] ask you, 'What
does this ceremony mean to you?'
27then tell them, 'It is the Passover[c]
sacrifice to the LORD, who passed over
the houses of the Israelites in Egypt
and spared our homes when he struck
down the Egyptians.'"[d] Then the
people bowed down and worshiped.[e]
28The Israelites did just what the LORD
commanded[f] Moses and Aaron.
29At midnight[g] the LORD[h] struck
down all the firstborn[i] in Egypt, from
the firstborn of Pharaoh, who sat on
the throne, to the firstborn of the pris-
oner, who was in the dungeon, and the
firstborn of all the livestock[j] as well.
30Pharaoh and all his officials and all
the Egyptians got up during the night,
and there was loud wailing[k] in Egypt,
for there was not a house without
someone dead.

The Exodus

31During the night Pharaoh sum-
moned Moses and Aaron and said,
"Up! Leave my people, you and the Is-
raelites! Go, worship[l] the LORD as you
have requested. 32Take your flocks and
herds,[m] as you have said, and go. And
also bless[n] me."
33The Egyptians urged the people to
hurry[o] and leave[p] the country. "For
otherwise," they said, "we will all
die!"[q] 34So the people took their dough
before the yeast was added, and car-
ried it on their shoulders in kneading
troughs[r] wrapped in clothing. 35The Is-
raelites did as Moses instructed and
asked the Egyptians for articles of silver
and gold[s] and for clothing.[t] 36The
LORD had made the Egyptians favorably
disposed[u] toward the people, and they
gave them what they asked for; so they
plundered[v] the Egyptians.
37The Israelites journeyed from Ram-
eses[w] to Succoth.[x] There were about
six hundred thousand men[y] on foot,
besides women and children. 38Many
other people[z] went up with them, as
well as large droves of livestock, both
flocks and herds. 39With the dough
they had brought from Egypt, they
baked cakes of unleavened bread. The
dough was without yeast because they
had been driven out[a] of Egypt and did
not have time to prepare food for them-
selves.
40Now the length of time the Israelite
people lived in Egypt[u] was 430 years.[b]

12:12 [a]ver 29; S Ex 4:23; 13:15 [b]Ex 15:11; 18:11; Nu 33:4; 2Ch 2:5; Ps 95:3; 97:9; 135:5; Isa 19:1; Jer 43:12; 44:8 [c]S Ex 6:2 **12:13** [d]S ver 11, 23; Heb 11:28 [e]S Ex 8:23 **12:14** [f]Ex 13:9; 23:14; 32:5 [g]ver 17,24; Ex 13:5, 10; 27:21; Lev 3:17; 10:9; 16:29; 17:7; 23:14; 24:3; Nu 18:23 **12:15** [h]Ex 13:6-7; 23:15; 34:18; Lev 23:6; Nu 28:17; Dt 16:3; 1Co 5:7 [i]S Ge 17:14 **12:16** [j]Nu 29:35 **12:17** [k]Ex 23:15; 34:18; Dt 16:16; 2Ch 8:13; 30:21; Ezr 6:22; Mt 26:17; Lk 22:1; Ac 12:3 [l]ver 41; S Ex 6:6, 26; 13:3; Lev 19:36 [m]Lev 3:17 **12:18** [n]S ver 2 **12:19** [o]S Ge 17:14 [p]Nu 9:14; 15:14; 35:15; Dt 1:16; Jos 8:33 **12:20** [q]Lev 3:17; Nu 35:29; Eze 6:6 [r]Ex 13:6 **12:21** [s]S ver 11; Mk 14:12-16 **12:22** [t]Lev 14:4, 6; Nu 19:18; Ps 51:7 [u]Heb 11:28 **12:23** [v]Isa 19:22 [w]S ver 7; Rev 7:3 [x]S ver 13 [y]S Ge 16:7; Isa 37:36; Jer 6:26; 48:8; 1Co 10:10; Heb 11:28 **12:24** [z]S ver 14 **12:25** [a]S Ge 15:14; Ex 3:17 **12:26** [b]Ex 10:2 **12:27** [c]S ver 11 [d]S Ex 8:23 [e]S Ge 24:26 **12:28** [f]ver 50 **12:29** [g]S Ex 11:4 [h]S Ge 19:13 [i]S Ex 4:23 [j]S Ex 9:6 **12:30** [k]S Ex 11:6 **12:31** [l]S Ex 8:8 **12:32** [m]Ex 10:9, 26 [n]Ge 27:34 **12:33** [o]S ver 11 [p]S Ex 6:1; 1Sa 6:6 [q]S Ge 20:3; S Ex 8:19 **12:34** [r]Ex 8:3 **12:35** [s]S Ex 3:22 [t]S Ge 24:53 **12:36** [u]S Ge 39:21 [v]S Ex 3:22 **12:37** [w]S Ge 47:11 [x]Ex 13:20; Nu 33:3-5 [y]Ge 12:2; Ex 38:26; Nu 1:46; 2:32; 11:13,21; 26:51 **12:38** [z]Nu 11:4; Jos 8:35 **12:39** [a]Ex 3:20; 11:1 **12:40** [b]S Ge 15:13; Ac 7:6; Gal 3:17

[u]40 Masoretic Text; Samaritan Pentateuch and Septuagint *Egypt and Canaan*

[41]At the end of the 430 years, to the
very day, all the LORD's divisions[a] left
Egypt.[b] [42]Because the LORD kept vigil
that night to bring them out of Egypt,
on this night all the Israelites are to
keep vigil to honor the LORD for the
generations to come.[c]

Passover Restrictions

[43]The LORD said to Moses and Aaron,
"These are the regulations for the Pass-
over:[d]
"No foreigner[e] is to eat of it. [44]Any
slave you have bought may eat of it af-
ter you have circumcised[f] him, [45]but a
temporary resident and a hired work-
er[g] may not eat of it.
[46]"It must be eaten inside one house;
take none of the meat outside the
house. Do not break any of the bones.[h]
[47]The whole community of Israel must
celebrate it.
[48]"An alien living among you who
wants to celebrate the LORD's Passover
must have all the males in his house-
hold circumcised; then he may take
part like one born in the land.[i] No un-
circumcised[j] male may eat of it. [49]The
same law applies to the native-born
and to the alien[k] living among you."
[50]All the Israelites did just what the
LORD had commanded[l] Moses and
Aaron. [51]And on that very day the LORD
brought the Israelites out of Egypt[m] by
their divisions.[n]

Consecration of the Firstborn

13 The LORD said to Moses, [2]"Con-
secrate to me every firstborn
male.[o] The first offspring of every
womb among the Israelites belongs to
me, whether man or animal."
[3]Then Moses said to the people,
"Commemorate this day, the day you
came out of Egypt,[p] out of the land of
slavery, because the LORD brought you
out of it with a mighty hand.[q] Eat
nothing containing yeast.[r] [4]Today, in
the month of Abib,[s] you are leaving.
[5]When the LORD brings you into the
land of the Canaanites,[t] Hittites, Amo-
rites, Hivites and Jebusites[u]—the land
he swore to your forefathers to give
you, a land flowing with milk and
honey[v]—you are to observe this
ceremony[w] in this month: [6]For seven
days eat bread made without yeast and
on the seventh day hold a festival[x] to
the LORD. [7]Eat unleavened bread during
those seven days; nothing with yeast in
it is to be seen among you, nor shall
any yeast be seen anywhere within
your borders. [8]On that day tell your
son,[y] 'I do this because of what the
LORD did for me when I came out of
Egypt.' [9]This observance will be for you
like a sign on your hand[z] and a re-
minder on your forehead[a] that the law
of the LORD is to be on your lips. For the
LORD brought you out of Egypt with his
mighty hand.[b] [10]You must keep this
ordinance[c] at the appointed time[d] year
after year.
[11]"After the LORD brings you into the
land of the Canaanites[e] and gives it to
you, as he promised on oath[f] to you
and your forefathers,[g] [12]you are to give
over to the LORD the first offspring of
every womb. All the firstborn males of
your livestock belong to the LORD.[h]
[13]Redeem with a lamb every firstborn
donkey,[i] but if you do not redeem it,
break its neck.[j] Redeem[k] every first-
born among your sons.[l]
[14]"In days to come, when your son[m]
asks you, 'What does this mean?' say
to him, 'With a mighty hand the LORD
brought us out of Egypt, out of the
land of slavery.[n] [15]When Pharaoh stub-
bornly refused to let us go, the LORD
killed every firstborn in Egypt, both
man and animal. This is why I sacrifice
to the LORD the first male offspring of
every womb and redeem each of my
firstborn sons.'[o] [16]And it will be like a
sign on your hand and a symbol on
your forehead[p] that the LORD brought
us out of Egypt with his mighty hand."

Crossing the Sea

[17]When Pharaoh let the people go,
God did not lead them on the road
through the Philistine country, though
that was shorter. For God said, "If they
face war, they might change their
minds and return to Egypt."[q] [18]So God
led[r] the people around by the desert
road toward the Red Sea.[v] The Israel-
ites went up out of Egypt armed for
battle.[s]
[19]Moses took the bones of Joseph[t]
with him because Joseph had made the
sons of Israel swear an oath. He had
said, "God will surely come to your
aid, and then you must carry my bones
up with you from this place."[w][u]
[20]After leaving Succoth[v] they
camped at Etham on the edge of the
desert.[w] [21]By day the LORD went

12:41 [a]S Ex 6:26 [b]S Ex 3:10 **12:42** [c]Ex 13:10; Lev 3:17; Nu 9:3; Dt 16:1,6 **12:43** [d]S ver 11 [e]ver 48; Nu 9:14; 15:14; 2Ch 6:32-33; Isa 14:1; 56:3,6; 60:10 **12:44** [f]S Ge 17:12-13 **12:45** [g]Lev 22:10 **12:46** [h]Nu 9:12; Ps 22:14; 34:20; 51:8; Pr 17:22; Jn 19:36* **12:48** [i]ver 49; Lev 19:18,34; 24:22; Nu 9:14; 10:32 [j]Eze 44:7 **12:49** [k]Lev 24:22; Nu 15:15-16,29; Dt 1:16 **12:50** [l]ver 28 **12:51** [m]S Ex 3:10; S 6:6 [n]S Ex 6:26 **13:2** [o]ver 12,13, 15; Ex 22:29; 34:20; Lev 27:26; Nu 3:13; 8:17; 18:15; Dt 15:19; Ne 10:36; Lk 2:23* **13:3** [p]ver 14; Ex 7:4; Lev 26:13; Nu 1:1; 9:1; 22:5; 26:4; Dt 4:45; 5:6; Ps 81:10; 114:1 [q]S Ex 3:20 [r]S Ex 12:8 **13:4** [s]S Ex 12:2 **13:5** [t]ver 11 [u]S Ex 3:8 [v]S Ex 3:8 [w]Ex 12:25-26 **13:6** [x]S Ex 12:15-20 **13:8** [y]S Ex 10:2; Ps 78:5-6 **13:9** [z]Isa 44:5 [a]ver 16; Dt 6:8; 11:18; Pr 3:3; Mt 23:5 [b]S Ex 3:20 **13:10** [c]S Ex 12:14 [d]Ps 75:2; 102:13 **13:11** [e]S ver 5 [f]S Ge 22:16; Dt 1:8 [g]S Ge 12:7; S 17:19; Ps 105:42-45 **13:12** [h]S Ge 4:4; Lev 27:26; Nu 3:13; 18:15, 17; Lk 2:23* **13:13** [i]ver 15; Lev 27:11 [j]Ex 34:20; Isa 66:3 [k]Nu 3:46-47 [l]Nu 18:15 **13:14** [m]S Ex 10:2 [n]Ex 20:2; Dt 7:8; 28:68 **13:15** [o]S ver 2 **13:16** [p]S ver 9 **13:17** [q]Ex 14:11; Nu 14:1-4; Dt 17:16; Hos 11:5 **13:18** [r]Ex 15:22; Ps 136:16; Eze 20:10 [s]Jos 1:14; 4:13 **13:19** [t]Jos 24:32; Ac 7:16; Heb 11:22
[u]S Ge 47:29-30 **13:20** [v]S Ex 12:37 [w]Nu 33:6

[v]18 Hebrew *Yam Suph;* that is, Sea of Reeds
[w]19 See Gen. 50:25.

ahead[a] of them in a pillar of cloud[b] to
guide them on their way and by night
in a pillar of fire to give them light, so
that they could travel by day or night.
22Neither the pillar of cloud by day nor
the pillar of fire by night left[c] its place
in front of the people.

14 Then the LORD said to Moses,
2"Tell the Israelites to turn back
and encamp near Pi Hahiroth, between
Migdol[d] and the sea. They are to en-
camp by the sea, directly opposite Baal
Zephon.[e] 3Pharaoh will think, 'The Is-
raelites are wandering around the land
in confusion, hemmed in by the
desert.' 4And I will harden Pharaoh's
heart,[f] and he will pursue them.[g] But
I will gain glory[h] for myself through
Pharaoh and all his army, and the
Egyptians will know that I am the
LORD."[i] So the Israelites did this.

5When the king of Egypt was told
that the people had fled,[j] Pharaoh and
his officials changed their minds[k]
about them and said, "What have we
done? We have let the Israelites go and
have lost their services!" 6So he had his
chariot made ready and took his army
with him. 7He took six hundred of the
best chariots,[l] along with all the other
chariots of Egypt, with officers over all
of them. 8The LORD hardened the
heart[m] of Pharaoh king of Egypt, so
that he pursued the Israelites, who
were marching out boldly.[n] 9The Egyp-
tians—all Pharaoh's horses[o] and chari-
ots, horsemen[x] and troops[p]—pursued
the Israelites and overtook[q] them as
they camped by the sea near Pi Hahi-
roth, opposite Baal Zephon.[r]

10As Pharaoh approached, the Israel-
ites looked up, and there were the
Egyptians, marching after them. They
were terrified and cried[s] out to the
LORD. 11They said to Moses, "Was it be-
cause there were no graves in Egypt
that you brought us to the desert to
die?[t] What have you done to us by
bringing us out of Egypt? 12Didn't we
say to you in Egypt, 'Leave us alone; let
us serve the Egyptians'? It would have
been better for us to serve the Egyp-
tians than to die in the desert!"[u]

13Moses answered the people, "Do
not be afraid.[v] Stand firm and you will
see[w] the deliverance the LORD will bring
you today. The Egyptians you see to-
day you will never see[x] again. 14The
LORD will fight[y] for you; you need only
to be still."[z]

15Then the LORD said to Moses, "Why
are you crying out to me?[a] Tell the Is-
raelites to move on. 16Raise your staff[b]
and stretch out your hand over the sea
to divide the water[c] so that the Israel-
ites can go through the sea on dry
ground. 17I will harden the hearts[d] of
the Egyptians so that they will go in
after them.[e] And I will gain glory
through Pharaoh and all his army,
through his chariots and his horsemen.
18The Egyptians will know that I am the
LORD[f] when I gain glory through Phar-
aoh, his chariots and his horsemen."

19Then the angel of God,[g] who had
been traveling in front of Israel's army,
withdrew and went behind them. The
pillar of cloud[h] also moved from in
front and stood behind[i] them, 20com-
ing between the armies of Egypt and
Israel. Throughout the night the cloud
brought darkness[j] to the one side and
light to the other side; so neither went
near the other all night long.

21Then Moses stretched out his
hand[k] over the sea,[l] and all that night
the LORD drove the sea back with a
strong east wind[m] and turned it into
dry land.[n] The waters were divided,[o]
22and the Israelites went through the
sea[p] on dry ground,[q] with a wall[r] of
water on their right and on their left.

23The Egyptians pursued them, and
all Pharaoh's horses and chariots and
horsemen[s] followed them into the sea.
24During the last watch of the night the
LORD looked down from the pillar of
fire and cloud[t] at the Egyptian army
and threw it into confusion.[u] 25He
made the wheels of their chariots come
off[y] so that they had difficulty driving.
And the Egyptians said, "Let's get
away from the Israelites! The LORD is
fighting[v] for them against Egypt."[w]

26Then the LORD said to Moses,
"Stretch out your hand over the sea so
that the waters may flow back over the
Egyptians and their chariots and horse-
men." 27Moses stretched out his hand
over the sea, and at daybreak the sea
went back to its place.[x] The Egyptians
were fleeing toward[z] it, and the LORD
swept them into the sea.[y] 28The water

13:21 [a]Ex 32:1; 33:14; Dt 2:7; 31:8; Jdg 4:14; 5:4; Ps 68:7; 77:20; Jer 2:2; Hab 3:13 [b]Ex 14:19,24; 24:16; 33:9-10; 34:5; 40:38; Nu 9:16; 12:5; 14:14; Dt 1:33; Ne 9:12,19; Ps 78:14; 99:7; 105:39; Isa 4:5; 1Co 10:1 **13:22** [c]Ne 9:19 **14:2** [d]Nu 33:7; Jer 44:1; Eze 29:10 [e]ver 9 **14:4** [f]S Ex 4:21 [g]ver 8,17,23; Ps 71:11 [h]S Ex 9:16; Ro 9:17,22-23 [i]S Ex 6:2; Eze 32:15 **14:5** [j]S Ge 31:21 [k]Ps 105:25 **14:7** [l]Ex 15:4 **14:8** [m]S Ex 11:10 [n]Nu 33:3; Ac 13:17 **14:9** [o]Ge 47:17 [p]ver 6-7,25; Jos 24:6; Isa 43:17 [q]Ex 15:9 [r]ver 2 **14:10** [s]Ex 15:25; Jos 24:7; Ne 9:9; Ps 5:2; 34:17; 50:15; 107:6,28 **14:11** [t]S Ex 5:21; 16:3; 17:3; Nu 11:1; 14:22; 20:4; 21:5; Dt 9:7 **14:12** [u]S Ex 5:21; 15:24; 17:2; Ps 106:7-8 **14:13** [v]S Ge 15:1 [w]1Sa 12:16; 2Ch 20:17 [x]ver 30 **14:14** [y]ver 25; Ex 15:3; Dt 1:30; 3:22; 20:4; Jos 10:14; 23:3, 10; 2Sa 5:24; 2Ch 20:29; Ne 4:20; Ps 24:8; 35:1; Isa 42:13; Jer 41:12 [z]1Sa 12:16; Ps 37:7; 46:10; 116:7; Isa 28:12; 30:15; Zec 2:13 **14:15** [a]Jos 7:10 **14:16** [b]S Ex 4:2 [c]ver 27; Isa 10:26 **14:17** [d]Ex 4:21 [e]S ver 4 **14:18** [f]S Ex 6:2; Eze 32:15 **14:19** [g]S Ge 16:7; Isa 63:9 [h]S Ex 13:21; 1Co 10:1 [i]Isa 26:7; 42:16; 49:10; 52:12; 58:8 **14:20** [j]Jos 24:7 **14:21** [k]S Ex 7:19 [l]S Ex 4:2; Job 26:12; Isa 14:27; 23:11; 51:15; Jer 31:35; Ac 7:36 [m]S Ge 41:6; Ex 15:8; 2Sa 22:16; 1Ki 19:11; Job 38:1; 40:6; Jer 23:19; Na 1:3 [n]S ver 22; S Ge 8:1 [o]2Ki 2:8; Ps 74:13; 78:13; 114:5; 136:13; Isa 63:12 **14:22** [p]ver 16; Nu 33:8; Jos 24:6; Isa 43:16; 63:11; 1Co 10:1 [q]ver 21,29; S Ex 3:12; 15:19; Dt 31:6-8; Jos 3:16,17; 4:22; Ne 9:11; Ps 66:6; 77:19; 106:9; Isa 11:15; 41:10; 43:5; 44:27; 50:2; 51:10; 63:13; Jer 46:28; Na 1:4; Heb 11:29 [r]Ex 15:8; Jos 3:13; Ps 78:13 **14:23** [s]ver 7 **14:24** [t]S Ex 13:21; 1Co 10:1 [u]Ex 23:27; Jos 10:10; 1Sa 5:9; 7:10; 14:15; 2Sa 5:24; 2Ki 7:6; 19:7 **14:25** [v]S ver 14 [w]S ver 9; Dt 32:31; 1Sa 2:2; 4:8 **14:27** [x]Jos 4:18 [y]ver 28; Ex 15:1,21; Dt 1:40; 2:1; 11:4; Ps 78:53; 106:11; 136:15; Heb 11:29

[x]9 Or *charioteers*; also in verses 17, 18, 23, 26 and 28
[y]25 Or *He jammed the wheels of their chariots* (see Samaritan Pentateuch, Septuagint and Syriac)
[z]27 Or *from*

flowed back and covered the chariots
and horsemen—the entire army of
Pharaoh that had followed the Israel-
ites into the sea.[a] Not one of them sur-
vived.[b]
29But the Israelites went through the
sea on dry ground,[c] with a wall[d] of
water on their right and on their left.
30That day the LORD saved[e] Israel from
the hands of the Egyptians, and Israel
saw the Egyptians lying dead on the
shore. 31And when the Israelites saw
the great power[f] the LORD displayed
against the Egyptians, the people
feared[g] the LORD and put their trust[h] in
him and in Moses his servant.

The Song of Moses and Miriam

15 Then Moses and the Israelites sang this song[i] to the LORD:

"I will sing[j] to the LORD,
for he is highly exalted.
The horse and its rider[k]
he has hurled into the sea.[l]
2The LORD is my strength[m] and my song;
he has become my salvation.[n]
He is my God,[o] and I will praise him,
my father's God, and I will exalt[p] him.
3The LORD is a warrior;[q]
the LORD is his name.[r]
4Pharaoh's chariots and his army[s]
he has hurled into the sea.
The best of Pharaoh's officers
are drowned in the Red Sea.[a]
5The deep waters[t] have covered them;
they sank to the depths like a stone.[u]
6"Your right hand,[v] O LORD,
was majestic in power.
Your right hand,[w] O LORD,
shattered[x] the enemy.
7In the greatness of your majesty[y]
you threw down those who opposed you.
You unleashed your burning anger;[z]
it consumed[a] them like stubble.
8By the blast of your nostrils[b]
the waters piled up.[c]
The surging waters stood firm like a wall;[d]
the deep waters congealed in the heart of the sea.[e]
9"The enemy boasted,
'I will pursue,[f] I will overtake them.
I will divide the spoils;[g]
I will gorge myself on them.
I will draw my sword
and my hand will destroy them.'
10But you blew with your breath,[h]
and the sea covered them.
They sank like lead
in the mighty waters.[i]
11"Who among the gods is like you,[j]
O LORD?
Who is like you—
majestic in holiness,[k]
awesome in glory,[l]
working wonders?[m]
12You stretched out[n] your right hand
and the earth swallowed them.[o]
13"In your unfailing love you will lead[p]
the people you have redeemed.[q]
In your strength you will guide them
to your holy dwelling.[r]
14The nations will hear and tremble;[s]
anguish[t] will grip the people of Philistia.[u]
15The chiefs[v] of Edom[w] will be terrified,
the leaders of Moab will be seized with trembling,[x]
the people[b] of Canaan will melt[y] away;
16 terror[z] and dread will fall upon them.
By the power of your arm
they will be as still as a stone[a]—
until your people pass by, O LORD,
until the people you bought[c][b] pass by.[c]
17You will bring[d] them in and plant[e] them
on the mountain[f] of your inheritance—
the place, O LORD, you made for your dwelling,[g]
the sanctuary,[h] O Lord, your hands established.
18The LORD will reign
for ever and ever."[i]

19When Pharaoh's horses, chariots

14:28 [a]ver 23; Ex 15:19; Jos 24:7 [b]S ver 27; Ex 15:5; Jdg 4:16; Ne 9:11 **14:29** [c]ver 21, S 22; Jos 24:11; 2Ki 2:8; Ps 74:15 [d]Ps 78:13 **14:30** [e]ver 29; 1Sa 14:23; 1Ch 11:14; Ps 44:7; 106:8, 10,21; Isa 43:3; 50:2; 51:9-10; 60:16; 63:8,11 **14:31** [f]S Ex 9:16; Ps 147:5 [g]Ex 20:18; Dt 31:13; Jos 4:24; 1Sa 12:18; Ps 76:7; 112:1 [h]S Ex 4:5; Ps 22:4; 40:3; 106:12; Jn 2:11; 11:45 **15:1** [i]Nu 21:17; Jdg 5:1; 2Sa 22:1; 1Ch 16:9; Job 36:24; Ps 59:16; 105:2; Rev 15:3 [j]Jdg 5:3; Ps 13:6; 21:13; 27:6; 61:8; 104:33; 106:12; Isa 12:5,6; 42:10-11,10; 44:23 [k]Dt 11:4; Ps 76:6; Jer 51:21 [l]S Ex 14:27 **15:2** [m]Ps 18:1; 59:17 [n]S Ge 45:7; Ex 14:13; Ps 18:2,46; 25:5; 27:1; 62:2; 118:14; Isa 12:2; 33:2; Jnh 2:9; Hab 3:18 [o]S Ge 28:21 [p]Dt 10:21; 2Sa 22:47; Ps 22:3; 30:1; 34:3; 35:27; 99:5; 103:19; 107:32; 108:5; 109:1; 118:28; 145:11; 148:14; Isa 24:15; 25:1; Jer 17:14; Da 4:37 **15:3** [q]S Ex 14:14; Rev 19:11 [r]S Ex 3:15 **15:4** [s]Ex 14:6-7; Jer 51:21 **15:5** [t]S Ex 14:28 [u]ver 10; Ne 9:11 **15:6** [v]Ps 16:11; 17:7; 21:8; 63:8; 74:11; 77:10; 89:13; 98:1; 118:15; 138:7 [w]S Ex 3:20; S Job 40:14 [x]Nu 24:8; 1Sa 2:10; Ps 2:9 **15:7** [y]Dt 33:26; Ps 150:2 [z]Ps 2:5; 78:49-50; Jer 12:13; 25:38 [a]Ex 24:17; Dt 4:24; 9:3; Ps 18:8; 59:13; Heb 12:29 **15:8** [b]S Ex 14:21; Ps 18:15 [c]Jos 3:13; Ps 78:13; Isa 43:16 [d]S Ex 14:22 [e]Ps 46:2 **15:9** [f]Ex 14:5-9; Dt 28:45; Ps 7:5; La 1:3 [g]Jdg 5:30; Isa 9:3; 53:12; Lk 11:22 **15:10** [h]Job 4:9; 15:30; Isa 11:4; 30:33; 40:7 [i]ver 5; Ne 9:11; Ps 29:3; 32:6; 77:19 **15:11** [j]S Ex 8:10; Ps 77:13; S Isa 46:5 [k]Lev 19:2; 1Sa 2:2; 1Ch 16:29; Ps 99:3; 110:3; Isa 6:3; Rev 4:8 [l]S Ex 14:4; Ps 4:2; 8:1; 26:8; Isa 35:2; 40:5 [m]S Ex 3:20 **15:12** [n]S Ex 7:5 [o]Nu 16:32; 26:10; Dt 11:6; Ps 106:17 **15:13** [p]Ne 9:12; Ps 77:20 [q]S Ex 6:6; Job 33:28; Ps 71:23; 106:10; Isa 1:27; 41:14; 43:14; 44:22-24; 51:10; 63:9; Tit 2:14 [r]ver 17; Ps 68:16; 76:2; 78:54 **15:14** [s]ver 16; Ex 23:27; Dt 2:25; Jos 2:9; 5:1; 9:24; 1Sa 4:7; Est 8:17; Ps 48:6; 96:9; 99:1; 114:7; Eze 38:20 [t]Isa 13:8 [u]Ps 83:7 **15:15** [v]S Ge 36:15 [w]Dt 2:4 [x]Nu 22:3; Ps 114:7 [y]Jos 2:9,24 **15:16** [z]S ver 14; S Ge 35:5 [a]1Sa 25:37 [b]Ps 74:2; 2Pe 2:1 [c]Dt 2:4 **15:17** [d]Ex 23:20; 32:34; 33:12 [e]2Sa 7:10; Ps 44:2; 80:8,15; Isa 5:2; 60:21; Jer 2:21; 11:17; 24:6; Am 9:15 [f]Dt 33:19; Ps 2:6; 3:4; 15:1; 78:54,68; 133:3; Da 9:16; Joel 2:1; Ob 1:16; Zep 3:11 [g]S ver 13; Ps 132:13-14 [h]Ps 78:69; 114:2 **15:18** [i]S Ge 21:33; Ps 9:7; 29:10; 55:19; 66:7; 80:1; 102:12; 145:13; La 5:19

[a]4 Hebrew *Yam Suph*; that is, Sea of Reeds; also in verse 22 [b]15 Or *rulers* [c]16 Or *created*

and horsemen[a] went into the sea,[a] the
LORD brought the waters of the sea back
over them, but the Israelites walked
through the sea on dry ground.[b]
20Then Miriam[c] the prophetess,[d]
Aaron's sister, took a tambourine in
her hand, and all the women followed
her, with tambourines[e] and dancing.[f]
21Miriam sang[g] to them:

"Sing to the LORD,
for he is highly exalted.
The horse and its rider[h]
he has hurled into the sea."[i]

The Waters of Marah and Elim

22Then Moses led Israel from the Red
Sea and they went into the Desert[j] of
Shur.[k] For three days they traveled in
the desert without finding water.[l]
23When they came to Marah, they
could not drink its water because it was
bitter. (That is why the place is called
Marah.[e][m]) 24So the people grumbled[n]
against Moses, saying, "What are we to
drink?"[o]
25Then Moses cried out[p] to the LORD,
and the LORD showed him a piece of
wood. He threw[q] it into the water, and
the water became sweet.
There the LORD made a decree and a
law for them, and there he tested[r]
them. 26He said, "If you listen carefully
to the voice of the LORD your God and
do what is right in his eyes, if you pay
attention to his commands and keep[s]
all his decrees,[t] I will not bring on you
any of the diseases[u] I brought on the
Egyptians, for I am the LORD, who
heals[v] you."
27Then they came to Elim, where
there were twelve springs and seventy
palm trees, and they camped[w] there
near the water.

Manna and Quail

16 The whole Israelite community
set out from Elim and came to
the Desert of Sin,[x] which is between
Elim and Sinai, on the fifteenth day of
the second month after they had come
out of Egypt.[y] 2In the desert the whole
community grumbled[z] against Moses
and Aaron. 3The Israelites said to them,
"If only we had died by the LORD's
hand in Egypt![a] There we sat around
pots of meat and ate all the food[b] we
wanted, but you have brought us out
into this desert to starve this entire as-
sembly to death."[c]
4Then the LORD said to Moses, "I will
rain down bread from heaven[d] for you.
The people are to go out each day and
gather enough for that day. In this way
I will test[e] them and see whether they
will follow my instructions. 5On the
sixth day they are to prepare what they
bring in, and that is to be twice[f] as
much as they gather on the other
days."
6So Moses and Aaron said to all the
Israelites, "In the evening you will
know that it was the LORD who brought
you out of Egypt,[g] 7and in the morning
you will see the glory[h] of the LORD, be-
cause he has heard your grumbling[i]
against him. Who are we, that you
should grumble against us?"[j] 8Moses
also said, "You will know that it was
the LORD when he gives you meat to eat
in the evening and all the bread you
want in the morning, because he has
heard your grumbling[k] against him.
Who are we? You are not grumbling
against us, but against the LORD."[l]
9Then Moses told Aaron, "Say to the
entire Israelite community, 'Come be-
fore the LORD, for he has heard your
grumbling.' "
10While Aaron was speaking to the
whole Israelite community, they
looked toward the desert, and there
was the glory[m] of the LORD appearing in
the cloud.[n]
11The LORD said to Moses, 12"I have
heard the grumbling[o] of the Israelites.
Tell them, 'At twilight you will eat
meat, and in the morning you will be
filled with bread. Then you will know
that I am the LORD your God.' "[p]
13That evening quail[q] came and
covered the camp, and in the morning
there was a layer of dew[r] around the
camp. 14When the dew was gone, thin
flakes like frost[s] on the ground ap-
peared on the desert floor. 15When the
Israelites saw it, they said to each
other, "What is it?" For they did not
know[t] what it was.
Moses said to them, "It is the bread[u]
the LORD has given you to eat. 16This is
what the LORD has commanded: 'Each
one is to gather as much as he needs.
Take an omer[f][v] for each person you
have in your tent.' "

15:19 [a]S Ex 14:28 [b]S Ex 14:22 **15:20** [c]ver 21; Ex 2:4; Nu 12:1; 20:1; 26:59; 1Ch 4:17; 6:3 [d]Jdg 4:4; 2Ki 22:14; 2Ch 34:22; Ne 6:14; Isa 8:3; Eze 13:17 [e]S Ge 31:27; 1Sa 18:6; Ps 81:2; Isa 30:32 [f]S Ge 4:21; Jdg 11:34; 21:21; 1Sa 18:6; 2Sa 6:5,14,16; Ps 30:11; 149:3; 150:4; SS 6:13; Jer 31:4,13 **15:21** [g]1Sa 18:7 [h]Am 2:15; Hag 2:22 [i]S Ex 14:27 **15:22** [j]Ps 78:52 [k]S Ge 16:7 [l]Ex 17:1,3; Nu 20:2,5; 33:14; Ps 107:5 **15:23** [m]Nu 33:8; Ru 1:20 **15:24** [n]S Ex 14:12; 16:2; 17:3; Nu 14:2; Jos 9:18; Ps 78:18,42; 106:13,25; Eze 16:43 [o]Mt 6:31 **15:25** [p]S Ex 14:10 [q]2Ki 2:21; 4:41; 6:6 [r]S Ge 22:1; Jdg 3:4; Job 23:10; Ps 81:7; Isa 48:10 **15:26** [s]Ex 23:22; Dt 11:13; 15:5; 28:1; Jer 11:6 [t]Ex 19:5-6; 20:2-17; Dt 7:12 [u]Dt 7:15; 28:27, 58-60; 32:39; 1Sa 5:6; Ps 30:2; 41:3-4; 103:3 [v]Ex 23:25-26; 2Ki 20:5; Ps 25:11; 103:3; 107:20; Jer 30:17; Hos 11:3 **15:27** [w]Nu 33:9 **16:1** [x]Ex 17:1; Nu 33:11,12 [y]S Ex 6:6; 12:1-2 **16:2** [z]S Ex 15:24; 1Co 10:10 **16:3** [a]Ex 17:3; Nu 14:2; 20:3 [b]Nu 11:4,34; Dt 12:20; Ps 78:18; 106:14; Jer 44:17 [c]S Ge 47:15; Dt 8:3 **16:4** [d]ver 14-15; Dt 8:3; Ne 9:15; Ps 78:24; 105:40; S Jn 6:31* [e]S Ge 22:1 **16:5** [f]ver 22; Lev 25:21 **16:6** [g]S Ex 6:6 **16:7** [h]ver 10; Ex 24:16; 29:43; 33:18,22; 40:34; Lev 9:6; Nu 16:19,42; Dt 5:24; 1Ki 8:11; Ps 63:2; Isa 6:3; 35:2; 40:5; 44:23; 60:1; 66:18; Eze 1:28; 10:4; 43:5; Hab 2:14; Hag 2:7; Jn 11:40 [i]ver 12; Nu 11:1,18; 14:2, 27,28; 17:5 [j]Nu 16:11 **16:8** [k]ver 7 [l]Nu 23:21; Dt 33:5; Jdg 8:23; 1Sa 8:7; 12:12; S Mt 10:40; Ro 13:2; 1Th 4:8 **16:10** [m]S ver 7; Jn 11:4 [n]Ex 13:21; 40:34-35; 1Ki 8:10; 2Ch 7:1; Eze 10:4 **16:12** [o]S ver 7 [p]S Ex 6:2; S 20:2 **16:13** [q]Nu 11:31; Ps 78:27-28; 105:40; 106:15 [r]Nu 11:9 **16:14** [s]ver 31; Nu 11:7-9; Dt 8:3,16; Ps 105:40 **16:15** [t]Dt 8:16 [u]S ver 4; Ne 9:20; S Jn 6:31 **16:16** [v]ver 32,36

[d]19 Or *charioteers* [e]23 *Marah* means *bitter*.
[f]16 That is, probably about 2 quarts (about 2 liters); also in verses 18, 32, 33 and 36

17 The Israelites did as they were told;
some gathered much, some little.
18 And when they measured it by the
omer, he who gathered much did not
have too much, and he who gathered
little did not have too little.[a] Each one
gathered as much as he needed.
19 Then Moses said to them, "No one
is to keep any of it until morning."[b]
20 However, some of them paid no at-
tention to Moses; they kept part of it
until morning, but it was full of mag-
gots and began to smell.[c] So Moses
was angry[d] with them.
21 Each morning everyone gathered
as much as he needed, and when the
sun grew hot, it melted away. 22 On the
sixth day, they gathered twice[e] as
much—two omers[g] for each person—
and the leaders of the community[f]
came and reported this to Moses. 23 He
said to them, "This is what the LORD
commanded: 'Tomorrow is to be a day
of rest, a holy Sabbath[g] to the LORD. So
bake what you want to bake and boil
what you want to boil. Save whatever
is left and keep it until morning.' "
24 So they saved it until morning, as
Moses commanded, and it did not
stink or get maggots in it. 25 "Eat it to-
day," Moses said, "because today is a
Sabbath to the LORD. You will not find
any of it on the ground today. 26 Six
days you are to gather it, but on the
seventh day, the Sabbath,[h] there will
not be any."
27 Nevertheless, some of the people
went out on the seventh day to gather
it, but they found none. 28 Then the
LORD said to Moses, "How long will
you[h] refuse to keep my commands[i]
and my instructions? 29 Bear in mind
that the LORD has given you the Sab-
bath; that is why on the sixth day he
gives you bread for two days. Everyone
is to stay where he is on the seventh
day; no one is to go out." 30 So the
people rested on the seventh day.
31 The people of Israel called the
bread manna.[i][j] It was white like cori-
ander seed and tasted like wafers made
with honey. 32 Moses said, "This is
what the LORD has commanded: 'Take
an omer of manna and keep it for the
generations to come, so they can see
the bread I gave you to eat in the desert
when I brought you out of Egypt.' "
33 So Moses said to Aaron, "Take a jar
and put an omer of manna[k] in it. Then
place it before the LORD to be kept for
the generations to come."
34 As the LORD commanded Moses,
Aaron put the manna in front of the
Testimony,[l] that it might be kept.
35 The Israelites ate manna[m] forty
years,[n] until they came to a land that
was settled; they ate manna until they
reached the border of Canaan.[o]
36 (An omer[p] is one tenth of an
ephah.)[q]

Water From the Rock

17 The whole Israelite community
set out from the Desert of Sin,[r]
traveling from place to place as the
LORD commanded. They camped at
Rephidim,[s] but there was no water[t]
for the people to drink. 2 So they quar-
reled with Moses and said, "Give us
water[u] to drink."[v]
Moses replied, "Why do you quarrel
with me? Why do you put the LORD to
the test?"[w]
3 But the people were thirsty[x] for
water there, and they grumbled[y]
against Moses. They said, "Why did
you bring us up out of Egypt to make
us and our children and livestock die[z]
of thirst?"
4 Then Moses cried out to the LORD,
"What am I to do with these people?
They are almost ready to stone[a] me."
5 The LORD answered Moses, "Walk
on ahead of the people. Take with you
some of the elders of Israel and take in
your hand the staff[b] with which you
struck the Nile,[c] and go. 6 I will stand
there before you by the rock at Horeb.[d]
Strike[e] the rock, and water[f] will come
out of it for the people to drink." So
Moses did this in the sight of the elders
of Israel. 7 And he called the place Mas-
sah[j][g] and Meribah[k][h] because the Isra-
elites quarreled and because they test-
ed the LORD saying, "Is the LORD among
us or not?"

The Amalekites Defeated

8 The Amalekites[i] came and attacked
the Israelites at Rephidim.[j] 9 Moses
said to Joshua,[k] "Choose some of our
men and go out to fight the Amalek-
ites. Tomorrow I will stand on top of
the hill with the staff[l] of God in my
hands."
10 So Joshua fought the Amalekites as
Moses had ordered, and Moses, Aaron
and Hur[m] went to the top of the hill.
11 As long as Moses held up his hands,
the Israelites were winning,[n] but

16:18 [a]2Co 8:15*
16:19 [b]ver 23; Ex 12:10
16:20 [c]ver 24 [d]Ex 32:19
16:22 [e]S ver 5 [f]Ex 34:31
16:23 [g]S Ge 2:3; S Ex 20:8; Dt 5:13-14
16:26 [h]ver 23
16:28 [i]Jos 9:14; Ps 78:10; 106:13; 107:11; 119:1; Jer 32:23
16:31 [j]S ver 14
16:33 [k]Heb 9:4; Rev 2:17
16:34 [l]Ex 25:16, 21,22; 27:21; 31:18; 40:20; Lev 16:13; Nu 1:50; 7:89; 10:11; 17:4,10; Dt 10:2; 1Ki 8:9; 2Ch 5:10
16:35 [m]Jn 6:31, 49 [n]Nu 14:33; 33:38; Dt 1:3; 2:7; 8:2-4; Jos 5:6; Jdg 3:11; Ne 9:21; Ps 95:10; Am 5:25 [o]Jos 5:12
16:36 [p]S ver 16 [q]Lev 5:11; 6:20; Nu 5:15; 15:4; 28:5
17:1 [r]S Ex 16:1 [s]ver 8; Ex 19:2; Nu 33:15 [t]Nu 20:5; 21:5; 33:14
17:2 [u]Nu 20:2; 33:14; Ps 107:5 [v]S Ex 14:12 [w]Dt 6:16; Ps 78:18,41; 106:14; Mt 4:7; 1Co 10:9
17:3 [x]S Ex 15:22 [y]S Ex 15:24 [z]S Ex 14:11
17:4 [a]Nu 14:10; 1Sa 30:6; S Jn 8:59
17:5 [b]S Ex 4:2; S 10:12-13 [c]Ex 7:20
17:6 [d]S Ex 3:1 [e]Nu 20:8 [f]Nu 20:11; Dt 8:15; Jdg 15:19; 2Ki 3:20; Ne 9:15; Ps 74:15; 78:15-16; 105:41; 107:35; 114:8; Isa 30:25; 35:6; 43:19; 48:21; 1Co 10:4
17:7 [g]Dt 6:16; 9:22; 33:8; Ps 95:8 [h]Nu 20:13,24; 27:14; Ps 81:7; 106:32
17:8 [i]S Ge 36:12 [j]S ver 1
17:9 [k]Ex 24:13; 32:17; 33:11; Nu 11:28; 27:22; Dt 1:38; Jos 1:1; Ac 7:45 [l]S Ex 4:17
17:10 [m]ver 10-12; Ex 24:14; 31:2
17:11 [n]Jas 5:16

[g]22 That is, probably about 4 quarts (about 4.5 liters)
[h]28 The Hebrew is plural.
[i]31 *Manna* means *What is it?* (see verse 15).
[j]7 *Massah* means *testing.*
[k]7 *Meribah* means *quarreling.*

whenever he lowered his hands, the
Amalekites were winning. 12When
Moses' hands grew tired, they took a
stone and put it under him and he sat
on it. Aaron and Hur held his hands
up—one on one side, one on the oth-
er—so that his hands remained steady
till sunset.[a] 13So Joshua overcame the
Amalekite[b] army with the sword.
14Then the LORD said to Moses,
"Write[c] this on a scroll as something to
be remembered and make sure that
Joshua hears it, because I will com-
pletely blot out[d] the memory of Ama-
lek[e] from under heaven."
15Moses built an altar[f] and called[g] it
The LORD is my Banner. 16He said, "For
hands were lifted up to the throne of
the LORD. The[l] LORD will be at war
against the Amalekites[h] from genera-
tion to generation."[i]

Jethro Visits Moses

18 Now Jethro,[j] the priest of Midi-
an[k] and father-in-law of Moses,
heard of everything God had done for
Moses and for his people Israel, and
how the LORD had brought Israel out of
Egypt.[l]
2After Moses had sent away his wife
Zipporah,[m] his father-in-law Jethro re-
ceived her 3and her two sons.[n] One
son was named Gershom,[m] for Moses
said, "I have become an alien in a for-
eign land";[o] 4and the other was named
Eliezer,[n][p] for he said, "My father's
God was my helper;[q] he saved me
from the sword of Pharaoh."
5Jethro, Moses' father-in-law, to-
gether with Moses' sons and wife,
came to him in the desert, where he
was camped near the mountain[r] of
God. 6Jethro had sent word to him, "I,
your father-in-law Jethro, am coming
to you with your wife and her two
sons."
7So Moses went out to meet his fa-
ther-in-law and bowed down[s] and
kissed[t] him. They greeted each other
and then went into the tent. 8Moses
told his father-in-law about everything
the LORD had done to Pharaoh and the
Egyptians for Israel's sake and about all
the hardships[u] they had met along the
way and how the LORD had saved[v]
them.
9Jethro was delighted to hear about
all the good things[w] the LORD had done
for Israel in rescuing them from the
hand of the Egyptians. 10He said,
"Praise be to the LORD,[x] who rescued
you from the hand of the Egyptians
and of Pharaoh, and who rescued the
people from the hand of the Egyptians.
11Now I know that the LORD is greater
than all other gods,[y] for he did this to
those who had treated Israel arrogant-
ly."[z] 12Then Jethro, Moses' father-in-
law,[a] brought a burnt offering[b] and
other sacrifices[c] to God, and Aaron
came with all the elders of Israel to eat
bread[d] with Moses' father-in-law in the
presence[e] of God.
13The next day Moses took his seat to
serve as judge for the people, and they
stood around him from morning till
evening. 14When his father-in-law saw
all that Moses was doing for the
people, he said, "What is this you are
doing for the people? Why do you
alone sit as judge, while all these
people stand around you from morn-
ing till evening?"
15Moses answered him, "Because the
people come to me to seek God's will.[f]
16Whenever they have a dispute,[g] it is
brought to me, and I decide between
the parties and inform them of God's
decrees and laws."[h]
17Moses' father-in-law replied,
"What you are doing is not good. 18You
and these people who come to you will
only wear yourselves out. The work is
too heavy for you; you cannot handle it
alone.[i] 19Listen now to me and I will
give you some advice, and may God be
with you.[j] You must be the people's
representative before God and bring
their disputes[k] to him. 20Teach them
the decrees and laws,[l] and show them
the way to live[m] and the duties they are
to perform.[n] 21But select capable men[o]
from all the people—men who fear[p]
God, trustworthy men who hate dis-
honest gain[q]—and appoint them as of-
ficials[r] over thousands, hundreds, fif-
ties and tens. 22Have them serve as
judges for the people at all times, but
have them bring every difficult case[s] to
you; the simple cases they can decide
themselves. That will make your load
lighter, because they will share[t] it with
you. 23If you do this and God so com-
mands, you will be able to stand the
strain, and all these people will go
home satisfied."
24Moses listened to his father-in-law
and did everything he said. 25He chose
capable men from all Israel and made

17:12 [a]Jos 8:26 **17:13** [b]ver 8 **17:14** [c]Ex 24:4; 34:27; Nu 33:2; Dt 31:9; Job 19:23; Isa 30:8; Jer 36:2; 45:1; 51:60 [d]Ex 32:33; Dt 29:20; Job 18:17; Ps 9:5; 34:16; 109:15; Eze 18:4 [e]ver 13; S Ge 36:12; Nu 24:7; Jdg 3:13; 1Sa 30:17-18; Ps 83:7 **17:15** [f]S Ge 8:20 [g]S Ge 22:14 **17:16** [h]Nu 24:7; 1Sa 15:8,32; 1Ch 4:43; Est 3:1; 8:3; 9:24 [i]Est 9:5 **18:1** [j]S Ex 2:18 [k]S Ex 2:16 [l]S Ex 6:6 **18:2** [m]S Ex 2:21 **18:3** [n]S Ex 4:20; Ac 7:29 [o]Ex 2:22 **18:4** [p]1Ch 23:15 [q]S Ge 49:25; S Dt 33:29 **18:5** [r]S Ex 3:1 **18:7** [s]S Ge 17:3; S 43:28 [t]S Ge 29:13 **18:8** [u]Nu 20:14; Ne 9:32 [v]Ex 15:6,16; Ps 81:7 **18:9** [w]Jos 21:45; 1Ki 8:66; Ne 9:25; Ps 145:7; Isa 63:7 **18:10** [x]S Ge 9:26; S 24:27 **18:11** [y]S Ex 12:12; S 1Ch 16:25 [z]S Ex 1:10; S Lk 1:51 **18:12** [a]S Ex 3:1 [b]Ex 10:25; 20:24; Lev 1:2-9 [c]Ge 31:54; Ex 24:5 [d]S Ge 26:30 [e]Dt 12:7 **18:15** [f]S ver 19; S Ge 25:22 **18:16** [g]Ex 24:14 [h]ver 15; Lev 24:12; Nu 15:34; Dt 1:17; 2Ch 19:7; Pr 24:23; Mal 2:9 **18:18** [i]Nu 11:11,14,17; Dt 1:9,12 **18:19** [j]Ex 3:12 [k]ver 15; Nu 27:5 **18:20** [l]Dt 4:1,5; 5:1; Ps 119:12, 26,68 [m]Ps 143:8 [n]S Ge 39:11 **18:21** [o]S Ge 47:6; Ac 6:3 [p]S Ge 22:12 [q]Ex 23:8; Dt 16:19; 1Sa 12:3; Ps 15:5; Pr 17:23; 28:8; Ecc 7:7; Eze 18:8; 22:12 [r]Nu 1:16; 7:2; 10:4; Dt 16:18; Ezr 7:25 **18:22** [s]Lev 24:11; Dt 1:17-18 [t]Nu 11:17; Dt 1:9

[l]16 Or *"Because a hand was against the throne of the LORD, the* [m]3 *Gershom* sounds like the Hebrew for *an alien there.* [n]4 *Eliezer* means *my God is helper.*

them leaders[a] of the people, officials
over thousands, hundreds, fifties and
tens.[b] 26They served as judges[c] for the
people at all times. The difficult cases[d]
they brought to Moses, but the simple
ones they decided themselves.[e]
27Then Moses sent his father-in-law
on his way, and Jethro returned to his
own country.[f]

At Mount Sinai

19 In the third month after the Isra-
elites left Egypt[g]—on the very
day—they came to the Desert of Sinai.[h]
2After they set out from Rephidim,[i]
they entered the Desert of Sinai, and
Israel camped there in the desert in
front of the mountain.[j]
3Then Moses went up to God,[k] and
the LORD called[l] to him from the moun-
tain and said, "This is what you are to
say to the house of Jacob and what you
are to tell the people of Israel: 4'You
yourselves have seen what I did to
Egypt,[m] and how I carried you on ea-
gles' wings[n] and brought you to my-
self.[o] 5Now if you obey me fully[p] and
keep my covenant,[q] then out of all na-
tions you will be my treasured posses-
sion.[r] Although the whole earth[s] is
mine, 6you[o] will be for me a kingdom
of priests[t] and a holy nation.'[u] These
are the words you are to speak to the
Israelites."
7So Moses went back and summoned
the elders[v] of the people and set before
them all the words the LORD had com-
manded him to speak.[w] 8The people all
responded together, "We will do
everything the LORD has said."[x] So
Moses brought their answer back to the
LORD.
9The LORD said to Moses, "I am going
to come to you in a dense cloud,[y] so
that the people will hear me speaking[z]
with you and will always put their
trust[a] in you." Then Moses told the
LORD what the people had said.
10And the LORD said to Moses, "Go to
the people and consecrate[b] them today
and tomorrow. Have them wash their
clothes[c] 11and be ready by the third
day,[d] because on that day the LORD will
come down[e] on Mount Sinai[f] in the
sight of all the people. 12Put limits[g] for
the people around the mountain and
tell them, 'Be careful that you do not go
up the mountain or touch the foot of it.
Whoever touches the mountain shall
surely be put to death. 13He shall surely
be stoned[h] or shot with arrows; not a
hand is to be laid on him. Whether
man or animal, he shall not be permit-
ted to live.' Only when the ram's
horn[i] sounds a long blast may they go
up to the mountain."[j]
14After Moses had gone down the
mountain to the people, he consecrated
them, and they washed their clothes.[k]
15Then he said to the people, "Prepare
yourselves for the third day. Abstain[l]
from sexual relations."
16On the morning of the third day
there was thunder[m] and lightning,
with a thick cloud[n] over the mountain,
and a very loud trumpet blast.[o] Every-
one in the camp trembled.[p] 17Then
Moses led the people out of the camp
to meet with God, and they stood at
the foot of the mountain.[q] 18Mount
Sinai was covered with smoke,[r] be-
cause the LORD descended on it in fire.[s]
The smoke billowed up from it like
smoke from a furnace,[t] the whole
mountain[p] trembled[u] violently, 19and
the sound of the trumpet grew louder
and louder. Then Moses spoke and the
voice[q] of God answered[w] him.[q]
20The LORD descended to the top of
Mount Sinai[x] and called Moses to the
top of the mountain. So Moses went up
21and the LORD said to him, "Go down
and warn the people so they do not
force their way through to see[y] the
LORD and many of them perish.[z]
22Even the priests, who approach[a] the
LORD, must consecrate[b] themselves, or
the LORD will break out against them."[c]
23Moses said to the LORD, "The
people cannot come up Mount Sinai,[d]
because you yourself warned us, 'Put
limits[e] around the mountain and set it
apart as holy.' "
24The LORD replied, "Go down and
bring Aaron[f] up with you. But the
priests and the people must not force
their way through to come up to the
LORD, or he will break out against
them."[g]
25So Moses went down to the people
and told them.

18:25 [a]Nu 1:16; 7:2; 11:16; Dt 16:18 [b]Dt 1:13-15 **18:26** [c]Dt 16:18; 2Ch 19:5; Ezr 7:25 [d]Dt 1:17 [e]ver 22 **18:27** [f]Nu 10:29-30 **19:1** [g]S Ex 6:6 [h]Nu 1:1; 3:14; 33:15 **19:2** [i]S Ex 17:1 [j]S ver 17; S Ex 3:1; Dt 5:2-4 **19:3** [k]Ex 20:21 [l]S Ex 3:4; S 25:22; Ac 7:38 **19:4** [m]Dt 29:2; Jos 24:7 [n]Dt 32:11; Ps 103:5; Isa 40:31; Jer 4:13; 48:40; Rev 12:14 [o]Dt 33:12; Isa 31:5; Eze 16:6 **19:5** [p]Ex 15:26; Dt 6:3; Ps 78:10; Jer 7:23 [q]S Ge 17:9; S Ex 3:1 [r]S Ex 8:22; S 34:9; S Dt 8:1; S Tit 2:14 [s]S Ex 9:29; 1Co 10:26 **19:6** [t]Isa 61:6; 66:21; S 1Pe 2:5 [u]Ge 18:19; Lev 11:44-45; Dt 4:37; 7:6; 26:19; 28:9; 29:13; 33:3; Isa 4:3; 62:12; Jer 2:3; Am 3:2 **19:7** [v]Ex 18:12; Lev 4:15; 9:1; Nu 16:25 [w]Ex 4:30; 1Sa 8:10 **19:8** [x]Ex 24:3,7; Dt 5:27; 26:17 **19:9** [y]ver 16; Ex 20:21; 24:15-16; 33:9; 34:5; Dt 4:11; 2Sa 22:10,12; 2Ch 6:1; Ps 18:11; 97:2; 99:7; Mt 17:5 [z]Dt 4:12,36; Jn 12:29-30 [a]S Ex 4:5 **19:10** [b]ver 14, 22; Lev 11:44; Nu 11:18; 1Sa 16:5; Joel 2:16; Heb 10:22 [c]S Ge 35:2; Rev 22:14 **19:11** [d]ver 16 [e]S Ge 11:5 [f]ver 3,20; S Ex 3:1; 24:16; 31:18; 34:2,4,29,32; Lev 7:38; 26:46; 27:34; Nu 3:1; Dt 10:5; Ne 9:13; Gal 4:24-25 **19:12** [g]ver 23 **19:13** [h]Heb 12:20* [i]Jos 6:4; 1Ch 15:28; Ps 81:3; 98:6 [j]ver 21; Ex 34:3 **19:14** [k]S Ge 35:2 **19:15** [l]1Sa 21:4; 1Co 7:5 **19:16** [m]1Sa 2:10; Isa 29:6 [n]S ver 9 [o]Heb 12:18-19; Rev 4:1 [p]S Ge 3:10; 1Sa 13:7; 14:15; 28:5; Ps 99:1; Heb 12:21 **19:17** [q]S ver 2; Dt 4:11 **19:18** [r]Ex 20:18; Ps 104:32; Isa 6:4; Rev 15:8 [s]S Ex 3:2; 24:17; Lev 9:24; Dt 4:11,24,33,36; 5:4; 9:3; 1Ki 18:24,38; 1Ch 21:26; 2Ch 7:1; Ps 18:8; Heb 12:18 [t]S Ge 19:28; Rev 9:2 [u]Jdg 5:5; 2Sa 22:8; Ps 18:7; 68:8; Isa 2:19; 5:25; 41:15; 64:1; Jer 4:24; 10:10; Mic 1:4; Na 1:5; Hab 3:6,10; Hag 2:6 **19:19** [v]S ver 9; Dt 4:33; Ne 9:13 [w]Ps 81:7 **19:20** [x]S ver 11 **19:21** [y]Ex 24:10-11; Nu 4:20; 1Sa 6:19 [z]S ver 13 **19:22** [a]Lev 10:3 [b]1Sa 16:5; 2Ch 29:5; Joel 2:16 [c]ver 24; 2Sa 6:7 **19:23** [d]ver 11 [e]ver 12 **19:24** [f]Ex 24:1,9 [g]ver 22

[o]5,6 Or *possession, for the whole earth is mine.* 6You
[p]18 Most Hebrew manuscripts; a few Hebrew manuscripts and Septuagint *all the people*
[q]19 Or *and God answered him with thunder*

The Ten Commandments

20:1-17pp — Dt 5:6-21

20 And God spoke[a] all these words:[b]

2"I am the LORD your God,[c] who brought you out[d] of Egypt,[e] out of the land of slavery.[f]

3"You shall have no other gods before[r] me.[g]

4"You shall not make for yourself an idol[h] in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. 5You shall not bow down to them or worship[i] them; for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God,[j] punishing the children for the sin of the fathers[k] to the third and fourth generation[l] of those who hate me, 6but showing love to a thousand[m] generations, of those who love me and keep my commandments.

7"You shall not misuse the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses his name.[n]

8"Remember the Sabbath[o] day by keeping it holy. 9Six days you shall labor and do all your work,[p] 10but the seventh day is a Sabbath[q] to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, neither you, nor your son or daughter, nor your manservant or maidservant, nor your animals, nor the alien within your gates. 11For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth,[r] the sea, and all that is in them, but he rested[s] on the seventh day.[t] Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.

12"Honor your father and your mother,[u] so that you may live long[v] in the land[w] the LORD your God is giving you.

13"You shall not murder.[x]

14"You shall not commit adultery.[y]

15"You shall not steal.[z]

16"You shall not give false testimony[a] against your neighbor.[b]

17"You shall not covet[c] your neighbor's house. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor."

18When the people saw the thunder
and lightning and heard the trumpet[d]
and saw the mountain in smoke,[e] they
trembled with fear.[f] They stayed at a
distance 19and said to Moses, "Speak to
us yourself and we will listen. But do
not have God speak[g] to us or we will
die."[h]
20Moses said to the people, "Do not
be afraid.[i] God has come to test[j] you,
so that the fear[k] of God will be with
you to keep you from sinning."[l]
21The people remained at a distance,
while Moses approached the thick
darkness[m] where God was.

Idols and Altars

22Then the LORD said to Moses, "Tell
the Israelites this: 'You have seen for
yourselves that I have spoken to you
from heaven:[n] 23Do not make any gods
to be alongside me;[o] do not make for
yourselves gods of silver or gods of
gold.[p]
24" 'Make an altar[q] of earth for me
and sacrifice on it your burnt offerings[r]
and fellowship offerings,[s] your sheep
and goats and your cattle. Wherever I
cause my name[s] to be honored, I will
come to you and bless[t] you. 25If you
make an altar of stones for me, do not
build it with dressed stones, for you
will defile it if you use a tool[u] on it.
26And do not go up to my altar on
steps, lest your nakedness[v] be exposed
on it.'

21 "These are the laws[w] you are to set before them:

Hebrew Servants

21:2-6pp — Dt 15:12-18
21:2-11Ref — Lev 25:39-55

2"If you buy a Hebrew servant,[x] he

20:1 [a]Dt 10:4 [b]Ne 9:13; Ps 119:9; 147:19; Mal 4:4 **20:2** [c]S Ge 17:7; Ex 16:12; Lev 19:2; 20:7; Isa 43:3; Eze 20:19 [d]S Ge 15:7 [e]S Ex 6:6 [f]Ex 13:3; Eze 20:6 **20:3** [g]ver 23; Ex 34:14; Dt 6:14; 13:10; 2Ki 17:35; Ps 44:20; 81:9; Jer 1:16; 7:6,9; 11:13; 19:4; 25:6; 35:15 **20:4** [h]ver 5,23; Ex 32:8; 34:17; Lev 19:4; 26:1; Dt 4:15-19,23; 27:15; 2Sa 7:22; 1Ki 14:9; 2Ki 17:12; Isa 40:19; 42:8; 44:9 **20:5** [i]Ex 23:13, 24; Jos 23:7; Jdg 6:10; 2Ki 17:35; Isa 44:15,17,19; 46:6 [j]Ex 34:14; Dt 4:24; Jos 24:19; Na 1:2 [k]S Ge 9:25; S Lev 26:39 [l]Ex 34:7; Nu 14:18; Jer 32:18 **20:6** [m]Ex 34:7; Nu 14:18; Dt 7:9; Jer 32:18; Lk 1:50; Ro 11:28 **20:7** [n]Ex 22:28; Lev 18:21; 19:12; 22:2; 24:11,16; Dt 6:13; 10:20; Job 2:5,9; Ps 63:11; Isa 8:21; Eze 20:39; 39:7; S Mt 5:33 **20:8** [o]S Ex 16:23; 31:13-16; 35:3; Lev 19:3,30; 26:2; Isa 56:2; Jer 17:21-27; Eze 22:8 **20:9** [p]Ex 23:12; 31:13-17; 34:21; 35:2-3; Lev 23:3; Lk 13:14 **20:10** [q]S Ge 2:3; Ex 31:14; Lev 23:38; Nu 28:9; Isa 56:2; Eze 20:12,20 **20:11** [r]Ge 1:3-2:1 [s]S Ge 2:2 [t]Ex 31:17; Heb 4:4 **20:12** [u]S Ge 31:35; S Dt 5:16; Mt 15:4*; 19:19*; Mk 7:10*; 10:19*; Lk 18:20*; Eph 6:2 [v]Dt 6:2; Eph 6:3 [w]Dt 11:9; 25:15; Jer 35:7 **20:13** [x]S Ge 4:23; Mt 5:21*; 19:18*; Mk 10:19*; Lk 18:20*; Ro 13:9*; Jas 2:11* **20:14** [y]Lev 18:20; 20:10; Nu 5:12, 13,29; Pr 6:29,32; Mt 5:27*; 19:18*; Mk 10:19*; Lk 18:20*; Ro 13:9*; Jas 2:11* **20:15** [z]Lev 19:11,13; Eze 18:7; Mt 19:18*; Mk 10:19*; Lk 18:20*; Ro 13:9* **20:16** [a]Lev 19:11; Jer 9:3,5 [b]Ex 23:1,7; Lev 19:18; Ps 50:20; 101:5; 119:29; Mt 19:18*; Mk 10:19; Lk 3:14*; 18:20* **20:17** [c]Lk 12:15; Ro 7:7*; 13:9*; Eph 5:3; Heb 13:5 **20:18** [d]Ex 19:16-19; Dt 4:36; Isa 58:1; Jer 6:17; Eze 33:3; Heb 12:18-19; Rev 1:10 [e]S Ex 19:18 [f]S Ge 3:10; S Ex 14:31; S 19:16 **20:19** [g]Job 37:4,5; 40:9; Ps 29:3-4 [h]Dt 5:5,23-27; 18:16; Gal 3:19 **20:20** [i]S Ge 15:1 [j]S Ge 22:1 [k]Dt 4:10; 6:2,24; 10:12; Ps 111:10; 128:1; Pr 1:7; 3:7; 8:13; 14:16; Ecc 12:13; Isa 8:13 [l]Job 1:8; 2:3; 28:28; Pr 16:6 **20:21** [m]S Ex 19:9; Dt 5:22; Ps 18:9; 68:4; 97:2; Isa 19:1 **20:22** [n]Dt 5:24,26; Ne 9:13 **20:23** [o]S ver 3 [p]Ex 22:20; 32:4, 8,31; 34:17; Dt 29:17-18; Ne 9:18 **20:24** [q]Ex 27:1; 40:29; Nu 16:38; Dt 27:5; Jos 8:30; 2Ki 16:14; 2Ch 4:1; Ezr 3:2; Eze 43:13 [r]S Ge 8:20; S Ex 18:12 [s]Dt 12:5; 16:6,11; 26:2; 1Ki 9:3; 2Ki 21:4,7; 2Ch 6:6; 12:13; Ezr 6:12 [t]S Ge 12:2; 22:17 **20:25** [u]Jos 8:31; 1Ki 6:7 **20:26** [v]Eze 43:17 **21:1** [w]Ex 24:3; 34:32; Dt 4:14; 6:1 **21:2** [x]Ex 22:3

[r]3 Or *besides* [s]24 Traditionally *peace offerings*

is to serve you for six years. But in the
seventh year, he shall go free,[a] with-
out paying anything. 3If he comes
alone, he is to go free alone; but if he
has a wife when he comes, she is to go
with him. 4If his master gives him a
wife and she bears him sons or daugh-
ters, the woman and her children shall
belong to her master, and only the man
shall go free.
5"But if the servant declares, 'I love
my master and my wife and children
and do not want to go free,'[b] 6then his
master must take him before the
judges.[t][c] He shall take him to the door
or the doorpost and pierce[d] his ear
with an awl. Then he will be his ser-
vant for life.[e]
7"If a man sells his daughter as a ser-
vant, she is not to go free as men-
servants do. 8If she does not please the
master who has selected her for him-
self,[u] he must let her be redeemed. He
has no right to sell her to foreigners,
because he has broken faith with her.
9If he selects her for his son, he must
grant her the rights of a daughter. 10If
he marries another woman, he must
not deprive the first one of her food,
clothing and marital rights.[f] 11If he
does not provide her with these three
things, she is to go free, without any
payment of money.

Personal Injuries

12"Anyone who strikes a man and
kills him shall surely be put to death.[g]
13However, if he does not do it inten-
tionally, but God lets it happen, he is to
flee to a place[h] I will designate. 14But if
a man schemes and kills another man
deliberately,[i] take him away from my
altar and put him to death.[j]
15"Anyone who attacks[v] his father or
his mother must be put to death.
16"Anyone who kidnaps another and
either sells[k] him or still has him when
he is caught must be put to death.[l]
17"Anyone who curses his father or
mother must be put to death.[m]
18"If men quarrel and one hits the
other with a stone or with his fist[w] and
he does not die but is confined to bed,
19the one who struck the blow will not
be held responsible if the other gets up
and walks around outside with his
staff; however, he must pay the injured
man for the loss of his time and see that
he is completely healed.
20"If a man beats his male or female
slave with a rod and the slave dies as a
direct result, he must be punished,
21but he is not to be punished if the
slave gets up after a day or two, since
the slave is his property.[n]
22"If men who are fighting hit a preg-
nant woman and she gives birth
prematurely[x] but there is no serious in-
jury, the offender must be fined what-
ever the woman's husband demands[o]
and the court allows. 23But if there is
serious injury, you are to take life for
life,[p] 24eye for eye, tooth for tooth,[q]
hand for hand, foot for foot, 25burn for
burn, wound for wound, bruise for
bruise.
26"If a man hits a manservant or
maidservant in the eye and destroys it,
he must let the servant go free to com-
pensate for the eye. 27And if he knocks
out the tooth of a manservant or maid-
servant, he must let the servant go free
to compensate for the tooth.
28"If a bull gores a man or a woman
to death, the bull must be stoned to
death,[r] and its meat must not be eat-
en. But the owner of the bull will not be
held responsible. 29If, however, the
bull has had the habit of goring and the
owner has been warned but has not
kept it penned up[s] and it kills a man or
woman, the bull must be stoned and
the owner also must be put to death.
30However, if payment is demanded of
him, he may redeem his life by paying
whatever is demanded.[t] 31This law
also applies if the bull gores a son or
daughter. 32If the bull gores a male or
female slave, the owner must pay
thirty shekels[y][u] of silver to the master
of the slave, and the bull must be
stoned.
33"If a man uncovers a pit[v] or digs
one and fails to cover it and an ox or a
donkey falls into it, 34the owner of the
pit must pay for the loss; he must pay
its owner, and the dead animal will be
his.
35"If a man's bull injures the bull of
another and it dies, they are to sell the
live one and divide both the money
and the dead animal equally. 36How-
ever, if it was known that the bull had
the habit of goring, yet the owner did
not keep it penned up,[w] the owner
must pay, animal for animal, and the
dead animal will be his.

21:2 [a]ver 7; Jer 34:8,14
21:5 [b]Dt 15:16
21:6 [c]Ex 22:8-9; Dt 17:9; 19:17; 25:1 [d]Ps 40:6 [e]Job 39:9; 41:4
21:10 [f]1Co 7:3-5
21:12 [g]ver 15, 17; S Ge 4:14,23; Ex 31:15; Lev 20:9,10; 24:16; 27:29; Nu 1:51; 35:16, 30-31; Dt 13:5; 19:11; 22:22; 27:16; Job 31:11; Pr 20:20; S Mt 26:52
21:13 [h]Nu 35:10-34; Dt 4:42; 19:2-13; Jos 20:9
21:14 [i]Ge 4:8; Nu 35:20; 2Sa 3:27; 20:10; Heb 10:26 [j]Dt 19:11-12; 1Ki 2:28-34
21:16 [k]Ge 37:28 [l]Ex 22:4; Dt 24:7
21:17 [m]S ver 12; S Dt 5:16; Mt 15:4*; Mk 7:10*
21:21 [n]Lev 25:44-46
21:22 [o]ver 30
21:23 [p]Lev 24:19; Dt 19:21
21:24 [q]S ver 23; Mt 5:38*
21:28 [r]ver 32; Ge 9:5
21:29 [s]ver 36
21:30 [t]ver 22
21:32 [u]Ge 37:28; Zec 11:12-13; Mt 26:15; 27:3,9
21:33 [v]Lk 14:5
21:36 [w]ver 29

[t]6 Or *before God* [u]8 Or *master so that he does not choose her* [v]15 Or *kills* [w]18 Or *with a tool* [x]22 Or *she has a miscarriage* [y]32 That is, about 12 ounces (about 0.3 kilogram)

Protection of Property

22 "If a man steals an ox or a sheep
and slaughters it or sells it, he
must pay back[a] five head of cattle for
the ox and four sheep for the sheep.
2"If a thief is caught breaking in[b] and
is struck so that he dies, the defender is
not guilty of bloodshed;[c] 3but if it hap-
pens[z] after sunrise, he is guilty of
bloodshed.
"A thief must certainly make restitu-
tion,[d] but if he has nothing, he must be
sold[e] to pay for his theft.
4"If the stolen animal is found alive
in his possession[f]—whether ox or
donkey or sheep—he must pay back
double.[g]
5"If a man grazes his livestock in a
field or vineyard and lets them stray
and they graze in another man's field,
he must make restitution[h] from the
best of his own field or vineyard.
6"If a fire breaks out and spreads into
thornbushes so that it burns shocks[i] of
grain or standing grain or the whole
field, the one who started the fire must
make restitution.[j]
7"If a man gives his neighbor silver
or goods for safekeeping[k] and they are
stolen from the neighbor's house, the
thief, if he is caught, must pay back
double.[l] 8But if the thief is not found,
the owner of the house must appear
before the judges[a][m] to determine
whether he has laid his hands on the
other man's property. 9In all cases of
illegal possession of an ox, a donkey, a
sheep, a garment, or any other lost
property about which somebody says,
'This is mine,' both parties are to bring
their cases before the judges.[n] The one
whom the judges declare[b] guilty must
pay back double to his neighbor.
10"If a man gives a donkey, an ox, a
sheep or any other animal to his neigh-
bor for safekeeping[o] and it dies or is
injured or is taken away while no one
is looking, 11the issue between them
will be settled by the taking of an oath[p]
before the LORD that the neighbor did
not lay hands on the other person's
property. The owner is to accept this,
and no restitution is required. 12But if
the animal was stolen from the neigh-
bor, he must make restitution[q] to the
owner. 13If it was torn to pieces by a
wild animal, he shall bring in the re-
mains as evidence and he will not be
required to pay for the torn animal.[r]
14"If a man borrows an animal from
his neighbor and it is injured or dies
while the owner is not present, he
must make restitution.[s] 15But if the
owner is with the animal, the borrower
will not have to pay. If the animal was
hired, the money paid for the hire
covers the loss.[t]

Social Responsibility

16"If a man seduces a virgin[u] who is
not pledged to be married and sleeps
with her, he must pay the bride-price,[v]
and she shall be his wife. 17If her father
absolutely refuses to give her to him,
he must still pay the bride-price for vir-
gins.
18"Do not allow a sorceress[w] to live.
19"Anyone who has sexual relations
with an animal[x] must be put to death.
20"Whoever sacrifices to any god[y]
other than the LORD must be de-
stroyed.[c][z]
21"Do not mistreat an alien[a] or op-
press him, for you were aliens[b] in
Egypt.
22"Do not take advantage of a widow
or an orphan.[c] 23If you do and they cry
out[d] to me, I will certainly hear their
cry.[e] 24My anger will be aroused, and I
will kill you with the sword; your
wives will become widows and your
children fatherless.[f]
25"If you lend money to one of my
people among you who is needy, do
not be like a moneylender; charge him
no interest.[d][g] 26If you take your neigh-
bor's cloak as a pledge,[h] return it to
him by sunset, 27because his cloak is
the only covering he has for his body.
What else will he sleep in?[i] When he
cries out to me, I will hear, for I am
compassionate.[j]
28"Do not blaspheme God[e][k] or
curse[l] the ruler of your people.[m]
29"Do not hold back offerings[n] from
your granaries or your vats.[f]
"You must give me the firstborn of
your sons.[o] 30Do the same with your
cattle and your sheep.[p] Let them stay
with their mothers for seven days, but
give them to me on the eighth day.[q]
31"You are to be my holy people.[r] So

22:1 [a]Lev 6:1-7; 2Sa 12:6; Pr 6:31; S Lk 19:8 **22:2** [b]Job 24:16; Jer 2:34; Hos 7:1; Mt 6:19-20; 24:43 [c]Nu 35:27 **22:3** [d]ver 1 [e]S Ex 21:2; S Mt 18:25 **22:4** [f]1Sa 12:5 [g]S Ge 43:12 **22:5** [h]ver 1 **22:6** [i]Jdg 15:5 [j]ver 1 **22:7** [k]ver 10; Lev 6:2 [l]S Ge 43:12 **22:8** [m]S Ex 21:6 **22:9** [n]ver 8; Dt 25:1 **22:10** [o]S ver 7 **22:11** [p]Lev 6:3; 1Ki 8:31; 2Ch 6:22; Heb 6:16 **22:12** [q]ver 1 **22:13** [r]Ge 31:39 **22:14** [s]ver 1 **22:15** [t]Lev 19:13; Job 17:5 **22:16** [u]Dt 22:28 [v]S Ge 34:12 **22:18** [w]S Ex 7:11; Lev 19:26,31; 20:27; Dt 18:11; 1Sa 28:3; 2Ch 33:6; Isa 57:3 **22:19** [x]Lev 18:23; 20:15; Dt 27:21 **22:20** [y]S Ex 20:23; 34:15; Lev 17:7; Nu 25:2; Dt 32:17; Ps 106:37 [z]Lev 27:29; Dt 13:5; 17:2-5; 18:20; 1Ki 18:40; 19:1; 2Ki 10:25; 23:20; 2Ch 15:13 **22:21** [a]Ex 23:9; Lev 19:33; 24:22; Nu 15:14; Dt 1:16; 24:17; Eze 22:29 [b]Dt 10:19; 27:19; Zec 7:10; Mal 3:5 **22:22** [c]ver 26; Dt 10:18; 24:6, 10,12,17; Job 22:6,9; 24:3, 21; Ps 68:5; 146:9; Pr 23:10; Isa 1:17; Jer 7:5, 6; 21:12; 22:3; Eze 18:5-9,12; Zec 7:9-10; Mal 3:5; Jas 1:27 **22:23** [d]Lk 18:7 [e]Dt 10:18; 15:9; 24:15; Job 34:28; 35:9; Ps 10:14, 17; 12:5; 18:6; 34:15; Jas 5:4 **22:24** [f]Ps 109:9; La 5:3 **22:25** [g]Lev 25:35-37; Dt 15:7-11; 23:20; Ne 5:7,10; Ps 15:5; Eze 18:8 **22:26** [h]S ver 22; Pr 20:16; Eze 33:15; Am 2:8 **22:27** [i]Dt 24:13, 17; Job 22:6; 24:7; 29:11; 31:19-20; Eze 18:12,16 [j]Ex 34:6; Dt 4:31; 2Ch 30:9; Ne 9:17; Ps 99:8; 103:8; 116:5; 145:8; Joel 2:13; Jnh 4:2 **22:28** [k]S Ex 20:7 [l]2Sa 16:5,9; 19:21; 1Ki 21:10; 2Ki 2:23; Ps 102:8 [m]Ecc 10:20; Ac 23:5* **22:29** [n]Ex 23:15,16,19; 34:20,26; Lev 19:24; 23:10; Nu 18:13; 28:26; Dt 18:4; 26:2,10; 1Sa 6:3; Ne 10:35; Pr 3:9; Mal 3:10 [o]S Ex 13:2; Nu 8:16-17; Lk 2:23 **22:30** [p]Ex 34:19; Dt 15:19 [q]Ge 17:12; Lev 12:3; 22:27 **22:31** [r]Ex 19:6; Lev 19:2; 22:31; Ezr 9:2

[z]3 Or *if he strikes him* [a]8 Or *before God;* also in verse 9 [b]9 Or *whom God declares* [c]20 The Hebrew term refers to the irrevocable giving over of things or persons to the LORD, often by totally destroying them. [d]25 Or *excessive interest* [e]28 Or *Do not revile the judges* [f]29 The meaning of the Hebrew for this phrase is uncertain.

do not eat the meat of an animal torn
by wild beasts;[a] throw it to the dogs.

Laws of Justice and Mercy

23 "Do not spread false reports.[b]
Do not help a wicked man by be-
ing a malicious witness.[c]
2"Do not follow the crowd in doing
wrong. When you give testimony in a
lawsuit, do not pervert justice[d] by sid-
ing with the crowd,[e] 3and do not show
favoritism[f] to a poor man in his law-
suit.
4"If you come across your enemy's[g]
ox or donkey wandering off, be sure to
take it back to him.[h] 5If you see the
donkey[i] of someone who hates you
fallen down under its load, do not
leave it there; be sure you help him
with it.
6"Do not deny justice[j] to your poor
people in their lawsuits. 7Have nothing
to do with a false charge[k] and do not
put an innocent[l] or honest person to
death,[m] for I will not acquit the guilty.[n]
8"Do not accept a bribe,[o] for a bribe
blinds those who see and twists the
words of the righteous.
9"Do not oppress an alien;[p] you
yourselves know how it feels to be
aliens, because you were aliens in
Egypt.

Sabbath Laws

10"For six years you are to sow your
fields and harvest the crops, 11but dur-
ing the seventh year let the land lie un-
plowed and unused.[q] Then the poor
among your people may get food from
it, and the wild animals may eat what
they leave. Do the same with your
vineyard and your olive grove.
12"Six days do your work,[r] but on
the seventh day do not work, so that
your ox and your donkey may rest and
the slave born in your household, and
the alien as well, may be refreshed.[s]
13"Be careful[t] to do everything I
have said to you. Do not invoke the
names of other gods;[u] do not let them
be heard on your lips.[v]

The Three Annual Festivals

14"Three times[w] a year you are to cel-
ebrate a festival to me.
15"Celebrate the Feast of Unleavened
Bread;[x] for seven days eat bread made
without yeast, as I commanded you.
Do this at the appointed time in the
month of Abib,[y] for in that month you
came out of Egypt.

"No one is to appear before me
empty-handed.[z]
16"Celebrate the Feast of Harvest[a]
with the firstfruits[b] of the crops you
sow in your field.
"Celebrate the Feast of Ingathering[c]
at the end of the year, when you gather
in your crops from the field.[d]
17"Three times[e] a year all the men
are to appear before the Sovereign
LORD.
18"Do not offer the blood of a sacri-
fice to me along with anything contain-
ing yeast.[f]
"The fat of my festival offerings must
not be kept until morning.[g]
19"Bring the best of the firstfruits[h] of
your soil to the house of the LORD your
God.
"Do not cook a young goat in its
mother's milk.[i]

God's Angel to Prepare the Way

20"See, I am sending an angel[j] ahead
of you to guard you along the way and
to bring you to the place I have pre-
pared.[k] 21Pay attention to him and lis-
ten[l] to what he says. Do not rebel
against him; he will not forgive[m] your
rebellion,[n] since my Name[o] is in him.
22If you listen carefully to what he says
and do[p] all that I say, I will be an ene-
my[q] to your enemies and will oppose
those who oppose you. 23My angel will
go ahead of you and bring you into the
land of the Amorites, Hittites, Periz-
zites, Canaanites, Hivites and Jebu-
sites,[r] and I will wipe them out. 24Do
not bow down before their gods or
worship[s] them or follow their prac-
tices.[t] You must demolish[u] them and
break their sacred stones[v] to pieces.
25Worship the LORD your God,[w] and his
blessing[x] will be on your food and
water. I will take away sickness[y] from
among you, 26and none will miscarry or
be barren[z] in your land. I will give you
a full life span.[a]
27"I will send my terror[b] ahead of
you and throw into confusion[c] every
nation you encounter. I will make all
your enemies turn their backs and

22:31 [a]Lev 7:24; 17:15; 22:8; Dt 14:21; Eze 4:14; 44:31 **23:1** [b]S Ge 39:17; Mt 19:18; Lk 3:14 [c]S Ex 20:16; Dt 5:20; 19:16-21; Ps 27:12; 35:11; Pr 19:5; Ac 6:11 **23:2** [d]ver 3,6,9; Lev 19:15,33; Dt 1:17; 16:19; 24:17; 27:19; 1Sa 8:3 [e]Job 31:34 **23:3** [f]Dt 1:17 **23:4** [g]Ro 12:20 [h]Lev 6:3; 19:11; Dt 22:1-3 **23:5** [i]Dt 22:4 **23:6** [j]S ver 2; Dt 23:16; Pr 22:22 **23:7** [k]S Ex 20:16; S Eph 4:25 [l]Mt 27:4 [m]S Ge 18:23 [n]Ex 34:7; Dt 19:18; 25:1 **23:8** [o]S Ex 18:21; Lev 19:15; Dt 10:17; 27:25; Job 15:34; 36:18; Ps 26:10; Pr 6:35; 15:27; 17:8; Isa 1:23; 5:23; Mic 3:11; 7:3 **23:9** [p]S ver 2; S Ex 22:21; Lev 19:33-34; Eze 22:7 **23:11** [q]Lev 25:1-7; Ne 10:31 **23:12** [r]S Ex 20:9; Lk 13:14 [s]Ge 2:2-3 **23:13** [t]Dt 4:9, 23; 1Ti 4:16 [u]ver 32; Dt 12:3; Jos 23:7; Ps 16:4; Zec 13:2 [v]Dt 18:20; Jos 23:7; Ps 16:4; Hos 2:17 **23:14** [w]ver 17; S Ex 12:14; 34:23,24; Dt 16:16; 1Ki 9:25; 2Ch 8:13; Eze 46:9 **23:15** [x]S Ex 12:17; Mt 26:17; Lk 22:1; Ac 12:3 [y]S Ex 12:2 [z]S Ex 22:29 **23:16** [a]Lev 23:15-21; Nu 28:26; Dt 16:9; 2Ch 8:13 [b]S Ex 22:29; S 34:22 [c]Ex 34:22; Lev 23:34,42; Dt 16:16; 31:10; Ezr 3:4; Ne 8:14; Zec 14:16 [d]Lev 23:39; Dt 16:13; Jer 40:10 **23:17** [e]S ver 14 **23:18** [f]Ex 34:25; Lev 2:11 [g]S Ex 12:8 **23:19** [h]S Ex 22:29; S 34:22; S Nu 18:12 [i]Ex 34:26; Dt 14:21 **23:20** [j]S Ge 16:7 [k]Ex 15:17 **23:21** [l]Dt 18:19; Jer 13:15 [m]Dt 29:20; 2Ki 24:4; La 1:17 [n]Nu 17:10; Dt 9:7; 31:27; Jos 24:19; Ps 25:7; 78:8,40,56; 106:33; 107:11; 1Jn 5:16 [o]S Ex 3:15 **23:22** [p]S Ex 15:26 [q]S Ge 12:3; Isa 41:11; Jer 30:20 **23:23** [r]Nu 13:29; 21:21; Jos 3:10; 24:8,11; Ezr 9:1; Ps 135:11 **23:24** [s]S Ex 20:5 [t]Lev 18:3; 20:23; Dt 9:4; 12:30-31; Jer 10:2 [u]Ex 34:13; Nu 33:52; Dt 7:5; 12:3; Jdg 2:2; 2Ki 18:4; 23:14 [v]Lev 26:1; Dt 16:22; 1Ki 14:23; 2Ki 3:2; 10:26; 17:10; 2Ch 14:3; Isa 27:9 **23:25** [w]Mt 4:10 [x]Lev 26:3-13; Dt 7:12-15; 28:1-14 [y]S Ex 15:26 **23:26** [z]Lev 26:3-4; Dt 7:14; 28:4; Mal 3:11 [a]S Ge 15:15; Dt 4:1,40; 32:47; Ps 90:10 **23:27** [b]S Ge 35:5; S Ex 15:14 [c]S Ex 14:24; Dt 7:23

run.[a] [28]I will send the hornet[b] ahead of you to drive the Hivites, Canaanites and Hittites[c] out of your way. [29]But I will not drive them out in a single year, because the land would become desolate and the wild animals[d] too numerous for you. [30]Little by little I will drive them out before you, until you have increased enough to take possession[e] of the land.

[31]"I will establish your borders from the Red Sea[g] to the Sea of the Philistines,[h] and from the desert to the River.[i][f] I will hand over to you the people who live in the land and you will drive them out[g] before you. [32]Do not make a covenant[h] with them or with their gods. [33]Do not let them live in your land, or they will cause you to sin against me, because the worship of their gods will certainly be a snare[i] to you."

The Covenant Confirmed

24 Then he said to Moses, "Come up to the LORD, you and Aaron,[j] Nadab and Abihu,[k] and seventy of the elders[l] of Israel. You are to worship at a distance, [2]but Moses alone is to approach[m] the LORD; the others must not come near. And the people may not come up with him."

[3]When Moses went and told the people all the LORD's words and laws,[n] they responded with one voice, "Everything the LORD has said we will do."[o] [4]Moses then wrote[p] down everything the LORD had said.

He got up early the next morning and built an altar[q] at the foot of the mountain and set up twelve stone pillars[r] representing the twelve tribes of Israel. [5]Then he sent young Israelite men, and they offered burnt offerings[s] and sacrificed young bulls as fellowship offerings[j][t] to the LORD. [6]Moses[u] took half of the blood[v] and put it in bowls, and the other half he sprinkled[w] on the altar. [7]Then he took the Book of the Covenant[x] and read it to the people. They responded, "We will do everything the LORD has said; we will obey."[y]

[8]Moses then took the blood, sprinkled it on the people[z] and said, "This is the blood of the covenant[a] that the LORD has made with you in accordance with all these words."

[9]Moses and Aaron, Nadab and Abihu, and the seventy elders[b] of Israel went up [10]and saw[c] the God of Israel. Under his feet was something like a pavement made of sapphire,[k][d] clear as the sky[e] itself. [11]But God did not raise his hand against these leaders of the Israelites; they saw[f] God, and they ate and drank.[g]

[12]The LORD said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain and stay here, and I will give you the tablets of stone,[h] with the law and commands I have written for their instruction."

[13]Then Moses set out with Joshua[i] his aide, and Moses went up on the mountain[j] of God. [14]He said to the elders, "Wait here for us until we come back to you. Aaron and Hur[k] are with you, and anyone involved in a dispute[l] can go to them."

[15]When Moses went up on the mountain, the cloud[m] covered it, [16]and the glory[n] of the LORD settled on Mount Sinai.[o] For six days the cloud covered the mountain, and on the seventh day the LORD called to Moses from within the cloud.[p] [17]To the Israelites the glory of the LORD looked like a consuming fire[q] on top of the mountain. [18]Then Moses entered the cloud as he went on up the mountain. And he stayed on the mountain forty[r] days and forty nights.[s]

Offerings for the Tabernacle

25:1-7pp — Ex 35:4-9

25 The LORD said to Moses, [2]"Tell the Israelites to bring me an offering. You are to receive the offering for me from each man whose heart prompts[t] him to give. [3]These are the offerings you are to receive from them: gold, silver and bronze; [4]blue, purple and scarlet yarn[u] and fine linen; goat hair; [5]ram skins dyed red and hides of sea cows[l];[v] acacia wood;[w] [6]olive oil[x] for the light; spices for the anointing oil and for the fragrant incense;[y] [7]and onyx stones and other gems to be mounted on the ephod[z] and breastpiece.[a]

[8]"Then have them make a sanctuary[b] for me, and I will dwell[c] among them. [9]Make this tabernacle and all its

23:27 [a]2Sa 22:41; Ps 18:40; 21:12 **23:28** [b]Dt 7:20; Jos 24:12 [c]Ex 33:2; 34:11, 24; Nu 13:29; Dt 4:38; 11:23; 18:12; Jos 3:10; 24:11; Ps 78:55 **23:29** [d]Dt 7:22 **23:30** [e]Jos 23:5 **23:31** [f]S Ge 2:14; Dt 34:2; Ezr 4:20 [g]Dt 7:24; 9:3; Jos 21:44; 24:12, 18; Ps 80:8 **23:32** [h]S Ge 26:28; Ex 34:12; Dt 7:2; Jos 9:7; Jdg 2:2; 1Sa 11:1; 1Ki 15:19; 20:34; Eze 17:13 **23:33** [i]S Ex 10:7 **24:1** [j]S Ex 19:24 [k]S Ex 6:23 [l]ver 9; Nu 11:16 **24:2** [m]Nu 12:6-8 **24:3** [n]S Ex 21:1; Gal 3:19 [o]S Ex 19:8; Jos 24:24 **24:4** [p]S Ex 17:14 [q]S Ge 8:20 [r]S Ge 28:18; S Dt 27:2 **24:5** [s]Lev 1:3 [t]S Ge 31:54 **24:6** [u]Ex 14:15; 32:31; Ps 99:6 [v]Heb 9:18 [w]Lev 1:11; 3:2,8, 13; 5:9; Mt 26:28 **24:7** [x]2Ki 23:2, 21; Heb 9:19 [y]Ex 19:8; Jer 40:3; 42:6,21; 43:2 **24:8** [z]Heb 9:19; 1Pe 1:2 [a]Lev 26:3; Dt 5:2-3; Jos 24:25; 2Ki 11:17; Jer 11:4,8; 31:32; 34:13; Zec 9:11; S Mt 26:28; S Lk 22:20; Heb 9:20* **24:9** [b]S ver 1 **24:10** [c]S Ge 16:13; Nu 12:6; Isa 6:1; Eze 1:1; 8:3; 40:2; S Jn 1:18 [d]Job 28:16; Isa 54:11; Eze 1:26; 10:1 [e]Rev 4:3 **24:11** [f]S ver 10; S Ex 3:6; S 19:21 [g]Eze 44:3; Mt 26:29 **24:12** [h]Ex 31:18; 32:15-16; 34:1, 28,29; Dt 4:13; 5:22; 8:3; 9:9,10, 11; 10:4; 2Co 3:3 **24:13** [i]S Ex 17:9 [j]S Ex 3:1 **24:14** [k]S Ex 17:10 [l]Ex 18:16 **24:15** [m]S Ex 19:9; Mt 17:5 **24:16** [n]S Ex 16:7; Lev 9:23; Nu 14:10; 1Sa 4:21,22; Eze 8:4; 11:22 [o]S Ex 19:11 [p]Ps 99:7

24:17 [q]S Ex 15:7; S 19:18; Heb 12:18,29 **24:18** [r]1Ki 19:8 [s]S Ge 7:4; Mt 4:2 **25:2** [t]Ex 35:21,22,26,27,29; 36:2; 2Ki 12:4; 1Ch 29:5,7,9; 2Ch 24:10; 29:31; Ezr 2:68; Ne 7:70-72; 2Co 8:11-12; 9:7 **25:4** [u]Ex 28:4-8 **25:5** [v]Nu 4:6,10 [w]Dt 10:3 **25:6** [x]Ex 27:20; 30:22-32; 35:28; 39:37; Nu 4:16 [y]Ex 30:1,7, 35; 31:11; 35:28; Lev 16:12; Nu 4:16; 7:14; 2Ch 13:11 **25:7** [z]Ex 28:4,6-14; 29:5; Jdg 8:27; Hos 3:4 [a]Lev 8:8 **25:8** [b]Ex 36:1-5; Lev 4:6; 10:4,7; 21:12,23; Nu 3:28; Heb 9:1-2 [c]Ex 29:45; Lev 26:11-12; Nu 5:3; Dt 12:11; 1Ki 6:13; Zec 2:10; 2Co 6:16

g31 Hebrew *Yam Suph;* that is, Sea of Reeds
h31 That is, the Mediterranean i31 That is, the Euphrates j5 Traditionally *peace offerings*
k10 Or *lapis lazuli* l5 That is, dugongs

furnishings exactly like the pattern[a] I will show you.

The Ark

25:10-20pp — Ex 37:1-9

10 "Have them make a chest[b] of acacia wood—two and a half cubits long, a cubit and a half wide, and a cubit and a half high.[m] 11 Overlay[c] it with pure gold, both inside and out, and make a gold molding around it. 12 Cast four gold rings for it and fasten them to its four feet, with two rings[d] on one side and two rings on the other. 13 Then make poles of acacia wood and overlay them with gold.[e] 14 Insert the poles[f] into the rings on the sides of the chest to carry it. 15 The poles are to remain in the rings of this ark; they are not to be removed.[g] 16 Then put in the ark the Testimony,[h] which I will give you.

17 "Make an atonement cover[n][i] of pure gold—two and a half cubits long and a cubit and a half wide.[o] 18 And make two cherubim[j] out of hammered gold at the ends of the cover. 19 Make one cherub on one end and the second cherub on the other; make the cherubim of one piece with the cover, at the two ends. 20 The cherubim[k] are to have their wings spread upward, overshadowing[l] the cover with them. The cherubim are to face each other, looking toward the cover. 21 Place the cover on top of the ark[m] and put in the ark the Testimony,[n] which I will give you. 22 There, above the cover between the two cherubim[o] that are over the ark of the Testimony, I will meet[p] with you and give you all my commands for the Israelites.[q]

The Table

25:23-29pp — Ex 37:10-16

23 "Make a table[r] of acacia wood—two cubits long, a cubit wide and a cubit and a half high.[p] 24 Overlay it with pure gold and make a gold molding around it. 25 Also make around it a rim a handbreadth[q] wide and put a gold molding on the rim. 26 Make four gold rings for the table and fasten them to the four corners, where the four legs are. 27 The rings are to be close to the rim to hold the poles used in carrying the table. 28 Make the poles of acacia wood, overlay them with gold[s] and carry the table with them. 29 And make its plates and dishes of pure gold, as well as its pitchers and bowls for the pouring out of offerings.[t] 30 Put the bread of the Presence[u] on this table to be before me at all times.

The Lampstand

25:31-39pp — Ex 37:17-24

31 "Make a lampstand[v] of pure gold and hammer it out, base and shaft; its flowerlike cups, buds and blossoms shall be of one piece with it. 32 Six branches are to extend from the sides of the lampstand—three on one side and three on the other. 33 Three cups shaped like almond flowers with buds and blossoms are to be on one branch, three on the next branch, and the same for all six branches extending from the lampstand. 34 And on the lampstand there are to be four cups shaped like almond flowers with buds and blossoms. 35 One bud shall be under the first pair of branches extending from the lampstand, a second bud under the second pair, and a third bud under the third pair—six branches in all. 36 The buds and branches shall all be of one piece with the lampstand, hammered out of pure gold.[w]

37 "Then make its seven lamps[x] and set them up on it so that they light the space in front of it. 38 Its wick trimmers and trays[y] are to be of pure gold. 39 A talent[r] of pure gold is to be used for the lampstand and all these accessories. 40 See that you make them according to the pattern[z] shown you on the mountain.

The Tabernacle

26:1-37pp — Ex 36:8-38

26 "Make the tabernacle[a] with ten curtains of finely twisted linen and blue, purple and scarlet yarn, with cherubim[b] worked into them by a skilled craftsman. 2 All the curtains are to be the same size[c]—twenty-eight cubits long and four cubits wide.[s] 3 Join five of the curtains together, and do the same with the other five. 4 Make loops of blue material along the edge of the end curtain in one set, and do the same

25:9 [a]ver 40; Ex 26:30; 27:8; 31:11; 39:32,42, 43; Nu 8:4; 1Ch 28:11,19; Ac 7:44; Heb 8:5
25:10 [b]Dt 10:1-5; 1Ki 6:19; Heb 9:4
25:11 [c]ver 24; Ex 30:3
25:12 [d]ver 26; Ex 30:4
25:13 [e]ver 28; Ex 27:6; 30:5; 37:28
25:14 [f]Ex 27:7; 40:20; 1Ch 15:15
25:15 [g]1Ki 8:8
25:16 [h]S Ex 16:34; Heb 9:4
25:17 [i]ver 21; Lev 16:13; Ro 3:25
25:18 [j]Ex 26:1, 31; 36:35; 1Ki 6:23,27; 8:6; 2Ch 3:10-13; Heb 9:5
25:20 [k]S Ge 3:24 [l]Ex 37:9; 1Ki 8:7; 1Ch 28:18; Heb 9:5
25:21 [m]ver 10-15; Ex 26:34; 40:20; Dt 10:5 [n]S Ex 16:34; Heb 9:4
25:22 [o]Nu 7:89; 1Sa 4:4; 2Sa 6:2; 22:11; 2Ki 19:15; 1Ch 13:6; 28:18; Ps 18:10; 80:1; 99:1; Isa 37:16 [p]S Ex 19:3; 29:42; 30:6,36; Lev 1:1; 16:2; Nu 17:4 [q]Jer 3:16
25:23 [r]ver 30; Ex 26:35; 40:4, 22; Lev 24:6; Nu 3:31; 1Ki 7:48; 1Ch 28:16; 2Ch 4:8,19; Eze 41:22; 44:16; Heb 9:2
25:28 [s]S ver 13
25:29 [t]Nu 4:7
25:30 [u]Ex 35:13; 39:36; 40:4,23; Lev 24:5-9; Nu 4:7; 1Sa 21:4-6; 1Ki 7:48; 1Ch 23:29
25:31 [v]Ex 26:35; 31:8; 35:14; 39:37; 40:4,24; Lev 24:4; Nu 3:31; 1Ki 7:49; 2Ch 4:7; Zec 4:2; Heb 9:2; Rev 1:12
25:36 [w]ver 18; Nu 8:4
25:37 [x]Ex 27:21; 30:8; Lev 24:3-4; Nu 8:2; 1Sa 3:3; 2Ch 13:11
25:38 [y]S ver 37; Nu 4:9
25:40 [z]S ver 9; Ac 7:44; Heb 8:5*
26:1 [a]Ex 29:42; 40:2; Lev 8:10; Nu 1:50; Jos 22:19,29; 2Sa 7:2; 1Ki 1:39; Ac 7:44; Heb 8:2,5; 13:10; S Rev 21:3 [b]S Ex 25:18
26:2 [c]ver 8

[m]10 That is, about 3 3/4 feet (about 1.1 meters) long and 2 1/4 feet (about 0.7 meter) wide and high
[n]17 Traditionally *a mercy seat*
[o]17 That is, about 3 3/4 feet (about 1.1 meters) long and 2 1/4 feet (about 0.7 meter) wide
[p]23 That is, about 3 feet (about 0.9 meter) long and 1 1/2 feet (about 0.5 meter) wide and 2 1/4 feet (about 0.7 meter) high
[q]25 That is, about 3 inches (about 8 centimeters)
[r]39 That is, about 75 pounds (about 34 kilograms)
[s]2 That is, about 42 feet (about 12.5 meters) long and 6 feet (about 1.8 meters) wide

with the end curtain in the other set.
5 Make fifty loops on one curtain and
fifty loops on the end curtain of the
other set, with the loops opposite each
other. 6 Then make fifty gold clasps and
use them to fasten the curtains together
so that the tabernacle is a unit.[a]
7 "Make curtains of goat hair for the
tent over the tabernacle—eleven alto-
gether. 8 All eleven curtains are to be
the same size[b]—thirty cubits long and
four cubits wide.[t] 9 Join five of the cur-
tains together into one set and the
other six into another set. Fold the
sixth curtain double at the front of the
tent. 10 Make fifty loops along the edge
of the end curtain in one set and also
along the edge of the end curtain in the
other set. 11 Then make fifty bronze
clasps and put them in the loops to fas-
ten the tent together as a unit.[c] 12 As for
the additional length of the tent cur-
tains, the half curtain that is left over is
to hang down at the rear of the taber-
nacle. 13 The tent curtains will be a cu-
bit[u] longer on both sides; what is left
will hang over the sides of the taber-
nacle so as to cover it. 14 Make for the
tent a covering[d] of ram skins dyed red,
and over that a covering of hides of sea
cows.[v] [e]
15 "Make upright frames of acacia
wood for the tabernacle. 16 Each frame
is to be ten cubits long and a cubit and
a half wide,[w] 17 with two projections set
parallel to each other. Make all the
frames of the tabernacle in this way.
18 Make twenty frames for the south
side of the tabernacle 19 and make forty
silver bases[f] to go under them—two
bases for each frame, one under each
projection. 20 For the other side, the
north side of the tabernacle, make
twenty frames 21 and forty silver
bases[g]—two under each frame. 22 Make
six frames for the far end, that is, the
west end of the tabernacle, 23 and make
two frames for the corners at the far
end. 24 At these two corners they must
be double from the bottom all the way
to the top, and fitted into a single ring;
both shall be like that. 25 So there will be
eight frames and sixteen silver bases—
two under each frame.
26 "Also make crossbars of acacia
wood: five for the frames on one side of
the tabernacle, 27 five for those on the
other side, and five for the frames on
the west, at the far end of the taber-
nacle. 28 The center crossbar is to extend
from end to end at the middle of the
frames. 29 Overlay the frames with gold
and make gold rings to hold the cross-
bars. Also overlay the crossbars with
gold.
30 "Set up the tabernacle[h] according
to the plan[i] shown you on the moun-
tain.
31 "Make a curtain[j] of blue, purple
and scarlet yarn and finely twisted
linen, with cherubim[k] worked into it
by a skilled craftsman. 32 Hang it with
gold hooks on four posts of acacia
wood overlaid with gold and standing
on four silver bases.[l] 33 Hang the cur-
tain from the clasps and place the ark
of the Testimony behind the curtain.[m]
The curtain will separate the Holy Place
from the Most Holy Place.[n] 34 Put the
atonement cover[o] on the ark of the
Testimony in the Most Holy Place.
35 Place the table[p] outside the curtain on
the north side of the tabernacle and put
the lampstand[q] opposite it on the
south side.
36 "For the entrance to the tent make
a curtain[r] of blue, purple and scarlet
yarn and finely twisted linen—the
work of an embroiderer.[s] 37 Make gold
hooks for this curtain and five posts of
acacia wood overlaid with gold. And
cast five bronze bases for them.

The Altar of Burnt Offering

27:1-8pp — Ex 38:1-7

27 "Build an altar[t] of acacia wood,
three cubits[x] high; it is to be
square, five cubits long and five cubits
wide.[y] 2 Make a horn[u] at each of the
four corners, so that the horns and the
altar are of one piece, and overlay the
altar with bronze. 3 Make all its utensils
of bronze—its pots to remove the
ashes, and its shovels, sprinkling
bowls,[v] meat forks and firepans.[w]
4 Make a grating for it, a bronze net-
work, and make a bronze ring at each
of the four corners of the network. 5 Put
it under the ledge of the altar so that it
is halfway up the altar. 6 Make poles of
acacia wood for the altar and overlay
them with bronze.[x] 7 The poles are to
be inserted into the rings so they will
be on two sides of the altar when it is
carried.[y] 8 Make the altar hollow, out of
boards. It is to be made just as you
were shown[z] on the mountain.

26:6 [a]ver 11
26:8 [b]ver 2
26:11 [c]ver 6
26:14 [d]Nu 3:25 [e]Nu 4:25
26:19 [f]ver 21, 25, 32; Ex 38:27
26:21 [g]S ver 19
26:30 [h]Ex 40:2; Nu 9:15 [i]S Ex 25:9
26:31 [j]Nu 4:5; 2Ch 3:14; Mt 27:51; Lk 23:45; Heb 9:3 [k]S Ex 25:18
26:32 [l]S ver 19
26:33 [m]Ex 27:21; 35:12; 40:3,21; Lev 16:2; Nu 3:31; 4:5; 2Ch 3:14 [n]Lev 16:2,16; 1Ki 6:16; 7:50; 8:6; 2Ch 3:8; 5:7; Eze 41:4; Heb 9:2-3
26:34 [o]Ex 25:21; 30:6; 37:6; Lev 16:2; Heb 9:5
26:35 [p]S Ex 25:23; Heb 9:2 [q]S Ex 25:31
26:36 [r]Ex 35:15; 40:5,28 [s]Ps 45:14; Eze 16:10; 26:16; 27:7
27:1 [t]S Ex 20:24; S 40:6; S 1Ki 8:64
27:2 [u]Ex 29:12; 30:2; 37:25; Lev 4:7; 1Ki 1:50; 2:28; Ps 118:27; Jer 17:1; Eze 43:15; Am 3:14; Zec 9:15
27:3 [v]Nu 7:13; 1Ki 7:40,45; 2Ki 12:13 [w]Nu 4:14; 1Ch 28:17; Jer 52:18
27:6 [x]S Ex 25:13
27:7 [y]Ex 25:14, 28
27:8 [z]S Ex 25:9

t8 That is, about 45 feet (about 13.5 meters) long and 6 feet (about 1.8 meters) wide u13 That is, about 1 1/2 feet (about 0.5 meter) v14 That is, dugongs w16 That is, about 15 feet (about 4.5 meters) long and 2 1/4 feet (about 0.7 meter) wide x1 That is, about 4 1/2 feet (about 1.3 meters) y1 That is, about 7 1/2 feet (about 2.3 meters) long and wide

The Courtyard

27:9-19pp — Ex 38:9-20

[9]"Make a courtyard[y] for the taber-
nacle. The south side shall be a hun-
dred cubits[z] long and is to have cur-
tains of finely twisted linen, [10]with
twenty posts and twenty bronze bases
and with silver hooks and bands on the
posts. [11]The north side shall also be a
hundred cubits long and is to have cur-
tains, with twenty posts and twenty
bronze bases and with silver hooks and
bands on the posts.
[12]"The west end of the courtyard
shall be fifty cubits[a] wide and have
curtains, with ten posts and ten bases.
[13]On the east end, toward the sunrise,
the courtyard shall also be fifty cubits
wide. [14]Curtains fifteen cubits[b] long
are to be on one side of the entrance,
with three posts and three bases, [15]and
curtains fifteen cubits long are to be on
the other side, with three posts and
three bases.
[16]"For the entrance to the courtyard,
provide a curtain[b] twenty cubits[c] long,
of blue, purple and scarlet yarn and
finely twisted linen—the work of an
embroiderer[c]—with four posts and
four bases. [17]All the posts around the
courtyard are to have silver bands and
hooks, and bronze bases. [18]The court-
yard shall be a hundred cubits long and
fifty cubits wide,[d] with curtains of fine-
ly twisted linen five cubits[e] high, and
with bronze bases. [19]All the other arti-
cles used in the service of the taber-
nacle, whatever their function, includ-
ing all the tent pegs for it and those for
the courtyard, are to be of bronze.

Oil for the Lampstand

27:20-21pp — Lev 24:1-3

[20]"Command the Israelites to bring
you clear oil[d] of pressed olives for the
light so that the lamps may be kept
burning. [21]In the Tent of Meeting,[e]
outside the curtain that is in front of
the Testimony,[f] Aaron and his sons
are to keep the lamps[g] burning before
the LORD from evening till morning.
This is to be a lasting ordinance[h]
among the Israelites for the generations
to come.

The Priestly Garments

28 "Have Aaron[i] your brother
brought to you from among the
Israelites, along with his sons Nadab
and Abihu,[j] Eleazar and Ithamar,[k] so
they may serve me as priests.[l] [2]Make

27:9 [y]Ex 35:17; 40:8,33; Lev 6:16,26; Eze 40:14; 42:1 **27:16** [b]Ex 40:33 [c]Ex 36:37 **27:20** [d]S Ex 25:6 **27:21** [e]Ex 28:43; 29:42; 30:36; 31:7; Lev 1:1; 6:26; 8:3,31; Nu 1:1; 31:54; Jos 18:1; 1Ki 1:39 [f]S Ex 16:34 [g]S Ex 25:37 [h]Ex 29:9; 30:21; Lev 3:17; 16:34; 17:7; Nu 18:23; 19:21; 1Sa 30:25 **28:1** [i]Lev 8:30; Ps 99:6; Heb 5:4 [j]S Ex 6:23; 24:9 [k]S Ex 6:23 [l]Lev 8:2; 21:1; Nu 18:1-7; Dt 18:5; 1Sa 2:28; Heb 5:1

28:2 [m]Ex 29:5,29; 31:10; 35:19; 39:1; Lev 8:7-9,30; 16:32; Nu 20:26-28 [n]ver 40 **28:3** [o]Ex 31:6; 35:10,25,35; 36:1 [p]Ex 31:3; Dt 34:9; Isa 11:2; 1Co 12:8; S Eph 1:17 **28:4** [q]ver 15-30 [r]S Ex 25:7 [s]ver 31-35 [t]ver 39; Lev 10:5 [u]ver 37 **28:5** [v]Ex 25:4 **28:6** [w]S Ex 25:7 **28:8** [x]Ex 29:5 **28:9** [y]SS 8:6; Isa 49:16; Hag 2:23 **28:12** [z]Dt 33:12; Job 31:36 [a]ver 29; Ex 30:16; Nu 10:10; 31:54; Jos 4:7; Zec 6:14 **28:15** [b]S Ex 25:7

sacred garments[m] for your brother
Aaron, to give him dignity and honor.[n]
[3]Tell all the skilled men[o] to whom I
have given wisdom[p] in such matters
that they are to make garments for
Aaron, for his consecration, so he may
serve me as priest. [4]These are the gar-
ments they are to make: a breastpiece,[q]
an ephod,[r] a robe,[s] a woven tunic,[t] a
turban[u] and a sash. They are to make
these sacred garments for your brother
Aaron and his sons, so they may serve
me as priests. [5]Have them use gold,
and blue, purple and scarlet yarn, and
fine linen.[v]

The Ephod

28:6-14pp — Ex 39:2-7

[6]"Make the ephod[w] of gold, and of
blue, purple and scarlet yarn, and of
finely twisted linen—the work of a
skilled craftsman. [7]It is to have two
shoulder pieces attached to two of its
corners, so it can be fastened. [8]Its skill-
fully woven waistband[x] is to be like
it—of one piece with the ephod and
made with gold, and with blue, purple
and scarlet yarn, and with finely twist-
ed linen.
[9]"Take two onyx stones and en-
grave[y] on them the names of the sons
of Israel [10]in the order of their birth—
six names on one stone and the re-
maining six on the other. [11]Engrave the
names of the sons of Israel on the two
stones the way a gem cutter engraves a
seal. Then mount the stones in gold
filigree settings [12]and fasten them on
the shoulder pieces of the ephod as
memorial stones for the sons of Israel.
Aaron is to bear the names on his
shoulders[z] as a memorial[a] before the
LORD. [13]Make gold filigree settings
[14]and two braided chains of pure gold,
like a rope, and attach the chains to the
settings.

The Breastpiece

28:15-28pp — Ex 39:8-21

[15]"Fashion a breastpiece[b] for making
decisions—the work of a skilled crafts-
man. Make it like the ephod: of gold,
and of blue, purple and scarlet yarn,
and of finely twisted linen. [16]It is to be

[z]*9* That is, about 150 feet (about 46 meters); also in verse 11 [a]*12* That is, about 75 feet (about 23 meters); also in verse 13 [b]*14* That is, about 22 1/2 feet (about 6.9 meters); also in verse 15 [c]*16* That is, about 30 feet (about 9 meters) [d]*18* That is, about 150 feet (about 46 meters) long and 75 feet (about 23 meters) wide [e]*18* That is, about 7 1/2 feet (about 2.3 meters)

square—a span[f] long and a span
wide—and folded double. 17Then
mount four rows of precious stones[a]
on it. In the first row there shall be a
ruby, a topaz and a beryl; 18in the sec-
ond row a turquoise, a sapphire[g] and
an emerald; 19in the third row a jacinth,
an agate and an amethyst; 20in the
fourth row a chrysolite,[b] an onyx and a
jasper.[h] Mount them in gold filigree
settings. 21There are to be twelve
stones, one for each of the names of the
sons of Israel,[c] each engraved like a
seal with the name of one of the twelve
tribes.[d]

22"For the breastpiece make braided
chains of pure gold, like a rope. 23Make
two gold rings for it and fasten them to
two corners of the breastpiece. 24Fasten
the two gold chains to the rings at the
corners of the breastpiece, 25and the
other ends of the chains to the two set-
tings, attaching them to the shoulder
pieces of the ephod at the front. 26Make
two gold rings and attach them to the
other two corners of the breastpiece on
the inside edge next to the ephod.
27Make two more gold rings and attach
them to the bottom of the shoulder
pieces on the front of the ephod, close
to the seam just above the waistband of
the ephod. 28The rings of the breast-
piece are to be tied to the rings of the
ephod with blue cord, connecting it to
the waistband, so that the breastpiece
will not swing out from the ephod.

29"Whenever Aaron enters the Holy
Place,[e] he will bear the names of the
sons of Israel over his heart on the
breastpiece of decision as a continuing
memorial before the LORD. 30Also put
the Urim and the Thummim[f] in the
breastpiece, so they may be over
Aaron's heart whenever he enters the
presence of the LORD. Thus Aaron will
always bear the means of making deci-
sions for the Israelites over his heart
before the LORD.

Other Priestly Garments

28:31-43pp — Ex 39:22-31

31"Make the robe of the ephod entire-
ly of blue cloth, 32with an opening for
the head in its center. There shall be a
woven edge like a collar[i] around this
opening, so that it will not tear. 33Make
pomegranates[g] of blue, purple and
scarlet yarn around the hem of the
robe, with gold bells between them.
34The gold bells and the pomegranates
are to alternate around the hem of the
robe. 35Aaron must wear it when he
ministers. The sound of the bells will
be heard when he enters the Holy
Place before the LORD and when he
comes out, so that he will not die.

36"Make a plate[h] of pure gold and
engrave on it as on a seal: HOLY TO THE
LORD.[i] 37Fasten a blue cord to it to at-
tach it to the turban; it is to be on the
front of the turban. 38It will be on
Aaron's forehead, and he will bear the
guilt[j] involved in the sacred gifts the
Israelites consecrate, whatever their
gifts may be. It will be on Aaron's fore-
head continually so that they will be
acceptable[k] to the LORD.

39"Weave the tunic[l] of fine linen and
make the turban[m] of fine linen. The
sash is to be the work of an embroi-
derer. 40Make tunics, sashes and head-
bands for Aaron's sons,[n] to give them
dignity and honor.[o] 41After you put
these clothes[p] on your brother Aaron
and his sons, anoint[q] and ordain them.
Consecrate them so they may serve me
as priests.[r]

42"Make linen undergarments[s] as a
covering for the body, reaching from
the waist to the thigh. 43Aaron and his
sons must wear them whenever they
enter the Tent of Meeting[t] or approach
the altar to minister in the Holy Place,[u]
so that they will not incur guilt and
die.[v]

"This is to be a lasting ordinance[w] for
Aaron and his descendants.

Consecration of the Priests

29:1-37pp — Lev 8:1-36

29 "This is what you are to do to
consecrate[x] them, so they may
serve me as priests: Take a young bull
and two rams without defect.[y] 2And
from fine wheat flour, without yeast,
make bread, and cakes mixed with oil,
and wafers spread with oil.[z] 3Put them
in a basket and present them in it—
along with the bull and the two rams.[a]
4Then bring Aaron and his sons to the
entrance to the Tent of Meeting and
wash them with water.[b] 5Take the gar-
ments[c] and dress Aaron with the tu-
nic, the robe of the ephod, the ephod
itself and the breastpiece. Fasten the
ephod on him by its skillfully woven
waistband.[d] 6Put the turban[e] on his
head and attach the sacred diadem[f] to

f16 That is, about 9 inches (about 22 centimeters)
g18 Or *lapis lazuli* h20 The precise identification of some of these precious stones is uncertain.
i32 The meaning of the Hebrew for this word is uncertain.

28:17 a Eze 28:13; Rev 21:19-20
28:20 b Eze 1:16; 10:9; Da 10:6
28:21 c Jos 4:8 d Rev 21:12
28:29 e ver 43
28:30 f Lev 8:8; Nu 27:21; Dt 33:8; 1Sa 28:6; Ezr 2:63; Ne 7:65
28:33 g Nu 13:23; 1Sa 14:2; 1Ki 7:18; SS 4:3; Jer 52:22; Joel 1:12; Hag 2:19
28:36 h ver 37; Ex 29:6; Lev 8:9 i Zec 14:20
28:38 j Lev 5:1; 10:17; 16:22; 22:9,16; Nu 18:1; Isa 53:5,6,11; Eze 4:4-6, Heb 9:28; 1Pe 2:24 k S Ge 32:20; Lev 22:20,27; 23:11; Isa 56:7
28:39 l ver 4 m Ex 29:6; Lev 16:4; Eze 24:17,23; 44:18
28:40 n ver 4; Ex 29:8-9; 39:41; 40:14; Lev 8:13 o ver 2
28:41 p Ex 40:13 q Ex 29:7; Lev 6:20; 10:7; 21:12; Nu 35:25 r Ex 29:7-9; 30:30; 40:15; Lev 4:3, 6:22; 8:1-36; Nu 3:3; Heb 7:28
28:42 s Lev 6:10; 16:4,23; Eze 44:18
28:43 t S Ex 27:21 u ver 29 v Ex 30:20,21; Lev 16:13; 22:9; Nu 1:51; 4:15,20; 18:22 w S Ex 27:21
29:1 x ver 21,44; Lev 20:7; Jos 3:5; 1Ch 15:12 y Eze 43:23
29:2 z ver 23; Lev 2:1,4; 6:19-23; Nu 6:15
29:3 a ver 15,19
29:4 b Ex 40:12; Lev 14:8; 16:4; Heb 10:22
29:5 c S Ex 28:2 d Ex 28:8
29:6 e Ex 28:39; Isa 3:23; Zec 3:5 f S Ex 28:36

the turban. 7Take the anointing oil[r] and anoint him by pouring it on his head. 8Bring his sons and dress them in tunics[s] 9and put headbands on them. Then tie sashes on Aaron and his sons.[t] The priesthood is theirs by a lasting ordinance.[u] In this way you shall ordain Aaron and his sons.

10"Bring the bull to the front of the Tent of Meeting, and Aaron and his sons shall lay their hands on its head.[v] 11Slaughter it in the LORD's presence[w] at the entrance to the Tent of Meeting. 12Take some of the bull's blood and put it on the horns[x] of the altar with your finger, and pour out the rest of it at the base of the altar.[y] 13Then take all the fat[z] around the inner parts,[a] the covering of the liver, and both kidneys with the fat around them, and burn them on the altar. 14But burn the bull's flesh and its hide and its offal[b] outside the camp.[c] It is a sin offering.

15"Take one of the rams,[d] and Aaron and his sons shall lay their hands on its head.[e] 16Slaughter it and take the blood and sprinkle it against the altar on all sides. 17Cut the ram into pieces and wash[f] the inner parts and the legs, putting them with the head and the other pieces. 18Then burn the entire ram on the altar. It is a burnt offering to the LORD, a pleasing aroma,[g] an offering made to the LORD by fire.

19"Take the other ram,[h] and Aaron and his sons shall lay their hands on its head.[i] 20Slaughter it, take some of its blood and put it on the lobes of the right ears of Aaron and his sons, on the thumbs of their right hands, and on the big toes of their right feet.[j] Then sprinkle blood against the altar on all sides.[k] 21And take some of the blood[l] on the altar and some of the anointing oil[m] and sprinkle it on Aaron and his garments and on his sons and their garments. Then he and his sons and their garments will be consecrated.[n]

22"Take from this ram the fat,[o] the fat tail, the fat around the inner parts, the covering of the liver, both kidneys with the fat around them, and the right thigh. (This is the ram for the ordination.) 23From the basket of bread made without yeast, which is before the LORD, take a loaf, and a cake made with oil, and a wafer. 24Put all these in the hands of Aaron and his sons and wave them before the LORD as a wave offering.[p] 25Then take them from their hands and burn them on the altar along with the burnt offering for a

29:7 [illegible]
29:8 [illegible]
29:9 [illegible]
29:10 [illegible]
29:11 [illegible]
29:12 [illegible]
29:13 [illegible] Lev 3:4-5; 8:16 [illegible] Lev 4:24; Isa 2:19; Ezk 46:13
29:14 Heb 13:11; Lev 4:12,21; 16:27; Nu 19:3-5; Heb 13:11
29:15 S ver 3 ver 10; Lev 1:4; 2Ch 29:23
29:17 Lev 1:9, 13
29:18 S Ge 8:21; 2Co 2:15
29:19 S ver 3 S ver 10
29:20 Lev 14:14,25 ver 16; Lev 1:5, 11; 3:2
29:21 Heb 9:22 S ver 7 S ver 1
29:22 S ver 13
29:24 Lev 7:30; 9:21; 10:15; 14:12; 23:11,20; Nu 6:20; 8:11,13, 15
29:25 ver 18
29:26 Lev 7:31-34
29:27 Ex 22:29; Lev 7:31,34; Nu 18:11,12; Dt 18:3
29:28 ver 22-27; Lev 7:30, 34; 10:15
29:29 S Ex 28:2; S Lev 16:4 Nu 20:28
29:30 Lev 6:22; Nu 3:3; 20:28
29:31 Lev 7:37; 2Ch 13:9 Lev 10:14; Nu 19:9; Eze 42:13
29:32 Mt 12:4
29:33 Lev 22:10,13
29:34 S Ex 12:10
29:36 Heb 10:11 ver 33,37; Ex 30:10; Lev 1:4; 4:20;

pleasing aroma to the LORD, an offering made to the LORD by fire.[q] 26After you take the breast of the ram for Aaron's ordination, wave it before the LORD as a wave offering, and it will be your share.[r]

27"Consecrate those parts of the ordination ram that belong to Aaron and his sons:[s] the breast that was waved and the thigh that was presented. 28This is always to be the regular share from the Israelites for Aaron and his sons. It is the contribution the Israelites are to make to the LORD from their fellowship offerings.[t,k]

29"Aaron's sacred garments[u] will belong to his descendants so that they can be anointed and ordained in them.[v] 30The son[w] who succeeds him as priest and comes to the Tent of Meeting to minister in the Holy Place is to wear them seven days.

31"Take the ram[x] for the ordination and cook the meat in a sacred place.[y] 32At the entrance to the Tent of Meeting, Aaron and his sons are to eat the meat of the ram and the bread[z] that is in the basket. 33They are to eat these offerings by which atonement was made for their ordination and consecration. But no one else may eat[a] them, because they are sacred. 34And if any of the meat of the ordination ram or any bread is left over till morning,[b] burn it up. It must not be eaten, because it is sacred.

35"Do for Aaron and his sons everything I have commanded you, taking seven days to ordain them. 36Sacrifice a bull each day[c] as a sin offering to make atonement[m]. Purify the altar by making atonement for it, and anoint it to consecrate[n] it. 37For seven days make atonement for the altar and consecrate it. Then the altar will be most holy, and whatever touches it will be holy.[o]

38"This is what you are to offer on the altar regularly each day:[p] two lambs a year old. 39Offer one in the morning and the other at twilight.[q] 40With the first lamb offer a tenth of an ephah[l] of fine flour mixed with a quarter of a hin[m] of oil[r] from pressed olives, and a quarter of a hin of wine as a

16:16; Nu 6:11; 8:12,19; 16:46; 25:13; 2Ch 29:24 Ex 40:10; Nu 7:10 29:37 Ex 30:26-29; 40:10; Eze 43:25; Mt 23:19 29:38 Lev 23:2; Nu 28:3-8; 1Ch 16:40; 2Ch 8:13; Eze 46:13-15; Da 12:11 29:39 Nu 28:4,8; 1Ki 18:36; 2Ch 13:11; Ezr 3:3; Ps 141:2; Da 9:21 29:40 Ex 30:24; Nu 15:4; 28:5

i9 Hebrew; Septuagint on them k28 Traditionally peace offerings l40 That is, probably about 2 quarts (about 2 liters) m40 That is, probably about 1 quart (about 1 liter)

drink offering.[a] 41Sacrifice the other
lamb at twilight[b] with the same grain
offering[c] and its drink offering as in
the morning—a pleasing aroma, an of-
fering made to the LORD by fire.
42"For the generations to come[d] this
burnt offering is to be made regularly[e]
at the entrance to the Tent of Meeting[f]
before the LORD. There I will meet you
and speak to you;[g] 43there also I will
meet with the Israelites, and the place
will be consecrated by my glory.[h]
44"So I will consecrate the Tent of
Meeting and the altar and will conse-
crate Aaron and his sons to serve me as
priests.[i] 45Then I will dwell[j] among
the Israelites and be their God.[k] 46They
will know that I am the LORD their God,
who brought them out of Egypt[l] so
that I might dwell among them. I am
the LORD their God.[m]

The Altar of Incense

30:1-5pp — Ex 37:25-28

30 "Make an altar[n] of acacia wood
for burning incense.[o] 2It is to be
square, a cubit long and a cubit wide,
and two cubits high[n]—its horns[p] of
one piece with it. 3Overlay the top and
all the sides and the horns with pure
gold, and make a gold molding around
it.[q] 4Make two gold rings[r] for the altar
below the molding—two on opposite
sides—to hold the poles used to carry
it. 5Make the poles of acacia wood and
overlay them with gold.[s] 6Put the altar
in front of the curtain that is before the
ark of the Testimony—before the
atonement cover[t] that is over the Tes-
timony—where I will meet with you.
7"Aaron must burn fragrant incense[u]
on the altar every morning when he
tends the lamps. 8He must burn in-
cense again when he lights the lamps
at twilight so incense will burn regular-
ly before the LORD for the generations
to come.[v] 9Do not offer on this altar
any other incense[w] or any burnt offer-
ing or grain offering, and do not pour a
drink offering on it. 10Once a year[x]
Aaron shall make atonement[y] on its
horns. This annual atonement must be
made with the blood of the atoning sin
offering[z] for the generations to come.[a]
It is most holy to the LORD."

Atonement Money

11Then the LORD said to Moses,
12"When you take a census[b] of the Isra-
elites to count them, each one must
pay the LORD a ransom[c] for his life at
the time he is counted. Then no
plague[d] will come on them when you
number them. 13Each one who crosses
over to those already counted is to give
a half shekel,[o] according to the sanctu-
ary shekel,[e] which weighs twenty
gerahs. This half shekel is an offering
to the LORD. 14All who cross over, those
twenty years old or more,[f] are to give
an offering to the LORD. 15The rich are
not to give more than a half shekel and
the poor are not to give less[g] when you
make the offering to the LORD to atone
for your lives. 16Receive the atone-
ment[h] money from the Israelites and
use it for the service of the Tent of
Meeting.[i] It will be a memorial[j] for
the Israelites before the LORD, making
atonement for your lives."

Basin for Washing

17Then the LORD said to Moses,
18"Make a bronze basin,[k] with its
bronze stand, for washing. Place it be-
tween the Tent of Meeting and the al-
tar, and put water in it. 19Aaron and his
sons are to wash their hands and feet[l]
with water[m] from it. 20Whenever they
enter the Tent of Meeting, they shall
wash with water so that they will not
die.[n] Also, when they approach the al-
tar to minister by presenting an offer-
ing made to the LORD by fire, 21they
shall wash their hands and feet so that
they will not die. This is to be a lasting
ordinance[o] for Aaron and his descend-
ants for the generations to come."[p]

Anointing Oil

22Then the LORD said to Moses,
23"Take the following fine spices:[q] 500
shekels[p] of liquid myrrh,[r] half as
much (that is, 250 shekels) of fragrant
cinnamon,[s] 250 shekels of fragrant
cane,[t] 24500 shekels[u] of cassia[v]—all ac-
cording to the sanctuary shekel—and a
hin[q] of olive oil. 25Make these into a
sacred anointing oil, a fragrant blend,
the work of a perfumer.[w] It will be the
sacred anointing oil.[x] 26Then use it to

29:40 [a]S Ge 35:14; Lev 23:37; 2Ki 16:13 **29:41** [b]1Ki 18:29,36; 2Ki 3:20; 16:15; Ezr 9:4,5; Ps 141:2; Da 9:21 [c]Lev 2:1; 5:13; 10:12; Nu 4:16; 6:17; 1Ki 8:64; Isa 43:23 **29:42** [d]Ex 30:8, 10,21,31; 31:13 [e]Eze 46:15 [f]S Ex 26:1; S 27:21 [g]ver 43; Ex 25:22; 33:9, 11; Nu 7:89 **29:43** [h]Ex 33:18; 40:34; Lev 9:6; 1Ki 8:11; 2Ch 5:14; 7:2; Ps 26:8; 85:9; Eze 1:28; 43:5; Hag 1:8; 2:7 **29:44** [i]S ver 1 **29:45** [j]S Ex 25:8; Nu 35:34; Jn 14:17; S Ro 8:10 [k]S Ge 17:7; 2Co 6:16 **29:46** [l]S Ex 6:6; 19:4-6; Dt 5:6; Ps 114:1; Hag 2:5 [m]S Ge 17:7 **30:1** [n]Ex 40:5, 26; Nu 4:11; 1Ki 6:20; Eze 41:22 [o]S Ex 25:6; 37:29; Lk 1:11; Heb 9:4; Rev 8:3 **30:2** [p]S Ex 27:2; Rev 9:13 **30:3** [q]S Ex 25:11 **30:4** [r]S Ex 25:12 **30:5** [s]S Ex 25:13 **30:6** [t]Ex 25:22; S 26:34 **30:7** [u]S Ex 25:6; 40:27; Nu 3:10; Dt 33:10; 1Sa 2:28; 1Ch 6:49; 2Ch 2:4; 26:18; 29:7 **30:8** [v]S Ex 25:37; S 29:42 **30:9** [w]Lev 10:1; Nu 16:7,40 **30:10** [x]Lev 16:2 [y]Lev 9:7; 16:18-19,30; 23:27,28; 25:9 [z]Ex 29:14; Lev 4:3; 6:25; 7:7; 8:2,14; Nu 6:11 [a]S Ex 29:42 **30:12** [b]Ex 38:25; Nu 1:2,49; 4:2, 29; 14:29; 26:2; 31:26; 2Sa 24:1; 2Ki 12:4 [c]Ex 38:26; Nu 31:50; S Mt 20:28 [d]Nu 14:12; Dt 28:58-61; 2Sa 24:13; 1Ki 8:37 **30:13** [e]ver 24; Ex 38:24,26; Lev 5:15; 27:3, 25; Nu 3:47; 7:13; 18:16; Eze 4:10; 45:12; Mt 17:24 **30:14** [f]Ex 38:26; Nu 1:3,18; 14:29; 26:2; 32:11; 2Ch 25:5 **30:15** [g]Pr 22:2; Eph 6:9 **30:16** [h]ver 12 [i]Ex 38:25-28; 2Ch 24:5 [j]Nu 31:54 **30:18** [k]Ex 31:9; 35:16; 38:8; 39:39; 40:7,30; 1Ki 7:38; 2Ch 4:6 **30:19** [l]Ex 40:31-32; Jn 13:10 [m]Ex 29:4; 40:12; Lev 8:6; Ps 26:6; Heb 10:22 **30:20** [n]S Ex 28:43 **30:21** [o]S Ex 27:21 [p]Ex 29:42 **30:23** [q]S Ge 43:11 [r]S Ge 37:25 [s]Pr 7:17; SS 4:14 [t]SS 4:14; Isa 43:24; Jer 6:20 **30:24** [u]S ver 13 [v]Ps 45:8; Eze 27:19 **30:25** [w]ver 35; Ex 37:29; 1Ch 9:30 [x]S Ex 29:7; S 1Sa 9:16

[n]2 That is, about 1 1/2 feet (about 0.5 meter) long and wide and about 3 feet (about 0.9 meter) high
[o]13 That is, about 1/5 ounce (about 6 grams); also in verse 15
[p]23 That is, about 12 1/2 pounds (about 6 kilograms)
[q]24 That is, probably about 4 quarts (about 4 liters)

anoint[a] the Tent of Meeting, the ark of the Testimony, [27]the table and all its articles, the lampstand and its accessories, the altar of incense, [28]the altar of burnt offering and all its utensils, and the basin with its stand. [29]You shall consecrate them[b] so they will be most holy, and whatever touches them will be holy.[c]

[30]"Anoint Aaron and his sons and consecrate[d] them so they may serve me as priests.[e] [31]Say to the Israelites, 'This is to be my sacred anointing oil[f] for the generations to come.[g] [32]Do not pour it on men's bodies and do not make any oil with the same formula. It is sacred, and you are to consider it sacred.[h] [33]Whoever makes perfume like it and whoever puts it on anyone other than a priest must be cut off[i] from his people.' "

Incense

[34]Then the LORD said to Moses, "Take fragrant spices[j]—gum resin, onycha and galbanum—and pure frankincense, all in equal amounts, [35]and make a fragrant blend of incense,[k] the work of a perfumer.[l] It is to be salted and pure and sacred. [36]Grind some of it to powder and place it in front of the Testimony in the Tent of Meeting, where I will meet[m] with you. It shall be most holy[n] to you. [37]Do not make any incense with this formula for yourselves; consider it holy[o] to the LORD. [38]Whoever makes any like it to enjoy its fragrance must be cut off[p] from his people."

Bezalel and Oholiab

31:2-6pp — Ex 35:30-35

31 Then the LORD said to Moses, [2]"See, I have chosen Bezalel[q] son of Uri, the son of Hur,[r] of the tribe of Judah, [3]and I have filled him with the Spirit of God, with skill, ability and knowledge[s] in all kinds of crafts[t]— [4]to make artistic designs for work in gold, silver and bronze, [5]to cut and set stones, to work in wood, and to engage in all kinds of craftsmanship. [6]Moreover, I have appointed Oholiab[u] son of Ahisamach, of the tribe of Dan,[v] to help him. Also I have given skill to all the craftsmen[w] to make everything I have commanded you: [7]the Tent of Meeting,[x] the ark of the Testimony[y] with the atonement cover[z] on it, and all the other furnishings of the tent— [8]the table[a] and its articles, the pure gold lampstand[b] and all its accessories, the altar of incense,[c] [9]the altar of burnt offering[d] and all its utensils, the basin[e] with its stand— [10]and also the woven garments[f], both the sacred garments for Aaron the priest and the garments for his sons when they serve as priests, [11]and the anointing oil[g] and fragrant incense[h] for the Holy Place. They are to make them just as I commanded[i] you."

The Sabbath

[12]Then the LORD said to Moses, [13]"Say to the Israelites, 'You must observe my Sabbaths.[j] This will be a sign[k] between me and you for the generations to come,[l] so you may know that I am the LORD, who makes you holy.[r] [m]

[14]" 'Observe the Sabbath, because it is holy to you. Anyone who desecrates it must be put to death;[n] whoever does any work on that day must be cut off from his people. [15]For six days, work[o] is to be done, but the seventh day is a Sabbath of rest,[p] holy to the LORD. Whoever does any work on the Sabbath day must be put to death. [16]The Israelites are to observe the Sabbath,[q] celebrating it for the generations to come as a lasting covenant. [17]It will be a sign[r] between me and the Israelites forever, for in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, and on the seventh day he abstained from work and rested.[s] ' "[t]

[18]When the LORD finished speaking to Moses on Mount Sinai,[u] he gave him the two tablets of the Testimony, the tablets of stone[v] inscribed by the finger of God.[w]

The Golden Calf

32 When the people saw that Moses was so long in coming down from the mountain,[x] they gathered around Aaron and said, "Come, make us gods[s] who will go before[y] us. As for this fellow Moses who brought us up out of Egypt, we don't know what has happened to him."[z]

[2]Aaron answered them, "Take off the gold earrings[a] that your wives, your sons and your daughters are wearing, and bring them to me." [3]So all the people took off their earrings and brought them to Aaron. [4]He took what they handed him and made it

30:26 [a]Ex 40:9; Lev 8:10; Nu 7:1
30:29 [b]Lev 8:10-11 [c]Ex 29:37; Lev 6:18,27; Mt 23:17
30:30 [d]Ex 29:7; Lev 8:2,12,30; 10:7; 16:32; 21:10,12; 1Ch 15:12; Ps 133:2 [e]S Ex 28:41
30:31 [f]S Ex 29:7 [g]S Ex 29:42
30:32 [h]ver 25, 37
30:33 [i]ver 38; S Ge 17:14
30:34 [j]SS 3:6
30:35 [k]S Ex 25:6 [l]S ver 25
30:36 [m]S Ex 25:22 [n]ver 32; Ex 29:37; Lev 2:3
30:37 [o]S ver 32
30:38 [p]S ver 33
31:2 [q]Ex 36:1,2; 37:1; 38:22; 1Ch 2:20; 2Ch 1:5 [r]S Ex 17:10
31:3 [s]S Ex 28:3 [t]1Ki 7:14; 1Co 12:4
31:6 [u]Ex 36:1,2; 38:23 [v]1Ki 7:14; 2Ch 2:14 [w]S Ex 28:3
31:7 [x]Ex 36:8-38 [y]Ex 37:1-5 [z]Ex 37:6; 40:20
31:8 [a]Ex 37:10-16 [b]Ex 37:17-24; Lev 24:4 [c]Ex 37:25-28
31:9 [d]Ex 38:3; Nu 4:14 [e]S Ex 30:18
31:10 [f]S Ex 28:2
31:11 [g]Ex 30:22-32; 37:29 [h]S Ex 25:6 [i]S Ex 25:9
31:13 [j]S Ex 20:8 [k]ver 17; Isa 56:4; Eze 20:12,20 [l]S Ex 29:42 [m]Lev 11:44; 20:8; 21:8; Eze 37:28
31:14 [n]Ex 35:2; Nu 15:32-36
31:15 [o]S Ex 20:8,9-11; 35:2; Lev 16:29; 23:3; Nu 29:7 [p]S Ge 2:3
31:16 [q]S Ex 20:8
31:17 [r]S ver 13 [s]S Ge 2:2-3 [t]S Ge 2:2; S Ex 20:9; Isa 56:2; 58:13; 66:23; Jer 17:21-22; Eze 20:12,20
31:18 [u]S Ex 19:11 [v]S Ex 24:12; 2Co 3:3; Heb 9:4 [w]Ex 32:15-16; 34:1,28; Dt 4:13; 9:10
32:1 [x]S Ge 7:4; Dt 9:9-12 [y]S Ex 13:21 [z]ver 23; Ac 7:40*
32:2 [a]Jdg 8:24-27

[r]13 Or *who sanctifies you; or who sets you apart as holy*
[s]1 Or *a god;* also in verses 23 and 31

into an idol[a] cast in the shape of a
calf,[b] fashioning it with a tool. Then
they said, "These are your gods,[t][c] O
Israel, who brought you up out of
Egypt."[d]
5When Aaron saw this, he built an
altar in front of the calf and an-
nounced, "Tomorrow there will be a
festival[e] to the LORD." 6So the next day
the people rose early and sacrificed
burnt offerings and presented fellow-
ship offerings.[u][f] Afterward they sat
down to eat and drink[g] and got up to
indulge in revelry.[h]
7Then the LORD said to Moses, "Go
down, because your people, whom
you brought up out of Egypt,[i] have
become corrupt.[j] 8They have been
quick to turn away[k] from what I com-
manded them and have made them-
selves an idol[l] cast in the shape of a
calf.[m] They have bowed down to it and
sacrificed[n] to it and have said, 'These
are your gods, O Israel, who brought
you up out of Egypt.'[o]
9"I have seen these people," the
LORD said to Moses, "and they are a
stiff-necked[p] people. 10Now leave me
alone[q] so that my anger may burn
against them and that I may destroy[r]
them. Then I will make you into a great
nation."[s]
11But Moses sought the favor[t] of the
LORD his God. "O LORD," he said, "why
should your anger burn against your
people, whom you brought out of
Egypt with great power and a mighty
hand?[u] 12Why should the Egyptians
say, 'It was with evil intent that he
brought them out, to kill them in the
mountains and to wipe them off the
face of the earth'?[v] Turn from your
fierce anger; relent and do not bring
disaster[w] on your people. 13Remem-
ber[x] your servants Abraham, Isaac and
Israel, to whom you swore by your
own self:[y] 'I will make your descend-
ants as numerous as the stars[z] in the
sky and I will give your descendants all
this land[a] I promised them, and it will
be their inheritance forever.'" 14Then
the LORD relented[b] and did not bring
on his people the disaster he had
threatened.
15Moses turned and went down the
mountain with the two tablets of the
Testimony[c] in his hands.[d] They were
inscribed[e] on both sides, front and
back. 16The tablets were the work of
God; the writing was the writing of
God, engraved on the tablets.[f]
17When Joshua[g] heard the noise of
the people shouting, he said to Moses,
"There is the sound of war in the
camp."
18Moses replied:

"It is not the sound of victory,
it is not the sound of defeat;
it is the sound of singing that I
hear."

19When Moses approached the camp
and saw the calf[h] and the dancing,[i]
his anger burned[j] and he threw the
tablets out of his hands, breaking them
to pieces[k] at the foot of the mountain.
20And he took the calf they had made
and burned[l] it in the fire; then he
ground it to powder,[m] scattered it on
the water[n] and made the Israelites
drink it.
21He said to Aaron, "What did these
people do to you, that you led them
into such great sin?"
22"Do not be angry,[o] my lord,"
Aaron answered. "You know how
prone these people are to evil.[p] 23They
said to me, 'Make us gods who will go
before us. As for this fellow Moses who
brought us up out of Egypt, we don't
know what has happened to him.'[q]
24So I told them, 'Whoever has any
gold jewelry, take it off.' Then they
gave me the gold, and I threw it into
the fire, and out came this calf!"[r]
25Moses saw that the people were
running wild and that Aaron had let
them get out of control and so become
a laughingstock[s] to their enemies. 26So
he stood at the entrance to the camp
and said, "Whoever is for the LORD,
come to me." And all the Levites ral-
lied to him.
27Then he said to them, "This is what
the LORD, the God of Israel, says: 'Each
man strap a sword to his side. Go back
and forth through the camp from one
end to the other, each killing his broth-
er and friend and neighbor.'"[t] 28The
Levites did as Moses commanded, and
that day about three thousand of the
people died. 29Then Moses said, "You
have been set apart to the LORD today,
for you were against your own sons
and brothers, and he has blessed you
this day."

32:4 [a]S Ex 20:23; Jdg 17:3-4; Isa 30:22 [b]ver 8, 24,35; Dt 9:16; Ne 9:18; Ps 106:19; Ac 7:41 [c]Ex 20:23; Isa 42:17 [d]1Ki 12:28; 14:9; 2Ki 10:29; 17:16; 2Ch 13:8; Hos 8:6; 10:5 **32:5** [e]Lev 23:2, 37; 2Ki 10:20; Joel 2:15 **32:6** [f]Ex 20:24; 34:15; Lev 3:1; 4:10; 6:12; 9:4; 22:21; Nu 6:14; 25:2; Dt 27:7; Jdg 20:26; Eze 43:27; Ac 7:41 [g]Jdg 19:4; Ru 3:3; 1Sa 1:9; 2Sa 11:11; 1Ki 13:23; 18:42; Ne 8:12; Job 1:4; Ecc 5:18; 8:15; Jer 16:8 [h]ver 17-19; 1Co 10:7* **32:7** [i]ver 4,11; Ex 33:1 [j]S Ge 6:11-12; Eze 20:8 **32:8** [k]Jer 7:26; 16:12; Mal 2:8; 3:7 [l]S Ex 20:4 [m]S ver 4 [n]Ex 22:20 [o]1Ki 12:28; Eze 23:8 **32:9** [p]Ex 33:3,5; 34:9; Dt 9:6,13; 10:16; 31:27; Jdg 2:19; 2Ki 17:14; 2Ch 30:8; 36:13; Ne 9:16; Ps 78:8; Pr 29:1; Isa 46:12; 48:4; Jer 7:26; Eze 2:4; Hos 4:16; Ac 7:51 **32:10** [q]1Sa 2:25; Jer 7:16; 11:14; 14:11 [r]Ex 22:24; 33:3,5; Nu 16:21, 45; Dt 9:14,19; Ps 106:23; Jer 14:12; Eze 20:13 [s]Nu 14:12; Dt 9:14 **32:11** [t]Dt 9:18; 2Sa 21:1; 2Ch 15:2; Ps 9:10; 34:4; 106:23; Isa 9:13; Jer 15:1 [u]ver 13; Dt 9:26; 1Sa 7:9; Ne 1:10; Ps 136:12 **32:12** [v]Nu 14:13-16; Dt 9:28 [w]ver 14; Ex 33:13 **32:13** [x]S Ex 2:24; 33:13 [y]S Ge 22:16; Heb 6:13 [z]Ge 15:5; 22:17 [a]S Ge 12:7 **32:14** [b]Dt 9:19; 1Sa 15:11; 2Sa 24:16; 1Ki 21:29; 1Ch 21:15; Ps 106:45; Jer 18:8; 26:3,19; Am 7:3,6; Jnh 3:10 **32:15** [c]Ex 31:18; Heb 9:4 [d]S Ex 19:18; 34:4,29; Dt 9:15 [e]2Co 3:3 **32:16** [f]S Ex 24:12 **32:17** [g]S Ex 17:9 **32:19** [h]Dt 9:16 [i]ver 6; 1Co 10:7 [j]Ezr 9:3; Ps 119:53,158 [k]Ex 34:1; Dt 9:17 **32:20** [l]Dt 7:25; 12:3; Jos 7:1; 2Ki 23:6; 1Ch 14:12 [m]2Ch 34:7; Mic 1:7 [n]Dt 9:21 **32:22** [o]S Ge 18:30 [p]Dt 9:24; 28:20; 2Ki 21:15; Ezr 9:13; Ne 9:28; Jer 4:4; 44:3; Eze 6:9 **32:23** [q]S ver 1; Ac 7:40 **32:24** [r]S ver 4 **32:25** [s]S Ge 38:23 **32:27** [t]Nu 25:3,5; Dt 33:9; Eze 9:5

[t]4 Or *This is your god*; also in verse 8
[u]6 Traditionally *peace offerings*

30The next day Moses said to the
people, "You have committed a great
sin.[a] But now I will go up to the LORD;
perhaps I can make atonement[b] for
your sin."
31So Moses went back to the LORD
and said, "Oh, what a great sin these
people have committed![c] They have
made themselves gods of gold.[d] 32But
now, please forgive their sin[e]—but if
not, then blot me[f] out of the book[g]
you have written."
33The LORD replied to Moses, "Who-
ever has sinned against me I will blot
out[h] of my book. 34Now go, lead[i] the
people to the place[j] I spoke of, and my
angel[k] will go before you. However,
when the time comes for me to pun-
ish,[l] I will punish them for their sin."
35And the LORD struck the people
with a plague because of what they did
with the calf[m] Aaron had made.
33 Then the LORD said to Moses,
"Leave this place, you and the
people you brought up out of Egypt,
and go up to the land I promised on
oath[n] to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob,
saying, 'I will give it to your descend-
ants.'[o] 2I will send an angel[p] before
you and drive out the Canaanites, Am-
orites, Hittites, Perizzites, Hivites and
Jebusites.[q] 3Go up to the land flowing
with milk and honey.[r] But I will not go
with you, because you are a stiff-
necked[s] people and I might destroy[t]
you on the way."
4When the people heard these dis-
tressing words, they began to mourn[u]
and no one put on any ornaments. 5For
the LORD had said to Moses, "Tell the
Israelites, 'You are a stiff-necked
people.[v] If I were to go with you even
for a moment, I might destroy[w] you.
Now take off your ornaments and I will
decide what to do with you.'" 6So the
Israelites stripped off their ornaments
at Mount Horeb.[x]

The Tent of Meeting

7Now Moses used to take a tent and
pitch it outside the camp some distance
away, calling it the "tent of meeting."[y]
Anyone inquiring[z] of the LORD would
go to the tent of meeting outside the
camp. 8And whenever Moses went out
to the tent, all the people rose and
stood at the entrances to their tents,[a]
watching Moses until he entered the
tent. 9As Moses went into the tent, the
pillar of cloud[b] would come down and
stay at the entrance, while the LORD
spoke[c] with Moses. 10Whenever the
people saw the pillar of cloud standing
at the entrance to the tent, they all
stood and worshiped, each at the en-
trance to his tent.[d] 11The LORD would
speak to Moses face to face,[e] as a man
speaks with his friend. Then Moses
would return to the camp, but his
young aide Joshua[f] son of Nun did not
leave the tent.

Moses and the Glory of the LORD

12Moses said to the LORD, "You have
been telling me, 'Lead these people,'[g]
but you have not let me know whom
you will send with me. You have said,
'I know you by name[h] and you have
found favor[i] with me.' 13If you are
pleased with me, teach me your ways[j]
so I may know you and continue to
find favor with you. Remember that
this nation is your people."[k]
14The LORD replied, "My Presence[l]
will go with you, and I will give you
rest."[m]
15Then Moses said to him, "If your
Presence[n] does not go with us, do not
send us up from here. 16How will any-
one know that you are pleased with me
and with your people unless you go
with us?[o] What else will distinguish
me and your people from all the other
people on the face of the earth?"[p]
17And the LORD said to Moses, "I will
do the very thing you have asked,[q] be-
cause I am pleased with you and I
know you by name."[r]
18Then Moses said, "Now show me
your glory."[s]
19And the LORD said, "I will cause all
my goodness to pass[t] in front of you,
and I will proclaim my name,[u] the
LORD, in your presence. I will have
mercy on whom I will have mercy, and
I will have compassion on whom I will
have compassion.[v] 20But," he said,
"you cannot see my face, for no one
may see[w] me and live."
21Then the LORD said, "There is a
place near me where you may stand on
a rock. 22When my glory passes by, I
will put you in a cleft in the rock[x] and
cover you with my hand[y] until I have
passed by. 23Then I will remove my
hand and you will see my back; but my
face must not be seen."

32:30 [a]1Sa 12:20; Ps 25:11; 85:2 [b]Lev 1:4; 4:20, 26; 5:6,10,13; 6:7 **32:31** [c]Ex 34:9; Dt 9:18 [d]S Ex 20:23 **32:32** [e]Nu 14:19 [f]Ro 9:3 [g]Ps 69:28; Eze 13:9; Da 7:10; 12:1; Mal 3:16; S Lk 10:20 **32:33** [h]S Ex 17:14; S Job 21:20; Rev 3:5 **32:34** [i]S Ex 15:17 [j]Ex 3:17 [k]S Ex 14:19 [l]S Ge 50:19; Dt 32:35; Ps 89:32; 94:23; 99:8; 109:20; Isa 27:1; Jer 5:9; 11:22; 23:2; 44:13,29; Hos 12:2; Ro 2:5-6 **32:35** [m]S ver 4 **33:1** [n]S Ex 13:11; S Nu 14:23; Heb 6:13 [o]S Ge 12:7 **33:2** [p]S Ex 14:19 [q]S Ex 23:28 **33:3** [r]S Ex 3:8 [s]Ex 32:9; Ac 7:51 [t]S Ex 32:10 **33:4** [u]Nu 14:39; Ezr 9:3; Est 4:1; Ps 119:53 **33:5** [v]S Ex 32:9 [w]S Ex 32:10 **33:6** [x]S Ex 3:1 **33:7** [y]S Ex 27:21 [z]S Ge 25:22; S 1Ki 22:5 **33:8** [a]ver 10; Nu 16:27 **33:9** [b]Ex 13:21; S 19:9; Dt 31:15; 1Co 10:1 [c]S Ex 29:42; 31:18; Ps 99:7 **33:10** [d]S ver 8 **33:11** [e]Nu 12:8; Dt 5:4; 34:10 [f]S Ex 17:9 **33:12** [g]Ex 3:10; S 15:17 [h]ver 17; Isa 43:1; 45:3; 49:1; Jn 10:14-15; 2Ti 2:19 [i]S Ge 6:8 **33:13** [j]Ps 25:4; 27:11; 51:13; 86:11; 103:7; 143:8 [k]Ex 3:7; Dt 9:26,29; Ps 77:15 **33:14** [l]S Ex 13:21; Dt 4:37; Isa 63:9; Hag 1:13; 2:4 [m]Dt 12:9,10; 25:19; Jos 1:13; 11:23; 21:44; 22:4; 23:1; 1Ki 8:56; Isa 63:14; Jer 31:2; Mt 11:28; Heb 4:1-11 **33:15** [n]ver 3; Ex 34:9; 2Ki 13:23; 17:18; 23:27; 24:20; Ps 51:11; 80:3,7, 19; Jer 7:15; 52:3 **33:16** [o]Ex 34:5; 40:34,35; Nu 9:15; 14:14

[p]Ex 34:10; Lev 20:24,26; Nu 23:9; Dt 4:7,32,34; 32:9; 33:28 **33:17** [q]Ex 34:28; Dt 9:18,25; 10:10; Jas 5:16 [r]S Ge 6:8 **33:18** [s]S Ex 16:7; Jn 1:14; 12:41; 1Ti 6:16; Rev 15:8 **33:19** [t]1Ki 19:11 [u]Ex 6:3; 34:5-7 [v]Ro 9:15* **33:20** [w]S Ge 16:13; S Ex 3:6; S Dt 5:26; S Jn 1:18 **33:22** [x]Ge 49:24; 1Ki 19:9; Ps 27:5; 31:20; 62:7; 91:1; Isa 2:21; Jer 4:29 [y]Ps 91:4; Isa 49:2; 51:16

The New Stone Tablets

34 The LORD said to Moses, "Chisel
out two stone tablets like the first
ones,[a] and I will write on them the
words that were on the first tablets,[b]
which you broke.[c] 2Be ready in the
morning, and then come up on Mount
Sinai.[d] Present yourself to me there on
top of the mountain. 3No one is to
come with you or be seen anywhere on
the mountain;[e] not even the flocks and
herds may graze in front of the moun-
tain."
4So Moses chiseled[f] out two stone
tablets like the first ones and went up
Mount Sinai early in the morning, as
the LORD had commanded him; and he
carried the two stone tablets in his
hands.[g] 5Then the LORD came down in
the cloud[h] and stood there with him
and proclaimed his name, the LORD.[i]
6And he passed in front of Moses, pro-
claiming, "The LORD, the LORD, the
compassionate[j] and gracious God,
slow to anger,[k] abounding in love[l]
and faithfulness,[m] 7maintaining love to
thousands,[n] and forgiving wickedness,
rebellion and sin.[o] Yet he does not
leave the guilty unpunished;[p] he
punishes the children and their chil-
dren for the sin of the fathers to the
third and fourth generation."[q]
8Moses bowed to the ground at once
and worshiped. 9"O Lord, if I have
found favor[r] in your eyes," he said,
"then let the Lord go with us.[s] Al-
though this is a stiff-necked[t] people,
forgive our wickedness and our sin,[u]
and take us as your inheritance."[v]
10Then the LORD said: "I am making a
covenant[w] with you. Before all your
people I will do wonders[x] never before
done in any nation in all the world.[y]
The people you live among will see
how awesome is the work that I, the
LORD, will do for you. 11Obey what I
command[z] you today. I will drive out
before you the Amorites, Canaanites,
Hittites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebu-
sites.[a] 12Be careful not to make a
treaty[b] with those who live in the land
where you are going, or they will be a
snare[c] among you. 13Break down their
altars, smash their sacred stones and
cut down their Asherah poles.[v][d] 14Do
not worship any other god,[e] for the
LORD, whose name[f] is Jealous, is a jeal-
ous God.[g]
15"Be careful not to make a treaty[h]
with those who live in the land; for
when they prostitute[i] themselves to
their gods and sacrifice to them, they
will invite you and you will eat their
sacrifices.[j] 16And when you choose
some of their daughters as wives[k] for
your sons and those daughters prosti-
tute themselves to their gods,[l] they
will lead your sons to do the same.
17"Do not make cast idols.[m]
18"Celebrate the Feast of Unleavened
Bread.[n] For seven days eat bread made
without yeast,[o] as I commanded you.
Do this at the appointed time in the
month of Abib,[p] for in that month you
came out of Egypt.
19"The first offspring[q] of every
womb belongs to me, including all the
firstborn males of your livestock,
whether from herd or flock. 20Redeem
the firstborn donkey with a lamb, but if
you do not redeem it, break its neck.[r]
Redeem all your firstborn sons.[s]
"No one is to appear before me
empty-handed.[t]
21"Six days you shall labor, but on
the seventh day you shall rest;[u] even
during the plowing season and har-
vest[v] you must rest.
22"Celebrate the Feast of Weeks with
the firstfruits[w] of the wheat harvest,
and the Feast of Ingathering[x] at the
turn of the year.[w] 23Three times[y] a year
all your men are to appear before the
Sovereign LORD, the God of Israel. 24I
will drive out nations[z] before you and
enlarge your territory,[a] and no one will
covet your land when you go up three
times each year to appear before the
LORD your God.
25"Do not offer the blood of a sacri-
fice to me along with anything contain-
ing yeast,[b] and do not let any of the
sacrifice from the Passover Feast re-
main until morning.[c]
26"Bring the best of the firstfruits[d] of
your soil to the house of the LORD your
God.
"Do not cook a young goat in its
mother's milk."[e]
27Then the LORD said to Moses,
"Write[f] down these words, for in
accordance with these words I have
made a covenant[g] with you and with
Israel." 28Moses was there with the

34:1 aS Ex 24:12 bDt 10:2,4 cS Ex 32:19 **34:2** dS Ex 19:11 **34:3** eS Ex 19:13 **34:4** fDt 10:3 gS Ex 32:15 **34:5** hS Ex 13:21; S 19:9 iEx 6:3; 33:19 **34:6** jS Ex 22:27; S Nu 14:20; S Ps 86:15 kNu 14:18; Ps 78:38; Jer 15:15; Ro 2:4 lS Ge 19:16 mPs 61:7; 108:4; 115:1; 138:2; 143:1; La 3:23; Jas 5:11 **34:7** nS Ex 20:6; Dt 5:10 o1Ki 8:30; Ps 86:5; 103:3; 130:4,8; Isa 43:25; Da 9:9; 1Jn 1:9 pEx 23:7; Jos 24:19; Job 7:20-21; 9:28; 10:14; Mic 6:1-16; Na 1:3 qS Ex 20:5 **34:9** rEx 33:13; Nu 11:15 sS Ex 33:15 tEx 32:9 uNu 14:19; 1Ki 8:30; 2Ch 6:21; Ps 19:12; 25:11; Jer 33:8; Hos 14:2 vS Ex 6:7; 19:5; Dt 4:20; 7:6; 9:26,29; 14:2; 26:18; 32:9; 1Sa 10:1; 2Sa 14:16; 1Ki 8:51,53; Ps 28:9; 33:12; 74:2; 79:1; 94:14; 106:5,40; Isa 19:25; 63:17; Jer 10:16; 51:19; Mic 7:18; Zec 2:12 **34:10** wS Ge 6:18; S 9:15; S 15:18; Dt 5:2-3 xS Ex 3:20 yS Ex 33:16 **34:11** zDt 6:25; Jos 11:15 aS Ex 23:28 **34:12** bJdg 2:2 cS Ex 10:7 **34:13** dS Ex 23:24; Nu 33:52; Dt 7:5; 12:3; Jdg 6:26; 1Ki 15:13; 2Ch 15:16; 17:6; 34:3-4; Mic 5:14 **34:14** eS Ex 20:3 fIsa 9:6 gS Ex 20:5 **34:15** hver 12; Dt 23:6; Ezr 9:12 iEx 22:20; 32:8; Dt 31:16; Jdg 2:17; 2Ki 17:8; 1Ch 5:25; 2Ch 11:15; Am 2:4 jS Ex 32:6; 1Co 8:4 **34:16** kDt 7:3; 17:17; Jos 23:12; Jdg 3:6; 14:3; 1Ki 11:1,2; 16:31; Ezr 9:2; 10:3; Ne 10:30; 13:25,

26 lDt 7:4; 12:31; 20:18; 1Ki 11:4; 2Ki 21:3-15; Ps 106:34-41; Mal 2:11 **34:17** mS Ex 20:4 **34:18** nS Ex 12:17; Mt 26:17; Lk 22:1; Ac 12:3 oS Ex 12:15 pS Ex 12:2 **34:19** qEx 13:2 **34:20** rS Ex 13:13 sS Ex 13:2 tS Ex 22:29; Dt 16:16; Eze 46:9 **34:21** uGe 2:2-3 vNe 13:15; Isa 56:2; 58:13 **34:22** wver 26; Ex 23:19; Lev 2:12,14; 7:13; 23:10,17; Nu 28:26 xS Ex 23:16 **34:23** yS Ex 23:14 **34:24** zS Ex 23:28 aDt 12:20; 19:8; Job 12:23 **34:25** bS Ex 23:18 cS Ex 12:8 **34:26** dS Ex 22:29; S Nu 18:12 eS Ex 23:19 **34:27** fS Ex 17:14 gS Ge 6:18; S 15:18

v13 That is, symbols of the goddess Asherah
w22 That is, in the fall

LORD forty days and forty nights[a] with-
out eating bread or drinking water.[b]
And he wrote on the tablets[c] the
words of the covenant—the Ten Com-
mandments.[d]

The Radiant Face of Moses

29When Moses came down from
Mount Sinai[e] with the two tablets of
the Testimony in his hands,[f] he was
not aware that his face was radiant[g]
because he had spoken with the LORD.
30When Aaron and all the Israelites saw
Moses, his face was radiant, and they
were afraid to come near him. 31But
Moses called to them; so Aaron and all
the leaders of the community[h] came
back to him, and he spoke to them.
32Afterward all the Israelites came near
him, and he gave them all the com-
mands[i] the LORD had given him on
Mount Sinai.
33When Moses finished speaking to
them, he put a veil[j] over his face. 34But
whenever he entered the LORD's pres-
ence to speak with him, he removed
the veil until he came out. And when
he came out and told the Israelites
what he had been commanded, 35they
saw that his face was radiant.[k] Then
Moses would put the veil back over his
face until he went in to speak with the
LORD.

Sabbath Regulations

35 Moses assembled the whole Isra-
elite community and said to
them, "These are the things the LORD
has commanded[l] you to do: 2For six
days, work is to be done, but the sev-
enth day shall be your holy day, a Sab-
bath[m] of rest to the LORD. Whoever
does any work on it must be put to
death.[n] 3Do not light a fire in any of
your dwellings on the Sabbath day.[o]"

Materials for the Tabernacle

35:4-9pp — Ex 25:1-7
35:10-19pp — Ex 39:32-41

4Moses said to the whole Israelite
community, "This is what the LORD has
commanded: 5From what you have,
take an offering for the LORD. Everyone
who is willing is to bring to the LORD an
offering of gold, silver and bronze;
6blue, purple and scarlet yarn and fine
linen; goat hair; 7ram skins dyed red
and hides of sea cows[x]; acacia wood;
8olive oil[p] for the light; spices for the
anointing oil and for the fragrant in-
cense; 9and onyx stones and other
gems to be mounted on the ephod and
breastpiece.
10"All who are skilled among you are
to come and make everything the LORD
has commanded:[q] 11the tabernacle[r]
with its tent and its covering, clasps,
frames, crossbars, posts and bases;
12the ark[s] with its poles and the atone-
ment cover and the curtain[t] that
shields it; 13the table[u] with its poles
and all its articles and the bread of the
Presence; 14the lampstand[v] that is for
light with its accessories, lamps and oil
for the light; 15the altar[w] of incense
with its poles, the anointing oil[x] and
the fragrant incense;[y] the curtain for
the doorway at the entrance to the tab-
ernacle;[z] 16the altar[a] of burnt offering
with its bronze grating, its poles and all
its utensils; the bronze basin[b] with its
stand; 17the curtains of the courtyard
with its posts and bases, and the cur-
tain for the entrance to the courtyard;[c]
18the tent pegs[d] for the tabernacle and
for the courtyard, and their ropes; 19the
woven garments worn for ministering
in the sanctuary—both the sacred gar-
ments[e] for Aaron the priest and the
garments for his sons when they serve
as priests."
20Then the whole Israelite commu-
nity withdrew from Moses' presence,
21and everyone who was willing and
whose heart moved him came and
brought an offering to the LORD for the
work on the Tent of Meeting, for all its
service, and for the sacred garments.
22All who were willing, men and
women alike, came and brought gold
jewelry of all kinds: brooches, earrings,
rings and ornaments. They all
presented their gold as a wave offering
to the LORD. 23Everyone who had blue,
purple or scarlet yarn[f] or fine linen, or
goat hair, ram skins dyed red or hides
of sea cows brought them. 24Those pre-
senting an offering of silver or bronze
brought it as an offering to the LORD,
and everyone who had acacia wood for
any part of the work brought it. 25Every
skilled woman[g] spun with her hands
and brought what she had spun—blue,
purple or scarlet yarn or fine linen.
26And all the women who were willing
and had the skill spun the goat hair.
27The leaders[h] brought onyx stones
and other gems[i] to be mounted on the
ephod and breastpiece. 28They also
brought spices and olive oil for the
light and for the anointing oil and for

34:28 [a]S Ge 7:4; Mt 4:2; Lk 4:2 [b]Dt 9:9,18 [c]Dt 10:4; ver 1; Ex 31:18 [d]Dt 4:13; 10:4
34:29 [e]S Ex 19:11 [f]S Ex 32:15; ver 35; Ps 34:5; Isa 60:5; Mt 17:2; 2Co 3:7,13
34:31 [h]S Ex 16:22
34:32 [i]S Ex 21:1; 35:1,4
34:33 [j]2Co 3:13
34:35 [k]S ver 29
35:1 [l]S Ex 34:32
35:2 [m]S Ge 2:3; Ex 34:21; Dt 5:13-14 [n]S Ex 31:14
35:3 [o]Ex 16:23
35:8 [p]S Ex 25:6
35:10 [q]Ex 31:6; 39:43
35:11 [r]Ex 26:1-37; 36:8-38
35:12 [s]Ex 25:10-22; 37:1-9 [t]S Ex 26:33
35:13 [u]Ex 25:23-30; 37:10-16
35:14 [v]S Ex 25:31
35:15 [w]Ex 30:1-6; 37:25-28 [x]Ex 30:25 [y]Ex 30:34-38 [z]S Ex 26:36
35:16 [a]Ex 27:1-8; 38:1-7 [b]S Ex 30:18
35:17 [c]S Ex 27:9; 38:9-20
35:18 [d]Ex 27:19; 38:20
35:19 [e]S Ex 28:2
35:23 [f]Ex 39:1
35:25 [g]S Ex 28:3
35:27 [h]S Ex 25:2; 1Ch 29:6 [i]1Ch 29:8

[x]7 That is, dugongs; also in verse 23

the fragrant incense.[a] 29All the Israelite men and women who were willing[b] brought to the LORD freewill offerings[c] for all the work the LORD through Moses had commanded them to do.

Bezalel and Oholiab

35:30-35pp — Ex 31:2-6

30Then Moses said to the Israelites, "See, the LORD has chosen Bezalel son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah, 31and he has filled him with the Spirit of God, with skill, ability and knowledge in all kinds of crafts[d]— 32to make artistic designs for work in gold, silver and bronze, 33to cut and set stones, to work in wood and to engage in all kinds of artistic craftsmanship. 34And he has given both him and Oholiab[e] son of Ahisamach, of the tribe of Dan, the ability to teach[f] others. 35He has filled them with skill to do all kinds of work[g] as craftsmen, designers, embroiderers in blue, purple and scarlet yarn and fine linen, and weavers—all of them master craftsmen and design-

36 ers. 1So Bezalel, Oholiab and every skilled person[h] to whom the LORD has given skill and ability to know how to carry out all the work of constructing the sanctuary[i] are to do the work just as the Lord has commanded."

2Then Moses summoned Bezalel[j] and Oholiab[k] and every skilled person to whom the LORD had given ability and who was willing[l] to come and do the work. 3They received from Moses all the offerings[m] the Israelites had brought to carry out the work of constructing the sanctuary. And the people continued to bring freewill offerings morning after morning. 4So all the skilled craftsmen who were doing all the work on the sanctuary left their work 5and said to Moses, "The people are bringing more than enough[n] for doing the work the LORD commanded to be done."

6Then Moses gave an order and they sent this word throughout the camp: "No man or woman is to make anything else as an offering for the sanctuary." And so the people were restrained from bringing more, 7because what they already had was more[o] than enough to do all the work.

The Tabernacle

36:8-38pp — Ex 26:1-37

8All the skilled men among the workmen made the tabernacle with ten curtains of finely twisted linen and blue, purple and scarlet yarn, with cherubim worked into them by a skilled craftsman. 9All the curtains were the same size—twenty-eight cubits long and four cubits wide.[y] 10They joined five of the curtains together and did the same with the other five. 11Then they made loops of blue material along the edge of the end curtain in one set, and the same was done with the end curtain in the other set. 12They also made fifty loops on one curtain and fifty loops on the end curtain of the other set, with the loops opposite each other. 13Then they made fifty gold clasps and used them to fasten the two sets of curtains together so that the tabernacle was a unit.[p]

14They made curtains of goat hair for the tent over the tabernacle—eleven all together. 15All eleven curtains were the same size—thirty cubits long and four cubits wide.[z] 16They joined five of the curtains into one set and the other six into another set. 17Then they made fifty loops along the edge of the end curtain in one set and also along the edge of the end curtain in the other set. 18They made fifty bronze clasps to fasten the tent together as a unit.[q] 19Then they made for the tent a covering of ram skins dyed red, and over that a covering of hides of sea cows.[a]

20They made upright frames of acacia wood for the tabernacle. 21Each frame was ten cubits long and a cubit and a half wide,[b] 22with two projections set parallel to each other. They made all the frames of the tabernacle in this way. 23They made twenty frames for the south side of the tabernacle 24and made forty silver bases to go under them—two bases for each frame, one under each projection. 25For the other side, the north side of the tabernacle, they made twenty frames 26and forty silver bases—two under each frame. 27They made six frames for the far end, that is, the west end of the tabernacle, 28and two frames were made for the corners of the tabernacle at the far end. 29At these two corners the frames were double from the bottom all the way to

35:28 [a]S Ex 25:6 **35:29** [b]S Ex 25:2 [c]ver 4-9; Ex 25:1-7; 36:3; 2Ki 12:4 **35:31** [d]ver 35; 2Ch 2:7,14 **35:34** [e]S Ex 31:6 [f]2Ch 2:14 **35:35** [g]ver 31 **36:1** [h]S Ex 28:3 [i]Ex 25:8 **36:2** [j]S Ex 31:2 [k]S Ex 31:6 [l]S Ex 25:2 **36:3** [m]S Ex 35:29 **36:5** [n]2Ch 24:14; 31:10; 2Co 8:2-3 **36:7** [o]1Ki 7:47 **36:13** [p]ver 18 **36:18** [q]ver 13

y9 That is, about 42 feet (about 12.5 meters) long and 6 feet (about 1.8 meters) wide z15 That is, about 45 feet (about 13.5 meters) long and 6 feet (about 1.8 meters) wide a19 That is, dugongs b21 That is, about 15 feet (about 4.5 meters) long and 2 1/4 feet (about 0.7 meter) wide

the top and fitted into a single ring;
both were made alike. 30 So there were
eight frames and sixteen silver bases—
two under each frame.
31 They also made crossbars of acacia
wood: five for the frames on one side of
the tabernacle, 32 five for those on the
other side, and five for the frames on
the west, at the far end of the taber-
nacle. 33 They made the center crossbar
so that it extended from end to end
at the middle of the frames. 34 They
overlaid the frames with gold and
made gold rings to hold the crossbars.
They also overlaid the crossbars with
gold.
35 They made the curtain[a] of blue,
purple and scarlet yarn and finely
twisted linen, with cherubim worked
into it by a skilled craftsman. 36 They
made four posts of acacia wood for it
and overlaid them with gold. They
made gold hooks for them and cast
their four silver bases. 37 For the en-
trance to the tent they made a curtain
of blue, purple and scarlet yarn and
finely twisted linen—the work of an
embroiderer;[b] 38 and they made five
posts with hooks for them. They over-
laid the tops of the posts and their
bands with gold and made their five
bases of bronze.

The Ark

37:1-9pp — Ex 25:10-20

37 Bezalel[c] made the ark[d] of acacia
wood—two and a half cubits
long, a cubit and a half wide, and a
cubit and a half high.[c] 2 He overlaid it
with pure gold,[e] both inside and out,
and made a gold molding around it.
3 He cast four gold rings for it and fas-
tened them to its four feet, with two
rings on one side and two rings on the
other. 4 Then he made poles of acacia
wood and overlaid them with gold.
5 And he inserted the poles into the
rings on the sides of the ark to carry
it.
6 He made the atonement cover[f] of
pure gold—two and a half cubits long
and a cubit and a half wide.[d] 7 Then he
made two cherubim[g] out of hammered
gold at the ends of the cover. 8 He made
one cherub on one end and the second
cherub on the other; at the two ends he
made them of one piece with the cover.
9 The cherubim had their wings spread
upward, overshadowing[h] the cover
with them. The cherubim faced each
other, looking toward the cover.[i]

36:35 [a]Ex 39:38; Mt 27:51; Lk 23:45; Heb 9:3
36:37 [b]Ex 27:16
37:1 [c]S Ex 31:2 [d]Ex 30:6; 39:35; Dt 10:3
37:2 [e]ver 11,26
37:6 [f]S Ex 26:34; S 31:7; Heb 9:5
37:7 [g]Eze 41:18
37:9 [h]Heb 9:5 [i]Dt 10:3

The Table

37:10-16pp — Ex 25:23-29

10 They[e] made the table[j] of acacia
wood—two cubits long, a cubit wide,
and a cubit and a half high.[f] 11 Then
they overlaid it with pure gold[k] and
made a gold molding around it. 12 They
also made around it a rim a hand-
breadth[g] wide and put a gold molding
on the rim. 13 They cast four gold rings
for the table and fastened them to the
four corners, where the four legs were.
14 The rings[l] were put close to the rim
to hold the poles used in carrying the
table. 15 The poles for carrying the table
were made of acacia wood and were
overlaid with gold. 16 And they made
from pure gold the articles for the ta-
ble—its plates and dishes and bowls
and its pitchers for the pouring out of
drink offerings.

The Lampstand

37:17-24pp — Ex 25:31-39

17 They made the lampstand[m] of pure
gold and hammered it out, base and
shaft; its flowerlike cups, buds and
blossoms were of one piece with it.
18 Six branches extended from the sides
of the lampstand—three on one side
and three on the other. 19 Three cups
shaped like almond flowers with buds
and blossoms were on one branch,
three on the next branch and the same
for all six branches extending from the
lampstand. 20 And on the lampstand
were four cups shaped like almond
flowers with buds and blossoms. 21 One
bud was under the first pair of
branches extending from the lamp-
stand, a second bud under the second
pair, and a third bud under the third
pair—six branches in all. 22 The buds
and the branches were all of one piece
with the lampstand, hammered out of
pure gold.[n]
23 They made its seven lamps,[o] as
well as its wick trimmers and trays, of
pure gold. 24 They made the lampstand
and all its accessories from one talent[h]
of pure gold.

37:10 [j]Heb 9:2
37:11 [k]S ver 2
37:14 [l]ver 27
37:17 [m]Heb 9:2; Rev 1:12
37:22 [n]ver 17; Nu 8:4
37:23 [o]Ex 40:4, 25

[c]*1* That is, about 3 3/4 feet (about 1.1 meters) long and 2 1/4 feet (about 0.7 meter) wide and high
[d]*6* That is, about 3 3/4 feet (about 1.1 meters) long and 2 1/4 feet (about 0.7 meter) wide
[e]*10* Or *He;* also in verses 11-29
[f]*10* That is, about 3 feet (about 0.9 meter) long, 1 1/2 feet (about 0.5 meter) wide, and 2 1/4 feet (about 0.7 meter) high
[g]*12* That is, about 3 inches (about 8 centimeters)
[h]*24* That is, about 75 pounds (about 34 kilograms)

The Altar of Incense

37:25-28pp — Ex 30:1-5

25They made the altar of incense[a] out
of acacia wood. It was square, a cubit
long and a cubit wide, and two cubits
high[i]—its horns[b] of one piece with it.
26They overlaid the top and all the sides
and the horns with pure gold, and
made a gold molding around it. 27They
made two gold rings[c] below the mold-
ing—two on opposite sides—to hold
the poles used to carry it. 28They made
the poles of acacia wood and overlaid
them with gold.[d]
29They also made the sacred anoint-
ing oil[e] and the pure, fragrant in-
cense[f]—the work of a perfumer.

37:25 [a]Ex 30:34-36; Lk 1:11; Heb 9:4; Rev 8:3 [b]S Ex 27:2; Rev 9:13 **37:27** [c]ver 14 **37:28** [d]S Ex 25:13 **37:29** [e]S Ex 31:11 [f]Ex 30:1,25; 39:38 **38:2** [g]2Ch 1:5 **38:3** [h]S Ex 31:9 **38:8** [i]S Ex 30:18; S 40:7 [j]Dt 23:17; 1Sa 2:22; 1Ki 14:24

The Altar of Burnt Offering

38:1-7pp — Ex 27:1-8

38 They[j] built the altar of burnt of-
fering of acacia wood, three cu-
bits[k] high; it was square, five cubits
long and five cubits wide.[l] 2They made
a horn at each of the four corners, so
that the horns and the altar were of one
piece, and they overlaid the altar with
bronze.[g] 3They made all its utensils[h] of
bronze—its pots, shovels, sprinkling
bowls, meat forks and firepans. 4They
made a grating for the altar, a bronze
network, to be under its ledge, halfway
up the altar. 5They cast bronze rings to
hold the poles for the four corners of
the bronze grating. 6They made the
poles of acacia wood and overlaid them
with bronze. 7They inserted the poles
into the rings so they would be on the
sides of the altar for carrying it. They
made it hollow, out of boards.

Basin for Washing

8They made the bronze basin[i] and
its bronze stand from the mirrors of the
women[j] who served at the entrance to
the Tent of Meeting.

The Courtyard

38:9-20pp — Ex 27:9-19

9Next they made the courtyard. The
south side was a hundred cubits[m] long
and had curtains of finely twisted
linen, 10with twenty posts and twenty
bronze bases, and with silver hooks
and bands on the posts. 11The north
side was also a hundred cubits long
and had twenty posts and twenty
bronze bases, with silver hooks and
bands on the posts.
12The west end was fifty cubits[n] wide
and had curtains, with ten posts and
ten bases, with silver hooks and bands
on the posts. 13The east end, toward
the sunrise, was also fifty cubits wide.
14Curtains fifteen cubits[o] long were on
one side of the entrance, with three
posts and three bases, 15and curtains
fifteen cubits long were on the other
side of the entrance to the courtyard,
with three posts and three bases. 16All
the curtains around the courtyard were
of finely twisted linen. 17The bases for
the posts were bronze. The hooks and
bands on the posts were silver, and
their tops were overlaid with silver; so
all the posts of the courtyard had silver
bands.
18The curtain for the entrance to the
courtyard was of blue, purple and scar-
let yarn and finely twisted linen—the
work of an embroiderer. It was twenty
cubits[p] long and, like the curtains of
the courtyard, five cubits[q] high, 19with
four posts and four bronze bases. Their
hooks and bands were silver, and their
tops were overlaid with silver. 20All the
tent pegs[k] of the tabernacle and of the
surrounding courtyard were bronze.

The Materials Used

21These are the amounts of the ma-
terials used for the tabernacle, the taber-
nacle of the Testimony,[l] which were
recorded at Moses' command by the
Levites under the direction of Ithamar[m]
son of Aaron, the priest. 22(Bezalel[n]
son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe
of Judah, made everything the LORD
commanded Moses; 23with him was
Oholiab[o] son of Ahisamach, of the
tribe of Dan—a craftsman and design-
er, and an embroiderer in blue, purple
and scarlet yarn and fine linen.) 24The
total amount of the gold from the wave
offering used for all the work on the
sanctuary[p] was 29 talents and 730
shekels,[r] according to the sanctuary
shekel.[q]
25The silver obtained from those of
the community who were counted in
the census[r] was 100 talents and 1,775
shekels,[s] according to the sanctuary

38:20 [k]S Ex 35:18 **38:21** [l]Nu 1:50, 53; 8:24; 9:15; 10:11; 17:7; 1Ch 23:32; 2Ch 24:6; Ac 7:44; Rev 15:5 [m]Nu 4:28,33 **38:22** [n]S Ex 31:2 **38:23** [o]S Ex 31:6 **38:24** [p]S Ex 30:16 [q]S Ex 30:13 **38:25** [r]S Ex 30:12

[i]25 That is, about 1 1/2 feet (about 0.5 meter) long and wide, and about 3 feet (about 0.9 meter) high [j]1 Or *He*; also in verses 2-9 [k]1 That is, about 4 1/2 feet (about 1.3 meters) [l]1 That is, about 7 1/2 feet (about 2.3 meters) long and wide [m]9 That is, about 150 feet (about 46 meters) [n]12 That is, about 75 feet (about 23 meters) [o]14 That is, about 22 1/2 feet (about 6.9 meters) [p]18 That is, about 30 feet (about 9 meters) [q]18 That is, about 7 1/2 feet (about 2.3 meters) [r]24 The weight of the gold was a little over one ton (about 1 metric ton). [s]25 The weight of the silver was a little over 3 3/4 tons (about 3.4 metric tons).

[illegible]

29The bronze from the wave offering
was 70 talents and 2,400 shekels.[w]
30They used it to make the bases for the
entrance to the Tent of Meeting, the
bronze altar with its bronze grating and
all its utensils, 31the bases for the sur-
rounding courtyard and those for its
entrance and all the tent pegs for the
tabernacle and those for the surround-
ing courtyard.

The Priestly Garments

39 From the blue, purple and scar-
let yarn they made woven gar-
ments for ministering in the sanctu-
ary. They also made sacred gar-
ments for Aaron, as the LORD
commanded Moses.

The Ephod

39:2-7pp — Ex 28:6-14

2They[x] made the ephod of gold, and
of blue, purple and scarlet yarn, and of
finely twisted linen. 3They hammered
out thin sheets of gold and cut strands
to be worked into the blue, purple and
scarlet yarn and fine linen—the work of
a skilled craftsman. 4They made shoul-
der pieces for the ephod, which were
attached to two of its corners, so it
could be fastened. 5Its skillfully woven
waistband was like it—of one piece
with the ephod and made with gold,
and with blue, purple and scarlet yarn,
and with finely twisted linen, as the
LORD commanded Moses.
6They mounted the onyx stones in
gold filigree settings and engraved
them like a seal with the names of the
sons of Israel. 7Then they fastened
them on the shoulder pieces of the
ephod as memorial stones for the
sons of Israel, as the LORD commanded
Moses.

The Breastpiece

39:8-21pp — Ex 28:15-28

8They fashioned the breastpiece—
the work of a skilled craftsman.
They made it like the ephod: of
gold, and of blue, purple and scarlet
yarn, and of finely twisted linen. 9It
was square—a span[y] long and a span
wide—and folded double. 10Then they
mounted four rows of precious stones
on it. In the first row there was a ruby,
a topaz and a beryl; 11in the second row
a turquoise, a sapphire[z] and an em-
erald; 12in the third row a jacinth, an
agate and an amethyst; 13in the fourth
row a chrysolite, an onyx and a jas-
per.[a] They were mounted in gold fili-
gree settings. 14There were twelve
stones, one for each of the names of the
sons of Israel, each engraved like a seal
with the name of one of the twelve
tribes.[k]
15For the breastpiece they made
braided chains of pure gold, like a
rope. 16They made two gold filigree set-
tings and two gold rings, and fastened
the rings to two of the corners of the
breastpiece. 17They fastened the two
gold chains to the rings at the corners
of the breastpiece, 18and the other ends
of the chains to the two settings, at-
taching them to the shoulder pieces of
the ephod at the front. 19They made
two gold rings and attached them to
the other two corners of the breastpiece
on the inside edge next to the ephod.
20Then they made two more gold rings
and attached them to the bottom of the
shoulder pieces on the front of the
ephod, close to the seam just above the
waistband of the ephod. 21They tied the
rings of the breastpiece to the rings of
the ephod with blue cord, connecting it
to the waistband so that the breastpiece
would not swing out from the ephod—
as the LORD commanded Moses.

Other Priestly Garments

39:22-31pp — Ex 28:31-43

22They made the robe of the ephod
entirely of blue cloth—the work of a
weaver— 23with an opening in the cen-
ter of the robe like the opening of a col-
lar,[b] and a band around this opening,
so that it would not tear. 24They made
pomegranates of blue, purple and scar-

39:14 [k]Rev 21:12

[t]26 That is, about 1/5 ounce (about 5.5 grams) [u]27 That is, about 3 3/4 tons (about 3.4 metric tons) [v]28 That is, about 45 pounds (about 20 kilograms) [w]29 The weight of the bronze was about 2 1/2 tons (about 2.4 metric tons) [x]2 Or *He*; also in verses 7, 8 and 22 [y]9 That is, about 9 inches (about 22 centimeters) [z]11 Or *lapis lazuli* [a]13 The precise identification of some of these precious stones is uncertain. [b]23 The meaning of the Hebrew for this word is uncertain.

let yarn and finely twisted linen around the hem of the robe. 25 And they made bells of pure gold and attached them around the hem between the pomegranates. 26 The bells and pomegranates alternated around the hem of the robe to be worn for ministering, as the LORD commanded Moses.

27 For Aaron and his sons, they made tunics of fine linen[a]—the work of a weaver— 28 and the turban[b] of fine linen, the linen headbands and the undergarments of finely twisted linen. 29 The sash was of finely twisted linen and blue, purple and scarlet yarn—the work of an embroiderer—as the LORD commanded Moses.

30 They made the plate, the sacred diadem, out of pure gold and engraved on it, like an inscription on a seal: HOLY TO THE LORD.[c] 31 Then they fastened a blue cord to it to attach it to the turban,[d] as the LORD commanded Moses.

Moses Inspects the Tabernacle

39:32-41pp — Ex 35:10-19

32 So all the work on the tabernacle, the Tent of Meeting, was completed. The Israelites did everything just as the LORD commanded Moses.[e] 33 Then they brought the tabernacle[f] to Moses: the tent and all its furnishings, its clasps, frames, crossbars, posts and bases; 34 the covering of ram skins dyed red, the covering of hides of sea cows[c] and the shielding curtain; 35 the ark of the Testimony[g] with its poles and the atonement cover; 36 the table[h] with all its articles and the bread of the Presence;[i] 37 the pure gold lampstand[j] with its row of lamps and all its accessories,[k] and the oil[l] for the light; 38 the gold altar,[m] the anointing oil,[n] the fragrant incense,[o] and the curtain[p] for the entrance to the tent; 39 the bronze altar[q] with its bronze grating, its poles and all its utensils; the basin[r] with its stand; 40 the curtains of the courtyard with its posts and bases, and the curtain for the entrance to the courtyard;[s] the ropes and tent pegs for the courtyard; all the furnishings for the tabernacle, the Tent of Meeting; 41 and the woven garments[t] worn for ministering in the sanctuary, both the sacred garments for Aaron the priest and the garments for his sons when serving as priests.

42 The Israelites had done all the work just as the LORD had commanded Moses.[u] 43 Moses inspected the work and saw that they had done it just as the LORD had commanded.[v] So Moses blessed[w] them.

Setting Up the Tabernacle

40 Then the LORD said to Moses: 2 "Set up[x] the tabernacle, the Tent of Meeting,[y] on the first day of the first month.[z] 3 Place the ark[a] of the Testimony in it and shield the ark with the curtain. 4 Bring in the table[b] and set out what belongs on it.[c] Then bring in the lampstand[d] and set up its lamps. 5 Place the gold altar[e] of incense in front of the ark of the Testimony and put the curtain at the entrance to the tabernacle.

6 "Place the altar[f] of burnt offering in front of the entrance to the tabernacle, the Tent of Meeting; 7 place the basin[g] between the Tent of Meeting and the altar and put water in it. 8 Set up the courtyard[h] around it and put the curtain at the entrance to the courtyard.

9 "Take the anointing oil and anoint[i] the tabernacle and everything in it; consecrate it and all its furnishings,[j] and it will be holy. 10 Then anoint the altar of burnt offering and all its utensils; consecrate[k] the altar, and it will be most holy. 11 Anoint the basin and its stand and consecrate them.

12 "Bring Aaron and his sons to the entrance to the Tent of Meeting[l] and wash them with water.[m] 13 Then dress Aaron in the sacred garments,[n] anoint him and consecrate[o] him so he may serve me as priest. 14 Bring his sons and dress them in tunics.[p] 15 Anoint them just as you anointed their father, so they may serve me as priests. Their anointing will be to a priesthood that will continue for all generations to come.[q]" 16 Moses did everything just as the LORD commanded[r] him.

17 So the tabernacle[s] was set up on the first day of the first month[t] in the second year. 18 When Moses[u] set up the tabernacle, he put the bases in place, erected the frames,[v] inserted the crossbars and set up the posts. 19 Then he spread the tent over the tabernacle and put the covering[w] over the tent, as the LORD commanded[x] him.

20 He took the Testimony[y] and placed it in the ark,[z] attached the poles to the ark and put the atonement cover[a] over it. 21 Then he brought the ark into the tabernacle and hung the shielding cur-

39:27 [a]Lev 6:10; 8:2
39:28 [b]ver 31; S Ex 28:4; Lev 8:9; Isa 61:10
39:30 [c]Isa 23:18; Zec 14:20
39:31 [d]S ver 28
39:32 [e]S Ex 25:9
39:33 [f]Ex 25:8-40; 36:8-38
39:35 [g]S Ex 37:1
39:36 [h]Ex 25:23-30; 37:10-16 [i]S Ex 25:30
39:37 [j]S Ex 25:31 [k]Ex 25:31-39 [l]S Ex 25:6
39:38 [m]Ex 30:1-10; 37:25-28 [n]Ex 30:22-32; 37:29 [o]Ex 30:34-38; S 37:29 [p]S Ex 36:35
39:39 [q]Ex 27:1-8; 38:1-7 [r]S Ex 30:18
39:40 [s]Ex 27:9-19; 38:9-20
39:41 [t]S ver 1
39:42 [u]S Ex 25:9
39:43 [v]S Ex 25:9; S 35:10 [w]Ge 31:55; Lev 9:22,23; Nu 6:23-27; Dt 21:5; 26:15; 2Sa 6:18; 1Ki 8:14,55; 1Ch 16:2; 2Ch 30:27
40:2 [x]S Ex 26:30 [y]ver 34,35; Lev 1:1; 3:2; 6:26; 9:23; 16:16; Nu 1:1; 7:89; 11:16; 17:4; 20:6; Jos 18:1; 19:51; Jer 7:12 [z]ver 17; S Ex 12:2; Nu 9:1
40:3 [a]S Ex 26:33
40:4 [b]S Ex 25:23 [c]S Ex 25:30 [d]S Ex 25:31
40:5 [e]S Ex 30:1
40:6 [f]S Ex 27:1; 2Ki 16:14; 2Ch 4:1
40:7 [g]Ex 30:18
40:8 [h]S Ex 27:9
40:9 [i]S Ex 30:26 [j]Nu 7:1
40:10 [k]S Ex 29:36
40:12 [l]Nu 8:9 [m]S Ex 29:4; S 30:19
40:13 [n]S Ex 28:41 [o]Lev 8:12
40:14 [p]S Ex 28:40; Lev 10:5
40:15 [q]S Ex 29:9
40:16 [r]S Ge 6:22
40:17 [s]Nu 7:1 [t]S ver 2
40:18 [u]2Ch 1:3 [v]Ex 36:20-34
40:19 [w]Ex 36:19 [x]S Ge 6:22
40:20 [y]S Ex 16:34; Heb 9:4 [z]S Ex 25:21

[a]Ex 25:17-22; S 26:34; S 31:7

[c]34 That is, dugongs

tain[a] and shielded the ark of the Testi-
mony, as the LORD commanded[b] him.
22Moses placed the table[c] in the Tent
of Meeting on the north side of the tab-
ernacle outside the curtain 23and set out
the bread[d] on it before the LORD, as the
LORD commanded[e] him.
24He placed the lampstand[f] in the
Tent of Meeting opposite the table on
the south side of the tabernacle 25and
set up the lamps[g] before the LORD, as
the LORD commanded[h] him.
26Moses placed the gold altar[i] in the
Tent of Meeting in front of the curtain
27and burned fragrant incense on it, as
the LORD commanded[j] him. 28Then he
put up the curtain[k] at the entrance to
the tabernacle.
29He set the altar[l] of burnt offering
near the entrance to the tabernacle, the
Tent of Meeting, and offered on it
burnt offerings and grain offerings,[m] as
the LORD commanded[n] him.
30He placed the basin[o] between the
Tent of Meeting and the altar and put
water in it for washing, 31and Moses
and Aaron and his sons used it to
wash[p] their hands and feet. 32They
washed whenever they entered the
Tent of Meeting or approached the al-
tar,[q] as the LORD commanded[r] Moses.
33Then Moses set up the courtyard[s]
around the tabernacle and altar and put
up the curtain[t] at the entrance to the
courtyard. And so Moses finished the
work.

The Glory of the LORD

34Then the cloud[u] covered the Tent
of Meeting, and the glory[v] of the LORD
filled the tabernacle. 35Moses could not
enter the Tent of Meeting because the
cloud had settled upon it, and the
glory[w] of the LORD filled the taber-
nacle.[x]
36In all the travels of the Israelites,
whenever the cloud lifted from above
the tabernacle, they would set out;[y]
37but if the cloud did not lift, they did
not set out—until the day it lifted. 38So
the cloud[z] of the LORD was over the
tabernacle by day, and fire was in the
cloud by night, in the sight of all the
house of Israel during all their travels.

40:21 [a]S Ex 26:33 [b]S Ge 6:22 **40:22** [c]S Ex 25:23 **40:23** [d]S Ex 25:30; Lev 24:5-8 [e]S Ge 6:22 **40:24** [f]S Ex 25:31 **40:25** [g]S Ex 37:23 [h]S Ge 6:22 **40:26** [i]S Ex 30:1 **40:27** [j]S Ge 6:22 **40:28** [k]S Ex 26:36 **40:29** [l]S Ex 20:24 [m]Ex 29:38-42 [n]S Ge 6:22 **40:30** [o]S ver 7; S Ex 30:18 **40:31** [p]Ex 30:19-21 **40:32** [q]Ex 30:20 [r]S Ge 6:22 **40:33** [s]S Ex 27:9; 38:9-20 [t]Ex 27:16 **40:34** [u]Ex 19:16; Lev 16:2; Nu 9:15-23; 1Ki 8:12; 2Ch 5:13; Isa 6:4; Eze 10:4 [v]S Ex 16:7; Jn 1:14; 12:41; Rev 15:8

40:35 [w]S Ex 16:10 [x]1Ki 8:11; 2Ch 5:13-14; 7:2 **40:36** [y]Nu 9:17-23; 10:13 **40:38** [z]S Ex 13:21; 1Co 10:1

Leviticus

The Burnt Offering

1 The Lord called to Moses[a] and
spoke to him from the Tent of
Meeting.[b] He said, 2"Speak to the Isra-
elites and say to them: 'When any of
you brings an offering to the Lord,[c]
bring as your offering an animal from
either the herd or the flock.[d]
3" 'If the offering is a burnt offering[e]
from the herd,[f] he is to offer a male
without defect.[g] He must present it at
the entrance to the Tent[h] of Meeting so
that it[a] will be acceptable[i] to the Lord.
4He is to lay his hand on the head[j] of
the burnt offering,[k] and it will be ac-
cepted[l] on his behalf to make atone-
ment[m] for him. 5He is to slaughter[n] the
young bull[o] before the Lord, and then
Aaron's sons[p] the priests shall bring
the blood and sprinkle it against the al-
tar on all sides[q] at the entrance to the
Tent of Meeting. 6He is to skin[r] the
burnt offering and cut it into pieces.[s]
7The sons of Aaron the priest are to put
fire on the altar and arrange wood[t] on
the fire. 8Then Aaron's sons the priests
shall arrange the pieces, including the
head and the fat,[u] on the burning
wood[v] that is on the altar. 9He is to
wash the inner parts and the legs with
water,[w] and the priest is to burn all of
it[x] on the altar.[y] It is a burnt offering,[z]
an offering made by fire,[a] an aroma
pleasing to the Lord.[b]
10" 'If the offering is a burnt offering
from the flock, from either the sheep[c]
or the goats,[d] he is to offer a male with-
out defect. 11He is to slaughter it at the
north side of the altar[e] before the Lord,
and Aaron's sons the priests shall
sprinkle its blood against the altar on
all sides.[f] 12He is to cut it into pieces,
and the priest shall arrange them, in-
cluding the head and the fat,[g] on the
burning wood that is on the altar. 13He
is to wash the inner parts and the legs
with water,[h] and the priest is to bring
all of it and burn it[i] on the altar.[j] It is a
burnt offering,[k] an offering made by
fire, an aroma pleasing to the Lord.
14" 'If the offering to the Lord is a
burnt offering of birds, he is to offer a
dove or a young pigeon.[l] 15The priest
shall bring it to the altar, wring off the
head[m] and burn it on the altar; its blood
shall be drained out on the side of the
altar.[n] 16He is to remove the crop with
its contents[b] and throw it to the east
side of the altar, where the ashes[o] are.
17He shall tear it open by the wings, not
severing it completely,[p] and then the
priest shall burn it on the wood[q] that is
on the fire on the altar. It is a burnt
offering, an offering made by fire, an
aroma pleasing to the Lord.

The Grain Offering

2 " 'When someone brings a grain of-
fering[r] to the Lord, his offering is
to be of fine flour.[s] He is to pour oil[t]
on it,[u] put incense on it[v] 2and take it to
Aaron's sons the priests. The priest
shall take a handful of the fine flour[w]
and oil, together with all the incense,[x]
and burn this as a memorial portion[y]
on the altar, an offering made by fire,[z]
an aroma pleasing to the Lord.[a] 3The
rest of the grain offering belongs to
Aaron and his sons;[b] it is a most holy[c]
part of the offerings made to the Lord
by fire.
4" 'If you bring a grain offering baked
in an oven,[d] it is to consist of fine flour:
cakes made without yeast and mixed
with oil, or[c] wafers[e] made without
yeast and spread with oil.[f] 5If your
grain offering is prepared on a grid-
dle,[g] it is to be made of fine flour
mixed with oil, and without yeast.
6Crumble it and pour oil on it; it is a
grain offering. 7If your grain offering is
cooked in a pan,[h] it is to be made of

1:1 [a]S Ex 3:4; S 25:22 [b]S Ex 27:21; S 40:2 **1:2** [c]Lev 7:16, 38; 22:21; 23:38; 27:9 [d]Lev 22:18-19; Nu 15:3 **1:3** [e]S Ge 8:20 [f]ver 10; Lev 22:27; Ezr 8:35; Mal 1:8 [g]S ver 5; S Ex 12:5; S Lev 22:19,20; Heb 9:14; 1Pe 1:19 [h]Lev 6:25; 17:9; Nu 6:16; Dt 12:5-6,11 [i]Isa 58:5 **1:4** [j]S Ex 29:10, 15 [k]ver 3; Lev 4:29; 6:25; Eze 45:15 [l]S Ge 32:20 [m]S Ex 29:36; S 32:30 **1:5** [n]Ex 29:11; Lev 3:2,8 [o]S ver 3; Ex 29:1; Nu 15:8; Dt 18:3; Ps 50:9; 69:31 [p]Lev 8:2; 10:6; 21:1 [q]S Ex 29:20; Heb 12:24; 1Pe 1:2 **1:6** [r]Lev 7:8 [s]Ex 29:17 **1:7** [t]ver 17; S Ge 22:9; Lev 3:5; 6:12 **1:8** [u]ver 12; S Ex 29:13; Lev 8:20 [v]Lev 9:13 **1:9** [w]S Ex 29:17 [x]Lev 6:22 [y]ver 13; Ex 29:18; Lev 9:14 [z]ver 3 [a]Lev 23:8,25,36; Nu 28:6,19 [b]ver 13; Ge 8:21; Lev 2:2; 3:5,16; 17:6; Nu 18:17; 28:11-13; Eph 5:2 **1:10** [c]S Ge 22:7 [d]S ver 3; Ex 12:5; Lev 3:12; 4:23, 28; 5:6; Nu 15:11 **1:11** [e]S Ex 29:11 [f]S Ex 29:20 **1:12** [g]S ver 8 **1:13** [h]S Ex 29:17 [i]Lev 6:22 [j]S ver 9 [k]Dt 12:27

1:14 [l]S Ge 15:9; Lk 2:24 **1:15** [m]Lev 5:8 [n]Lev 5:9 **1:16** [o]Lev 4:12; 6:10; Nu 4:13 **1:17** [p]S Ge 15:10 [q]S ver 7

2:1 [r]S Ex 29:41; Lev 6:14-18 [s]Ex 29:2,40; Lev 5:11 [t]Nu 15:4; 28:5 [u]S Ex 29:2; Lev 7:12 [v]ver 2,15,16; Lev 24:7; Ne 13:9; Isa 43:23 **2:2** [w]Lev 5:11 [x]Lev 6:15; Isa 1:13; 65:3; 66:3 [y]ver 9,16; Lev 5:12; 6:15; 24:7; Nu 5:26; 18:8; Ps 16:5; 73:26; Isa 53:12 [z]ver 16 [a]S Lev 1:9 **2:3** [b]ver 10; Lev 6:16; 10:12,13 [c]S Ex 30:36 **2:4** [d]Lev 7:9; 26:26 [e]Lev 7:12; 8:26 [f]S Ex 29:2 **2:5** [g]Lev 6:21; 7:9; Eze 4:3 **2:7** [h]Lev 7:9

[a]3 Or *he* [b]16 Or *crop and the feathers*; the meaning of the Hebrew for this word is uncertain. [c]4 Or *and*

fine flour and oil. 8Bring the grain offer-
ing made of these things to the LORD;
present it to the priest, who shall take it
to the altar. 9He shall take out the
memorial portion[a] from the grain of-
fering and burn it on the altar as an
offering made by fire, an aroma pleas-
ing to the LORD.[b] 10The rest of the grain
offering belongs to Aaron and his
sons;[c] it is a most holy part of the offer-
ings made to the LORD by fire.[d]
11" 'Every grain offering you bring to
the LORD must be made without yeast,[e]
for you are not to burn any yeast or
honey in an offering made to the LORD
by fire. 12You may bring them to the
LORD as an offering of the firstfruits,[f]
but they are not to be offered on the
altar as a pleasing aroma. 13Season all
your grain offerings with salt.[g] Do not
leave the salt of the covenant[h] of your
God out of your grain offerings; add
salt to all your offerings.
14" 'If you bring a grain offering of
firstfruits[i] to the LORD, offer crushed
heads of new grain roasted in the fire.
15Put oil and incense[j] on it; it is a grain
offering. 16The priest shall burn the
memorial portion[k] of the crushed grain
and the oil, together with all the in-
cense,[l] as an offering made to the LORD
by fire.[m]

The Fellowship Offering

3 " 'If someone's offering is a fellow-
ship offering,[n][a] and he offers an
animal from the herd, whether male or
female, he is to present before the LORD
an animal without defect.[o] 2He is to lay
his hand on the head[p] of his offering
and slaughter it[q] at the entrance to the
Tent of Meeting.[r] Then Aaron's sons
the priests shall sprinkle[s] the blood
against the altar[t] on all sides.[u] 3From
the fellowship offering he is to bring a
sacrifice made to the LORD by fire: all
the fat[v] that covers the inner parts[w] or
is connected to them, 4both kidneys[x]
with the fat around them near the
loins, and the covering of the liver,
which he will remove with the kidneys.
5Then Aaron's sons[y] are to burn it on
the altar[z] on top of the burnt offering[a]
that is on the burning wood,[b] as an
offering made by fire, an aroma pleas-
ing to the LORD.[c]
6" 'If he offers an animal from the
flock as a fellowship offering[d] to the
LORD, he is to offer a male or female
without defect. 7If he offers a lamb,[e] he
is to present it before the LORD.[f] 8He is
to lay his hand on the head of his offer-
ing and slaughter it[g] in front of the
Tent of Meeting. Then Aaron's sons
shall sprinkle its blood against the altar
on all sides. 9From the fellowship offer-
ing he is to bring a sacrifice[h] made to
the LORD by fire: its fat, the entire fat
tail cut off close to the backbone, all the
fat that covers the inner parts or is con-
nected to them, 10both kidneys with the
fat on them near the loins, and the
covering of the liver, which he will re-
move with the kidneys. 11The priest
shall burn them on the altar[i] as food,[j]
an offering made to the LORD by fire.[k]
12" 'If his offering is a goat,[l] he is to
present it before the LORD. 13He is to lay
his hand on its head and slaughter it in
front of the Tent of Meeting. Then
Aaron's sons shall sprinkle[m] its blood
against the altar on all sides.[n] 14From
what he offers he is to make this offer-
ing to the LORD by fire: all the fat that
covers the inner parts or is connected
to them, 15both kidneys with the fat on
them near the loins, and the covering
of the liver, which he will remove with
the kidneys.[o] 16The priest shall burn
them on the altar[p] as food,[q] an offer-
ing made by fire, a pleasing aroma.[r]
All the fat[s] is the LORD's.[t]
17" 'This is a lasting ordinance[u] for
the generations to come,[v] wherever
you live:[w] You must not eat any fat or
any blood.[x]' "

The Sin Offering

4 The LORD said to Moses, 2"Say to
the Israelites: 'When anyone sins
unintentionally[y] and does what is for-
bidden in any of the LORD's com-
mands[z]—
3" 'If the anointed priest[a] sins,[b]
bringing guilt on the people, he must
bring to the LORD a young bull[c] with-
out defect[d] as a sin offering[e] for the sin
he has committed.[f] 4He is to present
the bull at the entrance to the Tent of
Meeting before the LORD.[g] He is to lay
his hand on its head and slaughter it
before the LORD. 5Then the anointed
priest shall take some of the bull's
blood[h] and carry it into the Tent of
Meeting. 6He is to dip his finger into
the blood and sprinkle[i] some of it
seven times before the LORD,[j] in front
of the curtain of the sanctuary.[k] 7The
priest shall then put some of the blood

2:9 [a]S ver 2 [b]S Ge 8:21 **2:10** [c]ver 3 [d][illegible] **2:11** [e]S Ex 23:18; Lev 6:16 **2:12** [f]S Ex 34:22 **2:13** [g]Mk 9:49 [h]Nu 18:19; 2Ch 13:5; Eze 43:24 **2:14** [i]S Ex 34:22; Nu 15:20; Dt 16:13; 26:2; 2Ki 4:42 **2:15** [j]S ver 1 **2:16** [k]S ver 2 [l]S ver 1 [m]Nu 4:16; Jer 14:12 **3:1** [n]S ver 6; S Ex 32:6; Lev 7:11-34; S 17:5 [o]S Ex 12:5 **3:2** [p]S Ex 29:15; Nu 8:10 [q]S Lev 1:5 [r]S Ex 40:2 [s]S Ex 24:6 [t]Lev 17:6; Nu 18:17 [u]S Ex 29:20 **3:3** [v]S Ex 29:13 [w]S Ex 12:9 **3:4** [x]ver 10; Ex 29:13; Lev 4:9 **3:5** [y]Lev 7:29-34 [z]ver 11,16 [a]Ex 29:13,38-42; Nu 28:3-10 [b]S Lev 1:7 [c]S Lev 1:9 **3:6** [d]S ver 1; Lev 22:21; Nu 15:3,8 **3:7** [e]Lev 17:3; Nu 15:5; 28:5,7,8 [f]Lev 17:8-9; 1Ki 8:62 **3:8** [g]S Lev 1:5 **3:9** [h]Isa 34:6; Jer 46:10; Eze 39:19; Zep 1:7 **3:11** [i]S ver 5 [j]ver 16; Lev 21:6,17; Nu 28:2 [k]Lev 9:18 **3:12** [l]S Lev 1:10; S 4:3 **3:13** [m]S Ex 24:6 [n]Lev 1:5 **3:15** [o]Lev 7:4 **3:16** [p]S ver 5; Lev 7:31 [q]S ver 11 [r]S Lev 1:9 [s]S Ge 4:4 [t]1Sa 2:16 **3:17** [u]S Ex 12:14; S 27:21 [v]S Ge 9:12 [w]S Ex 12:20 [x]Ge 9:4; Lev 7:25-26; 17:10-16; Dt 12:16; Ac 15:20 **4:2** [y]ver 13,27; Lev 5:15-18; 22:14; Nu 15:24-29; 35:11-15; Jos 20:3,9; Heb 9:7 [z]ver 22; Nu 15:22 **4:3** [a]S Ex 28:41 [b]S Ge 18:23 [c]ver 14; Lev 3:12; 8:14; 10:16; 16:3,5; Nu 15:27; Ps 66:15; Eze 43:19,23 [d]S Ex 12:5 [e]S ver 24; S Ex 30:10; Lev 5:6-13; 9:2-22; Heb 9:13-14 [f]ver 32 **4:4** [g]ver 15,24; Lev 1:3; Nu 8:12 **4:5** [h]ver 16; Lev 16:14 **4:6** [i]Ex 24:8 [j]ver 17; Lev 16:14,19 [k]S Ex 25:8

[a]1 Traditionally *peace offering;* also in verses 3, 6 and 9

on the horns[a] of the altar of fragrant
incense that is before the LORD in the
Tent of Meeting. The rest of the bull's
blood he shall pour out at the base of
the altar[b] of burnt offering[c] at the en-
trance to the Tent of Meeting. 8He shall
remove all the fat[d] from the bull of the
sin offering—the fat that covers the in-
ner parts or is connected to them, 9both
kidneys with the fat on them near the
loins, and the covering of the liver,
which he will remove with the kid-
neys[e]— 10just as the fat is removed
from the ox[e f] sacrificed as a fellowship
offering.[f g] Then the priest shall burn
them on the altar of burnt offering.[h]
11But the hide of the bull and all its
flesh, as well as the head and legs, the
inner parts and offal[i]— 12that is, all the
rest of the bull—he must take outside
the camp[j] to a place ceremonially
clean,[k] where the ashes[l] are thrown,
and burn it[m] in a wood fire on the ash
heap.[n]

13" 'If the whole Israelite community
sins unintentionally[o] and does what is
forbidden in any of the LORD's com-
mands, even though the community is
unaware of the matter, they are guilty.
14When they become aware of the sin
they committed, the assembly must
bring a young bull[p] as a sin offering[q]
and present it before the Tent of Meet-
ing. 15The elders[r] of the community
are to lay their hands[s] on the bull's
head[t] before the LORD, and the bull
shall be slaughtered before the LORD.[u]
16Then the anointed priest is to take
some of the bull's blood[v] into the Tent
of Meeting. 17He shall dip his finger
into the blood and sprinkle[w] it before
the LORD[x] seven times in front of the
curtain. 18He is to put some of the
blood[y] on the horns of the altar that is
before the LORD[z] in the Tent of Meet-
ing. The rest of the blood he shall pour
out at the base of the altar[a] of burnt
offering at the entrance to the Tent of
Meeting. 19He shall remove all the fat[b]
from it and burn it on the altar,[c] 20and
do with this bull just as he did with the
bull for the sin offering. In this way the
priest will make atonement[d] for them,
and they will be forgiven.[e] 21Then he
shall take the bull outside the camp[f]
and burn it as he burned the first bull.
This is the sin offering for the commu-
nity.[g]

22" 'When a leader[h] sins unintention-
ally[i] and does what is forbidden in any
of the commands of the LORD his God,

4:7 [a]S Ex 27:2 [b]ver 34; S Ex 29:12; Lev 8:15 [c]ver 18, 30; Lev 5:9; 9:9; 16:18
4:8 [d]ver 19
4:9 [e]S Lev 3:4
4:10 [f]Lev 9:4 [g]S Ex 32:6 [h]S Ex 29:13
4:11 [i]Ex 29:14; Lev 8:17; 9:11; Nu 19:5
4:12 [j]S Ex 29:14; Lev 8:17; 9:11; Heb 13:11 [k]Lev 6:11; 10:14; Nu 19:9 [l]S Lev 1:16 [m]Lev 6:30 [n]Lev 16:3
4:13 [o]S ver 2
4:14 [p]S ver 3 [q]Nu 15:24
4:15 [r]S Ex 3:16; S 19:7 [s]2Ch 29:23 [t]S Ex 29:10; Lev 8:14,22; Nu 8:10 [u]S ver 4
4:16 [v]S ver 5
4:17 [w]Nu 19:4, 18 [x]S ver 6
4:18 [y]Lev 8:15; 17:6; 2Ch 29:22 [z]ver 7; Lev 6:30; 10:18 [a]Lev 5:9
4:19 [b]ver 8 [c]ver 26
4:20 [d]S Ex 29:36; S 32:30; S Ro 3:25; Heb 10:10-12 [e]ver 26,31,35; Nu 15:25
4:21 [f]S ver 12 [g]Lev 16:5,15; 2Ch 29:21
4:22 [h]Nu 31:13 [i]ver 2
4:23 [j]S ver 3; S Lev 1:10
4:24 [k]S ver 4 [l]S ver 3; Lev 6:25
4:25 [m]Lev 16:18; Eze 43:20,22 [n]Lev 9:9
4:26 [o]S Ex 32:30 [p]Lev 5:10; 12:8
4:27 [q]S ver 2
4:28 [r]Lev 5:6; Eze 40:39; 44:27 [s]S ver 3; S Lev 1:10
4:29 [t]ver 4,24 [u]S Lev 1:4 [v]S Ge 8:20
4:30 [w]S ver 7
4:31 [x]ver 35 [y]S Ge 8:21 [z]Lev 1:4 [a]S ver 20
4:32 [b]Ex 29:38; Lev 9:3; 14:10 [c]Lev 1:3
4:33 [d]Lev 1:5 [e]Lev 1:4 [f]ver 29
4:34 [g]S ver 7
4:35 [h]ver 31

he is guilty. 23When he is made aware
of the sin he committed, he must bring
as his offering a male goat[j] without de-
fect. 24He is to lay his hand on the
goat's head and slaughter it at the place
where the burnt offering is slaughtered
before the LORD.[k] It is a sin offering.[l]
25Then the priest shall take some of the
blood of the sin offering with his finger
and put it on the horns of the altar[m] of
burnt offering and pour out the rest of
the blood at the base of the altar.[n] 26He
shall burn all the fat on the altar as he
burned the fat of the fellowship offer-
ing. In this way the priest will make
atonement[o] for the man's sin, and he
will be forgiven.[p]

27" 'If a member of the community
sins unintentionally[q] and does what is
forbidden in any of the LORD's com-
mands, he is guilty. 28When he is made
aware of the sin he committed, he must
bring as his offering[r] for the sin he
committed a female goat[s] without de-
fect. 29He is to lay his hand on the
head[t] of the sin offering[u] and slaugh-
ter it at the place of the burnt offering.[v]
30Then the priest is to take some of the
blood with his finger and put it on the
horns of the altar of burnt offering[w]
and pour out the rest of the blood at
the base of the altar. 31He shall remove
all the fat, just as the fat is removed
from the fellowship offering, and the
priest shall burn it on the altar[x] as an
aroma pleasing to the LORD.[y] In this
way the priest will make atonement[z]
for him, and he will be forgiven.[a]

32" 'If he brings a lamb[b] as his sin
offering, he is to bring a female without
defect.[c] 33He is to lay his hand on its
head and slaughter it[d] for a sin offer-
ing[e] at the place where the burnt offer-
ing is slaughtered.[f] 34Then the priest
shall take some of the blood of the sin
offering with his finger and put it on
the horns of the altar of burnt offering
and pour out the rest of the blood at
the base of the altar.[g] 35He shall re-
move all the fat, just as the fat is re-
moved from the lamb of the fellowship
offering, and the priest shall burn it on
the altar[h] on top of the offerings made
to the LORD by fire. In this way the
priest will make atonement for him for
the sin he has committed, and he will
be forgiven.

[e]10 The Hebrew word can include both male and female. [f]10 Traditionally *peace offering*; also in verses 26, 31 and 35

5 [1]"'If a person sins because he does
not speak up when he hears a pub-
lic charge to testify[a] regarding some-
thing he has seen or learned about, he
will be held responsible.[b]
2"'Or if a person touches anything
ceremonially unclean—whether the
carcasses of unclean wild animals or of
unclean livestock or of unclean crea-
tures that move along the
ground[c]—even though he is unaware
of it, he has become unclean[d] and is
guilty.
3"'Or if he touches human unclean-
ness[e]—anything that would make him
unclean[f]—even though he is unaware
of it, when he learns of it he will be
guilty.
4"'Or if a person thoughtlessly takes
an oath[g] to do anything, whether good
or evil[h]—in any matter one might care-
lessly swear about—even though he is
unaware of it, in any case when he
learns of it he will be guilty.
5"'When anyone is guilty in any of
these ways, he must confess[i] in what
way he has sinned 6and, as a penalty
for the sin he has committed, he must
bring to the LORD a female lamb or
goat[j] from the flock as a sin offering;[k]
and the priest shall make atonement[l]
for him for his sin.
7"'If he cannot afford[m] a lamb,[n] he is
to bring two doves or two young pi-
geons[o] to the LORD as a penalty for his
sin—one for a sin offering and the
other for a burnt offering. 8He is to
bring them to the priest, who shall first
offer the one for the sin offering. He is
to wring its head from its neck,[p] not
severing it completely,[q] 9and is to
sprinkle[r] some of the blood of the sin
offering against the side of the altar;[s]
the rest of the blood must be drained
out at the base of the altar.[t] It is a sin
offering. 10The priest shall then offer
the other as a burnt offering in the pre-
scribed way[u] and make atonement[v]
for him for the sin he has committed,
and he will be forgiven.[w]
11"'If, however, he cannot afford[x]
two doves or two young pigeons,[y] he
is to bring as an offering for his sin a
tenth of an ephah[g][z] of fine flour[a] for a
sin offering. He must not put oil or in-
cense on it, because it is a sin offering.
12He is to bring it to the priest, who
shall take a handful of it as a memorial
portion[b] and burn it on the altar[c] on
top of the offerings made to the LORD
by fire. It is a sin offering. 13In this way
the priest will make atonement[d] for
him for any of these sins he has com-
mitted, and he will be forgiven. The
rest of the offering will belong to the
priest,[e] as in the case of the grain offer-
ing.[f]'"

The Guilt Offering

14The LORD said to Moses: 15"When a
person commits a violation and sins
unintentionally[g] in regard to any of the
LORD's holy things, he is to bring to the
LORD as a penalty[h] a ram[i] from the
flock, one without defect and of the
proper value in silver, according to the
sanctuary shekel.[h][j] It is a guilt offer-
ing.[k] 16He must make restitution[l] for
what he has failed to do in regard to
the holy things, add a fifth of the
value[m] to that and give it all to the
priest, who will make atonement for
him with the ram as a guilt offering,
and he will be forgiven.
17"If a person sins and does what is
forbidden in any of the LORD's com-
mands, even though he does not know
it,[n] he is guilty and will be held re-
sponsible.[o] 18He is to bring to the
priest as a guilt offering[p] a ram from
the flock, one without defect and of the
proper value. In this way the priest will
make atonement for him for the wrong
he has committed unintentionally, and
he will be forgiven.[q] 19It is a guilt offer-
ing; he has been guilty of[i] wrongdoing
against the LORD."[r]

6 The LORD said to Moses: 2"If anyone
sins and is unfaithful to the LORD[s]
by deceiving his neighbor[t] about
something entrusted to him or left in
his care[u] or stolen, or if he cheats[v]
him, 3or if he finds lost property and
lies about it,[w] or if he swears falsely,[x]
or if he commits any such sin that
people may do— 4when he thus sins
and becomes guilty, he must return[y]
what he has stolen or taken by extor-
tion, or what was entrusted to him, or
the lost property he found, 5or what-
ever it was he swore falsely about. He
must make restitution[z] in full, add a
fifth of the value to it and give it all to
the owner on the day he presents his
guilt offering.[a] 6And as a penalty he
must bring to the priest, that is, to the
LORD, his guilt offering,[b] a ram from
the flock, one without defect and of the
proper value.[c] 7In this way the priest

5:1 [a] Pr 29:24; Mt 26:63 [b] ver 17; S Ex 28:38; Lev 7:18; 17:16; 19:8; 20:17; 24:15; Nu 5:31; 9:13; 15:31; 19:20; 30:15
5:2 [c] Lev 11:11, 24-40; Dt 14:8; Isa 52:11 [d] ver 3; Lev 7:21; 11:8, 24; 13:45; Nu 19:22; Job 15:16; Ps 51:5; Isa 6:5; 64:6; Eze 36:17; Hag 2:13
5:3 [e] Nu 19:11-16 [f] Lev 7:20; 11:25; 14:19; 21:1; Nu 5:2; 9:6; 19:7; Eze 44:25
5:4 [g] Nu 30:6,8 [h] Isa 41:23
5:5 [i] Lev 16:21; 26:40; Nu 5:7; Jos 7:19; 1Ki 8:47; Pr 28:13
5:6 [j] S Lev 1:10; S 4:3 [k] S Lev 4:28 [l] S Ex 32:30
5:7 [m] ver 11; Lev 12:8; 14:21; 27:8 [n] Lev 12:8; 14:22,30 [o] S Ge 15:9; Nu 6:10
5:8 [p] Lev 1:15 [q] Lev 1:17
5:9 [r] S Ex 24:6 [s] Lev 1:15 [t] S Lev 4:7
5:10 [u] Lev 1:14-17; 1Ch 15:13 [v] S Ex 32:30 [w] S Lev 4:26
5:11 [x] S ver 7 [y] S Ge 15:9 [z] S Ex 16:36 [a] S Lev 2:1
5:12 [b] S Lev 2:2 [c] Lev 2:9
5:13 [d] S Ex 32:30 [e] Lev 2:3 [f] S Ex 29:41
5:15 [g] S Lev 4:2 [h] Lev 22:14 [i] S Ex 29:3; Lev 6:6; Nu 5:8; 6:14; 15:6; 28:11 [j] S Ex 30:13 [k] ver 16,18; Lev 6:5,6; 7:1,6-10,7; 14:12-17; 19:21, 22; Nu 6:12; 18:9; 1Sa 6:3; Ezr 10:19; Isa 53:10
5:16 [l] Lev 6:4 [m] ver 15; Lev 27:13; Nu 5:7
5:17 [n] ver 15 [o] S ver 1
5:18 [p] Lev 6:6; 14:12 [q] S ver 15
5:19 [r] 2Ki 12:16
6:2 [s] Nu 5:6; Ps 73:27; Ac 5:4; Col 3:9 [t] Lev 19:11; Jer 9:4,5 [u] S Ex 22:7 [v] S Ge 31:7
6:3 [w] S Ex 23:4 [x] S Ex 22:11
6:4 [y] Lev 5:16; Eze 33:15; S Lk 19:8
6:5 [z] Nu 5:7 [a] S Lev 5:15
6:6 [b] S Lev 5:15 [c] Nu 5:8

[g]11 That is, probably about 2 quarts (about 2 liters)
[h]15 That is, about 2/5 ounce (about 11.5 grams)
[i]19 Or *has made full expiation for his*

will make atonement[a] for him before
the LORD, and he will be forgiven for
any of these things he did that made
him guilty."

The Burnt Offering

8The LORD said to Moses: 9"Give
Aaron and his sons this command:
'These are the regulations for the burnt
offering[b]: The burnt offering is to re-
main on the altar hearth throughout
the night, till morning, and the fire
must be kept burning on the altar.[c]
10The priest shall then put on his linen
clothes,[d] with linen undergarments
next to his body,[e] and shall remove the
ashes[f] of the burnt offering that the
fire has consumed on the altar and
place them beside the altar. 11Then he
is to take off these clothes and put on
others, and carry the ashes outside the
camp to a place that is ceremonially
clean.[g] 12The fire on the altar must be
kept burning; it must not go out. Every
morning the priest is to add firewood[h]
and arrange the burnt offering on the
fire and burn the fat[i] of the fellowship
offerings[j][i] on it. 13The fire must be
kept burning on the altar continuously;
it must not go out.

The Grain Offering

14" 'These are the regulations for the
grain offering:[k] Aaron's sons are to
bring it before the LORD, in front of the
altar. 15The priest is to take a handful of
fine flour and oil, together with all the
incense[l] on the grain offering,[m] and
burn the memorial portion[n] on the al-
tar as an aroma pleasing to the LORD.
16Aaron and his sons[o] shall eat the
rest[p] of it, but it is to be eaten without
yeast[q] in a holy place;[r] they are to eat
it in the courtyard[s] of the Tent of Meet-
ing.[t] 17It must not be baked with yeast;
I have given it as their share[u] of the
offerings made to me by fire.[v] Like the
sin offering and the guilt offering, it is
most holy.[w] 18Any male descendant of
Aaron may eat it.[x] It is his regular
share[y] of the offerings made to the
LORD by fire for the generations to
come.[z] Whatever touches them will
become holy.[k][a]' "

19The LORD also said to Moses,
20"This is the offering Aaron and his
sons are to bring to the LORD on the day
he[l] is anointed:[b] a tenth of an
ephah[m][c] of fine flour[d] as a regular
grain offering,[e] half of it in the morn-
ing and half in the evening. 21Prepare it
with oil on a griddle;[f] bring it well-
mixed and present the grain offering
broken[n] in pieces as an aroma pleasing
to the LORD. 22The son who is to suc-
ceed him as anointed priest[g] shall pre-
pare it. It is the LORD's regular share
and is to be burned completely.[h]
23Every grain offering of a priest shall
be burned completely; it must not be
eaten."

The Sin Offering

24The LORD said to Moses, 25"Say to
Aaron and his sons: 'These are the
regulations for the sin offering:[i] The
sin offering is to be slaughtered before
the LORD[j] in the place[k] the burnt offer-
ing is slaughtered; it is most holy. 26The
priest who offers it shall eat it; it is to be
eaten in a holy place,[l] in the court-
yard[m] of the Tent of Meeting.[n] 27What-
ever touches any of the flesh will
become holy,[o] and if any of the blood
is spattered on a garment, you must
wash it in a holy place. 28The clay pot[p]
the meat is cooked in must be broken;
but if it is cooked in a bronze pot, the
pot is to be scoured and rinsed with
water. 29Any male in a priest's family
may eat it;[q] it is most holy.[r] 30But any
sin offering whose blood is brought
into the Tent of Meeting to make atone-
ment[s] in the Holy Place[t] must not be
eaten; it must be burned.[u]

The Guilt Offering

7 " 'These are the regulations for the
guilt offering,[v] which is most holy:
2The guilt offering is to be slaughtered
in the place where the burnt offering is
slaughtered, and its blood is to be
sprinkled against the altar on all sides.
3All its fat[w] shall be offered: the fat tail
and the fat that covers the inner parts,
4both kidneys with the fat on them
near the loins, and the covering of the
liver, which is to be removed with the
kidneys.[x] 5The priest shall burn them
on the altar[y] as an offering made to the
LORD by fire. It is a guilt offering. 6Any
male in a priest's family may eat it,[z]
but it must be eaten in a holy place; it is
most holy.[a]

7" 'The same law applies to both the
sin offering[b] and the guilt offering:[c]
They belong to the priest[d] who makes
atonement with them.[e] 8The priest
who offers a burnt offering for anyone

6:7 [a]S Ex 32:30 **6:9** [b]Lev 7:37 [c]ver 12 **6:10** [d]S Ex 39:27 [e]Ex 28:39-42,43; 39:28 [f]S Lev 1:16 **6:11** [g]S Lev 4:12 **6:12** [h]S Lev 1:7 [i]S Ex 29:13 [j]S Ex 32:6 **6:14** [k]S Lev 2:1; Nu 6:15; 15:4; 28:13 **6:15** [l]S Lev 2:1 [m]Lev 2:9 [n]S Lev 2:2 **6:16** [o]S Lev 2:3 [p]Eze 44:29 [q]S Lev 2:11 [r]ver 26; S Ex 29:11; Lev 10:13; 16:24; 24:9; Nu 18:10 [s]S Ex 27:9 [t]Ex 29:31; Lev 8:31 **6:17** [u]Nu 5:9 [v]Ex 29:28; Lev 7:7; 10:16-18 [w]ver 29; Ex 40:10; Lev 10:12; 21:22; 24:9; Nu 18:9,10 **6:18** [x]ver 29; Lev 2:3; 7:6; Nu 18:9-10 [y]Nu 5:9 [z]S Ge 9:12 [a]S Ex 30:29 **6:20** [b]S Ex 28:41 [c]S Ex 16:36 [d]Nu 5:15; 28:5 [e]Ex 29:2; Lev 23:13; Nu 4:16 **6:21** [f]Lev 2:5 **6:22** [g]S Ex 28:41; S 29:30 [h]S Lev 1:9 **6:25** [i]S Ex 30:10; S Lev 4:24 [j]S Lev 1:3 [k]S Ex 29:11 **6:26** [l]S ver 16 [m]S Ex 27:9 [n]S Ex 27:21; S 40:2 **6:27** [o]S Ex 29:37; Lev 10:10; Eze 44:19; 46:20; Hag 2:12 **6:28** [p]Lev 11:33; 15:12; Nu 19:15 **6:29** [q]S ver 18 [r]S ver 17; Eze 42:13 **6:30** [s]Eze 45:15 [t]S Lev 4:18 [u]Lev 4:12 **7:1** [v]S Lev 5:15; Eze 40:39 **7:3** [w]S Ex 29:13 **7:4** [x]Lev 3:15 **7:5** [y]S Ex 29:13 **7:6** [z]S Lev 6:18 [a]Eze 42:13 **7:7** [b]S Ex 30:10 [c]S Lev 5:15 [d]ver 6; Lev 2:3; 6:17, 26; 14:13; 2Ki 12:16; 1Co 9:13; 10:18 [e]Nu 5:8

[i]12 Traditionally *peace offerings* [k]18 Or *Whoever touches them must be holy;* similarly in verse 27 [l]20 Or *each* [m]20 That is, probably about 2 quarts (about 2 liters) [n]21 The meaning of the Hebrew for this word is uncertain.

may keep its hide[a] for himself. 9Every
grain offering baked in an oven[b] or
cooked in a pan[c] or on a griddle[d] be-
longs to the priest who offers it, 10and
every grain offering, whether mixed
with oil or dry, belongs equally to all
the sons of Aaron.

The Fellowship Offering

11" 'These are the regulations for the
fellowship offering[a] a person may
present to the LORD:
12" 'If he offers it as an expression of
thankfulness, then along with this
thank offering[e] he is to offer cakes[f] of
bread made without yeast[g] and mixed
with oil, wafers[h] made without yeast
and spread with oil,[i] and cakes of fine
flour well-kneaded and mixed with oil.
13Along with his fellowship offering of
thanksgiving[j] he is to present an offer-
ing with cakes of bread made with
yeast.[k] 14He is to bring one of each
kind as an offering, a contribution to
the LORD; it belongs to the priest who
sprinkles the blood of the fellowship
offerings. 15The meat of his fellowship
offering of thanksgiving must be eaten
on the day it is offered; he must leave
none of it till morning.[l]
16" 'If, however, his offering is the re-
sult of a vow[m] or is a freewill offering,[n]
the sacrifice shall be eaten on the day
he offers it, but anything left over may
be eaten on the next day.[o] 17Any meat
of the sacrifice left over till the third
day must be burned up.[p] 18If any meat
of the fellowship offering[q] is eaten on
the third day, it will not be accepted.[r]
It will not be credited[s] to the one who
offered it, for it is impure; the person
who eats any of it will be held responsi-
ble.[t]
19" 'Meat that touches anything cere-
monially unclean must not be eaten; it
must be burned up. As for other meat,
anyone ceremonially clean may eat it.
20But if anyone who is unclean[u] eats
any meat of the fellowship offering be-
longing to the LORD, that person must
be cut off from his people.[v] 21If anyone
touches something unclean[w]—whether
human uncleanness or an unclean ani-
mal or any unclean, detestable thing—
and then eats any of the meat of the
fellowship offering belonging to the
LORD, that person must be cut off from
his people.' "

Eating Fat and Blood Forbidden

22The LORD said to Moses, 23"Say to
the Israelites: 'Do not eat any of the fat
of cattle, sheep or goats.[x] 24The fat of
an animal found dead or torn by wild
animals[y] may be used for any other
purpose, but you must not eat it.
25Anyone who eats the fat of an animal
from which an offering by fire may be[b]
made to the LORD must be cut off from
his people. 26And wherever you live,
you must not eat the blood[z] of any bird
or animal. 27If anyone eats blood,[a] that
person must be cut off from his
people.' "

The Priests' Share

28The LORD said to Moses, 29"Say to
the Israelites: 'Anyone who brings a
fellowship offering to the LORD is to
bring part of it as his sacrifice to the
LORD. 30With his own hands he is to
bring the offering made to the LORD by
fire; he is to bring the fat, together with
the breast, and wave the breast before
the LORD as a wave offering.[b] 31The
priest shall burn the fat on the altar,[c]
but the breast belongs to Aaron and his
sons.[d] 32You are to give the right thigh
of your fellowship offerings to the
priest as a contribution.[e] 33The son of
Aaron who offers the blood and the fat
of the fellowship offering shall have the
right thigh as his share. 34From the fel-
lowship offerings of the Israelites, I
have taken the breast that is waved and
the thigh[f] that is presented and have
given them to Aaron the priest and his
sons[g] as their regular share from the
Israelites.' "
35This is the portion of the offerings
made to the LORD by fire that were allot-
ted to Aaron and his sons on the day
they were presented to serve the LORD
as priests. 36On the day they were
anointed,[h] the LORD commanded that
the Israelites give this to them as their
regular share for the generations to
come.

37These, then, are the regulations for
the burnt offering,[i] the grain offer-
ing,[j] the sin offering, the guilt offer-
ing, the ordination offering[k] and the
fellowship offering, 38which the LORD
gave Moses[l] on Mount Sinai[m] on the
day he commanded the Israelites to
bring their offerings to the LORD,[n] in
the Desert of Sinai.

7:8 a Lev 1:6 **7:9** b S Lev 2:4 c Lev 2:7 d S Lev 2:5 **7:12** e ver 13,15; Lev 22:29; Ps 50:14; 54:6; 107:22; 116:17; Jer 33:11 f Jer 44:19 g Nu 6:19 h S Lev 2:4 i S Lev 2:1 **7:13** j S ver 12; S Ex 34:22 k Lev 23:17; Am 4:5 **7:15** l S Ex 12:10 **7:16** m S Ge 28:20; S Lev 1:2; Dt 23:21-23 n Ex 35:29; Lev 22:18,21; 23:38; Nu 15:3; 29:39; Dt 12:6; Ps 54:6; Eze 46:12 o Lev 19:5-8 **7:17** p Ex 12:10; Lev 19:6 **7:18** q 2Ch 33:16 r Lev 19:7 s Nu 18:27 t S Lev 5:1 **7:20** u S Lev 5:3 v S Ge 17:14; Lev 22:3-7 **7:21** w S Lev 5:2 **7:23** x Lev 17:3; Dt 14:4 **7:24** y S Ex 22:31 **7:26** z S Ge 9:4 **7:27** a S Ge 9:4 **7:30** b S Ex 29:24 **7:31** c S Ex 29:13 d S Ex 29:27 **7:32** e Ex 29:27; Lev 10:14,15; Nu 5:9; 6:20; 18:18 **7:34** f Ex 29:22; Lev 10:15; Nu 6:20; 1Sa 9:24 g S Ex 29:27 **7:36** h Lev 8:12, 30 **7:37** i Lev 6:9 j Lev 6:14 k S Ex 29:31 **7:38** l Lev 26:46; Nu 36:13; Dt 4:5; 29:1 m S Ex 19:11 n S Lev 1:2

a11 Traditionally *peace offering;* also in verses 13-37
b25 Or *fire is*

The Ordination of Aaron and His Sons

8:1-36pp — Ex 29:1-37

8 The LORD said to Moses, 2"Bring
Aaron and his sons,[a] their gar-
ments,[b] the anointing oil,[c] the bull for
the sin offering,[d] the two rams[e] and
the basket containing bread made with-
out yeast,[f] 3and gather the entire as-
sembly[g] at the entrance to the Tent of
Meeting." 4Moses did as the LORD com-
manded him, and the assembly gath-
ered at the entrance to the Tent of
Meeting.
5Moses said to the assembly, "This is
what the LORD has commanded to be
done.[h]" 6Then Moses brought Aaron
and his sons forward and washed them
with water.[i] 7He put the tunic on
Aaron, tied the sash around him,
clothed him with the robe and put the
ephod on him. He also tied the ephod
to him by its skillfully woven waist-
band; so it was fastened on him.[j] 8He
placed the breastpiece[k] on him and put
the Urim and Thummim[l] in the breast-
piece. 9Then he placed the turban[m] on
Aaron's head and set the gold plate,
the sacred diadem,[n] on the front of it,
as the LORD commanded Moses.[o]
10Then Moses took the anointing oil[p]
and anointed[q] the tabernacle[r] and
everything in it, and so consecrated
them. 11He sprinkled some of the oil on
the altar seven times, anointing the al-
tar and all its utensils and the basin
with its stand, to consecrate them.[s]
12He poured some of the anointing oil
on Aaron's head and anointed[t] him to
consecrate him.[u] 13Then he brought
Aaron's sons[v] forward, put tunics[w] on
them, tied sashes around them and put
headbands on them, as the LORD com-
manded Moses.[x]
14He then presented the bull[y] for the
sin offering,[z] and Aaron and his sons
laid their hands on its head.[a] 15Moses
slaughtered the bull and took some of
the blood,[b] and with his finger he put
it on all the horns of the altar[c] to purify
the altar.[d] He poured out the rest of
the blood at the base of the altar. So he
consecrated it to make atonement for
it.[e] 16Moses also took all the fat around
the inner parts, the covering of the liv-
er, and both kidneys and their fat, and
burned it on the altar. 17But the bull
with its hide and its flesh and its offal[f]
he burned up outside the camp,[g] as
the LORD commanded Moses.
18He then presented the ram[h] for the
burnt offering, and Aaron and his sons
laid their hands on its head. 19Then
Moses slaughtered the ram and sprin-
kled the blood against the altar on all
sides. 20He cut the ram into pieces and
burned the head, the pieces and the
fat.[i] 21He washed the inner parts and
the legs with water and burned the
whole ram on the altar as a burnt offer-
ing, a pleasing aroma, an offering
made to the LORD by fire, as the LORD
commanded Moses.
22He then presented the other ram,
the ram for the ordination,[j] and Aaron
and his sons laid their hands on its
head.[k] 23Moses slaughtered the ram
and took some of its blood and put it
on the lobe of Aaron's right ear, on the
thumb of his right hand and on the big
toe of his right foot.[l] 24Moses also
brought Aaron's sons forward and put
some of the blood on the lobes of their
right ears, on the thumbs of their right
hands and on the big toes of their right
feet. Then he sprinkled blood against
the altar on all sides.[m] 25He took the
fat[n], the fat tail, all the fat around the
inner parts, the covering of the liver,
both kidneys and their fat and the right
thigh. 26Then from the basket of bread
made without yeast, which was before
the LORD, he took a cake of bread, and
one made with oil, and a wafer;[o] he
put these on the fat portions and on the
right thigh. 27He put all these in the
hands of Aaron and his sons and
waved them before the LORD[p] as a
wave offering. 28Then Moses took them
from their hands and burned them on
the altar on top of the burnt offering as
an ordination offering, a pleasing
aroma, an offering made to the LORD by
fire. 29He also took the breast—Moses'
share of the ordination ram[q]—and
waved it before the LORD as a wave of-
fering, as the LORD commanded Moses.
30Then Moses[r] took some of the
anointing oil and some of the blood
from the altar and sprinkled them on
Aaron and his garments[s] and on his
sons and their garments. So he conse-
crated[t] Aaron and his garments and
his sons and their garments.
31Moses then said to Aaron and his
sons, "Cook the meat at the entrance to
the Tent of Meeting[u] and eat it there
with the bread from the basket of ordi-
nation offerings, as I commanded, say-
ing,[q] 'Aaron and his sons are to eat it.'
32Then burn up the rest of the meat and

8:2 [a]S Ex 28:1; S Lev 1:5 [b]Ex 28:2,4,43; S 39:27 [c]Ex 30:23-25,30 [d]S Ex 30:10 [e]ver 18,22 [f]Ex 29:2-3 **8:3** [g]Nu 8:9 **8:5** [h]Ex 29:1 **8:6** [i]S Ex 29:4; S 30:19; S Ac 22:16 **8:7** [j]Ex 28:4 **8:8** [k]S Ex 25:7 [l]S Ex 28:30 **8:9** [m]S Ex 39:28 [n]S Ex 28:36 [o]S Ex 28:2; Lev 21:10 **8:10** [p]ver 2 [q]S Ex 30:26 [r]S Ex 26:1 **8:11** [s]S Ex 30:29 **8:12** [t]S Lev 7:36 [u]S Ex 30:30 **8:13** [v]S Ex 28:40 [w]S Ex 28:4,39; 39:27 [x]Lev 21:10 **8:14** [y]S Lev 4:3 [z]S Ex 30:10 [a]S Lev 4:15 **8:15** [b]S Lev 4:18 [c]S Lev 4:7 [d]Heb 9:22 [e]Eze 43:20 **8:17** [f]S Lev 4:11 [g]S Lev 4:12 **8:18** [h]S ver 2

8:20 [i]S Lev 1:8 **8:22** [j]S ver 2 [k]S Lev 4:15 **8:23** [l]Lev 14:14, 25 **8:24** [m]Heb 9:18-22 **8:25** [n]Lev 3:3-5 **8:26** [o]S Lev 2:4 **8:27** [p]Nu 5:25 **8:29** [q]Lev 7:31-34 **8:30** [r]S Ex 28:1 [s]S Ex 28:2 [t]S Lev 7:36 **8:31** [u]S Lev 6:16

[q]31 *Or I was commanded:*

the bread. 33Do not leave the entrance
to the Tent of Meeting for seven days,
until the days of your ordination are
completed, for your ordination will last
seven days.[a] 34What has been done to-
day was commanded by the LORD[b] to
make atonement for you. 35You must
stay at the entrance to the Tent of
Meeting day and night for seven days
and do what the LORD requires,[c] so you
will not die; for that is what I have been
commanded." 36So Aaron and his sons
did everything the LORD commanded
through Moses.

The Priests Begin Their Ministry

9 On the eighth day[d] Moses sum-
moned Aaron and his sons and the
elders[e] of Israel. 2He said to Aaron,
"Take a bull calf for your sin offering
and a ram for your burnt offering, both
without defect, and present them be-
fore the LORD. 3Then say to the Israel-
ites: 'Take a male goat[f] for a sin offer-
ing,[g] a calf[h] and a lamb[i]—both a year
old and without defect—for a burnt of-
fering, 4and an ox[j][a] and a ram for a
fellowship offering[b][k] to sacrifice before
the LORD, together with a grain offering
mixed with oil. For today the LORD will
appear to you.[l]' "
5They took the things Moses com-
manded to the front of the Tent of
Meeting, and the entire assembly came
near and stood before the LORD. 6Then
Moses said, "This is what the LORD has
commanded you to do, so that the
glory of the LORD[m] may appear to you."
7Moses said to Aaron, "Come to the
altar and sacrifice your sin offering and
your burnt offering and make atone-
ment for yourself and the people;[n] sac-
rifice the offering that is for the people
and make atonement for them, as the
LORD has commanded.[o]"
8So Aaron came to the altar and
slaughtered the calf as a sin offering[p]
for himself. 9His sons brought the
blood to him,[q] and he dipped his fin-
ger into the blood and put it on the
horns of the altar; the rest of the blood
he poured out at the base of the al-
tar.[r] 10On the altar he burned the fat,
the kidneys and the covering of the liv-
er from the sin offering, as the LORD
commanded Moses; 11the flesh and the
hide[t] he burned up outside the
camp.[u]
12Then he slaughtered the burnt of-
fering.[v] His sons handed him the
blood,[w] and he sprinkled it against the
altar on all sides. 13They handed him
the burnt offering piece by piece, in-
cluding the head, and he burned them
on the altar.[x] 14He washed the inner
parts and the legs and burned them on
top of the burnt offering on the altar.[y]
15Aaron then brought the offering
that was for the people.[z] He took the
goat for the people's sin offering and
slaughtered it and offered it for a sin
offering as he did with the first one.
16He brought the burnt offering and
offered it in the prescribed way.[a] 17He
also brought the grain offering, took a
handful of it and burned it on the altar
in addition to the morning's burnt of-
fering.[b]
18He slaughtered the ox and the ram
as the fellowship offering for the
people.[c] His sons handed him the
blood, and he sprinkled it against the
altar on all sides. 19But the fat portions
of the ox and the ram—the fat tail, the
layer of fat, the kidneys and the cover-
ing of the liver— 20these they laid on
the breasts, and then Aaron burned the
fat on the altar. 21Aaron waved the
breasts and the right thigh before the
LORD as a wave offering,[d] as Moses
commanded.
22Then Aaron lifted his hands toward
the people and blessed them.[e] And
having sacrificed the sin offering, the
burnt offering and the fellowship offer-
ing, he stepped down.
23Moses and Aaron then went into
the Tent of Meeting.[f] When they came
out, they blessed the people; and the
glory of the LORD[g] appeared to all the
people. 24Fire[h] came out from the pres-
ence of the LORD and consumed the
burnt offering and the fat portions on
the altar. And when all the people saw
it, they shouted for joy and fell face-
down.[i]

The Death of Nadab and Abihu

10 Aaron's sons Nadab and Abihu[j]
took their censers,[k] put fire in
them[l] and added incense;[m] and they
offered unauthorized fire before the
LORD,[n] contrary to his command.[o] 2So
fire came out[p] from the presence of the
LORD and consumed them,[q] and they
died before the LORD.[r] 3Moses then
said to Aaron, "This is what the LORD
spoke of when he said:

" 'Among those who approach me[s]
I will show myself holy;[t]

a4 The Hebrew word can include both male and female; also in verses 18 and 19. b4 Traditionally *peace offering;* also in verses 18 and 22

8:33 aLev 14:8; 15:13,28; Nu 19:11; Eze 43:25
8:34 bHeb 7:16
8:35 cLev 18:30; 22:9; Nu 3:7; 9:19; Dt 11:1; 1Ki 2:3; Eze 48:11; Zec 3:7
9:1 dEze 43:27 eS Lev 4:15
9:3 fS Lev 4:3 gver 15; Lev 10:16 hver 8 iS Lev 4:32
9:4 jLev 4:10 kS Ex 32:6 lEx 29:43
9:6 mS Ex 16:7
9:7 nLev 16:6 oS Ex 30:10; Heb 5:1,3; 7:27
9:8 pLev 4:1-12; 10:19
9:9 qver 12,18 rS Ex 29:12 sEze 43:20
9:11 tS Lev 4:11 uS Lev 4:12
9:12 vLev 10:19 wS ver 9
9:13 xS Lev 1:8
9:14 yS Lev 1:9
9:15 zLev 4:27-31
9:16 aLev 1:1-13
9:17 bLev 3:5
9:18 cLev 3:1-11
9:21 dS Ex 29:24,26
9:22 eS Ge 48:20; S Ex 39:43; Lk 24:50
9:23 fS Ex 40:2 gS Ex 24:16
9:24 hS Ex 19:18; Jdg 6:21; 13:20 i1Ki 18:39
10:1 jEx 6:23; 24:1; 28:1; Nu 3:2-4; 26:61; 1Ch 6:3 kNu 16:46; 1Ki 7:50; 2Ki 25:15; 2Ch 4:22; Jer 52:19; Eze 8:11 lLev 16:12; Nu 16:7,18; Isa 6:6 mS Ex 30:9 nver 2; Lev 16:1 oEx 30:9
10:2 pPs 106:18 qNu 11:1; 16:35; Ps 2:12; 50:3; Isa 29:6 rS Ge 19:24; S 38:7; Nu 16:35; 1Ch 24:2; Job 1:16
10:3 sEx 19:22 tEx 30:29; Lev 21:6; 22:32; Nu 16:5; 20:13; Isa 5:16; Eze 28:22; 38:16

in the sight of all the people
I will be honored.[a]' "

Aaron remained silent.
4 Moses summoned Mishael and El-
zaphan,[b] sons of Aaron's uncle Uzzi-
el,[c] and said to them, "Come here; car-
ry your cousins outside the camp,[d]
away from the front of the sanctu-
ary.[e]" 5 So they came and carried them,
still in their tunics,[f] outside the camp,
as Moses ordered.
6 Then Moses said to Aaron and his
sons Eleazar and Ithamar,[g] "Do not let
your hair become unkempt,[t][h] and do
not tear your clothes,[i] or you will die
and the LORD will be angry with the
whole community.[j] But your relatives,
all the house of Israel, may mourn[k] for
those the LORD has destroyed by fire.
7 Do not leave the entrance to the Tent
of Meeting[l] or you will die, because
the LORD's anointing oil[m] is on you." So
they did as Moses said.
8 Then the LORD said to Aaron, 9 "You
and your sons are not to drink wine[n]
or other fermented drink[o] whenever
you go into the Tent of Meeting, or you
will die. This is a lasting ordinance[p] for
the generations to come. 10 You must
distinguish between the holy and the
common, between the unclean and the
clean,[q] 11 and you must teach[r] the Isra-
elites all the decrees the LORD has given
them through Moses.[s]"
12 Moses said to Aaron and his re-
maining sons, Eleazar and Ithamar,
"Take the grain offering[t] left over from
the offerings made to the LORD by fire
and eat it prepared without yeast be-
side the altar,[u] for it is most holy. 13 Eat
it in a holy place,[v] because it is your
share and your sons' share of the offer-
ings made to the LORD by fire; for so I
have been commanded.[w] 14 But you and
your sons and your daughters may eat
the breast[x] that was waved and the
thigh that was presented. Eat them in a
ceremonially clean place;[y] they have
been given to you and your children as
your share of the Israelites' fellowship
offerings.[a] 15 The thigh[z] that was
presented and the breast that was
waved must be brought with the fat
portions of the offerings made by fire,
to be waved before the LORD as a wave
offering.[a] This will be the regular share
for you and your children, as the LORD
has commanded."
16 When Moses inquired about the
goat of the sin offering[b] and found that
it had been burned up, he was angry

10:3 [a]Ex 14:4; Isa 44:23; 49:3; 55:5; 60:21
10:4 [b]S Ex 6:22 [c]Ex 6:18 [d]Ac 5:6, 9,10 [e]S Ex 25:8
10:5 [f]S Lev 8:13
10:6 [g]S Ex 6:23 [h]Lev 13:45; 21:10; Nu 5:18 [i]Jer 41:5; S Mk 14:63 [j]Nu 1:53; 16:22; Jos 7:1; 22:18 [k]Ge 50:3,10; Nu 20:29; 1Sa 25:1
10:7 [l]S Ex 25:8 [m]S Ex 28:41
10:9 [n]Ge 9:21; Ex 29:40; Lev 23:13; Nu 15:5; Dt 28:39; Isa 5:22; 22:13; 28:1; 29:9; 56:12; Jer 35:6; Hos 4:11; Hab 2:15-16 [o]Nu 6:3; 28:7; Dt 14:26; 29:6; Jdg 13:4; Pr 20:1; 23:29-35; 31:4-7; Isa 28:7; Eze 44:21; Mic 2:11; Lk 1:15; S Eph 5:18; 1Ti 3:3; Tit 1:7 [p]S Ex 12:14
10:10 [q]S Ge 7:2; S Lev 6:27; 14:57; 20:25; Eze 22:26
10:11 [r]2Ch 15:3; 17:7; Ezr 7:25; Ne 8:7; Mal 2:7 [s]Dt 17:10,11; 24:8; 25:1; 33:10; Pr 4:27; Hag 2:11; Mal 2:7
10:12 [t]S Ex 29:41 [u]Lev 6:14-18
10:13 [v]S Lev 6:16 [w]Eze 42:13
10:14 [x]Nu 5:9 [y]S Ex 29:31; S Lev 4:12
10:15 [z]S Lev 7:34 [a]S Ex 29:28
10:16 [b]S Lev 9:3
10:17 [c]Lev 6:24-30; Eze 42:13 [d]S Ex 28:38
10:18 [e]S Lev 4:18; 6:26 [f]S Lev 6:17
10:19 [g]Lev 9:12
11:2 [h]Ac 10:12-14
11:4 [i]Ac 10:14
11:7 [j]Isa 65:4; 66:3,17
11:8 [k]S Lev 5:2; Heb 9:10
11:10 [l]ver 12
11:11 [m]S Lev 5:2
11:12 [n]ver 10

with Eleazar and Ithamar, Aaron's re-
maining sons, and asked, 17 "Why
didn't you eat the sin offering[c] in the
sanctuary area? It is most holy; it was
given to you to take away the guilt[d] of
the community by making atonement
for them before the LORD. 18 Since its
blood was not taken into the Holy
Place,[e] you should have eaten the goat
in the sanctuary area, as I com-
manded.[f]"
19 Aaron replied to Moses, "Today
they sacrificed their sin offering and
their burnt offering[g] before the LORD,
but such things as this have happened
to me. Would the LORD have been
pleased if I had eaten the sin offering
today?" 20 When Moses heard this, he
was satisfied.

Clean and Unclean Food

11:1-23pp — Dt 14:3-20

11 The LORD said to Moses and
Aaron, 2 "Say to the Israelites:
'Of all the animals that live on land,
these are the ones you may eat:[h] 3 You
may eat any animal that has a split hoof
completely divided and that chews the
cud.
4 " 'There are some that only chew
the cud or only have a split hoof, but
you must not eat them.[i] The camel,
though it chews the cud, does not have
a split hoof; it is ceremonially unclean
for you. 5 The coney,[v] though it chews
the cud, does not have a split hoof; it is
unclean for you. 6 The rabbit, though it
chews the cud, does not have a split
hoof; it is unclean for you. 7 And the
pig,[j] though it has a split hoof com-
pletely divided, does not chew the cud;
it is unclean for you. 8 You must not eat
their meat or touch their carcasses; they
are unclean for you.[k]
9 " 'Of all the creatures living in the
water of the seas and the streams, you
may eat any that have fins and scales.
10 But all creatures in the seas or streams
that do not have fins and scales—
whether among all the swarming
things or among all the other living
creatures in the water—you are to de-
test.[l] 11 And since you are to detest
them, you must not eat their meat and
you must detest their carcasses.[m]
12 Anything living in the water that does
not have fins and scales is to be detest-
able to you.[n]
13 " 'These are the birds you are to de-

[t]6 Or *Do not uncover your heads*   [a]14 Traditionally *peace offerings*   [v]5 That is, the hyrax or rock badger

test and not eat because they are de-
testable: the eagle, the vulture, the
black vulture, 14the red kite, any kind[a]
of black kite, 15any kind of raven,[b]
16the horned owl, the screech owl, the
gull, any kind of hawk, 17the little owl,
the cormorant, the great owl, 18the
white owl,[c] the desert owl, the osprey,
19the stork,[d] any kind[e] of heron, the
hoopoe and the bat.[w][f]

20" 'All flying insects that walk on all
fours are to be detestable to you.[g]
21There are, however, some winged
creatures that walk on all fours that
you may eat: those that have jointed
legs for hopping on the ground. 22Of
these you may eat any kind of locust,[h]
katydid, cricket or grasshopper. 23But
all other winged creatures that have
four legs you are to detest.

24" 'You will make yourselves un-
clean by these;[i] whoever touches their
carcasses will be unclean till evening.[j]
25Whoever picks up one of their car-
casses must wash his clothes,[k] and he
will be unclean till evening.[l]

26" 'Every animal that has a split hoof
not completely divided or that does not
chew the cud is unclean for you; who-
ever touches the carcass of any of
them will be unclean. 27Of all the ani-
mals that walk on all fours, those that
walk on their paws are unclean for you;
whoever touches their carcasses will be
unclean till evening. 28Anyone who
picks up their carcasses must wash his
clothes, and he will be unclean till eve-
ning.[m] They are unclean for you.

29" 'Of the animals that move about
on the ground, these are unclean for
you:[n] the weasel, the rat,[o] any kind of
great lizard, 30the gecko, the monitor
lizard, the wall lizard, the skink and
the chameleon. 31Of all those that move
along the ground, these are unclean for
you. Whoever touches them when they
are dead will be unclean till evening.
32When one of them dies and falls on
something, that article, whatever its
use, will be unclean, whether it is
made of wood, cloth, hide or sack-
cloth.[p] Put it in water; it will be un-
clean till evening, and then it will be
clean. 33If one of them falls into a clay
pot, everything in it will be unclean,
and you must break the pot.[q] 34Any
food that could be eaten but has water
on it from such a pot is unclean, and
any liquid that could be drunk from it
is unclean. 35Anything that one of their
carcasses falls on becomes unclean; an
oven or cooking pot must be broken
up. They are unclean, and you are to
regard them as unclean. 36A spring,
however, or a cistern for collecting
water remains clean, but anyone who
touches one of these carcasses is un-
clean. 37If a carcass falls on any seeds
that are to be planted, they remain
clean. 38But if water has been put on
the seed and a carcass falls on it, it is
unclean for you.

39" 'If an animal that you are allowed
to eat dies,[r] anyone who touches the
carcass[s] will be unclean till evening.
40Anyone who eats some of the car-
cass[t] must wash his clothes, and he
will be unclean till evening.[u] Anyone
who picks up the carcass must wash
his clothes, and he will be unclean till
evening.

41" 'Every creature that moves about
on the ground is detestable; it is not to
be eaten. 42You are not to eat any crea-
ture that moves about on the ground,
whether it moves on its belly or walks
on all fours or on many feet; it is detest-
able. 43Do not defile yourselves by any
of these creatures.[v] Do not make your-
selves unclean by means of them or be
made unclean by them. 44I am the LORD
your God;[w] consecrate yourselves[x]
and be holy,[y] because I am holy.[z] Do
not make yourselves unclean by any
creature that moves about on the
ground.[a] 45I am the LORD who brought
you up out of Egypt[b] to be your
God;[c] therefore be holy, because I am
holy.[d]

46" 'These are the regulations con-
cerning animals, birds, every living
thing that moves in the water and
every creature that moves about on the
ground. 47You must distinguish be-
tween the unclean and the clean, be-
tween living creatures that may be eat-
en and those that may not be eaten.[e] ' "

Purification After Childbirth

12 The LORD said to Moses, 2"Say to
the Israelites: 'A woman who
becomes pregnant and gives birth to a
son will be ceremonially unclean for
seven days, just as she is unclean dur-
ing her monthly period.[f] 3On the
eighth day[g] the boy is to be circum-
cised.[h] 4Then the woman must wait
thirty-three days to be purified from
her bleeding. She must not touch any-
thing sacred or go to the sanctuary un-

11:14 [a]S Ge 1:11
11:15 [b]S Ge 8:7
11:18 [c]Isa 13:21; 14:23; 34:11,13; Zep 2:14
11:19 [d]Zec 5:9 [e]S Ge 1:11 [f]Isa 2:20
11:20 [g]Ac 10:14
11:22 [h]Mt 3:4; Mk 1:6
11:24 [i]S Lev 5:2 [j]ver 27-40; Lev 13:3; 14:46; 15:5; 22:6; Nu 19:7,19
11:25 [k]ver 28; S Ex 19:10; Lev 13:6; 14:8, 47; 15:5; 16:26; Nu 8:7; 19:7 [l]Lev 13:34; Nu 19:8; 31:24
11:28 [m]Heb 9:10
11:29 [n]ver 41 [o]Isa 66:17
11:32 [p]Lev 15:12; Nu 19:18; 31:20
11:33 [q]S Lev 6:28
11:39 [r]Lev 17:15; 22:8; Dt 14:21; Eze 4:14; 44:31 [s]ver 40; Lev 22:4; Nu 19:11
11:40 [t]S ver 39 [u]ver 25; Lev 14:8; 17:15; 22:8; Eze 44:31; Heb 9:10
11:43 [v]ver 44; Lev 20:25; 22:5
11:44 [w]S Ex 6:2,7; 20:2; Isa 43:3; 51:15; Eze 20:5 [x]S Ex 19:10; Lev 20:7; Nu 15:40; Jos 3:5; 7:13; 1Ch 15:12; 2Ch 29:5; 35:6 [y]S Ex 22:31; S Dt 14:2 [z]S Ex 31:13; Lev 19:2; 20:7; Jos 24:19; 1Sa 2:2; Job 6:10; Ps 99:3; Eph 1:4; 1Th 4:7; 1Pe 1:15,16* [a]S ver 43
11:45 [b]Lev 25:38,55 [c]S Ge 17:7 [d]S Ex 19:6; 1Pe 1:16*
11:47 [e]Lev 10:10
12:2 [f]Lev 15:19; 18:19; Isa 64:6; Eze 18:6; 22:10; 36:17
12:3 [g]S Ex 22:30 [h]S Ge 17:10; S Lk 1:59

[w]19 The precise identification of some of the birds, insects and animals in this chapter is uncertain.

til the days of her purification are over. 5If she gives birth to a daughter, for two weeks the woman will be unclean, as during her period. Then she must wait sixty-six days to be purified from her bleeding.

6" 'When the days of her purification for a son or daughter are over,[a] she is to bring to the priest at the entrance to the Tent of Meeting a year-old lamb[b] for a burnt offering and a young pigeon or a dove for a sin offering.[c] 7He shall offer them before the LORD to make atonement for her, and then she will be ceremonially clean from her flow of blood.

" 'These are the regulations for the woman who gives birth to a boy or a girl. 8If she cannot afford a lamb, she is to bring two doves or two young pigeons,[d] one for a burnt offering and the other for a sin offering.[e] In this way the priest will make atonement for her, and she will be clean.[f] ' "

Regulations About Infectious Skin Diseases

13 The LORD said to Moses and Aaron, 2"When anyone has a swelling[g] or a rash or a bright spot[h] on his skin that may become an infectious skin disease,[x][i] he must be brought to Aaron the priest[j] or to one of his sons[y] who is a priest. 3The priest is to examine the sore on his skin, and if the hair in the sore has turned white and the sore appears to be more than skin deep,[z] it is an infectious skin disease. When the priest examines him, he shall pronounce him ceremonially unclean.[k] 4If the spot[l] on his skin is white but does not appear to be more than skin deep and the hair in it has not turned white, the priest is to put the infected person in isolation for seven days.[m] 5On the seventh day[n] the priest is to examine him,[o] and if he sees that the sore is unchanged and has not spread in the skin, he is to keep him in isolation another seven days. 6On the seventh day the priest is to examine him again, and if the sore has faded and has not spread in the skin, the priest shall pronounce him clean;[p] it is only a rash. The man must wash his clothes,[q] and he will be clean.[r] 7But if the rash does spread in his skin after he has shown himself to the priest to be pronounced clean, he must appear before the priest again.[s] 8The priest is to examine him, and if the rash has spread in the skin, he shall pronounce him unclean; it is an infectious disease.

9"When anyone has an infectious skin disease, he must be brought to the priest. 10The priest is to examine him, and if there is a white swelling in the skin that has turned the hair white and if there is raw flesh in the swelling, 11it is a chronic skin disease[t] and the priest shall pronounce him unclean. He is not to put him in isolation, because he is already unclean.

12"If the disease breaks out all over his skin and, so far as the priest can see, it covers all the skin of the infected person from head to foot, 13the priest is to examine him, and if the disease has covered his whole body, he shall pronounce that person clean. Since it has all turned white, he is clean. 14But whenever raw flesh appears on him, he will be unclean. 15When the priest sees the raw flesh, he shall pronounce him unclean. The raw flesh is unclean; he has an infectious disease.[u] 16Should the raw flesh change and turn white, he must go to the priest. 17The priest is to examine him, and if the sores have turned white, the priest shall pronounce the infected person clean;[v] then he will be clean.

18"When someone has a boil[w] on his skin and it heals, 19and in the place where the boil was, a white swelling or reddish-white[x] spot[y] appears, he must present himself to the priest. 20The priest is to examine it, and if it appears to be more than skin deep and the hair in it has turned white, the priest shall pronounce him unclean. It is an infectious skin disease[z] that has broken out where the boil was. 21But if, when the priest examines it, there is no white hair in it and it is not more than skin deep and has faded, then the priest is to put him in isolation for seven days. 22If it is spreading in the skin, the priest shall pronounce him unclean; it is infectious. 23But if the spot is unchanged and has not spread, it is only a scar from the boil, and the priest shall pronounce him clean.[a]

24"When someone has a burn on his skin and a reddish-white or white spot appears in the raw flesh of the burn, 25the priest is to examine the spot, and if the hair in it has turned white, and it

12:6 [a] Lk 2:22 [b] Ex 29:38; Lev 23:12; Nu 6:12,14; 7:15 [c] Lev 5:7 **12:8** [d] S Ge 15:9; Lev 14:22 [e] Lev 5:7; Lk 2:22-24* [f] S Lev 4:26 **13:2** [g] ver 10,19,28,43 [h] ver 4,38,39; Lev 14:56 [i] ver 3,9,15; S Ex 4:6; Lev 14:3,32; Nu 5:2; Dt 24:8 [j] Dt 24:8 **13:3** [k] ver 8,11,20,30; Lev 21:1; Nu 9:6 **13:4** [l] S ver 2 [m] ver 5,21,26,33,46; Lev 14:38; Nu 12:14,15; Dt 24:9 **13:5** [n] Lev 14:9 [o] ver 27,32,34,51 **13:6** [p] ver 13,17,23,28,34; Mt 8:3; Lk 5:12-14 [q] S Lev 11:25 [r] Lev 11:25; 14:8,9,20,48; 15:8; Nu 8:7 **13:7** [s] Lk 5:14 **13:11** [t] S Ex 4:6; S Lev 14:8; S Nu 12:10; Mt 8:2 **13:15** [u] S ver 2 **13:17** [v] S ver 6 **13:18** [w] S Ex 9:9 **13:19** [x] ver 24,42; Lev 14:37 [y] S ver 2 **13:20** [z] ver 2 **13:23** [a] S ver 6

[x]2 Traditionally *leprosy;* the Hebrew word was used for various diseases affecting the skin—not necessarily leprosy; also elsewhere in this chapter. [y]2 Or *descendants* [z]3 Or *be lower than the rest of the skin;* also elsewhere in this chapter

appears to be more than skin deep, it is an infectious disease that has broken out in the burn. The priest shall pronounce him unclean; it is an infectious skin disease.[a] [26]But if the priest examines it and there is no white hair in the spot and if it is not more than skin deep and has faded, then the priest is to put him in isolation for seven days.[b] [27]On the seventh day the priest is to examine him,[c] and if it is spreading in the skin, the priest shall pronounce him unclean; it is an infectious skin disease. [28]If, however, the spot is unchanged and has not spread in the skin but has faded, it is a swelling from the burn, and the priest shall pronounce him clean; it is only a scar from the burn.[d]

[29]"If a man or woman has a sore on the head[e] or on the chin, [30]the priest is to examine the sore, and if it appears to be more than skin deep and the hair in it is yellow and thin, the priest shall pronounce that person unclean; it is an itch, an infectious disease of the head or chin. [31]But if, when the priest examines this kind of sore, it does not seem to be more than skin deep and there is no black hair in it, then the priest is to put the infected person in isolation for seven days.[f] [32]On the seventh day the priest is to examine the sore,[g] and if the itch has not spread and there is no yellow hair in it and it does not appear to be more than skin deep, [33]he must be shaved except for the diseased area, and the priest is to keep him in isolation another seven days. [34]On the seventh day the priest is to examine the itch,[h] and if it has not spread in the skin and appears to be no more than skin deep, the priest shall pronounce him clean. He must wash his clothes, and he will be clean.[i] [35]But if the itch does spread in the skin after he is pronounced clean, [36]the priest is to examine him, and if the itch has spread in the skin, the priest does not need to look for yellow hair; the person is unclean.[j] [37]If, however, in his judgment it is unchanged and black hair has grown in it, the itch is healed. He is clean, and the priest shall pronounce him clean.

[38]"When a man or woman has white spots on the skin, [39]the priest is to examine them, and if the spots are dull white, it is a harmless rash that has broken out on the skin; that person is clean.

[40]"When a man has lost his hair and is bald,[k] he is clean. [41]If he has lost his hair from the front of his scalp and has a bald forehead, he is clean. [42]But if he has a reddish-white sore on his bald head or forehead, it is an infectious disease breaking out on his head or forehead. [43]The priest is to examine him, and if the swollen sore on his head or forehead is reddish-white like an infectious skin disease, [44]the man is diseased and is unclean. The priest shall pronounce him unclean because of the sore on his head.

[45]"The person with such an infectious disease must wear torn clothes,[l] let his hair be unkempt,[a] cover the lower part of his face[m] and cry out, 'Unclean! Unclean!'[n] [46]As long as he has the infection he remains unclean. He must live alone; he must live outside the camp.[o]

Regulations About Mildew

[47]"If any clothing is contaminated with mildew—any woolen or linen clothing, [48]any woven or knitted material of linen or wool, any leather or anything made of leather— [49]and if the contamination in the clothing, or leather, or woven or knitted material, or any leather article, is greenish or reddish, it is a spreading mildew and must be shown to the priest.[p] [50]The priest is to examine the mildew[q] and isolate the affected article for seven days. [51]On the seventh day he is to examine it,[r] and if the mildew has spread in the clothing, or the woven or knitted material, or the leather, whatever its use, it is a destructive mildew; the article is unclean.[s] [52]He must burn up the clothing, or the woven or knitted material of wool or linen, or any leather article that has the contamination in it, because the mildew is destructive; the article must be burned up.[t]

[53]"But if, when the priest examines it, the mildew has not spread in the clothing, or the woven or knitted material, or the leather article, [54]he shall order that the contaminated article be washed. Then he is to isolate it for another seven days. [55]After the affected article has been washed, the priest is to examine it, and if the mildew has not changed its appearance, even though it has not spread, it is unclean. Burn it with fire, whether the mildew has affected one side or the other. [56]If, when the priest examines it, the mildew has faded after the article has been washed,

13:25 [a]ver 11 **13:26** [b]S ver 4 **13:27** [c]S ver 5 **13:28** [d]S ver 2 **13:29** [e]ver 43, 44 **13:31** [f]ver 4 **13:32** [g]S ver 5 **13:34** [h]S ver 5 [i]S Lev 11:25 **13:36** [j]ver 30 **13:40** [k]Lev 21:5; 2Ki 2:23; Isa 3:24; 15:2; 22:12; Eze 27:31; 29:18; Am 8:10; Mic 1:16

13:45 [l]S Lev 10:6 [m]Eze 24:17,22; Mic 3:7 [n]S Lev 5:2; La 4:15; Lk 17:12 **13:46** [o]Nu 5:1-4; 12:14; 2Ki 7:3; 15:5 **13:49** [p]Mk 1:44 **13:50** [q]Eze 44:23 **13:51** [r]S ver 5 [s]Lev 14:44 **13:52** [t]ver 55, 57

[a]45 Or *clothes, uncover his head*

he is to tear the contaminated part out
of the clothing, or the leather, or the
woven or knitted material. 57But if it
reappears in the clothing, or in the wo-
ven or knitted material, or in the leath-
er article, it is spreading, and whatever
has the mildew must be burned with
fire. 58The clothing, or the woven or
knitted material, or any leather article
that has been washed and is rid of the
mildew, must be washed again, and it
will be clean."

59These are the regulations concern-
ing contamination by mildew in wool-
en or linen clothing, woven or knitted
material, or any leather article, for pro-
nouncing them clean or unclean.

Cleansing From Infectious Skin Diseases

14 The LORD said to Moses, 2"These
are the regulations for the
diseased person at the time of his
ceremonial cleansing, when he is
brought to the priest:[a] 3The priest is to
go outside the camp and examine
him.[b] If the person has been healed of
his infectious skin disease,[b][c] 4the
priest shall order that two live clean
birds and some cedar wood, scarlet
yarn and hyssop[d] be brought for the
one to be cleansed.[e] 5Then the priest
shall order that one of the birds be
killed over fresh water in a clay pot.[f]
6He is then to take the live bird and dip
it, together with the cedar wood, the
scarlet yarn and the hyssop, into the
blood of the bird that was killed over
the fresh water.[g] 7Seven times[h] he
shall sprinkle[i] the one to be cleansed
of the infectious disease and pro-
nounce him clean. Then he is to release
the live bird in the open fields.[j]

8"The person to be cleansed must
wash his clothes,[k] shave off all his hair
and bathe with water;[l] then he will be
ceremonially clean.[m] After this he may
come into the camp,[n] but he must stay
outside his tent for seven days. 9On the
seventh day[o] he must shave off all his
hair;[p] he must shave his head, his
beard, his eyebrows and the rest of his
hair. He must wash his clothes and
bathe himself with water, and he will
be clean.[q]

10"On the eighth day[r] he must bring
two male lambs and one ewe lamb[s] a
year old, each without defect, along
with three-tenths of an ephah[c][t] of fine
flour mixed with oil for a grain offer-
ing,[u] and one log[d] of oil.[v] 11The priest
who pronounces him clean shall
present[w] both the one to be cleansed
and his offerings before the LORD at the
entrance to the Tent of Meeting.[x]

12"Then the priest is to take one of
the male lambs and offer it as a guilt
offering,[y] along with the log of oil; he
shall wave them before the LORD as a
wave offering.[z] 13He is to slaughter the
lamb in the holy place[a] where the sin
offering and the burnt offering are
slaughtered. Like the sin offering, the
guilt offering belongs to the priest;[b] it
is most holy. 14The priest is to take
some of the blood of the guilt offering
and put it on the lobe of the right ear of
the one to be cleansed, on the thumb of
his right hand and on the big toe of his
right foot.[c] 15The priest shall then take
some of the log of oil, pour it in the
palm of his own left hand,[d] 16dip his
right forefinger into the oil in his palm,
and with his finger sprinkle some of it
before the LORD seven times.[e] 17The
priest is to put some of the oil remain-
ing in his palm on the lobe of the right
ear of the one to be cleansed, on the
thumb of his right hand and on the big
toe of his right foot, on top of the blood
of the guilt offering.[f] 18The rest of the
oil in his palm the priest shall put on
the head of the one to be cleansed[g] and
make atonement for him before the
LORD.

19"Then the priest is to sacrifice the
sin offering and make atonement for
the one to be cleansed from his un-
cleanness.[h] After that, the priest shall
slaughter the burnt offering 20and offer
it on the altar, together with the grain
offering, and make atonement for
him,[i] and he will be clean.[j]

21"If, however, he is poor[k] and can-
not afford these,[l] he must take one
male lamb as a guilt offering to be
waved to make atonement for him, to-
gether with a tenth of an ephah[e] of
fine flour mixed with oil for a grain of-
fering, a log of oil, 22and two doves or
two young pigeons,[m] which he can af-
ford, one for a sin offering and the
other for a burnt offering.[n]

23"On the eighth day he must bring
them for his cleansing to the priest at
the entrance to the Tent of Meeting,[o]
before the LORD.[p] 24The priest is to take

14:2 [a]Lev 13:57; Dt 24:8; Mt 8:2-4; Mk 1:40-44; Lk 5:12-14; 17:14
14:3 [b]Lev 13:46 [c]S Lev 13:2
14:4 [d]S Ex 12:22 [e]ver 6,49,51,52; Nu 19:6; Ps 51:7
14:5 [f]ver 50
14:6 [g]S ver 4
14:7 [h]ver 51 [i]2Ki 5:10,14; Isa 52:15; Eze 36:25 [j]ver 53
14:8 [k]S Lev 11:25 [l]ver 9; S Ex 29:4; Lev 15:5; 17:15; 22:6; Nu 19:7,8 [m]ver 20 [n]S Lev 13:11; Nu 5:2,3; 12:14, 15; 19:20; 31:24; 2Ch 26:21
14:9 [o]S Lev 13:5 [p]Nu 6:9; Dt 21:12 [q]S Lev 13:6
14:10 [r]Nu 6:10; Mt 8:4; Mk 1:44; Lk 5:14 [s]S Lev 4:32 [t]Nu 15:9; 28:20 [u]Lev 2:1 [v]ver 12,15,21,24
14:11 [w]Nu 6:16 [x]Nu 6:10
14:12 [y]S Lev 5:18 [z]S Ex 29:24
14:13 [a]S Ex 29:11 [b]Lev 6:24-30; S 7:7
14:14 [c]S Ex 29:20
14:15 [d]ver 26
14:16 [e]ver 27
14:17 [f]ver 28
14:18 [g]ver 31; Lev 15:15
14:19 [h]ver 31; S Lev 5:3; 15:15
14:20 [i]Lev 15:30 [j]ver 8
14:21 [k]S Lev 5:7 [l]ver 22,32
14:22 [m]S Lev 5:7 [n]Lev 15:30
14:23 [o]Lev 15:14,29 [p]S ver 10,11

[b]3 Traditionally *leprosy*; the Hebrew word was used for various diseases affecting the skin—not necessarily leprosy; also elsewhere in this chapter.
[c]*10* That is, probably about 6 quarts (about 6.5 liters)
[d]*10* That is, probably about 2/3 pint (about 0.3 liter); also in verses 12, 15, 21 and 24
[e]*21* That is, probably about 2 quarts (about 2 liters)

the lamb for the guilt offering,[a] together with the log of oil,[b] and wave them before the LORD as a wave offering.[c] [25]He shall slaughter the lamb for the guilt offering and take some of its blood and put it on the lobe of the right ear of the one to be cleansed, on the thumb of his right hand and on the big toe of his right foot.[d] [26]The priest is to pour some of the oil into the palm of his own left hand,[e] [27]and with his right forefinger sprinkle some of the oil from his palm seven times before the LORD. [28]Some of the oil in his palm he is to put on the same places he put the blood of the guilt offering—on the lobe of the right ear of the one to be cleansed, on the thumb of his right hand and on the big toe of his right foot. [29]The rest of the oil in his palm the priest shall put on the head of the one to be cleansed, to make atonement for him before the LORD.[f] [30]Then he shall sacrifice the doves or the young pigeons, which the person can afford,[g] [31]one[f] as a sin offering and the other as a burnt offering,[h] together with the grain offering. In this way the priest will make atonement before the LORD on behalf of the one to be cleansed.[i]"

[32]These are the regulations for anyone who has an infectious skin disease[j] and who cannot afford the regular offerings[k] for his cleansing.

Cleansing From Mildew

[33]The LORD said to Moses and Aaron, [34]"When you enter the land of Canaan,[l] which I am giving you as your possession,[m] and I put a spreading mildew in a house in that land, [35]the owner of the house must go and tell the priest, 'I have seen something that looks like mildew in my house.' [36]The priest is to order the house to be emptied before he goes in to examine the mildew, so that nothing in the house will be pronounced unclean. After this the priest is to go in and inspect the house. [37]He is to examine the mildew on the walls, and if it has greenish or reddish[n] depressions that appear to be deeper than the surface of the wall, [38]the priest shall go out the doorway of the house and close it up for seven days.[o] [39]On the seventh day[p] the priest shall return to inspect the house. If the mildew has spread on the walls, [40]he is to order that the contaminated stones be torn out and thrown into an unclean place outside the town.[q] [41]He must have all the inside walls of the house scraped and the material that is scraped off dumped into an unclean place outside the town. [42]Then they are to take other stones to replace these and take new clay and plaster the house.

[43]"If the mildew reappears in the house after the stones have been torn out and the house scraped and plastered, [44]the priest is to go and examine it and, if the mildew has spread in the house, it is a destructive mildew; the house is unclean.[r] [45]It must be torn down—its stones, timbers and all the plaster—and taken out of the town to an unclean place.

[46]"Anyone who goes into the house while it is closed up will be unclean till evening.[s] [47]Anyone who sleeps or eats in the house must wash his clothes.[t]

[48]"But if the priest comes to examine it and the mildew has not spread after the house has been plastered, he shall pronounce the house clean,[u] because the mildew is gone. [49]To purify the house he is to take two birds and some cedar wood, scarlet yarn and hyssop.[v] [50]He shall kill one of the birds over fresh water in a clay pot.[w] [51]Then he is to take the cedar wood, the hyssop,[x] the scarlet yarn and the live bird, dip them into the blood of the dead bird and the fresh water, and sprinkle the house seven times.[y] [52]He shall purify the house with the bird's blood, the fresh water, the live bird, the cedar wood, the hyssop and the scarlet yarn. [53]Then he is to release the live bird in the open fields[z] outside the town. In this way he will make atonement for the house, and it will be clean.[a]"

[54]These are the regulations for any infectious skin disease,[b] for an itch, [55]for mildew[c] in clothing or in a house, [56]and for a swelling, a rash or a bright spot,[d] [57]to determine when something is clean or unclean.

These are the regulations for infectious skin diseases and mildew.[e]

Discharges Causing Uncleanness

15 The LORD said to Moses and Aaron, [2]"Speak to the Israelites and say to them: 'When any man has a bodily discharge,[f] the discharge is unclean. [3]Whether it continues flowing from his body or is blocked, it will make him unclean. This is how his discharge will bring about uncleanness:

14:24 [a]Nu 6:14 [b]S ver 10 [c]ver 12
14:25 [d]S Ex 29:20
14:26 [e]ver 15
14:29 [f]ver 18
14:30 [g]S Lev 5:7
14:31 [h]ver 22; Lev 5:7; 15:15,30 [i]S ver 18; S 19
14:32 [j]S Lev 13:2 [k]S ver 21
14:34 [l]Ge 12:5; Ex 6:4; Nu 13:2 [m]Ge 17:8; 48:4; Nu 27:12; 32:22; Dt 3:27; 7:1; 32:49
14:37 [n]S Lev 13:19
14:38 [o]S Lev 13:4
14:39 [p]Lev 13:5
14:40 [q]ver 45
14:44 [r]Lev 13:51
14:46 [s]S Lev 11:24
14:47 [t]S Lev 11:25
14:48 [u]S Lev 13:6
14:49 [v]1Ki 4:33
14:50 [w]ver 5
14:51 [x]ver 6; Ps 51:7 [y]S ver 4,7
14:53 [z]S ver 7 [a]ver 20
14:54 [b]Lev 13:2
14:55 [c]Lev 13:47-52
14:56 [d]Lev 13:2
14:57 [e]S Lev 10:10
15:2 [f]ver 16,32; Lev 22:4; Nu 5:2; 2Sa 3:29; Mt 9:20

[f]31 Septuagint and Syriac; Hebrew [31]*such as the person can afford, one*

4" 'Any bed the man with a dis-
charge lies on will be unclean, and any-
thing he sits on will be unclean. 5Any-
one who touches his bed must wash
his clothes[a] and bathe with water,[b]
and he will be unclean till evening.[c]
6Whoever sits on anything that the
man with a discharge sat on must wash
his clothes and bathe with water, and
he will be unclean till evening.
7" 'Whoever touches the man[d] who
has a discharge[e] must wash his clothes
and bathe with water, and he will be
unclean till evening.
8" 'If the man with the discharge
spits[f] on someone who is clean, that
person must wash his clothes and
bathe with water, and he will be un-
clean till evening.
9" 'Everything the man sits on when
riding will be unclean, 10and whoever
touches any of the things that were
under him will be unclean till eve-
ning; whoever picks up those things[g]
must wash his clothes and bathe with
water, and he will be unclean till eve-
ning.
11" 'Anyone the man with a dis-
charge touches without rinsing his
hands with water must wash his
clothes and bathe with water, and he
will be unclean till evening.
12" 'A clay pot[h] that the man touches
must be broken, and any wooden arti-
cle[i] is to be rinsed with water.
13" 'When a man is cleansed from his
discharge, he is to count off seven
days[j] for his ceremonial cleansing; he
must wash his clothes and bathe him-
self with fresh water, and he will be
clean.[k] 14On the eighth day he must
take two doves or two young pigeons[l]
and come before the LORD to the en-
trance to the Tent of Meeting and give
them to the priest. 15The priest is to sac-
rifice them, the one for a sin offering[m]
and the other for a burnt offering.[n] In
this way he will make atonement be-
fore the LORD for the man because of his
discharge.[o]
16" 'When a man has an emission of
semen,[p] he must bathe his whole body
with water, and he will be unclean till
evening.[q] 17Any clothing or leather
that has semen on it must be washed
with water, and it will be unclean till
evening. 18When a man lies with a
woman and there is an emission of se-
men,[r] both must bathe with water,
and they will be unclean till eve-
ning.
19" 'When a woman has her regular
flow of blood, the impurity of her
monthly period[s] will last seven days,
and anyone who touches her will be
unclean till evening.
20" 'Anything she lies on during her
period will be unclean, and anything
she sits on will be unclean. 21Whoever
touches her bed must wash his clothes
and bathe with water, and he will be
unclean till evening.[t] 22Whoever
touches anything she sits on must
wash his clothes and bathe with water,
and he will be unclean till evening.
23Whether it is the bed or anything she
was sitting on, when anyone touches
it, he will be unclean till evening.
24" 'If a man lies with her and her
monthly flow[u] touches him, he will be
unclean for seven days; any bed he lies
on will be unclean.
25" 'When a woman has a discharge
of blood for many days at a time other
than her monthly period[v] or has a dis-
charge that continues beyond her pe-
riod, she will be unclean as long as she
has the discharge, just as in the days of
her period. 26Any bed she lies on while
her discharge continues will be un-
clean, as is her bed during her monthly
period, and anything she sits on will be
unclean, as during her period. 27Who-
ever touches them will be unclean; he
must wash his clothes and bathe with
water, and he will be unclean till eve-
ning.
28" 'When she is cleansed from her
discharge, she must count off seven
days, and after that she will be ceremo-
nially clean. 29On the eighth day she
must take two doves or two young pi-
geons[w] and bring them to the priest at
the entrance to the Tent of Meeting.
30The priest is to sacrifice one for a sin
offering and the other for a burnt offer-
ing. In this way he will make atone-
ment for her before the LORD for the un-
cleanness of her discharge.[x]
31" 'You must keep the Israelites sep-
arate from things that make them un-
clean, so they will not die in their
uncleanness for defiling my dwelling
place,[g][y] which is among them.' "
32These are the regulations for a man
with a discharge, for anyone made un-
clean by an emission of semen,[z] 33for a
woman in her monthly period, for a
man or a woman with a discharge, and
for a man who lies with a woman who
is ceremonially unclean.[a]

15:5 [a]S Lev 11:25 [b]Lev 14:8 [c]S Lev 11:24 **15:7** [d]ver 19; Lev 22:5 [e]ver 16; Lev 22:4 **15:8** [f]Nu 12:14 **15:10** [g]Nu 19:10 **15:12** [h]S Lev 6:28 [i]S Lev 11:32 **15:13** [j]S Lev 8:33 [k]ver 5 **15:14** [l]Lev 14:22 **15:15** [m]Lev 5:7 [n]Lev 14:31 [o]S Lev 14:18,19 **15:16** [p]S ver 2; Dt 23:10 [q]ver 5; Dt 23:11 **15:18** [r]1Sa 21:4 **15:19** [s]S ver 24 **15:21** [t]ver 27 **15:24** [u]ver 19; Lev 12:2; 18:19; 20:18; Eze 18:6 **15:25** [v]Mt 9:20; Mk 5:25; Lk 8:43 **15:29** [w]Lev 14:22 **15:30** [x]Lev 5:10; 14:20, 31; 18:19; 2Sa 11:4; Mk 5:25; Lk 8:43 **15:31** [y]Lev 20:3; Nu 5:3; 19:13,20; 2Sa 15:25; 2Ki 21:7; Ps 33:14; 74:7; 76:2; Eze 5:11; 23:38 **15:32** [z]S ver 2 **15;33** [a]ver 19, 24,25

[g]31 Or *my tabernacle*

The Day of Atonement

16:2-34pp — Lev 23:26-32; Nu 29:7-11

16 The LORD spoke to Moses after
the death of the two sons of
Aaron who died when they ap-
proached the LORD.[a] 2The LORD said to
Moses: "Tell your brother Aaron not to
come whenever he chooses[b] into the
Most Holy Place[c] behind the curtain[d]
in front of the atonement cover[e] on the
ark, or else he will die, because I ap-
pear[f] in the cloud[g] over the atonement
cover.

3"This is how Aaron is to enter the
sanctuary area:[h] with a young bull[i] for
a sin offering and a ram for a burnt of-
fering.[j] 4He is to put on the sacred
linen tunic,[k] with linen undergarments
next to his body; he is to tie the linen
sash around him and put on the linen
turban.[l] These are sacred garments;[m]
so he must bathe himself with water[n]
before he puts them on.[o] 5From the Is-
raelite community[p] he is to take two
male goats[q] for a sin offering and a ram
for a burnt offering.

6"Aaron is to offer the bull for his
own sin offering to make atonement for
himself and his household.[r] 7Then he
is to take the two goats and present
them before the LORD at the entrance to
the Tent of Meeting. 8He is to cast lots[s]
for the two goats—one lot for the LORD
and the other for the scapegoat.[h8] [t]
9Aaron shall bring the goat whose lot
falls to the LORD and sacrifice it for a sin
offering. 10But the goat chosen by lot as
the scapegoat shall be presented alive
before the LORD to be used for making
atonement[u] by sending it into the
desert as a scapegoat.

11"Aaron shall bring the bull for his
own sin offering to make atonement for
himself and his household,[v] and he is
to slaughter the bull for his own sin of-
fering. 12He is to take a censer full of
burning coals[w] from the altar before the
LORD and two handfuls of finely
ground fragrant incense[x] and take
them behind the curtain. 13He is to put
the incense on the fire before the LORD,
and the smoke of the incense will con-
ceal the atonement cover[y] above the
Testimony, so that he will not die.[z]
14He is to take some of the bull's blood[a]
and with his finger sprinkle it on the
front of the atonement cover; then he
shall sprinkle some of it with his finger
seven times before the atonement
cover.[b]

15"He shall then slaughter the goat
for the sin offering for the people[c] and
take its blood behind the curtain[d] and
do with it as he did with the bull's
blood: He shall sprinkle[e] it on the
atonement cover and in front of it. 16In
this way he will make atonement[f] for
the Most Holy Place[g] because of the
uncleanness and rebellion of the Israel-
ites, whatever their sins have been. He
is to do the same for the Tent of Meet-
ing,[h] which is among them in the
midst of their uncleanness. 17No one is
to be in the Tent of Meeting from the
time Aaron goes in to make atonement
in the Most Holy Place until he comes
out, having made atonement for him-
self, his household and the whole com-
munity of Israel.

18"Then he shall come out to the al-
tar[i] that is before the LORD and make
atonement for it. He shall take some of
the bull's blood and some of the goat's
blood and put it on all the horns of the
altar.[j] 19He shall sprinkle some of the
blood on it with his finger seven times
to cleanse it and to consecrate it from
the uncleanness of the Israelites.[k]

20"When Aaron has finished making
atonement for the Most Holy Place, the
Tent of Meeting and the altar, he shall
bring forward the live goat.[l] 21He is to
lay both hands on the head of the live
goat[m] and confess[n] over it all the
wickedness and rebellion of the Israel-
ites—all their sins—and put them on
the goat's head. He shall send the goat
away into the desert in the care of a
man appointed for the task. 22The goat
will carry on itself all their sins[o] to a
solitary place; and the man shall release
it in the desert.

23"Then Aaron is to go into the Tent
of Meeting and take off the linen gar-
ments[p] he put on before he entered the
Most Holy Place, and he is to leave
them there.[q] 24He shall bathe himself
with water in a holy place[r] and put on
his regular garments.[s] Then he shall
come out and sacrifice the burnt offer-
ing for himself and the burnt offering
for the people,[t] to make atonement for
himself and for the people.[u] 25He shall
also burn the fat of the sin offering on
the altar.

26"The man who releases the goat as
a scapegoat[v] must wash his clothes[w]
and bathe himself with water;[x] after-
ward he may come into the camp.
27The bull and the goat for the sin offer-

16:1 [a]S Lev 10:1
16:2 [b]Ex 30:10; Heb 9:7 [c]S Ex 26:33; Heb 9:25; 10:19 [d]S Ex 26:33; Heb 6:19 [e]S Ex 26:34 [f]S Ex 25:22 [g]S Ex 40:34; S 2Sa 22:10
16:3 [h]ver 6; Lev 4:1-12; Heb 9:24,25 [i]S Lev 4:3 [j]ver 5
16:4 [k]S Lev 8:13 [l]S Ex 28:39 [m]ver 32; S Ex 28:42; 29:29,30; Lev 21:10; Nu 20:26,28 [n]S Ex 29:4; Heb 10:22 [o]Eze 9:2; 44:17-18
16:5 [p]S Lev 4:13-21 [q]ver 20; S Lev 4:3; 2Ch 29:23; Ps 50:9
16:6 [r]Lev 9:7; Heb 7:27; 9:7,12
16:8 [s]Nu 26:55, 56; 33:54; 34:13; Jos 14:2; 18:6; Jdg 20:9; Ne 10:34; Est 3:7; 9:24; Ps 22:18; Pr 16:33 [t]ver 10, 26
16:10 [u]Isa 53:4-10; S Ro 3:25
16:11 [v]S ver 6, 24,33
16:12 [w]S Lev 10:1; Rev 8:5 [x]S Ex 25:6; 30:34-38
16:13 [y]S Ex 25:17 [z]S Ex 28:43
16:14 [a]S Lev 4:5; Heb 9:7,13,25 [b]S Lev 4:6
16:15 [c]S Lev 4:13-21; Heb 7:27; 9:7,12; 13:11 [d]Heb 9:3 [e]S Lev 4:17; Nu 19:19; Isa 52:15; Eze 36:25
16:16 [f]S Ex 29:36; S Ro 3:25 [g]S Ex 26:33; Heb 9:25 [h]Ex 29:4; S 40:2
16:18 [i]S Lev 4:7 [j]S Lev 4:25
16:19 [k]Eze 43:20
16:20 [l]S ver 5
16:21 [m]S Ex 29:10 [n]S Lev 5:5
16:22 [o]S Ex 28:38; Isa 53:12
16:23 [p]S Ex 28:42 [q]Eze 42:14
16:24 [r]S Lev 6:16 [s]ver 3-5 [t]Lev 1:3 [u]S ver 11
16:26 [v]S ver 8 [w]S Lev 11:25 [x]Lev 14:8

h8 That is, the goat of removal; Hebrew *azazel*; also in verses 10 and 26

ings, whose blood was brought into the Most Holy Place to make atonement, must be taken outside the camp;[a] their hides, flesh and offal are to be burned up. 28The man who burns them must wash his clothes and bathe himself with water; afterward he may come into the camp.[b]

29"This is to be a lasting ordinance[c] for you: On the tenth day of the seventh month[d] you must deny yourselves[i][e] and not do any work[f]—whether native-born[g] or an alien living among you— 30because on this day atonement will be made[h] for you, to cleanse you. Then, before the LORD, you will be clean from all your sins.[i] 31It is a sabbath of rest, and you must deny yourselves;[j] it is a lasting ordinance.[k] 32The priest who is anointed and ordained[l] to succeed his father as high priest is to make atonement. He is to put on the sacred linen garments[m] 33and make atonement for the Most Holy Place, for the Tent of Meeting and the altar, and for the priests and all the people of the community.[n]

34"This is to be a lasting ordinance[o] for you: Atonement is to be made once a year[p] for all the sins of the Israelites."

And it was done, as the LORD commanded Moses.

Eating Blood Forbidden

17 The LORD said to Moses, 2"Speak to Aaron and his sons[q] and to all the Israelites and say to them: 'This is what the LORD has commanded: 3Any Israelite who sacrifices an ox,[j] a lamb[r] or a goat[s] in the camp or outside of it 4instead of bringing it to the entrance to the Tent of Meeting[t] to present it as an offering to the LORD in front of the tabernacle of the LORD[u]—that man shall be considered guilty of bloodshed; he has shed blood and must be cut off from his people.[v] 5This is so the Israelites will bring to the LORD the sacrifices they are now making in the open fields. They must bring them to the priest, that is, to the LORD, at the entrance to the Tent of Meeting and sacrifice them as fellowship offerings.[k][w] 6The priest is to sprinkle the blood against the altar[x] of the LORD[y] at the entrance to the Tent of Meeting and burn the fat as an aroma pleasing to the LORD.[z] 7They must no longer offer any of their sacrifices to the goat idols[l][a] to whom they prostitute themselves.[b] This is to be a lasting ordinance[c] for them and for the generations to come.'[d]

8"Say to them: 'Any Israelite or any alien living among them who offers a burnt offering or sacrifice 9and does not bring it to the entrance to the Tent[e] of Meeting[f] to sacrifice it to the LORD[g]—that man must be cut off from his people.

10" 'Any Israelite or any alien living among them who eats any blood—I will set my face against that person who eats blood[h] and will cut him off from his people. 11For the life of a creature is in the blood,[i] and I have given it to you to make atonement for yourselves on the altar; it is the blood that makes atonement for one's life.[j] 12Therefore I say to the Israelites, "None of you may eat blood, nor may an alien living among you eat blood."

13" 'Any Israelite or any alien living among you who hunts any animal or bird that may be eaten must drain out the blood and cover it with earth,[k] 14because the life of every creature is its blood. That is why I have said to the Israelites, "You must not eat the blood of any creature, because the life of every creature is its blood; anyone who eats it must be cut off."[l]

15" 'Anyone, whether native-born or alien, who eats anything[m] found dead or torn by wild animals[n] must wash his clothes and bathe with water,[o] and he will be ceremonially unclean till evening;[p] then he will be clean. 16But if he does not wash his clothes and bathe himself, he will be held responsible.[q] ' "

Unlawful Sexual Relations

18 The LORD said to Moses, 2"Speak to the Israelites and say to them: 'I am the LORD your God.[r] 3You must not do as they do in Egypt, where you used to live, and you must not do as they do in the land of Canaan, where I am bringing you. Do not follow their practices.[s] 4You must obey my laws[t] and be careful to follow my decrees.[u] I am the LORD your God.[v] 5Keep my decrees and laws,[w] for the man who obeys them will live by them.[x] I am the LORD.

6" 'No one is to approach any close relative to have sexual relations. I am the LORD.

7" 'Do not dishonor your father[y] by having sexual relations with your

i29 Or *must fast*; also in verse 31 j3 The Hebrew word can include both male and female. k5 Traditionally *peace offerings* l7 Or *demons*

16:27 [a]S Ex 29:14 **16:28** [b]Nu 19:8, 10 **16:29** [c]S Ex 12:14 [d]Lev 25:9 [e]ver 31; Lev 23:27,32; Nu 29:7; Isa 58:3 [f]S Ex 31:15; S Lev 23:28 [g]Ex 12:19 **16:30** [h]S Ex 30:10 [i]Ps 51:2; Jer 33:8; Eze 36:33; Zec 13:1; Eph 5:26 **16:31** [j]Ezr 8:21; Isa 58:3,5; Da 10:12 [k]Ac 27:9 **16:32** [l]S Ex 30:30 [m]S ver 4; S Ex 28:2 **16:33** [n]S ver 11, 16-18; Eze 45:18 **16:34** [o]S Ex 27:21 [p]Heb 9:7,25 **17:2** [q]Lev 10:6, 12 **17:3** [r]S Lev 3:7 [s]S Lev 7:23 **17:4** [t]ver 9; 1Ki 8:4; 2Ch 1:3 [u]Dt 12:5-21 [v]S Ge 17:14 **17:5** [w]S Lev 3:1; Eze 43:27 **17:6** [x]S Lev 4:18 [y]S Lev 3:2 [z]S Lev 1:9 **17:7** [a]S Ex 22:20 [b]S Ex 34:15; Jer 3:6,9; Eze 23:3; 1Co 10:20 [c]S Ex 12:14 [d]S Ge 9:12 **17:9** [e]S Lev 1:3 [f]S ver 4 [g]S Lev 3:7 **17:10** [h]S Ge 9:4 **17:11** [i]ver 14 [j]Heb 9:22 **17:13** [k]Lev 7:26; Eze 24:7; 33:25; Ac 15:20 **17:14** [l]S Ge 9:4 **17:15** [m]S Lev 7:24 [n]S Ex 22:31 [o]S Lev 14:8 [p]S Lev 11:40 **17:16** [q]S Lev 5:1 **18:2** [r]S Ge 17:7 **18:3** [s]ver 24-30; S Ex 23:24; Dt 18:9; 2Ki 16:3; 17:8; 1Ch 5:25 **18:4** [t]S Ge 26:5 [u]Dt 4:1; 1Ki 11:11; Jer 44:10,23; Eze 11:12 [v]ver 2 **18:5** [w]S Ge 26:5 [x]Dt 4:1; Ne 9:29; Isa 55:3; Eze 18:9; 20:11; Am 5:4-6; Mt 19:17; S Ro 10:5*; Gal 3:12* **18:7** [y]ver 8; Lev 20:11; Dt 27:20

mother.[a] She is your mother; do not
have relations with her.
8" 'Do not have sexual relations with
your father's wife;[b] that would dishon-
or your father.[c]
9" 'Do not have sexual relations with
your sister,[d] either your father's
daughter or your mother's daughter,
whether she was born in the same
home or elsewhere.[e]
10" 'Do not have sexual relations with
your son's daughter or your daughter's
daughter; that would dishonor you.
11" 'Do not have sexual relations with
the daughter of your father's wife, born
to your father; she is your sister.
12" 'Do not have sexual relations with
your father's sister;[f] she is your fa-
ther's close relative.
13" 'Do not have sexual relations with
your mother's sister,[g] because she is
your mother's close relative.
14" 'Do not dishonor your father's
brother by approaching his wife to
have sexual relations; she is your
aunt.[h]
15" 'Do not have sexual relations with
your daughter-in-law.[i] She is your
son's wife; do not have relations with
her.[j]
16" 'Do not have sexual relations with
your brother's wife;[k] that would dis-
honor your brother.
17" 'Do not have sexual relations with
both a woman and her daughter.[l] Do
not have sexual relations with either
her son's daughter or her daughter's
daughter; they are her close relatives.
That is wickedness.
18" 'Do not take your wife[m]'s sister as
a rival wife and have sexual relations
with her while your wife is living.
19" 'Do not approach a woman to
have sexual relations during the un-
cleanness[n] of her monthly period.[o]
20" 'Do not have sexual relations with
your neighbor's wife[p] and defile your-
self with her.
21" 'Do not give any of your chil-
dren[q] to be sacrificed[m] to Molech,[r] for
you must not profane the name of your
God.[s] I am the LORD.[t]
22" 'Do not lie with a man as one lies
with a woman;[u] that is detestable.[v]
23" 'Do not have sexual relations with
an animal and defile yourself with it. A
woman must not present herself to an
animal to have sexual relations with it;
that is a perversion.[w]
24" 'Do not defile yourselves in any
of these ways, because this is how the
nations that I am going to drive out be-
fore you[x] became defiled.[y] 25Even the
land was defiled;[z] so I punished it for
its sin,[a] and the land vomited out its
inhabitants.[b] 26But you must keep my
decrees and my laws.[c] The native-born
and the aliens living among you must
not do any of these detestable things,
27for all these things were done by the
people who lived in the land before
you, and the land became defiled.
28And if you defile the land,[d] it will
vomit you out[e] as it vomited out the
nations that were before you.
29" 'Everyone who does any of these
detestable things—such persons must
be cut off from their people. 30Keep my
requirements[f] and do not follow any
of the detestable customs that were
practiced before you came and do not
defile yourselves with them. I am the
LORD your God.[g]' "

Various Laws

19 The LORD said to Moses, 2"Speak
to the entire assembly of Israel[h]
and say to them: 'Be holy because I, the
LORD your God,[i] am holy.[j]
3" 'Each of you must respect his
mother and father,[k] and you must ob-
serve my Sabbaths.[l] I am the LORD
your God.[m]
4" 'Do not turn to idols or make gods
of cast metal for yourselves.[n] I am the
LORD your God.[o]
5" 'When you sacrifice a fellowship
offering[n] to the LORD, sacrifice it in
such a way that it will be accepted on
your behalf. 6It shall be eaten on the
day you sacrifice it or on the next day;
anything left over until the third day
must be burned up.[p] 7If any of it is eat-
en on the third day, it is impure and
will not be accepted.[q] 8Whoever eats it
will be held responsible[r] because he
has desecrated what is holy[s] to the
LORD; that person must be cut off from
his people.[t]
9" 'When you reap the harvest of
your land, do not reap to the very
edges[u] of your field or gather the
gleanings of your harvest.[v] 10Do not go
over your vineyard a second time[w] or
pick up the grapes that have fallen.[x]
Leave them for the poor and the
alien.[y] I am the LORD your God.
11" 'Do not steal.[z]

18:7 [a]Eze 22:10 **18:8** [b]1Co 5:1 [c]Ge 35:22; Lev 20:11; Dt 22:30; 27:20 **18:9** [d]ver 11; Lev 20:17; Dt 27:22 [e]Lev 20:17; Dt 27:22; 2Sa 13:13; Eze 22:11 **18:12** [f]ver 13; Lev 20:19 **18:13** [g]S ver 12, 14; Lev 20:20 **18:14** [h]S ver 13 **18:15** [i]S Ge 11:31; S 38:16 [j]Eze 22:11 **18:16** [k]Lev 20:21; Mt 14:4; Mk 6:18 **18:17** [l]Lev 20:14; Dt 27:23 **18:18** [m]S Ge 30:1 **18:19** [n]S Lev 15:25-30 [o]S Lev 15:24 **18:20** [p]S Ex 20:14; Mt 5:27,28; 1Co 6:9; Heb 13:4 **18:21** [q]Dt 12:31; 18:10; 2Ki 16:3; 17:17; 21:6; 23:10; 2Ch 28:1-4; 33:6; Ps 106:37,38; Isa 57:5; Jer 7:30, 31; 19:5; 32:35; Eze 16:20; Mic 6:7 [r]Lev 20:2-5; Dt 9:4; 1Ki 11:5, 7,33; Isa 57:9; Jer 32:35; 49:1; Zep 1:5 [s]Lev 19:12; 21:6; Isa 48:11; Eze 22:26; 36:20; Am 2:7, Mal 1:12 [t]S Ex 6:2 **18:22** [u]Lev 20:13; Dt 23:18; Ro 1:27; 1Co 6:9 [v]S Ge 19:5 **18:23** [w]Ex 22:19; Lev 20:15; Dt 27:21

18:24 [x]ver 3,27, 30; Lev 20:23 [y]Dt 9:4; 18:12 **18:25** [z]Nu 35:34; Dt 21:23 [a]Lev 20:23; Dt 9:5; 12:31; 18:12 [b]ver 28; Lev 20:22; Job 20:15; Jer 51:34 **18:26** [c]S Ge 26:5 **18:28** [d]Lev 20:22; Ezr 9:11; La 1:17 [e]S ver 25 **18:30** [f]S Lev 8:35 [g]ver 2 **19:2** [h]Nu 14:5; Ps 68:26 [i]S Ex 20:2 [j]S Ex 15:11; 1Pe 1:16*; S Lev 11:44; S 20:26 **19:3** [k]Ex 20:12 [l]S Ex 20:8 [m]Lev 11:44

19:4 [n]S Ex 20:4; Jdg 17:3; Ps 96:5; 115:4-7; 135:15 [o]Lev 11:44 **19:6** [p]Lev 7:16-17 **19:7** [q]Lev 7:18 **19:8** [r]S Lev 5:1 [s]Lev 22:2,15,16; Nu 18:32 [t]S Ge 17:14 **19:9** [u]Ru 2:2,3,7,16, 17 [v]Lev 23:10,22; Dt 24:19-22; Job 24:10 **19:10** [w]Dt 24:20 [x]ver 9 [y]Dt 24:19,21 **19:11** [z]Ex 20:15; S 23:4; Lk 3:14

m21 Or *to be passed through the fire*
n5 Traditionally *peace offering*

“ ‘Do not lie.[a]
“ ‘Do not deceive one another.[b]
12“ ‘Do not swear falsely[c] by my
name[d] and so profane[e] the name of
your God. I am the LORD.
13“ ‘Do not defraud your neighbor[f]
or rob[g] him.[h]
“ ‘Do not hold back the wages of a
hired man[i] overnight.[j]
14“ ‘Do not curse the deaf or put
a stumbling block in front of the
blind,[k] but fear your God.[l] I am the
LORD.
15“ ‘Do not pervert justice;[m] do not
show partiality[n] to the poor or favorit-
ism to the great,[o] but judge your
neighbor fairly.[p]
16“ ‘Do not go about spreading slan-
der[q] among your people.
“ ‘Do not do anything that endan-
gers your neighbor's life.[r] I am the
LORD.
17“ ‘Do not hate your brother in your
heart.[s] Rebuke your neighbor frankly[t]
so you will not share in his guilt.
18“ ‘Do not seek revenge[u] or bear a
grudge[v] against one of your people,[w]
but love your neighbor[x] as yourself.[y] I
am the LORD.
19“ ‘Keep my decrees.[z]
“ ‘Do not mate different kinds of ani-
mals.
“ ‘Do not plant your field with two
kinds of seed.[a]
“ ‘Do not wear clothing woven of
two kinds of material.[b]
20“ ‘If a man sleeps with a woman
who is a slave girl promised to another
man[c] but who has not been ransomed
or given her freedom, there must be
due punishment. Yet they are not to be
put to death, because she had not been
freed. 21The man, however, must bring
a ram to the entrance to the Tent of
Meeting for a guilt offering to the
LORD.[d] 22With the ram of the guilt offer-
ing the priest is to make atonement for
him before the LORD for the sin he has
committed, and his sin will be for-
given.[e]
23“ ‘When you enter the land and
plant any kind of fruit tree, regard its
fruit as forbidden.[o] For three years you
are to consider it forbidden[o]; it must
not be eaten. 24In the fourth year all its
fruit will be holy,[f] an offering of praise
to the LORD. 25But in the fifth year you
may eat its fruit. In this way your har-
vest will be increased. I am the LORD
your God.
26“ ‘Do not eat any meat with the
blood still in it.[g]
“ ‘Do not practice divination[h] or sor-
cery.[i]
27“ ‘Do not cut the hair at the sides of
your head or clip off the edges of your
beard.[j]
28“ ‘Do not cut[k] your bodies for the
dead or put tattoo marks on your-
selves. I am the LORD.
29“ ‘Do not degrade your daughter by
making her a prostitute,[l] or the land
will turn to prostitution and be filled
with wickedness.[m]
30“ ‘Observe my Sabbaths[n] and have
reverence for my sanctuary. I am the
LORD.[o]
31“ ‘Do not turn to mediums[p] or seek
out spiritists,[q] for you will be defiled
by them. I am the LORD your God.
32“ ‘Rise in the presence of the aged,
show respect[r] for the elderly[s] and
revere your God.[t] I am the LORD.[u]
33“ ‘When an alien lives with you in
your land, do not mistreat him. 34The
alien living with you must be treated as
one of your native-born.[v] Love him as
yourself,[w] for you were aliens[x] in
Egypt.[y] I am the LORD your God.
35“ ‘Do not use dishonest standards
when measuring length, weight or
quantity.[z] 36Use honest scales[a] and
honest weights, an honest ephah[p][b]
and an honest hin.[q][c] I am the LORD
your God, who brought you out of
Egypt.[d]
37“ ‘Keep all my decrees[e] and all my
laws[f] and follow them. I am the
LORD.’ ”

Punishments for Sin

20 The LORD said to Moses, 2“Say to
the Israelites: ‘Any Israelite or
any alien living in Israel who gives[r]
any of his children to Molech must be
put to death.[g] The people of the com-
munity are to stone him.[h] 3I will set my
face against that man and I will cut him
off from his people;[i] for by giving his
children to Molech, he has defiled[j] my
sanctuary[k] and profaned my holy
name.[l] 4If the people of the commu-

19:11 [a]S Ex 20:16; S Eph 4:25 [b]S Lev 6:2 **19:12** [c]Jer 5:2; 7:9; Mal 3:5 [d]Ex 3:13; 20:7; Dt 18:19; Pr 18:10; Isa 42:8; Jer 44:16,26; S Mt 5:33 [e]Jer 34:16 **19:13** [f]Lev 25:14,17 [g]S Ex 20:15 [h]S Ex 22:15, 25-27 [i]Job 7:2; 24:12; 31:39; Isa 16:14; Mal 3:5 [j]Dt 24:15; Jer 22:13; Mt 20:8; 1Ti 5:18; Jas 5:4 **19:14** [k]S Ex 4:11; Lev 21:18; Dt 27:18 [l]ver 32; Lev 25:17,36 **19:15** [m]S Ex 23:2 [n]Dt 24:17; Job 13:8,10; 32:21; Pr 28:21 [o]Job 34:19 [p]S Ex 23:8; Pr 24:23; Mal 2:9; Jas 2:1-4 **19:16** [q]Ps 15:3; 31:13; 41:6; 101:5; Jer 6:28; 9:4; Eze 22:9 [r]Ex 23:7; Dt 10:17; 27:25; Ps 15:5; Eze 22:12 **19:17** [s]S 1Jn 2:9 [t]S Mt 18:15 **19:18** [u]S Ge 4:23; Ro 12:19; Heb 10:30 [v]Ps 103:9 [w]S Ex 12:48 [x]S Ex 20:16 [y]ver 34; S Mt 5:43*; 19:16*; 22:39*; Mk 13:21*; Lk 10:27*; Jn 13:34; Ro 13:9*; Gal 5:14*; Jas 2:8* **19:19** [z]S Ge 26:5 [a]Dt 22:9 [b]Dt 22:11 **19:20** [c]Dt 22:23-27 **19:21** [d]S Lev 5:15 **19:22** [e]S Lev 5:15 **19:24** [f]S Ex 22:29 **19:26** [g]S Ge 9:4 [h]S Ge 30:27; S Isa 44:25 [i]S Ex 22:18; 2Ki 17:17 **19:27** [j]Lev 21:5; Dt 14:1; 2Sa 10:4; Jer 41:5; 48:37 **19:28** [k]Lev 21:5; Dt 14:1; 1Ki 18:28; Jer 16:6; 41:5; 47:5 **19:29** [l]Lev 21:9; Dt 23:18 [m]Ge 34:7; Lev 21:9 **19:30** [n]S Ex 20:8 [o]Lev 26:2

19:31 [p]S Ex 22:18; 1Sa 28:7-20; 1Ch 10:13 [q]Lev 20:6; 2Ki 21:6; 23:24; Isa 8:19; 19:3; 29:4; 47:12; 65:4 **19:32** [r]1Ki 12:8 [s]Job 32:4; Pr 23:22; La 5:12; 1Ti 5:1 [t]S ver 14; Job 29:8 [u]Lev 11:44; 25:17 **19:34** [v]S Ex 12:48 [w]S ver 18 [x]S Ex 22:21 [y]Ex 23:9; Dt 10:19; 23:7; Ps 146:9 **19:35** [z]Dt 25:13-16 **19:36** [a]Job 31:6; Pr 11:1; Hos 12:7; Mic 6:11 [b]Jdg 6:19; Ru 2:17; 1Sa 1:24; 17:17; Eze 45:10 [c]Dt 25:13-15; Pr 20:10; Eze 45:11 [d]S Ex 12:17 **19:37** [e]2Ki 17:37; 2Ch 7:17; Ps 119:5; Eze 18:9 [f]S Ge 26:5 **20:2** [g]ver 10; Ge 26:11; Ex 19:12 [h]ver 27; Lev 24:14; Nu 15:35,36; Dt 21:21; Jos 7:25 **20:3** [i]ver 5,6; Lev 23:30 [j]Ps 74:7; 79:1; Jer 7:30; Eze 5:11 [k]S Lev 15:31 [l]S Lev 18:21

[o]23 Hebrew *uncircumcised* [p]36 An ephah was a dry measure. [q]36 A hin was a liquid measure. [r]2 Or *sacrifices*; also in verses 3 and 4

nity close their eyes when that man
gives one of his children to Molech and
they fail to put him to death,[a] 5 I will set
my face against that man and his
family and will cut off from their
people both him and all who follow
him in prostituting themselves to Mo-
lech.
6 "'I will set my face against the per-
son who turns to mediums and spirit-
ists to prostitute himself by following
them, and I will cut him off from his
people.[b]
7 "'Consecrate yourselves[c] and be
holy,[d] because I am the LORD your
God.[e] 8 Keep my decrees[f] and follow
them. I am the LORD, who makes you
holy.[s][g]
9 "'If anyone curses his father[h] or
mother,[i] he must be put to death.[j] He
has cursed his father or his mother,
and his blood will be on his own
head.[k]
10 "'If a man commits adultery with
another man's wife[l]—with the wife of
his neighbor—both the adulterer and
the adulteress must be put to death.[m]
11 "'If a man sleeps with his father's
wife, he has dishonored his father.[n]
Both the man and the woman must be
put to death; their blood will be on
their own heads.[o]
12 "'If a man sleeps with his daugh-
ter-in-law,[p] both of them must be put
to death. What they have done is a per-
version; their blood will be on their
own heads.
13 "'If a man lies with a man as one
lies with a woman, both of them have
done what is detestable.[q] They must
be put to death; their blood will be on
their own heads.
14 "'If a man marries both a woman
and her mother,[r] it is wicked. Both he
and they must be burned in the fire,[s]
so that no wickedness will be among
you.[t]
15 "'If a man has sexual relations with
an animal,[u] he must be put to death,[v]
and you must kill the animal.
16 "'If a woman approaches an ani-
mal to have sexual relations with it, kill
both the woman and the animal. They
must be put to death; their blood will
be on their own heads.
17 "'If a man marries his sister[w], the
daughter of either his father or his
mother, and they have sexual relations,
it is a disgrace. They must be cut off
before the eyes[x] of their people. He
has dishonored his sister and will be
held responsible.[y]
18 "'If a man lies with a woman dur-
ing her monthly period[z] and has sexu-
al relations with her, he has exposed
the source of her flow, and she has also
uncovered it. Both of them must be cut
off from their people.[a]
19 "'Do not have sexual relations with
the sister of either your mother or your
father,[b] for that would dishonor a close
relative; both of you would be held re-
sponsible.
20 "'If a man sleeps with his aunt,[c]
he has dishonored his uncle. They will
be held responsible; they will die child-
less.[d]
21 "'If a man marries his brother's
wife,[e] it is an act of impurity; he has
dishonored his brother. They will be
childless.[f]
22 "'Keep all my decrees and laws[g]
and follow them, so that the land[h]
where I am bringing you to live may
not vomit you out. 23 You must not live
according to the customs of the na-
tions[i] I am going to drive out before
you.[j] Because they did all these
things, I abhorred them.[k] 24 But I said
to you, "You will possess their land; I
will give it to you as an inheritance, a
land flowing with milk and honey."[l] I
am the LORD your God, who has set
you apart from the nations.[m]
25 "'You must therefore make a dis-
tinction between clean and unclean
animals and between unclean and
clean birds.[n] Do not defile yourselves
by any animal or bird or anything that
moves along the ground—those which
I have set apart as unclean for you.
26 You are to be holy to me[t][o] because I,
the LORD, am holy,[p] and I have set you
apart from the nations[q] to be my own.
27 "'A man or woman who is a medi-
um[r] or spiritist among you must be
put to death.[s] You are to stone them;[t]
their blood will be on their own
heads.'"

Rules for Priests

21 The LORD said to Moses, "Speak
to the priests, the sons of
Aaron,[u] and say to them: 'A priest
must not make himself ceremonially
unclean[v] for any of his people who
die,[w] 2 except for a close relative, such
as his mother or father,[x] his son or
daughter, his brother, 3 or an unmar-
ried sister who is dependent on him

20:4 [a]Dt 17:2-5 **20:6** [b]S ver 3; S Lev 19:31 **20:7** [c]S Lev 11:44 [d]S Ex 29:1; 31:13; Lev 11:45; Eph 1:4; 1Pe 1:16* [e]S Ex 6:2; S 20:2 **20:8** [f]S Ge 26:5 [g]S Ex 31:13; Eze 20:12 **20:9** [h]Ex 20:12; Jer 35:16; Mal 1:6; 2:10 [i]S Ex 20:12; Dt 27:16; Eze 22:7 [j]Ex 21:17; Dt 21:20-21; Mt 15:4*; Mk 7:10* [k]ver 11; Dt 22:30; Jos 2:19; 2Sa 1:16; 3:29; 1Ki 2:37; Eze 18:13; 33:4,5 **20:10** [l]Ex 20:14; Dt 5:18; 22:22; Jn 8:5 [m]S Ge 38:24; S Ex 21:12 **20:11** [n]S Lev 18:7 [o]S ver 9; S Lev 18:8 **20:12** [p]S Ge 11:31; S 38:16 **20:13** [q]Lev 18:22 **20:14** [r]S Lev 18:17 [s]Lev 21:9; Nu 16:39; Jdg 14:15; 15:6 [t]S Lev 18:8; Dt 27:23 **20:15** [u]S Ex 22:19 [v]ver 10 **20:17** [w]S Lev 18:9 [x]S Ge 17:14 [y]S Lev 5:1 **20:18** [z]S Lev 15:24 [a]Eze 18:6 **20:19** [b]S Lev 18:12 **20:20** [c]S Lev 18:13 [d]ver 21; Ge 15:2 **20:21** [e]S Lev 18:16; Mt 14:4; Mk 6:18 [f]S ver 20 **20:22** [g]S Ge 26:5 [h]S Lev 18:25-28 **20:23** [i]S Lev 18:3 [j]S Lev 18:24 [k]S Lev 18:25 **20:24** [l]S Ex 3:8; Nu 14:8; 16:14 [m]S Ex 33:16 **20:25** [n]Lev 10:10; Dt 14:3-21; Ac 10:14 **20:26** [o]Dt 14:2 [p]ver 8; Lev 19:2; Jos 24:19; 2Ki 19:22; Ps 99:3 [q]S Ex 33:16 **20:27** [r]S Ex 22:18 [s]S Lev 19:31 [t]S ver 2; S Lev 24:14 **21:1** [u]S Ex 28:1; S Lev 1:5 [v]S Lev 5:3; S 13:3 [w]ver 11; Nu 5:2; 6:6; 19:11; 31:19 **21:2** [x]ver 11

[s]8 Or *who sanctifies you;* or *who sets you apart as holy*
[t]26 Or *be my holy ones*

since she has no husband—for her he may make himself unclean.[a] 4He must not make himself unclean for people related to him by marriage,[u] and so defile himself.

5" 'Priests must not shave[b] their heads or shave off the edges of their beards[c] or cut their bodies.[d] 6They must be holy to their God[e] and must not profane the name of their God.[f] Because they present the offerings made to the LORD by fire,[g] the food of their God,[h] they are to be holy.[i]

7" 'They must not marry women defiled by prostitution or divorced from their husbands,[j] because priests are holy to their God.[k] 8Regard them as holy,[l] because they offer up the food of your God.[m] Consider them holy, because I the LORD am holy—I who make you holy.[v][n]

9" 'If a priest's daughter defiles herself by becoming a prostitute, she disgraces her father; she must be burned in the fire.[o]

10" 'The high priest, the one among his brothers who has had the anointing oil poured on his head[p] and who has been ordained to wear the priestly garments,[q] must not let his hair become unkempt[w] or tear his clothes.[r] 11He must not enter a place where there is a dead body.[s] He must not make himself unclean,[t] even for his father or mother,[u] 12nor leave the sanctuary[v] of his God or desecrate it, because he has been dedicated by the anointing oil[w] of his God. I am the LORD.

13" 'The woman he marries must be a virgin.[x] 14He must not marry a widow, a divorced woman, or a woman defiled by prostitution, but only a virgin from his own people, 15so he will not defile his offspring among his people. I am the LORD, who makes him holy.[x]' "

16The LORD said to Moses, 17"Say to Aaron: 'For the generations to come none of your descendants who has a defect[y] may come near to offer the food of his God.[z] 18No man who has any defect[a] may come near: no man who is blind[b] or lame,[c] disfigured or deformed; 19no man with a crippled foot or hand, 20or who is hunchbacked or dwarfed, or who has any eye defect, or who has festering or running sores or damaged testicles.[d] 21No descendant of Aaron the priest who has any defect[e] is to come near to present the offerings made to the LORD by fire.[f] He has a defect; he must not come near to offer the food of his God.[g] 22He may eat the most holy food of his God,[h] as well as the holy food; 23yet because of his defect,[i] he must not go near the curtain or approach the altar, and so desecrate my sanctuary.[j] I am the LORD, who makes them holy.[y][k]' "

24So Moses told this to Aaron and his sons and to all the Israelites.

22 The LORD said to Moses, 2"Tell Aaron and his sons to treat with respect the sacred offerings[l] the Israelites consecrate to me, so they will not profane my holy name.[m] I am the LORD.[n]

3"Say to them: 'For the generations to come, if any of your descendants is ceremonially unclean and yet comes near the sacred offerings that the Israelites consecrate to the LORD,[o] that person must be cut off from my presence.[p] I am the LORD.

4" 'If a descendant of Aaron has an infectious skin disease[z] or a bodily discharge,[q] he may not eat the sacred offerings until he is cleansed. He will also be unclean if he touches something defiled by a corpse[r] or by anyone who has an emission of semen, 5or if he touches any crawling thing[s] that makes him unclean, or any person[t] who makes him unclean, whatever the uncleanness may be. 6The one who touches any such thing will be unclean[u] till evening.[v] He must not eat any of the sacred offerings unless he has bathed himself with water.[w] 7When the sun goes down, he will be clean, and after that he may eat the sacred offerings, for they are his food.[x] 8He must not eat anything found dead[y] or torn by wild animals,[z] and so become unclean[a] through it. I am the LORD.[b]

9" 'The priests are to keep my requirements[c] so that they do not become guilty[d] and die[e] for treating them with contempt. I am the LORD, who makes them holy.[a][f]

10" 'No one outside a priest's family may eat the sacred offering, nor may the guest of a priest or his hired worker eat it.[g] 11But if a priest buys a slave with money, or if a slave is born in his household, that slave may eat his

21:3 [a]Nu 6:6
21:5 [b]S Lev 13:40; Jer 7:29; 16:6 [c]Eze 5:1; 44:20 [d]S Lev 19:28
21:6 [e]ver 8; Ezr 8:28 [f]Lev 18:21 [g]S Lev 3:11 [h]ver 17,22; Lev 22:25 [i]S Ex 19:22; S Lev 10:3
21:7 [j]ver 13,14 [k]Eze 44:22
21:8 [l]ver 6 [m]Lev 3:11 [n]S Ex 31:13
21:9 [o]S Ge 38:24; S Lev 19:29
21:10 [p]S Ex 29:7 [q]S Lev 8:7-9,13; S 16:4 [r]S Lev 10:6
21:11 [s]Nu 5:2; 6:6; 9:6; 19:11, 13,14; 31:19 [t]Lev 19:28 [u]ver 2
21:12 [v]S Ex 25:8 [w]S Ex 28:41
21:13 [x]Eze 44:22
21:17 [y]ver 18, 21,23 [z]S ver 6
21:18 [a]Lev 22:19-25 [b]S Lev 19:14 [c]2Sa 4:4; 9:3; 19:26
21:20 [d]Lev 22:24; Dt 23:1; Isa 56:3
21:21 [e]S ver 17 [f]S Lev 3:11 [g]Lev 22:19
21:22 [h]1Co 9:13
21:23 [i]S ver 17 [j]S Ex 25:8 [k]Lev 20:8
22:2 [l]S Lev 19:8 [m]S Ex 20:7; S Mt 5:33 [n]Eze 44:8
22:3 [o]Ezr 8:28 [p]Lev 7:20,21; Nu 19:13
22:4 [q]Lev 15:2-15 [r]Lev 11:24-28,39
22:5 [s]Lev 11:24-28,43 [t]S Lev 15:7
22:6 [u]Hag 2:13 [v]S Lev 11:24 [w]S Lev 14:8
22:7 [x]Nu 18:11
22:8 [y]S Lev 11:39 [z]S Ex 22:31 [a]S Lev 11:40 [b]Lev 11:44
22:9 [c]S Lev 8:35 [d]S Ex 28:38 [e]ver 16; S Ex 28:43 [f]Lev 20:8
22:10 [g]ver 13; Ex 12:45; 29:33

u4 Or *unclean as a leader among his people* v8 Or *who sanctify you; or who set you apart as holy* w10 Or *not uncover his head* x15 Or *who sanctifies him; or who sets him apart as holy* y23 Or *who sanctifies them; or who sets them apart as holy* z4 Traditionally *leprosy;* the Hebrew word was used for various diseases affecting the skin—not necessarily leprosy. a9 Or *who sanctifies them; or who sets them apart as holy;* also in verse 16

food.[a] 12If a priest's daughter marries
anyone other than a priest, she may
not eat any of the sacred contributions.
13But if a priest's daughter becomes a
widow or is divorced, yet has no chil-
dren, and she returns to live in her fa-
ther's house as in her youth, she may
eat of her father's food. No unautho-
rized person, however, may eat any
of it.

14" 'If anyone eats a sacred offering
by mistake,[b] he must make restitution
to the priest for the offering and add a
fifth of the value[c] to it. 15The priests
must not desecrate the sacred offer-
ings[d] the Israelites present to the
LORD[e] 16by allowing them to eat[f] the
sacred offerings and so bring upon
them guilt[g] requiring payment.[h] I am
the LORD, who makes them holy.[i] ' "

Unacceptable Sacrifices

17The LORD said to Moses, 18"Speak to
Aaron and his sons and to all the Israel-
ites and say to them: 'If any of you—
either an Israelite or an alien living in
Israel[j]—presents a gift[k] for a burnt of-
fering to the LORD, either to fulfill a
vow[l] or as a freewill offering,[m] 19you
must present a male without defect[n]
from the cattle, sheep or goats in order
that it may be accepted on your be-
half.[o] 20Do not bring anything with a
defect,[p] because it will not be accepted
on your behalf.[q] 21When anyone brings
from the herd or flock[r] a fellowship of-
fering[b][s] to the LORD to fulfill a special
vow or as a freewill offering,[t] it must
be without defect or blemish[u] to be ac-
ceptable.[v] 22Do not offer to the LORD
the blind, the injured or the maimed,
or anything with warts or festering or
running sores. Do not place any of
these on the altar as an offering made
to the LORD by fire. 23You may, how-
ever, present as a freewill offering an
ox[c] or a sheep that is deformed or
stunted, but it will not be accepted in
fulfillment of a vow. 24You must not of-
fer to the LORD an animal whose testi-
cles are bruised, crushed, torn or cut.[w]
You must not do this in your own land,
25and you must not accept such animals
from the hand of a foreigner and offer
them as the food of your God.[x] They
will not be accepted on your behalf, be-
cause they are deformed and have de-
fects.[y] ' "

26The LORD said to Moses, 27"When a
calf, a lamb or a goat[z] is born, it is to
remain with its mother for seven
days.[a] From the eighth day[b] on, it will

22:11 [a]Ge 17:13; Ex 12:44
22:14 [b]S Lev 4:2 [c]Lev 5:15
22:15 [d]S Lev 19:8 [e]Nu 18:32
22:16 [f]Nu 18:11 [g]S Ex 28:38 [h]S ver 9 [i]Lev 20:8
22:18 [j]Nu 15:16; 19:10; Jos 8:33 [k]S Lev 1:2 [l]ver 21; S Ge 28:20; Nu 15:8; Ps 22:25; 76:11; 116:18 [m]S Lev 7:16
22:19 [n]S Lev 1:3; 21:18-21; Nu 28:11; Dt 15:21 [o]S Lev 1:2
22:20 [p]S Lev 1:3; Dt 15:21; 17:1; Eze 43:23; 45:18; 46:6; Mal 1:8; Heb 9:14; 1Pe 1:19 [q]S Ex 28:38
22:21 [r]S Lev 1:2 [s]S Ex 32:6; S Lev 3:6 [t]S Lev 7:16 [u]S Ex 12:5; Mal 1:14 [v]Am 4:5
22:24 [w]S Lev 21:20
22:25 [x]S Lev 21:6 [y]S Lev 1:3; S 3:1; Nu 19:2
22:27 [z]S Lev 1:3 [a]S Ex 22:30 [b]S Ex 22:30 [c]S Ex 28:38
22:28 [d]Dt 22:6,7
22:29 [e]S Lev 7:12
22:30 [f]Lev 7:15 [g]Lev 11:44
22:31 [h]Dt 4:2, 40; Ps 105:45 [i]S Ex 22:31
22:32 [j]Lev 18:21 [k]S Lev 10:3 [l]Lev 20:8
22:33 [m]S Ex 6:6 [n]S Ge 17:7
23:2 [o]ver 4,37, 44; Nu 29:39; Eze 44:24; Col 2:16 [p]ver 21, 27
23:3 [q]Ex 20:9 [r]S Ex 20:10; Heb 4:9,10 [s]ver 7,21,35; Nu 28:26
23:4 [t]Na 1:15
23:5 [u]S Ex 12:11 [v]S Ex 12:6
23:6 [w]Ex 12:17 [x]S Ex 12:19
23:7 [y]ver 3,8
23:8 [z]S Lev 1:9
23:10 [a]Nu 15:2, 18 [b]S Lev 19:9 [c]S Lev 19:9 [d]S Ex 22:29; S 34:22; Ro 11:16
23:11 [e]S Ex 29:24 [f]S Ex 28:38

be acceptable[c] as an offering made to
the LORD by fire. 28Do not slaughter a
cow or a sheep and its young on the
same day.[d]

29"When you sacrifice a thank offer-
ing[e] to the LORD, sacrifice it in such a
way that it will be accepted on your be-
half. 30It must be eaten that same day;
leave none of it till morning.[f] I am the
LORD.[g]

31"Keep[h] my commands and follow
them.[i] I am the LORD. 32Do not profane
my holy name.[j] I must be acknowl-
edged as holy by the Israelites.[k] I am
the LORD, who makes[d] you holy[e][l]
33and who brought you out of Egypt[m]
to be your God.[n] I am the LORD."

23 The LORD said to Moses, 2"Speak
to the Israelites and say to them:
'These are my appointed feasts,[o] the
appointed feasts of the LORD, which
you are to proclaim as sacred assem-
blies.[p]

The Sabbath

3" 'There are six days when you may
work,[q] but the seventh day is a Sab-
bath of rest,[r] a day of sacred assembly.
You are not to do any work;[s] wherever
you live, it is a Sabbath to the LORD.

The Passover and Unleavened Bread

23:4-8pp — Ex 12:14-20; Nu 28:16-25; Dt 16:1-8

4" 'These are the LORD's appointed
feasts, the sacred assemblies you are to
proclaim at their appointed times:[t]
5The LORD's Passover[u] begins at twi-
light on the fourteenth day of the first
month.[v] 6On the fifteenth day of that
month the LORD's Feast of Unleavened
Bread[w] begins; for seven days[x] you
must eat bread made without yeast.
7On the first day hold a sacred assem-
bly[y] and do no regular work. 8For
seven days present an offering made to
the LORD by fire.[z] And on the seventh
day hold a sacred assembly and do no
regular work.' "

Firstfruits

9The LORD said to Moses, 10"Speak to
the Israelites and say to them: 'When
you enter the land I am going to give
you[a] and you reap its harvest,[b] bring
to the priest a sheaf[c] of the first grain
you harvest.[d] 11He is to wave the sheaf
before the LORD[e] so it will be accepted[f]

[b]21 Traditionally *peace offering* [c]23 The Hebrew word can include both male and female. [d]32 Or *made* [e]32 Or *who sanctifies you;* or *who sets you apart as holy*

on your behalf; the priest is to wave it
on the day after the Sabbath. 12 On the
day you wave the sheaf, you must sac-
rifice as a burnt offering to the LORD a
lamb a year old[a] without defect,[b] 13 to-
gether with its grain offering[c] of two-
tenths of an ephah[f][d] of fine flour
mixed with oil—an offering made to
the LORD by fire, a pleasing aroma—
and its drink offering[e] of a quarter of a
hin[g] of wine.[f] 14 You must not eat any
bread, or roasted or new grain,[g] until
the very day you bring this offering to
your God.[h] This is to be a lasting ordi-
nance for the generations to come,[i]
wherever you live.[j]

Feast of Weeks

23:15-22pp — Nu 28:26-31; Dt 16:9-12

15 " 'From the day after the Sabbath,
the day you brought the sheaf of the
wave offering, count off seven full
weeks. 16 Count off fifty days up to the
day after the seventh Sabbath,[k] and
then present an offering of new grain
to the LORD. 17 From wherever you live,
bring two loaves made of two-tenths of
an ephah[l] of fine flour, baked with
yeast, as a wave offering of firstfruits[m]
to the LORD. 18 Present with this bread
seven male lambs, each a year old and
without defect, one young bull and two
rams. They will be a burnt offering to
the LORD, together with their grain of-
ferings and drink offerings[n]—an offer-
ing made by fire, an aroma pleasing to
the LORD. 19 Then sacrifice one male goat
for a sin offering and two lambs, each a
year old, for a fellowship offering.[h]
20 The priest is to wave the two lambs
before the LORD as a wave offering,[o] to-
gether with the bread of the firstfruits.
They are a sacred offering to the LORD
for the priest. 21 On that same day you
are to proclaim a sacred assembly[p] and
do no regular work.[q] This is to be a
lasting ordinance for the generations to
come, wherever you live.
22 " 'When you reap the harvest[r] of
your land, do not reap to the very
edges of your field or gather the glean-
ings of your harvest.[s] Leave them for
the poor and the alien.[t] I am the LORD
your God.' "

Feast of Trumpets

23:23-25pp — Nu 29:1-6

23 The LORD said to Moses, 24 "Say to
the Israelites: 'On the first day of the
seventh month you are to have a day of
rest, a sacred assembly[u] commemorat-
ed with trumpet blasts.[v] 25 Do no regu-
lar work,[w] but present an offering
made to the LORD by fire.[x]' "

Day of Atonement

23:26-32pp — Lev 16:2-34; Nu 29:7-11

26 The LORD said to Moses, 27 "The
tenth day of this seventh month[y] is the
Day of Atonement.[z] Hold a sacred as-
sembly[a] and deny yourselves,[i] and
present an offering made to the LORD
by fire. 28 Do no work[b] on that day, be-
cause it is the Day of Atonement, when
atonement is made for you before the
LORD your God. 29 Anyone who does
not deny himself on that day must be
cut off from his people.[c] 30 I will de-
stroy from among his people[d] anyone
who does any work on that day. 31 You
shall do no work at all. This is to be a
lasting ordinance[e] for the generations
to come, wherever you live. 32 It is a
sabbath of rest[f] for you, and you must
deny yourselves. From the evening of
the ninth day of the month until the
following evening you are to observe
your sabbath."[g]

Feast of Tabernacles

23:33-43pp — Nu 29:12-39; Dt 16:13-17

33 The LORD said to Moses, 34 "Say to
the Israelites: 'On the fifteenth day of
the seventh[h] month the LORD's Feast of
Tabernacles[i] begins, and it lasts for
seven days. 35 The first day is a sacred
assembly;[j] do no regular work.[k] 36 For
seven days present offerings made to
the LORD by fire, and on the eighth day
hold a sacred assembly[l] and present
an offering made to the LORD by fire.[m] It
is the closing assembly; do no regular
work.
37 (" 'These are the LORD's appointed
feasts, which you are to proclaim as sa-
cred assemblies for bringing offerings
made to the LORD by fire—the burnt of-
ferings and grain offerings, sacrifices
and drink offerings[n] required for each
day. 38 These offerings[o] are in addition
to those for the LORD's Sabbaths[p] and[j]
in addition to your gifts and whatever
you have vowed and all the freewill of-
ferings[q] you give to the LORD.)
39 " 'So beginning with the fifteenth
day of the seventh month, after you
have gathered the crops of the land,

23:12 [a]S Lev 12:6 [b]S Ex 12:5
23:13 [c]Lev 2:14-16; S 6:20 [d]ver 17; Lev 24:5; Nu 15:6; 28:9 [e]S Ge 35:14 [f]S Lev 10:9
23:14 [g]Jos 5:11; Ru 2:14; 1Sa 17:17; 25:18; 2Sa 17:28 [h]Ex 34:26 [i]Lev 3:17; Nu 10:8; 15:21 [j]Jer 2:3
23:16 [k]Ac 2:1; 20:16
23:17 [l]S ver 13 [m]S Ex 34:22
23:18 [n]ver 13; Ex 29:41; 30:9; 37:16; Jer 19:13; 44:18
23:20 [o]S Ex 29:24
23:21 [p]S ver 2; Ex 12:5 [q]S ver 3
23:22 [r]S Lev 19:9 [s]S Lev 19:10; Dt 24:19-21; Ru 2:15 [t]Ru 2:2
23:24 [u]ver 27, 36; Ezr 3:1 [v]Lev 25:9; Nu 10:9,10; 29:1; 31:6; 2Ki 11:14; 2Ch 13:12; Ps 98:6
23:25 [w]ver 21 [x]S Lev 1:9
23:27 [y]S Lev 16:29 [z]S Ex 30:10 [a]S ver 2,S 24
23:28 [b]ver 31
23:29 [c]Ge 17:14; Lev 7:20; Nu 5:2
23:30 [d]S Lev 20:3
23:31 [e]Lev 3:17
23:32 [f]S Lev 16:31 [g]Ne 13:19
23:34 [h]1Ki 8:2; Hag 2:1 [i]S Ex 23:16; Jn 7:2
23:35 [j]ver 2 [k]ver 3
23:36 [l]S ver 24; 1Ki 8:2; 2Ch 7:9; Ne 8:18; Jn 7:37 [m]S Lev 1:9
23:37 [n]ver 13
23:38 [o]S Lev 1:2 [p]S Ex 20:10; 2Ch 2:4; Eze 45:17 [q]S Lev 7:16

[f]13 That is, probably about 4 quarts (about 4.5 liters); also in verse 17 [g]13 That is, probably about 1 quart (about 1 liter) [h]19 Traditionally *peace offering* [i]27 Or *and fast;* also in verses 29 and 32 [j]38 Or *These feasts are in addition to the LORD's Sabbaths, and these offerings are*

celebrate the festival[y] to the LORD for
seven days;[z] the first day is a day of
rest, and the eighth day also is a day of
rest. 40On the first day you are to take
choice fruit from the trees, and palm
fronds, leafy branches[b] and poplars,[c]
and rejoice[d] before the LORD your God
for seven days. 41Celebrate this as a fes-
tival to the LORD for seven days each
year. This is to be a lasting ordinance
for the generations to come; celebrate it
in the seventh month. 42Live in
booths[e] for seven days: All native-born
Israelites are to live in booths 43so your
descendants will know[f] that I had the
Israelites live in booths when I brought
them out of Egypt. I am the LORD your
God.[g]' "
44So Moses announced to the Israel-
ites the appointed feasts of the LORD.

Oil and Bread Set Before the LORD

24:1-3pp — Ex 27:20-21

24 The LORD said to Moses, 2"Com-
mand the Israelites to bring you
clear oil of pressed olives for the light
so that the lamps may be kept burning
continually. 3Outside the curtain of the
Testimony in the Tent of Meeting,
Aaron is to tend the lamps before the
LORD from evening till morning, con-
tinually. This is to be a lasting ordi-
nance[h] for the generations to come.
4The lamps on the pure gold lamp-
stand[i] before the LORD must be tended
continually.
5"Take fine flour and bake twelve
loaves of bread,[j] using two-tenths of
an ephah[k][k] for each loaf. 6Set them in
two rows, six in each row, on the table
of pure gold[l] before the LORD. 7Along
each row put some pure incense[m] as a
memorial portion[n] to represent the
bread and to be an offering made to the
LORD by fire. 8This bread is to be set out
before the LORD regularly,[o] Sabbath af-
ter Sabbath,[p] on behalf of the Israel-
ites, as a lasting covenant. 9It belongs
to Aaron and his sons,[q] who are to eat
it in a holy place,[r] because it is a most
holy[s] part of their regular share of the
offerings made to the LORD by fire."

A Blasphemer Stoned

10Now the son of an Israelite mother
and an Egyptian father went out
among the Israelites, and a fight broke
out in the camp between him and an
Israelite. 11The son of the Israelite
woman blasphemed the Name[t] with a
curse;[u] so they brought him to
Moses.[v] (His mother's name was
Shelomith, the daughter of Dibri the
Danite.)[w] 12They put him in custody
until the will of the LORD should be
made clear to them.[x]
13Then the LORD said to Moses:
14"Take the blasphemer outside the
camp. All those who heard him are to
lay their hands on his head, and the
entire assembly is to stone him.[y] 15Say
to the Israelites: 'If anyone curses his
God,[z] he will be held responsible;[a]
16anyone who blasphemes[b] the name
of the LORD must be put to death.[c] The
entire assembly must stone him.
Whether an alien or native-born, when
he blasphemes the Name, he must be
put to death.
17" 'If anyone takes the life of a hu-
man being, he must be put to death.[d]
18Anyone who takes the life of some-
one's animal must make restitu-
tion[e]—life for life. 19If anyone injures
his neighbor, whatever he has done
must be done to him: 20fracture for frac-
ture, eye for eye, tooth for tooth.[f] As
he has injured the other, so he is to be
injured. 21Whoever kills an animal
must make restitution,[g] but whoever
kills a man must be put to death.[h]
22You are to have the same law for the
alien[i] and the native-born.[j] I am the
LORD your God.' "
23Then Moses spoke to the Israelites,
and they took the blasphemer outside
the camp and stoned him.[k] The Israel-
ites did as the LORD commanded
Moses.

The Sabbath Year

25 The LORD said to Moses on
Mount Sinai,[l] 2"Speak to the Is-
raelites and say to them: 'When you
enter the land I am going to give you,
the land itself must observe a sabbath
to the LORD. 3For six years sow your
fields, and for six years prune your
vineyards and gather their crops.[m] 4But
in the seventh year the land is to have a
sabbath of rest,[n] a sabbath to the LORD.
Do not sow your fields or prune your
vineyards.[o] 5Do not reap what grows
of itself[p] or harvest the grapes[q] of your
untended vines.[r] The land is to have a
year of rest. 6Whatever the land yields
during the sabbath year[s] will be food
for you—for yourself, your manservant
and maidservant, and the hired worker
and temporary resident who live
among you, 7as well as for your live-

23:39 [y]Isa 62:9 [z]S Ex 23:16 **23:40** [a]Ps 118:27 [b]Ne 8:14-17; Ps 137:2; Isa 44:4 [d]Dt 12:7; 14:26; 28:47; Ne 8:10; Ps 9:2; 66:6; 105:43; Joel 2:26 **23:42** [e]S Ex 23:16 **23:43** [f]Ps 78:5 **24:3** [h]S Ex 12:14 **24:4** [i]S Ex 25:31 **24:5** [j]S Ex 25:30; Heb 9:2 [k]S Lev 23:13 **24:6** [l]Ex 25:23-30; Nu 4:7 **24:7** [m]S Lev 2:1 [n]S Lev 2:2 **24:8** [o]Ex 25:30; Nu 4:7; 1Ch 9:32; 2Ch 2:4 [p]Mt 12:5 **24:9** [q]Mt 12:4; Mk 2:26; Lk 6:4 [r]S Lev 6:16 [s]S Lev 6:17 **24:11** [t]S Ex 3:15 [u]S Ex 20:7; S 2Ki 6:33; S Job 1:11 [v]S Ex 18:22 [w]Ex 31:2; Nu 1:4; 7:2; 10:15; 13:2; 17:2; Jos 7:18; 1Ki 7:14 **24:12** [x]S Ex 18:16 **24:14** [y]ver 23; S Lev 20:2; Dt 13:9; 17:5,7; Ac 7:58 **24:15** [z]S Ex 22:28 [a]S Lev 5:1 **24:16** [b]S Ex 22:28 [c]S Ex 21:12; 1Ki 21:10,13; Mt 26:66; Mk 14:64; Jn 10:33; 19:7; Ac 7:58 **24:17** [d]ver 21; Ge 9:6; S Ex 21:12; Dt 27:24 **24:18** [e]ver 21 **24:20** [f]S Ex 21:24; Mt 5:38* **24:21** [g]S ver 18 [h]S ver 17 **24:22** [i]S Ex 12:49; S 22:21; Eze 47:22 [j]Nu 9:14 **24:23** [k]S ver 14 **25:1** [l]Ex 19:11 **25:3** [m]Ex 23:10 **25:4** [n]ver 5,6, 20; Lev 26:35; 2Ch 36:21 [o]Isa 36:16; 37:30 **25:5** [p]2Ki 19:29 [q]Ge 40:10; Nu 6:3; 13:20; Dt 23:24; Ne 13:15; Isa 5:2 [r]ver 4,11 **25:6** [s]S ver 4

k5 That is, probably about 4 quarts (about 4.5 liters)

stock and the wild animals[a] in your land. Whatever the land produces may be eaten.

The Year of Jubilee

25:8-38Ref — Dt 15:1-11
25:39-55Ref — Ex 21:2-11; Dt 15:12-18

8" 'Count off seven sabbaths of years—seven times seven years—so that the seven sabbaths of years amount to a period of forty-nine years. 9Then have the trumpet[b] sounded everywhere on the tenth day of the seventh month;[c] on the Day of Atonement[d] sound the trumpet throughout your land. 10Consecrate the fiftieth year and proclaim liberty[e] throughout the land to all its inhabitants. It shall be a jubilee[f] for you; each one of you is to return to his family property[g] and each to his own clan. 11The fiftieth year shall be a jubilee[h] for you; do not sow and do not reap what grows of itself or harvest the untended vines.[i] 12For it is a jubilee and is to be holy for you; eat only what is taken directly from the fields.

13" 'In this Year of Jubilee[j] everyone is to return to his own property.

14" 'If you sell land to one of your countrymen or buy any from him, do not take advantage of each other.[k] 15You are to buy from your countryman on the basis of the number of years[l] since the Jubilee. And he is to sell to you on the basis of the number of years left for harvesting crops. 16When the years are many, you are to increase the price, and when the years are few, you are to decrease the price,[m] because what he is really selling you is the number of crops. 17Do not take advantage of each other,[n] but fear your God.[o] I am the LORD your God.[p]

18" 'Follow my decrees and be careful to obey my laws,[q] and you will live safely in the land.[r] 19Then the land will yield its fruit,[s] and you will eat your fill and live there in safety.[t] 20You may ask, "What will we eat in the seventh year[u] if we do not plant or harvest our crops?" 21I will send you such a blessing[v] in the sixth year that the land will yield enough for three years.[w] 22While you plant during the eighth year, you will eat from the old crop and will continue to eat from it until the harvest of the ninth year comes in.[x]

23" 'The land[y] must not be sold permanently, because the land is mine[z] and you are but aliens[a] and my tenants. 24Throughout the country that you hold as a possession, you must provide for the redemption[b] of the land.

25" 'If one of your countrymen becomes poor and sells some of his property, his nearest relative[c] is to come and redeem[d] what his countryman has sold. 26If, however, a man has no one to redeem it for him but he himself prospers[e] and acquires sufficient means to redeem it, 27he is to determine the value for the years[f] since he sold it and refund the balance to the man to whom he sold it; he can then go back to his own property.[g] 28But if he does not acquire the means to repay him, what he sold will remain in the possession of the buyer until the Year of Jubilee. It will be returned[h] in the Jubilee, and he can then go back to his property.[i]

29" 'If a man sells a house in a walled city, he retains the right of redemption a full year after its sale. During that time he may redeem it. 30If it is not redeemed before a full year has passed, the house in the walled city shall belong permanently to the buyer and his descendants. It is not to be returned in the Jubilee. 31But houses in villages without walls around them are to be considered as open country. They can be redeemed, and they are to be returned in the Jubilee.

32" 'The Levites always have the right to redeem their houses in the Levitical towns,[j] which they possess. 33So the property of the Levites is redeemable—that is, a house sold in any town they hold—and is to be returned in the Jubilee, because the houses in the towns of the Levites are their property among the Israelites. 34But the pastureland belonging to their towns must not be sold; it is their permanent possession.[k]

35" 'If one of your countrymen becomes poor[l] and is unable to support himself among you, help him[m] as you would an alien or a temporary resident, so he can continue to live among you. 36Do not take interest[n] of any kind[1] from him, but fear your God,[o] so that your countryman may continue to live among you. 37You must not lend him money at interest[p] or sell him food at a profit. 38I am the LORD your God,

25:7 [a]Ex 23:11
25:9 [b]Lev 23:24; Nu 10:8; Jos 6:4; Jdg 3:27; 7:16; 1Sa 13:3; Isa 27:13; Zec 9:14 [c]S Lev 16:29 [d]S Ex 30:10
25:10 [e]Isa 61:1; Jer 34:8,15,17; S Lk 4:19 [f]ver 11,28,50; Lev 27:17,21; Nu 36:4; Eze 46:17 [g]ver 27
25:11 [h]S ver 10 [i]S ver 5
25:13 [j]ver 10
25:14 [k]S Lev 19:13; 1Sa 12:3,4; 1Co 6:8
25:15 [l]ver 27; Lev 27:18,23
25:16 [m]ver 27, 51,52
25:17 [n]S Lev 19:13; Job 31:16; Pr 22:22; Jer 7:5, 6; 21:12; 22:3,15; Zec 7:9-10; 1Th 4:6 [o]S Lev 19:14 [p]S Lev 19:32
25:18 [q]S Ge 26:5 [r]ver 19; Lev 26:4,5; Dt 12:10; 33:28; Job 5:22; Ps 4:8; Jer 23:6; 30:10; 32:37; 33:16; Eze 28:26; 34:25; 38:14
25:19 [s]Lev 26:4; Dt 11:14; 28:12; Isa 55:10 [t]S ver 18
25:20 [u]S ver 4
25:21 [v]Dt 28:8, 12; Ps 133:3; 134:3; 147:13; Eze 44:30; Hag 2:19; Mal 3:10 [w]S Ex 16:5
25:22 [x]Lev 26:10
25:23 [y]Nu 36:7; 1Ki 21:3; Eze 46:18 [z]Ex 19:5 [a]S Ge 23:4; S Heb 11:13
25:24 [b]ver 29, 48; Ru 4:7; Jer 32:8
25:25 [c]ver 48; Ru 2:20; Jer 32:7 [d]Lev 27:13,19, 31; Ru 4:4
25:26 [e]ver 49
25:27 [f]S ver 15 [g]ver 10
25:28 [h]Lev 27:24 [i]S ver 10
25:32 [j]Nu 35:1-8; Jos 21:2
25:34 [k]Nu 35:2-5; Eze 48:14
25:35 [l]Dt 24:14, 15 [m]Dt 15:8; Ps 37:21,26; Pr 21:26; Lk 6:35
25:36 [n]S Ex 22:25; Jer 15:10 [o]S Lev 19:32
25:37 [p]S Ex 22:25

136 Or *take excessive interest*; similarly in verse 37

who brought you out of Egypt to give
you the land of Canaan[a] and to be your
God.[b]
39 "'If one of your countrymen
becomes poor among you and sells
himself to you, do not make him work
as a slave.[c] 40 He is to be treated as a
hired worker[d] or a temporary resident
among you; he is to work for you until
the Year of Jubilee. 41 Then he and his
children are to be released, and he will
go back to his own clan and to the
property[e] of his forefathers.[f] 42 Be-
cause the Israelites are my servants,
whom I brought out of Egypt,[g] they
must not be sold as slaves. 43 Do not
rule over them ruthlessly,[h] but fear
your God.[i]
44 "'Your male and female slaves are
to come from the nations around you;
from them you may buy slaves. 45 You
may also buy some of the temporary
residents living among you and mem-
bers of their clans born in your coun-
try, and they will become your prop-
erty. 46 You can will them to your chil-
dren as inherited property and can
make them slaves for life, but you must
not rule over your fellow Israelites
ruthlessly.
47 "'If an alien or a temporary resi-
dent among you becomes rich and one
of your countrymen becomes poor and
sells himself[j] to the alien living among
you or to a member of the alien's clan,
48 he retains the right of redemption[k]
after he has sold himself. One of his
relatives[l] may redeem him: 49 An uncle
or a cousin or any blood relative in his
clan may redeem him. Or if he pros-
pers,[m] he may redeem himself. 50 He
and his buyer are to count the time
from the year he sold himself up to the
Year of Jubilee,[n] The price for his re-
lease is to be based on the rate paid to a
hired man[o] for that number of years.
51 If many years remain, he must pay
for his redemption a larger share of the
price paid for him. 52 If only a few years
remain until the Year of Jubilee, he is to
compute that and pay for his redemp-
tion accordingly.[p] 53 He is to be treated
as a man hired from year to year; you
must see to it that his owner does not
rule over him ruthlessly.[q]
54 "'Even if he is not redeemed in any
of these ways, he and his children are
to be released in the Year of Jubilee,
55 for the Israelites belong to me as ser-
vants. They are my servants, whom I
brought out of Egypt.[r] I am the LORD
your God.[s]

25:38 [a]S Ge 10:19 [b]S Ge 17:7 **25:39** [c]1Ki 5:13; 9:22; Jer 34:14 **25:40** [d]ver 53 **25:41** [e]ver 28 [f]Jer 34:8 **25:42** [g]ver 38 **25:43** [h]S Ex 1:13; Eze 34:4; Col 4:1 [i]S Ge 42:18 **25:47** [j]Ne 5:5; Job 24:9 **25:48** [k]S ver 24 [l]S ver 25 **25:49** [m]ver 26 **25:50** [n]S ver 10 [o]Job 7:1; 14:6; Isa 16:14; 21:16 **25:52** [p]S ver 16 **25:53** [q]Col 4:1 **25:55** [r]S Lev 11:45 [s]Lev 11:44

26:1 [t]S Ex 20:4 [u]Ps 97:7; Isa 48:5; Jer 44:19; Hab 2:18 [v]S Ex 23:24 [w]Nu 33:52 **26:2** [x]S Ex 20:8 [y]Lev 19:30 **26:3** [z]S Ge 26:5; S Ex 24:8; Dt 6:17; 7:12; 11:13,22; 28:1,9 **26:4** [a]Dt 11:14; 28:12; Ps 68:9; Jer 5:24; Hos 6:3; Joel 2:23; Zec 10:1 [b]Job 5:10; Ps 65:9; 104:13; 147:8; Jer 5:24 [c]S Ex 23:26; S Lev 25:19; S Job 14:9; Ps 67:6 **26:5** [d]Dt 6:11; 11:15; Eze 36:29-30; Joel 2:19,26 [e]S Lev 25:18 **26:6** [f]Ps 29:11; 37:11; 85:8; 147:14; Isa 26:3; 54:13; 60:18; Hag 2:9 [g]Ps 3:5; 4:8; Pr 3:24 [h]Job 11:18,19; Isa 17:2; Jer 30:10; Mic 4:4; Zep 3:13 [i]S ver 22; S Ge 37:20 **26:7** [j]Ps 18:37; 44:5 **26:8** [k]Isa 30:17 [l]Dt 28:7; 32:30; Jos 23:10; Jdg 15:15; 1Ch 12:14 **26:9** [m]S Ge 1:22; S 17:6; Ne 9:23 [n]S Ge 17:7 **26:10** [o]Lev 25:22 **26:11** [p]Ex 25:8; Ps 74:7; 76:2; Eze 37:27 [q]ver 15,43,44; Dt 31:6; 1Sa 12:22; 1Ki 6:13; 2Ki 17:15 **26:12** [r]S Ge 3:8 [s]S Ge 17:7 [t]Ex 6:7; Jer 7:23; 11:4; 24:7; 30:22; 31:1; Zec 13:9; 2Co 6:16*

Reward for Obedience

26 "'Do not make idols[t] or set up
an image[u] or a sacred stone[v] for
yourselves, and do not place a carved
stone[w] in your land to bow down be-
fore it. I am the LORD your God.
2 "'Observe my Sabbaths[x] and have
reverence for my sanctuary.[y] I am the
LORD.
3 "'If you follow my decrees and are
careful to obey[z] my commands, 4 I will
send you rain[a] in its season,[b] and the
ground will yield its crops and the trees
of the field their fruit.[c] 5 Your threshing
will continue until grape harvest and
the grape harvest will continue until
planting, and you will eat all the food
you want[d] and live in safety in your
land.[e]
6 "'I will grant peace in the land,[f]
and you will lie down[g] and no one will
make you afraid.[h] I will remove savage
beasts[i] from the land, and the sword
will not pass through your country.
7 You will pursue your enemies,[j] and
they will fall by the sword before you.
8 Five[k] of you will chase a hundred,
and a hundred of you will chase ten
thousand, and your enemies will fall by
the sword before you.[l]
9 "'I will look on you with favor and
make you fruitful and increase your
numbers,[m] and I will keep my cov-
enant[n] with you. 10 You will still be eat-
ing last year's harvest when you will
have to move it out to make room for
the new.[o] 11 I will put my dwelling
place[m][p] among you, and I will not ab-
hor you.[q] 12 I will walk[r] among you
and be your God,[s] and you will be my
people.[t] 13 I am the LORD your God,[u]
who brought you out of Egypt[v] so that
you would no longer be slaves to the
Egyptians; I broke the bars of your
yoke[w] and enabled you to walk with
heads held high.

Punishment for Disobedience

14 "'But if you will not listen to me
and carry out all these commands,[x]
15 and if you reject my decrees and ab-
hor my laws[y] and fail to carry out all
my commands and so violate my cov-
enant,[z] 16 then I will do this to you: I
will bring upon you sudden terror,
wasting diseases and fever[a] that will
destroy your sight and drain away your

26:13 [u]Lev 11:44 [v]S Ex 6:6; S 13:3 [w]Isa 10:27; Jer 2:20; 27:2; 28:10; 30:8; Eze 30:18; 34:27; Hos 11:4 **26:14** [x]Dt 28:15-68; Mal 2:2 **25:15** [y]S ver 11 [z]S Ge 17:7 **26:16** [a]Dt 28:22,35; Ps 78:33

[m]11 *Or my tabernacle*

life.[a] You will plant seed in vain, be-
cause your enemies will eat it.[b] 17I will
set my face[c] against you so that you
will be defeated[d] by your enemies;[e]
those who hate you will rule over
you,[f] and you will flee even when no
one is pursuing you.[g]
18"'If after all this you will not listen
to me,[h] I will punish[i] you for your
sins seven times over.[j] 19I will break
down your stubborn pride[k] and make
the sky above you like iron and the
ground beneath you like bronze.[l]
20Your strength will be spent in vain,[m]
because your soil will not yield its
crops, nor will the trees of the land
yield their fruit.[n]
21"'If you remain hostile[o] toward me
and refuse to listen to me, I will multi-
ply your afflictions seven times over,[p]
as your sins deserve. 22I will send wild
animals[q] against you, and they will rob
you of your children, destroy your cat-
tle and make you so few[r] in number
that your roads will be deserted.[s]
23"'If in spite of these things you do
not accept my correction[t] but continue
to be hostile toward me, 24I myself will
be hostile[u] toward you and will afflict
you for your sins seven times over.
25And I will bring the sword[v] upon you
to avenge[w] the breaking of the cov-
enant. When you withdraw into your
cities, I will send a plague[x] among
you, and you will be given into enemy
hands. 26When I cut off your supply of
bread,[y] ten women will be able to bake
your bread in one oven, and they will
dole out the bread by weight. You will
eat, but you will not be satisfied.
27"'If in spite of this you still do not
listen to me[z] but continue to be hostile
toward me, 28then in my anger[a] I will
be hostile[b] toward you, and I myself
will punish you for your sins seven
times over.[c] 29You will eat[d] the flesh of
your sons and the flesh of your daugh-
ters.[e] 30I will destroy your high
places,[f] cut down your incense altars[g]
and pile your dead bodies on the life-
less forms of your idols,[h] and I will ab-
hor[i] you. 31I will turn your cities into
ruins[j] and lay waste[k] your sanctuar-
ies,[l] and I will take no delight in the
pleasing aroma of your offerings.[m] 32I
will lay waste the land,[n] so that your
enemies who live there will be ap-
palled.[o] 33I will scatter[p] you among the
nations[q] and will draw out my sword[r]
and pursue you. Your land will be laid
waste,[s] and your cities will lie in
ruins.[t] 34Then the land will enjoy its
sabbath years all the time that it lies
desolate[u] and you are in the country of
your enemies;[v] then the land will rest
and enjoy its sabbaths. 35All the time
that it lies desolate, the land will have
the rest[w] it did not have during the sab-
baths you lived in it.
36"'As for those of you who are left, I
will make their hearts so fearful in the
lands of their enemies that the sound
of a windblown leaf[x] will put them to
flight.[y] They will run as though fleeing
from the sword, and they will fall, even
though no one is pursuing them.[z]
37They will stumble over one another[a]
as though fleeing from the sword, even
though no one is pursuing them. So
you will not be able to stand before
your enemies.[b] 38You will perish[c]
among the nations; the land of your
enemies will devour you.[d] 39Those of
you who are left will waste away in the
lands of their enemies because of their
sins; also because of their fathers'[e] sins
they will waste away.[f]
40"'But if they will confess[g] their
sins[h] and the sins of their fa-
thers[i]—their treachery against me and
their hostility toward me, 41which
made me hostile[j] toward them so that
I sent them into the land of their ene-
mies—then when their uncircumcised
hearts[k] are humbled[l] and they pay[m]
for their sin, 42I will remember my cov-
enant with Jacob[n] and my covenant
with Isaac[o] and my covenant with
Abraham,[p] and I will remember the
land. 43For the land will be deserted[q]
by them and will enjoy its sabbaths
while it lies desolate without them.
They will pay for their sins because
they rejected[r] my laws and abhorred
my decrees.[s] 44Yet in spite of this,
when they are in the land of their ene-
mies,[t] I will not reject them or abhor[u]

26:16 [a]ver 39; 1Sa 2:33; Ps 107:17; Eze 4:17; 24:23; 33:10 [b]Jdg 6:3-6; Job 31:8 **26:17** [c]Lev 17:10; Eze 15:7 [d]Dt 28:48; Jos 7:12; Jdg 2:15; 1Ki 8:33; 2Ch 6:24 [e]Jos 7:4; Jer 19:7; 21:7 [f]Ps 106:41 [g]ver 36,37; Dt 28:7,25; Ps 53:5; Pr 28:1; Isa 30:17 **26:18** [h]ver 14 [i]Ps 99:8; Jer 21:14; Am 3:14 [j]ver 21 **26:19** [k]Ps 10:4; 73:6; Isa 16:6; 25:11; 28:1-3; Jer 13:9; 48:29; Eze 24:21; Am 6:8; Zep 3:11 [l]Dt 28:23; Job 38:38 **26:20** [m]Dt 28:38; Ps 127:1; Isa 17:11; 49:4; Jer 12:13; Mic 6:15; Hag 1:6 [n]Dt 11:17; 28:24 **26:21** [o]ver 41 [p]ver 18; S Ge 4:15 **26:22** [q]S Ge 37:20 [r]Dt 28:62; Jer 42:2 [s]Jer 5:6; 14:16; 15:3; 16:4; Eze 14:15 **26:23** [t]Jer 2:30; 5:3; 7:28; 17:23; 32:33; Zep 3:2 **26:24** [u]2Sa 22:27 **26:25** [v]Jer 5:17; 15:3; 47:6; Eze 11:8; 14:17; 21:4; 33:2 [w]Jer 50:28; 51:6, 11 [x]S Ex 5:3; S 9:3; Nu 16:46; 1Ki 8:37; Hab 3:5 **26:26** [y]1Ki 8:37; 18:2; 2Ki 4:38; 6:25; 8:1; 25:3; Ps 105:16; Isa 3:1; 9:20; Jer 37:21; 52:6; Eze 4:16,17; 5:16; 14:13; Hos 4:10; Mic 6:14 **26:27** [z]ver 14 **26:28** [a]Dt 32:19; Jdg 2:14; Ps 78:59; 106:40 [b]Dt 7:10; Job 34:11; Isa 59:18; 65:6-7; 66:6; Jer 17:10; 25:29; Joel 3:4 [c]ver 18 **26:29** [d]2Ki 6:29; Jer 19:9; La 4:10; Eze 5:10 [e]Dt 28:53 **26:30** [f]Dt 12:2; 1Sa 9:12; 10:5; 1Ki 3:2,4; 12:31; 13:2,32; 2Ki 17:29; 23:20; 2Ch 34:3; Ps 78:58; Eze 6:3; 16:16; Am 7:9 [g]2Ch 34:4; Isa 17:8; 27:9; Eze 6:6 [h]Isa 21:9; Jer 50:2; Eze 6:13 [i]Ps 106:40; Am 6:8 **26:31** [j]Ne 1:3; Isa 1:7; 3:8,26; 6:11; 24:12; 61:4; Jer 4:7; 9:11; 25:11; 34:22; 44:2,6,22; Eze 36:33; Mic 2:4; 3:12; Zep 2:5; 3:6 [k]2Ki 22:19 [l]Ps 74:3-7; Isa 63:18; 64:11; La 2:7; Eze 24:21; Am 7:9 [m]Am 5:21,22; 8:10 **26:32** [n]Isa 5:6; Jer 9:11; 12:11; 25:11; 26:9; 33:10; 34:22; 44:22 [o]1Ki 9:8; 2Ch 29:8; Isa 52:14; Jer 18:16; 19:8; 48:39; Eze 5:14; 26:16; 27:35; 28:19 **26:33** [p]Jer 40:15; 50:17; Eze 34:6; Joel 3:2 [q]Dt 4:27; 28:64; Ne 1:8; Ps 44:11; 106:27; Jer 4:11; 9:16; 13:24; 31:10; Eze 5:10; 12:15; 17:21; 20:23; 22:15; Zec 7:14 [r]Jer 42:16; Am 9:4 [s]Isa 49:19; Jer 40:3 **26:34** [u]Isa 1:7; Jer 7:34 [t]ver 31; 1Sa 15:22; Job 36:11; Jer 7:34; 25:11; 44:6; Eze 33:29 [v]ver 43; 2Ch 36:21 **26:35** [w]S Lev 25:4 **26:36** [x]Job 13:25 [y]2Ki 25:5; Ps 58:7; La 1:3,6; 4:19; Eze 21:7 [z]S ver 17 **26:37** [a]Jer 6:21; 13:16; 46:16; Eze 3:20; Na 3:3 [b]Jos 7:12 **26:38** [c]Job 4:9; 36:12; Ps 1:6; Isa 1:28; Jer 16:4; 44:27 [d]Dt 4:26 **26:39** [e]Ex 20:5; Isa 14:21 [f]S ver 16; Isa 24:16 **26:40** [g]S Lev 5:5 [h]Ps 32:5; 38:18 [i]Ne 9:2; Ps 106:6; Jer 3:12-15; 14:20; Hos 5:15; Lk 15:18; 1Jn 1:9 **26:41** [j]S ver 21 [k]Dt 10:16; 30:6; Jer 4:4; 9:25,26; Eze 44:7,9; Ac 7:51 [l]2Ch 7:14; 12:6; Eze 20:43 [m]Isa 6:7; 33:24; 40:2; 53:5, 6,11 **26:42** [n]Ge 28:15; 35:11-12 [o]S Ge 26:5 [p]S Ex 2:24 **26:43** [q]Ps 69:25; Isa 6:11; 32:14; 62:4; Jer 2:15; 44:2; La 1:1; Eze 36:4 [r]Nu 11:20; 14:31; 1Sa 8:7; Ps 106:24 [s]S ver 11; 2Ki 17:20; 25:11; 2Ch 6:36; 36:20 Eze 20:13 **26:44** [t]S ver 33; [u]S ver 11; Ro 11:2

them so as to destroy them completely,[a] breaking my covenant[b] with them. I am the LORD their God. 45But for their sake I will remember[c] the covenant with their ancestors whom I brought out of Egypt[d] in the sight of the nations to be their God. I am the LORD.' "

46These are the decrees, the laws and the regulations that the LORD established on Mount Sinai[e] between himself and the Israelites through Moses.[f]

Redeeming What Is the LORD's

27 The LORD said to Moses, 2"Speak to the Israelites and say to them: 'If anyone makes a special vow[g] to dedicate persons to the LORD by giving equivalent values, 3set the value of a male between the ages of twenty and sixty at fifty shekels[n] of silver, according to the sanctuary shekel[o];[h] 4and if it is a female, set her value at thirty shekels.[p] 5If it is a person between the ages of five and twenty, set the value of a male at twenty shekels[q][i] and of a female at ten shekels.[r] 6If it is a person between one month and five years, set the value of a male at five shekels[s][j] of silver and that of a female at three shekels[t] of silver. 7If it is a person sixty years old or more, set the value of a male at fifteen shekels[u] and of a female at ten shekels. 8If anyone making the vow is too poor to pay[k] the specified amount, he is to present the person to the priest, who will set the value[l] for him according to what the man making the vow can afford.

9" 'If what he vowed is an animal that is acceptable as an offering to the LORD,[m] such an animal given to the LORD becomes holy.[n] 10He must not exchange it or substitute a good one for a bad one, or a bad one for a good one;[o] if he should substitute one animal for another, both it and the substitute become holy. 11If what he vowed is a ceremonially unclean animal[p]—one that is not acceptable as an offering to the LORD—the animal must be presented to the priest, 12who will judge its quality as good or bad. Whatever value the priest then sets, that is what it will be. 13If the owner wishes to redeem[q] the animal, he must add a fifth to its value.[r]

14" 'If a man dedicates his house as something holy to the LORD, the priest will judge its quality as good or bad. Whatever value the priest then sets, so it will remain. 15If the man who dedicates his house redeems it,[s] he must add a fifth to its value, and the house will again become his.

16" 'If a man dedicates to the LORD part of his family land, its value is to be set according to the amount of seed required for it—fifty shekels of silver to a homer[v] of barley seed. 17If he dedicates his field during the Year of Jubilee, the value that has been set remains. 18But if he dedicates his field after the Jubilee,[t] the priest will determine the value according to the number of years that remain[u] until the next Year of Jubilee, and its set value will be reduced. 19If the man who dedicates the field wishes to redeem it,[v] he must add a fifth to its value, and the field will again become his. 20If, however, he does not redeem the field, or if he has sold it to someone else, it can never be redeemed. 21When the field is released in the Jubilee,[w] it will become holy,[x] like a field devoted to the LORD;[y] it will become the property of the priests.[w]

22" 'If a man dedicates to the LORD a field he has bought, which is not part of his family land, 23the priest will determine its value up to the Year of Jubilee,[z] and the man must pay its value on that day as something holy to the LORD. 24In the Year of Jubilee the field will revert to the person from whom he bought it,[a] the one whose land it was. 25Every value is to be set according to the sanctuary shekel,[b] twenty gerahs[c] to the shekel.

26" 'No one, however, may dedicate the firstborn of an animal, since the firstborn already belongs to the LORD;[d] whether a cow[x] or a sheep, it is the LORD's. 27If it is one of the unclean animals,[e] he may buy it back at its set value, adding a fifth of the value to it. If he does not redeem it, it is to be sold at its set value.

28" 'But nothing that a man owns and devotes[y][f] to the LORD—whether man or animal or family land—may be sold or redeemed; everything so devoted is most holy[g] to the LORD.

26:44 [a]Dt 4:31; Jer 4:27; 5:10; 30:11 [b]Jdg 2:1; Jer 31:37; 33:26; 51:5
26:45 [c]Dt 4:31 [d]Ex 6:8; Lev 25:38
26:46 [e]S Ex 19:11 [f]S Lev 7:38; 27:34
27:2 [g]S Ge 28:20
27:3 [h]S Ex 30:13
27:5 [i]S Ge 37:28
27:6 [j]Nu 3:47; 18:16
27:8 [k]S Lev 5:11 [l]ver 12,14
27:9 [m]S Ge 28:20; S Lev 1:2 [n]ver 21,26,28; Ex 40:9; Nu 6:20; 18:17; Dt 15:19
27:10 [o]ver 33
27:11 [p]ver 27; S Ex 13:13; Nu 18:15
27:13 [q]S Lev 25:25 [r]S Lev 5:16
27:15 [s]ver 13, 20
27:18 [t]Lev 25:10 [u]Lev 25:15
27:19 [v]S Lev 25:25
27:21 [w]S Lev 25:10 [x]S ver 9 [y]ver 28; Nu 18:14; Eze 44:29
27:23 [z]S Lev 25:15
27:24 [a]Lev 25:28
27:25 [b]S Ex 30:13 [c]Nu 3:47; Eze 45:12
27:26 [d]S Ex 13:12
27:27 [e]S ver 11
27:28 [f]Nu 18:14; Jos 6:17-19 [g]S ver 9

n3 That is, about 1 1/4 pounds (about 0.6 kilogram); also in verse 16 o3 That is, about 2/5 ounce (about 11.5 grams); also in verse 25 p4 That is, about 12 ounces (about 0.3 kilogram) q5 That is, about 8 ounces (about 0.2 kilogram) r5 That is, about 4 ounces (about 110 grams); also in verse 7 s6 That is, about 2 ounces (about 55 grams) t6 That is, about 1 1/4 ounces (about 35 grams) u7 That is, about 6 ounces (about 170 grams) v16 That is, probably about 6 bushels (about 220 liters) w21 Or *priest* x26 The Hebrew word can include both male and female. y28 The Hebrew term refers to the irrevocable giving over of things or persons to the LORD.

[29][a] 'No person devoted to destruc-
tion[z] may be ransomed; he must be
put to death.[a]
[30] 'A tithe[b] of everything from the
land, whether grain from the soil or
fruit from the trees, belongs to the
LORD; it is holy[c] to the LORD.
[31]If a man
redeems[d] any of his tithe, he must add
a fifth of the value[e] to it.
[32]The entire
tithe of the herd and flock—every tenth
animal that passes under the shep-
herd's rod[f]—will be holy to the LORD.
[33]He must not pick out the good from
the bad or make any substitution.[g] If
he does make a substitution, both the
animal and its substitute become holy
and cannot be redeemed.[h]' "

[34]These are the commands the LORD
gave Moses on Mount Sinai[i] for the
Israelites.[j]

27:29 [a]Dt 7:26 **27:30** [b]Nu 18:26; Dt 12:6,17; 14:22,28; 2Ch 31:6; Ne 10:37; 12:44; 13:5; Mal 3:8 [c]Dt 7:6; Ezr 9:2; Isa 6:13 **27:31** [d]S Lev 25:25 [e]Lev 5:16 **27:32** [f]Ps 89:32; Jer 33:13; Eze 20:37 **27:33** [g]ver 10 [h]Nu 18:21 **27:34** [i]S Ex 19:11 [j]S Lev 7:38; Ac 7:38

[z]29 The Hebrew term refers to the irrevocable giving over of things or persons to the LORD, often by totally destroying them.

Numbers

The Census

1 The LORD spoke to Moses in the
Tent of Meeting[a] in the Desert of
Sinai[b] on the first day of the second
month[c] of the second year after the Is-
raelites came out of Egypt.[d] He said:
2"Take a census[e] of the whole Israelite
community by their clans and fami-
lies,[f] listing every man by name,[g] one
by one. 3You and Aaron[h] are to num-
ber by their divisions all the men in Is-
rael twenty years old or more[i] who are
able to serve in the army.[j] 4One man
from each tribe,[k] each the head of his
family,[l] is to help you.[m] 5These are the
names[n] of the men who are to assist
you:

from Reuben,[o] Elizur son of Shedeur;[p]
6from Simeon,[q] Shelumiel son of Zurishaddai;[r]
7from Judah,[s] Nahshon son of Amminadab;[t]
8from Issachar,[u] Nethanel son of Zuar;[v]
9from Zebulun,[w] Eliab son of Helon;[x]
10from the sons of Joseph:
from Ephraim,[y] Elishama son of Ammihud;[z]
from Manasseh,[a] Gamaliel son of Pedahzur;[b]
11from Benjamin,[c] Abidan son of Gideoni;[d]
12from Dan,[e] Ahiezer son of Ammishaddai;[f]
13from Asher,[g] Pagiel son of Ocran;[h]
14from Gad,[i] Eliasaph son of Deuel;[j]
15from Naphtali,[k] Ahira son of Enan.[l]"

16These were the men appointed
from the community, the leaders[m] of
their ancestral tribes.[n] They were the
heads of the clans of Israel.[o]
17Moses and Aaron took these men
whose names had been given, 18and
they called the whole community to-
gether on the first day of the second
month.[p] The people indicated their
ancestry[q] by their clans and families,[r]
and the men twenty years old or more[s]
were listed by name, one by one, 19as
the LORD commanded Moses. And so
he counted[t] them in the Desert of
Sinai:

20From the descendants of Reuben[u] the
firstborn son[v] of Israel:

All the men twenty years old or more who were able to serve in the army were listed by name, one by one, according to the records of their clans and families.
21The number from the tribe
of Reuben[w] was 46,500.

22From the descendants of Simeon:[x]

All the men twenty years old or more who were able to serve in the army were counted and listed by name, one by one, according to the records of their clans
and families. 23The number from
the tribe of Simeon was 59,300.[y]

24From the descendants of Gad:[z]

All the men twenty years old or more who were able to serve in the army were listed by name, according to the records of their
clans and families. 25The num-
ber from the tribe of Gad[a] was 45,650.

26From the descendants of Judah:[b]

All the men twenty years old or more who were able to serve in the army were listed by name, according to the records of their
clans and families. 27The num-
ber from the tribe of Judah[c] was 74,600.

28From the descendants of Issachar:[d]

All the men twenty years old or more who were able to serve in the army were listed by name, according to the records of their

1:1 [a]S Ex 27:21; S 40:2 [b]S Ex 19:1 [c]ver 18 [d]S Ex 6:14 **1:2** [e]Ex 30:11-16 [f]ver 18 [g]Nu 3:40 **1:3** [h]Ex 4:14; Nu 17:3 [i]S Ex 30:14 [j]ver 20; Nu 26:2; Jos 5:4; 1Ch 5:18 **1:4** [k]S Lev 24:11; S Jos 7:1 [l]ver 16; Nu 7:2; 30:1; 31:26 [m]Ex 18:21; Nu 34:18; Dt 1:15; Jos 22:14 **1:5** [n]Nu 17:2 [o]S Ge 29:32; Rev 7:5 [p]Nu 2:10; 7:30; 10:18 **1:6** [q]ver 22; Nu 25:14 [r]Nu 2:12; 7:36, 41; 10:19 **1:7** [s]ver 26; S Ge 29:35; Ps 78:68 [t]Ex 6:23; Nu 7:12; Ru 4:20; 1Ch 2:10; Mt 1:4; Lk 3:32 **1:8** [u]S Ge 30:18; Nu 10:15 [v]Nu 2:5; 7:18 **1:9** [w]ver 30; Nu 10:16 [x]Nu 2:7; 7:24 **1:10** [y]ver 32 [z]Nu 2:18; 7:48, 53; 10:22 [a]ver 34; Nu 10:23 [b]Nu 2:20; 7:54 **1:11** [c]Nu 10:24 [d]Nu 2:22; 7:60; Ps 68:27 **1:12** [e]ver 38 [f]Nu 2:25; 7:66; 10:25 **1:13** [g]ver 40; Nu 10:26 [h]Nu 2:27; 7:72 **1:14** [i]ver 24; Nu 10:20 [j]Nu 2:14; 7:42 **1:15** [k]ver 42; Nu 10:27 [l]Nu 2:29; 7:78 **1:16** [m]S Ex 18:25 [n]Nu 32:28 [o]S ver 4 **1:18** [p]ver 1 [q]Ezr 2:59; Heb 7:3 [r]ver 2 [s]S Ex 30:14 **1:19** [t]Ex 30:12; Nu 26:63; 31:49 **1:20** [u]S Ge 29:32; S 46:9; Rev 7:5 [v]S Ge 10:15 **1:21** [w]Nu 26:7 **1:22** [x]S Ge 29:33; Rev 7:7 **1:23** [y]Nu 26:14 **1:24** [z]S Ge 30:11; S Jos 13:24-28; Rev 7:5 **1:25** [a]Ge 46:16; Nu 26:18; 1Ch 5:11 **1:26** [b]S ver 7; Mt 1:2; Rev 7:5 **1:27** [c]Nu 26:22 **1:28** [d]S Ge 30:18; Rev 7:7

clans and families. [29]The num-
ber from the tribe of Issachar[a]
was 54,400.[b]

[30]From the descendants of Zebulun:[c]
All the men twenty years old or
more who were able to serve in
the army were listed by name,
according to the records of their
clans and families. [31]The num-
ber from the tribe of Zebulun
was 57,400.[d]

[32]From the sons of Joseph:[e]
From the descendants of Ephraim:[f]
All the men twenty years old or
more who were able to serve in
the army were listed by name,
according to the records of their
clans and families. [33]The num-
ber from the tribe of Ephraim[g]
was 40,500.

[34]From the descendants of Manasseh:[h]
All the men twenty years old or
more who were able to serve in
the army were listed by name,
according to the records of their
clans and families. [35]The num-
ber from the tribe of Manasseh
was 32,200.

[36]From the descendants of Benjamin:[i]
All the men twenty years old or
more who were able to serve in
the army were listed by name,
according to the records of their
clans and families. [37]The num-
ber from the tribe of Benjamin[j]
was 35,400.

[38]From the descendants of Dan:[k]
All the men twenty years old or
more who were able to serve in
the army were listed by name,
according to the records of their
clans and families. [39]The num-
ber from the tribe of Dan was
62,700.[l]

[40]From the descendants of Asher:[m]
All the men twenty years old or
more who were able to serve in
the army were listed by name,
according to the records of their
clans and families. [41]The num-
ber from the tribe of Asher[n] was
41,500.

[42]From the descendants of Naphtali:[o]
All the men twenty years old or
more who were able to serve in
the army were listed by name,
according to the records of their
clans and families. [43]The num-
ber from the tribe of Naphtali[p]
was 53,400.[q]

[44]These were the men counted by
Moses and Aaron[r] and the twelve
leaders of Israel, each one representing
his family. [45]All the Israelites twenty
years old or more[s] who were able to
serve in Israel's army were counted ac-
cording to their families.[t] [46]The total
number was 603,550.[u]

[47]The families of the tribe of Levi,[v]
however, were not counted[w] along
with the others. [48]The LORD had said to
Moses: [49]"You must not count the tribe
of Levi or include them in the census of
the other Israelites. [50]Instead, appoint
the Levites to be in charge of the taber-
nacle[x] of the Testimony[y]—over all its
furnishings[z] and everything belonging
to it. They are to carry the tabernacle
and all its furnishings; they are to take
care of it and encamp around it.
[51]Whenever the tabernacle[a] is to
move,[b] the Levites are to take it down,
and whenever the tabernacle is to be
set up, the Levites shall do it.[c] Anyone
else who goes near it shall be put to
death.[d] [52]The Israelites are to set up
their tents by divisions, each man in
his own camp under his own stan-
dard.[e] [53]The Levites, however, are to
set up their tents around the taber-
nacle[f] of the Testimony so that wrath
will not fall[g] on the Israelite commu-
nity. The Levites are to be responsible
for the care of the tabernacle of the Tes-
timony.[h]"

[54]The Israelites did all this just as the
LORD commanded Moses.

The Arrangement of the Tribal Camps

2 The LORD said to Moses and Aaron:
[2]"The Israelites are to camp around
the Tent of Meeting some distance
from it, each man under his standard[i]
with the banners of his family."

[3]On the east, toward the sunrise,
the divisions of the camp of Judah
are to encamp under their stan-
dard. The leader of the people of
Judah is Nahshon son of Am-
minadab.[j] [4]His division numbers
74,600.

[5]The tribe of Issachar[k] will camp
next to them. The leader of the
people of Issachar is Nethanel son
of Zuar.[l] [6]His division numbers
54,400.

[7]The tribe of Zebulun will be
next. The leader of the people of

1:29 [a]S Ge 30:18 [b]Nu 26:25
1:30 [c]S Ge 30:20; Rev 7:8
1:31 [d]Nu 26:27
1:32 [e]Ge 49:26 [f]S Ge 41:52
1:33 [g]Nu 26:37; 1Ch 7:20
1:34 [h]S Ge 41:51; Rev 7:6
1:36 [i]S Ge 35:18; 2Ch 17:17; Jer 32:44; Ob 1:19; Rev 7:8
1:37 [j]Nu 26:41
1:38 [k]Ge 30:6; Dt 33:22
1:39 [l]Nu 26:43
1:40 [m]S Ge 30:13; Nu 26:44; Rev 7:6
1:41 [n]Nu 26:47
1:42 [o]S Ge 30:8; Rev 7:6
1:43 [p]Nu 26:50 [q]S Ex 1:1-4
1:44 [r]Nu 26:64
1:45 [s]ver 3; Nu 14:29 [t]Nu 2:32
1:46 [u]S Ex 12:37; 2Sa 24:9
1:47 [v]S Nu 3:17-20 [w]Nu 4:3,49
1:50 [x]Ex 25:9; S 26:1 [y]S Ex 16:34; Ac 7:44; Rev 15:5 [z]Nu 3:31
1:51 [a]S Ex 26:1 [b]Nu 4:5 [c]Nu 3:38; 4:15 [d]S Ex 21:12
1:52 [e]Nu 10:14; Ps 20:5; SS 2:4; 6:4
1:53 [f]Nu 2:10; 3:23,29,38 [g]Lev 10:6; Nu 16:46; 18:5; Dt 9:22 [h]S Ex 38:21; Nu 18:2-4
2:2 [i]Ps 74:4; Isa 31:9; Jer 4:21
2:3 [j]S Ex 6:23
2:5 [k]Nu 10:15 [l]S Nu 1:8

Zebulun is Eliab son of Helon.[a]
8 His division numbers 57,400.
9 All the men assigned to the
camp of Judah, according to their
divisions, number 186,400. They
will set out first.[b]

10 On the south[c] will be the divi-
sions of the camp of Reuben under
their standard. The leader of the
people of Reuben is Elizur son of
Shedeur.[d] 11 His division numbers
46,500.
12 The tribe of Simeon[e] will camp
next to them. The leader of the
people of Simeon is Shelumiel son
of Zurishaddai.[f] 13 His division
numbers 59,300.
14 The tribe of Gad[g] will be next.
The leader of the people of Gad is
Eliasaph son of Deuel.[a][h] 15 His
division numbers 45,650.
16 All the men assigned to the
camp of Reuben,[i] according to
their divisions, number 151,450.
They will set out second.

17 Then the Tent of Meeting and
the camp of the Levites[j] will set
out in the middle of the camps.
They will set out in the same order
as they encamp, each in his own
place under his standard.

18 On the west[k] will be the divi-
sions of the camp of Ephraim[l] un-
der their standard. The leader of
the people of Ephraim is Elishama
son of Ammihud.[m] 19 His division
numbers 40,500.
20 The tribe of Manasseh[n] will be
next to them. The leader of the
people of Manasseh is Gamaliel
son of Pedahzur.[o] 21 His division
numbers 32,200.
22 The tribe of Benjamin[p] will be
next. The leader of the people of
Benjamin is Abidan son of Gid-
eoni.[q] 23 His division numbers 35,-
400.
24 All the men assigned to the
camp of Ephraim,[r] according to
their divisions, number 108,100.
They will set out third.[s]

25 On the north[t] will be the divi-
sions of the camp of Dan, under
their standard.[u] The leader of the
people of Dan is Ahiezer son of
Ammishaddai.[v] 26 His division
numbers 62,700.
27 The tribe of Asher will camp
next to them. The leader of the
people of Asher is Pagiel son of
Ocran.[w] 28 His division numbers
41,500.
29 The tribe of Naphtali[x] will be
next. The leader of the people of
Naphtali is Ahira son of Enan.[y]
30 His division numbers 53,400.
31 All the men assigned to the
camp of Dan number 157,600. They
will set out last,[z] under their stan-
dards.

32 These are the Israelites, count-
ed according to their families.[a] All
those in the camps, by their divi-
sions, number 603,550.[b] 33 The Le-
vites, however, were not counted[c]
along with the other Israelites, as
the LORD commanded Moses.

34 So the Israelites did everything the
LORD commanded Moses; that is the
way they encamped under their stan-
dards, and that is the way they set out,
each with his clan and family.

The Levites

3 This is the account of the family of
Aaron and Moses[d] at the time the
LORD talked with Moses on Mount
Sinai.[e]
2 The names of the sons of Aaron
were Nadab the firstborn[f] and Abihu,
Eleazar and Ithamar.[g] 3 Those were the
names of Aaron's sons, the anointed
priests,[h] who were ordained to serve
as priests. 4 Nadab and Abihu, how-
ever, fell dead before the LORD[i] when
they made an offering with unautho-
rized fire before him in the Desert of
Sinai.[j] They had no sons; so only Elea-
zar and Ithamar[k] served as priests dur-
ing the lifetime of their father Aaron.[l]
5 The LORD said to Moses, 6 "Bring the
tribe of Levi[m] and present them to
Aaron the priest to assist him.[n] 7 They
are to perform duties for him and for
the whole community[o] at the Tent of
Meeting by doing the work[p] of the tab-
ernacle. 8 They are to take care of all the
furnishings of the Tent of Meeting, ful-
filling the obligations of the Israelites
by doing the work of the tabernacle.
9 Give the Levites to Aaron and his
sons;[q] they are the Israelites who are to
be given wholly to him.[b] 10 Appoint
Aaron[r] and his sons to serve as
priests;[s] anyone else who approaches
the sanctuary must be put to death."[t]

2:7 [a]Nu 1:9; 10:16
2:9 [b]Nu 10:14; Jdg 1:1
2:10 [c]S Nu 1:53 [d]Nu 1:5
2:12 [e]Nu 10:19 [f]S Nu 1:6
2:14 [g]Nu 10:20 [h]Nu 1:14; 10:20
2:16 [i]Nu 10:18
2:17 [j]Nu 1:50; 10:21
2:18 [k]S Nu 1:53 [l]S Ge 48:20; Jer 31:18-20 [m]Nu 1:10
2:20 [n]S Ge 48:20 [o]S Nu 1:10
2:22 [p]Nu 10:24 [q]S Nu 1:11
2:24 [r]Nu 10:22 [s]Ps 80:2
2:25 [t]S Nu 1:53 [u]Nu 10:25 [v]S Nu 1:12
2:27 [w]Nu 1:13; 10:26
2:29 [x]Nu 10:27 [y]Nu 1:15; 10:27
2:31 [z]Nu 10:25; Jos 6:9
2:32 [a]Nu 1:45 [b]S Ex 12:37
2:33 [c]Nu 1:47; 26:57-62
3:1 [d]S Ex 6:27 [e]S Ex 19:11
3:2 [f]Nu 1:20 [g]S Ex 6:23
3:3 [h]S Ex 28:41; S 29:30
3:4 [i]S Lev 10:2 [j]S Lev 10:1 [k]Lev 10:6,12; Nu 4:28 [l]1Ch 24:1
3:6 [m]Dt 10:8; 31:9; 1Ch 15:2 [n]Nu 8:6-22; 18:1-7; 2Ch 29:11
3:7 [o]Nu 1:53; 8:19 [p]S Lev 8:35
3:9 [q]ver 12,45; Nu 8:19; 18:6
3:10 [r]S Ex 30:7 [s]S Ex 29:9 [t]Nu 1:51

[a]14 Many manuscripts of the Masoretic Text, Samaritan Pentateuch and Vulgate (see also Num. 1:14); most manuscripts of the Masoretic Text *Reuel*
[b]9 Most manuscripts of the Masoretic Text; some manuscripts of the Masoretic Text, Samaritan Pentateuch and Septuagint (see also Num. 8:16) *to me*

11The LORD also said to Moses, 12"I
have taken the Levites[a] from among
the Israelites in place of the first male
offspring[b] of every Israelite woman.
The Levites are mine,[c] 13for all the
firstborn are mine.[d] When I struck
down all the firstborn in Egypt, I set
apart for myself every firstborn in Is-
rael, whether man or animal. They are
to be mine. I am the LORD."[e]

14The LORD said to Moses in the
Desert of Sinai,[f] 15"Count[g] the Levites
by their families and clans. Count
every male a month old or more."[h]
16So Moses counted them, as he was
commanded by the word of the LORD.

17These were the names of the sons
of Levi:[i]
Gershon,[j] Kohath[k] and Merari.[l]
18These were the names of the Gershonite clans:
Libni and Shimei.[m]
19The Kohathite clans:
Amram, Izhar, Hebron and Uzziel.[n]
20The Merarite clans:[o]
Mahli and Mushi.[p]
These were the Levite clans, according to their families.

21To Gershon[q] belonged the clans of
the Libnites and Shimeites;[r] these
were the Gershonite clans. 22The num-
ber of all the males a month old or
more who were counted was 7,500.
23The Gershonite clans were to camp
on the west, behind the tabernacle.[s]
24The leader of the families of the Ger-
shonites was Eliasaph son of Lael. 25At
the Tent of Meeting the Gershonites
were responsible for the care of the tab-
ernacle[t] and tent, its coverings,[u] the
curtain at the entrance[v] to the Tent of
Meeting,[w] 26the curtains of the court-
yard,[x] the curtain at the entrance to
the courtyard surrounding the taber-
nacle and altar,[y] and the ropes[z]—and
everything[a] related to their use.

27To Kohath[b] belonged the clans of
the Amramites, Izharites, Hebronites
and Uzzielites;[c] these were the Ko-
hathite[d] clans. 28The number of all the
males a month old or more[e] was 8,-
600.[c] The Kohathites were responsi-
ble[f] for the care of the sanctuary.[g]
29The Kohathite clans were to camp on
the south side[h] of the tabernacle. 30The
leader of the families of the Kohathite
clans was Elizaphan[i] son of Uzziel.
31They were responsible for the care of
the ark,[j] the table,[k] the lampstand,[l]
the altars,[m] the articles[n] of the sanctu-
ary used in ministering, the curtain,[o]
and everything related to their use.[p]
32The chief leader of the Levites was
Eleazar[q] son of Aaron, the priest. He
was appointed over those who were re-
sponsible[r] for the care of the sanctu-
ary.[s]

33To Merari belonged the clans of the
Mahlites and the Mushites;[t] these
were the Merarite clans.[u] 34The num-
ber of all the males a month old or
more[v] who were counted was 6,200.
35The leader of the families of the Mera-
rite clans was Zuriel son of Abihail;
they were to camp on the north side of
the tabernacle.[w] 36The Merarites were
appointed[x] to take care of the frames
of the tabernacle,[y] its crossbars,[z]
posts,[a] bases, all its equipment, and
everything related to their use,[b] 37as
well as the posts of the surrounding
courtyard[c] with their bases, tent pegs[d]
and ropes.

38Moses and Aaron and his sons
were to camp to the east[e] of the taber-
nacle, toward the sunrise, in front of
the Tent of Meeting.[f] They were re-
sponsible for the care of the sanctuary[g]
on behalf of the Israelites. Anyone else
who approached the sanctuary was to
be put to death.[h]

39The total number of Levites count-
ed[i] at the LORD's command by Moses
and Aaron according to their clans, in-
cluding every male a month old or
more, was 22,000.[j]

40The LORD said to Moses, "Count all
the firstborn Israelite males who are a
month old or more[k] and make a list of
their names.[l] 41Take the Levites for me
in place of all the firstborn of the Israel-
ites,[m] and the livestock of the Levites in
place of all the firstborn of the livestock
of the Israelites. I am the LORD."[n]

42So Moses counted all the firstborn
of the Israelites, as the LORD com-
manded him. 43The total number of
firstborn males a month old or more,[o]
listed by name, was 22,273.[p]

44The LORD also said to Moses,
45"Take the Levites in place of all the
firstborn of Israel, and the livestock of
the Levites in place of their livestock.
The Levites are to be mine.[q] I am the
LORD.[r] 46To redeem[s] the 273 firstborn

3:12 [a]Nu 18:29; Mal 2:4 [b]ver 41; Nu 8:16-18 [c]S ver 9; Ex 13:2; Nu 8:16; 18:9
3:13 [d]S Ex 13:12 [e]Lev 11:44
3:14 [f]S Ex 19:1
3:15 [g]ver 39; S Nu 1:19 [h]ver 22; Nu 18:16; 26:62
3:17 [i]S Ge 29:34; S 46:11; Nu 1:47; 1Ch 15:4; 23:6; 2Ch 29:12 [j]Jos 21:6 [k]Jos 21:4 [l]S Ex 6:16
3:18 [m]Ex 6:17
3:19 [n]S Ex 6:18
3:20 [o]S Ge 46:11 [p]S Ex 6:19
3:21 [q]S Ge 46:11 [r]Ex 6:17
3:23 [s]S Nu 2:18
3:25 [t]Ex 25:9; Nu 7:1 [u]Ex 26:14 [v]Ex 26:36; Nu 4:25 [w]Ex 40:2
3:26 [x]Ex 27:9 [y]ver 31 [z]Ex 35:18 [a]Nu 4:26
3:27 [b]S Ge 46:11; S Ex 6:18 [c]Ex 6:18; 1Ch 26:23 [d]Nu 4:15,37
3:28 [e]ver 15 [f]Nu 4:4,15 [g]S Ex 25:8; 30:13; 2Ch 30:19; Ps 15:1; 20:2; Eze 44:27
3:29 [h]S Nu 1:53
3:30 [i]S Ex 6:22
3:31 [j]S Ex 25:10-22; Dt 10:1-8; 2Ch 5:2; Jer 3:16 [k]S Ex 25:23 [l]S Ex 25:31; 1Ch 28:15; Jer 52:19 [m]ver 26 [n]Nu 1:50 [o]S Ex 26:33; Nu 4:5 [p]Nu 4:15; 18:3
3:32 [q]S Ex 6:23 [r]ver 28 [s]Nu 4:19; 18:3
3:33 [t]S Ex 6:19 [u]S Ge 46:11
3:34 [v]ver 15
3:35 [w]S Nu 2:25
3:36 [x]Nu 4:32 [y]Ex 26:15-25; 35:20-29 [z]Ex 26:26-29 [a]Ex 36:36 [b]Nu 18:3
3:37 [c]Ex 27:10-17 [d]Ex 27:19
3:38 [e]Nu 2:3 [f]S Nu 1:53; 1Ch 9:27; 23:32 [g]ver 7; Nu 18:5 [h]ver 10; Nu 1:51
3:39 [i]S ver 15 [j]Nu 26:62
3:40 [k]ver 15 [l]Nu 1:2
3:41 [m]ver 12 [n]Lev 11:44
3:43 [o]ver 15 [p]ver 39
3:45 [q]S ver 9 [r]Lev 11:44
3:46 [s]Ex 13:13; Nu 18:15

[c]28 Hebrew; some Septuagint manuscripts 8,300

Israelites who exceed the number of
the Levites, 47collect five shekels[d,a] for
each one, according to the sanctuary
shekel,[b] which weighs twenty
gerahs.[c] 48Give the money for the re-
demption[d] of the additional Israelites
to Aaron and his sons."[e]
49So Moses collected the redemption
money[f] from those who exceeded the
number redeemed by the Levites.
50From the firstborn of the Israelites[g]
he collected silver weighing 1,365
shekels,[e,h] according to the sanctuary
shekel. 51Moses gave the redemption
money to Aaron and his sons, as he
was commanded by the word of the
LORD.

The Kohathites

4 The LORD said to Moses and Aaron:
2"Take a census[i] of the Kohathite
branch of the Levites by their clans and
families. 3Count[j] all the men from
thirty to fifty years of age[k] who come
to serve in the work in the Tent of
Meeting.
4"This is the work[l] of the Kohath-
ites[m] in the Tent of Meeting: the care of
the most holy things.[n] 5When the
camp is to move,[o] Aaron and his sons
are to go in and take down the shield-
ing curtain[p] and cover the ark of the
Testimony with it.[q] 6Then they are to
cover this with hides of sea cows[f,r]
spread a cloth of solid blue over that
and put the poles[s] in place.
7"Over the table of the Presence[t]
they are to spread a blue cloth and put
on it the plates, dishes and bowls, and
the jars for drink offerings;[u] the bread
that is continually there[v] is to remain
on it. 8Over these they are to spread a
scarlet cloth, cover that with hides of
sea cows and put its poles[w] in place.
9"They are to take a blue cloth and
cover the lampstand that is for light,
together with its lamps, its wick trim-
mers and trays,[x] and all its jars for the
oil used to supply it. 10Then they are to
wrap it and all its accessories in a
covering of hides of sea cows and put it
on a carrying frame.[y]
11"Over the gold altar[z] they are to
spread a blue cloth and cover that with
hides of sea cows and put its poles[a] in
place.
12"They are to take all the articles[b]
used for ministering in the sanctuary,
wrap them in a blue cloth, cover that
with hides of sea cows and put them
on a carrying frame.[c]
13"They are to remove the ashes[d]
from the bronze altar[e] and spread a
purple cloth over it. 14Then they are to
place on it all the utensils[f] used for
ministering at the altar, including the
firepans,[g] meat forks,[h] shovels[i] and
sprinkling bowls.[j] Over it they are to
spread a covering of hides of sea cows
and put its poles[k] in place.
15"After Aaron and his sons have fin-
ished covering the holy furnishings
and all the holy articles, and when the
camp is ready to move,[l] the Kohath-
ites[m] are to come to do the carrying.[n]
But they must not touch the holy
things[o] or they will die.[p,q] The Ko-
hathites are to carry those things that
are in the Tent of Meeting.
16"Eleazar[r] son of Aaron, the priest,
is to have charge of the oil for the
light,[s] the fragrant incense,[t] the regu-
lar grain offering[u] and the anointing
oil. He is to be in charge of the entire
tabernacle and everything in it, includ-
ing its holy furnishings and articles."
17The LORD said to Moses and Aaron,
18"See that the Kohathite tribal clans
are not cut off from the Levites. 19So
that they may live and not die when
they come near the most holy things,[v]
do this for them: Aaron and his sons[w]
are to go into the sanctuary and assign
to each man his work and what he is to
carry.[x] 20But the Kohathites must not
go in to look[y] at the holy things, even
for a moment, or they will die."

The Gershonites

21The LORD said to Moses, 22"Take a
census also of the Gershonites by their
families and clans. 23Count all the men
from thirty to fifty years of age[z] who
come to serve in the work at the Tent of
Meeting.
24"This is the service of the Gershon-
ite clans as they work and carry bur-
dens: 25They are to carry the curtains of
the tabernacle,[a] the Tent of Meeting,[b]
its covering[c] and the outer covering of
hides of sea cows, the curtains for the
entrance to the Tent of Meeting, 26the
curtains of the courtyard surrounding
the tabernacle and altar,[d] the curtain
for the entrance,[e] the ropes and all the
equipment[f] used in its service. The
Gershonites are to do all that needs to
be done with these things. 27All their
service, whether carrying or doing
other work, is to be done under the di-

3:47 [a]S Lev 27:6 [b]S Ex 30:13 [c]S Lev 27:25 **3:48** [d]ver 51 [e]ver 50 **3:49** [f]ver 48 **3:50** [g]ver 41,45 [h]S ver 46-48 **4:2** [i]S Ex 30:12 **4:3** [j]S Nu 1:47 [k]ver 23; Nu 8:25; 1Ch 23:3,24,27; Ezr 3:8 **4:4** [l]S Nu 3:28 [m]Nu 7:9 [n]ver 19 **4:5** [o]Nu 1:51 [p]S Ex 26:31,33 [q]1Ch 23:26 **4:6** [r]S Ex 25:5 [s]S Ex 25:13-15; 1Ki 8:7; 2Ch 5:8 **4:7** [t]S Lev 24:6 [u]Ex 39:36; Jer 52:19 [v]S Ex 25:30 **4:8** [w]Ex 26:26-28 **4:9** [x]S Ex 25:38 **4:10** [y]ver 12 **4:11** [z]S Ex 30:1 [a]Ex 30:4 **4:12** [b]Nu 3:31 [c]ver 10 **4:13** [d]S Lev 1:16 [e]Ex 27:1-8; Nu 3:31 **4:14** [f]S Ex 31:9 [g]S Ex 27:3 [h]1Ch 28:17; 2Ch 4:16 [i]2Ch 4:11 [j]Ex 27:3; Nu 7:84; 2Ch 4:8; Jer 52:18 [k]Ex 27:6 **4:15** [l]ver 5 [m]S Nu 3:27 [n]Nu 7:9 [o]ver 4 [p]S Ex 28:43 [q]Nu 1:51; 2Sa 6:6,7 **4:16** [r]Lev 10:6; Nu 3:32 [s]S Ex 25:6 [t]S Ex 25:6 [u]S Ex 29:41; Lev 6:14-23 **4:19** [v]S ver 15 [w]ver 27 [x]S Nu 3:32 **4:20** [y]S Ex 19:21 **4:23** [z]S ver 3 **4:25** [a]Ex 27:10-18 [b]Nu 3:25 [c]Ex 26:14 **4:26** [d]Ex 27:9 [e]Ex 27:16 [f]Nu 3:26

a47 That is, about 2 ounces (about 55 grams)
e50 That is, about 35 pounds (about 15.5 kilograms)
f6 That is, dugongs; also in verses 8, 10, 11, 12, 14 and 25

rection of Aaron and his sons.[a] You shall assign to them as their responsibility[b] all they are to carry. 28This is the service of the Gershonite clans[c] at the Tent of Meeting. Their duties are to be under the direction of Ithamar[d] son of Aaron, the priest.

The Merarites

29"Count[e] the Merarites by their clans and families.[f] 30Count all the men from thirty to fifty years of age who come to serve in the work at the Tent of Meeting. 31This is their duty as they perform service at the Tent of Meeting: to carry the frames of the tabernacle, its crossbars, posts and bases,[g] 32as well as the posts of the surrounding courtyard with their bases, tent pegs, ropes,[h] all their equipment and everything related to their use. Assign to each man the specific things he is to carry. 33This is the service of the Merarite clans as they work at the Tent of Meeting under the direction of Ithamar[i] son of Aaron, the priest."

The Numbering of the Levite Clans

34Moses, Aaron and the leaders of the community counted the Kohathites[j] by their clans and families. 35All the men from thirty to fifty years of age[k] who came to serve in the work in the Tent of Meeting, 36counted by clans, were 2,750. 37This was the total of all those in the Kohathite clans[l] who served in the Tent of Meeting. Moses and Aaron counted them according to the LORD's command through Moses.

38The Gershonites[m] were counted by their clans and families. 39All the men from thirty to fifty years of age who came to serve in the work at the Tent of Meeting, 40counted by their clans and families, were 2,630. 41This was the total of those in the Gershonite clans who served at the Tent of Meeting. Moses and Aaron counted them according to the LORD's command.

42The Merarites were counted by their clans and families. 43All the men from thirty to fifty years of age[n] who came to serve in the work at the Tent of Meeting, 44counted by their clans, were 3,200. 45This was the total of those in the Merarite clans.[o] Moses and Aaron counted them according to the LORD's command through Moses.

46So Moses, Aaron and the leaders of Israel counted[p] all the Levites by their clans and families. 47All the men from thirty to fifty years of age[q] who came to do the work of serving and carrying the Tent of Meeting 48numbered 8,580.[r] 49At the LORD's command through Moses, each was assigned his work and told what to carry.

Thus they were counted,[s] as the LORD commanded Moses.

The Purity of the Camp

5 The LORD said to Moses, 2"Command the Israelites to send away from the camp anyone who has an infectious skin disease[g][t] or a discharge[u] of any kind, or who is ceremonially unclean[v] because of a dead body.[w] 3Send away male and female alike; send them outside the camp so they will not defile their camp, where I dwell among them.[x]" 4The Israelites did this; they sent them outside the camp. They did just as the LORD had instructed Moses.

Restitution for Wrongs

5The LORD said to Moses, 6"Say to the Israelites: 'When a man or woman wrongs another in any way[h] and so is unfaithful[y] to the LORD, that person is guilty[z] 7and must confess[a] the sin he has committed. He must make full restitution[b] for his wrong, add one fifth to it and give it all to the person he has wronged. 8But if that person has no close relative to whom restitution can be made for the wrong, the restitution belongs to the LORD and must be given to the priest, along with the ram[c] with which atonement is made for him.[d] 9All the sacred contributions the Israelites bring to a priest will belong to him.[e] 10Each man's sacred gifts are his own, but what he gives to the priest will belong to the priest.[f]' "

The Test for an Unfaithful Wife

11Then the LORD said to Moses, 12"Speak to the Israelites and say to them: 'If a man's wife goes astray[g] and is unfaithful to him 13by sleeping with another man,[h] and this is hidden from her husband and her impurity is undetected (since there is no witness against her and she has not been caught in the act), 14and if feelings of jealousy[i] come over her husband and he suspects his wife and she is impure—or if he is jealous and suspects her even though she is not impure—15then he is to take his wife to the

4:27 [a]ver 19 [b]Nu 3:25,26 **4:28** [c]Nu 7:7 [d]S Ex 6:23 **4:29** [e]S Ex 30:12 [f]S Ge 46:11 **4:31** [g]Nu 3:36 **4:32** [h]Nu 3:37 **4:33** [i]S Ex 38:21 **4:34** [j]ver 2 **4:35** [k]ver 3 **4:37** [l]S Nu 3:27 **4:38** [m]S Ge 46:11 **4:43** [n]ver 3 **4:45** [o]ver 29 **4:46** [p]Nu 1:19 **4:47** [q]ver 3

4:48 [r]Nu 3:39 **4:49** [s]S Nu 1:47 **5:2** [t]S Lev 13:2 [u]S Lev 15:2; Mt 9:20 [v]Lev 13:3; Nu 9:6-10 [w]S Lev 21:11 **5:3** [x]S Ex 29:45; Lev 26:12; 2Co 6:16 **5:6** [y]S Lev 6:2 [z]Lev 5:14-6:7 **5:7** [a]S Lev 5:5; S Lk 19:8 [b]S Lev 5:16 **5:8** [c]S Lev 5:15 [d]Lev 6:6,7 **5:9** [e]Lev 6:17 **5:10** [f]Lev 7:29-34 **5:12** [g]ver 19-21; S Ex 20:14 **5:13** [h]S Ex 20:14 **5:14** [i]ver 30; Pr 6:34; 27:4; SS 8:6

g2 Traditionally *leprosy;* the Hebrew word was used for various diseases affecting the skin—not necessarily leprosy. h6 *Or woman commits any wrong common to mankind*

priest. He must also take an offering of
a tenth of an ephah[i][a] of barley flour[b]
on her behalf. He must not pour oil
on it or put incense on it, because it
is a grain offering for jealousy,[c] a re-
minder[d] offering to draw attention to
guilt.
16 "The priest shall bring her and
have her stand before the LORD. 17 Then
he shall take some holy water in a clay
jar and put some dust from the taber-
nacle floor into the water. 18 After the
priest has had the woman stand before
the LORD, he shall loosen her hair[e] and
place in her hands the reminder offer-
ing, the grain offering for jealousy,[f]
while he himself holds the bitter water
that brings a curse.[g] 19 Then the priest
shall put the woman under oath and
say to her, "If no other man has slept
with you and you have not gone
astray[h] and become impure while mar-
ried to your husband, may this bitter
water that brings a curse[i] not harm
you. 20 But if you have gone astray[j]
while married to your husband and
you have defiled yourself by sleeping
with a man other than your hus-
band"— 21 here the priest is to put the
woman under this curse of the
oath[k]—"may the LORD cause your
people to curse and denounce you
when he causes your thigh to waste
away and your abdomen to swell.[j]
22 May this water[l] that brings a curse[m]
enter your body so that your abdomen
swells and your thigh wastes away.[k]"
"Then the woman is to say,
"Amen. So be it.[n]"
23 " 'The priest is to write these curses
on a scroll[o] and then wash them off
into the bitter water. 24 He shall have
the woman drink the bitter water that
brings a curse, and this water will enter
her and cause bitter suffering. 25 The
priest is to take from her hands the
grain offering for jealousy, wave it be-
fore the LORD[p] and bring it to the altar.
26 The priest is then to take a handful of
the grain offering as a memorial offer-
ing[q] and burn it on the altar; after that,
he is to have the woman drink the
water. 27 If she has defiled herself and
been unfaithful to her husband, then
when she is made to drink the water
that brings a curse, it will go into her
and cause bitter suffering; her abdo-
men will swell and her thigh waste
away,[l] and she will become accursed[r]
among her people. 28 If, however, the
woman has not defiled herself and is
free from impurity, she will be cleared

5:15 [a]S Ex 16:36 [b]S Lev 6:20 [c]ver 18,25 [d]Eze 21:23; 29:16
5:18 [e]S Lev 10:6; 1Co 11:6 [f]ver 15 [g]ver 19
5:19 [h]ver 12,29 [i]ver 18
5:20 [j]ver 12
5:21 [k]Jos 6:26; 1Sa 14:24; Ne 10:29
5:22 [l]Ps 109:18 [m]ver 18 [n]Dt 27:15
5:23 [o]Jer 45:1
5:25 [p]Lev 8:27
5:26 [q]S Lev 2:2
5:27 [r]Isa 43:28; 65:15; Jer 26:6; 29:18; 42:18; 44:12,22; Zec 8:13
5:29 [s]S ver 19
5:30 [t]S ver 14
5:31 [u]S Lev 5:1
6:2 [v]ver 5; S Ge 28:20; Ac 21:23 [w]ver 6 [x]Jdg 13:5; 16:17
6:3 [y]S Lev 10:9; S Lk 1:15 [z]Ru 2:14; Ps 69:21; Pr 10:26 [a]S Lev 25:5
6:5 [b]Ps 52:2; 57:4; 59:7; Isa 7:20; Eze 5:1 [c]1Sa 1:11
6:6 [d]S Lev 21:1-3; Nu 19:11-22
6:7 [e]Nu 9:6
6:9 [f]ver 18 [g]S Lev 14:9
6:10 [h]S Lev 14:10 [i]S Lev 5:7 [j]Lev 14:11
6:11 [k]S Ex 30:10 [l]S Ge 8:20 [m]S Ex 29:36

of guilt and will be able to have chil-
dren.
29 " 'This, then, is the law of jealousy
when a woman goes astray[s] and
defiles herself while married to her
husband, 30 or when feelings of jeal-
ousy[t] come over a man because he
suspects his wife. The priest is to have
her stand before the LORD and is to ap-
ply this entire law to her. 31 The hus-
band will be innocent of any wrong-
doing, but the woman will bear the
consequences[u] of her sin.' "

The Nazirite

6 The LORD said to Moses, 2 "Speak to
the Israelites and say to them: 'If a
man or woman wants to make a special
vow[v], a vow of separation[w] to the LORD
as a Nazirite,[x] 3 he must abstain from
wine[y] and other fermented drink and
must not drink vinegar[z] made from
wine or from other fermented drink.
He must not drink grape juice or eat
grapes[a] or raisins. 4 As long as he is a
Nazirite, he must not eat anything that
comes from the grapevine, not even
the seeds or skins.
5 " 'During the entire period of his
vow of separation no razor[b] may be
used on his head.[c] He must be holy
until the period of his separation to the
LORD is over; he must let the hair of his
head grow long. 6 Throughout the pe-
riod of his separation to the LORD he
must not go near a dead body.[d] 7 Even
if his own father or mother or brother
or sister dies, he must not make him-
self ceremonially unclean[e] on account
of them, because the symbol of his
separation to God is on his head.
8 Throughout the period of his separa-
tion he is consecrated to the LORD.
9 " 'If someone dies suddenly in his
presence, thus defiling the hair he has
dedicated,[f] he must shave his head on
the day of his cleansing[g]—the seventh
day. 10 Then on the eighth day[h] he
must bring two doves or two young pi-
geons[i] to the priest at the entrance to
the Tent of Meeting.[j] 11 The priest is to
offer one as a sin offering[k] and the
other as a burnt offering[l] to make
atonement[m] for him because he sinned
by being in the presence of the dead
body. That same day he is to conse-
crate his head. 12 He must dedicate him-

[i]15 That is, probably about 2 quarts (about 2 liters)
[j]21 *Or causes you to have a miscarrying womb and barrenness* [k]22 *Or body and cause you to be barren and have a miscarrying womb* [l]27 *Or suffering; she will have barrenness and a miscarrying womb*

self to the LORD for the period of his
separation and must bring a year-old
male lamb[a] as a guilt offering.[b] The
previous days do not count, because he
became defiled during his separation.
13"'Now this is the law for the Nazi-
rite when the period of his separation
is over.[c] He is to be brought to the en-
trance to the Tent of Meeting.[d] 14There
he is to present his offerings to the
LORD: a year-old male lamb without de-
fect[e] for a burnt offering, a year-old
ewe lamb without defect for a sin offer-
ing,[f] a ram[g] without defect for a fel-
lowship offering,[m][h] 15together with
their grain offerings[i] and drink offer-
ings,[j] and a basket of bread made
without yeast—cakes made of fine
flour mixed with oil, and wafers spread
with oil.[k]
16"'The priest is to present them[l]
before the LORD[m] and make the sin of-
fering and the burnt offering.[n] 17He is
to present the basket of unleavened
bread and is to sacrifice the ram as a
fellowship offering[o] to the LORD, to-
gether with its grain offering[p] and
drink offering.[q]
18"'Then at the entrance to the Tent
of Meeting, the Nazirite must shave off
the hair that he dedicated.[r] He is to
take the hair and put it in the fire that is
under the sacrifice of the fellowship of-
fering.
19"'After the Nazirite has shaved off
the hair of his dedication, the priest is
to place in his hands a boiled shoulder
of the ram, and a cake and a wafer from
the basket, both made without yeast.[s]
20The priest shall then wave them be-
fore the LORD as a wave offering;[t] they
are holy[u] and belong to the priest, to-
gether with the breast that was waved
and the thigh that was presented.[v] Af-
ter that, the Nazirite may drink wine.[w]
21"'This is the law of the Nazirite[x]
who vows his offering to the LORD in
accordance with his separation, in ad-
dition to whatever else he can afford.
He must fulfill the vow[y] he has made,
according to the law of the Nazirite.'"

The Priestly Blessing

22The LORD said to Moses, 23"Tell
Aaron and his sons, 'This is how you
are to bless[z] the Israelites. Say to them:

24"'"The LORD bless you[a]
and keep you;[b]
25the LORD make his face shine upon
you[c]
and be gracious to you;[d]
26the LORD turn his face[e] toward you
and give you peace."'[f]

27"So they will put my name[g] on the
Israelites, and I will bless them."

Offerings at the Dedication of the Tabernacle

7 When Moses finished setting up
the tabernacle,[h] he anointed[i] it
and consecrated it and all its fur-
nishings.[j] He also anointed and conse-
crated the altar and all its utensils.[k]
2Then the leaders of Israel,[l] the heads
of families who were the tribal leaders
in charge of those who were counted,[m]
made offerings. 3They brought as their
gifts before the LORD six covered carts[n]
and twelve oxen—an ox from each
leader and a cart from every two. These
they presented before the tabernacle.
4The LORD said to Moses, 5"Accept
these from them, that they may be
used in the work at the Tent of Meet-
ing. Give them to the Levites as each
man's work requires."
6So Moses took the carts and oxen
and gave them to the Levites. 7He gave
two carts and four oxen to the Ger-
shonites,[o] as their work required, 8and
he gave four carts and eight oxen to the
Merarites,[p] as their work required.
They were all under the direction of
Ithamar son of Aaron, the priest. 9But
Moses did not give any to the Kohath-
ites,[q] because they were to carry on
their shoulders[r] the holy things, for
which they were responsible.
10When the altar was anointed,[s] the
leaders brought their offerings for its
dedication[t] and presented them before
the altar. 11For the LORD had said to
Moses, "Each day one leader is to bring
his offering for the dedication of the al-
tar."
12The one who brought his offering on
the first day was Nahshon[u] son of Am-
minadab of the tribe of Judah.
13His offering was one silver plate
weighing a hundred and thirty
shekels,[n] and one silver sprink-
ling bowl[v] weighing seventy
shekels,[o][w] both according to the
sanctuary shekel,[x] each filled with
fine flour mixed with oil as a grain
offering;[y] 14one gold dish[z] weigh-

6:12 [a] S Lev 12:6 [b] S Lev 5:15 **6:13** [c] Ac 21:26 [d] Lev 14:11 **6:14** [e] S Ex 12:5 [f] ver 11; Lev 4:3; 14:10 [g] S Lev 5:15 [h] Lev 3:1 **6:15** [i] Lev 2:1; S 6:14 [j] S Ge 35:14 [k] S Ex 29:2 **6:16** [l] Lev 1:3 [m] ver 10 [n] ver 11 **6:17** [o] Lev 3:1 [p] S Ex 29:41 [q] Lev 23:13 **6:18** [r] ver 9; Ac 21:24 **6:19** [s] Lev 7:12 **6:20** [t] Lev 7:30 [u] S Lev 27:9 [v] S Lev 7:34 [w] Ecc 9:7 **6:21** [x] ver 13 [y] ver 2 **6:23** [z] Dt 21:5; 1Ch 23:13 **6:24** [a] S Ge 28:3; Dt 28:3-6; Ps 28:9; 128:5 [b] 1Sa 2:9; Ps 17:8 **6:25** [c] Job 29:24; Ps 4:6; 31:16; 80:3; 119:135 [d] Ge 43:29; Ps 25:16; 86:16; 119:29 **6:26** [e] Ps 4:6; 44:3 [f] Ps 4:8; 29:11; 37:11,37; 127:2; Isa 14:7; Jer 33:6; Jn 14:27 **6:27** [g] Dt 28:10; 2Sa 7:23; 2Ch 7:14; Ne 9:10; Jer 25:29; Eze 36:23 **7:1** [h] Ex 40:17 [i] S Ex 30:26 [j] S Ex 40:9 [k] ver 84,88; Ex 40:10; 2Ch 7:9 **7:2** [l] Nu 1:5-16 [m] Nu 1:19 **7:3** [n] Ge 45:19; 1Sa 6:7-14; 1Ch 13:7 **7:7** [o] Nu 4:24-26, 28 **7:8** [p] Nu 4:31-33 **7:9** [q] Nu 4:4 [r] Nu 4:15 **7:10** [s] ver 1; S Ex 29:36 [t] 2Ch 7:9 **7:12** [u] S Nu 1:7 **7:13** [v] S Ex 27:3 [w] ver 85 [x] S Ex 30:13; Lev 27:3-7 [y] Lev 2:1; Nu 6:15; 15:4 **7:14** [z] ver 20; 1Ki 7:50; 2Ki 25:14; 2Ch 4:22; 24:14

[m]14 Traditionally *peace offering*; also in verses 17 and 18 [n]13 That is, about 3 1/4 pounds (about 1.5 kilograms); also elsewhere in this chapter [o]13 That is, about 1 3/4 pounds (about 0.8 kilogram); also elsewhere in this chapter

ing ten shekels,[p][a] filled with in-
cense;[b] 15one young bull,[c] one ram
and one male lamb a year old, for a
burnt offering;[d] 16one male goat for
a sin offering;[e] 17and two oxen, five
rams, five male goats and five male
lambs a year old, to be sacrificed as
a fellowship offering.[q][f] This was
the offering of Nahshon son of Am-
minadab.[g]

18On the second day Nethanel son of
Zuar,[h] the leader of Issachar, brought
his offering.
19The offering he brought was one
silver plate weighing a hundred
and thirty shekels, and one silver
sprinkling bowl weighing seventy
shekels, both according to the sanc-
tuary shekel, each filled with fine
flour mixed with oil as a grain of-
fering; 20one gold dish[i] weighing
ten shekels, filled with incense;
21one young bull, one ram and one
male lamb a year old, for a burnt
offering; 22one male goat for a sin
offering; 23and two oxen, five rams,
five male goats and five male lambs
a year old, to be sacrificed as a fel-
lowship offering. This was the of-
fering of Nethanel son of Zuar.

24On the third day, Eliab son of He-
lon,[j] the leader of the people of Zebu-
lun, brought his offering.
25His offering was one silver plate
weighing a hundred and thirty
shekels, and one silver sprinkling
bowl weighing seventy shekels,
both according to the sanctuary
shekel, each filled with fine flour
mixed with oil as a grain offering;
26one gold dish weighing ten
shekels, filled with incense; 27one
young bull, one ram and one male
lamb a year old, for a burnt offer-
ing; 28one male goat for a sin offer-
ing; 29and two oxen, five rams, five
male goats and five male lambs a
year old, to be sacrificed as a fel-
lowship offering. This was the of-
fering of Eliab son of Helon.

30On the fourth day Elizur son of Shed-
eur,[k] the leader of the people of Reu-
ben, brought his offering.
31His offering was one silver plate
weighing a hundred and thirty
shekels, and one silver sprinkling
bowl weighing seventy shekels,
both according to the sanctuary
shekel, each filled with fine flour
mixed with oil as a grain offering;
32one gold dish weighing ten
shekels, filled with incense; 33one
young bull, one ram and one male
lamb a year old, for a burnt offer-
ing; 34one male goat for a sin offer-
ing; 35and two oxen, five rams, five
male goats and five male lambs a
year old, to be sacrificed as a fel-
lowship offering. This was the of-
fering of Elizur son of Shedeur.

36On the fifth day Shelumiel son of
Zurishaddai,[l] the leader of the people
of Simeon, brought his offering.
37His offering was one silver plate
weighing a hundred and thirty
shekels, and one silver sprinkling
bowl weighing seventy shekels,
both according to the sanctuary
shekel, each filled with fine flour
mixed with oil as a grain offering;
38one gold dish weighing ten
shekels, filled with incense; 39one
young bull, one ram and one male
lamb a year old, for a burnt offer-
ing; 40one male goat for a sin offer-
ing; 41and two oxen, five rams, five
male goats and five male lambs a
year old, to be sacrificed as a fel-
lowship offering. This was the of-
fering of Shelumiel son of Zuri-
shaddai.

42On the sixth day Eliasaph son of
Deuel,[m] the leader of the people of
Gad, brought his offering.
43His offering was one silver plate
weighing a hundred and thirty
shekels, and one silver sprinkling
bowl weighing seventy shekels,
both according to the sanctuary
shekel, each filled with fine flour
mixed with oil as a grain offering;
44one gold dish weighing ten
shekels, filled with incense; 45one
young bull, one ram and one male
lamb a year old, for a burnt offer-
ing; 46one male goat for a sin offer-
ing; 47and two oxen, five rams, five
male goats and five male lambs a
year old, to be sacrificed as a fel-
lowship offering. This was the of-
fering of Eliasaph son of Deuel.

48On the seventh day Elishama son of
Ammihud,[n] the leader of the people of
Ephraim, brought his offering.
49His offering was one silver plate
weighing a hundred and thirty
shekels, and one silver sprinkling

7:14 [a]ver 86 [b]S Ex 25:6
7:15 [c]Ex 24:5; 29:3; Nu 28:11 [d]Lev 1:3
7:16 [e]Lev 4:3
7:17 [f]Lev 3:1 [g]Nu 1:7
7:18 [h]S Nu 1:8
7:20 [i]S ver 14
7:24 [j]S Nu 1:9
7:30 [k]S Nu 1:5
7:36 [l]S Nu 1:6
7:42 [m]S Nu 1:14
7:48 [n]S Nu 1:10

p14 That is, about 4 ounces (about 110 grams); also elsewhere in this chapter q17 Traditionally *peace offering*; also elsewhere in this chapter

bowl weighing seventy shekels,
both according to the sanctuary
shekel, each filled with fine flour
mixed with oil as a grain offering;
50 one gold dish weighing ten
shekels, filled with incense; 51 one
young bull, one ram and one male
lamb a year old, for a burnt offer-
ing; 52 one male goat for a sin offer-
ing; 53 and two oxen, five rams, five
male goats and five male lambs a
year old, to be sacrificed as a fel-
lowship offering. This was the of-
fering of Elishama son of Am-
mihud.[a]

54 On the eighth day Gamaliel son of
Pedahzur,[b] the leader of the people of
Manasseh, brought his offering.
55 His offering was one silver plate
weighing a hundred and thirty
shekels, and one silver sprinkling
bowl weighing seventy shekels,
both according to the sanctuary
shekel, each filled with fine flour
mixed with oil as a grain offering;
56 one gold dish weighing ten
shekels, filled with incense; 57 one
young bull, one ram and one male
lamb a year old, for a burnt offer-
ing; 58 one male goat for a sin offer-
ing; 59 and two oxen, five rams, five
male goats and five male lambs a
year old, to be sacrificed as a fel-
lowship offering. This was the of-
fering of Gamaliel son of Pedahzur.

60 On the ninth day Abidan son of Gid-
eoni,[c] the leader of the people of Ben-
jamin, brought his offering.
61 His offering was one silver plate
weighing a hundred and thirty
shekels, and one silver sprinkling
bowl weighing seventy shekels,
both according to the sanctuary
shekel, each filled with fine flour
mixed with oil as a grain offering;
62 one gold dish weighing ten
shekels, filled with incense; 63 one
young bull, one ram and one male
lamb a year old, for a burnt offer-
ing; 64 one male goat for a sin offer-
ing; 65 and two oxen, five rams, five
male goats and five male lambs a
year old, to be sacrificed as a fel-
lowship offering. This was the of-
fering of Abidan son of Gideoni.

66 On the tenth day Ahiezer son of Am-
mishaddai,[d] the leader of the people of
Dan, brought his offering.
67 His offering was one silver plate
weighing a hundred and thirty
shekels, and one silver sprinkling
bowl weighing seventy shekels,
both according to the sanctuary
shekel, each filled with fine flour
mixed with oil as a grain offering;
68 one gold dish weighing ten
shekels, filled with incense; 69 one
young bull, one ram and one male
lamb a year old, for a burnt offer-
ing; 70 one male goat for a sin offer-
ing; 71 and two oxen, five rams, five
male goats and five male lambs a
year old, to be sacrificed as a fel-
lowship offering. This was the of-
fering of Ahiezer son of Ammi-
shaddai.

72 On the eleventh day Pagiel son of
Ocran,[e] the leader of the people of
Asher, brought his offering.
73 His offering was one silver plate
weighing a hundred and thirty
shekels, and one silver sprinkling
bowl weighing seventy shekels,
both according to the sanctuary
shekel, each filled with fine flour
mixed with oil as a grain offering;
74 one gold dish weighing ten
shekels, filled with incense; 75 one
young bull, one ram and one male
lamb a year old, for a burnt offer-
ing; 76 one male goat for a sin offer-
ing; 77 and two oxen, five rams, five
male goats and five male lambs a
year old, to be sacrificed as a fel-
lowship offering. This was the of-
fering of Pagiel son of Ocran.

78 On the twelfth day Ahira son of
Enan,[f] the leader of the people of
Naphtali, brought his offering.
79 His offering was one silver plate
weighing a hundred and thirty
shekels, and one silver sprinkling
bowl weighing seventy shekels,
both according to the sanctuary
shekel, each filled with fine flour
mixed with oil as a grain offering;
80 one gold dish weighing ten
shekels, filled with incense; 81 one
young bull, one ram and one male
lamb a year old, for a burnt offer-
ing; 82 one male goat for a sin offer-
ing; 83 and two oxen, five rams, five
male goats and five male lambs a
year old, to be sacrificed as a fel-
lowship offering. This was the of-
fering of Ahira son of Enan.

84 These were the offerings of the Isra-
elite leaders for the dedication of the
altar when it was anointed:[g] twelve sil-
ver plates, twelve silver sprinkling

7:53 [a]S Nu 1:10
7:54 [b]S Nu 1:10
7:60 [c]S Nu 1:11
7:66 [d]S Nu 1:12
7:72 [e]S Nu 1:13
7:78 [f]S Nu 1:15
7:84 [g]ver 1,10

bowls[a] and twelve gold dishes.[b]
85Each silver plate weighed a hundred
and thirty shekels, and each sprinkling
bowl seventy shekels. Altogether, the
silver dishes weighed two thousand
four hundred shekels,[r] according to
the sanctuary shekel.[c] 86The twelve
gold dishes filled with incense weighed
ten shekels each, according to the sanc-
tuary shekel.[d] Altogether, the gold
dishes weighed a hundred and twen-
ty shekels.[s] 87The total number of ani-
mals for the burnt offering[e] came to
twelve young bulls, twelve rams and
twelve male lambs a year old, together
with their grain offering.[f] Twelve male
goats were used for the sin offering.[g]
88The total number of animals for the
sacrifice of the fellowship offering[h]
came to twenty-four oxen, sixty rams,
sixty male goats and sixty male lambs[i]
a year old. These were the offerings for
the dedication of the altar after it was
anointed.[j]

89When Moses entered the Tent of
Meeting[k] to speak with the LORD,[l] he
heard the voice speaking to him from
between the two cherubim above the
atonement cover[m] on the ark of the
Testimony.[n] And he spoke with him.

Setting Up the Lamps

8 The LORD said to Moses, 2"Speak to
Aaron and say to him, 'When you
set up the seven lamps, they are to
light the area in front of the lamp-
stand.[o]' "

3Aaron did so; he set up the lamps so
that they faced forward on the lamp-
stand, just as the LORD commanded
Moses. 4This is how the lampstand was
made: It was made of hammered
gold[p]—from its base to its blossoms.
The lampstand was made exactly like
the pattern[q] the LORD had shown
Moses.

The Setting Apart of the Levites

5The LORD said to Moses: 6"Take the
Levites from among the other Israelites
and make them ceremonially clean.[r]
7To purify them, do this: Sprinkle the
water of cleansing[s] on them; then have
them shave their whole bodies[t] and
wash their clothes,[u] and so purify
themselves.[v] 8Have them take a young
bull with its grain offering of fine flour
mixed with oil;[w] then you are to take a
second young bull for a sin offering.[x]
9Bring the Levites to the front of the
Tent of Meeting[y] and assemble the
whole Israelite community.[z] 10You are
to bring the Levites before the LORD,
and the Israelites are to lay their hands
on them.[a] 11Aaron is to present the Le-
vites before the LORD as a wave offer-
ing[b] from the Israelites, so that they
may be ready to do the work of the
LORD.

12"After the Levites lay their hands
on the heads of the bulls,[c] use the one
for a sin offering[d] to the LORD and the
other for a burnt offering,[e] to make
atonement[f] for the Levites. 13Have the
Levites stand in front of Aaron and his
sons and then present them as a wave
offering[g] to the LORD. 14In this way you
are to set the Levites apart from the
other Israelites, and the Levites will be
mine.[h]

15"After you have purified the Le-
vites and presented them as a wave of-
fering,[i] they are to come to do their
work at the Tent of Meeting.[j] 16They
are the Israelites who are to be given
wholly to me. I have taken them as my
own in place of the firstborn,[k] the first
male offspring[l] from every Israelite
woman. 17Every firstborn male in Is-
rael, whether man or animal,[m] is mine.
When I struck down all the firstborn in
Egypt, I set them apart for myself.[n][o]
18And I have taken the Levites in place
of all the firstborn sons in Israel.[p] 19Of
all the Israelites, I have given the Le-
vites as gifts to Aaron and his sons[q] to
do the work at the Tent of Meeting on
behalf of the Israelites[r] and to make
atonement for them[s] so that no plague
will strike the Israelites when they go
near the sanctuary."

20Moses, Aaron and the whole Israel-
ite community did with the Levites just
as the LORD commanded Moses. 21The
Levites purified themselves and
washed their clothes.[t] Then Aaron
presented them as a wave offering be-
fore the LORD and made atonement[u] for
them to purify them.[v] 22After that, the
Levites came to do their work[w] at the
Tent of Meeting under the supervision
of Aaron and his sons. They did with
the Levites just as the LORD com-
manded Moses.

23The LORD said to Moses, 24"This ap-
plies to the Levites: Men twenty-five
years old or more[x] shall come to take
part in the work at the Tent of Meet-
ing,[y] 25but at the age of fifty,[z] they
must retire from their regular service
and work no longer. 26They may assist

7:84 [a]S Nu 4:14 [b]ver 14
7:85 [c]ver 13
7:86 [d]ver 13
7:87 [e]ver 15 [f]ver 13 [g]ver 16
7:88 [h]ver 17 [i]Ge 32:14 [j]S ver 1,10
7:89 [k]S Ex 40:2 [l]S Ex 29:42 [m]S Ex 16:34; Ps 80:1; 99:1 [n]Nu 3:31
8:2 [o]Ex 25:37
8:4 [p]S Ex 25:36 [q]S Ex 25:9
8:6 [r]Lev 22:2; Isa 1:16; 52:11
8:7 [s]Nu 19:9,17; 31:23 [t]S Lev 14:9; Nu 6:9; Dt 21:12 [u]S Ge 35:2; Lev 14:8 [v]S Ge 35:2
8:8 [w]Lev 2:1; Nu 15:8-10 [x]Lev 4:3
8:9 [y]Ex 40:12 [z]Lev 8:3
8:10 [a]S Lev 3:2; Ac 6:6
8:11 [b]S Ex 29:24
8:12 [c]S Ex 29:10 [d]Lev 4:3; Nu 6:11 [e]Lev 1:3 [f]S Ex 29:36
8:13 [g]S Ex 29:24
8:14 [h]S Nu 3:12
8:15 [i]S Ex 29:24 [j]Ex 40:2
8:16 [k]Nu 1:20 [l]S Nu 3:12
8:17 [m]S Ex 4:23 [n]S Ex 22:29 [o]S Ex 13:2
8:18 [p]S Nu 3:12
8:19 [q]S Nu 3:9 [r]S Nu 3:7 [s]Nu 16:46
8:21 [t]ver 7; S Ge 35:2 [u]Nu 16:47 [v]ver 12
8:22 [w]ver 11
8:24 [x]1Ch 23:3 [y]S Ex 38:21
8:25 [z]S Nu 4:3

[r]85 That is, about 60 pounds (about 28 kilograms)
[s]86 That is, about 3 pounds (about 1.4 kilograms)

their brothers in performing their du-
ties at the Tent of Meeting, but they
themselves must not do the work.[a]
This, then, is how you are to assign the
responsibilities of the Levites."

The Passover

9 The LORD spoke to Moses in the
Desert of Sinai in the first month[b]
of the second year after they came out
of Egypt.[c] He said, 2"Have the Israel-
ites celebrate the Passover[d] at the ap-
pointed time.[e] 3Celebrate it at the ap-
pointed time, at twilight on the four-
teenth day of this month,[f] in accor-
dance with all its rules and
regulations.[g]"
4So Moses told the Israelites to cele-
brate the Passover,[h] 5and they did so
in the Desert of Sinai[i] at twilight on
the fourteenth day of the first month.[j]
The Israelites did everything just as the
LORD commanded Moses.[k]
6But some of them could not cele-
brate the Passover on that day because
they were ceremonially unclean[l] on
account of a dead body.[m] So they came
to Moses and Aaron[n] that same day
7and said to Moses, "We have become
unclean because of a dead body, but
why should we be kept from present-
ing the LORD's offering with the other
Israelites at the appointed time?[o]"
8Moses answered them, "Wait until I
find out what the LORD commands con-
cerning you."[p]
9Then the LORD said to Moses, 10"Tell
the Israelites: 'When any of you or your
descendants are unclean because of a
dead body[q] or are away on a journey,
they may still celebrate[r] the LORD's
Passover. 11They are to celebrate it on
the fourteenth day of the second
month[s] at twilight. They are to eat the
lamb, together with unleavened bread
and bitter herbs.[t] 12They must not
leave any of it till morning[u] or break
any of its bones.[v] When they celebrate
the Passover, they must follow all the
regulations.[w] 13But if a man who is cer-
emonially clean and not on a journey
fails to celebrate the Passover, that per-
son must be cut off from his people[x]
because he did not present the LORD's
offering at the appointed time. That
man will bear the consequences of his
sin.
14" 'An alien[y] living among you who
wants to celebrate the LORD's Passover
must do so in accordance with its rules
and regulations. You must have the
same regulations for the alien and the
native-born.' "

The Cloud Above the Tabernacle

15On the day the tabernacle, the Tent
of the Testimony,[z] was set up,[a] the
cloud[b] covered it. From evening till
morning the cloud above the tabernacle
looked like fire.[c] 16That is how it con-
tinued to be; the cloud covered it, and
at night it looked like fire.[d] 17Whenever
the cloud lifted from above the Tent,
the Israelites set out;[e] wherever the
cloud settled, the Israelites en-
camped.[f] 18At the LORD's command the
Israelites set out, and at his command
they encamped. As long as the cloud
stayed over the tabernacle, they re-
mained[g] in camp. 19When the cloud re-
mained over the tabernacle a long time,
the Israelites obeyed the LORD's order[h]
and did not set out.[i] 20Sometimes the
cloud was over the tabernacle only a
few days; at the LORD's command they
would encamp, and then at his com-
mand they would set out. 21Sometimes
the cloud stayed only from evening till
morning, and when it lifted in the
morning, they set out. Whether by day
or by night, whenever the cloud lifted,
they set out. 22Whether the cloud
stayed over the tabernacle for two days
or a month or a year, the Israelites
would remain in camp and not set out;
but when it lifted, they would set out.
23At the LORD's command they en-
camped, and at the LORD's command
they set out. They obeyed the LORD's
order, in accordance with his command
through Moses.

The Silver Trumpets

10 The LORD said to Moses: 2"Make
two trumpets[j] of hammered sil-
ver, and use them for calling the com-
munity[k] together and for having the
camps set out.[l] 3When both are sound-
ed, the whole community is to assem-
ble before you at the entrance to the
Tent of Meeting. 4If only one is sound-
ed, the leaders[m]—the heads of the
clans of Israel—are to assemble before
you. 5When a trumpet blast is sound-
ed, the tribes camping on the east are
to set out.[n] 6At the sounding of a sec-
ond blast, the camps on the south are
to set out.[o] The blast will be the signal
for setting out. 7To gather the assem-
bly, blow the trumpets,[p] but not with
the same signal.[q]
8"The sons of Aaron, the priests, are
to blow the trumpets. This is to be a

8:26 [a] ver 11
9:1 [b] S Ex 40:2 [c] Nu 1:1
9:2 [d] S Ex 12:11 [e] ver 7
9:3 [f] S Ex 12:6,42 [g] Ex 12:2-11, 43-49; Lev 23:5-8; Dt 16:1-8
9:4 [h] ver 2; S Ex 12:11
9:5 [i] ver 1 [j] S Ex 12:6 [k] ver 3
9:6 [l] S Lev 5:3; S 13:3 [m] S Lev 21:11 [n] Ex 18:15; Nu 27:2
9:7 [o] ver 2
9:8 [p] Ex 18:15; Lev 24:12; Nu 15:34; 27:5, 21; Ps 85:8
9:10 [q] ver 6 [r] 2Ch 30:2
9:11 [s] S Ex 12:6 [t] Ex 12:8
9:12 [u] S Ex 12:8 [v] S Ex 12:46; Jn 19:36* [w] ver 3
9:13 [x] S Ge 17:14
9:14 [y] S Ex 12:19,43
9:15 [z] S Ex 38:21 [a] S Ex 26:30 [b] S Ex 33:16 [c] Ex 13:21
9:16 [d] S Ex 40:38
9:17 [e] ver 21 [f] 1Co 10:1
9:18 [g] Ex 40:37
9:19 [h] S Lev 8:35 [i] Ex 40:37
10:2 [j] ver 8,9; Nu 31:6; Ne 12:35; Ps 47:5; 98:6; 150:3 [k] Ne 4:18; Jer 4:5,19; 6:1; Hos 5:8; 8:1; Joel 2:1,15; Am 3:6 [l] Nu 33:3
10:4 [m] S Ex 18:21
10:5 [n] ver 14
10:6 [o] ver 18
10:7 [p] Jer 4:5; 6:1; Eze 33:3; Joel 2:1 [q] 1Co 14:8

lasting ordinance for you and the gen-
erations to come.[a] 9When you go into
battle in your own land against an ene-
my who is oppressing you,[b] sound a
blast on the trumpets.[c] Then you will
be remembered[d] by the Lord your God
and rescued from your enemies.[e]
10Also at your times of rejoicing—your
appointed feasts and New Moon festi-
vals[f]—you are to sound the trumpets[g]
over your burnt offerings[h] and fellow-
ship offerings,[t][i] and they will be a
memorial for you before your God. I
am the Lord your God.[j]"

The Israelites Leave Sinai

11On the twentieth day of the second
month of the second year,[k] the cloud
lifted[l] from above the tabernacle of the
Testimony.[m] 12Then the Israelites set
out from the Desert of Sinai and trav-
eled from place to place until the cloud
came to rest in the Desert of Paran.[n]
13They set out, this first time, at the
Lord's command through Moses.[o]
14The divisions of the camp of Judah
went first, under their standard.[p] Nah-
shon son of Amminadab[q] was in com-
mand. 15Nethanel son of Zuar was over
the division of the tribe[r] of Issachar,[s]
16and Eliab son of Helon[t] was over the
division of the tribe of Zebulun.[u]
17Then the tabernacle was taken down,
and the Gershonites and Merarites,
who carried it, set out.[v]
18The divisions of the camp of Reu-
ben[w] went next, under their stan-
dard.[x] Elizur son of Shedeur[y] was in
command. 19Shelumiel son of Zuri-
shaddai was over the division of the
tribe of Simeon,[z] 20and Eliasaph son of
Deuel was over the division of the tribe
of Gad.[a] 21Then the Kohathites[b] set
out, carrying the holy things.[c] The tab-
ernacle was to be set up before they
arrived.[d]
22The divisions of the camp of
Ephraim[e] went next, under their stan-
dard. Elishama son of Ammihud[f] was
in command. 23Gamaliel son of Pedah-
zur was over the division of the tribe of
Manasseh,[g] 24and Abidan son of Gid-
eoni was over the division of the tribe
of Benjamin.[h]
25Finally, as the rear guard[i] for all
the units, the divisions of the camp of
Dan set out, under their standard. Ahi-
ezer son of Ammishaddai[j] was in com-
mand. 26Pagiel son of Ocran was over
the division of the tribe of Asher,[k]
27and Ahira son of Enan was over the
division of the tribe of Naphtali.[l]
28This was the order of march for the
Israelite divisions as they set out.
29Now Moses said to Hobab[m] son of
Reuel[n] the Midianite, Moses' father-in-
law,[o] "We are setting out for the place
about which the Lord said, 'I will give it
to you.'[p] Come with us and we will
treat you well, for the Lord has prom-
ised good things to Israel."
30He answered, "No, I will not go;[q] I
am going back to my own land and my
own people.[r]"
31But Moses said, "Please do not
leave us. You know where we should
camp in the desert, and you can be our
eyes.[s] 32If you come with us, we will
share with you[t] whatever good things
the Lord gives us.[u]"
33So they set out[v] from the mountain
of the Lord and traveled for three days.
The ark of the covenant of the Lord[w]
went before them during those three
days to find them a place to rest.[x]
34The cloud of the Lord was over them
by day when they set out from the
camp.[y]
35Whenever the ark set out, Moses
said,

"Rise up,[z] O Lord!
May your enemies be scattered;[a]
may your foes flee before you.[b]"[c]

36Whenever it came to rest, he said,

"Return,[d] O Lord,
to the countless thousands of
Israel.[e]"

Fire From the Lord

11 Now the people complained[f]
about their hardships in the
hearing of the Lord,[g] and when he
heard them his anger was aroused.[h]
Then fire from the Lord burned among
them[i] and consumed[j] some of the
outskirts of the camp. 2When the
people cried out to Moses, he prayed[k]
to the Lord[l] and the fire died down.
3So that place was called Taberah,[u][m]
because fire from the Lord had burned
among them.[n]

Quail From the Lord

4The rabble with them began to crave
other food,[o] and again the Israelites
started wailing[p] and said, "If only we

10:8 [a]S Ge 9:12; Nu 15:14; 35:29 **10:9** [b]Ex 3:9; Jdg 2:18; 6:9; 1Sa 10:18; 2Ki 13:4; Ps 106:42 [c]S Lev 23:24 [d]S Ge 8:1 [e]2Ch 13:12; Ps 106:4 **10:10** [f]Nu 28:11; 1Sa 20:5,24; 2Ki 4:23; 2Ch 8:13; Ps 81:3; Isa 1:13; Eze 45:17; 46:6; Am 8:5 [g]S Lev 23:24 [h]Lev 1:3 [i]Lev 3:1; Nu 6:14 [j]Lev 11:44 **10:11** [k]Ex 40:17 [l]Nu 9:17 [m]S Ex 38:21 **10:12** [n]S Ge 14:6; Dt 1:1; 33:2 **10:13** [o]Dt 1:6 **10:14** [p]S Nu 1:52; S 2:3-9 [q]Nu 1:7 **10:15** [r]S Lev 24:11 [s]S Nu 1:8 **10:16** [t]S Nu 2:7 [u]S Nu 1:9 **10:17** [v]ver 21; Nu 4:21-32 **10:18** [w]Nu 2:16 [x]Nu 2:10-16 [y]S Nu 1:5 **10:19** [z]Nu 1:6 **10:20** [a]S Nu 1:14 **10:21** [b]S Nu 2:17 [c]Nu 4:20 [d]S ver 17 **10:22** [e]Nu 2:24 [f]S Nu 1:10 **10:23** [g]S Nu 1:10 **10:24** [h]Nu 1:11 **10:25** [i]S Nu 2:31 [j]S Nu 1:12 **10:26** [k]S Nu 1:13 **10:27** [l]S Nu 1:15 **10:29** [m]Jdg 4:11 [n]S Ex 2:18 [o]S Ex 3:1 [p]S Ge 12:7; S 15:14 **10:30** [q]Mt 21:29 [r]S Ex 18:27 **10:31** [s]Job 29:15 **10:32** [t]S Ex 12:48; Dt 10:18 [u]Ps 22:27-31; 67:5-7 **10:33** [v]ver 12; Dt 1:33 [w]Dt 10:8; 31:9; Jos 3:3; Jdg 20:27; 2Sa 15:24 [x]Jer 31:2 **10:34** [y]Nu 9:15-23 **10:35** [z]2Ch 6:41; Ps 17:13; 44:26; 94:2; 132:8 [a]Jdg 5:31; 1Sa 2:1; Ps 68:1; 92:9 [b]Dt 5:9; 7:10; 32:41; Ps 68:2; Isa 17:12-14 [c]Isa 59:18

10:36 [d]Isa 52:8; 63:17 [e]Ge 15:5; 26:4; Dt 1:10; 10:22; Ne 9:23 **11:1** [f]S Ex 14:11; S 16:7; La 3:39 [g]Nu 12:2; Dt 1:34 [h]S Ex 4:14 [i]S Lev 10:2 [j]Nu 21:28; Ps 78:63; Isa 26:11 **11:2** [k]Dt 9:19; 1Sa 2:25; 12:23; Ps 106:23 [l]S Ge 20:7; Nu 21:7; Dt 9:20; Jnh 2:1 **11:3** [m]Dt 9:22 [n]Nu 16:35; Job 1:16; Isa 10:17 **11:4** [o]S Ex 16:3 [p]ver 18

[t]10 Traditionally *peace offerings* [u]3 *Taberah* means *burning*.

had meat to eat! 5We remember the fish
we ate in Egypt at no cost—also the
cucumbers, melons, leeks, onions and
garlic.[a] 6But now we have lost our
appetite; we never see anything but
this manna![b]"
7The manna was like coriander seed[c]
and looked like resin.[d] 8The people
went around gathering it,[e] and then
ground it in a handmill or crushed it in
a mortar. They cooked it in a pot or
made it into cakes. And it tasted like
something made with olive oil. 9When
the dew[f] settled on the camp at night,
the manna also came down.
10Moses heard the people of every
family wailing,[g] each at the entrance to
his tent. The LORD became exceedingly
angry, and Moses was troubled. 11He
asked the LORD, "Why have you
brought this trouble[h] on your servant?
What have I done to displease you that
you put the burden of all these people
on me?[i] 12Did I conceive all these
people? Did I give them birth? Why do
you tell me to carry them in my arms,
as a nurse carries an infant,[j] to the
land you promised on oath[k] to their
forefathers?[l] 13Where can I get meat
for all these people?[m] They keep wail-
ing to me, 'Give us meat to eat!' 14I can-
not carry all these people by myself;
the burden is too heavy for me.[n] 15If
this is how you are going to treat me,
put me to death[o] right now[p]—if I have
found favor in your eyes—and do not
let me face my own ruin."
16The LORD said to Moses: "Bring me
seventy of Israel's elders[q] who are
known to you as leaders and officials
among the people.[r] Have them come
to the Tent of Meeting,[s] that they may
stand there with you. 17I will come
down and speak with you[t] there, and I
will take of the Spirit that is on you and
put the Spirit on them.[u] They will help
you carry the burden of the people so
that you will not have to carry it
alone.[v]
18"Tell the people: 'Consecrate your-
selves[w] in preparation for tomorrow,
when you will eat meat. The LORD
heard you when you wailed,[x] "If only
we had meat to eat! We were better off
in Egypt!"[y] Now the LORD will give you
meat,[z] and you will eat it. 19You will
not eat it for just one day, or two days,
or five, ten or twenty days, 20but for a
whole month—until it comes out of
your nostrils and you loathe
it[a]—because you have rejected the
LORD,[b] who is among you, and have
wailed before him, saying, "Why did
we ever leave Egypt?"' "[c]
21But Moses said, "Here I am among
six hundred thousand men[d] on foot,
and you say, 'I will give them meat to
eat for a whole month!' 22Would they
have enough if flocks and herds were
slaughtered for them? Would they
have enough if all the fish in the sea
were caught for them?"[e]
23The LORD answered Moses, "Is the
LORD's arm too short?[f] You will now
see whether or not what I say will come
true for you.[g]"
24So Moses went out and told the
people what the LORD had said. He
brought together seventy of their el-
ders and had them stand around the
Tent. 25Then the LORD came down in
the cloud[h] and spoke with him,[i] and
he took of the Spirit[j] that was on him
and put the Spirit on the seventy el-
ders.[k] When the Spirit rested on them,
they prophesied,[l] but they did not do
so again.[v]
26However, two men, whose names
were Eldad and Medad, had remained
in the camp. They were listed among
the elders, but did not go out to the
Tent. Yet the Spirit also rested on
them,[m] and they prophesied in the
camp. 27A young man ran and told
Moses, "Eldad and Medad are prophe-
sying in the camp."
28Joshua son of Nun,[n] who had been
Moses' aide[o] since youth, spoke up
and said, "Moses, my lord, stop
them!"[p]
29But Moses replied, "Are you jeal-
ous for my sake? I wish that all the
LORD's people were prophets[q] and that
the LORD would put his Spirit[r] on
them!"[s] 30Then Moses and the elders
of Israel returned to the camp.
31Now a wind went out from the
LORD and drove quail[t] in from the sea.
It brought them[w] down all around the
camp to about three feet[x] above the
ground, as far as a day's walk in any
direction. 32All that day and night and
all the next day the people went out
and gathered quail. No one gathered
less than ten homers.[y] Then they
spread them out all around the camp.
33But while the meat was still between
their teeth[u] and before it could be con-
sumed, the anger[v] of the LORD burned
against the people, and he struck them

11:5 [a]S Ex 16:3; Nu 21:5
11:6 [b]Ex 16:14
11:7 [c]S Ex 16:31 [d]Ge 2:12
11:8 [e]Ex 16:16
11:9 [f]Ex 16:13
11:10 [g]ver 4
11:11 [h]S Ge 34:30 [i]S Ex 5:22; S 18:18
11:12 [j]Isa 40:11; 49:23; 66:11,12 [k]Nu 14:16 [l]S Ge 12:7; Ex 13:5
11:13 [m]S Ex 12:37; Jn 6:5-9
11:14 [n]S Ex 18:18
11:15 [o]Ex 32:32 [p]1Ki 19:4; Job 6:9; 7:15-16; 9:21; 10:1; Isa 38:12; Jnh 4:3
11:16 [q]S Ex 3:16 [r]S Ex 18:25 [s]S Ex 40:2
11:17 [t]Ex 19:20 [u]ver 25,29; 1Sa 10:6; 2Ki 2:9, 15; 3:12; Isa 32:15; 40:5; 63:11; Joel 2:28; Hag 2:5 [v]S Ex 18:18; Jer 19:1
11:18 [w]S Ex 19:10 [x]S Ex 16:7 [y]ver 5; Ac 7:39 [z]Ps 78:20
11:20 [a]Ps 78:29; 106:14,15 [b]S Lev 26:43; Jos 24:27; Jdg 8:23; 1Sa 10:19; Job 31:28; Isa 59:13; Hos 13:11 [c]ver 33; Job 20:13,23
11:21 [d]S Ex 12:37
11:22 [e]Mt 15:33
11:23 [f]Isa 50:2; 59:1 [g]Nu 23:19; 1Sa 15:29; Eze 12:25; 24:14
11:25 [h]S Ex 19:9; Nu 12:5 [i]ver 17 [j]ver 29; 1Sa 10:6; 19:23 [k]S Ac 2:17 [l]ver 26; Nu 24:2; Jdg 3:10; 1Sa 10:10; 19:20; 2Ch 15:1
11:26 [m]S ver 25; 1Ch 12:18; Rev 1:10
11:28 [n]Ex 17:9; Nu 13:8; 26:65; Jos 14:10 [o]Ex 33:11; Jos 1:1 [p]Mk 9:38-40
11:29 [q]1Sa 10:5; 19:20; 2Ch 24:19; Jer 7:25; 44:4; 1Co 14:5 [r]S ver 17 [s]Nu 27:18
11:31 [t]S Ex 16:13; Ps 78:26-28
11:33 [u]Ps 78:30 [v]Nu 14:18; Dt 9:7; Jdg 2:12; 2Ki 22:17; Ps 106:29; Jer 44:3; Eze 8:17

[v]25 Or *prophesied and continued to do so* [w]31 Or *They flew* [x]31 Hebrew *two cubits* (about 1 meter) [y]32 That is, probably about 60 bushels (about 2.2 kiloliters)

with a severe plague.[z] [34]Therefore the
place was named Kibroth Hat-
taavah,[z][a] because there they buried
the people who had craved other food.
[35]From Kibroth Hattaavah the people
traveled to Hazeroth[b] and stayed
there.

Miriam and Aaron Oppose Moses

12 Miriam[c] and Aaron began to
talk against Moses because of his
Cushite wife,[d] for he had married a
Cushite. [2]"Has the LORD spoken only
through Moses?" they asked. "Hasn't
he also spoken through us?"[e] And the
LORD heard this.[f]

[3](Now Moses was a very humble
man,[g] more humble than anyone else
on the face of the earth.)

[4]At once the LORD said to Moses,
Aaron and Miriam, "Come out to the
Tent of Meeting, all three of you." So
the three of them came out. [5]Then the
LORD came down in a pillar of cloud;[h]
he stood at the entrance to the Tent
and summoned Aaron and Miriam.
When both of them stepped forward,
[6]he said, "Listen to my words:

"When a prophet of the LORD is
among you,
I reveal[j] myself to him in
visions,[k]
I speak to him in dreams.[l]
[7]But this is not true of my servant
Moses;[m]
he is faithful in all my house.[n]
[8]With him I speak face to face,
clearly and not in riddles;[o]
he sees the form of the LORD.[p]
Why then were you not afraid
to speak against my servant
Moses?"[q]

[9]The anger of the LORD burned
against them,[r] and he left them.[s]

[10]When the cloud lifted from above
the Tent,[t] there stood Miriam—
leprous,[a][u] like snow.[v] Aaron turned
toward her and saw that she had lep-
rosy;[w] [11]and he said to Moses, "Please,
my lord, do not hold against us the sin
we have so foolishly committed.[w] [12]Do
not let her be like a stillborn infant
coming from its mother's womb with
its flesh half eaten away."

[13]So Moses cried out to the LORD, "O
God, please heal her![x]"

[14]The LORD replied to Moses, "If her
father had spit in her face,[y] would she
not have been in disgrace for seven
days? Confine her outside the camp[z]
for seven days; after that she can be
brought back." [15]So Miriam was con-
fined outside the camp[a] for seven
days,[b] and the people did not move on
till she was brought back.

[16]After that, the people left Haze-
roth[c] and encamped in the Desert of
Paran.[d]

Exploring Canaan

13 The LORD said to Moses, [2]"Send
some men to explore[e] the land
of Canaan,[f] which I am giving to the
Israelites.[g] From each ancestral tribe[h]
send one of its leaders."

[3]So at the LORD's command Moses
sent them out from the Desert of
Paran. All of them were leaders of the
Israelites.[i] [4]These are their names:

from the tribe of Reuben, Shammua son of Zaccur;
[5]from the tribe of Simeon, Shaphat son of Hori;
[6]from the tribe of Judah, Caleb son of Jephunneh;[j]
[7]from the tribe of Issachar, Igal son of Joseph;
[8]from the tribe of Ephraim, Hoshea son of Nun;[k]
[9]from the tribe of Benjamin, Palti son of Raphu;
[10]from the tribe of Zebulun, Gaddiel son of Sodi;
[11]from the tribe of Manasseh (a tribe of Joseph), Gaddi son of Susi;
[12]from the tribe of Dan, Ammiel son of Gemalli;
[13]from the tribe of Asher, Sethur son of Michael;
[14]from the tribe of Naphtali, Nahbi son of Vophsi;
[15]from the tribe of Gad, Geuel son of Maki.

[16]These are the names of the men
Moses sent to explore[l] the land.
(Moses gave Hoshea son of Nun[m] the
name Joshua.)[n]

[17]When Moses sent them to explore
Canaan,[o] he said, "Go up through the
Negev[p] and on into the hill country.[q]
[18]See what the land is like and whether
the people who live there are strong or
weak, few or many. [19]What kind of
land do they live in? Is it good or bad?
What kind of towns do they live in?
Are they unwalled or fortified? [20]How
is the soil? Is it fertile or poor? Are
there trees on it or not? Do your best to
bring back some of the fruit of the

[z]34 *Kibroth Hattaavah* means *graves of craving*.
[a]10 The Hebrew word was used for various diseases affecting the skin—not necessarily leprosy.

11:33 [z]S ver 18-20; Ps 106:15; Isa 10:16
11:34 [a]Nu 33:16; Dt 9:22
11:35 [b]Nu 33:17
12:1 [c]S Ex 15:20 [d]S Ex 2:21
12:2 [e]Nu 16:3 [f]S Nu 11:1
12:3 [g]Mt 11:29
12:5 [h]S Ex 13:21; [i]S Nu 11:25
12:6 [j]1Sa 3:7,21 [k]S Ge 15:1 [l]S Ge 20:3; S Mt 27:19; Heb 1:1
12:7 [m]Dt 34:5; Jos 1:1-2,1; Ps 105:26 [n]Heb 3:2,5
12:8 [o]Jdg 14:12; 1Ki 10:1; Ps 49:4; Pr 1:6; Da 5:12 [p]Ex 20:4; Job 19:26; Ps 17:15; 140:13; Isa 6:1 [q]Ex 24:2
12:9 [r]S Ex 4:14 [s]S Ge 17:22
12:10 [t]Ex 40:2 [u]S Ex 4:6; Dt 24:9 [v]S Lev 13:11; 2Ki 5:1,27; 2Ch 16:12; 21:12-15; 26:19
12:11 [w]2Sa 19:19; 24:10
12:13 [x]Ex 15:26; Ps 6:2; 147:3; Isa 1:6; 30:26; 53:5; Jer 17:14; Hos 6:1
12:14 [y]Dt 25:9; Job 17:6; 30:9-10; Isa 50:6 [z]S Lev 13:46
12:15 [a]S Lev 14:8 [b]S Lev 13:4
12:16 [c]Nu 11:35 [d]Ge 21:21; Nu 10:12; 15:32
13:2 [e]ver 16; Dt 1:22 [f]S Lev 14:34 [g]Jos 1:3 [h]S Lev 24:11
13:3 [i]Nu 1:16
13:6 [j]ver 30; Nu 14:6,24; 34:19; Dt 1:36; Jdg 1:12-15
13:8 [k]S Nu 11:28
13:16 [l]S ver 2 [m]ver 8 [n]Dt 32:44
13:17 [o]ver 2; Jos 14:7 [p]S Ge 12:9 [q]Dt 1:7; Jos 9:1; Jdg 1:9

land.[y] (It was the season for the first
ripe grapes.)[z]
21So they went up and explored the
land from the Desert of Zin[a] as far as
Rehob,[b] toward Lebo[b] Hamath.[c]
22They went up through the Negev and
came to Hebron,[f] where Ahiman, She-
shai and Talmai,[g] the descendants of
Anak,[h] lived. (Hebron had been built
seven years before Zoan in Egypt.)[i]
23When they reached the Valley of Esh-
col,[c][j] they cut off a branch bearing a
single cluster of grapes. Two of them
carried it on a pole between them,
along with some pomegranates[k] and
figs.[l] 24That place was called the Valley
of Eshcol because of the cluster of
grapes the Israelites cut off there. 25At
the end of forty days[m] they returned
from exploring the land.[n]

Report on the Exploration

26They came back to Moses and
Aaron and the whole Israelite commu-
nity at Kadesh[o] in the Desert of
Paran.[p] There they reported to them[q]
and to the whole assembly and showed
them the fruit of the land.[r] 27They gave
Moses this account: "We went into the
land to which you sent us, and it does
flow with milk and honey![s] Here is its
fruit.[t] 28But the people who live there
are powerful, and the cities are fortified
and very large.[u] We even saw de-
scendants of Anak[v] there.[w] 29The
Amalekites[x] live in the Negev; the Hit-
tites,[y] Jebusites[z] and Amorites[a] live in
the hill country;[b] and the Canaanites[c]
live near the sea and along the Jor-
dan.[d]"
30Then Caleb[e] silenced the people
before Moses and said, "We should go
up and take possession of the land, for
we can certainly do it."
31But the men who had gone up with
him said, "We can't attack those
people; they are stronger than we
are."[f] 32And they spread among the Is-
raelites a bad report[g] about the land
they had explored. They said, "The
land we explored devours[h] those living
in it. All the people we saw there are of
great size.[i] 33We saw the Nephilim[j]
there (the descendants of Anak[k] come
from the Nephilim). We seemed like
grasshoppers[l] in our own eyes, and
we looked the same to them."

The People Rebel

14 That night all the people of the
community raised their voices
and wept aloud.[m] 2All the Israelites
grumbled[n] against Moses and Aaron,
and the whole assembly said to them,
"If only we had died in Egypt![o] Or in
this desert![p] 3Why is the LORD bringing
us to this land only to let us fall by the
sword?[q] Our wives and children[r] will
be taken as plunder.[s] Wouldn't it be
better for us to go back to Egypt?"[t]
4And they said to each other, "We
should choose a leader and go back to
Egypt.[u]"
5Then Moses and Aaron fell face-
down[v] in front of the whole Israelite
assembly[w] gathered there. 6Joshua son
of Nun[x] and Caleb son of Jephunneh,
who were among those who had ex-
plored the land, tore their clothes[y]
7and said to the entire Israelite assem-
bly, "The land we passed through and
explored is exceedingly good.[z] 8If the
LORD is pleased with us,[a] he will lead
us into that land, a land flowing with
milk and honey,[b] and will give it to
us.[c] 9Only do not rebel[d] against the
LORD. And do not be afraid[e] of the
people of the land,[f] because we will
swallow them up. Their protection is
gone, but the LORD is with[g] us.[h] Do not
be afraid of them."[i]
10But the whole assembly talked
about stoning[j] them. Then the glory of
the LORD[k] appeared at the Tent of
Meeting to all the Israelites. 11The LORD
said to Moses, "How long will these
people treat me with contempt?[l] How
long will they refuse to believe in me,[m]
in spite of all the miraculous signs[n] I
have performed among them? 12I will
strike them down with a plague[o] and
destroy them, but I will make you into
a nation[p] greater and stronger than
they."[q]
13Moses said to the LORD, "Then the
Egyptians will hear about it! By your
power you brought these people up
from among them.[r] 14And they will tell
the inhabitants of this land about it.
They have already heard[s] that you, O
LORD, are with these people[t] and that
you, O LORD, have been seen face to

13:20 yDt 1:25 zS Lev 25:5 **13:21** aNu 20:1; 27:14; 33:36; Dt 32:51; Jos 15:1 bJos 19:28; Jdg 1:31; 18:28; 2Sa 10:6; 1Ch 6:75 cNu 34:8; Jos 13:5; Jdg 3:3; 1Ki 8:65; 2Ki 14:25; 1Ch 13:5; 2Ch 7:8; Jer 52:9; Eze 47:16,20; Am 6:14 **13:22** fS Ge 13:18; S 23:19 gJos 15:14; Jdg 1:10 hver 28; Dt 2:10; 9:2; Jos 11:21; 15:13; Jdg 1:20 iPs 78:12,43; Isa 19:11,13; 30:4; Eze 30:14 **13:23** jS Ge 14:13 kS Ex 28:33 lGe 3:7; Nu 20:5; Dt 8:8; 2Ki 18:31; Ne 13:15 **13:25** mS Ge 7:4 nNu 14:34 **13:26** oS Ge 14:7 pS Ge 14:6 qNu 32:8 rDt 1:25 **13:27** sS Ex 3:8 tDt 1:25; Jer 2:7 **13:28** uDt 1:28; 9:1,2 vS ver 22 wJos 14:12 **13:29** xS Ge 14:7 yS Ge 10:15; Dt 7:1; 20:17; 1Ki 9:20; 10:29; 2Ki 7:6 zS Ex 3:8 aS Ge 10:16 bver 17 cS Ge 10:18 dS Ge 13:10; Nu 22:1; 32:5; Dt 1:1; Jos 1:2; Jdg 3:28; Ps 42:6 **13:30** eS ver 6 **13:31** fDt 9:1; Jos 14:8 **13:32** gNu 14:36,37 hEze 36:13,14 iDt 1:28; Am 2:9 **13:33** jGe 6:4 kver 28; Dt 1:28; Jos 11:22; 14:12 lEcc 12:5; Isa 40:22 **14:1** mS Ge 27:38; Ex 33:4; Nu 25:6; Dt 1:45; Jdg 20:23,26; 2Sa 3:32; Job 31:29 **14:2** nS Ex 15:24; Heb 3:16 oS Ex 16:3 pS Nu 11:1; 16:13; 20:4; 21:5 **14:3** qS Ex 5:21 rver 31 sS Ge 34:29; Dt 1:39; Ps 109:11; Isa 33:4; Eze 7:21; 25:7; 26:5 tAc 7:39 **14:4** uNe 9:17 **14:5** vS Lev 9:24; Nu 16:4,22,45; 20:6; Jos 5:14; 2Sa 14:4; 1Ch 21:16; Eze 1:28 wS Lev 19:2 **14:6** xNu 11:28 yS Ge 37:29,34; Jdg 11:35; 2Sa 13:31; 2Ki 19:1; Ezr 9:3; Est 4:1; S Mk 14:63 **14:7** zNu 13:27; Dt 1:25 **14:8** aDt 7:8; 10:15; Ps 18:19; 22:8; 37:23; 41:11; 56:9; 147:11; Pr 11:20; Isa 62:4; Mal 2:17 bNu 13:27 cDt 1:21 **14:9** dDt 1:26; 9:7,23,24 eGe 26:24; 2Ch 32:7; Ps 118:6; Jer 41:18; 42:11 fDt 1:21; 7:18; 20:1 gHag 2:4 hS Ge 21:22; Dt 1:30; 2Ch 13:12; Jer 15:20; 46:28; Hag 1:13 iver 24 **14:10** jS Ex 17:4 kS Ex 24:16 **14:11** lEx 23:21; Nu 15:31; 16:30; 1Sa 2:17; Eze 31:14; Mal 1:13 mDt 1:32; Ps 78:22; 106:24; Jn 3:15 **14:12** nS Ex 5:3; S 30:12 oS Ex 3:20; S 4:17; S 10:1 **14:13** pS Ex 32:10 qDt 9:14; 29:20; 32:26; Ps 109:13 **14:14** rEx 32:11-14; Ps 106:23 sEx 15:14 tNu 5:3; 16:3; Jos 2:9

b21 Or *toward the entrance to* c23 *Eshcol* means *cluster;* also in verse 24.

face,[a] that your cloud stays over
them,[b] and that you go before them in
a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of
fire by night.[c] 15If you put these people
to death all at one time, the nations
who have heard this report about you
will say, 16'The LORD was not able to
bring these people into the land he
promised them on oath;[d] so he slaugh-
tered them in the desert.'[e]
17"Now may the Lord's strength be
displayed, just as you have declared:
18'The LORD is slow to anger, abounding
in love and forgiving sin and rebel-
lion.[f] Yet he does not leave the guilty
unpunished; he punishes the children
for the sin of the fathers to the third
and fourth generation.'[g] 19In accor-
dance with your great love, forgive[h]
the sin of these people,[i] just as you
have pardoned them from the time
they left Egypt until now."[j]
20The LORD replied, "I have forgiven
them,[k] as you asked. 21Nevertheless,
as surely as I live[l] and as surely as the
glory of the LORD[m] fills the whole
earth,[n] 22not one of the men who saw
my glory and the miraculous signs[o] I
performed in Egypt and in the desert
but who disobeyed me and tested me
ten times[p]— 23not one of them will
ever see the land I promised on oath[q]
to their forefathers. No one who has
treated me with contempt[r] will ever
see it.[s] 24But because my servant
Caleb[t] has a different spirit and fol-
lows me wholeheartedly,[u] I will bring
him into the land he went to, and his
descendants will inherit it.[v] 25Since the
Amalekites[w] and Canaanites[x] are liv-
ing in the valleys, turn[y] back tomorrow
and set out toward the desert along the
route to the Red Sea.[d][z]"
26The LORD said to Moses and Aaron:
27"How long will this wicked commu-
nity grumble against me? I have heard
the complaints of these grumbling Isra-
elites.[a] 28So tell them, 'As surely as I
live,[b] declares the LORD, I will do to
you[c] the very things I heard you say:
29In this desert your bodies will
fall[d]—every one of you twenty years
old or more[e] who was counted in the
census[f] and who has grumbled against
me. 30Not one of you will enter the
land[g] I swore with uplifted hand[h] to
make your home, except Caleb son of
Jephunneh[i] and Joshua son of Nun.[j]
31As for your children that you said
would be taken as plunder, I will bring
them in to enjoy the land you have re-
jected.[k] 32But you—your bodies will
fall[l] in this desert. 33Your children will
be shepherds here for forty years,[m] suf-
fering for your unfaithfulness, until the
last of your bodies lies in the desert.
34For forty years[n]—one year for each of
the forty days you explored the
land[o]—you will suffer for your sins
and know what it is like to have me
against you.' 35I, the LORD, have
spoken, and I will surely do these
things[p] to this whole wicked commu-
nity, which has banded together
against me. They will meet their end in
this desert; here they will die.[q]"
36So the men Moses had sent[r] to ex-
plore the land, who returned and made
the whole community grumble[s]
against him by spreading a bad report[t]
about it— 37these men responsible for
spreading the bad report[u] about the
land were struck down and died of a
plague[v] before the LORD. 38Of the men
who went to explore the land,[w] only
Joshua son of Nun and Caleb son of
Jephunneh survived.[x]
39When Moses reported this[y] to all
the Israelites, they mourned[z] bitterly.
40Early the next morning they went up
toward the high hill country.[a] "We
have sinned[b]," they said. "We will go
up to the place the LORD promised."
41But Moses said, "Why are you dis-
obeying the LORD's command? This will
not succeed![c] 42Do not go up, because
the LORD is not with you. You will be
defeated by your enemies,[d] 43for the
Amalekites[e] and Canaanites[f] will face
you there. Because you have turned
away from the LORD, he will not be with
you[g] and you will fall by the sword."
44Nevertheless, in their presumption
they went up[h] toward the high hill
country, though neither Moses nor the
ark of the LORD's covenant moved from
the camp.[i] 45Then the Amalekites and
Canaanites[j] who lived in that hill
country[k] came down and attacked
them and beat them down all the way
to Hormah.[l]

Supplementary Offerings

15 The LORD said to Moses, 2"Speak
to the Israelites and say to them:
'After you enter the land I am giving
you[m] as a home 3and you present to the

14:14 [a]Dt 5:4; 34:10 [b]S Ex 33:16 [c]S Ex 13:21 **14:16** [d]Nu 11:12 [e]Ex 32:12; Jos 7:7 **14:18** [f]S Ex 20:6; 34:6; Ps 145:8; Jnh 4:2; Jas 5:11 [g]Ex 20:5 **14:19** [h]S Ex 34:9; 1Ki 8:34; Ps 85:2; 103:3 [i]Ps 106:45 [j]Ps 78:38 **14:20** [k]Ex 34:6; Ps 99:8; 106:23; Mic 7:18-20 **14:21** [l]ver 28; Dt 32:40; Jdg 8:19; Ru 3:13; 1Sa 14:39; 19:6; Isa 49:18; Jer 4:2; Eze 5:11; Zep 2:9 [m]Lev 9:6 [n]Ps 72:19; Isa 6:3; 40:5; Hab 2:14 **14:22** [o]ver 11 [p]S Ex 14:11; 17:7; 32:1; Ps 81:7; 1Co 10:5 **14:23** [q]ver 16; S Ex 33:1; Nu 32:11; Dt 1:34; Ps 95:11; 106:26 [r]ver 11 [s]Heb 3:18 **14:24** [t]Nu 13:6 [u]ver 6-9; Dt 1:36; Jos 14:8, 14 [v]Nu 26:65; 32:12; Ps 25:13; 37:9,11 **14:25** [w]S Ge 14:7 [x]S Ge 10:18 [y]Dt 1:40 [z]Ex 23:31; Nu 21:4; 1Ki 9:26 **14:27** [a]Ex 16:12; Dt 1:34,35 **14:28** [b]S ver 21 [c]Nu 33:56 **14:29** [d]ver 23, 30,32; Nu 26:65; 32:13; 1Co 10:5; Heb 3:17; Jude 1:5 [e]S Nu 1:45 [f]S Ex 30:12 **14:30** [g]S ver 29 [h]Ex 6:8; Dt 32:40; Ne 9:15; Ps 106:26; Eze 20:5; 36:7 [i]Nu 13:6 [j]Nu 11:28 **14:31** [k]S Lev 26:43 **14:32** [l]S ver 29, 35 **14:33** [m]ver 34; S Ex 16:35; Ac 13:18; Heb 3:9 **14:34** [n]S ver 33 [o]Nu 13:25 **14:35** [p]Nu 23:19 [q]S ver 32 **14:36** [r]Nu 13:4-16 [s]ver 2 [t]S Nu 13:32 **14:37** [u]S Nu 13:32; 1Co 10:10; Heb 3:17 [v]Nu 16:49; 25:9; 26:1; 31:16; Dt 4:3 **14:38** [w]ver 30; Nu 13:4-16 [x]ver 24; Jos 14:6 **14:39** [y]ver 28-35 [z]S Ex 33:4 **14:40** [a]ver 45; Nu 13:17 [b]S Ex 9:27 **14:41** [c]2Ch 24:20 **14:42** [d]Dt 1:42 **14:43** [e]Jdg 3:13 [f]ver 45; Nu 13:29 [g]S Ge 39:23; Dt 31:8; Jos 6:27; Jdg 1:19; 6:16; 1Sa 3:19; 18:14; 2Ch 1:1 **14:44** [h]Dt 1:43 [i]Nu 31:6 **14:45** [j]S ver 43 [k]S ver 40 [l]Nu 21:3; Dt 1:44; Jos 12:14; 15:30; 19:4; Jdg 1:17; 1Sa 30:30; 1Ch 4:30 **15:2** [m]S Lev 23:10

[d]25 Hebrew *Yam Suph*; that is, Sea of Reeds

Lord offerings made by fire, from the
herd or the flock,[a] as an aroma pleas-
ing to the Lord[b]—whether burnt offer-
ings[c] or sacrifices, for special vows or
freewill offerings[d] or festival offer-
ings[e]— 4then the one who brings his
offering shall present to the Lord a
grain offering[f] of a tenth of an ephah[e]
of fine flour[g] mixed with a quarter of a
hin[f] of oil. 5With each lamb[h] for the
burnt offering or the sacrifice, prepare
a quarter of a hin of wine[i] as a drink
offering.[j]

6" 'With a ram[k] prepare a grain offer-
ing[l] of two-tenths of an ephah[g][m] of
fine flour mixed with a third of a hin[h]
of oil,[n] 7and a third of a hin of wine[o] as
a drink offering.[p] Offer it as an aroma
pleasing to the Lord.[q]

8" 'When you prepare a young bull[r]
as a burnt offering or sacrifice, for a
special vow[s] or a fellowship offering[i][t]
to the Lord, 9bring with the bull a grain
offering[u] of three-tenths of an
ephah[j][v] of fine flour mixed with half a
hin[k] of oil. 10Also bring half a hin of
wine[w] as a drink offering.[x] It will be an
offering made by fire, an aroma pleas-
ing to the Lord.[y] 11Each bull or ram,
each lamb or young goat, is to be
prepared in this manner. 12Do this
for each one, for as many as you pre-
pare.[z]

13" 'Everyone who is native-born[a]
must do these things in this way when
he brings an offering made by fire as an
aroma pleasing to the Lord.[b] 14For the
generations to come,[c] whenever an
alien[d] or anyone else living among you
presents an offering[e] made by fire[f] as
an aroma pleasing to the Lord, he must
do exactly as you do. 15The community
is to have the same rules for you and
for the alien living among you; this is a
lasting ordinance for the generations
to come.[g] You and the alien shall be
the same before the Lord: 16The same
laws and regulations will apply both
to you and to the alien living among
you.[h]' "

17The Lord said to Moses, 18"Speak to
the Israelites and say to them: 'When
you enter the land to which I am taking
you[i] 19and you eat the food of the
land,[j] present a portion as an offering
to the Lord.[k] 20Present a cake from the
first of your ground meal[l] and present
it as an offering from the threshing
floor.[m][n] 21Throughout the generations
to come[o] you are to give this offering
to the Lord from the first of your
ground meal.[p]

15:3 [a]S Lev 1:2 [b]ver 24; S Lev 1:9 [c]Lev 1:3; Nu 28:13 [d]S Lev 7:16; S Ezr 1:4 [e]Lev 23:1-44 **15:4** [f]S Lev 6:14 [g]S Ex 16:36 **15:5** [h]S Lev 3:7 [i]S Lev 10:9 [j]S Ge 35:14 **15:6** [k]S Lev 5:15 [l]Nu 28:12; 29:14 [m]S Lev 23:13 [n]Eze 46:14 **15:7** [o]ver 5 [p]Lev 23:13; Nu 28:14; 29:18 [q]S Lev 1:9 **15:8** [r]S Ex 12:5; S Lev 1:5 [s]S Lev 22:18 [t]S Lev 3:6 **15:9** [u]Lev 2:1 [v]S Lev 14:10 **15:10** [w]Nu 28:14 [x]Lev 23:13 [y]Lev 1:9 **15:12** [z]Ezr 7:17 **15:13** [a]S Lev 16:29 [b]Lev 1:9 **15:14** [c]Lev 3:17; Nu 10:8 [d]S Ex 12:19,43; S 22:21 [e]S Lev 22:18 [f]ver 25 **15:15** [g]ver 14, 21 **15:16** [h]Ex 12:49; S Lev 22:18; Nu 9:14 **15:18** [i]S Lev 23:10 **15:19** [j]Jos 5:11, 12 [k]Nu 18:8 **15:20** [l]S Lev 23:14 [m]S Lev 2:14; S Nu 18:27 [n]S Ge 50:10 **15:21** [o]S Lev 23:14 [p]Eze 44:30; Ro 11:16

15:22 [q]S Lev 4:2 **15:23** [r]ver 21 **15:24** [s]ver 25, 26 [t]S Lev 5:15 [u]Lev 4:14 [v]S ver 3 [w]Lev 2:1 [x]Lev 23:13; Nu 6:15 [y]Lev 4:3 **15:25** [z]Lev 4:20; S Ro 3:25 [a]ver 22,S 24 [b]ver 14 [c]Lev 4:3 **15:26** [d]S ver 24 **15:27** [e]Lev 4:27 [f]Lev 4:3; Nu 6:14 **15:28** [g]Nu 8:12; 28:22 [h]Lev 4:20 **15:29** [i]S Ex 12:49 **15:30** [j]Nu 14:40-44; Dt 1:43; 17:13; Ps 19:13 [k]ver 14 [l]2Ki 19:6,20; Isa 37:6,23; Eze 20:27 [m]S Ge 17:14; S Job 31:22 **15:31** [n]S Nu 14:11 [o]1Sa 15:23,26; 2Sa 11:27; 12:9; Ps 119:126; Pr 13:13 [p]S Lev 5:1; Eze 18:20 **15:32** [q]S Nu 12:16 [r]Ex 31:14,15; 35:2,3

Offerings for Unintentional Sins

22" 'Now if you unintentionally fail to
keep any of these commands the Lord
gave Moses[q]— 23any of the Lord's
commands to you through him, from
the day the Lord gave them and con-
tinuing through the generations to
come[r]— 24and if this is done uninten-
tionally[s] without the community being
aware of it,[t] then the whole commu-
nity is to offer a young bull for a burnt
offering[u] as an aroma pleasing to the
Lord,[v] along with its prescribed grain
offering[w] and drink offering,[x] and a
male goat for a sin offering.[y] 25The
priest is to make atonement for the
whole Israelite community, and they
will be forgiven,[z] for it was not inten-
tional[a] and they have brought to the
Lord for their wrong an offering made
by fire[b] and a sin offering.[c] 26The
whole Israelite community and the
aliens living among them will be for-
given, because all the people were in-
volved in the unintentional wrong.[d]

27" 'But if just one person sins unin-
tentionally,[e] he must bring a year-old
female goat for a sin offering.[f] 28The
priest is to make atonement[g] before the
Lord for the one who erred by sinning
unintentionally, and when atonement
has been made for him, he will be for-
given.[h] 29One and the same law ap-
plies to everyone who sins uninten-
tionally, whether he is a native-born Is-
raelite or an alien.[i]

30" 'But anyone who sins defiantly,[j]
whether native-born or alien,[k] blas-
phemes the Lord,[l] and that person
must be cut off from his people.[m] 31Be-
cause he has despised[n] the Lord's
word and broken his commands,[o] that
person must surely be cut off; his guilt
remains on him.[p]' "

The Sabbath-Breaker Put to Death

32While the Israelites were in the
desert,[q] a man was found gathering
wood on the Sabbath day.[r] 33Those
who found him gathering wood
brought him to Moses and Aaron and
the whole assembly, 34and they kept
him in custody, because it was not

e4 That is, probably about 2 quarts (about 2 liters)
f4 That is, probably about 1 quart (about 1 liter); also in verse 5
g6 That is, probably about 4 quarts (about 4.5 liters)
h6 That is, probably about 1 1/4 quarts (about 1.2 liters); also in verse 7
i8 Traditionally *peace offering*
j9 That is, probably about 6 quarts (about 6.5 liters)
k9 That is, probably about 2 quarts (about 2 liters); also in verse 10

clear what should be done to him.[g]
35Then the LORD said to Moses, "The
man must die.[h] The whole assembly
must stone him outside the camp.[i]"
36So the assembly took him outside the
camp and stoned him[j] to death,[k] as
the LORD commanded Moses.[l]

Tassels on Garments

37The LORD said to Moses, 38"Speak to
the Israelites and say to them:
'Throughout the generations to come[g]
you are to make tassels on the corners
of your garments,[h] with a blue cord on
each tassel. 39You will have these tas-
sels to look at and so you will remem-
ber[i] all the commands of the LORD, that
you may obey them and not prostitute
yourselves[j] by going after the lusts of
your own hearts[k] and eyes. 40Then you
will remember to obey all my com-
mands[l] and will be consecrated to
your God.[m] 41I am the LORD your God,
who brought you out of Egypt to be
your God.[n] I am the LORD your
God.[o]'"

Korah, Dathan and Abiram

16 Korah[p] son of Izhar, the son of
Kohath, the son of Levi, and cer-
tain Reubenites—Dathan and Abi-
ram[q], sons of Eliab,[r] and On son of
Peleth—became insolent[l] 2and rose up
against Moses.[s] With them were 250
Israelite men, well-known community
leaders who had been appointed mem-
bers of the council.[t] 3They came as a
group to oppose Moses and Aaron[u]
and said to them, "You have gone too
far! The whole community is holy,[v]
every one of them, and the LORD is with
them.[w] Why then do you set your-
selves above the LORD's assembly?"[x]
4When Moses heard this, he fell face-
down.[y] 5Then he said to Korah and all
his followers: "In the morning the LORD
will show who belongs to him and who
is holy,[z] and he will have that person
come near him.[a] The man he chooses[b]
he will cause to come near him. 6You,
Korah, and all your followers[c] are to
do this: Take censers[d] 7and tomorrow
put fire[e] and incense[f] in them before
the LORD. The man the LORD chooses[g]
will be the one who is holy.[h] You Le-
vites have gone too far!"
8Moses also said to Korah, "Now lis-
ten, you Levites! 9Isn't it enough[i] for
you that the God of Israel has sepa-
rated you from the rest of the Israelite
community and brought you near him-
self to do the work at the LORD's taber-

15:34 [g]Nu 9:8 15:35 [h]Ex 31:14, 15 [i]S Lev 20:2; Lk 4:29; Ac 7:58 15:36 [j]S Lev 20:2 [k]S Ex 31:14 [l]Jer 17:21 15:38 [g]Lev 3:17; Nu 10:8 [h]Dt 22:12; Mt 23:5 15:39 [i]Dt 4:23; 6:12; Ps 73:27 [j]S Lev 17:7; Jdg 2:17; Ps 106:39; Jer 3:2; Hos 4:12 [k]Ps 78:37; Jer 7:24; Eze 20:16 15:40 [l]S Ge 26:5; Dt 11:13; Ps 103:18; 119:56 [m]S Lev 11:44; Ro 12:1; Col 1:22; 1Pe 1:15 15:41 [n]S Ge 17:7 [o]S Ex 20:2 16:1 [p]S Ex 6:24; Jude 1:11 [q]ver 24; Ps 106:17 [r]Nu 26:8; Dt 11:6 16:2 [s]Nu 27:3 [t]Nu 1:16; 26:9 16:3 [u]ver 7; Ps 106:16 [v]Ex 19:6 [w]S Nu 14:14 [x]Nu 12:2 16:4 [y]Nu 14:5 16:5 [z]S Lev 10:3; 2Ti 2:19* [a]Jer 30:21 [b]Nu 17:5; Ps 65:4; 105:26; Jer 50:44 16:6 [c]ver 7,16 [d]S Lev 10:1; Rev 8:3 16:7 [e]S Lev 10:1 [f]S Ex 30:9 [g]S ver 6 [h]ver 5 16:9 [i]S Ge 30:15 [j]Nu 3:6; Dt 10:8; 17:12; 21:5; 1Sa 2:11; Ps 134:1; Eze 44:11 16:10 [k]Nu 3:10; 18:7; Jdg 17:5,12 16:11 [l]ver 41; 1Co 10:10 [m]S Ex 16:7 16:12 [n]S ver 1, 27 [o]ver 14 16:13 [p]Nu 13:27 [q]Nu 14:2 [r]S Ge 13:8; Ac 7:27,35 16:14 [s]S Lev 20:24 [t]Ex 22:5; 23:11; Nu 20:5; 1Ki 4:25; Ne 13:15; Ps 105:33; Jer 5:17; Hos 2:12; Joel 2:22; Hag 2:19; Zec 3:10 [u]Jdg 16:21; 1Sa 11:2; Jer 39:7 [v]ver 12 16:15 [w]S Ex 4:14 [x]1Sa 12:3 16:16 [y]S ver 6

nacle and to stand before the commu-
nity and minister to them?[j] 10He has
brought you and all your fellow Levites
near himself, but now you are trying to
get the priesthood too.[k] 11It is against
the LORD that you and all your follow-
ers have banded together. Who is
Aaron that you should grumble[l]
against him?"[m]
12Then Moses summoned Dathan
and Abiram,[n] the sons of Eliab. But
they said, "We will not come![o] 13Isn't it
enough that you have brought us up
out of a land flowing with milk and
honey[p] to kill us in the desert?[q] And
now you also want to lord it over us?[r]
14Moreover, you haven't brought us
into a land flowing with milk and
honey[s] or given us an inheritance of
fields and vineyards.[t] Will you gouge
out the eyes of[m] these men?[u] No, we
will not come!"[v]
15Then Moses became very angry[w]
and said to the LORD, "Do not accept
their offering. I have not taken so much
as a donkey[x] from them, nor have I
wronged any of them."
16Moses said to Korah, "You and all
your followers are to appear before the
LORD tomorrow—you and they and
Aaron.[y] 17Each man is to take his cen-
ser and put incense in it—250 censers
in all—and present it before the LORD.
You and Aaron are to present your cen-
sers also.[z]" 18So each man took his
censer,[a] put fire and incense in it, and
stood with Moses and Aaron at the en-
trance to the Tent of Meeting. 19When
Korah had gathered all his followers in
opposition to them[b] at the entrance to
the Tent of Meeting, the glory of the
LORD[c] appeared to the entire assembly.
20The LORD said to Moses and Aaron,
21"Separate yourselves[d] from this as-
sembly so I can put an end to them at
once."[e]
22But Moses and Aaron fell face-
down[f] and cried out, "O God, God of
the spirits of all mankind,[g] will you be
angry with the entire assembly[h] when
only one man sins?"[i]
23Then the LORD said to Moses,
24"Say to the assembly, 'Move away
from the tents of Korah, Dathan and
Abiram.'"

16:17 [z]Eze 8:11 16:18 [a]Lev 10:1 16:19 [b]ver 42; Nu 20:2 [c]S Ex 16:7; Nu 14:10; 20:6 16:21 [d]ver 24 [e]S Ge 19:14; S Ex 32:10 16:22 [f]S Nu 14:5 [g]Nu 27:16; Job 12:10; 27:8; 33:4; 34:14; Jer 32:27; Eze 18:4; Heb 12:9 [h]S Lev 10:6 [i]S Ge 18:23; S Job 21:20

[l]1 Or *Peleth—took men* [m]14 Or *you make slaves of*; or *you deceive*

25 Moses got up and went to Dathan
and Abiram, and the elders of Israel
followed him. 26 He warned the assem-
bly, "Move back from the tents of these
wicked men! Do not touch anything
belonging to them, or you will be
swept away because of all their
sins." 27 So they moved away from the
tents of Korah, Dathan and Abiram.
Dathan and Abiram had come out and
were standing with their wives, chil-
dren and little ones at the entrances to
their tents.
28 Then Moses said, "This is how you
will know that the LORD has sent me
to do all these things and that it was
not my idea: 29 If these men die a natu-
ral death and experience only what
usually happens to men, then the LORD
has not sent me. 30 But if the LORD
brings about something totally new,
and the earth opens its mouth and
swallows them, with everything that
belongs to them, and they go down
alive into the grave,[a] then you will
know that these men have treated the
LORD with contempt."
31 As soon as he finished saying all
this, the ground under them split
apart 32 and the earth opened its
mouth and swallowed them, with
their households and all Korah's men
and all their possessions. 33 They went
down alive into the grave, with every-
thing they owned; the earth closed
over them, and they perished and were
gone from the community. 34 At their
cries, all the Israelites around them
fled, shouting, "The earth is going to
swallow us too!"
35 And fire came out from the LORD
and consumed the 250 men who were
offering the incense.
36 The LORD said to Moses, 37 "Tell
Eleazar son of Aaron, the priest, to
take the censers out of the smoldering
remains and scatter the coals some dis-
tance away, for the censers are holy—
38 the censers of the men who sinned at
the cost of their lives. Hammer the
censers into sheets to overlay the al-
tar, for they were presented before
the LORD and have become holy. Let
them be a sign to the Israelites."
39 So Eleazar the priest collected the
bronze censers brought by those who
had been burned up, and he had
them hammered out to overlay the al-
tar, 40 as the LORD directed him through
Moses. This was to remind the Israel-
ites that no one except a descendant of
Aaron should come to burn incense
before the LORD, or he would become
like Korah and his followers.
41 The next day the whole Israelite
community grumbled against Moses
and Aaron. "You have killed the LORD's
people," they said.
42 But when the assembly gathered in
opposition to Moses and Aaron and
turned toward the Tent of Meeting,
suddenly the cloud covered it and the
glory of the LORD appeared. 43 Then
Moses and Aaron went to the front of
the Tent of Meeting, 44 and the LORD
said to Moses, 45 "Get away from this
assembly so I can put an end to them
at once." And they fell facedown.
46 Then Moses said to Aaron, "Take
your censer and put incense in it,
along with fire from the altar, and hur-
ry to the assembly to make atone-
ment for them. Wrath has come out
from the LORD; the plague has
started." 47 So Aaron did as Moses said,
and ran into the midst of the assembly.
The plague had already started among
the people, but Aaron offered the in-
cense and made atonement for them.
48 He stood between the living and the
dead, and the plague stopped. 49 But
14,700 people died from the plague, in
addition to those who had died be-
cause of Korah. 50 Then Aaron re-
turned to Moses at the entrance to the
Tent of Meeting, for the plague had
stopped.

The Budding of Aaron's Staff

17 The LORD said to Moses, 2 "Speak
to the Israelites and get twelve
staffs from them, one from the leader
of each of their ancestral tribes. Write
the name of each man on his staff. 3 On
the staff of Levi write Aaron's name,
for there must be one staff for the head
of each ancestral tribe. 4 Place them in
the Tent of Meeting in front of the
Testimony, where I meet with you.
5 The staff belonging to the man I
choose will sprout, and I will rid my-
self of this constant grumbling against
you by the Israelites."
6 So Moses spoke to the Israelites,
and their leaders gave him twelve
staffs, one for the leader of each of their
ancestral tribes, and Aaron's staff was
among them. 7 Moses placed the staffs
before the LORD in the Tent of the Testi-
mony.
8 The next day Moses entered the
Tent of the Testimony and saw that

16:42 S ver 19; Ex 16:7; Nu 14:10
16:45 S Ex 32:10
16:46 S Lev 10:1; Lev 10:6; S Ex 29:36; S Nu 1:53; S Lev 26:25; Nu 8:19; Ps 106:29
16:47 Nu 25:6-8
16:48 Nu 25:8; Ps 106:30
16:49 ver 32
17:2 S Ge 32:10; S Ex 4:2; Nu 1:4
17:3 S Nu 1:3
17:4 S Ex 40:2; ver 7; S Ex 16:34; Ex 25:22
17:5 S Nu 16:5; ver 8; S Ex 16:7
17:7 S Ex 38:21
17:8 ver 7; Nu 1:50

a30 Hebrew *Sheol*; also in verse 33

Aaron's staff,[a] which represented the
house of Levi, had not only sprouted
but had budded, blossomed and pro-
duced almonds.[b] 9Then Moses brought
out all the staffs[c] from the LORD's pres-
ence to all the Israelites. They looked at
them, and each man took his own staff.
10The LORD said to Moses, "Put back
Aaron's staff[d] in front of the Testi-
mony, to be kept as a sign to the rebel-
lious.[e] This will put an end to their
grumbling against me, so that they will
not die." 11Moses did just as the LORD
commanded him.
12The Israelites said to Moses, "We
will die! We are lost, we are all lost![f]
13Anyone who even comes near the
tabernacle of the LORD will die.[g] Are we
all going to die?"

Duties of Priests and Levites

18 The LORD said to Aaron, "You,
your sons and your father's
family are to bear the responsibility for
offenses against the sanctuary,[h] and
you and your sons alone are to bear the
responsibility for offenses against the
priesthood. 2Bring your fellow Levites
from your ancestral tribe to join you
and assist you when you and your sons
minister[i] before the Tent of the Testi-
mony. 3They are to be responsible to
you[j] and are to perform all the duties
of the Tent,[k] but they must not go near
the furnishings of the sanctuary or the
altar, or both they and you will die.[l]
4They are to join you and be responsi-
ble for the care of the Tent of Meet-
ing—all the work at the Tent—and no
one else may come near where you
are.[m]
5"You are to be responsible for the
care of the sanctuary and the altar,[n] so
that wrath will not fall on the Israelites
again. 6I myself have selected your fel-
low Levites from among the Israelites
as a gift to you,[o] dedicated to the LORD
to do the work at the Tent of Meeting.[p]
7But only you and your sons may serve
as priests in connection with every-
thing at the altar and inside the cur-
tain.[q] I am giving you the service of the
priesthood as a gift.[r] Anyone else who
comes near the sanctuary must be put
to death.[s]"

Offerings for Priests and Levites

8Then the LORD said to Aaron, "I my-
self have put you in charge of the offer-
ings presented to me; all the holy offer-
ings the Israelites give me I give to you
and your sons as your portion[t] and
regular share.[u] 9You are to have the
part of the most holy offerings[v] that is
kept from the fire. From all the gifts
they bring me as most holy offerings,
whether grain[w] or sin[x] or guilt offer-
ings,[y] that part belongs to you and
your sons. 10Eat it as something most
holy; every male shall eat it.[z] You must
regard it as holy.[a]
11"This also is yours: whatever is set
aside from the gifts of all the wave of-
ferings[b] of the Israelites. I give this to
you and your sons and daughters as
your regular share.[c] Everyone in your
household who is ceremonially clean[d]
may eat it.
12"I give you all the finest olive oil
and all the finest new wine and grain[e]
they give the LORD[f] as the firstfruits of
their harvest.[g] 13All the land's first-
fruits that they bring to the LORD will be
yours.[h] Everyone in your household
who is ceremonially clean may eat it.[i]
14"Everything in Israel that is devot-
ed[o] to the LORD[j] is yours. 15The first
offspring of every womb, both man
and animal, that is offered to the LORD
is yours.[k] But you must redeem[l] every
firstborn[m] son and every firstborn male
of unclean animals.[n] 16When they are a
month old,[o] you must redeem them at
the redemption price set at five
shekels[p][p] of silver, according to the
sanctuary shekel,[q] which weighs
twenty gerahs.[r]
17"But you must not redeem the first-
born of an ox, a sheep or a goat; they
are holy.[s] Sprinkle their blood[t] on the
altar and burn their fat[u] as an offering
made by fire, an aroma pleasing to the
LORD.[v] 18Their meat is to be yours, just
as the breast of the wave offering[w] and
the right thigh are yours.[x] 19Whatever
is set aside from the holy[y] offerings the
Israelites present to the LORD I give to
you and your sons and daughters as
your regular share. It is an everlasting
covenant of salt[z] before the LORD for
both you and your offspring."
20The LORD said to Aaron, "You will
have no inheritance in their land, nor
will you have any share among them;[a]
I am your share and your inheritance[b]
among the Israelites.
21"I give to the Levites all the tithes[c]
in Israel as their inheritance[d] in return
for the work they do while serving at
the Tent of Meeting.[e] 22From now on

17:8 [a]ver 2,10 [b]Eze 17:24; Heb 9:4
17:9 [c]ver 2
17:10 [d]S ver 8 [e]S Ex 23:21; Dt 9:24; Ps 66:7; 68:18; Pr 24:21
17:12 [f]Jdg 13:22; Isa 6:5; 15:1
17:13 [g]Nu 1:51
18:1 [h]S Ex 28:38
18:2 [i]Nu 3:10
18:3 [j]S Nu 3:32 [k]Nu 1:51 [l]ver 7
18:4 [m]S Nu 3:38
18:5 [n]ver 3; Lev 6:12
18:6 [o]S Nu 3:9 [p]Nu 3:8
18:7 [q]Heb 9:3,6 [r]ver 20; Ex 29:9; 40:13; Heb 5:4 [s]ver 3; Nu 3:10
18:8 [t]S Lev 2:2 [u]Lev 6:16; 7:6, 31-34,36; Dt 18:1; 2Ch 31:4
18:9 [v]S Lev 6:17 [w]Lev 2:1 [x]Lev 6:25 [y]S Lev 5:15
18:10 [z]S Lev 6:16 [a]Lev 6:17,18
18:11 [b]Ex 29:26; Lev 7:30; Nu 6:20 [c]Lev 7:31-34 [d]Lev 13:3; 22:1-16
18:12 [e]Dt 7:13; 11:14; 12:17; 28:51; 2Ki 18:32; 2Ch 31:5; Ne 10:37; Jer 31:12; Eze 23:41; Hos 2:8; Joel 1:10; Hag 1:11 [f]S Ge 4:3 [g]Ex 23:19; 34:26; Ne 10:35
18:13 [h]S Ex 29:27 [i]ver 11
18:14 [j]S Lev 27:21; Jos 6:17-19
18:15 [k]Ex 13:2 [l]S Nu 3:46 [m]S Ge 10:15 [n]S Ex 13:13
18:16 [o]S Nu 3:15 [p]S Lev 27:6 [q]S Ex 30:13 [r]Nu 3:47
18:17 [s]S Lev 27:9 [t]S Lev 3:2 [u]S Ex 29:13 [v]S Lev 1:9
18:18 [w]Lev 7:30 [x]ver 11
18:19 [y]2Ki 12:4 [z]S Lev 2:13
18:20 [a]Nu 26:62; Dt 12:12 [b]ver 24; Dt 10:9; 14:27; 18:1-2; Jos 13:33; Eze 44:28
18:21 [c]ver 24; S Ge 28:22; Nu 31:28; Dt 14:22; Ne 10:37; 13:5; Mal 3:8 [d]Lev 27:30-33; Heb 7:5 [e]Nu 1:53

[o]14 The Hebrew term refers to the irrevocable giving over of things or persons to the LORD, often by totally destroying them. [p]16 That is, about 2 ounces (about 55 grams)

the Israelites must not go near the Tent
of Meeting, or they will bear the conse-
quences of their sin and will die.[a] 23 It is
the Levites who are to do the work at
the Tent of Meeting and bear the
responsibility for offenses against it.
This is a lasting ordinance[b] for the gen-
erations to come.[c] They will receive no
inheritance[d] among the Israelites.[e]
24 Instead, I give to the Levites as their
inheritance the tithes that the Israelites
present as an offering to the LORD.[f]
That is why I said concerning them:
'They will have no inheritance among
the Israelites.' "
25 The LORD said to Moses, 26 "Speak to
the Levites and say to them: 'When
you receive from the Israelites the tithe
I give you[g] as your inheritance, you
must present a tenth of that tithe as the
LORD's offering.[h] 27 Your offering will be
reckoned[i] to you as grain from the
threshing floor[j] or juice from the wine-
press.[k] 28 In this way you also will
present an offering to the LORD from all
the tithes[l] you receive from the Israel-
ites. From these tithes you must give
the LORD's portion to Aaron the priest.
29 You must present as the LORD's por-
tion the best and holiest part of every-
thing given to you.'
30 "Say to the Levites: 'When you
present the best part, it will be reck-
oned to you as the product of the
threshing floor or the winepress.[m]
31 You and your households may eat the
rest of it anywhere, for it is your wages
for your work at the Tent of Meeting.[n]
32 By presenting the best part[o] of it you
will not be guilty in this matter;[p] then
you will not defile the holy offerings[q]
of the Israelites, and you will not die.' "

The Water of Cleansing

19 The LORD said to Moses and
Aaron: 2 "This is a requirement of
the law that the LORD has commanded:
Tell the Israelites to bring you a red
heifer[r] without defect or blemish[s] and
that has never been under a yoke.[t]
3 Give it to Eleazar[u] the priest; it is to be
taken outside the camp[v] and slaugh-
tered in his presence. 4 Then Eleazar the
priest is to take some of its blood on his
finger and sprinkle[w] it seven times
toward the front of the Tent of Meet-
ing. 5 While he watches, the heifer is to
be burned—its hide, flesh, blood and
offal.[x] 6 The priest is to take some cedar
wood, hyssop[y] and scarlet wool[z] and
throw them onto the burning heifer.
7 After that, the priest must wash his
clothes and bathe himself with water.[a]
He may then come into the camp, but
he will be ceremonially unclean till eve-
ning. 8 The man who burns it must also
wash his clothes and bathe with water,
and he too will be unclean till evening.
9 "A man who is clean shall gather up
the ashes of the heifer[b] and put them
in a ceremonially clean place[c] outside
the camp. They shall be kept by the Is-
raelite community for use in the water
of cleansing;[d] it is for purification from
sin.[e] 10 The man who gathers up[f] the
ashes of the heifer must also wash his
clothes, and he too will be unclean till
evening.[g] This will be a lasting ordi-
nance[h] both for the Israelites and for
the aliens living among them.[i]
11 "Whoever touches the dead body[j]
of anyone will be unclean for seven
days.[k] 12 He must purify himself with
the water on the third day and on the
seventh day;[l] then he will be clean.
But if he does not purify himself on the
third and seventh days, he will not be
clean.[m] 13 Whoever touches the dead
body[n] of anyone and fails to purify
himself defiles the LORD's tabernacle.[o]
That person must be cut off from Is-
rael.[p] Because the water of cleansing
has not been sprinkled on him, he is
unclean;[q] his uncleanness remains on
him.
14 "This is the law that applies when a
person dies in a tent: Anyone who en-
ters the tent and anyone who is in it
will be unclean for seven days, 15 and
every open container[r] without a lid
fastened on it will be unclean.
16 "Anyone out in the open who
touches someone who has been killed
with a sword or someone who has died
a natural death,[s] or anyone who
touches a human bone[t] or a grave,[u]
will be unclean for seven days.[v]
17 "For the unclean person, put some
ashes[w] from the burned purification of-
fering into a jar and pour fresh water[x]
over them. 18 Then a man who is cere-
monially clean is to take some hyssop,[y]
dip it in the water and sprinkle[z] the
tent and all the furnishings and the
people who were there. He must also
sprinkle anyone who has touched a hu-
man bone or a grave[a] or someone who
has been killed or someone who has
died a natural death. 19 The man who is
clean is to sprinkle[b] the unclean person
on the third and seventh days, and on
the seventh day he is to purify him.[c]
The person being cleansed must wash
his clothes[d] and bathe with water, and

18:22 [a]S Ex 28:43
18:23 [b]S Ex 12:14; S 27:21 [c]Nu 10:8 [d]ver 20; Nu 26:62; Dt 10:9 [e]Eze 44:10
18:24 [f]Lev 27:30; Dt 26:12
18:26 [g]ver 21 [h]ver 28; Ne 10:38
18:27 [i]Lev 7:18 [j]Ge 50:10; Dt 15:14; Jdg 6:37; Ru 3:3, 6,14; 1Sa 23:1 [k]ver 12,30
18:28 [l]Mal 3:8
18:30 [m]S ver 27
18:31 [n]ver 23
18:32 [o]Lev 22:15 [p]ver 29 [q]S Lev 19:8
19:2 [r]S Ge 15:9; Heb 9:13 [s]S Lev 22:19-25 [t]Dt 21:3; 1Sa 6:7
19:3 [u]Nu 3:4 [v]S Ex 29:14
19:4 [w]S Lev 4:17
19:5 [x]S Ex 29:14
19:6 [y]ver 18; Ps 51:7 [z]S Lev 14:4
19:7 [a]S Lev 11:25; S 14:8
19:9 [b]Heb 9:13 [c]S Ex 29:31; S Lev 4:12 [d]ver 13; Nu 8:7 [e]S Ge 35:2
19:10 [f]Lev 15:10 [g]Lev 14:46 [h]Lev 3:17 [i]S Lev 22:18
19:11 [j]S Lev 21:1 [k]S Lev 8:33; Nu 31:19
19:12 [l]ver 19; Nu 31:19 [m]ver 20; 2Ch 26:21
19:13 [n]S Lev 21:11 [o]S Lev 15:31; 2Ch 36:14; Ps 79:1 [p]Lev 7:20; 22:3 [q]ver 22; Hag 2:13
19:15 [r]S Lev 6:28
19:16 [s]Nu 31:19 [t]1Ki 13:2; 2Ki 23:14; Eze 6:5 [u]2Ki 23:6; Mt 23:27 [v]S Lev 5:3
19:17 [w]ver 9 [x]S Nu 8:7
19:18 [y]S ver 6; S Ex 12:22 [z]S Lev 4:17 [a]ver 16
19:19 [b]S Lev 16:14-15 [c]Nu 31:19; Eze 36:25; Heb 10:22 [d]S Ge 35:2

that evening he will be clean. 20But if a
person who is unclean does not purify
himself, he must be cut off from the
community, because he has defiled[a]
the sanctuary of the LORD.[b] The water
of cleansing has not been sprinkled on
him, and he is unclean.[c] 21This is a
lasting ordinance[d] for them.
"The man who sprinkles the water of
cleansing must also wash his clothes,
and anyone who touches the water of
cleansing will be unclean till evening.
22Anything that an unclean[e] person
touches becomes unclean, and anyone
who touches it becomes unclean till
evening."

Water From the Rock

20 In the first month the whole Isra-
elite community arrived at the
Desert of Zin,[f] and they stayed at Ka-
desh.[g] There Miriam[h] died and was
buried.
2Now there was no water[i] for the
community,[j] and the people gathered
in opposition[k] to Moses and Aaron.
3They quarreled[l] with Moses and said,
"If only we had died when our broth-
ers fell dead[m] before the LORD![n] 4Why
did you bring the LORD's community
into this desert,[o] that we and our live-
stock should die here?[p] 5Why did you
bring us up out of Egypt to this terrible
place? It has no grain or figs, grape-
vines or pomegranates.[q] And there is
no water to drink![r]"
6Moses and Aaron went from the as-
sembly to the entrance to the Tent of
Meeting[s] and fell facedown,[t] and the
glory of the LORD[u] appeared to them.
7The LORD said to Moses, 8"Take the
staff,[v] and you and your brother Aaron
gather the assembly together. Speak to
that rock before their eyes and it will
pour out its water.[w] You will bring
water out of the rock for the commu-
nity so they and their livestock can
drink."
9So Moses took the staff[x] from the
LORD's presence,[y] just as he com-
manded him. 10He and Aaron gathered
the assembly together[z] in front of the
rock and Moses said to them, "Listen,
you rebels, must we bring you water
out of this rock?"[a] 11Then Moses raised
his arm and struck the rock twice with
his staff. Water[b] gushed out, and the
community and their livestock drank.
12But the LORD said to Moses and
Aaron, "Because you did not trust in
me enough to honor me as holy[c] in the
sight of the Israelites, you will not

19:20 [a]Ps 74:7 [b]S Lev 15:31 [c]S ver 12; S Lev 14:8
19:21 [d]S Ex 27:21
19:22 [e]S Lev 5:2; 15:4-12
20:1 [f]Nu 13:21 [g]ver 14; Nu 13:26; 33:36; Dt 1:46; Jdg 11:17; Ps 29:8 [h]S Ex 15:20
20:2 [i]S Ex 15:22 [j]Ex 17:1 [k]S Nu 16:19
20:3 [l]ver 13; S Ge 13:7; Ex 17:2; 21:18 [m]S Ex 5:21 [n]S Nu 14:2; 16:31-35
20:4 [o]S Nu 14:2 [p]S Ex 14:11; Nu 14:3; 16:13
20:5 [q]Nu 13:23; 16:14 [r]S Ex 17:1
20:6 [s]S Ex 40:2 [t]Nu 14:5 [u]S Nu 16:19
20:8 [v]S Ex 4:2; S 10:12-13 [w]Ex 17:6; Isa 41:18; 43:20; Jer 31:9
20:9 [x]Nu 17:2 [y]Nu 17:10
20:10 [z]ver 8 [a]Ps 106:32,33
20:11 [b]S Ex 17:6; S Isa 33:21
20:12 [c]Nu 27:14; Dt 32:51; Isa 5:16; 8:13 [d]ver 24; Dt 1:37; 3:27
20:13 [e]S Ex 17:7 [f]S ver 3 [g]S Lev 10:3
20:14 [h]S ver 1 [i]S ver 16; S Ge 25:30; S 36:16 [j]Ge 24:3; Dt 4:39; Jos 2:11; 9:9 [k]S Ex 18:8
20:15 [l]S Ge 46:6 [m]S Ge 15:13 [n]S Ex 1:14
20:16 [o]S Ge 16:11; S 21:17; S Ex 2:23 [p]Ex 14:19 [q]Ex 12:42; Dt 26:8 [r]ver 14, 23; Nu 33:37
20:17 [s]ver 20; Nu 21:22; Dt 2:27; Jdg 11:17
20:18 [t]ver 14 [u]Nu 21:23
20:19 [v]Ex 12:38 [w]Dt 2:6,28
20:20 [x]S ver 17, 18 [y]ver 14
20:21 [z]Nu 21:23 [a]Nu 21:4; Dt 2:8; Jdg 11:18
20:22 [b]Dt 1:46 [c]Nu 33:37; 34:7; Dt 32:50
20:23 [d]S ver 16
20:24 [e]S Ge 25:8 [f]S ver 10

bring this community into the land I
give them."[d]
13These were the waters of Meri-
bah,[a][e] where the Israelites quarreled[f]
with the LORD and where he showed
himself holy among them.[g]

Edom Denies Israel Passage

14Moses sent messengers from Ka-
desh[h] to the king of Edom,[i] saying:
"This is what your brother Israel
says: You know[j] about all the
hardships[k] that have come upon
us. 15Our forefathers went down
into Egypt,[l] and we lived there
many years.[m] The Egyptians mis-
treated[n] us and our fathers, 16but
when we cried out to the LORD, he
heard our cry[o] and sent an angel[p]
and brought us out of Egypt.[q]
"Now we are here at Kadesh, a
town on the edge of your terri-
tory.[r] 17Please let us pass through
your country. We will not go
through any field or vineyard, or
drink water from any well. We will
travel along the king's highway
and not turn to the right or to the
left until we have passed through
your territory.[s]"
18But Edom[t] answered:
"You may not pass through here;
if you try, we will march out and
attack you with the sword.[u]"
19The Israelites replied:
"We will go along the main road,
and if we or our livestock[v] drink
any of your water, we will pay for
it.[w] We only want to pass through
on foot—nothing else."
20Again they answered:
"You may not pass through.[x]"
Then Edom[y] came out against them
with a large and powerful army. 21Since
Edom refused to let them go through
their territory,[z] Israel turned away
from them.[a]

The Death of Aaron

22The whole Israelite community set
out from Kadesh[b] and came to Mount
Hor.[c] 23At Mount Hor, near the border
of Edom,[d] the LORD said to Moses and
Aaron, 24"Aaron will be gathered to his
people.[e] He will not enter the land I
give the Israelites, because both of you
rebelled against my command[f] at the

[a]13 *Meribah* means *quarreling*.

waters of Meribah.[a] 25 Get Aaron and
his son Eleazar and take them up
Mount Hor.[b] 26 Remove Aaron's gar-
ments[c] and put them on his son Elea-
zar, for Aaron will be gathered to his
people;[d] he will die there."
27 Moses did as the LORD commanded:
They went up Mount Hor[e] in the sight
of the whole community. 28 Moses re-
moved Aaron's garments and put them
on his son Eleazar.[f] And Aaron died
there[g] on top of the mountain. Then
Moses and Eleazar came down from
the mountain, 29 and when the whole
community learned that Aaron had
died,[h] the entire house of Israel
mourned for him[i] thirty days.

Arad Destroyed

21 When the Canaanite king of
Arad,[j] who lived in the Negev,[k]
heard that Israel was coming along the
road to Atharim, he attacked the Israel-
ites and captured some of them. 2 Then
Israel made this vow[l] to the LORD: "If
you will deliver these people into our
hands, we will totally destroy[r][m] their
cities." 3 The LORD listened to Israel's
plea and gave the Canaanites[n] over to
them. They completely destroyed
them[o] and their towns; so the place
was named Hormah.[s][p]

The Bronze Snake

4 They traveled from Mount Hor[q]
along the route to the Red Sea,[t][r] to go
around Edom.[s] But the people grew
impatient on the way;[t] 5 they spoke
against God[u] and against Moses, and
said, "Why have you brought us up
out of Egypt[v] to die in the desert?[w]
There is no bread! There is no water![x]
And we detest this miserable food!"[y]
6 Then the LORD sent venomous
snakes[z] among them; they bit the
people and many Israelites died.[a] 7 The
people came to Moses[b] and said, "We
sinned[c] when we spoke against the
LORD and against you. Pray that the
LORD[d] will take the snakes away from
us." So Moses prayed[e] for the people.
8 The LORD said to Moses, "Make a
snake and put it up on a pole;[f] anyone
who is bitten can look at it and live."
9 So Moses made a bronze snake[g] and
put it up on a pole. Then when anyone
was bitten by a snake and looked at the
bronze snake, he lived.[h]

The Journey to Moab

10 The Israelites moved on and
camped at Oboth.[i] 11 Then they set out
from Oboth and camped in Iye Abarim,
in the desert that faces Moab[j] toward
the sunrise. 12 From there they moved
on and camped in the Zered Valley.[k]
13 They set out from there and camped
alongside the Arnon[l], which is in the
desert extending into Amorite terri-
tory. The Arnon is the border of Moab,
between Moab and the Amorites.[m]
14 That is why the Book of the Wars[n] of
the LORD says:

"... Waheb in Suphah[u] and the
ravines,
the Arnon 15 and[v] the slopes of the
ravines
that lead to the site of Ar[o]
and lie along the border of Moab."

16 From there they continued on to
Beer,[p] the well where the LORD said to
Moses, "Gather the people together
and I will give them water."
17 Then Israel sang this song:[q]

"Spring up, O well!
Sing about it,
18 about the well that the princes dug,
that the nobles of the people
sank—
the nobles with scepters and
staffs."

Then they went from the desert to Mat-
tanah, 19 from Mattanah to Nahaliel,
from Nahaliel to Bamoth, 20 and from
Bamoth to the valley in Moab where
the top of Pisgah[r] overlooks the waste-
land.

Defeat of Sihon and Og

21 Israel sent messengers[s] to say to Si-
hon[t] king of the Amorites:[u]

22 "Let us pass through your
country. We will not turn aside into
any field or vineyard, or drink
water from any well. We will travel
along the king's highway until we
have passed through your terri-
tory.[v]"

23 But Sihon would not let Israel pass
through his territory.[w] He mustered
his entire army and marched out into
the desert against Israel. When he
reached Jahaz,[x] he fought with Israel.[y]

20:24 [a]S Ex 17:7 **20:25** [b]Nu 33:38 **20:26** [c]Ex 28:1-4; 40:13; S Lev 16:4 [d]ver 24; Nu 27:13; 31:2 **20:27** [e]Nu 33:38 **20:28** [f]S Ex 29:29 [g]ver 26; Nu 33:38; Dt 10:6; 32:50 **20:29** [h]Dt 32:50 [i]S Ge 27:41; S Lev 10:6; S Dt 34:8 **21:1** [j]Nu 33:40; Jos 12:14 [k]S Ge 12:9; Nu 13:17; Dt 1:7; Jdg 1:9,16 **21:2** [l]Lev 7:16 [m]ver 3; Ex 22:20; Dt 2:34; Jos 2:10; 8:26; Jer 25:9; 50:21 **21:3** [n]S Ge 10:18 [o]S ver 2 [p]S Nu 14:45 **21:4** [q]Nu 20:22 [r]Nu 14:25; Dt 2:1; 11:4 [s]S Nu 20:21 [t]Dt 2:8; Jdg 11:18 **21:5** [u]Ps 78:19 [v]Nu 11:20 [w]S Ex 14:11; Nu 14:2,3 [x]Nu 20:5 [y]S Nu 11:5 **21:6** [z]ver 7; Dt 8:15; 32:33; Job 20:14; Ps 58:4; 140:3; Jer 8:17 [a]1Co 10:9 **21:7** [b]Ps 78:34; Hos 5:15 [c]Nu 14:40 [d]Ex 8:8; 1Sa 7:8; Jer 27:18; 37:3; Ac 8:24 [e]S Nu 11:2 **21:8** [f]Jn 3:14 **21:9** [g]2Ki 18:4 [h]Jn 3:14-15 **21:10** [i]Nu 33:43 **21:11** [j]S Ge 36:35; Nu 33:44; Dt 34:8; Jer 40:11 **21:12** [k]Dt 2:13, 14 **21:13** [l]Nu 22:36; Dt 2:24; Jos 12:1; Jdg 11:13,18; 2Ki 10:33; Isa 16:2; Jer 48:20 [m]S Ge 10:16 **21:14** [n]1Sa 17:47; 18:17; 25:28 **21:15** [o]ver 28; Dt 2:9,18; Isa 15:1 **21:16** [p]Nu 25:1; 33:49; Jdg 9:21; Isa 15:8 **21:17** [q]S Ex 15:1 **21:20** [r]Nu 23:14; Dt 3:17,27; 34:1; Jos 12:3; 13:20 **21:21** [s]S Ge 32:3 [t]Nu 32:33; Dt 1:4; Jos 2:10; 12:2,4; 13:10; Jdg 11:19-21; 1Ki 4:19; Ne 9:22; Ps 135:11; 136:19; Jer 48:45 [u]S Ex 23:23 **21:22** [v]S Nu 20:17 **21:23** [w]Nu 20:21 [x]Dt 2:32; Jos 13:18; 21:36; Jdg 11:20; Isa 15:4; Jer 48:21,34 [y]Nu 20:18

[r]2 The Hebrew term refers to the irrevocable giving over of things or persons to the LORD, often by totally destroying them; also in verse 3. [s]3 *Hormah* means *destruction.* [t]4 Hebrew *Yam Suph;* that is, Sea of Reeds [u]*14* The meaning of the Hebrew for this phrase is uncertain. [v]*14,15* Or *"I have been given from Suphah and the ravines / of the Arnon* [15]*to*

24Israel, however, put him to the
sword[a] and took over his land[b] from
the Arnon to the Jabbok,[c] but only as
far as the Ammonites,[d] because their
border was fortified. 25Israel captured
all the cities of the Amorites[e] and oc-
cupied them,[f] including Heshbon[g]
and all its surrounding settlements.
26Heshbon was the city of Sihon[h] king
of the Amorites,[i] who had fought
against the former king of Moab[j] and
had taken from him all his land as far
as the Arnon.[k]
27That is why the poets say:

"Come to Heshbon and let it be
rebuilt;
let Sihon's city be restored.

28"Fire went out from Heshbon,
a blaze from the city of Sihon.[l]
It consumed[m] Ar[n] of Moab,
the citizens of Arnon's heights.[o]
29Woe to you, O Moab![p]
You are destroyed, O people of
Chemosh![q]
He has given up his sons as
fugitives[r]
and his daughters as captives[s]
to Sihon king of the Amorites.

30"But we have overthrown them;
Heshbon is destroyed all the way
to Dibon.[t]
We have demolished them as far as
Nophah,
which extends to Medeba.[u]"

31So Israel settled in the land of the
Amorites.[v]
32After Moses had sent spies[w] to Ja-
zer,[x] the Israelites captured its sur-
rounding settlements and drove out
the Amorites who were there. 33Then
they turned and went up along the
road toward Bashan,[y][z] and Og king of
Bashan and his whole army marched
out to meet them in battle at Edrei.[a]
34The LORD said to Moses, "Do not be
afraid of him, for I have handed him
over to you, with his whole army and
his land. Do to him what you did to
Sihon king of the Amorites, who
reigned in Heshbon.[b]"
35So they struck him down, together
with his sons and his whole army,
leaving them no survivors.[c] And they
took possession of his land.[d]

Balak Summons Balaam

22 Then the Israelites traveled to
the plains of Moab[e] and camped
along the Jordan[f] across from Jeri-
cho.[w][g]

2Now Balak son of Zippor[h] saw all
that Israel had done to the Amorites,
3and Moab was terrified because there
were so many people. Indeed, Moab
was filled with dread[i] because of the
Israelites.
4The Moabites[j] said to the elders of
Midian,[k] "This horde is going to lick
up everything[l] around us, as an ox
licks up the grass of the field."[m]
So Balak son of Zippor, who was
king of Moab at that time, 5sent mes-
sengers to summon Balaam son of
Beor,[n] who was at Pethor, near the
River,[x][o] in his native land. Balak said:

"A people has come out of
Egypt;[p] they cover the face of the
land and have settled next to me.
6Now come and put a curse[q] on
these people, because they are too
powerful for me. Perhaps then I
will be able to defeat them and
drive them out of the country.[r] For
I know that those you bless are
blessed, and those you curse are
cursed."

7The elders of Moab and Midian left,
taking with them the fee for divina-
tion.[s] When they came to Balaam, they
told him what Balak had said.
8"Spend the night here,"[t] Balaam
said to them, "and I will bring you back
the answer the LORD gives me." So the
Moabite princes stayed with him.
9God came to Balaam[u] and asked,[v]
"Who are these men with you?"
10Balaam said to God, "Balak son of
Zippor, king of Moab, sent me this
message: 11'A people that has come out
of Egypt covers the face of the land.
Now come and put a curse on them for
me. Perhaps then I will be able to fight
them and drive them away.'"
12But God said to Balaam, "Do not go
with them. You must not put a curse
on those people, because they are
blessed.[w]"
13The next morning Balaam got up
and said to Balak's princes, "Go back to
your own country, for the LORD has
refused to let me go with you."
14So the Moabite princes returned to
Balak and said, "Balaam refused to
come with us."
15Then Balak sent other princes,

21:24 aDt 2:33; 3:3; 29:7; Ps 135:10-11; Am 2:9 bver 35; Dt 3:4 cS Ge 32:22; Nu 32:33; Jdg 11:13,22 dS Ge 19:38; Dt 2:37; Jos 13:10 **21:25** eNu 13:29; Jdg 10:11; Am 2:10 fJdg 11:26 gver 30; Nu 32:3; Dt 1:4; 29:7; Jos 9:10; 12:2; Isa 15:4; 16:8; Jer 48:2,34 **21:26** hver 21; Dt 29:7; Ps 135:11 iNu 13:29 jver 11 kver 13 **21:28** lJer 48:45 mS Nu 11:1 nS ver 15 oNu 22:41; Dt 12:2; Jos 13:17; Isa 15:2; Jer 19:5 **21:29** pNu 24:17; 2Sa 8:2; 1Ch 18:2; Ps 60:8; Isa 25:10; Jer 48:46 qJdg 10:6; 11:24; Ru 1:15; 1Ki 11:7,33; 2Ki 23:13; Jer 48:7,46 rIsa 15:5 sIsa 16:2 **21:30** tNu 32:3; Jos 13:9,17; Ne 11:25; Isa 15:2; Jer 48:18,22 uJos 13:16; 1Ch 19:7 **21:31** vNu 13:29 **21:32** wJos 2:1; 6:22; 7:2; Jdg 18:2; 2Sa 10:3; 1Ch 19:3 xNu 32:1,3,35; Jos 13:25; 2Sa 24:5; 1Ch 6:81; Isa 16:8; Jer 48:32 **21:33** yNu 32:33; Dt 3:3; 31:4; Jos 2:10; 12:4; 13:30; 1Ki 4:19; Ne 9:22; Ps 135:11; 136:20 zDt 3:4; 32:14; Jos 9:10; 1Ki 4:13 aDt 1:4; 3:1,10; Jos 12:4; 13:12,31; 19:37 **21:34** bDt 3:2 **21:35** cJos 9:10 dS ver 24 **22:1** eS Nu 21:11 fS Nu 13:29; S Jos 2:7 gNu 31:12; 33:48; Dt 32:49; Jos 2:1 **22:2** hNu 23:1-3; Jos 24:9; Jdg 11:25; Mic 6:5; Rev 2:14 **22:3** iS Ex 15:15 **22:4** jS Ge 19:37 kS Ge 25:2 lNu 32:17,18,29 mJob 5:25; Ps 72:16 **22:5** nver 7; Nu 24:25; 31:8,16; Dt 23:4; Jos 13:22; Ne 13:2; Mic 6:5; S 2Pe 2:15 oS Ge 2:14 pS Ex 13:3 **22:6** qver 12,17; Nu 23:7,11,13; 24:9,10 rver 11 **22:7** sS Ge 30:27 **22:8** tver 19 **22:9** uS Ge 20:3 vver 20; Nu 23:5; 24:4,16 **22:12** wS Ge 12:2

w1 Hebrew *Jordan of Jericho;* possibly an ancient name for the Jordan River x5 That is, the Euphrates

more numerous and more distin-
guished than the first. 16They came to
Balaam and said:

"This is what Balak son of Zippor
says: Do not let anything keep you
from coming to me, 17because I will
reward you handsomely[a] and do
whatever you say. Come and put a
curse[b] on these people for me."

18But Balaam answered them, "Even
if Balak gave me his palace filled with
silver and gold, I could not do anything
great or small to go beyond the com-
mand of the LORD my God.[c] 19Now
stay here tonight as the others did, and
I will find out what else the LORD will
tell me.[d]"
20That night God came to Balaam[e]
and said, "Since these men have come
to summon you, go with them, but do
only what I tell you."[f]

Balaam's Donkey

21Balaam got up in the morning, sad-
dled his donkey and went with the
princes of Moab. 22But God was very
angry[g] when he went, and the angel of
the LORD[h] stood in the road to oppose
him. Balaam was riding on his donkey,
and his two servants were with him.
23When the donkey saw the angel of
the LORD standing in the road with a
drawn sword[i] in his hand, she turned
off the road into a field. Balaam beat
her[j] to get her back on the road.
24Then the angel of the LORD stood in
a narrow path between two vineyards,
with walls on both sides. 25When the
donkey saw the angel of the LORD, she
pressed close to the wall, crushing Ba-
laam's foot against it. So he beat her
again.
26Then the angel of the LORD moved
on ahead and stood in a narrow place
where there was no room to turn,
either to the right or to the left. 27When
the donkey saw the angel of the LORD,
she lay down under Balaam, and he
was angry[k] and beat her with his staff.
28Then the LORD opened the donkey's
mouth,[l] and she said to Balaam,
"What have I done to you to make you
beat me these three times?[m]"
29Balaam answered the donkey,
"You have made a fool of me! If I had a
sword in my hand, I would kill you
right now.[n]"
30The donkey said to Balaam, "Am I
not your own donkey, which you have
always ridden, to this day? Have I been
in the habit of doing this to you?"

22:17 [a]ver 37; Nu 24:11 [b]S ver 6
22:18 [c]ver 38; Nu 23:12,26; 24:13; 1Ki 22:14; 2Ch 18:13; Jer 42:4
22:19 [d]ver 8
22:20 [e]S Ge 20:3 [f]ver 35,38; Nu 23:5, 12,16,26; 24:13; 2Ch 18:13
22:22 [g]S Ex 4:14 [h]S Ge 16:7; Jdg 13:3,6,13
22:23 [i]Jos 5:13 [j]ver 25,27
22:27 [k]Nu 11:1; Jas 1:19
22:28 [l]2Pe 2:16 [m]ver 32
22:29 [n]ver 33; Dt 25:4; Pr 12:10; 27:23-27; Mt 15:19

"No," he said.
31Then the LORD opened Balaam's
eyes,[o] and he saw the angel of the
LORD standing in the road with his
sword drawn. So he bowed low and
fell facedown.
32The angel of the LORD asked him,
"Why have you beaten your donkey
these three times? I have come here to
oppose you because your path is a
reckless one before me.[y] 33The donkey
saw me and turned away from me
these three times. If she had not turned
away, I would certainly have killed you
by now,[p] but I would have spared
her."
34Balaam said to the angel of the
LORD, "I have sinned.[q] I did not realize
you were standing in the road to op-
pose me. Now if you are displeased, I
will go back."
35The angel of the LORD said to Ba-
laam, "Go with the men, but speak
only what I tell you." So Balaam went
with the princes of Balak.
36When Balak[r] heard that Balaam
was coming, he went out to meet him
at the Moabite town on the Arnon[s]
border, at the edge of his territory.
37Balak said to Balaam, "Did I not send
you an urgent summons? Why didn't
you come to me? Am I really not able to
reward you?"
38"Well, I have come to you now,"
Balaam replied. "But can I say just any-
thing? I must speak only what God
puts in my mouth."[t]
39Then Balaam went with Balak to
Kiriath Huzoth. 40Balak sacrificed cattle
and sheep,[u] and gave some to Balaam
and the princes who were with him.
41The next morning Balak took Balaam
up to Bamoth Baal,[v] and from there he
saw part of the people.[w]

Balaam's First Oracle

23 Balaam said, "Build me seven al-
tars here, and prepare seven
bulls and seven rams[x] for me." 2Balak
did as Balaam said, and the two of
them offered a bull and a ram on each
altar.[y]
3Then Balaam said to Balak, "Stay
here beside your offering while I go
aside. Perhaps the LORD will come to
meet with me.[z] Whatever he reveals to
me I will tell you." Then he went off to
a barren height.
4God met with him,[a] and Balaam

22:31 [o]Ge 21:19
22:33 [p]S ver 29
22:34 [q]Ge 39:9; Nu 14:40; 1Sa 15:24,30; 2Sa 12:13; 24:10; Job 33:27; Ps 51:4
22:36 [r]ver 2 [s]S Nu 21:13
22:38 [t]Nu 23:5, 16,26
22:40 [u]Nu 23:1, 14,29; Eze 45:23
22:41 [v]S Nu 21:28 [w]Nu 23:13
23:1 [x]S Nu 22:40
23:2 [y]ver 14,30
23:3 [z]ver 15
23:4 [a]ver 16

y32 The meaning of the Hebrew for this clause is uncertain.

said, "I have prepared seven altars,
and on each altar I have offered a bull
and a ram."
5The LORD put a message in Balaam's
mouth[a b] and said, "Go back to Balak
and give him this message."[c]
6So he went back to him and found
him standing beside his offering, with
all the princes of Moab.[d] 7Then Ba-
laam[e] uttered his oracle:[f]

"Balak brought me from Aram,[g]
the king of Moab from the eastern
mountains.[h]
'Come,' he said, 'curse Jacob for me;
come, denounce Israel.'[i]
8How can I curse
those whom God has not cursed?[j]
How can I denounce
those whom the LORD has not
denounced?[k]
9From the rocky peaks I see them,
from the heights I view them.[l]
I see a people who live apart
and do not consider themselves
one of the nations.[m]
10Who can count the dust of Jacob[n]
or number the fourth part of
Israel?
Let me die the death of the
righteous,[o]
and may my end be like theirs![p]"

11Balak said to Balaam, "What have
you done to me? I brought you to curse
my enemies,[q] but you have done noth-
ing but bless them!"[r]
12He answered, "Must I not speak
what the LORD puts in my mouth?"[s]

Balaam's Second Oracle

13Then Balak said to him, "Come
with me to another place[t] where you
can see them; you will see only a part
but not all of them.[u] And from there,
curse them for me.[v]" 14So he took him
to the field of Zophim on the top of
Pisgah,[w] and there he built seven altars
and offered a bull and a ram on each
altar.[x]
15Balaam said to Balak, "Stay here be-
side your offering while I meet with
him over there."
16The LORD met with Balaam and put
a message in his mouth[y] and said, "Go
back to Balak and give him this mes-
sage."
17So he went to him and found him
standing beside his offering, with the
princes of Moab.[z] Balak asked him,
"What did the LORD say?"
18Then he uttered his oracle:[a]

23:5 [a]S Ex 4:12; Isa 59:21 [b]S Ex 4:15 [c]S Nu 22:20 **23:6** [d]ver 17 **23:7** [e]Nu 22:5; Jos 24:9 [f]ver 18; Nu 24:3,21; 2Sa 23:1 [g]2Ki 5:1 [h]S Ge 24:10 [i]S Nu 22:6; Ne 13:2 **23:8** [j]Nu 22:12 [k]ver 20; Isa 43:13 **23:9** [l]Nu 22:41 [m]S Ex 33:16; S Dt 32:8 **23:10** [n]S Ge 13:16 [o]Ps 16:3; 116:15; Isa 57:1 [p]Ps 37:37 **23:11** [q]S Nu 22:6 [r]Nu 24:10; Jos 24:10; Ne 13:2 **23:12** [s]S Nu 22:18,20 **23:13** [t]ver 27 [u]Nu 22:41 [v]S Nu 22:6 **23:14** [w]S Nu 21:20; 27:12 [x]S ver 2 **23:16** [y]S Ex 4:15; S Nu 22:38 **23:17** [z]ver 6 **23:18** [a]S ver 7 [b]Nu 22:2 **23:19** [c]Job 9:32; Isa 55:9; Hos 11:9 [d]S Nu 11:23 [e]1Sa 15:29; Job 12:13; 36:5; Ps 33:11; 89:34; 102:27; 110:4; Jer 4:28; 7:16; Mal 3:6; Tit 1:2; Heb 6:18; 7:21; Jas 1:17 [f]2Sa 7:25; Ps 119:38 **23:20** [g]ver 5,16; Nu 24:1 [h]Ge 22:17; Nu 22:12 [i]S ver 8; S Job 9:12 **23:21** [j]Ps 32:2,5; 85:2; Ro 4:7-8 [k]Isa 33:24; 40:2; Jer 50:20 [l]S Ge 26:3; Ex 29:45,46; Dt 4:7; Ps 34:17-18; 145:18; Zec 2:10 [m]Dt 32:15; 33:5; Ps 89:15-18; Isa 44:2 **23:22** [n]Nu 24:8; Jos 2:10; 9:9 [o]Dt 33:17; Job 39:9; Ps 22:21; 29:6; 92:10; Isa 34:7 **23:23** [p]ver 3; S Ge 30:27; Nu 24:1 **23:24** [q]Nu 24:9; Eze 19:2; Na 2:11 [r]S Ge 49:9 [s]Isa 49:26 **23:26** [t]S Nu 22:18,20 **23:27** [u]ver 13 [v]Nu 24:10 **23:28** [w]Nu 25:3,18; 31:16; Dt 3:29; 4:3; Jos 22:17; Ps 106:28; Hos 9:10

"Arise, Balak, and listen;
hear me, son of Zippor.[b]
19God is not a man,[c] that he should
lie,[d]
nor a son of man, that he should
change his mind.[e]
Does he speak and then not act?
Does he promise[f] and not fulfill?
20I have received a command to
bless;[g]
he has blessed,[h] and I cannot
change it.[i]

21"No misfortune is seen in Jacob,[j]
no misery observed in Israel.[z k]
The LORD their God is with them;[l]
the shout of the King[m] is among
them.
22God brought them out of Egypt;[n]
they have the strength of a
wild ox.[o]
23There is no sorcery against Jacob,
no divination[p] against Israel.
It will now be said of Jacob
and of Israel, 'See what God has
done!'
24The people rise like a lioness;[q]
they rouse themselves like a lion[r]
that does not rest till he devours his
prey
and drinks the blood[s] of his
victims."

25Then Balak said to Balaam,
"Neither curse them at all nor bless
them at all!"
26Balaam answered, "Did I not tell
you I must do whatever the LORD
says?"[t]

Balaam's Third Oracle

27Then Balak said to Balaam, "Come,
let me take you to another place.[u] Per-
haps it will please God to let you curse
them for me[v] from there." 28And Balak
took Balaam to the top of Peor,[w] over-
looking the wasteland.
29Balaam said, "Build me seven altars
here, and prepare seven bulls and
seven rams for me." 30Balak did as Ba-
laam had said, and offered a bull and a
ram on each altar.[x]

24 Now when Balaam saw that it
pleased the LORD to bless Israel,[y]
he did not resort to sorcery[z] as at other
times, but turned his face toward the
desert.[a] 2When Balaam looked out and
saw Israel encamped tribe by tribe, the

23:30 [x]S ver 2 **24:1** [y]S Nu 23:20 [z]S Nu 23:23 [a]Nu 23:28

[z]21 Or *He has not looked on Jacob's offenses / or on the wrongs found in Israel.*

Spirit of God came upon him[a] 3and he uttered his oracle:

"The oracle of Balaam son of Beor,
the oracle of one whose eye sees clearly,[b]
4the oracle of one who hears the words of God,[c]
who sees a vision from the Almighty,[a] [d]
who falls prostrate, and whose eyes are opened:

5"How beautiful are your tents,[e] O Jacob,
your dwelling places, O Israel!

6"Like valleys they spread out,
like gardens beside a river,[f]
like aloes[g] planted by the LORD,
like cedars beside the waters.[h]
7Water will flow from their buckets;
their seed will have abundant water.

"Their king will be greater than Agag;[i]
their kingdom will be exalted.[j]

8"God brought them out of Egypt;
they have the strength of a wild ox.
They devour hostile nations
and break their bones in pieces;[k]
with their arrows they pierce them.[l]
9Like a lion they crouch and lie down,
like a lioness[m]—who dares to rouse them?

"May those who bless you be blessed[n]
and those who curse you be cursed!"[o]

10Then Balak's anger burned[p]
against Balaam. He struck his hands to-
gether[q] and said to him, "I summoned
you to curse my enemies,[r] but you
have blessed them[s] these three times.[t]
11Now leave at once and go home![u] I
said I would reward you handsomely,[v]
but the LORD has kept you from being
rewarded."
12Balaam answered Balak, "Did I not
tell the messengers you sent me,[w]
13'Even if Balak gave me his palace
filled with silver and gold, I could not
do anything of my own accord, good or
bad, to go beyond the command of the
LORD[x]—and I must say only what the
LORD says'?[y] 14Now I am going back to
my people, but come, let me warn you
of what this people will do to your
people in days to come."[z]

Balaam's Fourth Oracle

15Then he uttered his oracle:

"The oracle of Balaam son of Beor,
the oracle of one whose eye sees clearly,
16the oracle of one who hears the words[a] of God,
who has knowledge from the Most High,[b]
who sees a vision from the Almighty,
who falls prostrate, and whose eyes are opened:

17"I see him, but not now;
I behold him, but not near.[c]
A star will come out of Jacob;[d]
a scepter will rise out of Israel.[e]
He will crush the foreheads of Moab,[f]
the skulls[b] [g] of[c] all the sons of Sheth.[d]
18Edom[h] will be conquered;
Seir,[i] his enemy, will be conquered,[j]
but Israel[k] will grow strong.
19A ruler will come out of Jacob[l]
and destroy the survivors of the city."

Balaam's Final Oracles

20Then Balaam saw Amalek[m] and ut-
tered his oracle:

"Amalek was first among the nations,
but he will come to ruin at last."[n]

21Then he saw the Kenites[o] and ut-
tered his oracle:

"Your dwelling place is secure,[p]
your nest is set in a rock;
22yet you Kenites will be destroyed
when Asshur[q] takes you captive."

23Then he uttered his oracle:

"Ah, who can live when God does this?[e]
24 Ships will come from the shores of Kittim;[r]
they will subdue Asshur[s] and Eber,[t]
but they too will come to ruin."[u]

24:2 [a]S Nu 11:25,26 **24:3** [b]ver 15 **24:4** [c]S Nu 22:9 [d]S Ge 15:1 **24:5** [e]Jer 4:20; 30:18; Mal 2:12 **24:6** [f]S Ge 2:10 [g]Ps 45:8; SS 4:14 [h]Job 29:19; Ps 1:3; 104:16; Eze 31:5 **24:7** [i]S Ex 17:8-16,14 [j]Dt 28:1; 2Sa 5:12; 1Ch 14:2; Ps 89:27; 145:11-13 **24:8** [k]S Ex 15:6; Jer 50:17 [l]2Sa 18:14; Ps 45:5 **24:9** [m]S Nu 23:24 [n]S Ge 12:2 [o]S Ge 12:3 **24:10** [p]S Ex 4:14 [q]Job 27:23; 34:37; La 2:15; Eze 21:14; 22:13; 25:6 [r]S Nu 22:6 [s]S Nu 23:11; S Dt 23:5 [t]ver 3-9; Nu 23:7-10, 18-24 **24:11** [u]ver 14, 25 [v]S Nu 22:17 **24:12** [w]Nu 22:18 **24:13** [x]S Nu 22:18 [y]S Nu 22:20 **24:14** [z]S Ge 49:1; Nu 31:8,16; Mic 6:5 **24:16** [a]S Nu 22:9 [b]Ge 14:18; Isa 14:14 **24:17** [c]Rev 1:7 [d]Mt 2:2 [e]S Ge 49:10 [f]S Ge 19:37; S Nu 21:29; S Dt 23:6; Isa 15:1-16:14 [g]Jer 48:45 **24:18** [h]2Sa 8:12; 1Ch 18:11; Ps 60:8; Isa 11:14; Am 9:12 [i]S Ge 14:6; Dt 1:44; Jos 12:7; 15:10; Jdg 5:4 [j]Ob 1:2 [k]S Ge 9:25 **24:19** [l]S Ge 49:10; Mic 5:2 **24:20** [m]S Ge 14:7; S Ex 17:14 [n]Dt 25:19; 1Sa 15:20; 30:17-20; 2Sa 8:12; 1Ch 18:11 **24:21** [o]S Ge 15:19 [p]Ps 37:27; Pr 1:33; Isa 32:18; Eze 34:27 **24:22** [q]S Ge 10:22 **24:24** [r]S Ge 10:4 [s]ver 22 [t]S Ge 10:21 [u]ver 20

[a]4 Hebrew *Shaddai*; also in verse 16 [b]17 Samaritan Pentateuch (see also Jer. 48:45); the meaning of the word in the Masoretic Text is uncertain. [c]17 Or possibly *Moab, / batter* [d]17 Or *all the noisy boasters* [e]23 Masoretic Text; with a different word division of the Hebrew *A people will gather from the north.*

[25]Then Balaam[a] got up and returned
home and Balak went his own way.

Moab Seduces Israel

25 While Israel was staying in Shit-
tim,[b] the men began to indulge
in sexual immorality[c] with Moabite[d]
women,[e] [2]who invited them to the sac-
rifices[f] to their gods.[g] The people ate
and bowed down before these gods.
[3]So Israel joined in worshiping[h] the
Baal of Peor.[i] And the LORD's anger
burned against them.
[4]The LORD said to Moses, "Take all
the leaders[j] of these people, kill them
and expose[k] them in broad daylight
before the LORD,[l] so that the LORD's
fierce anger[m] may turn away from Is-
rael."
[5]So Moses said to Israel's judges,
"Each of you must put to death[n] those
of your men who have joined in wor-
shiping the Baal of Peor."[o]
[6]Then an Israelite man brought to his
family a Midianite[p] woman right be-
fore the eyes of Moses and the whole
assembly of Israel while they were
weeping[q] at the entrance to the Tent of
Meeting. [7]When Phinehas[r] son of
Eleazar, the son of Aaron, the priest,
saw this, he left the assembly, took a
spear[s] in his hand [8]and followed the
Israelite into the tent. He drove the
spear through both of them—through
the Israelite and into the woman's
body. Then the plague against the Isra-
elites was stopped;[t] [9]but those who
died in the plague[u] numbered 24,000.[v]
[10]The LORD said to Moses, [11]"Phine-
has son of Eleazar, the son of Aaron,
the priest, has turned my anger away
from the Israelites;[w] for he was as zeal-
ous as I am for my honor[x] among
them, so that in my zeal I did not put
an end to them. [12]Therefore tell him I
am making my covenant of peace[y]
with him. [13]He and his descendants
will have a covenant of a lasting priest-
hood,[z] because he was zealous[a] for
the honor[b] of his God and made atone-
ment[c] for the Israelites."[d]
[14]The name of the Israelite who was
killed with the Midianite woman[e] was
Zimri son of Salu, the leader of a Sim-
eonite family.[f] [15]And the name of the
Midianite woman who was put to
death was Cozbi[g] daughter of Zur, a
tribal chief of a Midianite family.[h]
[16]The LORD said to Moses,[i] [17]"Treat
the Midianites[j] as enemies[k] and kill
them,[l] [18]because they treated you as
enemies when they deceived you in the
affair of Peor[m] and their sister Cozbi,
the daughter of a Midianite leader, the
woman who was killed when the
plague came as a result of Peor."

The Second Census

26 After the plague[n] the LORD said
to Moses and Eleazar son of
Aaron, the priest, [2]"Take a census[o] of
the whole Israelite community by fami-
lies—all those twenty years old or more
who are able to serve in the army[p] of
Israel." [3]So on the plains of Moab[q] by
the Jordan across from Jericho,[f3][r]
Moses and Eleazar the priest spoke
with them and said, [4]"Take a census of
the men twenty years old or more, as
the LORD commanded Moses."

These were the Israelites who came
out of Egypt:[s]

[5]The descendants of Reuben,[t] the first-
born son of Israel, were:
through Hanoch,[u] the Hanochite clan;
through Pallu,[v] the Palluite clan;
[6]through Hezron,[w] the Hezronite clan;
through Carmi,[x] the Carmite clan.
[7]These were the clans of Reuben; those
numbered were 43,730.
[8]The son of Pallu was Eliab, [9]and the
sons of Eliab[y] were Nemuel, Dathan
and Abiram. The same Dathan and
Abiram were the community[z] officials
who rebelled against Moses and Aaron
and were among Korah's followers
when they rebelled against the LORD.[a]
[10]The earth opened its mouth and swal-
lowed them[b] along with Korah, whose
followers died when the fire devoured
the 250 men.[c] And they served as a
warning sign.[d] [11]The line of Korah,[e]
however, did not die out.[f]

[12]The descendants of Simeon by their
clans were:
through Nemuel,[g] the Nemuelite clan;
through Jamin,[h] the Jaminite clan;
through Jakin, the Jakinite clan;
[13]through Zerah,[i] the Zerahite clan;
through Shaul, the Shaulite clan.
[14]These were the clans of Simeon;[j]
there were 22,200 men.[k]

24:25 [a]S Nu 22:5 **25:1** [b]S Nu 21:16; Jos 2:1; Jos 6:11; Joel 3:18; Mic 6:5 [c]Jer 5:7; 7:9; 9:2; 1Co 10:8; Rev 2:14 [d]S Ge 19:37 [e]Nu 31:16 **25:2** [f]S Ex 32:6 [g]Ex 20:5; Dt 32:38; 1Co 10:20 **25:3** [h]Dt 4:19; Jdg 2:19; 1Ki 9:9; Jer 1:16; 44:3 [i]S Nu 23:28 **25:4** [j]Nu 7:2; 13:3 [k]2Sa 21:6 [l]Dt 4:3 [m]Ex 32:12; Dt 13:17; Jos 7:26; 2Ki 23:26; 2Ch 28:11; 29:10; 30:8; Ezr 10:14; Jer 44:3 **25:5** [n]S Ex 32:27 [o]Hos 9:10 **25:6** [p]S Ge 25:2 [q]S Nu 14:1; Jdg 2:4; Ru 1:9; 1Sa 11:4; 2Sa 15:30; Ezr 10:1; Ps 126:6; Jer 41:6 **25:7** [r]S Ex 6:25; Jos 22:13; Jdg 20:28 [s]Jdg 5:8; 1Sa 13:19,22; 1Ki 18:28; Ps 35:3; 46:9; Joel 3:10; Mic 4:3 **25:8** [t]Ps 106:30 **25:9** [u]S Nu 14:37; 1Co 10:8 [v]Nu 31:16 **25:11** [w]Ps 106:30 [x]Ex 20:5; Dt 32:16,21; Ps 78:58 **25:12** [y]Isa 11:9; 54:10; Eze 34:25; 37:26; Mal 2:4,5 **25:13** [z]S Ex 29:9 [a]1Ki 19:10; 2Ki 10:16 [b]ver 11 [c]S Ex 29:36; S Ro 3:25 [d]Ps 106:31; Jer 33:18 **25:14** [e]ver 6 [f]S Nu 1:6 **25:15** [g]ver 18 [h]Nu 31:8; Jos 13:21; Hab 3:7 **25:16** [i]Nu 31:7 **25:17** [j]Nu 31:1-3 [k]Ex 23:22; Jdg 2:16-18; Ne 9:27; Ps 8:2; 21:8; 74:23 [l]Dt 21:1; 1Sa 17:9,35; 2Ki 9:27; 10:25 **25:18** [m]S Nu 23:28 **26:1** [n]S Nu 14:37; 25:8 **26:2** [o]Ex 30:11-16 [p]S Nu 1:3 **26:3** [q]ver 63; Nu 33:48; Jos 13:32 [r]Nu 22:1 **26:4** [s]S Ex 6:14; S 13:3

26:5 [t]Nu 1:20 [u]S Ge 46:9 [v]1Ch 5:3 **26:6** [w]1Ch 5:3 [x]Ge 46:9 **26:9** [y]Nu 16:1 [z]Nu 1:16 [a]S Nu 16:2 **26:10** [b]S Ex 15:12 [c]S Nu 16:35 [d]S Ex 3:12; S Nu 16:38 **26:11** [e]Ex 6:24 [f]Nu 16:33; Dt 5:9; 24:16; 2Ki 14:6; 2Ch 25:4; Eze 18:20 **26:12** [g]S Ge 46:10 [h]1Ch 4:24 **26:13** [i]S Ge 46:10 **26:14** [j]S Ge 46:10 [k]Nu 1:23

f3 Hebrew *Jordan of Jericho;* possibly an ancient name for the Jordan River; also in verse 63

15 The descendants of Gad by their clans were:
through Zephon,[a] the Zephonite clan;
through Haggi, the Haggite clan;
through Shuni, the Shunite clan;
16 through Ozni, the Oznite clan;
through Eri, the Erite clan;
17 through Arodi,[g] the Arodite clan;
through Areli, the Arelite clan.
18 These were the clans of Gad;[b] those numbered were 40,500.

19 Er[c] and Onan[d] were sons of Judah, but they died[e] in Canaan.
20 The descendants of Judah by their clans were:
through Shelah,[f] the Shelanite clan;
through Perez,[g] the Perezite clan;
through Zerah, the Zerahite clan.[h]
21 The descendants of Perez[i] were:
through Hezron,[j] the Hezronite clan;
through Hamul, the Hamulite clan.
22 These were the clans of Judah;[k] those numbered were 76,500.

23 The descendants of Issachar by their clans were:
through Tola,[l] the Tolaite clan;
through Puah, the Puite[h] clan;
24 through Jashub,[m] the Jashubite clan;
through Shimron, the Shimronite clan.
25 These were the clans of Issachar;[n] those numbered were 64,300.

26 The descendants of Zebulun[o] by their clans were:
through Sered, the Seredite clan;
through Elon, the Elonite clan;
through Jahleel, the Jahleelite clan.
27 These were the clans of Zebulun;[p] those numbered were 60,500.

28 The descendants of Joseph[q] by their clans through Manasseh and Ephraim[r] were:

29 The descendants of Manasseh:[s]
through Makir,[t] the Makirite clan (Makir was the father of Gilead[u]);
through Gilead, the Gileadite clan.
30 These were the descendants of Gilead:[v]
through Iezer,[w] the Iezerite clan;
through Helek, the Helekite clan;
31 through Asriel, the Asrielite clan;
through Shechem, the Shechemite clan;
32 through Shemida, the Shemidaite clan;
through Hepher, the Hepherite clan.
33 (Zelophehad[x] son of Hepher had no sons;[y] he had only daughters, whose names were Mahlah, Noah, Hoglah, Milcah and Tirzah.)[z]
34 These were the clans of Manasseh; those numbered were 52,700.[a]

35 These were the descendants of Ephraim[b] by their clans:
through Shuthelah, the Shuthelahite clan;
through Beker, the Bekerite clan;
through Tahan, the Tahanite clan.
36 These were the descendants of Shuthelah:
through Eran, the Eranite clan.
37 These were the clans of Ephraim;[c] those numbered were 32,500.
These were the descendants of Joseph by their clans.

38 The descendants of Benjamin[d] by their clans were:
through Bela, the Belaite clan;
through Ashbel, the Ashbelite clan;
through Ahiram, the Ahiramite clan;
39 through Shupham,[i] the Shuphamite clan;
through Hupham, the Huphamite clan.
40 The descendants of Bela through Ard[e] and Naaman were:
through Ard,[j] the Ardite clan;
through Naaman, the Naamite clan.
41 These were the clans of Benjamin;[f] those numbered were 45,600.

42 These were the descendants of Dan[g] by their clans:[h]
through Shuham,[i] the Shuhamite clan.
These were the clans of Dan:
43 All of

26:15 [a]Ge 46:16 **26:18** [b]S Ge 30:11; S Nu 1:25; S Jos 13:24-28 **26:19** [c]S Ge 38:3 [d]S Ge 38:4 [e]Ge 38:7 **26:20** [f]S Ge 38:5 [g]S Ge 38:29 [h]Jos 7:17 **26:21** [i]S Ge 38:29 [j]Ru 4:19; 1Ch 2:9 **26:22** [k]Nu 1:27 **26:23** [l]S Ge 46:13 **26:24** [m]Ge 46:13 **26:25** [n]S Ge 30:18 **26:26** [o]Nu 1:30 **26:27** [p]S Ge 30:20 **26:28** [q]Nu 1:32; 36:1 [r]S Ge 41:52 **26:29** [s]Nu 1:34 [t]S Ge 50:23 [u]Jdg 11:1 **26:30** [v]Nu 27:1; 36:1; 1Ch 7:14, 17 [w]Jos 17:2; Jdg 6:11; 8:2 **26:33** [x]Nu 27:1; 36:2; Jos 17:3; 1Ch 7:15 [y]Nu 27:3 [z]Nu 36:11 **26:34** [a]Nu 1:35 **26:35** [b]Nu 1:32 **26:37** [c]S Nu 1:33 **26:38** [d]Ge 46:21; Nu 1:36; 1Ch 8:40 **26:40** [e]S Ge 46:21 **26:41** [f]Nu 1:37 **26:42** [g]Nu 1:38 [h]Jdg 18:19 [i]Ge 46:23

[g]17 Samaritan Pentateuch and Syriac (see also Gen. 46:16); Masoretic Text *Arod* [h]23 Samaritan Pentateuch, Septuagint, Vulgate and Syriac (see also 1 Chron. 7:1); Masoretic Text *through Puvah, the Punite* [i]39 A few manuscripts of the Masoretic Text, Samaritan Pentateuch, Vulgate and Syriac (see also Septuagint); most manuscripts of the Masoretic Text *Shephupham* [j]40 Samaritan Pentateuch and Vulgate (see also Septuagint); Masoretic Text does not have *through Ard.*

them were Shuhamite clans; and those
numbered were 64,400.

44 The descendants of Asher[a] by their
clans were:
through Imnah, the Imnite clan;
through Ishvi, the Ishvite clan;
through Beriah, the Beriite clan;
45 and through the descendants of
Beriah:
through Heber, the Heberite
clan;
through Malkiel, the Malkielite
clan.
46 (Asher had a daughter named
Serah.)
47 These were the clans of Asher;[b] those
numbered were 53,400.

48 The descendants of Naphtali[c] by
their clans were:
through Jahzeel, the Jahzeelite
clan;
through Guni, the Gunite clan;
49 through Jezer, the Jezerite clan;
through Shillem, the Shillemite
clan.
50 These were the clans of Naphtali;[d]
those numbered were 45,400.[e]

51 The total number of the men of Israel
was 601,730.[f]

52 The LORD said to Moses, 53 "The
land is to be allotted to them as an in-
heritance based on the number of
names.[g] 54 To a larger group give a larg-
er inheritance, and to a smaller group a
smaller one; each is to receive its inher-
itance according to the number[h] of
those listed.[i] 55 Be sure that the land is
distributed by lot.[j] What each group
inherits will be according to the names
for its ancestral tribe. 56 Each inheri-
tance is to be distributed by lot among
the larger and smaller groups."

57 These were the Levites[k] who were
counted by their clans:
through Gershon, the Gershonite
clan;
through Kohath, the Kohathite
clan;
through Merari, the Merarite clan.
58 These also were Levite clans:
the Libnite clan,
the Hebronite clan,
the Mahlite clan,
the Mushite clan,
the Korahite clan.
(Kohath was the forefather of Am-
ram;[l] 59 the name of Amram's wife
was Jochebed,[m] a descendant of
Levi, who was born to the Levites[k]

26:44 [a]S Nu 1:40
26:47 [b]Nu 1:41
26:48 [c]S Ge 30:8
26:50 [d]Nu 1:43 [e]Nu 1:42
26:51 [f]S Ex 12:37
26:53 [g]ver 55; Jos 11:23; 14:1; Eze 45:8
26:54 [h]Nu 33:54 [i]Nu 35:8
26:55 [j]S Lev 16:8
26:57 [k]S Ge 46:11
26:58 [l]Ex 6:20
26:59 [m]S Ex 2:1 [n]S Ex 6:20 [o]S Ex 2:4 [p]S Ex 15:20
26:60 [q]Ex 6:23
26:61 [r]S Lev 10:1-2 [s]Nu 3:4
26:62 [t]Nu 3:39 [u]Nu 1:47 [v]S Nu 18:23 [w]S Nu 2:33
26:63 [x]S Nu 1:19 [y]S ver 3 [z]Nu 22:1
26:64 [a]S Nu 14:29 [b]Nu 1:44
26:65 [c]Nu 14:28; 1Co 10:5 [d]Nu 13:6 [e]S Nu 11:28
27:1 [f]S Nu 26:33 [g]Jos 17:2,3 [h]S Nu 26:30 [i]S Ge 50:23; 1Ch 2:21
27:2 [j]Ex 40:2,17 [k]S Nu 9:6 [l]Nu 1:16; 31:13; 32:2; 36:1
27:3 [m]Nu 26:65 [n]Nu 16:2 [o]Nu 26:33
27:5 [p]S Ge 25:22; S Ex 18:19 [q]S Nu 9:8
27:7 [r]Job 42:15 [s]ver 8; Jos 17:4

in Egypt. To Amram she bore
Aaron, Moses[n] and their sister[o]
Miriam.[p] 60 Aaron was the father of
Nadab and Abihu, Eleazar and
Ithamar.[q] 61 But Nadab and Abihu[r]
died when they made an offering
before the LORD with unauthorized
fire.)[s]

62 All the male Levites a month old or
more numbered 23,000.[t] They were
not counted[u] along with the other Isra-
elites because they received no inheri-
tance[v] among them.[w]

63 These are the ones counted[x] by
Moses and Eleazar the priest when
they counted the Israelites on the
plains of Moab[y] by the Jordan across
from Jericho.[z] 64 Not one of them was
among those counted[a] by Moses and
Aaron[b] the priest when they counted
the Israelites in the Desert of Sinai.
65 For the LORD had told those Israelites
they would surely die in the desert,[c]
and not one of them was left except
Caleb[d] son of Jephunneh and Joshua
son of Nun.[e]

Zelophehad's Daughters

27:1-11pp — Nu 36:1-12

27 The daughters of Zelophehad[f]
son of Hepher,[g] the son of Gil-
ead,[h] the son of Makir,[i] the son of Ma-
nasseh, belonged to the clans of Ma-
nasseh son of Joseph. The names of the
daughters were Mahlah, Noah, Hog-
lah, Milcah and Tirzah. They ap-
proached 2 the entrance to the Tent of
Meeting[j] and stood before Moses,[k]
Eleazar the priest, the leaders[l] and the
whole assembly, and said, 3 "Our father
died in the desert.[m] He was not among
Korah's followers, who banded to-
gether against the LORD,[n] but he died
for his own sin and left no sons.[o] 4 Why
should our father's name disappear
from his clan because he had no son?
Give us property among our father's
relatives."

5 So Moses brought their case[p] before
the LORD[q] 6 and the LORD said to him,
7 "What Zelophehad's daughters are
saying is right. You must certainly give
them property as an inheritance[r]
among their father's relatives and turn
their father's inheritance over to
them.[s]

8 "Say to the Israelites, 'If a man dies
and leaves no son, turn his inheritance
over to his daughter. 9 If he has no

[k]59 *Or Jochebed, a daughter of Levi, who was born to Levi*

daughter, give his inheritance to his brothers. 10If he has no brothers, give his inheritance to his father's brothers. 11If his father had no brothers, give his inheritance to the nearest relative in his clan, that he may possess it. This is to be a legal requirement[a] for the Israelites, as the LORD commanded Moses.' "

Joshua to Succeed Moses

12Then the LORD said to Moses, "Go up this mountain[b] in the Abarim range[c] and see the land[d] I have given the Israelites.[e] 13After you have seen it, you too will be gathered to your people,[f] as your brother Aaron[g] was, 14for when the community rebelled at the waters in the Desert of Zin,[h] both of you disobeyed my command to honor me as holy[i] before their eyes." (These were the waters of Meribah[j] Kadesh, in the Desert of Zin.)

15Moses said to the LORD, 16"May the LORD, the God of the spirits of all mankind,[k] appoint a man over this community 17to go out and come in before them, one who will lead them out and bring them in, so the LORD's people will not be like sheep without a shepherd."[l]

18So the LORD said to Moses, "Take Joshua son of Nun, a man in whom is the spirit,[l][m] and lay your hand on him.[n] 19Have him stand before Eleazar the priest and the entire assembly and commission him[o] in their presence.[p] 20Give him some of your authority so the whole Israelite community will obey him.[q] 21He is to stand before Eleazar the priest, who will obtain decisions for him by inquiring[r] of the Urim[s] before the LORD. At his command he and the entire community of the Israelites will go out, and at his command they will come in."

22Moses did as the LORD commanded him. He took Joshua and had him stand before Eleazar the priest and the whole assembly. 23Then he laid his hands on him and commissioned him,[t] as the LORD instructed through Moses.

Daily Offerings

28 The LORD said to Moses, 2"Give this command to the Israelites and say to them: 'See that you present to me at the appointed time[u] the food[v] for my offerings made by fire, as an aroma pleasing to me.'[w] 3Say to them: 'This is the offering made by fire that you are to present to the LORD: two lambs a year old without defect,[x] as a regular burnt offering each day.[y] 4Prepare one lamb in the morning and the other at twilight,[z] 5together with a grain offering[a] of a tenth of an ephah[m] of fine flour[b] mixed with a quarter of a hin[n] of oil[c] from pressed olives. 6This is the regular burnt offering[d] instituted at Mount Sinai[e] as a pleasing aroma, an offering made to the LORD by fire.[f] 7The accompanying drink offering[g] is to be a quarter of a hin of fermented drink[h] with each lamb. Pour out the drink offering to the LORD at the sanctuary.[i] 8Prepare the second lamb at twilight,[j] along with the same kind of grain offering and drink offering that you prepare in the morning.[k] This is an offering made by fire, an aroma pleasing to the LORD.[l]

Sabbath Offerings

9" 'On the Sabbath[m] day, make an offering of two lambs a year old without defect,[n] together with its drink offering and a grain offering of two-tenths of an ephah[o][o] of fine flour mixed with oil.[p] 10This is the burnt offering for every Sabbath,[q] in addition to the regular burnt offering[r] and its drink offering.

Monthly Offerings

11" 'On the first of every month,[s] present to the LORD a burnt offering of two young bulls,[t] one ram[u] and seven male lambs a year old, all without defect.[v] 12With each bull there is to be a grain offering[w] of three-tenths of an ephah[p][x] of fine flour mixed with oil; with the ram, a grain offering of two-tenths[y] of an ephah of fine flour mixed with oil; 13and with each lamb, a grain offering[z] of a tenth[a] of an ephah of fine flour mixed with oil. This is for a burnt offering,[b] a pleasing aroma, an offering made to the LORD[c] by fire. 14With each bull there is to be a drink offering[d] of half a hin[q] of wine; with the ram, a third of a hin[r]; and with each lamb, a quarter of a hin. This is the monthly burnt offering to be made at each new moon[e] during the year. 15Besides the regular burnt offering[f] with its drink offering, one male goat[g]

27:11 [a] Nu 35:29 **27:12** [b] Nu 23:14 [c] Nu 33:47; Jer 22:20 [d] Dt 3:23-27; 32:48-52 [e] S Lev 14:34 **27:13** [f] Nu 20:12; 31:2; Dt 4:22; 31:14; 32:50; 1Ki 2:1 [g] Nu 20:28 **27:14** [h] S Nu 20:1,2-5 [i] S Nu 20:12 [j] S Ex 17:7 **27:16** [k] S Nu 16:22; S Job 21:20 **27:17** [l] 1Ki 22:17; 2Ch 18:16; Eze 34:5; Zec 10:2; S Mt 9:36 **27:18** [m] S Ge 41:38; Nu 11:25-29 [n] ver 23; Dt 34:9; Ac 6:6 **27:19** [o] ver 23; Dt 3:28; 31:14,23 [p] Dt 31:7 **27:20** [q] Jos 1:16,17 **27:21** [r] S Ge 25:22; Jos 9:14; Ps 106:13; Isa 8:19; Hag 1:13; Mal 2:7; 3:1 [s] S Ex 28:30 **27:23** [t] S ver 19 **28:2** [u] Lev 23:1-44 [v] S Lev 3:11 [w] Lev 1:9 **28:3** [x] S Ex 12:5 [y] Ex 29:38; Am 4:4 **28:4** [z] S Ex 29:39 **28:5** [a] Nu 29:6 [b] Lev 6:20 [c] S Lev 2:1 **28:6** [d] Lev 1:3 [e] Ex 19:3 [f] S Lev 1:9 **28:7** [g] Nu 6:15 [h] S Lev 10:9; S 23:13 [i] S Lev 3:7; Nu 3:28 **28:8** [j] S Ex 29:39 [k] S Lev 3:7 [l] ver 2; Lev 1:9 **28:9** [m] S Ex 20:10; Mt 12:5 [n] ver 3 [o] S Lev 23:13 [p] ver 5 **28:10** [q] S Lev 23:38 [r] ver 3 **28:11** [s] S Nu 10:10 [t] S Nu 7:15 [u] S Lev 5:15 [v] Lev 1:3 **28:12** [w] S Nu 15:6; S 29:3 [x] Nu 15:9 [y] ver 20 **28:13** [z] S Lev 6:14 [a] ver 21 [b] S Nu 15:3 [c] Lev 1:9 **28:14** [d] S Nu 15:7 [e] ver 11; 2Ch 2:4; Ezr 3:5 **28:15** [f] ver 3,23,24 [g] ver 30

[l]18 Or *Spirit* [m]5 That is, probably about 2 quarts (about 2 liters); also in verses 13, 21 and 29 [n]5 That is, probably about 1 quart (about 1 liter); also in verses 7 and 14 [o]9 That is, probably about 4 quarts (about 4.5 liters); also in verses 12, 20 and 28 [p]12 That is, probably about 6 quarts (about 6.5 liters); also in verses 20 and 28 [q]14 That is, probably about 2 quarts (about 2 liters) [r]14 That is, probably about 1 1/4 quarts (about 1.2 liters)

is to be presented to the LORD as a sin
offering.[a]

The Passover

28:16-25pp — Ex 12:14-20; Lev 23:4-8; Dt 16:1-8

16 " 'On the fourteenth day of the first
month the LORD's Passover[b] is to be
held. 17 On the fifteenth day of this
month there is to be a festival; for
seven days[c] eat bread made without
yeast.[d] 18 On the first day hold a sacred
assembly and do no regular work.[e]
19 Present to the LORD an offering made
by fire,[f] a burnt offering of two young
bulls, one ram and seven male lambs a
year old, all without defect.[g] 20 With
each bull prepare a grain offering of
three-tenths of an ephah[h] of fine flour
mixed with oil; with the ram, two-
tenths;[i] 21 and with each of the seven
lambs, one-tenth.[j] 22 Include one male
goat as a sin offering[k] to make atone-
ment for you.[l] 23 Prepare these in addi-
tion to the regular morning burnt offer-
ing. 24 In this way prepare the food for
the offering made by fire every day for
seven days as an aroma pleasing to the
LORD;[m] it is to be prepared in addition
to the regular burnt offering and its
drink offering. 25 On the seventh day
hold a sacred assembly and do no regu-
lar work.

Feast of Weeks

28:26-31pp — Lev 23:15-22; Dt 16:9-12

26 " 'On the day of firstfruits,[n] when
you present to the LORD an offering of
new grain during the Feast of Weeks,[o]
hold a sacred assembly and do no regu-
lar work.[p] 27 Present a burnt offering of
two young bulls, one ram and seven
male lambs a year old as an aroma
pleasing to the LORD.[q] 28 With each bull
there is to be a grain offering of three-
tenths of an ephah of fine flour mixed
with oil; with the ram, two-tenths;[r]
29 and with each of the seven lambs,
one-tenth.[s] 30 Include one male goat[t]
to make atonement for you. 31 Prepare
these together with their drink offer-
ings, in addition to the regular burnt
offering[u] and its grain offering. Be sure
the animals are without defect.

Feast of Trumpets

29:1-6pp — Lev 23:23-25

29 " 'On the first day of the seventh
month hold a sacred assembly
and do no regular work.[v] It is a day for
you to sound the trumpets. 2 As an
aroma pleasing to the LORD,[w] prepare a
burnt offering[x] of one young bull, one
ram and seven male lambs a year old,[y]
all without defect.[z] 3 With the bull pre-
pare a grain offering[a] of three-tenths of
an ephah[s] of fine flour mixed with oil;
with the ram, two-tenths[t]; 4 and with
each of the seven lambs, one-tenth.[u][b]
5 Include one male goat[c] as a sin offer-
ing to make atonement for you. 6 These
are in addition to the monthly[d] and
daily burnt offerings[e] with their grain
offerings[f] and drink offerings[g] as
specified. They are offerings made to
the LORD by fire—a pleasing aroma.[h]

Day of Atonement

29:7-11pp — Lev 16:2-34; 23:26-32

7 " 'On the tenth day of this seventh
month hold a sacred assembly. You
must deny yourselves[v][i] and do no
work.[j] 8 Present as an aroma pleasing
to the LORD a burnt offering of one
young bull, one ram and seven male
lambs a year old, all without defect.[k]
9 With the bull prepare a grain offering[l]
of three-tenths of an ephah of fine flour
mixed with oil; with the ram, two-
tenths;[m] 10 and with each of the seven
lambs, one-tenth.[n] 11 Include one male
goat[o] as a sin offering, in addition to
the sin offering for atonement and the
regular burnt offering[p] with its grain
offering, and their drink offerings.[q]

Feast of Tabernacles

29:12-39pp — Lev 23:33-43; Dt 16:13-17

12 " 'On the fifteenth day of the sev-
enth[r] month,[s] hold a sacred assembly
and do no regular work. Celebrate a
festival to the LORD for seven days.
13 Present an offering made by fire as an
aroma pleasing to the LORD,[t] a burnt
offering of thirteen young bulls, two
rams and fourteen male lambs a year
old, all without defect.[u] 14 With each of
the thirteen bulls prepare a grain offer-
ing[v] of three-tenths of an ephah of fine
flour mixed with oil; with each of the
two rams, two-tenths; 15 and with each
of the fourteen lambs, one-tenth.[w] 16 In-
clude one male goat as a sin offering,[x]
in addition to the regular burnt offering
with its grain offering and drink offer-
ing.[y]
17 " 'On the second day[z] prepare
twelve young bulls, two rams and four-
teen male lambs a year old, all without

28:15 [a]Lev 4:3; Nu 29:16,19 **28:16** [b]S Ex 12:11; 2Ch 30:13; 35:1 **28:17** [c]S Ex 12:19 [d]S Ex 12:15 **28:18** [e]S Ex 12:16 **28:19** [f]S Lev 1:9 [g]ver 11 **28:20** [h]S Lev 14:10 [i]ver 12 **28:21** [j]ver 13 **28:22** [k]Lev 4:3; Ro 8:3 [l]S Nu 15:28 **28:24** [m]Lev 1:9 **28:26** [n]S Ex 34:22 [o]S Ex 23:16 [p]ver 18 **28:27** [q]ver 19 **28:28** [r]ver 12 **28:29** [s]ver 13 **28:30** [t]ver 15 **28:31** [u]ver 3,19 **29:1** [v]Nu 28:18 **29:2** [w]Nu 28:2 [x]Lev 1:9; Nu 28:11 [y]ver 36 [z]Lev 1:3; Nu 28:3 **29:3** [a]ver 14; Nu 28:12 **29:4** [b]Nu 28:13 **29:5** [c]Nu 28:15 **29:6** [d]Nu 28:11 [e]Nu 28:3 [f]Nu 28:5 [g]Nu 28:7 [h]Lev 1:9; Nu 28:2 **29:7** [i]Ac 27:9 [j]S Ex 31:15 **29:8** [k]ver 2 **29:9** [l]S ver 3,18 [m]Nu 28:12 **29:10** [n]Nu 28:13 **29:11** [o]ver 5; Nu 28:15 [p]S Lev 16:3 [q]S ver 6 **29:12** [r]1Ki 8:2; 12:32 [s]S Lev 23:24 **29:13** [t]ver 2; Nu 28:2 [u]Nu 28:3 **29:14** [v]S ver 3; S Nu 15:6 **29:15** [w]ver 4; Nu 28:13 **29:16** [x]ver 5; S Nu 28:15 [y]ver 6 **29:17** [z]Lev 23:36

[s]3 That is, probably about 6 quarts (about 6.5 liters); also in verses 9 and 14 [t]3 That is, probably about 4 quarts (about 4.5 liters); also in verses 9 and 14 [u]4 That is, probably about 2 quarts (about 2 liters); also in verses 10 and 15 [v]7 Or *must fast*

defect.[a] 18With the bulls, rams and lambs, prepare their grain offerings[b] and drink offerings[c] according to the number specified.[d] 19Include one male goat as a sin offering,[e] in addition to the regular burnt offering[f] with its grain offering, and their drink offerings.[g]

20" 'On the third day prepare eleven bulls, two rams and fourteen male lambs a year old, all without defect.[h] 21With the bulls, rams and lambs, prepare their grain offerings and drink offerings according to the number specified.[i] 22Include one male goat as a sin offering, in addition to the regular burnt offering with its grain offering and drink offering.

23" 'On the fourth day prepare ten bulls, two rams and fourteen male lambs a year old, all without defect. 24With the bulls, rams and lambs, prepare their grain offerings and drink offerings according to the number specified. 25Include one male goat as a sin offering, in addition to the regular burnt offering with its grain offering and drink offering.

26" 'On the fifth day prepare nine bulls, two rams and fourteen male lambs a year old, all without defect. 27With the bulls, rams and lambs, prepare their grain offerings and drink offerings according to the number specified. 28Include one male goat as a sin offering, in addition to the regular burnt offering with its grain offering and drink offering.

29" 'On the sixth day prepare eight bulls, two rams and fourteen male lambs a year old, all without defect. 30With the bulls, rams and lambs, prepare their grain offerings and drink offerings according to the number specified. 31Include one male goat as a sin offering, in addition to the regular burnt offering with its grain offering and drink offering.

32" 'On the seventh day prepare seven bulls, two rams and fourteen male lambs a year old, all without defect. 33With the bulls, rams and lambs, prepare their grain offerings and drink offerings according to the number specified. 34Include one male goat as a sin offering, in addition to the regular burnt offering with its grain offering and drink offering.

35" 'On the eighth day hold an assembly[j] and do no regular work. 36Present an offering made by fire as an aroma pleasing to the LORD,[k] a burnt offering of one bull, one ram and seven male lambs a year old,[l] all without defect. 37With the bull, the ram and the lambs, prepare their grain offerings and drink offerings according to the number specified. 38Include one male goat as a sin offering, in addition to the regular burnt offering with its grain offering and drink offering.

39" 'In addition to what you vow[m] and your freewill offerings,[n] prepare these for the LORD at your appointed feasts:[o] your burnt offerings,[p] grain offerings, drink offerings and fellowship offerings.[w][q] ' "

40Moses told the Israelites all that the LORD commanded him.

Vows

30 Moses said to the heads of the tribes of Israel:[r] "This is what the LORD commands: 2When a man makes a vow to the LORD or takes an oath to obligate himself by a pledge, he must not break his word but must do everything he said.[s]

3"When a young woman still living in her father's house makes a vow to the LORD or obligates herself by a pledge 4and her father hears about her vow or pledge but says nothing to her, then all her vows and every pledge by which she obligated herself will stand.[t] 5But if her father forbids her[u] when he hears about it, none of her vows or the pledges by which she obligated herself will stand; the LORD will release her because her father has forbidden her.

6"If she marries after she makes a vow[v] or after her lips utter a rash promise by which she obligates herself 7and her husband hears about it but says nothing to her, then her vows or the pledges by which she obligated herself will stand. 8But if her husband[w] forbids her when he hears about it, he nullifies the vow that obligates her or the rash promise by which she obligates herself, and the LORD will release her.[x]

9"Any vow or obligation taken by a widow or divorced woman will be binding on her.

10"If a woman living with her husband makes a vow or obligates herself by a pledge under oath 11and her husband hears about it but says nothing to her and does not forbid her, then all her vows or the pledges by which she

29:17 [a]ver 2; Nu 28:3
29:18 [b]S ver 9 [c]Nu 28:7 [d]Nu 15:4-12
29:19 [e]S Nu 28:15 [f]Nu 28:3 [g]ver 6
29:20 [h]S ver 17
29:21 [i]S ver 18
29:35 [j]S Lev 23:36
29:36 [k]Lev 1:9 [l]ver 2
29:39 [m]Nu 6:2 [n]S Lev 7:16 [o]S Lev 23:2 [p]Lev 1:3; 1Ch 23:31; 2Ch 31:3 [q]Lev 3:1
30:1 [r]S Nu 1:4
30:2 [s]Dt 23:21-23; Jdg 11:35; Job 22:27; Ps 22:25; 50:14; 61:5,8; 76:11; 116:14; Pr 20:25; Ecc 5:4,5; Isa 19:21; Jnh 1:16; 2:9
30:4 [t]ver 7
30:5 [u]ver 8,12, 15
30:6 [v]S Lev 5:4
30:8 [w]S Ge 3:6 [x]ver 5

[w]39 Traditionally *peace offerings*

obligated herself will stand. 12But if her
husband nullifies them when he hears
about them, then none of the vows or
pledges that came from her lips will
stand.[a] Her husband has nullified
them, and the LORD will release her.
13Her husband may confirm or nullify
any vow she makes or any sworn
pledge to deny herself. 14But if her hus-
band says nothing to her about it from
day to day, then he confirms all her
vows or the pledges binding on her.
He confirms them by saying nothing to
her when he hears about them. 15If,
however, he nullifies them[b] some time
after he hears about them, then he is
responsible for her guilt."

16These are the regulations the LORD
gave Moses concerning relationships
between a man and his wife, and be-
tween a father and his young daughter
still living in his house.

Vengeance on the Midianites

31 The LORD said to Moses, 2"Take
vengeance on the Midianites[c]
for the Israelites. After that, you will be
gathered to your people.[d]"

3So Moses said to the people, "Arm
some of your men to go to war against
the Midianites and to carry out the
LORD's vengeance[e] on them. 4Send into
battle a thousand men from each of the
tribes of Israel." 5So twelve thousand
men armed for battle,[f] a thousand
from each tribe, were supplied from
the clans of Israel. 6Moses sent them
into battle,[g] a thousand from each
tribe, along with Phinehas[h] son of
Eleazar, the priest, who took with him
articles from the sanctuary[i] and the
trumpets[j] for signaling.

7They fought against Midian, as the
LORD commanded Moses,[k] and killed
every man.[l] 8Among their victims
were Evi, Rekem, Zur, Hur and
Reba[m]—the five kings of Midian.[n]
They also killed Balaam son of Beor[o]
with the sword.[p] 9The Israelites cap-
tured the Midianite women[q] and chil-
dren and took all the Midianite herds,
flocks and goods as plunder.[r] 10They
burned[s] all the towns where the Mid-
ianites had settled, as well as all their
camps.[t] 11They took all the plunder
and spoils, including the people and
animals,[u] 12and brought the captives,
spoils[v] and plunder to Moses and Elea-
zar the priest and the Israelite assem-
bly[w] at their camp on the plains of
Moab, by the Jordan across from Jeri-
cho.[x][z]

30:12 [a]Eph 5:22; Col 3:18
30:15 [b]S ver 5
31:2 [c]S Ge 25:2 [d]S Nu 20:26
31:3 [e]Jdg 11:36; 1Sa 24:12; 2Sa 4:8; 22:48; Ps 94:1; 149:7; Isa 34:8; Jer 11:20; 46:10; Eze 25:17
31:5 [f]ver 6,21
31:6 [g]S ver 5 [h]S Ex 6:25 [i]Nu 14:44 [j]S Nu 10:2
31:7 [k]Nu 25:16 [l]Dt 20:13; Jdg 21:11; 1Ki 11:15,16
31:8 [m]Jos 13:21 [n]S Nu 25:15 [o]S Nu 22:5; S 24:14 [p]Jos 13:22
31:9 [q]ver 15 [r]S Ge 34:29
31:10 [s]Jos 6:24; 8:28; 11:11; Jdg 18:27 [t]Ge 25:16; 1Ch 6:54; Ps 69:25; Eze 25:4
31:11 [u]ver 26; Dt 20:14; 2Ch 28:8
31:12 [v]ver 32, 53; Ge 49:27; Ex 15:9 [w]S Nu 27:2 [x]Nu 22:1
31:14 [y]ver 48; Ex 18:21; Dt 1:15; 2Sa 18:1
31:16 [z]S Nu 22:5; S 24:14; S 2Pe 2:15 [a]S Nu 23:28; 25:1-9 [b]S Nu 14:37
31:17 [c]Dt 7:2; 20:16-18; Jdg 21:11
31:19 [d]Nu 19:16 [e]S Lev 21:1 [f]Nu 19:12
31:20 [g]Nu 19:19 [h]S Lev 11:32
31:21 [i]S ver 5
31:22 [j]Jos 6:19; 22:8
31:23 [k]S 1Co 3:13 [l]S Nu 8:7
31:24 [m]S Lev 11:25 [n]S Lev 14:8
31:26 [o]S Nu 1:4 [p]S Nu 1:19 [q]S ver 11,12
31:27 [r]Jos 22:8; 1Sa 25:13; 30:24
31:28 [s]ver 37-41; S Nu 18:21

13Moses, Eleazar the priest and all
the leaders of the community went to
meet them outside the camp. 14Moses
was angry with the officers of the
army[y]—the commanders of thousands
and commanders of hundreds—who
returned from the battle.

15"Have you allowed all the women
to live?" he asked them. 16"They were
the ones who followed Balaam's ad-
vice[z] and were the means of turning
the Israelites away from the LORD in
what happened at Peor,[a] so that a
plague[b] struck the LORD's people.
17Now kill all the boys. And kill every
woman who has slept with a man,[c]
18but save for yourselves every girl who
has never slept with a man.

19"All of you who have killed anyone
or touched anyone who was killed[d]
must stay outside the camp seven
days.[e] On the third and seventh days
you must purify yourselves[f] and your
captives. 20Purify every garment[g] as
well as everything made of leather,
goat hair or wood.[h]"

21Then Eleazar the priest said to the
soldiers who had gone into battle,[i]
"This is the requirement of the law that
the LORD gave Moses: 22Gold, silver,
bronze, iron,[j] tin, lead 23and anything
else that can withstand fire must be put
through the fire,[k] and then it will be
clean. But it must also be purified with
the water of cleansing.[l] And whatever
cannot withstand fire must be put
through that water. 24On the seventh
day wash your clothes and you will be
clean.[m] Then you may come into the
camp.[n]"

Dividing the Spoils

25The LORD said to Moses, 26"You and
Eleazar the priest and the family
heads[o] of the community are to count
all the people[p] and animals that were
captured.[q] 27Divide[r] the spoils be-
tween the soldiers who took part in the
battle and the rest of the community.
28From the soldiers who fought in the
battle, set apart as tribute for the LORD[s]
one out of every five hundred, whether
persons, cattle, donkeys, sheep or
goats. 29Take this tribute from their half
share and give it to Eleazar the priest as
the LORD's part. 30From the Israelites'
half, select one out of every fifty,
whether persons, cattle, donkeys,
sheep, goats or other animals. Give

[x]12 Hebrew *Jordan of Jericho;* possibly an ancient name for the Jordan River

them to the Levites, who are responsi-
ble for the care of the LORD's taber-
nacle.[a]" 31So Moses and Eleazar the
priest did as the LORD commanded
Moses.
32The plunder remaining from the
spoils[b] that the soldiers took was 675,-
000 sheep, 3372,000 cattle, 3461,000 don-
keys 35and 32,000 women who had
never slept with a man.
36The half share of those who fought
in the battle was:

337,500 sheep, 37of which the trib-
ute for the LORD[c] was 675;
3836,000 cattle, of which the tribute
for the LORD was 72;
3930,500 donkeys, of which the trib-
ute for the LORD was 61;
4016,000 people, of which the tribute
for the LORD was 32.

41Moses gave the tribute to Eleazar
the priest as the LORD's part,[d] as the
LORD commanded Moses.[e]
42The half belonging to the Israelites,
which Moses set apart from that of the
fighting men— 43the community's
half—was 337,500 sheep, 4436,000 cat-
tle, 4530,500 donkeys 46and 16,000
people. 47From the Israelites' half,
Moses selected one out of every fifty
persons and animals, as the LORD com-
manded him, and gave them to the Le-
vites, who were responsible for the
care of the LORD's tabernacle.
48Then the officers[f] who were over
the units of the army—the command-
ers of thousands and commanders of
hundreds—went to Moses 49and said to
him, "Your servants have counted[g] the
soldiers under our command, and not
one is missing.[h] 50So we have brought
as an offering to the LORD the gold arti-
cles each of us acquired—armlets,
bracelets, signet rings, earrings and
necklaces—to make atonement for our-
selves[i] before the LORD."
51Moses and Eleazar the priest ac-
cepted from them the gold—all the
crafted articles. 52All the gold from the
commanders of thousands and com-
manders of hundreds that Moses and
Eleazar presented as a gift to the LORD
weighed 16,750 shekels.[y] 53Each sol-
dier had taken plunder[j] for himself.
54Moses and Eleazar the priest accepted
the gold from the commanders of thou-
sands and commanders of hundreds
and brought it into the Tent of Meet-
ing[k] as a memorial[l] for the Israelites
before the LORD.

31:30 [a]Nu 3:7; 18:3
31:32 [b]S ver 12
31:37 [c]ver 38-41
31:41 [d]Nu 5:9; 18:8 [e]ver 21,28
31:48 [f]S ver 14
31:49 [g]S Nu 1:19 [h]Jer 23:4
31:50 [i]S Ex 30:16
31:53 [j]S Ge 34:29; Dt 20:14
31:54 [k]S Ex 27:21; 40:2 [l]S Ex 28:12
32:1 [m]ver 24, 36; Jdg 5:16 [n]S Nu 21:32 [o]S Ge 31:21 [p]Ex 12:38
32:2 [q]Lev 4:22; Nu 27:2
32:3 [r]ver 34; Jos 16:2,7; 18:13 [s]ver 34; S Nu 21:30 [t]ver 1 [u]ver 36; Jos 13:27 [v]Nu 21:25 [w]ver 37; Isa 15:4; 16:9; Jer 48:34 [x]Jos 13:19; Isa 16:8,9; Jer 48:32 [y]Nu 33:47; Dt 32:49; 34:1; 1Ch 5:8 [z]ver 38; Jos 13:17; Eze 25:9
32:4 [a]Nu 21:34 [b]Ex 12:38
32:5 [c]S Nu 13:29
32:7 [d]Nu 13:27-14:4
32:8 [e]Nu 13:3, 26; Dt 1:19-25
32:9 [f]Nu 13:23; Dt 1:24
32:10 [g]Nu 11:1 [h]S Nu 14:20-23
32:11 [i]S Ex 30:14 [j]Nu 1:1 [k]S Nu 14:23 [l]Nu 14:28-30
32:12 [m]Nu 14:24,30; Ps 63:8
32:13 [n]S Ex 4:14 [o]Nu 14:28-35; 26:64,65
32:14 [p]S ver 10; Dt 1:34; Ps 78:59
32:15 [q]Dt 30:17-18; 2Ch 7:20
32:16 [r]ver 24, 36; 1Sa 24:3; Ps 50:9; 78:70 [s]Ex 12:38; Dt 3:19
32:17 [t]Dt 3:18; Jos 4:12,13 [u]S Nu 22:4; Dt 3:20

The Transjordan Tribes

32 The Reubenites and Gadites,
who had very large herds and
flocks,[m] saw that the lands of Jazer[n]
and Gilead[o] were suitable for live-
stock.[p] 2So they came to Moses and
Eleazar the priest and to the leaders of
the community,[q] and said, 3"Ataroth,[r]
Dibon,[s] Jazer,[t] Nimrah,[u] Heshbon,[v]
Elealeh,[w] Sebam,[x] Nebo[y] and
Beon[z]— 4the land the LORD subdued[a]
before the people of Israel—are suitable
for livestock,[b] and your servants have
livestock. 5If we have found favor in
your eyes," they said, "let this land be
given to your servants as our posses-
sion. Do not make us cross the Jor-
dan.[c]"
6Moses said to the Gadites and Reu-
benites, "Shall your countrymen go to
war while you sit here? 7Why do you
discourage the Israelites from going
over into the land the LORD has given
them?[d] 8This is what your fathers did
when I sent them from Kadesh Barnea
to look over the land.[e] 9After they
went up to the Valley of Eshcol[f] and
viewed the land, they discouraged the
Israelites from entering the land the
LORD had given them. 10The LORD's an-
ger was aroused[g] that day and he
swore this oath:[h] 11'Because they have
not followed me wholeheartedly, not
one of the men twenty years old or
more[i] who came up out of Egypt[j] will
see the land I promised on oath[k] to
Abraham, Isaac and Jacob[l]— 12not one
except Caleb son of Jephunneh the
Kenizzite and Joshua son of Nun, for
they followed the LORD wholehearted-
ly.'[m] 13The LORD's anger burned against
Israel[n] and he made them wander in
the desert forty years, until the whole
generation of those who had done evil
in his sight was gone.[o]
14"And here you are, a brood of sin-
ners, standing in the place of your fa-
thers and making the LORD even more
angry with Israel.[p] 15If you turn away
from following him, he will again leave
all this people in the desert, and you
will be the cause of their destruction.[q]"
16Then they came up to him and
said, "We would like to build pens[r]
here for our livestock[s] and cities for
our women and children. 17But we are
ready to arm ourselves and go ahead of
the Israelites[t] until we have brought
them to their place.[u] Meanwhile our
women and children will live in forti-

[y]52 That is, about 420 pounds (about 190 kilograms)

fied cities, for protection from the in-
habitants of the land. [18]We will not re-
turn to our homes until every Israelite
has received his inheritance.[a] [19]We will
not receive any inheritance with them
on the other side of the Jordan, because
our inheritance[b] has come to us on the
east side of the Jordan."[c]
[20]Then Moses said to them, "If you
will do this—if you will arm yourselves
before the LORD for battle,[d] [21]and if all
of you will go armed over the Jordan
before the LORD until he has driven his
enemies out before him[e]— [22]then
when the land is subdued before the
LORD, you may return[f] and be free
from your obligation to the LORD and to
Israel. And this land will be your
possession[g] before the LORD.[h]
[23]"But if you fail to do this, you will
be sinning against the LORD; and you
may be sure that your sin will find you
out.[i] [24]Build cities for your women and
children, and pens for your flocks,[j]
but do what you have promised.[k]"
[25]The Gadites and Reubenites said to
Moses, "We your servants will do as
our lord commands.[l] [26]Our children
and wives, our flocks and herds will
remain here in the cities of Gilead.[m]
[27]But your servants, every man armed
for battle, will cross over to fight[n] be-
fore the LORD, just as our lord says."
[28]Then Moses gave orders about
them[o] to Eleazar the priest and Joshua
son of Nun[p] and to the family heads of
the Israelite tribes.[q] [29]He said to them,
"If the Gadites and Reubenites, every
man armed for battle, cross over the
Jordan with you before the LORD, then
when the land is subdued before you,[r]
give them the land of Gilead as their
possession.[s] [30]But if they do not cross
over[t] with you armed, they must ac-
cept their possession with you in Ca-
naan.[u]"
[31]The Gadites and Reubenites an-
swered, "Your servants will do what
the LORD has said.[v] [32]We will cross over
before the LORD into Canaan armed,[w]
but the property we inherit will be on
this side of the Jordan.[x]"
[33]Then Moses gave to the Gadites,[y]
the Reubenites and the half-tribe of
Manasseh[z] son of Joseph the kingdom
of Sihon king of the Amorites[a] and the
kingdom of Og king of Bashan[b]—the
whole land with its cities and the terri-
tory around them.[c]
[34]The Gadites built up Dibon,
Ataroth, Aroer,[d] [35]Atroth Shophan, Ja-
zer,[e] Jogbehah,[f] [36]Beth Nimrah[g] and
Beth Haran as fortified cities, and built
pens for their flocks.[h] [37]And the Reu-
benites rebuilt Heshbon,[i] Elealeh[j]
and Kiriathaim,[k] [38]as well as Nebo[l]
and Baal Meon (these names were
changed) and Sibmah.[m] They gave
names to the cities they rebuilt.
[39]The descendants of Makir[n] son of
Manasseh went to Gilead,[o] captured it
and drove out the Amorites[p] who were
there. [40]So Moses gave Gilead to the
Makirites,[q] the descendants of Ma-
nasseh, and they settled there. [41]Jair,[r]
a descendant of Manasseh, captured
their settlements and called them Hav-
voth Jair.[a][s] [42]And Nobah captured
Kenath[t] and its surrounding settle-
ments and called it Nobah[u] after him-
self.[v]

Stages in Israel's Journey

33 Here are the stages in the jour-
ney[w] of the Israelites when they
came out of Egypt[x] by divisions under
the leadership of Moses and Aaron.[y]
[2]At the LORD's command Moses
recorded[z] the stages in their journey[a].
This is their journey by stages:

[3]The Israelites set out[b] from
Rameses[c] on the fifteenth day of
the first month, the day after the
Passover.[d] They marched out bold-
ly[e] in full view of all the Egyptians,
[4]who were burying all their first-
born,[f] whom the LORD had struck
down among them; for the LORD
had brought judgment[g] on their
gods.[h]
[5]The Israelites left Rameses and
camped at Succoth.[i]
[6]They left Succoth and camped at
Etham, on the edge of the desert.[j]
[7]They left Etham, turned back to
Pi Hahiroth, to the east of Baal Ze-
phon,[k] and camped near Migdol.[l]
[8]They left Pi Hahiroth[b][m] and
passed through the sea[n] into the
desert, and when they had traveled
for three days in the Desert of
Etham, they camped at Marah.[o]
[9]They left Marah and went to
Elim, where there were twelve
springs and seventy palm trees,
and they camped[p] there.

32:18 [a]Jos 22:1-4 **32:19** [b]ver 32; S Nu 21:33; Jos 12:1; 22:7 **32:20** [c]ver 17 **32:21** [d]ver 17 **32:22** [e]Jos 22:4 [f]S Lev 14:34 [g]1Ch 5:18-20 **32:23** [h]S Ge 4:7; S Isa 3:9 **32:24** [i]S ver 1, 16 [j]Nu 30:2 **32:25** [k]ver 29; Jos 1:16-18; 22:2 **32:26** [l]ver 16, 24; Jos 1:14; 12:2; 22:9; 2Sa 2:9; 1Ch 5:9 **32:27** [m]ver 17, 21 **32:28** [n]ver 29; Dt 3:18-20; Jos 1:13 [o]Nu 11:28 [p]Nu 1:16 **32:29** [q]S Nu 22:4 [r]S ver 19 **32:30** [s]ver 23 [t]ver 29,32 **32:31** [u]ver 29 **32:32** [v]ver 17 [w]S ver 30; Jos 12:6 **32:33** [x]Jos 13:24-28; 1Sa 13:7 [y]Jos 1:12 [z]Nu 21:21; Dt 2:26 [a]S ver 19; S Jos 12:5 [b]S Nu 21:24; 34:14; Dt 2:36; Jos 12:6 **32:34** [d]Dt 2:36; 3:12; 4:48; Jos 12:2; 13:9; Jdg 11:26; 1Sa 30:28; 1Ch 5:8; Jer 48:19 **32:35** [e]ver 3 [f]Jdg 8:11 **32:36** [g]S ver 3 [h]S ver 1 **32:37** [i]Nu 21:25 [j]S ver 3 [k]Jos 13:19; 1Ch 6:76; Jer 48:1,23; Eze 25:9 **32:38** [l]S ver 3; Isa 15:2; Jer 48:1, 22 [m]S ver 3 **32:39** [n]S Ge 50:23 [o]Nu 26:29; Dt 2:36 [p]S Ge 10:16 **32:40** [q]S Ge 50:23; Dt 3:15 **32:41** [r]1Ki 4:13 [s]Dt 3:14; Jos 13:30; Jdg 10:4; 1Ch 2:23 **32:42** [t]1Ch 2:23 [u]Jdg 8:11 [v]1Sa 15:12; 2Sa 18:18; Ps 49:11; Isa 22:16; 56:5 **33:1** [w]Ex 17:1; 40:36 [x]Nu 1:1 [y]S Ex 4:16; 6:26 **33:2** [z]S Ex 17:14 [a]S ver 1 **33:3** [b]Nu 10:2 [c]S Ge 47:11 [d]Jos 5:10 [e]S Ex 14:8 **33:4** [f]S Ex 4:23 [g]2Ch 24:24; Jer 15:3; Eze 14:21 [h]S Ex 12:12 **33:5** [i]Ex 12:37 **33:6** [j]Ex 13:20 **33:7** [k]Ex 14:9 [l]S Ex 14:2 **33:8** [m]Ex 14:2 [n]S Ex 14:22 [o]S Ex 15:23 **33:9** [p]Ex 15:27

[a]41 Or *them the settlements of Jair* [b]8 Many manuscripts of the Masoretic Text, Samaritan Pentateuch and Vulgate; most manuscripts of the Masoretic Text *left from before Hahiroth*

10 They left Elim[a] and camped by
the Red Sea.[b]
11 They left the Red Sea and
camped in the Desert of Sin.[b]
12 They left the Desert of Sin and
camped at Dophkah.
13 They left Dophkah and camped
at Alush.
14 They left Alush and camped at
Rephidim, where there was no
water for the people to drink.[c]
15 They left Rephidim[d] and
camped in the Desert of Sinai.[e]
16 They left the Desert of Sinai
and camped at Kibroth Hat-
taavah.[f]
17 They left Kibroth Hattaavah
and camped at Hazeroth.[g]
18 They left Hazeroth and camped
at Rithmah.
19 They left Rithmah and camped
at Rimmon Perez.
20 They left Rimmon Perez and
camped at Libnah.[h]
21 They left Libnah and camped at
Rissah.
22 They left Rissah and camped at
Kehelathah.
23 They left Kehelathah and
camped at Mount Shepher.
24 They left Mount Shepher and
camped at Haradah.
25 They left Haradah and camped
at Makheloth.
26 They left Makheloth and
camped at Tahath.
27 They left Tahath and camped at
Terah.
28 They left Terah and camped at
Mithcah.
29 They left Mithcah and camped
at Hashmonah.
30 They left Hashmonah and
camped at Moseroth.[i]
31 They left Moseroth and camped
at Bene Jaakan.[j]
32 They left Bene Jaakan and
camped at Hor Haggidgad.
33 They left Hor Haggidgad and
camped at Jotbathah.[k]
34 They left Jotbathah and camped
at Abronah.
35 They left Abronah and camped
at Ezion Geber.[l]
36 They left Ezion Geber and
camped at Kadesh, in the Desert of
Zin.[m]
37 They left Kadesh and camped
at Mount Hor,[n] on the border of
Edom.[o] 38 At the LORD's command
Aaron the priest went up Mount
Hor, where he died[p] on the first
day of the fifth month of the for-
tieth year[q] after the Israelites came
out of Egypt.[r] 39 Aaron was a hun-
dred and twenty-three years old
when he died on Mount Hor.
40 The Canaanite king[s] of Arad,[t]
who lived in the Negev[u] of Ca-
naan, heard that the Israelites were
coming.
41 They left Mount Hor and
camped at Zalmonah.
42 They left Zalmonah and
camped at Punon.
43 They left Punon and camped at
Oboth.[v]
44 They left Oboth and camped at
Iye Abarim, on the border of
Moab.[w]
45 They left Iyim[c] and camped at
Dibon Gad.
46 They left Dibon Gad and
camped at Almon Diblathaim.
47 They left Almon Diblathaim
and camped in the mountains of
Abarim,[x] near Nebo.[y]
48 They left the mountains of Aba-
rim[z] and camped on the plains of
Moab[a] by the Jordan[b] across from
Jericho.[d][c] 49 There on the plains of
Moab they camped along the Jor-
dan from Beth Jeshimoth[d] to Abel
Shittim.[e]

50 On the plains of Moab by the Jor-
dan across from Jericho[f] the LORD said
to Moses, 51 "Speak to the Israelites and
say to them: 'When you cross the Jor-
dan into Canaan,[g] 52 drive out all the
inhabitants of the land before you. De-
stroy all their carved images and their
cast idols, and demolish all their high
places.[h] 53 Take possession of the land
and settle in it, for I have given you the
land to possess.[i] 54 Distribute the land
by lot,[j] according to your clans.[k] To a
larger group give a larger inheritance,
and to a smaller group a smaller one.[l]
Whatever falls to them by lot will be
theirs. Distribute it according to your
ancestral tribes.[m]
55 " 'But if you do not drive out the
inhabitants of the land, those you allow
to remain will become barbs in your
eyes and thorns[n] in your sides. They
will give you trouble in the land where
you will live. 56 And then I will do to
you what I plan to do to them.[o]' "

33:10 [a]Ex 16:1
33:11 [b]S Ex 16:1
33:14 [c]S Ex 15:22; S 17:2
33:15 [d]S Ex 17:1 [e]S Ex 19:1
33:16 [f]S Nu 11:34
33:17 [g]Nu 11:35
33:20 [h]Jos 10:29; 12:15; 15:42; 21:13; 2Ki 8:22; 19:8; 23:31; 1Ch 6:57; 2Ch 21:10; Isa 37:8; Jer 52:1
33:30 [i]Dt 10:6
33:31 [j]Dt 10:6
33:33 [k]Dt 10:7
33:35 [l]Dt 2:8; 1Ki 9:26; 22:48
33:36 [m]S Nu 13:21
33:37 [n]S Nu 20:22 [o]S Ge 36:16; S Nu 20:16
33:38 [p]S Nu 27:13 [q]S Ex 16:35 [r]Nu 20:25-28
33:40 [s]S Ge 10:18 [t]S Nu 21:1 [u]S Ge 12:9
33:43 [v]Nu 21:10
33:44 [w]S Nu 21:11
33:47 [x]Nu 27:12 [y]Nu 32:3
33:48 [z]Nu 27:12 [a]S Nu 26:3 [b]S Ge 13:10 [c]Nu 22:1; Jos 12:9
33:49 [d]Jos 12:3; 13:20; Eze 25:9 [e]S Nu 21:16
33:50 [f]ver 48
33:51 [g]Nu 34:2; Jos 3:17
33:52 [h]S Lev 26:1; Ps 106:34-36
33:53 [i]Dt 11:31; 17:14; Jos 1:11; 21:43
33:54 [j]S Lev 16:8; Nu 36:2 [k]Nu 26:54 [l]Nu 35:8 [m]Jos 18:10
33:55 [n]Jos 23:13; Jdg 2:3; Ps 106:36; Isa 55:13; Eze 2:6; 28:24; Mic 7:4; 2Co 12:7
33:56 [o]Nu 14:28

[b]*10* Hebrew *Yam Suph;* that is, Sea of Reeds; also in verse 11 [c]*45* That is, Iye Abarim [d]*48* Hebrew *Jordan of Jericho;* possibly an ancient name for the Jordan River; also in verse 50

Boundaries of Canaan

34 The LORD said to Moses, 2"Com-
mand the Israelites and say to
them: 'When you enter Canaan,[a] the
land that will be allotted to you as an
inheritance[b] will have these bound-
aries:[c]

3" 'Your southern side will include
some of the Desert of Zin[d] along the
border of Edom. On the east, your
southern boundary will start from the
end of the Salt Sea,[e][e] 4cross south of
Scorpion[f] Pass,[f] continue on to Zin
and go south of Kadesh Barnea.[g] Then
it will go to Hazar Addar and over to
Azmon,[h] 5where it will turn, join the
Wadi of Egypt[i] and end at the Sea.[g]

6" 'Your western boundary will be
the coast of the Great Sea.[j] This will be
your boundary on the west.[k]

7" 'For your northern boundary,[l]
run a line from the Great Sea to Mount
Hor[m] 8and from Mount Hor to Lebo[h]
Hamath.[n] Then the boundary will go
to Zedad, 9continue to Ziphron and
end at Hazar Enan. This will be your
boundary on the north.

10" 'For your eastern boundary,[o] run
a line from Hazar Enan to Shepham.
11The boundary will go down from She-
pham to Riblah[p] on the east side of
Ain[q] and continue along the slopes
east of the Sea of Kinnereth.[i][r] 12Then
the boundary will go down along the
Jordan and end at the Salt Sea.

" 'This will be your land, with its
boundaries on every side.' "

13Moses commanded the Israelites:
"Assign this land by lot[s] as an inheri-
tance.[t] The LORD has ordered that it be
given to the nine and a half tribes, 14be-
cause the families of the tribe of Reu-
ben, the tribe of Gad and the half-tribe
of Manasseh have received their inheri-
tance.[u] 15These two and a half tribes
have received their inheritance on the
east side of the Jordan of Jericho,[j]
toward the sunrise."

16The LORD said to Moses, 17"These
are the names of the men who are to
assign the land for you as an inheri-
tance: Eleazar the priest and Joshua[v]
son of Nun. 18And appoint one leader
from each tribe to help[w] assign the
land.[x] 19These are their names:[y]

Caleb[z] son of Jephunneh,
from the tribe of Judah;[a]
20Shemuel son of Ammihud,
from the tribe of Simeon;[b]
21Elidad son of Kislon,
from the tribe of Benjamin;[c]
22Bukki son of Jogli,
the leader from the tribe of Dan;
23Hanniel son of Ephod,
the leader from the tribe of Ma-
nasseh[d] son of Joseph;
24Kemuel son of Shiphtan,
the leader from the tribe of
Ephraim[e] son of Joseph;
25Elizaphan son of Parnach,
the leader from the tribe of
Zebulun;[f]
26Paltiel son of Azzan,
the leader from the tribe of Is-
sachar;
27Ahihud son of Shelomi,
the leader from the tribe of
Asher;[g]
28Pedahel son of Ammihud,
the leader from the tribe of
Naphtali."

29These are the men the LORD com-
manded to assign the inheritance to the
Israelites in the land of Canaan.[h]

Towns for the Levites

35 On the plains of Moab by the
Jordan across from Jericho,[k][i]
the LORD said to Moses, 2"Command
the Israelites to give the Levites towns
to live in[j] from the inheritance the Is-
raelites will possess. And give them
pasturelands[k] around the towns.
3Then they will have towns to live in
and pasturelands for their cattle, flocks
and all their other livestock.[l]

4"The pasturelands around the
towns that you give the Levites will ex-
tend out fifteen hundred feet[l] from the
town wall. 5Outside the town, measure
three thousand feet[m][m] on the east side,
three thousand on the south side, three
thousand on the west and three thou-
sand on the north, with the town in the
center. They will have this area as pas-
tureland for the towns.[n]

Cities of Refuge

35:6-34Ref — Dt 4:41-43; 19:1-14; Jos 20:1-9

6"Six of the towns you give the Le-
vites will be cities of refuge, to which a
person who has killed someone may
flee.[o] In addition, give them forty-two
other towns. 7In all you must give the

34:2 [a]S Nu 33:51 [b]Ge 17:8; Dt 1:7-8; Jos 23:4; Ps 78:54-55; 105:11 [c]Eze 47:15 **34:3** [d]Nu 13:21; Jos 15:1-3 [e]S Ge 14:3 **34:4** [f]Jos 15:3; Jdg 1:36 [g]Nu 32:8 [h]Jos 15:4 **34:5** [i]Ge 15:18 **34:6** [j]Jos 1:4; 9:1; 15:12,47; 23:4; Eze 47:10, 15; 48:28 [k]Eze 47:19-20 **34:7** [l]Eze 47:15-17 [m]S Nu 20:22 **34:8** [n]Nu 13:21; Jos 13:5 **34:10** [o]Jos 15:5 **34:11** [p]2Ki 23:33; 25:6, 21; Jer 39:5; 52:9, 27 [q]Jos 15:32; 21:16; 1Ch 4:32 [r]Dt 3:17; Jos 11:2; 13:27 **34:13** [s]S Lev 16:8; Jos 18:10; Mic 2:5 [t]Jos 13:6; 14:1-5; Isa 49:8; 65:9; Eze 45:1 **34:14** [u]Nu 32:19; Dt 33:21; Jos 14:3 **34:17** [v]Nu 11:28; Dt 1:38 **34:18** [w]S Nu 1:4 [x]Jos 14:1 **34:19** [y]ver 29 [z]S Nu 26:65 [a]Ge 29:35; Dt 33:7; Ps 60:7 **34:20** [b]S Ge 29:33 **34:21** [c]Ge 49:27; Jdg 5:14; Ps 68:27 **34:23** [d]Nu 1:34 **34:24** [e]Nu 1:32 **34:25** [f]S Ge 30:20 **34:27** [g]Nu 1:40 **34:29** [h]ver 19 **35:1** [i]Nu 22:1 **35:2** [j]Lev 25:32-34; Jos 14:3,4 [k]Jos 21:1-42 **35:3** [l]Dt 18:6; Jos 14:4; 21:2 **35:5** [m]Jos 3:4 [n]Lev 25:34; 2Ch 11:14; 13:9; 23:2; 31:19 **35:6** [o]ver 11; Jos 21:13

[e]3 That is, the Dead Sea; also in verse 12 [f]4 Hebrew *Akrabbim* [g]5 That is, the Mediterranean; also in verses 6 and 7 [h]8 Or *to the entrance to* [i]11 That is, Galilee [j]15 *Jordan of Jericho* was possibly an ancient name for the Jordan River. [k]1 Hebrew *Jordan of Jericho*; possibly an ancient name for the Jordan River [l]4 Hebrew *a thousand cubits* (about 450 meters) [m]5 Hebrew *two thousand cubits* (about 900 meters)

Levites forty-eight towns, together with their pasturelands. [8]The towns you give the Levites from the land the Israelites possess are to be given in proportion to the inheritance of each tribe: Take many towns from a tribe that has many, but few from one that has few."[a]

[9]Then the LORD said to Moses: [10]"Speak to the Israelites and say to them: 'When you cross the Jordan into Canaan,[b] [11]select some towns to be your cities of refuge, to which a person who has killed someone[c] accidentally[d] may flee. [12]They will be places of refuge from the avenger,[e] so that a person accused of murder[f] may not die before he stands trial before the assembly.[g] [13]These six towns you give will be your cities of refuge.[h] [14]Give three on this side of the Jordan and three in Canaan as cities of refuge. [15]These six towns will be a place of refuge for Israelites, aliens and any other people living among them, so that anyone who has killed another accidentally can flee there.

[16]" 'If a man strikes someone with an iron object so that he dies, he is a murderer; the murderer shall be put to death.[i] [17]Or if anyone has a stone in his hand that could kill, and he strikes someone so that he dies, he is a murderer; the murderer shall be put to death. [18]Or if anyone has a wooden object in his hand that could kill, and he hits someone so that he dies, he is a murderer; the murderer shall be put to death. [19]The avenger of blood[j] shall put the murderer to death; when he meets him, he shall put him to death.[k] [20]If anyone with malice aforethought shoves another or throws something at him intentionally[l] so that he dies [21]or if in hostility he hits him with his fist so that he dies, that person shall be put to death;[m] he is a murderer. The avenger of blood[n] shall put the murderer to death when he meets him.

[22]" 'But if without hostility someone suddenly shoves another or throws something at him unintentionally[o] [23]or, without seeing him, drops a stone on him that could kill him, and he dies, then since he was not his enemy and he did not intend to harm him, [24]the assembly[p] must judge between him and the avenger of blood according to these regulations. [25]The assembly must protect the one accused of murder from the avenger of blood and send him back to the city of refuge to which he fled. He must stay there until the death of the high priest,[q] who was anointed[r] with the holy oil.[s]

[26]" 'But if the accused ever goes outside the limits of the city of refuge to which he has fled [27]and the avenger of blood finds him outside the city, the avenger of blood may kill the accused without being guilty of murder. [28]The accused must stay in his city of refuge until the death of the high priest; only after the death of the high priest may he return to his own property.

[29]" 'These are to be legal requirements[t] for you throughout the generations to come,[u] wherever you live.[v]

[30]" 'Anyone who kills a person is to be put to death as a murderer only on the testimony of witnesses. But no one is to be put to death on the testimony of only one witness.[w]

[31]" 'Do not accept a ransom[x] for the life of a murderer, who deserves to die. He must surely be put to death.

[32]" 'Do not accept a ransom for anyone who has fled to a city of refuge and so allow him to go back and live on his own land before the death of the high priest.

[33]" 'Do not pollute the land where you are. Bloodshed pollutes the land,[y] and atonement cannot be made for the land on which blood has been shed, except by the blood of the one who shed it. [34]Do not defile the land[z] where you live and where I dwell,[a] for I, the LORD, dwell among the Israelites.' "

Inheritance of Zelophehad's Daughters

36:1-12pp — Nu 27:1-11

36 The family heads of the clan of Gilead[b] son of Makir,[c] the son of Manasseh, who were from the clans of the descendants of Joseph,[d] came and spoke before Moses and the leaders,[e] the heads of the Israelite families. [2]They said, "When the LORD commanded my lord to give the land as an inheritance to the Israelites by lot,[f] he ordered you to give the inheritance of our brother Zelophehad[g] to his daughters. [3]Now suppose they marry men from other Israelite tribes; then their inheritance will be taken from our ancestral inheritance and added to that of the tribe they marry into. And so part of the inheritance allotted to us will be taken away. [4]When the Year of Jubilee[h] for the Israelites comes, their inheritance will be added to that of the tribe

35:8 [a]Nu 26:54; 33:54
35:10 [b]Nu 33:51; Dt 9:1; Jos 1:2,11
35:11 [c]ver 22-25 [d]S Ex 21:13
35:12 [e]ver 19; Dt 19:6; Jos 20:3; 2Sa 14:11 [f]ver 26,27,28 [g]ver 24,25
35:13 [h]ver 6,14
35:16 [i]S Ex 21:12
35:19 [j]S ver 12 [k]ver 21
35:20 [l]S Ex 21:14
35:21 [m]Ex 21:14 [n]ver 19
35:22 [o]S Ex 21:13
35:24 [p]S ver 12
35:25 [q]ver 32 [r]S Ex 28:41 [s]S Ex 29:7
35:29 [t]Nu 27:11 [u]Nu 10:8 [v]S Ex 12:20
35:30 [w]Dt 17:6; 19:15; S Mt 18:16; Jn 7:51
35:31 [x]Ex 21:30; Job 6:22; Ps 49:8; Pr 13:8
35:33 [y]S Ge 4:10
35:34 [z]Lev 18:24,25 [a]S Ex 29:45
36:1 [b]S Nu 26:30 [c]S Ge 50:23 [d]S Nu 26:28 [e]S Nu 27:2
36:2 [f]S Nu 33:54 [g]S Nu 26:33
36:4 [h]S Lev 25:10

into which they marry, and their prop-
erty will be taken from the tribal inheri-
tance of our forefathers."
5Then at the LORD's command Moses
gave this order to the Israelites: "What
the tribe of the descendants of Joseph
is saying is right. 6This is what the LORD
commands for Zelophehad's daugh-
ters: They may marry anyone they
please as long as they marry within the
tribal clan of their father. 7No inheri-
tance[a] in Israel is to pass from tribe to
tribe, for every Israelite shall keep the
tribal land inherited from his fore-
fathers. 8Every daughter who inherits
land in any Israelite tribe must marry
someone in her father's tribal clan,[b] so
that every Israelite will possess the in-
heritance of his fathers. 9No inheri-
tance may pass from tribe to tribe, for
each Israelite tribe is to keep the land it
inherits."
10So Zelophehad's daughters did as
the LORD commanded Moses. 11Zelo-
phehad's daughters—Mahlah, Tirzah,
Hoglah, Milcah and Noah[c]—married
their cousins on their father's side.
12They married within the clans of the
descendants of Manasseh son of Jo-
seph, and their inheritance remained in
their father's clan and tribe.[d]
13These are the commands and regu-
lations the LORD gave through Moses[e]
to the Israelites on the plains of Moab
by the Jordan across from Jericho.[n] [f]

36:7 [a]S Lev 25:23
36:8 [b]1Ch 23:22
36:11 [c]Nu 26:33
36:12 [d]1Ch 7:15
36:13 [e]S Lev 7:38; S 27:34 [f]Nu 22:1

[n]13 Hebrew *Jordan of Jericho;* possibly an ancient name for the Jordan River

Deuteronomy

The Command to Leave Horeb

1 These are the words Moses spoke
to all Israel in the desert east of the
Jordan[a]—that is, in the Ara-
bah[b]—opposite Suph, between Paran[c]
and Tophel, Laban, Hazeroth and
Dizahab. 2(It takes eleven days to go
from Horeb[d] to Kadesh Barnea[e] by the
Mount Seir[f] road.)[g]
3In the fortieth year,[h] on the first day
of the eleventh month,[i] Moses pro-
claimed[j] to the Israelites all that the
LORD had commanded him concerning
them. 4This was after he had defeated
Sihon[k] king of the Amorites,[l] who
reigned in Heshbon,[m] and at Edrei had
defeated Og[n] king of Bashan, who
reigned in Ashtaroth.[o]
5East of the Jordan in the territory of
Moab,[p] Moses began to expound this
law, saying:

6The LORD our God said to us[q] at
Horeb,[r] "You have stayed long
enough[s] at this mountain. 7Break
camp and advance into the hill country
of the Amorites;[t] go to all the neigh-
boring peoples in the Arabah,[u] in the
mountains, in the western foothills, in
the Negev[v] and along the coast, to the
land of the Canaanites[w] and to Leba-
non,[x] as far as the great river, the Eu-
phrates.[y] 8See, I have given you this
land[z].[a] Go in and take possession of
the land that the LORD swore[b] he
would give to your fathers—to Abra-
ham, Isaac and Jacob—and to their de-
scendants after them."

The Appointment of Leaders

9At that time I said to you, "You are
too heavy a burden[c] for me to carry
alone.[d] 10The LORD your God has in-
creased[e] your numbers[f] so that today
you are as many[g] as the stars in the
sky.[h] 11May the LORD, the God of your
fathers, increase[i] you a thousand
times and bless you as he has prom-
ised![j] 12But how can I bear your prob-
lems and your burdens and your dis-
putes all by myself?[k] 13Choose some
wise, understanding and respected
men[l] from each of your tribes, and I
will set them over you."
14You answered me, "What you pro-
pose to do is good."
15So I took[m] the leading men of your
tribes,[n] wise and respected men,[o] and
appointed them to have authority over
you—as commanders[p] of thousands,
of hundreds, of fifties and of tens and
as tribal officials.[q] 16And I charged
your judges at that time: Hear the dis-
putes between your brothers and
judge[r] fairly,[s] whether the case is be-
tween brother Israelites or between one
of them and an alien.[t] 17Do not show
partiality[u] in judging; hear both small
and great alike. Do not be afraid of any
man,[v] for judgment belongs to God.
Bring me any case too hard for you,
and I will hear it.[w] 18And at that time I
told you everything you were to do.[x]

Spies Sent Out

19Then, as the LORD our God com-
manded us, we set out from Horeb and
went toward the hill country of the
Amorites[y] through all that vast and
dreadful desert[z] that you have seen,
and so we reached Kadesh Barnea.[a]
20Then I said to you, "You have
reached the hill country of the Amo-
rites, which the LORD our God is giving
us. 21See, the LORD your God has given
you the land. Go up and take posses-
sion[b] of it as the LORD, the God of your
fathers, told you. Do not be afraid;[c] do
not be discouraged."[d]
22Then all of you came to me and
said, "Let us send men ahead to spy[e]
out the land[f] for us and bring back a
report about the route we are to take
and the towns we will come to."
23The idea seemed good to me; so I
selected[g] twelve of you, one man from

1:1 [a] S Nu 13:29; Dt 4:46 [b] ver 7; Dt 2:8; 3:17; Jos 3:16; 8:14; 11:2; Eze 47:8 [c] S Nu 10:12 **1:2** [d] S Ex 3:1 [e] S Ge 14:7; Dt 2:14; 9:23; Jos 15:3 [f] S Nu 24:18 [g] ver 19 **1:3** [h] Nu 14:33; 32:13; Dt 8:2; Heb 3:7-9 [i] Ge 50:3; Dt 34:8; Jos 4:19 [j] Dt 4:1-2 **1:4** [k] Nu 21:21-26 [l] S Ge 10:16; S 14:7 [m] S Nu 21:25 [n] Nu 21:33-35; Dt 3:10 [o] Jos 9:10; 12:4; 1Ch 11:44 **1:5** [p] S Nu 21:11 **1:6** [q] Nu 10:13 [r] S Ex 3:1 [s] Dt 2:3 **1:7** [t] ver 19; Dt 2:24; 7:1; Jos 10:5 [u] S ver 1 [v] S Nu 21:1; Jos 11:16; 12:8; 2Sa 24:7 [w] S Ge 10:18 [x] Dt 11:24 [y] S Ge 2:14 **1:8** [z] S Jos 23:13 [a] S Nu 34:2 [b] S Ex 13:11; S Nu 14:23; Heb 6:13-14 **1:9** [c] S Nu 11:14; Ps 38:4 [d] S Ex 18:18 **1:10** [e] ver 11; Eze 16:7 [f] S Dt 7:13 [g] S Ge 15:5; Isa 51:2; 60:22; Eze 33:24 [h] S Ge 22:17; S Nu 10:36 **1:11** [i] S ver 10 [j] ver 8; Ex 32:13; 2Sa 24:3; 1Ch 21:3 **1:12** [k] S Ex 5:22; S 18:18 **1:13** [l] S Ge 47:6 **1:15** [m] Ex 18:25 [n] Ex 5:14; Nu 11:16; Jos 1:10; 3:2 [o] S Ge 47:6 [p] Nu 31:14; 1Sa 8:12; 22:7; 1Ki 14:27 [q] S Nu 1:4 **1:16** [r] 1Ki 3:9; Ps 72:1; Pr 2:9 [s] S Ge 31:37; Jn 7:24 [t] S Ex 12:19,49; S 22:21 **1:17** [u] S Ex 18:16; S Lev 19:15; Ac 10:34; Jas 2:1 [v] Pr 29:25 [w] Ex 18:26 **1:18** [x] S Ge 39:11 **1:19** [y] S ver 7 [z] Dt 2:7; 8:15; 32:10; Ps 136:16; Jer 2:2,6; Hos 13:5 [a] ver 2; Nu 13:26 **1:21** [b] Dt 9:23 [c] S Nu 14:9; Jos 1:6,9,18; 2Sa 10:12; Ps 27:14 [d] Dt 7:18; Jos 8:1; 10:8 **1:22** [e] Nu 13:1-3 [f] S Ge 42:9 **1:23** [g] Nu 13:1-3

each tribe. 24They left and went up into
the hill country, and came to the Valley
of Eshcol[a] and explored it. 25Taking
with them some of the fruit of the land,
they brought it down to us and re-
ported,[b] "It is a good land[c] that the
LORD our God is giving us."[d]

Rebellion Against the LORD

26But you were unwilling to go up;[e]
you rebelled[f] against the command of
the LORD your God. 27You grumbled[g]
in your tents and said, "The LORD hates
us; so he brought us out of Egypt to
deliver us into the hands of the Amo-
rites to destroy us. 28Where can we go?
Our brothers have made us lose heart.
They say, 'The people are stronger and
taller[h] than we are; the cities are large,
with walls up to the sky. We even saw
the Anakites[i] there.' "
29Then I said to you, "Do not be terri-
fied; do not be afraid[j] of them.[k] 30The
LORD your God, who is going before
you, will fight[l] for you, as he did for
you in Egypt, before your very eyes,
31and in the desert. There you saw how
the LORD your God carried[m] you, as a
father carries his son, all the way you
went until you reached this place."[n]
32In spite of this,[o] you did not trust[p]
in the LORD your God, 33who went
ahead of you on your journey, in fire
by night and in a cloud by day,[q] to
search[r] out places for you to camp and
to show you the way you should go.
34When the LORD heard[s] what you
said, he was angry[t] and solemnly
swore:[u] 35"Not a man of this evil gen-
eration shall see the good land[v] I
swore to give your forefathers, 36except
Caleb[w] son of Jephunneh. He will see
it, and I will give him and his descend-
ants the land he set his feet on, because
he followed the LORD wholehearted-
ly.[x]"
37Because of you the LORD became an-
gry[y] with me also and said, "You shall
not enter[z] it, either. 38But your assis-
tant, Joshua[a] son of Nun, will enter it.
Encourage[b] him, because he will lead[c]
Israel to inherit[d] it. 39And the little
ones that you said would be taken cap-
tive,[e] your children who do not yet
know[f] good from bad—they will enter
the land. I will give it to them and they
will take possession of it. 40But as for
you, turn around and set out toward
the desert along the route to the Red
Sea.[a][g]"
41Then you replied, "We have sinned
against the LORD. We will go up and

1:24 [a]Nu 13:21-25; S 32:9
1:25 [b]S Nu 13:27 [c]S Nu 14:7 [d]Jos 1:2
1:26 [e]Nu 14:1-4 [f]S Nu 14:9
1:27 [g]Dt 9:28; Ps 106:25
1:28 [h]S Nu 13:32 [i]S Nu 13:33; Dt 9:1-3
1:29 [j]Dt 3:22; 20:3; Ne 4:14 [k]Dt 7:18; 20:1; 31:6
1:30 [l]S Ex 14:14
1:31 [m]Ex 19:4; Dt 32:10-12; Ps 28:9; Isa 46:3-4; 63:9; Hos 11:3; Ac 13:18 [n]Jer 31:32
1:32 [o]S Nu 14:11 [p]Dt 9:23; Ps 78:22; 106:24; Zep 3:2; Heb 3:19; Jude 1:5
1:33 [q]Ex 13:21; Nu 9:15-23; Ne 9:12; Ps 78:14 [r]S Nu 10:33
1:34 [s]S Nu 11:1 [t]S Nu 32:14 [u]S Nu 14:23, 28-30; Eze 20:15; Heb 3:11
1:35 [v]S Nu 14:29
1:36 [w]S Nu 13:6 [x]S Nu 14:24
1:37 [y]Ps 106:32 [z]S Nu 27:13
1:38 [a]S Nu 11:28 [b]Dt 31:7 [c]Dt 3:28 [d]Jos 11:23; Ps 78:55; 136:21
1:39 [e]S Nu 14:3 [f]Isa 7:15-16
1:40 [g]S Ex 14:27; Jdg 11:16
1:42 [h]S Nu 14:41-43
1:44 [i]Ps 118:12 [j]S Nu 24:18 [k]S Nu 14:45
1:45 [l]S Nu 14:1 [m]Job 27:9; 35:13; Ps 18:41; 66:18; Pr 1:28; Isa 1:15; Jer 14:12; La 3:8; Mic 3:4; S Jn 9:31 [n]Ps 28:1; 39:12; Pr 28:9
1:46 [o]S Nu 20:1
2:1 [p]S Ex 14:27; S Nu 21:4 [q]S Nu 24:18
2:3 [r]Dt 1:6
2:4 [s]Nu 20:14-21 [t]Ge 36:8 [u]ver 1 [v]Ex 15:16
2:5 [w]Jos 24:4
2:7 [x]Dt 8:2-4 [y]S Ex 13:21; S Dt 1:19 [z]ver 14; S Nu 14:33; 32:13; Jos 5:6 [a]Ne 9:21; Am 2:10
2:8 [b]S Nu 20:21 [c]S Dt 1:1 [d]Nu 33:35; 1Ki 9:26 [e]S Nu 21:4

fight, as the LORD our God commanded
us." So every one of you put on his
weapons, thinking it easy to go up into
the hill country.
42But the LORD said to me, "Tell
them, 'Do not go up and fight, because
I will not be with you. You will be de-
feated by your enemies.' "[h]
43So I told you, but you would not
listen. You rebelled against the LORD's
command and in your arrogance you
marched up into the hill country. 44The
Amorites who lived in those hills came
out against you; they chased you like a
swarm of bees[i] and beat you down
from Seir[j] all the way to Hormah.[k]
45You came back and wept before the
LORD,[l] but he paid no attention[m] to
your weeping and turned a deaf ear[n]
to you. 46And so you stayed in Ka-
desh[o] many days—all the time you
spent there.

Wanderings in the Desert

2 Then we turned back and set out
toward the desert along the route to
the Red Sea,[a][p] as the LORD had direct-
ed me. For a long time we made our
way around the hill country of Seir.[q]
2Then the LORD said to me, 3"You
have made your way around this hill
country long enough;[r] now turn
north. 4Give the people these orders:[s]
'You are about to pass through the ter-
ritory of your brothers the descendants
of Esau,[t] who live in Seir.[u] They will
be afraid[v] of you, but be very careful.
5Do not provoke them to war, for I will
not give you any of their land, not even
enough to put your foot on. I have giv-
en Esau the hill country of Seir as his
own.[w] 6You are to pay them in silver
for the food you eat and the water you
drink.' "
7The LORD your God has blessed you
in all the work of your hands. He has
watched[x] over your journey through
this vast desert.[y] These forty years[z]
the LORD your God has been with you,
and you have not lacked anything.[a]
8So we went on past our brothers the
descendants of Esau, who live in Seir.
We turned from[b] the Arabah[c] road,
which comes up from Elath and Ezion
Geber,[d] and traveled along the desert
road of Moab.[e]
9Then the LORD said to me, "Do not
harass the Moabites or provoke them to
war, for I will not give you any part of

[a]40,1 Hebrew *Yam Suph*; that is, Sea of Reeds

their land. I have given Ar[a] to the descendants of Lot[b] as a possession."

10(The Emites[c] used to live there—a people strong and numerous, and as tall as the Anakites.[d] 11Like the Anakites, they too were considered Rephaites,[e] but the Moabites called them Emites. 12Horites[f] used to live in Seir, but the descendants of Esau drove them out. They destroyed the Horites from before them and settled in their place, just as Israel did[g] in the land the LORD gave them as their possession.)

13And the LORD said, "Now get up and cross the Zered Valley.[h]" So we crossed the valley.

14Thirty-eight years[i] passed from the time we left Kadesh Barnea[j] until we crossed the Zered Valley. By then, that entire generation[k] of fighting men had perished from the camp, as the LORD had sworn to them.[l] 15The LORD's hand was against them until he had completely eliminated[m] them from the camp.

16Now when the last of these fighting men among the people had died, 17the LORD said to me, 18"Today you are to pass by the region of Moab at Ar.[n] 19When you come to the Ammonites,[o] do not harass them or provoke them to war,[p] for I will not give you possession of any land belonging to the Ammonites. I have given it as a possession to the descendants of Lot.[q]"

20(That too was considered a land of the Rephaites,[r] who used to live there; but the Ammonites called them Zamzummites. 21They were a people strong and numerous, and as tall as the Anakites.[s] The LORD destroyed them from before the Ammonites, who drove them out and settled in their place. 22The LORD had done the same for the descendants of Esau, who lived in Seir,[t] when he destroyed the Horites from before them. They drove them out and have lived in their place to this day. 23And as for the Avvites[u] who lived in villages as far as Gaza,[v] the Caphtorites[w] coming out from Caphtor[b][x] destroyed them and settled in their place.)

Defeat of Sihon King of Heshbon

24"Set out now and cross the Arnon Gorge.[y] See, I have given into your hand Sihon the Amorite,[z] king of Heshbon, and his country. Begin to take possession of it and engage[a] him in battle. 25This very day I will begin to put the terror[b] and fear[c] of you on all the nations under heaven. They will hear reports of you and will tremble[d] and be in anguish because of you."

26From the desert of Kedemoth[e] I sent messengers to Sihon[f] king of Heshbon offering peace[g] and saying, 27"Let us pass through your country. We will stay on the main road; we will not turn aside to the right or to the left.[h] 28Sell us food to eat[i] and water to drink for their price in silver. Only let us pass through on foot[j]— 29as the descendants of Esau, who live in Seir, and the Moabites, who live in Ar, did for us—until we cross the Jordan into the land the LORD our God is giving us." 30But Sihon king of Heshbon refused to let us pass through. For the LORD[k] your God had made his spirit stubborn[l] and his heart obstinate[m] in order to give him into your hands,[n] as he has now done.

31The LORD said to me, "See, I have begun to deliver Sihon and his country over to you. Now begin to conquer and possess his land."[o]

32When Sihon and all his army came out to meet us in battle[p] at Jahaz, 33the LORD our God delivered[q] him over to us and we struck him down,[r] together with his sons and his whole army. 34At that time we took all his towns and completely destroyed[c][s] them—men, women and children. We left no survivors. 35But the livestock[t] and the plunder[u] from the towns we had captured we carried off for ourselves. 36From Aroer[v] on the rim of the Arnon Gorge, and from the town in the gorge, even as far as Gilead,[w] not one town was too strong for us. The LORD our God gave[x] us all of them. 37But in accordance with the command of the LORD our God,[y] you did not encroach on any of the land of the Ammonites,[z] neither the land along the course of the Jabbok[a] nor that around the towns in the hills.

Defeat of Og King of Bashan

3 Next we turned and went up along the road toward Bashan, and Og king of Bashan[b] with his whole army marched out to meet us in battle at Edrei.[c] 2The LORD said to me, "Do not be afraid[d] of him, for I have handed him over to you with his whole army and his land. Do to him what you did to Sihon king of the Amorites, who reigned in Heshbon."

2:9 [a]S Nu 21:15 [b]Ge 19:38; Ps 83:8
2:10 [c]Ge 14:5 [d]S Nu 13:22,33
2:11 [e]S Ge 14:5
2:12 [f]S Ge 14:6 [g]Nu 21:25,35
2:13 [h]S Nu 21:12
2:14 [i]S ver 7 [j]S Dt 1:2 [k]Nu 14:29-35 [l]Dt 1:34-35; Jos 5:6
2:15 [m]Ps 106:26; Jude 1:5
2:18 [n]S Nu 21:15
2:19 [o]S Ge 19:38 [p]2Ch 20:10 [q]S ver 9
2:20 [r]S Ge 14:5
2:21 [s]ver 10
2:22 [t]S Ge 14:6
2:23 [u]Jos 13:3; 18:23; 2Ki 17:31 [v]S Ge 10:19 [w]S Ge 10:14 [x]Jer 47:4; Am 9:7
2:24 [y]Nu 21:13-14; Jdg 11:13,18 [z]S Dt 1:7 [a]Dt 3:6
2:25 [b]S Ge 35:5; Dt 11:25 [c]Jos 2:9,11; 1Ch 14:17; 2Ch 14:14; 17:10; 20:29; Isa 2:19; 13:13; 19:16 [d]Ex 15:14-16
2:26 [e]Jos 13:18; 1Ch 6:79 [f]Dt 1:4; Jdg 11:21-22 [g]Dt 20:10; Jdg 21:13; 2Sa 20:19
2:27 [h]Nu 21:21-22
2:28 [i]Dt 23:4 [j]S Nu 20:19
2:30 [k]Jdg 14:4; 1Ki 12:15 [l]S Ex 4:21; Ro 9:18 [m]S Ex 14:17 [n]La 3:65
2:31 [o]S Ge 12:7
2:32 [p]S Nu 21:23
2:33 [q]Ex 23:31; Dt 7:2; 31:5 [r]S Nu 21:24
2:34 [s]S Nu 21:2; Dt 3:6; 7:2; Ps 106:34
2:35 [t]Dt 3:7 [u]S Ge 34:29; S 49:27
2:36 [v]S Nu 32:34 [w]S Nu 32:39 [x]Ps 44:3
2:37 [y]ver 18-19 [z]S Nu 21:24 [a]S Ge 32:22
3:1 [b]S Nu 32:19 [c]S Nu 21:33
3:2 [d]Jos 10:8; 2Ki 19:6; Isa 7:4

b23 That is, Crete
c34 The Hebrew term refers to the irrevocable giving over of things or persons to the LORD, often by totally destroying them.

3So the LORD our God also gave into
our hands Og king of Bashan and all
his army. We struck them down, leav-
ing no survivors. 4At that time we
took all his cities. There was not one
of the sixty cities that we did not take
from them—the whole region of Ar-
gob, Og's kingdom in Bashan. 5All
these cities were fortified with high
walls and with gates and bars, and
there were also a great many unwalled
villages. 6We completely destroyed[a]
them, as we had done with Sihon king
of Heshbon, destroying[a] every city—
men, women and children. 7But all the
livestock and the plunder from their
cities we carried off for ourselves.

8So at that time we took from these
two kings of the Amorites the terri-
tory east of the Jordan, from the Arnon
Gorge as far as Mount Hermon.
9(Hermon is called Sirion by the
Sidonians; the Amorites call it Senir.)
10We took all the towns on the plateau,
and all Gilead, and all Bashan as far as
Salecah and Edrei, towns of Og's
kingdom in Bashan. 11(Only Og king of
Bashan was left of the remnant of the
Rephaites. His bed[b] was made of iron
and was more than thirteen feet long
and six feet wide.[c] It is still in Rabbah
of the Ammonites.)

Division of the Land

12Of the land that we took over at
that time, I gave the Reubenites and
the Gadites the territory north of Aro-
er by the Arnon Gorge, including half
the hill country of Gilead, together
with its towns. 13The rest of Gilead and
also all of Bashan, the kingdom of Og, I
gave to the half tribe of Manasseh.
(The whole region of Argob in Bashan
used to be known as a land of the
Rephaites. 14Jair, a descendant of
Manasseh, took the whole region of
Argob as far as the border of the Gesh-
urites and the Maacathites; it was
named after him, so that to this day
Bashan is called Havvoth Jair.[d]) 15And I
gave Gilead to Makir. 16But to the
Reubenites and the Gadites I gave the
territory extending from Gilead down
to the Arnon Gorge (the middle of the
gorge being the border) and out to the
Jabbok River, which is the border of
the Ammonites. 17Its western border
was the Jordan in the Arabah, from
Kinnereth to the Sea of the Arabah
(the Salt Sea[e]), below the slopes of
Pisgah.

18I commanded you at that time:
"The LORD your God has given you
this land to take possession of it. But all
your able-bodied men, armed for bat-
tle, must cross over ahead of your
brother Israelites. 19However, your
wives, your children and your live-
stock (I know you have much live-
stock) may stay in the towns I have giv-
en you, 20until the LORD gives rest to
your brothers as he has to you, and
they too have taken over the land that
the LORD your God is giving them,
across the Jordan. After that, each of
you may go back to the possession I
have given you."

Moses Forbidden to Cross the Jordan

21At that time I commanded Joshua:
"You have seen with your own eyes all
that the LORD your God has done to
these two kings. The LORD will do the
same to all the kingdoms over there
where you are going. 22Do not be
afraid of them; the LORD your God
himself will fight for you."

23At that time I pleaded with the
LORD: 24"O Sovereign LORD, you have
begun to show to your servant your
greatness and your strong hand. For
what god is there in heaven or on
earth who can do the deeds and
mighty works you do? 25Let me go
over and see the good land beyond
the Jordan—that fine hill country and
Lebanon."

26But because of you the LORD was
angry with me and would not listen
to me. "That is enough," the LORD said.
"Do not speak to me anymore about
this matter. 27Go up to the top of Pis-
gah and look west and north and
south and east. Look at the land with
your own eyes, since you are not going
to cross this Jordan. 28But commis-
sion Joshua, and encourage and
strengthen him, for he will lead this
people across and will cause them to
inherit the land that you will see." 29So
we stayed in the valley near Beth
Peor.

Obedience Commanded

4 Hear now, O Israel, the decrees
and laws I am about to teach you.
Follow them so that you may live and
may go in and take possession of the

[a]6 The Hebrew term refers to the irrevocable giving over of things or persons to the LORD, often by totally destroying them. [b]11 Or sarcophagus [c]11 Hebrew nine cubits long and four cubits wide (about 4 meters long and 1.8 meters wide) [d]14 Or called the settlements of Jair [e]17 That is, the Dead Sea

land that the LORD, the God of your fa-
thers, is giving you. 2Do not add[a] to
what I command you and do not sub-
tract[b] from it, but keep[c] the com-
mands[d] of the LORD your God that I
give you.
3You saw with your own eyes what
the LORD did at Baal Peor.[e] The LORD
your God destroyed from among you
everyone who followed the Baal of
Peor, 4but all of you who held fast to
the LORD your God are still alive today.
5See, I have taught[f] you decrees and
laws[g] as the LORD my God com-
manded[h] me, so that you may follow
them in the land you are entering[i] to
take possession of it. 6Observe[j] them
carefully, for this will show your wis-
dom[k] and understanding to the na-
tions, who will hear about all these de-
crees and say, "Surely this great nation
is a wise and understanding people."[l]
7What other nation is so great[m] as to
have their gods near[n] them the way
the LORD our God is near us whenever
we pray to him? 8And what other na-
tion is so great as to have such right-
eous decrees and laws[o] as this body of
laws I am setting before you today?
9Only be careful,[p] and watch your-
selves closely so that you do not forget
the things your eyes have seen or let
them slip from your heart as long as
you live. Teach[q] them to your chil-
dren[r] and to their children after them.
10Remember the day you stood before
the LORD your God at Horeb,[s] when he
said to me, "Assemble the people be-
fore me to hear my words so that they
may learn[t] to revere[u] me as long as
they live in the land[v] and may teach[w]
them to their children." 11You came
near and stood at the foot of the moun-
tain[x] while it blazed with fire[y] to the
very heavens, with black clouds and
deep darkness.[z] 12Then the LORD
spoke[a] to you out of the fire. You
heard the sound of words but saw no
form;[b] there was only a voice.[c] 13He
declared to you his covenant,[d] the Ten
Commandments,[e] which he com-
manded you to follow and then wrote
them on two stone tablets. 14And the
LORD directed me at that time to teach
you the decrees and laws[f] you are to
follow in the land that you are crossing
the Jordan to possess.

Idolatry Forbidden

15You saw no form[g] of any kind the
day the LORD spoke to you at Horeb[h]
out of the fire. Therefore watch your-
selves very carefully,[i] 16so that you do
not become corrupt[j] and make for
yourselves an idol,[k] an image of any
shape, whether formed like a man or a
woman, 17or like any animal on earth
or any bird that flies in the air,[l] 18or
like any creature that moves along the
ground or any fish in the waters below.
19And when you look up to the sky and
see the sun,[m] the moon and the
stars[n]—all the heavenly array[o]—do
not be enticed[p] into bowing down to
them and worshiping[q] things the LORD
your God has apportioned to all the na-
tions under heaven. 20But as for you,
the LORD took you and brought you out
of the iron-smelting furnace,[r] out of
Egypt,[s] to be the people of his inheri-
tance,[t] as you now are.
21The LORD was angry with me[u] be-
cause of you, and he solemnly swore
that I would not cross the Jordan and
enter the good land the LORD your God
is giving you as your inheritance. 22I
will die in this land;[v] I will not cross
the Jordan; but you are about to cross
over and take possession of that good
land.[w] 23Be careful not to forget the
covenant[x] of the LORD your God that
he made with you; do not make for
yourselves an idol[y] in the form of any-
thing the LORD your God has for-
bidden. 24For the LORD your God is a
consuming fire,[z] a jealous God.[a]
25After you have had children and
grandchildren and have lived in the
land a long time—if you then become
corrupt[b] and make any kind of idol,[c]
doing evil[d] in the eyes of the LORD your
God and provoking him to anger, 26I
call heaven and earth as witnesses[e]
against you[f] this day that you will
quickly perish[g] from the land that you
are crossing the Jordan to possess. You
will not live there long but will cer-
tainly be destroyed. 27The LORD will
scatter[h] you among the peoples, and
only a few of you will survive[i] among
the nations to which the LORD will drive
you. 28There you will worship man-
made gods[j] of wood and stone,[k]
which cannot see or hear or eat or
smell.[l] 29But if from there you seek[m]
the LORD your God, you will find him if

4:2 [a]Dt 12:32; Jos 1:7; Pr 30:6; Rev 22:18-19 [b]Jer 26:2 [c]S Lev 22:31 [d]Dt 10:12-13; Ecc 12:13 **4:3** [e]Nu 25:1-9; Ps 106:28 **4:5** [f]Ps 71:17; 119:102; Jer 32:33 [g]S Ex 18:20 [h]S Lev 27:34 [i]Ezr 9:11 **4:6** [j]Dt 29:9; 1Ki 2:3 [k]Dt 30:19-20; 32:46-47; Ps 19:7; 119:98; Pr 1:7; 2Ti 3:15 [l]Job 1:1; 28:28; Ps 111:10; Pr 2:5; 3:7; 9:10; Ecc 12:13; Eze 5:5 **4:7** [m]ver 32-34; 2Sa 7:23 [n]S Nu 23:21; S Ps 46:1; Ac 17:27 **4:8** [o]Ps 89:14; 97:2; 119:7,62, 144,160,172; Ro 3:2 **4:9** [p]S Ex 23:13 [q]S Ge 14:14; 18:19; Dt 6:20-25; Eph 6:4 [r]S Ex 10:2 **4:10** [s]S Ex 3:1 [t]Dt 14:23; 17:19; 31:12-13; Ps 2:11; 111:10; 147:11; Isa 8:13; Jer 32:40 [u]S Ex 20:20 [v]Dt 12:1 [w]ver 9 **4:11** [x]S Ex 3:1; S 19:17 [y]S Ex 19:18 [z]S Ex 19:9; Ps 18:11; 97:2 **4:12** [a]Ex 20:22; Dt 5:4,22; S Mt 3:17; Heb 12:19 [b]Jn 5:37 [c]S Ex 19:9 **4:13** [d]Dt 9:9; Ro 9:4 [e]S Ex 24:12 **4:14** [f]S Ex 21:1 **4:15** [g]Isa 40:18; 41:22-24 [h]S Ex 3:1 [i]Jos 23:11; Mal 2:15 **4:16** [j]S Ge 6:11-12; Dt 9:12; 31:29; 32:5; Jdg 2:19 [k]Ex 20:4-5; Ro 1:23 **4:17** [l]Ro 1:23 **4:19** [m]Dt 17:3; 2Ki 23:11; Job 31:26; Jer 8:2; 43:13; Eze 8:16 [n]S Ge 1:16 [o]S Ge 2:1; S 37:9; Ro 1:25 [p]Dt 13:5 [q]S Nu 25:3 **4:20** [r]S Ex 1:13 [s]S Ex 3:10 [t]S Ge 17:7; S Ex 8:22; S 34:9; Tit 2:14 **4:21** [u]Nu 20:12; Dt 1:37 **4:22** [v]Nu 27:13-14 [w]Dt 3:25 **4:23** [x]ver 9 [y]S Ex 20:4

4:24 [z]S Ex 15:7; S 19:18; Heb 12:29 [a]S Ex 20:5 **4:25** [b]ver 16 [c]ver 23 [d]1Ki 11:6; 15:26; 16:25,30; 2Ki 17:2,17; 21:2 **4:26** [e]Ge 31:50; Pr 14:5 [f]Dt 30:18-19; 31:28; 32:1; Ps 50:4; Isa 1:2; 34:1; Jer 6:19; Mic 6:2 [g]Dt 6:15; 7:4 **4:27** [h]S Lev 26:33; Dt 28:36,64; 29:28; 1Ki 8:46; 2Ki 17:6; Ps 44:11; 106:27; Jer 3:8; Mic 1:16 [i]Isa 17:6; 21:17; Ob 1:5 **4:28** [j]Dt 13:2; 28:36, 64; 1Sa 26:19; Jer 5:19; 16:13; Ac 19:26 [k]Dt 29:17 [l]Ps 115:4-8; 135:15-18; Isa 8:19; 26:14; 44:17-20; Rev 9:20 **4:29** [m]1Sa 13:12; 2Ki 13:4; 2Ch 7:14; 15:4; 33:12; Ps 78:34; 119:58; Isa 45:19,22; 55:6, Jer 26:19; Da 9:13; Hos 3:5; Am 5:4

you look for him with all your heart[a]
and with all your soul.[b] 30When you
are in distress[c] and all these things
have happened to you, then in later
days[d] you will return[e] to the LORD
your God and obey him. 31For the LORD
your God is a merciful[f] God; he will
not abandon[g] or destroy[h] you or for-
get[i] the covenant with your fore-
fathers, which he confirmed to them by
oath.

The LORD Is God

32Ask[j] now about the former days,
long before your time, from the day
God created man on the earth;[k] ask
from one end of the heavens to the
other.[l] Has anything so great[m] as this
ever happened, or has anything like it
ever been heard of? 33Has any other
people heard the voice of God[i] speak-
ing out of fire, as you have, and lived?[n]
34Has any god ever tried to take for
himself one nation out of another na-
tion,[o] by testings,[p] by miraculous
signs[q] and wonders,[r] by war, by a
mighty hand and an outstretched
arm,[s] or by great and awesome
deeds,[t] like all the things the LORD
your God did for you in Egypt before
your very eyes?

35You were shown these things so
that you might know that the LORD is
God; besides him there is no other.[u]
36From heaven he made you hear his
voice[v] to discipline[w] you. On earth he
showed you his great fire, and you
heard his words from out of the fire.
37Because he loved[x] your forefathers
and chose their descendants after
them, he brought you out of Egypt by
his Presence and his great strength,[y]
38to drive out before you nations
greater and stronger than you and to
bring you into their land to give it to
you for your inheritance,[z] as it is to-
day.

39Acknowledge[a] and take to heart
this day that the LORD is God in heaven
above and on the earth below. There is
no other.[b] 40Keep[c] his decrees and
commands,[d] which I am giving you to-
day, so that it may go well[e] with you
and your children after you and that
you may live long[f] in the land the LORD
your God gives you for all time.

Cities of Refuge

4:41-43Ref — Nu 35:6-34; Dt 19:1-14; Jos 20:1-9

41Then Moses set aside three cities
east of the Jordan, 42to which anyone
who had killed a person could flee if he
had unintentionally[g] killed his neigh-
bor without malice aforethought. He
could flee into one of these cities and
save his life. 43The cities were these: Be-
zer in the desert plateau, for the Reu-
benites; Ramoth[h] in Gilead, for the
Gadites; and Golan in Bashan, for the
Manassites.

Introduction to the Law

44This is the law Moses set before the
Israelites. 45These are the stipulations,
decrees and laws Moses gave them
when they came out of Egypt 46and
were in the valley near Beth Peor east
of the Jordan, in the land of Sihon[i]
king of the Amorites, who reigned in
Heshbon and was defeated by Moses
and the Israelites as they came out of
Egypt. 47They took possession of his
land and the land of Og king of Ba-
shan, the two Amorite kings east of the
Jordan. 48This land extended from Aro-
er[j] on the rim of the Arnon Gorge to
Mount Siyon[j][k] (that is, Hermon[l]),
49and included all the Arabah east of
the Jordan, as far as the Sea of the Ara-
bah,[k] below the slopes of Pisgah.

The Ten Commandments

5:6-21pp — Ex 20:1-17

5 Moses summoned all Israel and
said:

Hear, O Israel, the decrees and
laws[m] I declare in your hearing today.
Learn them and be sure to follow them.
2The LORD our God made a covenant[n]
with us at Horeb.[o] 3It was not with our
fathers that the LORD made this cov-
enant, but with us,[p] with all of us who
are alive here today.[q] 4The LORD
spoke[r] to you face to face[s] out of the
fire[t] on the mountain. 5(At that time I
stood between[u] the LORD and you to
declare to you the word of the LORD,
because you were afraid[v] of the fire
and did not go up the mountain.) And
he said:

6"I am the LORD your God, who
brought you out of Egypt,[w]
out of the land of slavery.[x]
7"You shall have no other gods be-
fore[l] me.

4:29 [a]1Sa 7:3; 1Ki 8:48; Jer 29:13 [b]Dt 6:5; 30:1-3,10 **4:30** [c]Lev 26:41; Dt 31:17,21; Ps 4:1; 18:6; 46:1; 59:16; 107:6 [d]Dt 31:29; Jer 23:20; Hos 3:5; Heb 1:2 [e]Dt 30:2; 1Ki 8:48; Ne 1:9; Jer 3:1,12,22; 4:1; 18:11; Joel 2:12 **4:31** [f]Ex 34:6; Ne 9:31; Ps 111:4 [g]Dt 31:6,8; Jos 1:5; 1Ki 8:57; 1Ch 28:9,20; Ps 9:10; 27:9; 71:9; Isa 42:16; Heb 13:5 [h]S Lev 26:44 [i]Lev 26:45 **4:32** [j]Dt 32:7 [k]S Ge 1:27; Isa 45:12 [l]Dt 28:64; 30:1; Jer 9:16; Mt 24:31 [m]ver 7; 2Sa 7:23 **4:33** [n]Ex 20:22; Dt 5:24-26 **4:34** [o]Ex 14:30 [p]Isa 7:12 [q]S Ex 4:17 [r]Dt 7:19; 26:8; 29:3; 1Ch 16:12; Ps 9:1; 40:5; Jer 32:20 [s]S Ex 3:20; Dt 5:15; 6:21; 15:15 [t]Ex 15:11; Dt 34:12; Ps 45:4; 65:5 **4:35** [u]ver 39; Ex 8:10; Dt 7:9; 32:4,12; 1Sa 2:2; 1Ki 8:60; 2Ki 19:19; Isa 43:10; Mk 12:32 **4:36** [v]S Ex 19:19; Heb 12:25 [w]Dt 8:5 **4:37** [x]Dt 7:8; 10:15; 23:5; 33:3; Ps 44:3; Jer 31:3; Hos 11:1; Mal 1:2; 2:11 [y]S Ex 3:20; S 33:14 **4:38** [z]Nu 34:14-15; Dt 7:1; 9:5 **4:39** [a]Ex 8:10 [b]S ver 35; Ex 15:11 **4:40** [c]S Lev 22:31 [d]ver 1; S Ge 26:5; Dt 5:29; 11:1; Ps 105:45; Isa 48:18 [e]Dt 5:16; 12:25; Isa 3:10 [f]S Ex 23:26; Eph 6:2-3

4:42 [g]S Ex 21:13 **4:43** [h]Jos 21:38; 1Ki 22:3; 2Ki 8:28; 9:14 **4:46** [i]Nu 21:26 **4:48** [j]Dt 2:36 [k]Dt 3:9 [l]S Dt 3:8 **5:1** [m]S Ex 18:20 **5:2** [n]Ex 19:5; Jer 11:2; Heb 9:15; 10:15-17 [o]S Ge 17:9; S Ex 3:1

5:3 [p]Dt 11:2-7 [q]Nu 26:63-65; Heb 8:9 **5:4** [r]S Dt 4:12 [s]S Nu 14:14 [t]S Ex 19:18 **5:5** [u]Gal 3:19 [v]S Ge 3:10; Heb 12:18-21 **5:6** [w]S Ex 13:3; S 29:46 [x]Lev 26:1; Dt 6:4; Ps 81:10

[i]33 Or *of a god* [j]48 Hebrew; Syriac (see also Deut. 3:9) *Sirion* [k]49 That is, the Dead Sea [l]7 Or *besides*

8 "You shall not make for yourself
an idol in the form of anything
in heaven above or on the
earth beneath or in the waters
below.[a] 9 You shall not bow
down to them or worship
them; for I, the LORD your
God, am a jealous God, pun-
ishing the children for the sin
of the fathers[b] to the third and
fourth generation of those
who hate me,[c] 10 but showing
love to a thousand[d] ⌊genera-
tions⌋ of those who love me
and keep my command-
ments.[e]
11 "You shall not misuse the name[f]
of the LORD your God, for the
LORD will not hold anyone
guiltless who misuses his
name.[g]
12 "Observe the Sabbath day by
keeping it holy,[h] as the LORD
your God has commanded
you. 13 Six days you shall labor
and do all your work, 14 but the
seventh day[i] is a Sabbath to
the LORD your God. On it you
shall not do any work, neither
you, nor your son or daugh-
ter, nor your manservant or
maidservant,[j] nor your ox,
your donkey or any of your
animals, nor the alien within
your gates, so that your man-
servant and maidservant may
rest, as you do.[k] 15 Remember
that you were slaves[l] in
Egypt and that the LORD your
God brought you out of there
with a mighty hand[m] and an
outstretched arm.[n] Therefore
the LORD your God has com-
manded you to observe the
Sabbath day.
16 "Honor your father[o] and your
mother,[p] as the LORD your
God has commanded you, so
that you may live long[q] and
that it may go well with you in
the land the LORD your God is
giving you.
17 "You shall not murder.[r]
18 "You shall not commit adultery.[s]
19 "You shall not steal.[t]
20 "You shall not give false testimony
against your neighbor.[u]
21 "You shall not covet your neigh-
bor's wife. You shall not set
your desire on your neigh-
bor's house or land, his man-
servant or maidservant, his ox
or donkey, or anything that
belongs to your neighbor."[v]

22 These are the commandments the
LORD proclaimed in a loud voice to your
whole assembly there on the mountain
from out of the fire, the cloud and the
deep darkness;[w] and he added nothing
more. Then he wrote them on two
stone tablets[x] and gave them to me.
23 When you heard the voice out of
the darkness, while the mountain was
ablaze with fire, all the leading men of
your tribes and your elders[y] came to
me. 24 And you said, "The LORD our
God has shown us[z] his glory and his
majesty,[a] and we have heard his voice
from the fire. Today we have seen that
a man can live even if God speaks with
him.[b] 25 But now, why should we die?
This great fire will consume us, and we
will die if we hear the voice of the LORD
our God any longer.[c] 26 For what mor-
tal man has ever heard the voice of the
living God speaking out of fire, as we
have, and survived?[d] 27 Go near and lis-
ten to all that the LORD our God says.[e]
Then tell us whatever the LORD our God
tells you. We will listen and obey."[f]
28 The LORD heard you when you
spoke to me and the LORD said to me, "I
have heard what this people said to
you. Everything they said was good.[g]
29 Oh, that their hearts would be in-
clined to fear me[h] and keep all my
commands[i] always, so that it might go
well with them and their children for-
ever![j]
30 "Go, tell them to return to their
tents. 31 But you stay here[k] with me so
that I may give you all the commands,
decrees and laws you are to teach them
to follow in the land I am giving them
to possess."
32 So be careful to do what the LORD
your God has commanded you;[l] do
not turn aside to the right or to the
left.[m] 33 Walk in all the way that the
LORD your God has commanded you,[n]
so that you may live and prosper and
prolong your days[o] in the land that
you will possess.

Love the LORD Your God

6 These are the commands, decrees
and laws the LORD your God direct-
ed me to teach you to observe in the
land that you are crossing the Jordan to
possess, 2 so that you, your children
and their children after them may fear[p]

5:8 [a]Lev 26:1; Dt 4:15-18; Ps 78:58; 97:7 **5:9** [b]S Nu 26:11 [c]Ex 34:7; S Nu 10:35; 14:18 **5:10** [d]S Ex 34:7 [e]Nu 14:18; Dt 7:9; Ne 1:5; Jer 32:18; Da 9:4 **5:11** [f]Ps 139:20 [g]Lev 19:12; Dt 10:20; Mt 5:33-37 **5:12** [h]Ex 16:23-30; 31:13-17; Mk 2:27-28 **5:14** [i]S Ge 2:2; Mt 12:2; Mk 2:27; Heb 4:4 [j]Job 31:13; Jer 34:9-11 [k]Jer 17:21,24 **5:15** [l]S Ge 15:13 [m]Ex 6:1; Ps 108:6; Jer 32:21 [n]S Dt 4:34 **5:16** [o]Mal 1:6 [p]Ex 21:17; Lev 19:3; Eze 22:7; Mt 15:4*; 19:19*; Mk 7:10*; 10:9*; Lk 18:20*; Eph 6:2-3* [q]S Dt 4:40; 11:9; Pr 3:1-2 **5:17** [r]Ge 9:6; Lev 24:17; Ecc 3:3; Jer 40:15; 41:3; Mt 5:21-22*; 19:19*; Mk 10:19*; Lk 18:20*; Ro 13:9*; Jas 2:11* **5:18** [s]Lev 20:10; Mt 5:27-30; 19:18*; Mk 10:19*; Lk 18:20*; Ro 13:9*; Jas 2:11* **5:19** [t]Lev 19:11; Mt 19:19*; Mk 10:19*; Lk 18:20*; Ro 13:9* **5:20** [u]S Ex 23:1; Mt 19:18*; Mk 10:19*; Lk 18:20* **5:21** [v]Ro 7:7*; 13:9* **5:22** [w]S Ex 20:21 [x]S Ex 24:12 **5:23** [y]S Ex 3:16 **5:24** [z]Dt 4:34; 8:5; 11:2; Isa 53:4 [a]S Dt 3:24 [b]Ex 19:19 **5:25** [c]Ex 20:18-19; Dt 18:16; Heb 12:19 **5:26** [d]S Ex 33:20; Dt 4:33; Jdg 6:22-23; 13:22; Isa 6:5 **5:27** [e]S Ex 19:8 [f]S Ex 24:7 **5:28** [g]Dt 18:17 **5:29** [h]Ps 81:8,13 [i]Jos 22:5; Ps 78:7 [j]ver 33; S Dt 4:1, 40; 12:25; 22:7 **5:31** [k]Ex 24:12 **5:32** [l]S Dt 4:29; 10:12 [m]Dt 17:11, 20; 28:14; Jos 1:7; 1Ki 15:5; 2Ki 22:2; Pr 4:27 **5:33** [n]Isa 3:10; Jer 7:23; 38:20; S Lk 1:6 [o]S ver 29 **6:2** [p]S Ex 20:20; S 1Sa 12:24

the LORD your God as long as you live[a] by keeping all his decrees and commands[b] that I give you, and so that you may enjoy long life.[c] 3 Hear, O Israel, and be careful to obey[d] so that it may go well with you and that you may increase greatly[e] in a land flowing with milk and honey,[f] just as the LORD, the God of your fathers, promised[g] you.

4 Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one.[m][h] 5 Love[i] the LORD your God with all your heart[j] and with all your soul and with all your strength.[k] 6 These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts.[l] 7 Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.[m] 8 Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads.[n] 9 Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.[o]

10 When the LORD your God brings you into the land he swore to your fathers, to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, to give you—a land with large, flourishing cities you did not build,[p] 11 houses filled with all kinds of good things you did not provide, wells you did not dig,[q] and vineyards and olive groves you did not plant—then when you eat and are satisfied,[r] 12 be careful that you do not forget[s] the LORD, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery.

13 Fear the LORD[t] your God, serve him only[u] and take your oaths[v] in his name.[w] 14 Do not follow other gods, the gods of the peoples around you; 15 for the LORD your God[x], who is among you, is a jealous God and his anger will burn against you, and he will destroy you from the face of the land. 16 Do not test the LORD your God[y] as you did at Massah. 17 Be sure to keep[z] the commands of the LORD your God and the stipulations and decrees he has given you.[a] 18 Do what is right and good in the LORD's sight,[b] so that it may go well[c] with you and you may go in and take over the good land that the LORD promised on oath to your forefathers, 19 thrusting out all your enemies[d] before you, as the LORD said.

20 In the future, when your son asks you,[e] "What is the meaning of the stipulations, decrees and laws the LORD our God has commanded you?" 21 tell him: "We were slaves of Pharaoh in Egypt, but the LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand.[f] 22 Before our eyes the LORD sent miraculous signs and wonders—great and terrible—upon Egypt and Pharaoh and his whole household. 23 But he brought us out from there to bring us in and give us the land that he promised on oath to our forefathers. 24 The LORD commanded us to obey all these decrees and to fear the LORD our God,[g] so that we might always prosper and be kept alive, as is the case today.[h] 25 And if we are careful to obey all this law[i] before the LORD our God, as he has commanded us, that will be our righteousness.[j]"

Driving Out the Nations

7 When the LORD your God brings you into the land you are entering to possess[k] and drives out before you many nations[l]—the Hittites,[m] Girgashites,[n] Amorites,[o] Canaanites, Perizzites,[p] Hivites[q] and Jebusites,[r] seven nations larger and stronger than you— 2 and when the LORD your God has delivered[s] them over to you and you have defeated them, then you must destroy[t] them totally.[n][u] Make no treaty[v] with them, and show them no mercy.[w] 3 Do not intermarry with them.[x] Do not give your daughters to their sons or take their daughters for your sons, 4 for they will turn your sons away from following me to serve other gods,[y] and the LORD's anger will burn against you and will quickly destroy[z] you. 5 This is what you are to do to them: Break down their altars, smash their sacred stones, cut down their Asherah poles[o][a] and burn their idols in the fire.[b] 6 For you are a people holy[c] to the LORD your God.[d] The LORD your God has chosen[e] you out of all the peoples on the face of the earth to be his people, his treasured possession.[f]

7 The LORD did not set his affection on you and choose you because you were more numerous[g] than other peoples, for you were the fewest[h] of all peo-

6:2 [a]Dt 4:9 [b]S Ge 26:5 [c]S Ex 20:12 **6:3** [d]S Ex 19:5 [e]Ge 15:5; Dt 5:33 [f]S Ex 3:8; Dt 32:13-14 [g]Ex 13:5 **6:4** [h]Dt 4:35,39; Ne 9:6; Ps 86:10; Isa 44:6; Zec 14:9; Mk 12:29*; Jn 10:30; 1Co 8:4; Eph 4:6; Jas 2:19 **6:5** [i]Dt 11:1,22; Mt 22:37*; Mk 12:30*; Lk 10:27* [j]1Sa 12:24 [k]Dt 4:29; 10:12; Jos 22:5 **6:6** [l]ver 8; Dt 11:18; 30:14; 32:46; Ps 26:2; 37:31; 40:8; 119:11; Pr 3:3; Isa 51:7; Jer 17:1; 31:33; Eze 40:4 **6:7** [m]Dt 4:9; 11:19; Pr 22:6; Eph 6:4 **6:8** [n]S ver 6; S Ex 13:9; Mt 23:5 **6:9** [o]Dt 11:20 **6:10** [p]S Ge 11:4; Dt 12:29; 19:1; Jos 24:13; Ps 105:44 **6:11** [q]Jer 2:13 [r]S Lev 26:5; Dt 8:10; 14:29; 31:20 **6:12** [s]Dt 4:9,23; 2Ki 17:38; Ps 44:17; 78:7; 103:2 **6:13** [t]Ps 33:8; 34:9 [u]Dt 13:4; 1Sa 7:3; Jer 44:10; Mt 4:10*; Lk 4:4*; 4:8 [v]1Sa 20:3 [w]S Ex 20:7; S Mt 5:33 **6:15** [x]Dt 4:24; 5:9 **6:16** [y]S Ex 17:2; Mt 4:7*; Lk 4:12* **6:17** [z]S Lev 26:3 [a]Dt 11:22; Ps 119:4,56,100, 134,168 **6:18** [b]2Ki 18:6; Isa 36:7; 38:3 [c]Dt 4:40 **6:19** [d]Ex 23:27; Jos 21:44; Ps 78:53; 107:2; 136:24 **6:20** [e]S Ex 10:2 **6:21** [f]S Dt 4:34 **6:24** [g]Dt 10:12; 30:6; Ps 86:11; Jer 32:39 [h]Ps 27:12; 41:2; S Ro 10:5 **6:25** [i]Ps 103:18; 119:34,55 [j]Dt 24:13; S Ro 9:31 **7:1** [k]S Lev 14:34; S Dt 4:38 [l]Dt 20:16-18; 31:3 [m]Ge 15:20 [n]S Ge 10:16 [o]S Dt 1:7 [p]Ge 13:7 [q]S Ge 10:17 [r]Jos 3:10 **7:2** [s]S Dt 2:33 [t]S Dt 2:34 [u]Nu 31:17; Dt 33:27; Jos 11:11 [v]S Ex 23:32 [w]ver 16; Dt 13:8; 19:13; 25:12 **7:3** [x]Ex 34:15-16; Jos 22:16; Da 9:7 **7:4** [y]Jdg 3:6 [z]S Dt 4:26 **7:5** [a]S Ex 34:13; Dt 16:21 [b]S Ex 23:24 **7:6** [c]Ex 19:6; S Lev 27:30 [d]Dt 26:19; Ps 30:4; 37:28; 50:5; 52:9 [e]Dt 14:2; 1Ki 3:8; Isa 41:9; Eze 20:5 [f]S Ge 17:7; S Ex 8:22; S 34:9; Isa 43:1; Ro 9:4; Tit 2:14 **7:7** [g]S Ge 22:17 [h]Ge 34:30

[m]4 Or *The LORD our God is one LORD;* or *The LORD is our God, the LORD is one;* or *The LORD is our God, the LORD alone* [n]2 The Hebrew term refers to the irrevocable giving over of things or persons to the LORD, often by totally destroying them; also in verse 26. [o]5 That is, symbols of the goddess Asherah; here and elsewhere in Deuteronomy

ples.[a] 8But it was because the LORD
loved[b] you and kept the oath he
swore[c] to your forefathers that he
brought you out with a mighty hand[d]
and redeemed[e] you from the land of
slavery,[f] from the power of Pharaoh
king of Egypt. 9Know therefore that the
LORD your God is God;[g] he is the faith-
ful God,[h] keeping his covenant of
love[i] to a thousand generations[j] of
those who love him and keep his com-
mands.[k] 10But

those who hate him he will repay to
their face by destruction;
he will not be slow to repay to
their face those who hate
him.[l]

11Therefore, take care to follow the
commands, decrees and laws I give
you today.

12If you pay attention to these laws
and are careful to follow them, then the
LORD your God will keep his covenant
of love with you, as he swore to your
forefathers.[m] 13He will love you and
bless you[n] and increase your num-
bers.[o] He will bless the fruit of your
womb,[p] the crops of your land—your
grain, new wine[q] and oil[r]—the calves
of your herds and the lambs of your
flocks in the land that he swore to your
forefathers to give you.[s] 14You will be
blessed more than any other people;
none of your men or women will be
childless, nor any of your livestock
without young.[t] 15The LORD will keep
you free from every disease.[u] He will
not inflict on you the horrible diseases
you knew in Egypt,[v] but he will inflict
them on all who hate you.[w] 16You must
destroy all the peoples the LORD your
God gives over to you.[x] Do not look on
them with pity[y] and do not serve their
gods,[z] for that will be a snare[a] to you.

17You may say to yourselves, "These
nations are stronger than we are. How
can we drive them out?[b]" 18But do not
be afraid[c] of them; remember well
what the LORD your God did to Pharaoh
and to all Egypt.[d] 19You saw with your
own eyes the great trials, the miracu-
lous signs and wonders, the mighty
hand[e] and outstretched arm, with
which the LORD your God brought you
out. The LORD your God will do the
same to all the peoples you now fear.[f]
20Moreover, the LORD your God will
send the hornet[g] among them until
even the survivors who hide from you
have perished. 21Do not be terrified by
them, for the LORD your God, who is

7:7 [a]Dt 4:37; 10:22
7:8 [b]S Dt 4:37; 1Ki 10:9; 2Ch 2:11; Ps 44:3 [c]Ex 32:13; S Nu 14:8; Ro 11:28 [d]S Ex 3:20 [e]S Ex 6:6 [f]S Ex 13:14
7:9 [g]S Dt 4:35 [h]Ps 18:25; 33:4; 108:4; 145:13; 146:6; Isa 49:7; Jer 42:5; Hos 11:12; S 1Co 1:9 [i]ver 12; 1Ki 8:23; 2Ch 6:14; Ne 1:5; 9:32 [j]S Ex 20:6 [k]S Dt 5:10
7:10 [l]S Lev 26:28; S Nu 10:35; Na 1:2
7:12 [m]Lev 26:3-13; Dt 28:1-14; Ps 105:8-9; Mic 7:20
7:13 [n]Ps 11:5; 146:8; Pr 15:9; Isa 51:1; Jn 14:21 [o]S Ge 17:6; Ex 1:7; Dt 1:10; 13:17; 30:5; Ps 107:38 [p]S Ge 49:25 [q]S Ge 27:28 [r]S Nu 18:12 [s]Dt 28:4
7:14 [t]Ex 23:26
7:15 [u]S Ex 15:26 [v]S Ex 9:9 [w]S Ex 23:25; Dt 30:8-10
7:16 [x]ver 24; Jos 6:2; 10:26 [y]S ver 2 [z]Jdg 3:6; Ezr 9:1; Ps 106:36 [a]ver 25; S Ex 10:7
7:17 [b]Nu 33:53
7:18 [c]S Nu 14:9; S Dt 1:21,29 [d]Ps 105:5; 119:52
7:19 [e]Ps 136:12 [f]Dt 4:34
7:20 [g]S Ex 23:28
7:21 [h]S Ge 17:7; Jos 3:10 [i]Dt 10:17; Ne 1:5; 9:32; Ps 47:2; 66:3; 68:35; Isa 9:6; Da 9:4
7:22 [j]Ex 23:28-30
7:23 [k]Ex 23:27; Jos 10:10
7:24 [l]Jos 10:24; Ps 110:5 [m]S ver 16 [n]S Ex 23:31; Dt 11:25; Jos 1:5; 10:8; 23:9 [o]Jos 21:44
7:25 [p]S Ex 4:14; S 32:20 [q]Ex 20:17; Jos 7:21 [r]S ver 16 [s]Dt 17:1
7:26 [t]Lev 27:28-29
8:1 [u]Dt 4:1 [v]S Ex 19:5; Job 36:11; Ps 16:11; Eze 20:19
8:2 [w]Dt 29:5; Ps 136:16; Am 2:10 [x]S Ge 22:1
8:3 [y]2Ch 36:12; Ps 44:9; Pr 18:12; Isa 2:11;

among you,[h] is a great and awesome
God.[i] 22The LORD your God will drive
out those nations before you, little by
little.[j] You will not be allowed to elimi-
nate them all at once, or the wild ani-
mals will multiply around you. 23But
the LORD your God will deliver them
over to you, throwing them into great
confusion until they are destroyed.[k]
24He will give their kings[l] into your
hand,[m] and you will wipe out their
names from under heaven. No one will
be able to stand up against you;[n] you
will destroy them.[o] 25The images of
their gods you are to burn[p] in the fire.
Do not covet[q] the silver and gold on
them, and do not take it for yourselves,
or you will be ensnared[r] by it, for it is
detestable[s] to the LORD your God. 26Do
not bring a detestable thing into your
house or you, like it, will be set apart
for destruction.[t] Utterly abhor and de-
test it, for it is set apart for destruction.

Do Not Forget the LORD

8 Be careful to follow every command
I am giving you today, so that you
may live[u] and increase and may enter
and possess the land that the LORD
promised on oath to your forefathers.[v]
2Remember how the LORD your God
led[w] you all the way in the desert these
forty years, to humble you and to test[x]
you in order to know what was in your
heart, whether or not you would keep
his commands. 3He humbled[y] you,
causing you to hunger and then feed-
ing you with manna,[z] which neither
you nor your fathers had known, to
teach[a] you that man does not live on
bread[b] alone but on every word that
comes from the mouth[c] of the LORD.[d]
4Your clothes did not wear out and
your feet did not swell during these
forty years.[e] 5Know then in your heart
that as a man disciplines his son, so the
LORD your God disciplines you.[f]

6Observe the commands of the LORD
your God, walking in his ways[g] and
revering him.[h] 7For the LORD your God
is bringing you into a good land[i]—a
land with streams and pools of water,
with springs flowing in the valleys and
hills;[j] 8a land with wheat and barley,[k]
vines[l] and fig trees,[m] pomegranates,
olive oil and honey;[n] 9a land where

Jer 44:10 [z]S Ex 16:4 [a]1Ki 8:36; Ps 25:5; 94:12; 119:171 [b]ver 9; S Ge 3:19; Job 23:12; Ps 104:15; Pr 28:21; Isa 51:14; Jer 42:14 [c]Job 22:22; Ps 119:13; 138:4 [d]S Ex 16:2-3; Mt 4:4*; Lk 4:4*
8:4 [e]Dt 29:5; Ne 9:21 **8:5** [f]Dt 4:36; 2Sa 7:14; Job 5:17; 33:19; Pr 3:11-12; Heb 12:5-11; Rev 3:19 **8:6** [g]S Ex 33:13; 1Ki 3:14; Ps 81:13; 95:10 [h]Dt 5:33 **8:7** [i]Ps 106:24; Jer 3:19; Eze 20:6 [j]Dt 11:9-12; Jer 2:7 **8:8** [k]S Ex 9:31 [l]S Ge 49:11 [m]S Nu 13:23; S 1Ki 4:25 [n]Dt 32:13; Ps 81:16

bread will not be scarce and you will
lack nothing; a land where the rocks
are iron and you can dig copper out of
the hills.
10When you have eaten and are satis-
fied, praise the LORD your God for the
good land he has given you. 11Be care-
ful that you do not forget the LORD
your God, failing to observe his com-
mands, his laws and his decrees that I
am giving you this day. 12Otherwise,
when you eat and are satisfied, when
you build fine houses and settle
down, 13and when your herds and
flocks grow large and your silver and
gold increase and all you have is multi-
plied, 14then your heart will become
proud and you will forget the LORD
your God, who brought you out of
Egypt, out of the land of slavery. 15He
led you through the vast and dreadful
desert, that thirsty and waterless
land, with its venomous snakes and
scorpions. He brought you water out of
hard rock. 16He gave you manna to
eat in the desert, something your fa-
thers had never known, to humble
and to test you so that in the end it
might go well with you. 17You may say
to yourself, "My power and the
strength of my hands have produced
this wealth for me." 18But remember
the LORD your God, for it is he who
gives you the ability to produce
wealth, and so confirms his covenant,
which he swore to your forefathers, as
it is today.
19If you ever forget the LORD your
God and follow other gods and wor-
ship and bow down to them, I testify
against you today that you will surely
be destroyed. 20Like the nations the
LORD destroyed before you, so you will
be destroyed for not obeying the LORD
your God.

Not Because of Israel's Righteousness

9 Hear, O Israel. You are now about
to cross the Jordan to go in and
dispossess nations greater and stronger
than you, with large cities that have
walls up to the sky. 2The people are
strong and tall—Anakites! You know
about them and have heard it said:
"Who can stand up against the Ana-
kites?" 3But be assured today that the
LORD your God is the one who goes
across ahead of you like a devouring
fire. He will destroy them; he will
subdue them before you. And you will
drive them out and annihilate them
quickly,[b] as the LORD has promised
you.
4After the LORD your God has driven
them out before you, do not say to
yourself,[c] "The LORD has brought me
here to take possession of this land be-
cause of my righteousness." No, it is
on account of the wickedness[d] of these
nations[e] that the LORD is going to drive
them out before you. 5It is not because
of your righteousness or your integri-
ty[f] that you are going in to take
possession of their land; but on account
of the wickedness[g] of these nations,[h]
the LORD your God will drive them out[i]
before you, to accomplish what he
swore[j] to your fathers, to Abraham,
Isaac and Jacob.[k] 6Understand, then,
that it is not because of your righteous-
ness that the LORD your God is giving
you this good land to possess, for you
are a stiff-necked people.[l]

The Golden Calf

7Remember this and never forget
how you provoked[m] the LORD your God
to anger in the desert. From the day
you left Egypt until you arrived here,
you have been rebellious[n] against the
LORD.[o] 8At Horeb you aroused the
LORD's wrath[p] so that he was angry
enough to destroy you.[q] 9When I went
up on the mountain to receive the tab-
lets of stone, the tablets of the cov-
enant[r] that the LORD had made with
you, I stayed on the mountain forty
days[s] and forty nights; I ate no bread
and drank no water.[t] 10The LORD gave
me two stone tablets inscribed by the
finger of God.[u] On them were all the
commandments the LORD proclaimed to
you on the mountain out of the fire, on
the day of the assembly.[v]
11At the end of the forty days and
forty nights,[w] the LORD gave me the
two stone tablets,[x] the tablets of the
covenant. 12Then the LORD told me,
"Go down from here at once, because
your people whom you brought out of
Egypt have become corrupt.[y] They
have turned away quickly[z] from what I
commanded them and have made a
cast idol for themselves."
13And the LORD said to me, "I have
seen this people[a], and they are a stiff-
necked people indeed! 14Let me alone,[b]
so that I may destroy them and blot
out[c] their name from under heaven.[d]
And I will make you into a nation
stronger and more numerous than
they."
15So I turned and went down from

the mountain while it was ablaze with
fire. And the two tablets of the cov-
enant were in my hands.[p][a] 16When I
looked, I saw that you had sinned
against the LORD your God; you had
made for yourselves an idol cast in the
shape of a calf.[b] You had turned aside
quickly from the way that the LORD had
commanded you. 17So I took the two
tablets and threw them out of my
hands, breaking them to pieces before
your eyes.

18Then once again I fell[c] prostrate be-
fore the LORD for forty days and forty
nights; I ate no bread and drank no
water,[d] because of all the sin you had
committed,[e] doing what was evil in
the LORD's sight and so provoking him
to anger. 19I feared the anger and wrath
of the LORD, for he was angry enough
with you to destroy you.[f] But again
the LORD listened to me.[g] 20And the
LORD was angry enough with Aaron to
destroy him, but at that time I prayed
for Aaron too. 21Also I took that sinful
thing of yours, the calf you had made,
and burned it in the fire. Then I
crushed it and ground it to powder as
fine as dust[h] and threw the dust into a
stream that flowed down the moun-
tain.[i]

22You also made the LORD angry[j] at
Taberah,[k] at Massah[l] and at Kibroth
Hattaavah.[m]

23And when the LORD sent you out
from Kadesh Barnea,[n] he said, "Go up
and take possession[o] of the land I have
given you." But you rebelled[p] against
the command of the LORD your God.
You did not trust[q] him or obey him.
24You have been rebellious against the
LORD ever since I have known you.[r]

25I lay prostrate before the LORD those
forty days and forty nights[s] because
the LORD had said he would destroy
you.[t] 26I prayed to the LORD and said,
"O Sovereign LORD, do not destroy
your people,[u] your own inheritance[v]
that you redeemed[w] by your great
power and brought out of Egypt with a
mighty hand.[x] 27Remember your ser-
vants Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Over-
look the stubbornness[y] of this people,
their wickedness and their sin. 28Other-
wise, the country[z] from which you
brought us will say, 'Because the LORD
was not able to take them into the land
he had promised them, and because he
hated them,[a] he brought them out to
put them to death in the desert.'[b] 29But
they are your people,[c] your inheri-
tance[d] that you brought out by your

9:15 [a]S Ex 32:15
9:16 [b]S Ex 32:4
9:18 [c]S Ex 34:28 [d]ver 9 [e]S Ex 32:31
9:19 [f]S Ex 32:14; Heb 12:21* [g]ver 26; Ex 34:10; S Nu 11:2; 1Sa 7:9; Jer 15:1
9:21 [h]Ps 18:42; Isa 29:5; 40:15 [i]Ex 32:20; Isa 2:18; Mic 1:7
9:22 [j]S Nu 1:53 [k]Nu 11:3 [l]S Ex 17:7 [m]Nu 11:34
9:23 [n]S Dt 1:2 [o]Dt 1:21 [p]S Nu 14:9 [q]S Dt 1:32; Ps 106:24
9:24 [r]S Dt 8:17
9:25 [s]S Ge 7:4 [t]ver 18; S Ex 33:17
9:26 [u]S Ex 33:13 [v]S Ex 34:9 [w]S Ex 6:6; Dt 15:15; 2Sa 7:23; Ps 78:35 [x]S ver 19; S Ex 32:11
9:27 [y]ver 6; S Ex 32:9
9:28 [z]Dt 32:27 [a]S Dt 1:27 [b]S Ex 32:12; Jos 7:9
9:29 [c]S Ex 33:13 [d]S Ex 34:9; Dt 32:9
[e]Dt 4:34; Ne 1:10; Jer 27:5; 32:17
10:1 [f]Ex 34:1-2
10:2 [g]Ex 25:16, 21; 2Ch 5:10; 6:11
10:3 [h]Ex 37:1-9 [i]Ex 34:4
10:4 [j]S Ex 24:12; S 34:28 [k]Ex 20:1 [l]S Dt 9:10
10:5 [m]S Ex 19:11 [n]S Ex 25:10; S 1Sa 3:3 [o]S Ex 25:21 [p]1Ki 8:9
10:6 [q]Nu 33:30 [r]S Nu 27:13 [s]S Ex 6:23 [t]S Nu 20:25-28
10:7 [u]Nu 33:32-34; Ps 42:1; SS 5:12; Isa 32:2
10:8 [v]S Nu 3:6 [w]S Nu 10:33 [x]S Nu 16:9 [y]S Ge 48:20 [z]1Ch 23:26
10:9 [a]S Nu 18:20
10:10 [b]S Ex 33:17
10:12 [c]Mic 6:8 [d]S Ex 20:20 [e]1Ki 2:3; 3:3; 9:4 [f]Dt 5:33; 6:13; Mt 22:37; 1Ti 1:5 [g]Dt 11:13; 28:47; Ps 100:2 [h]S Dt 6:5; Ps 119:2 [i]S Dt 5:32

great power and your outstretched
arm.[e]"

Tablets Like the First Ones

10 At that time the LORD said to me,
"Chisel out two stone tablets[f]
like the first ones and come up to me
on the mountain. Also make a wooden
chest.[q] 2I will write on the tablets the
words that were on the first tablets,
which you broke. Then you are to put
them in the chest."[g]

3So I made the ark out of acacia
wood[h] and chiseled[i] out two stone
tablets like the first ones, and I went up
on the mountain with the two tablets in
my hands. 4The LORD wrote on these
tablets what he had written before, the
Ten Commandments[j] he had pro-
claimed[k] to you on the mountain, out
of the fire, on the day of the assem-
bly.[l] And the LORD gave them to me.
5Then I came back down the moun-
tain[m] and put the tablets in the ark[n] I
had made,[o] as the LORD commanded
me, and they are there now.[p]

6(The Israelites traveled from the
wells of the Jaakanites to Moserah.[q]
There Aaron died[r] and was buried,
and Eleazar[s] his son succeeded him as
priest.[t] 7From there they traveled to
Gudgodah and on to Jotbathah, a land
with streams of water.[u] 8At that time
the LORD set apart the tribe of Levi[v] to
carry the ark of the covenant[w] of the
LORD, to stand before the LORD to min-
ister[x] and to pronounce blessings[y] in
his name, as they still do today.[z] 9That
is why the Levites have no share or in-
heritance among their brothers; the
LORD is their inheritance,[a] as the LORD
your God told them.)

10Now I had stayed on the mountain
forty days and nights, as I did the first
time, and the LORD listened to me at
this time also. It was not his will to de-
stroy you.[b] 11"Go," the LORD said to
me, "and lead the people on their way,
so that they may enter and possess the
land that I swore to their fathers to give
them."

Fear the LORD

12And now, O Israel, what does the
LORD your God ask of you[c] but to fear[d]
the LORD your God, to walk[e] in all his
ways, to love him,[f] to serve the LORD[g]
your God with all your heart[h] and with
all your soul,[i] 13and to observe the

p15 Or *And I had the two tablets of the covenant with me, one in each hand* q1 That is, an ark

LORD's commands[a] and decrees that I
am giving you today for your own
good?[b]
14To the LORD your God belong the
heavens,[c][d][e] even the highest heav-
ens,[f][g] the earth and everything in it.[h]
15Yet the LORD set his affection on your
forefathers and loved[i] them, and he
chose you,[j] their descendants, above
all the nations, as it is today.[k] 16Cir-
cumcise[l] your hearts,[m] therefore, and
do not be stiff-necked[n] any longer.
17For the LORD your God is God of
gods[o] and Lord of lords,[p] the great
God, mighty and awesome,[q] who
shows no partiality[r] and accepts no
bribes.[s] 18He defends the cause of the
fatherless and the widow,[t] and loves
the alien, giving him food and cloth-
ing.[u] 19And you are to love[v] those who
are aliens,[w] for you yourselves were
aliens in Egypt.[x] 20Fear the LORD your
God and serve him.[y] Hold fast[z] to him
and take your oaths in his name.[a] 21He
is your praise;[b] he is your God, who
performed for you those great[c] and
awesome wonders[d] you saw with your
own eyes. 22Your forefathers who went
down into Egypt were seventy in all,[e]
and now the LORD your God has made
you as numerous as the stars in the
sky.[f]

Love and Obey the LORD

11 Love[g] the LORD your God and
keep his requirements, his de-
crees, his laws and his commands al-
ways.[h] 2Remember today that your
children[i] were not the ones who saw
and experienced the discipline of the
LORD your God:[j] his majesty,[k] his
mighty hand, his outstretched arm;[l]
3the signs he performed and the things
he did in the heart of Egypt, both to
Pharaoh king of Egypt and to his whole
country;[m] 4what he did to the Egyptian
army, to its horses and chariots,[n] how
he overwhelmed them with the waters
of the Red Sea[a][o] as they were pursu-
ing you, and how the LORD brought
lasting ruin on them. 5It was not your
children who saw what he did for you
in the desert until you arrived at this
place, 6and what he did[p] to Dathan
and Abiram, sons of Eliab the Reuben-
ite, when the earth opened[q] its mouth
right in the middle of all Israel and
swallowed them up with their
households, their tents and every liv-
ing thing that belonged to them. 7But it
was your own eyes that saw all these
great things the LORD has done.[r]

8Observe therefore all the com-
mands[s] I am giving you today, so that
you may have the strength to go in and
take over the land that you are crossing
the Jordan to possess,[t] 9and so that
you may live long[u] in the land that the
LORD swore[v] to your forefathers to give
to them and their descendants, a land
flowing with milk and honey.[w] 10The
land you are entering to take over is
not like the land of Egypt,[x] from which
you have come, where you planted
your seed and irrigated it by foot as in a
vegetable garden. 11But the land you
are crossing the Jordan to take posses-
sion of is a land of mountains and val-
leys[y] that drinks rain from heaven.[z]
12It is a land the LORD your God cares
for; the eyes[a] of the LORD your God are
continually on it from the beginning of
the year to its end.
13So if you faithfully obey[b] the com-
mands I am giving you today—to love[c]
the LORD your God and to serve him
with all your heart and with all your
soul[d]— 14then I will send rain[e] on your
land in its season, both autumn and
spring rains,[f] so that you may gather
in your grain, new wine and oil. 15I will
provide grass[g] in the fields for your
cattle, and you will eat and be satis-
fied.[h]
16Be careful, or you will be enticed to
turn away and worship other gods and
bow down to them.[i] 17Then the LORD's
anger[j] will burn against you, and he
will shut[k] the heavens so that it will
not rain and the ground will yield no
produce,[l] and you will soon perish[m]
from the good land the LORD is giving
you. 18Fix these words of mine in your
hearts and minds; tie them as symbols
on your hands and bind them on your
foreheads.[n] 19Teach them to your chil-
dren,[o] talking about them when you
sit at home and when you walk along
the road, when you lie down and when
you get up.[p] 20Write them on the door-
frames of your houses and on your
gates,[q] 21so that your days and the
days of your children may be many[r] in
the land that the LORD swore to give
your forefathers, as many as the days
that the heavens are above the earth.[s]
22If you carefully observe[t] all these

10:13 [a]S Dt 4:2 [b]Dt 5:33; 6:24 **10:14** [c]Ps 148:4; Isa 19:1; Hab 3:8 [d]Ne 9:6; Job 35:5; Ps 8:3; 89:11; 104:3 [e]Dt 33:26 [f]Ps 115:16 [g]1Ki 8:27 [h]Ex 19:5; Ps 24:1; Ac 17:24 **10:15** [i]S Dt 4:37 [j]Ps 105:6; 135:4 [k]S Nu 14:8; Ro 11:28; 1Pe 2:9 **10:16** [l]S Ge 17:11 [m]S Lev 26:41; Dt 30:6; Jer 32:39 [n]S Ex 32:9; S Dt 9:13 **10:17** [o]Jos 22:22; Ps 135:5; 136:2; Da 2:47; 11:36 [p]Ps 136:3; S 1Ti 6:15 [q]S Dt 7:21 [r]Dt 1:17; Mal 2:9 [s]S Ex 23:8; S Lev 19:16 **10:18** [t]Ex 22:21, 22-24; 23:9; Lev 19:33; Dt 27:19; Job 29:13; Ps 94:6; Isa 10:2; Jer 49:11 [u]S Nu 10:32 **10:19** [v]Dt 7:12 [w]S Ex 22:21; S Dt 24:19 [x]S Lev 19:34; Eze 47:22-23 **10:20** [y]Mt 4:10 [z]Dt 11:22; 13:4; 30:20; Jos 23:8; Ru 1:14; 2Ki 18:6; Ps 119:31; Isa 38:3 [a]S Ex 20:7 **10:21** [b]S Ex 15:2 [c]1Sa 12:24; Ps 126:2 [d]2Sa 7:23 **10:22** [e]S Ge 34:30; S 46:26; Ac 7:14 [f]S Ge 12:2; S Nu 10:36 **11:1** [g]S Dt 6:5 [h]S Lev 8:35 **11:2** [i]Dt 31:13; Ps 78:6 [j]S Dt 5:24 [k]S Dt 3:24 [l]Ps 136:12 **11:3** [m]Ex 7:8-21 **11:4** [n]S Ex 15:1 [o]S Ex 14:27; S Nu 21:4 **11:6** [p]Nu 16:1-35; Ps 106:16-18 [q]Isa 24:19 **11:7** [r]Dt 5:3 **11:8** [s]Ezr 9:10 [t]Dt 31:6-7,23; Jos 1:7 **11:9** [u]S Dt 5:16 [v]Dt 9:5 [w]S Ex 3:8 **11:10** [x]Isa 11:15; 37:25 **11:11** [y]Eze 36:4 [z]Dt 8:7; Ne 9:25 **11:12** [a]1Ki 8:29; 9:3 **11:13** [b]S Dt 6:17 [c]S Dt 10:12 [d]Dt 4:29; Jer 17:24 **11:14** [e]S Lev 26:4; Ac 14:17 [f]Ps 147:8; Jer 3:3; 5:24; Joel 2:23; Jas 5:7 **11:15** [g]Ps 104:14 [h]S Lev 26:5 **11:16** [i]Dt 4:19; 8:19; 29:18; Job 31:9,27 **11:17** [j]Dt 6:15; 9:19 [k]1Ki 17:1; 2Ch 6:26; 7:13 [l]S Lev 26:20 [m]Dt 4:26; 28:12,24 **11:18** [n]S Ex 13:9; Dt 6:6-8 **11:19** [o]S Ex 12:26; Dt 6:7; Ps 145:4; Isa 38:19; Jer 32:39 [p]Dt 4:9-10 **11:20** [q]Dt 6:9 **11:21** [r]Job 5:26; Pr 3:2; 4:10; 9:11 [s]Ps 72:5 **11:22** [t]S Dt 6:17

[a]4 Hebrew *Yam Suph;* that is, Sea of Reeds

commands I am giving you to follow—
to love[a] the LORD your God, to walk in
all his ways and to hold fast[b] to him—
23then the LORD will drive out[c] all these
nations[d] before you, and you will dis-
possess nations larger and stronger
than you.[e] 24Every place where you set
your foot will be yours:[f] Your territory
will extend from the desert to Lebanon,
and from the Euphrates River[g] to the
western sea.[s] 25No man will be able to
stand against you. The LORD your God,
as he promised you, will put the ter-
ror[h] and fear of you on the whole land,
wherever you go.[i]
26See, I am setting before you today a
blessing[j] and a curse[k]— 27the
blessing[l] if you obey the commands of
the LORD your God that I am giving you
today; 28the curse if you disobey[m] the
commands of the LORD your God and
turn from the way that I command you
today by following other gods,[n] which
you have not known. 29When the LORD
your God has brought you into the
land you are entering to possess, you
are to proclaim on Mount Gerizim[o] the
blessings, and on Mount Ebal[p] the
curses.[q] 30As you know, these moun-
tains are across the Jordan, west of the
road,[t] toward the setting sun, near the
great trees of Moreh,[r] in the territory
of those Canaanites living in the Ara-
bah in the vicinity of Gilgal.[s] 31You are
about to cross the Jordan to enter and
take possession[t] of the land the LORD
your God is giving[u] you. When you
have taken it over and are living there,
32be sure that you obey all the decrees
and laws I am setting before you today.

The One Place of Worship

12 These are the decrees[v] and laws
you must be careful to follow in
the land that the LORD, the God of your
fathers, has given you to possess—as
long as you live in the land.[w] 2Destroy
completely all the places on the high
mountains[x] and on the hills and under
every spreading tree[y] where the na-
tions you are dispossessing worship
their gods. 3Break down their altars,
smash[z] their sacred stones and burn[a]
their Asherah[b] poles in the fire; cut
down the idols of their gods and wipe
out their names[c] from those places.
4You must not worship the LORD
your God in their way.[d] 5But you are to
seek the place the LORD your God will
choose from among all your tribes to
put his Name[e] there for his dwelling.[f]
To that place you must go; 6there bring

11:22 [a]S Dt 6:5 [b]S Dt 10:20 **11:23** [c]S Dt 9:5 [d]S Ex 23:28 [e]Dt 9:1 **11:24** [f]Ge 15:18; Dt 1:36; 12:20; 19:8; Jos 1:3; 14:9 [g]S Ge 2:14 **11:25** [h]S Dt 2:25 [i]Ex 23:27; Dt 7:24 **11:26** [j]Ps 24:5 [k]Lev 26:14-17; Dt 27:13-26; 30:1,15,19; La 2:17; Da 9:11; Hag 1:11; Mal 2:2; 3:9; 4:6 **11:27** [l]Dt 28:1-14; Ps 24:5 **11:28** [m]2Ch 24:20; Jer 42:13; 44:16 [n]S Dt 4:28; 13:6,13; 29:26; 1Sa 26:19 **11:29** [o]Jdg 9:7 [p]Dt 27:4; Jos 8:30 [q]Dt 27:12-13; Jos 8:33; Jn 4:20 **11:30** [r]S Ge 12:6 [s]Jos 4:19; 5:9; 9:6; 10:6; 14:6; 15:7; Jdg 2:1; 2Ki 2:1; Mic 6:5 **11:31** [t]S Nu 33:53 [u]Dt 12:10; Jos 11:23 **12:1** [v]Ps 119:5 [w]Dt 4:9-10; 6:15; 1Ki 8:40; Eze 20:19 **12:2** [x]S Nu 21:28 [y]1Ki 14:23; 2Ki 17:10; Isa 57:5; Jer 2:20; 3:6,13 **12:3** [z]2Ki 11:18 [a]S Ex 32:20 [b]Ex 34:13; 1Ki 14:15,23 [c]S Ex 23:13 **12:4** [d]ver 30; 2Ki 17:15; Jer 10:2 **12:5** [e]S Ex 20:24; S 2Sa 7:13 [f]ver 11,13; Dt 14:23; 15:20; 16:2,11; 18:6; 26:2; 1Sa 2:29; 1Ki 5:5; 8:16; 9:3; 2Ch 2:4; 6:6; 7:12,16; Ezr 6:12; 7:15; Ps 26:8; 78:68; Zec 2:12 **12:6** [g]S Lev 27:30 [h]S Ge 28:20 [i]Jos 22:27; Isa 66:20 **12:7** [j]S Ex 18:12 [k]S Lev 23:40; Ecc 3:12-13; 5:18-20; S Isa 62:9 **12:8** [l]Jdg 17:6; 21:25 **12:9** [m]S Ex 33:14; Dt 3:20; Ps 95:11; Mic 2:10 [n]Dt 4:21 **12:10** [o]S Dt 11:31 [p]S Ex 33:14 **12:11** [q]S ver 5 [r]S Lev 1:3;

your burnt offerings and sacrifices,
your tithes[g] and special gifts, what you
have vowed[h] to give and your freewill
offerings, and the firstborn of your
herds and flocks.[i] 7There, in the pres-
ence[j] of the LORD your God, you and
your families shall eat and shall re-
joice[k] in everything you have put your
hand to, because the LORD your God
has blessed you.
8You are not to do as we do here to-
day, everyone as he sees fit,[l] 9since
you have not yet reached the resting
place[m] and the inheritance[n] the LORD
your God is giving you. 10But you will
cross the Jordan and settle in the land
the LORD your God is giving[o] you as an
inheritance, and he will give you rest[p]
from all your enemies around you so
that you will live in safety. 11Then to
the place the LORD your God will
choose as a dwelling for his
Name[q]—there you are to bring every-
thing I command you: your burnt offer-
ings and sacrifices, your tithes and
special gifts, and all the choice posses-
sions you have vowed to the LORD.[r]
12And there rejoice[s] before the LORD
your God, you, your sons and daugh-
ters, your menservants and maid-
servants, and the Levites[t] from your
towns, who have no allotment or in-
heritance[u] of their own. 13Be careful
not to sacrifice your burnt offerings
anywhere you please.[v] 14Offer them
only at the place the LORD will choose[w]
in one of your tribes, and there observe
everything I command you.
15Nevertheless, you may slaughter
your animals in any of your towns and
eat as much of the meat as you want, as
if it were gazelle or deer,[x] according to
the blessing the LORD your God gives
you. Both the ceremonially unclean
and the clean may eat it. 16But you
must not eat the blood;[y] pour[z] it out
on the ground like water.[a] 17You must
not eat in your own towns the tithe[b] of
your grain and new wine and oil,[c] or
the firstborn of your herds and flocks,
or whatever you have vowed to give,[d]
or your freewill offerings or special
gifts.[e] 18Instead, you are to eat[f] them
in the presence of the LORD your God at
the place the LORD your God will

Jos 22:23 **12:12** [s]ver 7 [t]Dt 26:11-13 [u]S Nu 18:20 **12:13** [v]S ver 5 **12:14** [w]ver 11 **12:15** [x]ver 22; Dt 14:5; 15:22 **12:16** [y]S Ge 9:4; Ac 15:20 [z]ver 23-24; S Ge 35:14; 1Ch 11:18; Jer 7:18 [a]S Lev 17:13; S Dt 15:23; Jn 19:34 **12:17** [b]S Lev 27:30 [c]S Nu 18:12 [d]ver 26; Nu 18:19 [e]Dt 14:23; 15:20 **12:18** [f]Dt 14:23; 15:20

[s]24 That is, the Mediterranean [t]30 Or *Jordan, westward*

choose[a]—you, your sons and daugh-
ters, your menservants and maid-
servants, and the Levites from your
towns—and you are to rejoice[b] before
the LORD your God in everything you
put your hand to. 19Be careful not to
neglect the Levites[c] as long as you live
in your land.[d]
20When the LORD your God has en-
larged your territory[e] as he promised[f]
you, and you crave meat[g] and say, "I
would like some meat," then you may
eat as much of it as you want. 21If the
place where the LORD your God
chooses to put his Name[h] is too far
away from you, you may slaughter ani-
mals from the herds and flocks the
LORD has given you, as I have com-
manded you, and in your own towns
you may eat as much of them as you
want.[i] 22Eat them as you would gazelle
or deer.[j] Both the ceremonially un-
clean and the clean may eat. 23But be
sure you do not eat the blood,[k] be-
cause the blood is the life, and you
must not eat the life with the meat.[l]
24You must not eat the blood; pour it
out on the ground like water.[m] 25Do not
eat it, so that it may go well[n] with you
and your children after you, because
you will be doing what is right[o] in the
eyes of the LORD.
26But take your consecrated things
and whatever you have vowed to
give,[p] and go to the place the LORD will
choose. 27Present your burnt offerings[q]
on the altar of the LORD your God, both
the meat and the blood. The blood of
your sacrifices must be poured beside
the altar of the LORD your God, but you
may eat[r] the meat. 28Be careful to obey
all these regulations I am giving you,
so that it may always go well[s] with you
and your children after you, because
you will be doing what is good and
right in the eyes of the LORD your God.
29The LORD your God will cut off[t] be-
fore you the nations you are about to
invade and dispossess. But when you
have driven them out and settled in
their land,[u] 30and after they have been
destroyed before you, be careful not to
be ensnared[v] by inquiring about their
gods, saying, "How do these nations
serve their gods? We will do the
same."[w] 31You must not worship the
LORD your God in their way, because in
worshiping their gods, they do all
kinds of detestable things the LORD
hates.[x] They even burn their sons[y]
and daughters in the fire as sacrifices to
their gods.[z]

12:18 [a]ver 5 [b]ver 7,12; Dt 14:26; Ne 8:10; Ecc 3:12-13; 5:18-20 **12:19** [c]ver 12; Dt 14:27; Ne 13:10 [d]Mal 3:8 **12:20** [e]S Ex 34:24 [f]S Ge 15:8; S Dt 11:24 [g]S Ex 16:3 **12:21** [h]Dt 14:24 [i]Lev 17:4 **12:22** [j]S ver 15 **12:23** [k]S Lev 7:26 [l]Eze 33:25 **12:24** [m]ver 16 **12:25** [n]S Dt 4:40 [o]ver 28; Ex 15:26; Dt 13:18; 1Ki 11:38; 2Ki 12:2 **12:26** [p]S ver 17; Nu 5:9-10 **12:27** [q]S Lev 1:13 [r]Lev 3:1-17 **12:28** [s]Dt 4:40; Ecc 8:12 **12:29** [t]Jos 23:4 [u]S Dt 6:10 **12:30** [v]S Ex 10:7 [w]S ver 4 **12:31** [x]S Lev 18:25 [y]S Lev 18:21 [z]S 2Ki 3:27

12:32 [a]S Dt 4:2; Rev 22:18-19 **13:1** [b]Mt 24:24; Mk 13:22; 2Th 2:9 [c]S Ge 20:3; Jer 23:25; 27:9; 29:8 **13:2** [d]Dt 18:22; 1Sa 2:34; 10:9; 2Ki 19:29; 20:9; Isa 7:11 [e]S Dt 11:28 **13:3** [f]2Pe 2:1 [g]1Sa 28:6,15 [h]S Ge 22:1; 1Ki 13:18; 22:22-23; Jer 29:31; 43:2; Eze 13:9; 1Co 11:19 [i]Dt 6:5 **13:4** [j]2Ki 23:3; 2Ch 34:31; 2Jn 1:6 [k]S Dt 6:13; S Ps 5:7 [l]S Dt 10:20 **13:5** [m]S Ex 21:12; S 22:20 [n]ver 10; Dt 4:19 [o]Dt 17:7, 12; 19:19; 24:7; Jdg 20:13; S 1Co 5:13 **13:6** [p]Dt 17:2-7; 29:18 [q]S Dt 11:28 **13:8** [r]Pr 1:10 [s]S Dt 7:2 **13:9** [t]ver 5 [u]S Lev 24:14 **13:10** [v]S Ex 20:3 **13:11** [w]Dt 17:13; 19:20; 21:21; 1Ti 5:20 **13:13** [x]Jdg 19:22; 20:13; 1Sa 2:12; 10:27; 11:12; 25:17; 1Ki 21:10 **13:14** [y]Jdg 20:12 [z]Dt 17:4

32See that you do all I command you;
do not add[a] to it or take away from it.

Worshiping Other Gods

13 If a prophet,[b] or one who fore-
tells by dreams,[c] appears among
you and announces to you a miracu-
lous sign or wonder, 2and if the sign[d]
or wonder of which he has spoken
takes place, and he says, "Let us follow
other gods"[e] (gods you have not
known) "and let us worship them,"
3you must not listen to the words of
that prophet[f] or dreamer.[g] The LORD
your God is testing[h] you to find out
whether you love[i] him with all your
heart and with all your soul. 4It is the
LORD your God you must follow,[j] and
him you must revere.[k] Keep his com-
mands and obey him; serve him and
hold fast[l] to him. 5That prophet or
dreamer must be put to death,[m] be-
cause he preached rebellion against the
LORD your God, who brought you out
of Egypt and redeemed you from the
land of slavery; he has tried to turn[n]
you from the way the LORD your God
commanded you to follow. You must
purge the evil[o] from among you.
6If your very own brother, or your
son or daughter, or the wife you love,
or your closest friend secretly entices[p]
you, saying, "Let us go and worship
other gods"[q] (gods that neither you
nor your fathers have known, 7gods of
the peoples around you, whether near
or far, from one end of the land to the
other), 8do not yield[r] to him or listen to
him. Show him no pity.[s] Do not spare
him or shield him. 9You must certainly
put him to death.[t] Your hand[u] must
be the first in putting him to death, and
then the hands of all the people.
10Stone him to death, because he tried
to turn you away[v] from the LORD your
God, who brought you out of Egypt,
out of the land of slavery. 11Then all
Israel will hear and be afraid,[w] and no
one among you will do such an evil
thing again.
12If you hear it said about one of the
towns the LORD your God is giving you
to live in 13that wicked men[x] have aris-
en among you and have led the people
of their town astray, saying, "Let us go
and worship other gods" (gods you
have not known), 14then you must in-
quire, probe and investigate it
thoroughly.[y] And if it is true and it has
been proved that this detestable thing
has been done among you,[z] 15you

must certainly put to the sword all who
live in that town. Destroy it complete-
ly,[u][a] both its people and its livestock.[b]
16Gather all the plunder of the town
into the middle of the public square
and completely burn the town[c] and all
its plunder as a whole burnt offering to
the LORD your God.[d] It is to remain a
ruin[e] forever, never to be rebuilt.
17None of those condemned things[u]
shall be found in your hands, so that
the LORD will turn from his fierce an-
ger;[f] he will show you mercy,[g] have
compassion[h] on you, and increase
your numbers,[i] as he promised[j] on
oath to your forefathers, 18because you
obey the LORD your God, keeping all
his commands that I am giving you to-
day and doing what is right[k] in his
eyes.

Clean and Unclean Food

14:3-20pp — Lev 11:1-23

14 You are the children[l] of the
LORD your God. Do not cut your-
selves or shave the front of your heads
for the dead, 2for you are a people
holy[m] to the LORD your God.[n] Out of all
the peoples on the face of the earth, the
LORD has chosen you to be his trea-
sured possession.[o]
3Do not eat any detestable thing.[p]
4These are the animals you may eat:[q]
the ox, the sheep, the goat,[r] 5the
deer,[s] the gazelle, the roe deer, the
wild goat,[t] the ibex, the antelope and
the mountain sheep.[v] 6You may eat
any animal that has a split hoof divided
in two and that chews the cud. 7How-
ever, of those that chew the cud or that
have a split hoof completely divided
you may not eat the camel, the rabbit
or the coney.[w] Although they chew the
cud, they do not have a split hoof; they
are ceremonially unclean for you. 8The
pig is also unclean; although it has a
split hoof, it does not chew the cud.
You are not to eat their meat or touch
their carcasses.[u]
9Of all the creatures living in the
water, you may eat any that has fins
and scales. 10But anything that does not
have fins and scales you may not eat;
for you it is unclean.
11You may eat any clean bird. 12But
these you may not eat: the eagle, the
vulture, the black vulture, 13the red
kite, the black kite, any kind[v] of fal-
con,[w] 14any kind of raven,[x] 15the
horned owl, the screech owl, the gull,
any kind of hawk, 16the little owl, the
great owl, the white owl, 17the desert
owl,[y] the osprey, the cormorant, 18the
stork, any kind of heron, the hoopoe
and the bat.
19All flying insects that swarm are
unclean to you; do not eat them. 20But
any winged creature that is clean you
may eat.[z]
21Do not eat anything you find al-
ready dead.[a] You may give it to an
alien living in any of your towns, and
he may eat it, or you may sell it to a
foreigner. But you are a people holy to
the LORD your God.[b]
Do not cook a young goat in its
mother's milk.[c]

Tithes

22Be sure to set aside a tenth[d] of all
that your fields produce each year.
23Eat[e] the tithe of your grain, new
wine[f] and oil, and the firstborn of your
herds and flocks in the presence of the
LORD your God at the place he will
choose as a dwelling for his Name,[g] so
that you may learn[h] to revere[i] the
LORD your God always. 24But if that
place is too distant and you have been
blessed by the LORD your God and can-
not carry your tithe (because the place
where the LORD will choose to put his
Name is so far away), 25then exchange[j]
your tithe for silver, and take the silver
with you and go to the place the LORD
your God will choose. 26Use the silver
to buy whatever you like: cattle, sheep,
wine or other fermented drink,[k] or
anything you wish. Then you and your
household shall eat there in the pres-
ence of the LORD your God and re-
joice.[l] 27And do not neglect the Le-
vites[m] living in your towns, for they
have no allotment or inheritance of
their own.[n]
28At the end of every three years,
bring all the tithes[o] of that year's pro-
duce and store it in your towns,[p] 29so
that the Levites (who have no allot-
ment[q] or inheritance[r] of their own)
and the aliens,[s] the fatherless and the
widows who live in your towns may
come and eat and be satisfied,[t] and so
that the LORD your God may bless[u] you
in all the work of your hands.

13:15 [a]Isa 24:6; 34:5; 43:28; 47:6; La 2:6; Da 9:11; Zec 8:13; Mal 4:6 [b]Ex 22:20
13:16 [c]2Ki 25:9; Jer 39:8; 52:13; Eze 16:41 [d]Dt 7:25,26; Jos 6:24 [e]Jos 8:28; Isa 7:16; 17:1; 24:10; 25:2; 27:10; 32:14,19; 37:26; Jer 49:2; Mic 1:6
13:17 [f]Ex 32:12; Nu 25:4 [g]S Ge 43:14 [h]Dt 30:3 [i]S Dt 7:13 [j]S Ge 12:2; S 13:14; S 26:24
13:18 [k]S Dt 12:25
14:1 [l]S Jn 1:12; S Ro 8:14; 9:8
14:2 [m]S Ge 28:14; Ex 22:31; Isa 6:13; Mal 2:15 [n]S Lev 20:26; Ro 12:1 [o]S Ex 8:22; S Dt 7:6
14:3 [p]Eze 4:14
14:4 [q]Ac 10:14 [r]S Lev 7:23
14:5 [s]S Dt 12:15 [t]Job 39:1; Ps 104:18
14:8 [u]S Lev 5:2
14:13 [v]S Ge 1:11 [w]Isa 34:15
14:14 [x]S Ge 8:7
14:17 [y]Ps 102:6; Isa 13:21; 14:23; 34:11; Zep 2:14
14:20 [z]S Lev 20:25
14:21 [a]S Lev 11:39 [b]ver 2 [c]S Ex 23:19
14:22 [d]S Ge 14:20; S Lev 27:30; S Nu 18:21
14:23 [e]S Dt 12:17,18 [f]Ps 4:7 [g]S Dt 12:5; 1Ki 3:2 [h]S Dt 4:10 [i]Ps 22:23; 33:8; Mal 2:5
14:25 [j]Mt 21:12; Jn 2:14
14:26 [k]S Lev 10:9; Ecc 10:16-17 [l]S Lev 23:40; S Dt 12:18
14:27 [m]S Dt 12:19 [n]S Nu 18:20; 26:62; Dt 18:1-2
14:28 [o]S Lev 27:30 [p]Dt 26:12
14:29 [q]Ge 47:22 [r]Nu 26:62 [s]Dt 16:11; 24:19-21; Ps 94:6; Isa 1:17; 58:6 [t]S Dt 6:11 [u]Dt 15:10; Ps 41:1; Pr 22:9; Mal 3:10

[u]*15,17* The Hebrew term refers to the irrevocable giving over of things or persons to the LORD, often by totally destroying them. [v]*5* The precise identification of some of the birds and animals in this chapter is uncertain. [w]*7* That is, the hyrax or rock badger

The Year for Canceling Debts

15:1-11pp — Dt 25:8-38

15 At the end of every seven years
you must cancel debts.[a] 2 This is
how it is to be done: Every creditor
shall cancel the loan he has made to his
fellow Israelite. He shall not require
payment from his fellow Israelite or
brother, because the LORD's time for
canceling debts has been proclaimed.
3 You may require payment from a for-
eigner,[b] but you must cancel any debt
your brother owes you. 4 However,
there should be no poor among you,
for in the land the LORD your God is
giving you to possess as your inheri-
tance, he will richly bless[c] you, 5 if only
you fully obey the LORD your God and
are careful to follow[d] all these com-
mands I am giving you today. 6 For the
LORD your God will bless you as he has
promised, and you will lend to many
nations but will borrow from none.
You will rule over many nations but
none will rule over you.[e]
7 If there is a poor man[f] among your
brothers in any of the towns of the land
that the LORD your God is giving you,
do not be hardhearted or tightfisted[g]
toward your poor brother. 8 Rather be
openhanded[h] and freely lend him
whatever he needs. 9 Be careful not to
harbor this wicked thought: "The sev-
enth year, the year for canceling
debts,[i] is near," so that you do not
show ill will[j] toward your needy
brother and give him nothing. He may
then appeal to the LORD against you,
and you will be found guilty of sin.[k]
10 Give generously to him and do so
without a grudging heart;[l] then be-
cause of this the LORD your God will
bless[m] you in all your work and in
everything you put your hand to.
11 There will always be poor people[n] in
the land. Therefore I command you to
be openhanded toward your brothers
and toward the poor and needy in your
land.[o]

Freeing Servants

15:12-18pp — Ex 21:2-6
15:12-18Ref — Lev 25:38-55

12 If a fellow Hebrew, a man or a
woman, sells himself to you and serves
you six years, in the seventh year you
must let him go free.[p] 13 And when you
release him, do not send him away
empty-handed. 14 Supply him liberally
from your flock, your threshing floor[q]
and your winepress. Give to him as the
LORD your God has blessed you.
15 Remember that you were slaves[r] in
Egypt and the LORD your God re-
deemed you.[s] That is why I give you
this command today.
16 But if your servant says to you, "I
do not want to leave you," because he
loves you and your family and is well
off with you, 17 then take an awl and
push it through his ear lobe into the
door, and he will become your servant
for life. Do the same for your maid-
servant.
18 Do not consider it a hardship to set
your servant free, because his service
to you these six years has been worth
twice as much as that of a hired hand.
And the LORD your God will bless you
in everything you do.

The Firstborn Animals

19 Set apart for the LORD[t] your God
every firstborn male[u] of your herds
and flocks.[v] Do not put the firstborn of
your oxen to work, and do not shear
the firstborn of your sheep.[w] 20 Each
year you and your family are to eat
them in the presence of the LORD your
God at the place he will choose.[x] 21 If an
animal has a defect,[y] is lame or blind,
or has any serious flaw, you must not
sacrifice it to the LORD your God.[z]
22 You are to eat it in your own towns.
Both the ceremonially unclean and the
clean may eat it, as if it were gazelle or
deer.[a] 23 But you must not eat the
blood; pour it out on the ground like
water.[b]

Passover

16:1-8pp — Ex 12:14-20; Lev 23:4-8; Nu 28:16-25

16 Observe the month of Abib[c] and
celebrate the Passover[d] of the
LORD your God, because in the month
of Abib he brought you out of Egypt by
night. 2 Sacrifice as the Passover to the
LORD your God an animal from your
flock or herd at the place the LORD will
choose as a dwelling for his Name.[e]
3 Do not eat it with bread made with
yeast, but for seven days eat unleav-
ened bread, the bread of affliction,[f] be-
cause you left Egypt in haste[g]—so that
all the days of your life you may
remember the time of your departure
from Egypt.[h] 4 Let no yeast be found in
your possession in all your land for
seven days. Do not let any of the meat
you sacrifice on the evening[i] of the
first day remain until morning.[j]
5 You must not sacrifice the Passover

15:1 aDt 31:10; Ne 10:31
15:3 bS Ge 31:15; Dt 23:20; 28:12; Ru 2:10
15:4 cDt 28:8
15:5 dS Ex 15:26; Dt 7:12; 28:1
15:6 eDt 28:12-13,44
15:7 fver 11; Mt 26:11; g1Jn 3:17
15:8 hMt 5:42; Lk 6:34; S Ac 24:17
15:9 iver 1; jMt 20:15; kS Ex 22:23; S Job 5:15; Jas 5:4
15:10 l2Co 9:5; mS Dt 14:29
15:11 nS ver 7; Mt 26:11; Mk 14:7; Jn 12:8
15:12 pJer 34:14
15:14 qS Nu 18:27
15:15 rEx 13:3; Jer 34:13 sEx 20:2; S Dt 4:34; S 9:26; 16:12; 24:18; Jer 16:14; 23:7
15:19 tS Lev 27:9 uS Ex 13:2 vS Ge 4:4 wS Ex 22:30
15:20 xS Lev 7:15-18; Dt 12:5-7,17,18
15:21 yS Ex 12:5 zS Lev 22:19-25; Dt 17:1; Mal 1:8,13
15:22 aS Dt 12:15
15:23 bS Ge 9:4; Dt 12:16; Eze 33:25
16:1 cS Ex 12:2 dS Ex 12:11; 2Ki 23:21; Mt 26:17-29
16:2 eDt 12:5,26
16:3 fEx 12:8,39; 34:18; 1Co 5:8 gS Ex 12:11 hDt 4:9
16:4 iS Ex 12:6 jS Ex 12:8; Mk 14:12

in any town the LORD your God gives
you 6except in the place he will choose
as a dwelling for his Name. There you
must sacrifice the Passover in the eve-
ning, when the sun goes down, on the
anniversary[x][a] of your departure from
Egypt. 7Roast[b] it and eat it at the place
the LORD your God will choose. Then in
the morning return to your tents. 8For
six days eat unleavened bread and on
the seventh day hold an assembly[c] to
the LORD your God and do no work.[d]

Feast of Weeks

16:9-12pp — Lev 23:15-22; Nu 28:26-31

9Count off seven weeks[e] from the
time you begin to put the sickle to the
standing grain.[f] 10Then celebrate the
Feast of Weeks to the LORD your God by
giving a freewill offering in proportion
to the blessings the LORD your God has
given you. 11And rejoice[g] before the
LORD your God at the place he will
choose as a dwelling for his
Name[h]—you, your sons and daugh-
ters, your menservants and maid-
servants, the Levites[i] in your towns,
and the aliens,[j] the fatherless and the
widows living among you.[k] 12Remem-
ber that you were slaves in Egypt,[l]
and follow carefully these decrees.

Feast of Tabernacles

16:13-17pp — Lev 23:33-43; Nu 29:12-39

13Celebrate the Feast of Tabernacles
for seven days after you have gathered
the produce of your threshing floor[m]
and your winepress.[n] 14Be joyful[o] at
your Feast—you, your sons and
daughters, your menservants and
maidservants, and the Levites, the
aliens, the fatherless and the widows
who live in your towns. 15For seven
days celebrate the Feast to the LORD
your God at the place the LORD will
choose. For the LORD your God will
bless you in all your harvest and in all
the work of your hands, and your joy[p]
will be complete.

16Three times a year all your men
must appear[q] before the LORD your
God at the place he will choose: at the
Feast of Unleavened Bread,[r] the Feast
of Weeks and the Feast of Taber-
nacles.[s] No man should appear before
the LORD empty-handed:[t] 17Each of you
must bring a gift in proportion to the
way the LORD your God has blessed
you.

16:6 [a]S Ex 12:42
16:7 [b]S Ex 12:8
16:8 [c]S Lev 23:8
[d]Mt 26:17;
Lk 2:41; 22:7;
Jn 2:13
16:9 [e]Ac 2:1
[f]S Ex 23:16
16:11 [g]Dt 12:7
[h]S Ex 20:24;
S 2Sa 7:13
[i]Dt 12:12
[j]S Dt 14:29
[k]Ne 8:10
16:12
[l]S Dt 15:15
16:13
[m]S Lev 2:14
[n]S Ge 27:37;
S Ex 23:16
16:14 [o]ver 11
16:15 [p]Job 38:7;
Ps 4:7; 28:7;
30:11
16:16 [q]Dt 31:11;
Ps 84:7
[r]S Ex 12:17
[s]S Ex 23:14,16;
Ezr 3:4
[t]S Ex 34:20

16:18
[u]S Ex 18:21,26
[v]S Ge 31:37
16:19
[w]S Ex 23:2
[x]S Lev 19:15
[y]S Ex 18:21;
S 1Sa 8:3
16:21 [z]S Dt 7:5
[a]Ex 34:13;
1Ki 14:15;
2Ki 17:16; 21:3;
2Ch 33:3
16:22
[b]S Ex 23:24
17:1 [c]S Ex 12:5;
S Lev 22:20
[d]Dt 7:25
[e]S Dt 15:21
17:2 [f]Dt 13:6-11
17:3 [g]Jer 7:31
[h]Ex 22:20
[i]S Ge 1:16
[j]S Ge 2:1; S 37:9
17:4 [k]Dt 22:20
[l]Dt 13:12-14
17:5
[m]S Lev 24:14
17:6 [n]Nu 35:30;
Dt 19:15;
S Mt 18:16
17:7 [o]Jn 8:7
[p]S Lev 24:14;
Ac 7:58
[q]S Dt 13:5;
1Co 5:13*
17:8 [r]Ex 21:6
[s]2Ch 19:10
[t]Dt 12:5;
Ps 122:3-5
17:9 [u]Dt 24:8;
27:9 [v]S Ex 21:6
[w]S Ge 25:22;
Dt 19:17;
Eze 44:24;
Hag 2:11

Judges

18Appoint judges[u] and officials for
each of your tribes in every town the
LORD your God is giving you, and they
shall judge the people fairly.[v] 19Do not
pervert justice[w] or show partiality.[x] Do
not accept a bribe,[y] for a bribe blinds
the eyes of the wise and twists the
words of the righteous. 20Follow justice
and justice alone, so that you may live
and possess the land the LORD your
God is giving you.

Worshiping Other Gods

21Do not set up any wooden Asherah
pole[y][z] beside the altar you build to the
LORD your God,[a] 22and do not erect a
sacred stone,[b] for these the LORD your
God hates.

17 Do not sacrifice to the LORD your
God an ox or a sheep that has
any defect[c] or flaw in it, for that would
be detestable[d] to him.[e]

2If a man or woman living among
you in one of the towns the LORD gives
you is found doing evil in the eyes of
the LORD your God in violation of his
covenant,[f] 3and contrary to my com-
mand[g] has worshiped other gods,[h]
bowing down to them or to the sun[i] or
the moon or the stars of the sky,[j] 4and
this has been brought to your atten-
tion, then you must investigate it
thoroughly. If it is true[k] and it has
been proved that this detestable thing
has been done in Israel,[l] 5take the man
or woman who has done this evil deed
to your city gate and stone that person
to death.[m] 6On the testimony of two or
three witnesses a man shall be put to
death, but no one shall be put to death
on the testimony of only one witness.[n]
7The hands of the witnesses must be
the first in putting him to death,[o] and
then the hands of all the people.[p] You
must purge the evil[q] from among you.

Law Courts

8If cases come before your courts that
are too difficult for you to
judge[r]—whether bloodshed, lawsuits
or assaults[s]—take them to the place
the LORD your God will choose.[t] 9Go to
the priests, who are Levites,[u] and to
the judge[v] who is in office at that time.
Inquire of them and they will give you
the verdict.[w] 10You must act according
to the decisions they give you at the
place the LORD will choose. Be careful to

[x]6 Or *down, at the time of day* [y]21 Or *Do not plant any tree dedicated to Asherah*

do everything they direct you to do.
11 Act according to the law they teach
you and the decisions they give you.
Do not turn aside from what they tell
you, to the right or to the left.[a] 12 The
man who shows contempt[b] for the
judge or for the priest who stands min-
istering[c] there to the LORD your God
must be put to death.[d] You must purge
the evil from Israel.[e] 13 All the people
will hear and be afraid, and will not be
contemptuous again.[f]

The King

14 When you enter the land the LORD
your God is giving you and have taken
possession[g] of it and settled in it,[h] and
you say, "Let us set a king over us like
all the nations around us,"[i] 15 be sure
to appoint[j] over you the king the LORD
your God chooses. He must be from
among your own brothers.[k] Do not
place a foreigner over you, one who is
not a brother Israelite. 16 The king,
moreover, must not acquire great num-
bers of horses[l] for himself[m] or make
the people return to Egypt[n] to get
more of them,[o] for the LORD has told
you, "You are not to go back that way
again."[p] 17 He must not take many
wives,[q] or his heart will be led astray.[r]
He must not accumulate[s] large
amounts of silver and gold.[t]
18 When he takes the throne[u] of his
kingdom, he is to write[v] for himself on
a scroll a copy[w] of this law, taken from
that of the priests, who are Levites. 19 It
is to be with him, and he is to read it all
the days of his life[x] so that he may
learn to revere the LORD his God and
follow carefully all the words of this
law and these decrees[y] 20 and not con-
sider himself better than his brothers
and turn from the law[z] to the right or
to the left.[a] Then he and his descend-
ants will reign a long time over his
kingdom in Israel.[b]

Offerings for Priests and Levites

18 The priests, who are Le-
vites[c]—indeed the whole tribe
of Levi—are to have no allotment or in-
heritance with Israel. They shall live on
the offerings[d] made to the LORD by fire,
for that is their inheritance.[e] 2 They
shall have no inheritance among their
brothers; the LORD is their inheritance,[f]
as he promised them.[g]
3 This is the share due the priests[h]
from the people who sacrifice a bull[i] or
a sheep: the shoulder, the jowls and
the inner parts.[j] 4 You are to give them
the firstfruits of your grain, new wine
and oil, and the first wool from the
shearing of your sheep,[k] 5 for the LORD
your God has chosen them[l] and their
descendants out of all your tribes to
stand and minister[m] in the LORD's name
always.[n]
6 If a Levite moves from one of your
towns anywhere in Israel where he is
living, and comes in all earnestness to
the place the LORD will choose,[o] 7 he
may minister in the name[p] of the LORD
his God like all his fellow Levites who
serve there in the presence of the LORD.
8 He is to share equally in their benefits,
even though he has received money
from the sale of family possessions.[q]

Detestable Practices

9 When you enter the land the LORD
your God is giving you, do not learn to
imitate[r] the detestable ways[s] of the
nations there. 10 Let no one be found
among you who sacrifices his son or
daughter in[z] the fire,[t] who practices
divination[u] or sorcery,[v] interprets
omens, engages in witchcraft,[w] 11 or
casts spells,[x] or who is a medium or
spiritist[y] or who consults the dead.
12 Anyone who does these things is de-
testable to the LORD, and because of
these detestable practices the LORD your
God will drive out those nations before
you.[z] 13 You must be blameless[a] before
the LORD your God.[b]

The Prophet

14 The nations you will dispossess lis-
ten to those who practice sorcery or
divination.[c] But as for you, the LORD
your God has not permitted you to do
so. 15 The LORD your God will raise up
for you a prophet like me from among
your own brothers.[d] You must listen to
him. 16 For this is what you asked of the
LORD your God at Horeb on the day of
the assembly when you said, "Let us
not hear the voice of the LORD our God
nor see this great fire anymore, or we
will die."[e]
17 The LORD said to me: "What they
say is good. 18 I will raise up for them a
prophet[f] like you from among their
brothers; I will put my words[g] in his
mouth,[h] and he will tell them every-
thing I command him.[i] 19 If anyone

17:11 [a]S Lev 10:11; S Dt 5:32 **17:12** [b]Nu 15:30 [c]S Nu 16:9 [d]ver 13; S Ge 17:14; Dt 13:11; 18:20; 19:20; 1Ki 18:40; Jer 14:14; Hos 4:4; Zec 13:3 [e]S Dt 13:5 **17:13** [f]S ver 12 **17:14** [g]S Nu 33:53 [h]Jos 21:43 [i]1Sa 8:5,19-20; 10:19 **17:15** [j]1Sa 16:3; 2Sa 5:3 [k]Jer 30:21 **17:16** [l]Isa 2:7; 30:16 [m]1Sa 8:11; 1Ki 4:26; 9:19; 10:26; 2Ch 1:14; Ps 20:7 [n]1Ki 10:29; Isa 31:1; Jer 42:14 [o]1Ki 10:28; Isa 31:1; Eze 17:15 [p]S Ex 13:17 **17:17** [q]S Ex 34:16; 2Sa 5:13; 12:11; 1Ki 11:3; 2Ch 11:21 [r]1Ki 11:2; Pr 31:3 [s]1Ki 10:27 [t]2Ch 1:11; Isa 2:7 **17:18** [u]1Ki 1:46; 1Ch 29:23 [v]Dt 31:22,24; Jos 24:26; 1Sa 10:25 [w]2Ch 23:11 **17:19** [x]Dt 4:9-10; Jos 1:8 [y]Dt 11:13; 1Ki 3:3; 11:38; 2Ki 22:2 **17:20** [z]Jos 23:6; Job 23:12; Ps 119:102 [a]S Dt 5:32; S 1Ki 9:4 [b]1Sa 8:5; 10:25; 1Ki 2:3; 1Ch 28:8 **18:1** [c]Jer 33:18,21 [d]S Nu 18:8 [e]S Nu 18:20; 1Co 9:13 **18:2** [f]Nu 18:20 [g]Jos 13:14 **18:3** [h]S Ex 29:27 [i]S Lev 1:5 [j]Lev 7:28-34; Nu 18:12 **18:4** [k]Ex 22:29; Nu 18:12 **18:5** [l]S Ex 28:1 [m]Dt 10:8 [n]S Ex 29:9 **18:6** [o]S Nu 35:2-3; S Dt 12:5 **18:7** [p]ver 19; 1Ki 18:32; 22:16; Ps 118:26 **18:8** [q]Nu 18:24; 2Ch 31:4; Ne 12:44,47; 13:12 **18:9** [r]Dt 9:5; 12:29-31 [s]S Lev 18:3; 2Ki 21:2; 2Ch 28:3; 33:2; 34:33; Ezr 6:21; 9:11; Jer 44:4 **18:10** [t]S Lev 18:21 [u]1Sa 15:23 [v]S Ex 7:11 [w]S Lev 19:31 **18:11** [x]Isa 47:9 [y]S Ex 22:18; S 1Sa 28:13 **18:12** [z]S Lev 18:24 **18:13** [a]S Ge 6:9; Ps 119:1 [b]Mt 5:48 **18:14** [c]2Ki 21:6 **18:15** [d]S Mt 21:11; Lk 2:25-35; Jn 1:21; Ac 3:22*; 7:37* **18:16** [e]S Ex 20:19; Dt 5:23-27 **18:18** [f]S Ge 20:7 [g]Isa 2:3; 26:8; 51:4; Mic 4:2 [h]S Ex 4:12 [i]Jn 4:25-26; S 14:24; Ac 3:22*

[z]10 Or *who makes his son or daughter pass through*

does not listen[a] to my words that the
prophet speaks in my name,[b] I myself
will call him to account.[c] 20But a
prophet who presumes to speak in my
name anything I have not commanded
him to say, or a prophet who speaks in
the name of other gods,[d] must be put
to death."[e]
21You may say to yourselves, "How
can we know when a message has not
been spoken by the LORD?" 22If what a
prophet proclaims in the name of the
LORD does not take place or come true,[f]
that is a message the LORD has not
spoken.[g] That prophet has spoken pre-
sumptuously.[h] Do not be afraid of
him.

Cities of Refuge

19:1-14Ref — Nu 35:6-34; Dt 4:41-43; Jos 20:1-9

19 When the LORD your God has de-
stroyed the nations whose land
he is giving you, and when you have
driven them out and settled in their
towns and houses,[i] 2then set aside for
yourselves three cities centrally located
in the land the LORD your God is giving
you to possess. 3Build roads to them
and divide into three parts the land the
LORD your God is giving you as an in-
heritance, so that anyone who kills a
man may flee there.
4This is the rule concerning the man
who kills another and flees there to
save his life—one who kills his neigh-
bor unintentionally, without malice
aforethought. 5For instance, a man may
go into the forest with his neighbor to
cut wood, and as he swings his ax to
fell a tree, the head may fly off and hit
his neighbor and kill him. That man
may flee to one of these cities and save
his life. 6Otherwise, the avenger of
blood[j] might pursue him in a rage,
overtake him if the distance is too
great, and kill him even though he is
not deserving of death, since he did it
to his neighbor without malice afore-
thought. 7This is why I command
you to set aside for yourselves three
cities.
8If the LORD your God enlarges your
territory,[k] as he promised[l] on oath to
your forefathers, and gives you the
whole land he promised them, 9be-
cause you carefully follow all these
laws I command you today—to love
the LORD your God and to walk always
in his ways[m]—then you are to set aside
three more cities. 10Do this so that in-
nocent blood[n] will not be shed in your
land, which the LORD your God is giv-
ing you as your inheritance, and so
that you will not be guilty of blood-
shed.[o]
11But if a man hates his neighbor and
lies in wait for him, assaults and kills
him,[p] and then flees to one of these
cities, 12the elders of his town shall
send for him, bring him back from the
city, and hand him over to the avenger
of blood to die. 13Show him no pity.[q]
You must purge from Israel the guilt of
shedding innocent blood,[r] so that it
may go well with you.
14Do not move your neighbor's
boundary stone set up by your pre-
decessors in the inheritance you re-
ceive in the land the LORD your God is
giving you to possess.[s]

Witnesses

15One witness is not enough to con-
vict a man accused of any crime or of-
fense he may have committed. A mat-
ter must be established by the testi-
mony of two or three witnesses.[t]
16If a malicious witness[u] takes the
stand to accuse a man of a crime, 17the
two men involved in the dispute must
stand in the presence of the LORD be-
fore the priests and the judges[v] who
are in office at the time. 18The judges
must make a thorough investigation,[w]
and if the witness proves to be a liar,
giving false testimony against his
brother, 19then do to him as he intend-
ed to do to his brother.[x] You must
purge the evil from among you. 20The
rest of the people will hear of this and
be afraid,[y] and never again will such
an evil thing be done among you.
21Show no pity:[z] life for life, eye for
eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand,
foot for foot.[a]

Going to War

20 When you go to war against
your enemies and see horses and
chariots and an army greater than
yours,[b] do not be afraid[c] of them,[d] be-
cause the LORD your God, who brought
you up out of Egypt, will be with[e] you.
2When you are about to go into battle,
the priest shall come forward and ad-
dress the army. 3He shall say: "Hear, O
Israel, today you are going into battle
against your enemies. Do not be faint-
hearted[f] or afraid; do not be terrified
or give way to panic before them. 4For
the LORD your God is the one who goes

18:19 [a]S Ex 23:21 [b]S ver 7 [c]S Lev 19:12; 2Ki 2:24; Jos 22:23; Ac 3:23*; Heb 12:25
18:20 [d]S Ex 23:13 [e]Dt 13:1-5; S 17:12
18:22 [f]S Dt 13:2; 1Sa 3:20 [g]S 1Ki 22:28; Jer 28:9 [h]ver 20
19:1 [i]Dt 6:10-11
19:6 [j]S Nu 35:12
19:8 [k]S Ex 34:24 [l]S Ge 15:18; S Dt 11:24
19:9 [m]Dt 6:5
19:10 [n]Pr 6:17; Jer 7:6; 26:15 [o]Dt 21:1-9
19:11 [p]S Ex 21:12; 1Jn 3:15
19:13 [q]Dt 7:2 [r]Dt 21:9; 1Ki 2:31
19:14 [s]Dt 27:17; Job 24:2; Ps 16:6; Pr 15:25; 22:28; 23:10; Isa 1:23; Hos 5:10
19:15 [t]S Dt 17:6; S Mt 18:16*; 26:60; 2Co 13:1*
19:16 [u]Ex 23:1; Pr 6:19
19:17 [v]S Ex 21:6
19:18 [w]S Ex 23:7
19:19 [x]Pr 19:5, 9; 1Co 5:13*
19:20 [y]S Dt 13:11
19:21 [z]ver 13 [a]S Ex 21:24; Mt 5:38*
20:1 [b]Ps 20:7; Isa 31:1 [c]S Nu 14:9 [d]S Dt 3:22; S 1Sa 17:45 [e]Isa 41:10
20:3 [f]1Sa 17:32; Job 23:16; Ps 22:14; Isa 7:4; 35:4; Jer 51:46

with you[a] to fight[b] for you against
your enemies to give you victory.[c]"
5The officers shall say to the army:
"Has anyone built a new house and
not dedicated[d] it? Let him go home, or
he may die in battle and someone else
may dedicate it. 6Has anyone planted[e]
a vineyard and not begun to enjoy it?[f]
Let him go home, or he may die in bat-
tle and someone else enjoy it. 7Has
anyone become pledged to a woman
and not married her? Let him go home,
or he may die in battle and someone
else marry her.[g]" 8Then the officers
shall add, "Is any man afraid or faint-
hearted? Let him go home so that his
brothers will not become disheartened
too."[h] 9When the officers have finished
speaking to the army, they shall ap-
point commanders over it.
10When you march up to attack a
city, make its people an offer of
peace.[i] 11If they accept and open their
gates, all the people in it shall be sub-
ject[j] to forced labor[k] and shall work
for you. 12If they refuse to make peace
and they engage you in battle, lay siege
to that city. 13When the LORD your God
delivers it into your hand, put to the
sword all the men in it.[l] 14As for the
women, the children, the livestock[m]
and everything else in the city,[n] you
may take these as plunder[o] for your-
selves. And you may use the plunder
the LORD your God gives you from your
enemies. 15This is how you are to treat
all the cities that are at a distance[p] from
you and do not belong to the nations
nearby.
16However, in the cities of the na-
tions the LORD your God is giving you
as an inheritance, do not leave alive
anything that breathes.[q] 17Completely
destroy[a] them—the Hittites, Amorites,
Canaanites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jeb-
usites—as the LORD your God has com-
manded you. 18Otherwise, they will
teach you to follow all the detestable
things they do in worshiping their
gods,[r] and you will sin[s] against the
LORD your God.
19When you lay siege to a city for a
long time, fighting against it to capture
it, do not destroy its trees by putting an
ax to them, because you can eat their
fruit. Do not cut them down. Are the
trees of the field people, that you
should besiege them?[b] 20However, you
may cut down trees that you know are
not fruit trees[t] and use them to build
siege works until the city at war with
you falls.

20:4 [a]2Ch 20:14-22 [b]S Ex 14:14; 1Ch 5:22; Ne 4:20 [c]Jdg 12:3; 15:18; Ps 44:7; 144:10 **20:5** [d]Ne 12:27 **20:6** [e]Jer 31:5; Eze 28:26; Mic 1:6 [f]1Co 9:7 **20:7** [g]Dt 24:5; Pr 5:18 **20:8** [h]Jdg 7:3 **20:10** [i]S Dt 2:26; Lk 14:31-32 **20:11** [j]ver 15; 2Ki 6:22 [k]1Ki 9:21; 1Ch 22:2; Isa 31:8 **20:13** [l]Nu 31:7 **20:14** [m]Jos 8:2; 22:8 [n]S Nu 31:11 [o]S Nu 31:53 **20:15** [p]S ver 11; Jos 9:9 **20:16** [q]Ex 23:31-33; Nu 21:2-3; S Dt 7:2; Jos 6:21; 10:1; 11:14 **20:18** [r]S Ex 34:16 [s]S Ex 10:7 **20:20** [t]Jer 6:6

Atonement for an Unsolved Murder

21 If a man is found slain, lying in a
field in the land the LORD your
God is giving you to possess, and it is
not known who killed him,[u] 2your el-
ders and judges shall go out and mea-
sure the distance from the body to the
neighboring towns. 3Then the elders of
the town nearest the body shall take a
heifer that has never been worked and
has never worn a yoke[v] 4and lead her
down to a valley that has not been
plowed or planted and where there is a
flowing stream. There in the valley
they are to break the heifer's neck. 5The
priests, the sons of Levi, shall step for-
ward, for the LORD your God has cho-
sen them to minister and to pronounce
blessings[w] in the name of the LORD and
to decide all cases of dispute and as-
sault.[x] 6Then all the elders of the town
nearest the body shall wash their
hands[y] over the heifer whose neck was
broken in the valley, 7and they shall
declare: "Our hands did not shed this
blood, nor did our eyes see it done.
8Accept this atonement for your people
Israel, whom you have redeemed, O
LORD, and do not hold your people
guilty of the blood of an innocent
man." And the bloodshed will be
atoned for.[z] 9So you will purge[a] from
yourselves the guilt of shedding inno-
cent blood, since you have done what
is right in the eyes of the LORD.

Marrying a Captive Woman

10When you go to war against your
enemies and the LORD your God de-
livers them into your hands[b] and you
take captives,[c] 11if you notice among
the captives a beautiful[d] woman and
are attracted to her,[e] you may take her
as your wife. 12Bring her into your
home and have her shave her head,[f]
trim her nails 13and put aside the
clothes she was wearing when cap-
tured. After she has lived in your
house and mourned her father and
mother for a full month,[g] then you
may go to her and be her husband and
she shall be your wife. 14If you are not
pleased with her, let her go wherever
she wishes. You must not sell her or
treat her as a slave, since you have dis-
honored her.[h]

21:1 [u]S Nu 25:17 **21:3** [v]S Nu 19:2 **21:5** [w]S Ge 48:20; S Ex 39:43 [x]Dt 17:8-11 **21:6** [y]Mt 27:24 **21:8** [z]Nu 35:33-34 **21:9** [a]Dt 19:13 **21:10** [b]Jos 21:44 [c]1Ki 8:46; 1Ch 9:1; Ezr 5:12; Jer 40:1; Eze 1:1; 17:12; Da 2:25; Mic 4:10 **21:11** [d]Ge 6:2 [e]S Ge 24:8 **21:12** [f]S Lev 14:9; S Nu 8:7; 1Co 11:5 **21:13** [g]Ps 45:10 **21:14** [h]S Ge 34:2

[a]17 The Hebrew term refers to the irrevocable giving over of things or persons to the LORD, often by totally destroying them. [b]19 *Or down to use in the siege, for the fruit trees are for the benefit of man.*

The Right of the Firstborn

15 If a man has two wives,[a] and he
loves one but not the other, and both
bear him sons but the firstborn is the
son of the wife he does not love,[b]
16 when he wills his property to his
sons, he must not give the rights of the
firstborn to the son of the wife he loves
in preference to his actual firstborn, the
son of the wife he does not love.[c] 17 He
must acknowledge the son of his un-
loved wife as the firstborn by giving
him a double[d] share of all he has. That
son is the first sign of his father's
strength.[e] The right of the firstborn be-
longs to him.[f]

A Rebellious Son

18 If a man has a stubborn and rebel-
lious[g] son[h] who does not obey his fa-
ther and mother[i] and will not listen to
them when they discipline him, 19 his
father and mother shall take hold of
him and bring him to the elders at the
gate of his town. 20 They shall say to the
elders, "This son of ours is stubborn
and rebellious. He will not obey us. He
is a profligate and a drunkard." 21 Then
all the men of his town shall stone him
to death.[j] You must purge the evil[k]
from among you. All Israel will hear of
it and be afraid.[l]

Various Laws

22 If a man guilty of a capital offense[m]
is put to death and his body is hung on
a tree, 23 you must not leave his body on
the tree overnight.[n] Be sure to bury[o]
him that same day, because anyone
who is hung on a tree is under God's
curse.[p] You must not desecrate[q] the
land the LORD your God is giving you as
an inheritance.

22 If you see your brother's ox or
sheep straying, do not ignore it
but be sure to take it back to him.[r] 2 If
the brother does not live near you or if
you do not know who he is, take it
home with you and keep it until he
comes looking for it. Then give it back
to him. 3 Do the same if you find your
brother's donkey or his cloak or any-
thing he loses. Do not ignore it.
4 If you see your brother's donkey[s] or
his ox fallen on the road, do not ignore
it. Help him get it to its feet.[t]
5 A woman must not wear men's
clothing, nor a man wear women's
clothing, for the LORD your God detests
anyone who does this.
6 If you come across a bird's nest be-
side the road, either in a tree or on the
ground, and the mother is sitting on
the young or on the eggs, do not take
the mother with the young.[u] 7 You may
take the young, but be sure to let the
mother go,[v] so that it may go well with
you and you may have a long life.[w]
8 When you build a new house, make
a parapet around your roof so that you
may not bring the guilt of bloodshed
on your house if someone falls from
the roof.[x]
9 Do not plant two kinds of seed in
your vineyard;[y] if you do, not only the
crops you plant but also the fruit of the
vineyard will be defiled.[c]
10 Do not plow with an ox and a don-
key yoked together.[z]
11 Do not wear clothes of wool and
linen woven together.[a]
12 Make tassels on the four corners of
the cloak you wear.[b]

Marriage Violations

13 If a man takes a wife and, after ly-
ing with her[c], dislikes her 14 and slan-
ders her and gives her a bad name, say-
ing, "I married this woman, but when I
approached her, I did not find proof of
her virginity," 15 then the girl's father
and mother shall bring proof that she
was a virgin to the town elders at the
gate.[d] 16 The girl's father will say to the
elders, "I gave my daughter in mar-
riage to this man, but he dislikes her.
17 Now he has slandered her and said, 'I
did not find your daughter to be a vir-
gin.' But here is the proof of my daugh-
ter's virginity." Then her parents shall
display the cloth before the elders of
the town, 18 and the elders[e] shall take
the man and punish him. 19 They shall
fine him a hundred shekels of silver[d]
and give them to the girl's father, be-
cause this man has given an Israelite
virgin a bad name. She shall continue
to be his wife; he must not divorce her
as long as he lives.
20 If, however, the charge is true[f] and
no proof of the girl's virginity can be
found, 21 she shall be brought to the
door of her father's house and there
the men of her town shall stone her to
death. She has done a disgraceful
thing[g] in Israel by being promiscuous
while still in her father's house. You
must purge the evil from among you.
22 If a man is found sleeping with an-
other man's wife, both the man who

21:15 [a]S Ge 4:19 [b]Ge 29:33 **21:16** [c]1Ch 26:10 **21:17** [d]2Ki 2:9; Isa 40:2; 61:7; Zec 9:12 [e]S Ge 49:3 [f]Ge 25:31; Lk 15:12 **21:18** [g]Ps 78:8; Jer 5:23; Zep 3:1 [h]Pr 30:17 [i]S Ge 31:35; Pr 1:8; Isa 30:1; Eph 6:1-3 **21:21** [j]S Lev 20:9 [k]Dt 19:19 [l]S Dt 13:11 **21:22** [m]Dt 22:26; Mt 26:66; Mk 14:64; Ac 23:29 **21:23** [n]Jos 8:29; 10:27; Jn 19:31 [o]Eze 39:12 [p]Ezr 6:11; Est 2:23; 7:9; 8:7; 9:13,25; Isa 50:11; Gal 3:13* [q]S Lev 18:25 **22:1** [r]Ex 23:4-5; Pr 27:10; Zec 7:9 **22:4** [s]Ex 23:5 [t]1Co 9:9

22:6 [u]Lev 22:28 **22:7** [v]S Lev 22:28 [w]S Dt 5:29 **22:8** [x]Jos 2:8; 1Sa 9:25; 2Sa 11:2 **22:9** [y]Lev 19:19 **22:10** [z]2Co 6:14 **22:11** [a]Lev 19:19 **22:12** [b]Nu 15:37-41; Mt 23:5 **22:13** [c]Dt 24:1 **22:15** [d]S Ge 23:10 **22:18** [e]Ex 18:21; Dt 1:9-18 **22:20** [f]Dt 17:4 **22:21** [g]S Ge 34:7; S 38:24; S Lev 19:29; Dt 23:17-18; 1Co 5:13*

[c]9 Or *be forfeited to the sanctuary* [d]19 That is, about 2 1/2 pounds (about 1 kilogram)

slept[a] with her and the woman must die.[b] You must purge the evil from Israel.

23If a man happens to meet in a town a virgin pledged to be married and he sleeps with her, 24you shall take both of them to the gate of that town and stone them to death—the girl because she was in a town and did not scream for help, and the man because he violated another man's wife. You must purge the evil from among you.[c]

25But if out in the country a man happens to meet a girl pledged to be married and rapes her, only the man who has done this shall die. 26Do nothing to the girl; she has committed no sin deserving death. This case is like that of someone who attacks and murders his neighbor, 27for the man found the girl out in the country, and though the betrothed girl screamed,[d] there was no one to rescue her.

28If a man happens to meet a virgin who is not pledged to be married and rapes her and they are discovered,[e] 29he shall pay the girl's father fifty shekels of silver.[e] He must marry the girl, for he has violated her. He can never divorce her as long as he lives.

30A man is not to marry his father's wife; he must not dishonor his father's bed.[f]

Exclusion From the Assembly

23 No one who has been emasculated[g] by crushing or cutting may enter the assembly of the LORD.

2No one born of a forbidden marriage[f] nor any of his descendants may enter the assembly of the LORD, even down to the tenth generation.

3No Ammonite[h] or Moabite or any of his descendants may enter the assembly of the LORD, even down to the tenth generation.[i] 4For they did not come to meet you with bread and water[j] on your way when you came out of Egypt, and they hired Balaam[k] son of Beor from Pethor in Aram Naharaim[g][l] to pronounce a curse on you.[m] 5However, the LORD your God would not listen to Balaam but turned the curse[n] into a blessing for you, because the LORD your God loves[o] you. 6Do not seek a treaty[p] of friendship with them as long as you live.[q]

7Do not abhor an Edomite,[r] for he is your brother.[s] Do not abhor an Egyptian, because you lived as an alien in his country.[t] 8The third generation of children born to them may enter the assembly of the LORD.

Uncleanness in the Camp

9When you are encamped against your enemies, keep away from everything impure.[u] 10If one of your men is unclean because of a nocturnal emission, he is to go outside the camp and stay there.[v] 11But as evening approaches he is to wash himself, and at sunset[w] he may return to the camp.[x]

12Designate a place outside the camp where you can go to relieve yourself. 13As part of your equipment have something to dig with, and when you relieve yourself, dig a hole and cover up your excrement. 14For the LORD your God moves[y] about in your camp to protect you and to deliver your enemies to you. Your camp must be holy,[z] so that he will not see among you anything indecent and turn away from you.

Miscellaneous Laws

15If a slave has taken refuge[a] with you, do not hand him over to his master.[b] 16Let him live among you wherever he likes and in whatever town he chooses. Do not oppress[c] him.

17No Israelite man[d] or woman is to become a shrine prostitute.[e] 18You must not bring the earnings of a female prostitute or of a male prostitute[h] into the house of the LORD your God to pay any vow, because the LORD your God detests them both.[f]

19Do not charge your brother interest, whether on money or food or anything else that may earn interest.[g] 20You may charge a foreigner[h] interest, but not a brother Israelite, so that the LORD your God may bless[i] you in everything you put your hand to in the land you are entering to possess.

21If you make a vow to the LORD your God, do not be slow to pay it,[j] for the LORD your God will certainly demand it of you and you will be guilty of sin.[k] 22But if you refrain from making a vow, you will not be guilty.[l] 23Whatever your lips utter you must be sure to do, because you made your vow freely to the LORD your God with your own mouth.

24If you enter your neighbor's vineyard, you may eat all the grapes you

22:22 [a]2Sa 11:4 [b]S Ge 38:24; S Ex 21:12; Mt 5:27-28; Jn 8:5; 1Co 6:9; Heb 13:4
22:24 [c]1Co 5:13*
22:27 [d]S Ge 39:14
22:28 [e]Ex 22:16
22:30 [f]S Ge 29:29; S Lev 18:8; S 20:9; 1Co 5:1
23:1 [g]S Lev 21:20
23:3 [h]S Ge 19:38 [i]ver 4; Ne 13:2
23:4 [j]Dt 2:28 [k]S Nu 23:7; S 2Pe 2:15 [l]S Ge 24:10 [m]S ver 3
23:5 [n]Nu 24:10; Jos 24:10; Pr 26:2 [o]S Dt 4:37
23:6 [p]S Nu 24:17; Isa 15:1; 25:10; Jer 25:21; 27:3; 48:1; Eze 25:8; Zep 2:9 [q]Ezr 9:12; Mt 5:43
23:7 [r]S Ge 25:30 [s]S Ge 25:26 [t]S Lev 19:34
23:9 [u]Lev 15:1-33
23:10 [v]Lev 15:16
23:11 [w]S Lev 15:16 [x]1Sa 21:5
23:14 [y]S Ge 3:8 [z]Ex 3:5
23:15 [a]2Sa 22:3; Ps 2:12; 71:1 [b]1Sa 30:15
23:16 [c]Ex 22:21; S 23:6
23:17 [d]1Ki 14:24; 15:12; 22:46; 2Ki 23:7; Job 36:14 [e]S Ge 38:21
23:18 [f]S Ge 19:5; S Lev 20:13; Rev 22:15
23:19 [g]S Lev 25:35-37, 36; Ne 5:2-7
23:20 [h]S Ge 31:15; S Dt 15:3 [i]Dt 15:10
23:21 [j]S Nu 6:21; Jdg 11:35; Ps 15:4 [k]Nu 30:1-2; Job 22:27; Ps 61:8; 65:1; 76:11; Ecc 5:4-5; Isa 19:21; S Mt 5:33; Ac 5:3
23:22 [l]Ac 5:4

[e]29 That is, about 1 1/4 pounds (about 0.6 kilogram)
[f]2 Or *one of illegitimate birth*
[g]4 That is, Northwest Mesopotamia
[h]18 Hebrew *of a dog*

want, but do not put any in your basket. 25 If you enter your neighbor's grainfield, you may pick kernels with your hands, but you must not put a sickle to his standing grain.[a]

24 If a man marries a woman who becomes displeasing to him[b] because he finds something indecent about her, and he writes her a certificate of divorce,[c] gives it to her and sends her from his house, 2 and if after she leaves his house she becomes the wife of another man, 3 and her second husband dislikes her and writes her a certificate of divorce, gives it to her and sends her from his house, or if he dies, 4 then her first husband, who divorced her, is not allowed to marry her again after she has been defiled. That would be detestable in the eyes of the LORD. Do not bring sin upon the land the LORD[d] your God is giving you as an inheritance.

5 If a man has recently married, he must not be sent to war or have any other duty laid on him. For one year he is to be free to stay at home and bring happiness to the wife he has married.[e]

6 Do not take a pair of millstones—not even the upper one—as security for a debt, because that would be taking a man's livelihood as security.[f]

7 If a man is caught kidnapping one of his brother Israelites and treats him as a slave or sells him, the kidnapper must die.[g] You must purge the evil from among you.[h]

8 In cases of leprous[i] diseases be very careful to do exactly as the priests, who are Levites,[i] instruct you. You must follow carefully what I have commanded them.[j] 9 Remember what the LORD your God did to Miriam along the way after you came out of Egypt.[k]

10 When you make a loan of any kind to your neighbor, do not go into his house to get what he is offering as a pledge.[l] 11 Stay outside and let the man to whom you are making the loan bring the pledge out to you. 12 If the man is poor, do not go to sleep with his pledge[m] in your possession. 13 Return his cloak to him by sunset[n] so that he may sleep in it.[o] Then he will thank you, and it will be regarded as a righteous act in the sight of the LORD your God.[p]

14 Do not take advantage of a hired man who is poor and needy, whether he is a brother Israelite or an alien living in one of your towns.[q] 15 Pay him his wages each day before sunset, because he is poor[r] and is counting on it.[s] Otherwise he may cry to the LORD against you, and you will be guilty of sin.[t]

16 Fathers shall not be put to death for their children, nor children put to death for their fathers; each is to die for his own sin.[u]

17 Do not deprive the alien or the fatherless[v] of justice,[w] or take the cloak of the widow as a pledge. 18 Remember that you were slaves in Egypt[x] and the LORD your God redeemed you from there. That is why I command you to do this.

19 When you are harvesting in your field and you overlook a sheaf, do not go back to get it.[y] Leave it for the alien,[z] the fatherless and the widow,[a] so that the LORD your God may bless[b] you in all the work of your hands. 20 When you beat the olives from your trees, do not go over the branches a second time.[c] Leave what remains for the alien, the fatherless and the widow. 21 When you harvest the grapes in your vineyard, do not go over the vines again. Leave what remains for the alien, the fatherless and the widow. 22 Remember that you were slaves in Egypt. That is why I command you to do this.[d]

25 When men have a dispute, they are to take it to court and the judges[e] will decide the case,[f] acquitting[g] the innocent and condemning the guilty.[h] 2 If the guilty man deserves to be beaten,[i] the judge shall make him lie down and have him flogged in his presence with the number of lashes his crime deserves, 3 but he must not give him more than forty lashes.[j] If he is flogged more than that, your brother will be degraded in your eyes.[k]

4 Do not muzzle an ox while it is treading out the grain.[l]

5 If brothers are living together and one of them dies without a son, his widow must not marry outside the family. Her husband's brother shall take her and marry her and fulfill the duty of a brother-in-law to her.[m] 6 The first son she bears shall carry on the name of the dead brother so that his name will not be blotted out from Israel.[n]

7 However, if a man does not want to marry his brother's wife,[o] she shall go to the elders at the town gate[p] and say,

23:25 [a]Mt 12:1; Mk 2:23; Lk 6:1
24:1 [b]Dt 22:13 [c]ver 3; 2Ki 17:6; Isa 50:1; Jer 3:8; Mal 2:16; Mt 1:19; 5:31*; 19:7-9; Mk 10:4-5
24:4 [d]Jer 3:1
24:5 [e]S Dt 20:7
24:6 [f]S Ex 22:22
24:7 [g]S Ex 21:16 [h]1Co 5:13*
24:8 [i]S Dt 17:9 [j]Lev 13:1-46; S 14:2
24:9 [k]S Nu 12:10
24:10 [l]Ex 22:25-27
24:12 [m]S Ex 22:26
24:13 [n]Ex 22:26 [o]S Ex 22:27 [p]Dt 6:25; Ps 106:31; Da 4:27
24:14 [q]Lev 19:13; 25:35-43; Dt 15:12-18; Job 24:4; Pr 14:31; 19:17; Am 4:1; 1Ti 5:18
24:15 [r]S Lev 25:35 [s]S Lev 19:13; Mt 20:8 [t]S Ex 22:23; S Job 12:19; Jas 5:4
24:16 [u]S Nu 26:11; Jer 31:29-30
24:17 [v]Ex 22:22; Job 6:27; 24:9; 29:12; Ps 10:18; 82:3; Pr 23:10; Eze 22:7 [w]S Ex 22:21; S 23:2; S Dt 10:18
24:18 [x]S Dt 15:15
24:19 [y]S Lev 19:9 [z]Dt 10:19; 27:19; Eze 47:22; Zec 7:10; Mal 3:5 [a]ver 20; Dt 14:29 [b]S Dt 14:29; Pr 19:17; 28:27; Ecc 11:1
24:20 [c]Lev 19:10
24:22 [d]ver 18
25:1 [e]S Ex 21:6 [f]Dt 17:8-13; 19:17; Ac 23:3 [g]1Ki 8:32 [h]S Ex 23:7; Dt 1:16-17
25:2 [i]Pr 10:13; 19:29; Lk 12:47-48
25:3 [j]Mt 27:26; Jn 19:1; 2Co 11:24 [k]Jer 20:2
25:4 [l]S Nu 22:29; 1Co 9:9*; 1Ti 5:18*
25:5 [m]Ru 4:10, 13; Mt 22:24; Mk 12:19; Lk 20:28
25:6 [n]Ge 38:9; Ru 4:5,10
25:7 [o]Ru 1:15 [p]S Ge 23:10

[i]8 The Hebrew word was used for various diseases affecting the skin—not necessarily leprosy.

"My husband's brother refuses to carry
on his brother's name in Israel. He will
not fulfill the duty of a brother-in-law
to me."[a] 8Then the elders of his town
shall summon him and talk to him. If
he persists in saying, "I do not want to
marry her," 9his brother's widow shall
go up to him in the presence of the el-
ders, take off one of his sandals,[b] spit
in his face[c] and say, "This is what is
done to the man who will not build up
his brother's family line." 10That man's
line shall be known in Israel as The
Family of the Unsandaled.

11If two men are fighting and the
wife of one of them comes to rescue her
husband from his assailant, and she
reaches out and seizes him by his pri-
vate parts, 12you shall cut off her hand.
Show her no pity.[d]

13Do not have two differing weights
in your bag—one heavy, one light.[e]
14Do not have two differing measures
in your house—one large, one small.
15You must have accurate and honest
weights and measures, so that you may
live long[f] in the land the LORD your
God is giving you. 16For the LORD
your God detests anyone who does
these things, anyone who deals dis-
honestly.[g]

17Remember what the Amalekites[h]
did to you along the way when you
came out of Egypt. 18When you were
weary and worn out, they met you on
your journey and cut off all who were
lagging behind; they had no fear of
God.[i] 19When the LORD your God gives
you rest[j] from all the enemies[k] around
you in the land he is giving you to pos-
sess as an inheritance, you shall blot
out the memory of Amalek[l] from un-
der heaven. Do not forget!

Firstfruits and Tithes

26 When you have entered the land
the LORD your God is giving you
as an inheritance and have taken
possession of it and settled in it, 2take
some of the firstfruits[m] of all that you
produce from the soil of the land the
LORD your God is giving you and put
them in a basket. Then go to the place
the LORD your God will choose as a
dwelling for his Name[n] 3and say to the
priest in office at the time, "I declare
today to the LORD your God that I have
come to the land the LORD swore to our
forefathers to give us." 4The priest shall
take the basket from your hands and
set it down in front of the altar of the
LORD your God. 5Then you shall declare
before the LORD your God: "My father
was a wandering[o] Aramean,[p] and he
went down into Egypt with a few
people[q] and lived there and became a
great nation,[r] powerful and numer-
ous. 6But the Egyptians mistreated us
and made us suffer,[s] putting us to
hard labor.[t] 7Then we cried out to the
LORD, the God of our fathers, and the
LORD heard our voice[u] and saw[v] our
misery,[w] toil and oppression.[x] 8So the
LORD brought us out of Egypt[y] with a
mighty hand and an outstretched
arm,[z] with great terror and with mirac-
ulous signs and wonders.[a] 9He
brought us to this place and gave us
this land, a land flowing with milk and
honey;[b] 10and now I bring the first-
fruits of the soil that you, O LORD, have
given me."[c] Place the basket before the
LORD your God and bow down before
him. 11And you and the Levites[d] and
the aliens among you shall rejoice[e] in
all the good things the LORD your God
has given to you and your household.

12When you have finished setting
aside a tenth[f] of all your produce in
the third year, the year of the tithe,[g]
you shall give it to the Levite, the alien,
the fatherless and the widow, so that
they may eat in your towns and be sat-
isfied. 13Then say to the LORD your God:
"I have removed from my house the
sacred portion and have given it to the
Levite, the alien, the fatherless and the
widow, according to all you com-
manded. I have not turned aside from
your commands nor have I forgotten
any of them.[h] 14I have not eaten any of
the sacred portion while I was in
mourning, nor have I removed any of it
while I was unclean,[i] nor have I of-
fered any of it to the dead. I have
obeyed the LORD my God; I have done
everything you commanded me.
15Look down from heaven,[j] your holy
dwelling place, and bless[k] your people
Israel and the land you have given us
as you promised on oath to our fore-
fathers, a land flowing with milk and
honey."

Follow the LORD's Commands

16The LORD your God commands you
this day to follow these decrees and
laws; carefully observe them with all
your heart and with all your soul.[l]
17You have declared this day that the
LORD is your God and that you will
walk in his ways, that you will keep his
decrees, commands and laws, and that
you will obey him.[m] 18And the LORD has

25:7 [a]Ru 4:1-2,5-6
25:9 [b]Jos 24:22; Ru 4:7-8,11 [c]Nu 12:14; Job 17:6; 30:10; Isa 50:6
25:12 [d]S Dt 7:2
25:13 [e]Pr 11:1; 20:23; Mic 6:11
25:15 [f]S Ex 20:12
25:16 [g]Pr 11:1
25:17 [h]S Ge 36:12
25:18 [i]Ps 36:1; Ro 3:18
25:19 [j]S Ex 33:14; Heb 3:18-19 [k]Est 9:16 [l]S Ge 36:12
26:2 [m]S Ex 22:29 [n]S Ex 20:24; S Dt 12:5
26:5 [o]S Ge 20:13 [p]S Ge 25:20 [q]S Ge 34:30; 43:14 [r]S Ge 12:2
26:6 [s]S Nu 20:15 [t]S Ex 1:13
26:7 [u]S Ge 21:17 [v]Ex 3:9; 2Ki 13:4; 14:26 [w]S Ge 16:11 [x]Ps 42:9; 44:24; 72:14
26:8 [y]S Nu 20:16 [z]S Ex 3:20 [a]S Dt 4:34; 34:11-12
26:9 [b]S Ex 3:8
26:10 [c]S Dt 8:18
26:11 [d]Dt 12:12 [e]S Dt 16:11
26:12 [f]S Ge 14:20 [g]S Nu 18:24; Dt 14:28-29; Heb 7:5,9
26:13 [h]Ps 119:141,153,176
26:14 [i]Lev 7:20; Hos 9:4
26:15 [j]Ps 68:5; 80:14; 102:19; Isa 63:15; Zec 2:13 [k]S Ex 39:43
26:16 [l]Dt 4:29
26:17 [m]Ex 19:8; Ps 48:14

declared this day that you are his
people, his treasured possession[a] as he
promised, and that you are to keep all
his commands. 19 He has declared that
he will set you in praise,[b] fame and
honor high above all the nations[c] he
has made and that you will be a people
holy[d] to the LORD your God, as he
promised.

The Altar on Mount Ebal

27 Moses and the elders of Israel commanded the people: "Keep
all these commands[e] that I give you to-
day. 2 When you have crossed the Jor-
dan[f] into the land the LORD your God
is giving you, set up some large
stones[g] and coat them with plaster.[h]
3 Write on them all the words of this law
when you have crossed over to enter
the land the LORD your God is giving
you, a land flowing with milk and
honey,[i] just as the LORD, the God of
your fathers, promised you. 4 And
when you have crossed the Jordan, set
up these stones on Mount Ebal,[j] as I
command you today, and coat them
with plaster. 5 Build there an altar[k] to
the LORD your God, an altar of stones.
Do not use any iron tool[l] upon them.
6 Build the altar of the LORD your God
with fieldstones and offer burnt offer-
ings on it to the LORD your God. 7 Sacri-
fice fellowship offerings[j][m] there, eat-
ing them and rejoicing[n] in the presence
of the LORD your God.[o] 8 And you shall
write very clearly all the words of this
law on these stones[p] you have set
up."[q]

Curses From Mount Ebal

9 Then Moses and the priests, who
are Levites,[r] said to all Israel, "Be si-
lent, O Israel, and listen! You have
now become the people of the LORD
your God.[s] 10 Obey the LORD your God
and follow his commands and decrees
that I give you today."

11 On the same day Moses commanded the people:

12 When you have crossed the Jordan,
these tribes shall stand on Mount Geri-
zim[t] to bless the people: Simeon, Levi,
Judah, Issachar,[u] Joseph and Benja-
min.[v] 13 And these tribes shall stand on
Mount Ebal[w] to pronounce curses:
Reuben, Gad, Asher, Zebulun, Dan
and Naphtali.

14 The Levites shall recite to all the people of Israel in a loud voice:

15 "Cursed is the man who carves an image or casts an idol[x]—a thing detestable[y] to the LORD, the work of the craftsman's hands—and sets it up in secret."

Then all the people shall say, "Amen!"[z]

16 "Cursed is the man who dishonors his father or his mother."[a]

Then all the people shall say, "Amen!"

17 "Cursed is the man who moves his neighbor's boundary stone."[b]

Then all the people shall say, "Amen!"

18 "Cursed is the man who leads the blind astray on the road."[c]

Then all the people shall say, "Amen!"

19 "Cursed is the man who withholds justice from the alien,[d] the fatherless or the widow."[e]

Then all the people shall say, "Amen!"

20 "Cursed is the man who sleeps with his father's wife, for he dishonors his father's bed."[f]

Then all the people shall say, "Amen!"

21 "Cursed is the man who has sexual relations with any animal."[g]

Then all the people shall say, "Amen!"

22 "Cursed is the man who sleeps with his sister, the daughter of his father or the daughter of his mother."[h]

Then all the people shall say, "Amen!"

23 "Cursed is the man who sleeps with his mother-in-law."[i]

Then all the people shall say, "Amen!"

24 "Cursed is the man who kills[j] his neighbor secretly."[k]

Then all the people shall say, "Amen!"

25 "Cursed is the man who accepts a bribe to kill an innocent person."[l]

Then all the people shall say, "Amen!"

26 "Cursed is the man who does not uphold the words of this law by carrying them out."[m]

Then all the people shall say, "Amen!"[n]

Blessings for Obedience

28 If you fully obey the LORD your God and carefully follow[o] all his

26:18 [a]Ex 6:7; Dt 7:6
26:19 [b]Isa 62:7; Zep 3:20 [c]Dt 4:7-8; 28:1, 13,44; 1Ch 14:2; Ps 148:14; Isa 40:11 [d]S Dt 7:6
27:1 [e]Ps 78:7
27:2 [f]Jos 4:1 [g]Ex 24:4; Jos 24:26; 1Sa 7:12 [h]Jos 8:31
27:3 [i]S Ex 3:8
27:4 [j]S Dt 11:29
27:5 [k]S Ex 20:24 [l]Ex 20:25
27:7 [m]S Ex 32:6 [n]S Dt 16:11 [o]Jos 8:31
27:8 [p]Isa 8:1; 30:8; Hab 2:2 [q]Jos 8:32
27:9 [r]S Dt 17:9 [s]Dt 26:18
27:12 [t]S Dt 11:29 [u]S Ge 30:18 [v]Jos 8:35
27:13 [w]S Dt 11:29
27:15 [x]S Ex 20:4 [y]1Ki 11:5,7; 2Ki 23:13; Isa 44:19; 66:3 [z]Nu 5:22; S 1Co 14:16
27:16 [a]S Ge 31:35; S Ex 21:12; S Dt 5:16
27:17 [b]S Dt 19:14
27:18 [c]S Lev 19:14
27:19 [d]S Ex 22:21; S Dt 24:19 [e]S Ex 23:2; S Dt 10:18
27:20 [f]S Ge 34:5; S Lev 18:7
27:21 [g]S Ex 22:19
27:22 [h]S Lev 18:9
27:23 [i]S Lev 20:14
27:24 [j]S Ge 4:23 [k]Ex 21:12
27:25 [l]Ex 23:7-8; S Lev 19:16
27:26 [m]S Lev 26:14; Dt 28:15; Ps 119:21; Jer 11:3; Gal 3:10* [n]Jer 11:5
28:1 [o]S Dt 15:5

[j]7 Traditionally *peace offerings*

commands[a] I give you today, the LORD
your God will set you high above all
the nations on earth.[b] 2 All these bless-
ings will come upon you[c] and accom-
pany you if you obey the LORD your
God:

3 You will be blessed[d] in the city
and blessed in the country.[e]
4 The fruit of your womb will be
blessed, and the crops of your land
and the young of your livestock—
the calves of your herds and the
lambs of your flocks.[f]
5 Your basket and your kneading
trough will be blessed.
6 You will be blessed when you
come in and blessed when you go
out.[g]

7 The LORD will grant that the ene-
mies[h] who rise up against you will be
defeated before you. They will come at
you from one direction but flee from
you in seven.[i]
8 The LORD will send a blessing on
your barns and on everything you put
your hand to. The LORD your God will
bless[j] you in the land he is giving you.
9 The LORD will establish you as his
holy people,[k] as he promised you on
oath, if you keep the commands[l] of
the LORD your God and walk in his
ways. 10 Then all the peoples on earth
will see that you are called by the
name[m] of the LORD, and they will fear
you. 11 The LORD will grant you abun-
dant prosperity—in the fruit of your
womb, the young of your livestock[n]
and the crops of your ground—in the
land he swore to your forefathers to
give you.[o]
12 The LORD will open the heavens,
the storehouse[p] of his bounty,[q] to
send rain[r] on your land in season and
to bless[s] all the work of your hands.
You will lend to many nations but will
borrow from none.[t] 13 The LORD will
make you the head, not the tail. If you
pay attention to the commands of the
LORD your God that I give you this day
and carefully follow[u] them, you will al-
ways be at the top, never at the bot-
tom.[v] 14 Do not turn aside from any of
the commands I give you today, to the
right or to the left,[w] following other
gods and serving them.

Curses for Disobedience

15 However, if you do not obey[x] the
LORD your God and do not carefully fol-
low all his commands and decrees I am
giving you today,[y] all these curses will
come upon you and overtake you:[z]

16 You will be cursed in the city
and cursed in the country.[a]
17 Your basket and your kneading
trough will be cursed.[b]
18 The fruit of your womb will be
cursed, and the crops of your land,
and the calves of your herds and
the lambs of your flocks.[c]
19 You will be cursed when you
come in and cursed when you go
out.[d]

20 The LORD will send on you curses,[e]
confusion and rebuke[f] in everything
you put your hand to, until you are de-
stroyed and come to sudden ruin[g] be-
cause of the evil[h] you have done in for-
saking him.[k] 21 The LORD will plague
you with diseases until he has de-
stroyed you from the land you are en-
tering to possess.[i] 22 The LORD will
strike you with wasting disease,[j] with
fever and inflammation, with scorching
heat and drought,[k] with blight[l] and
mildew, which will plague[m] you until
you perish.[n] 23 The sky over your head
will be bronze, the ground beneath you
iron.[o] 24 The LORD will turn the rain[p] of
your country into dust and powder; it
will come down from the skies until
you are destroyed.
25 The LORD will cause you to be de-
feated[q] before your enemies. You will
come at them from one direction but
flee from them in seven,[r] and you will
become a thing of horror[s] to all the
kingdoms on earth.[t] 26 Your carcasses
will be food for all the birds of the air[u]
and the beasts of the earth, and there
will be no one to frighten them away.[v]
27 The LORD will afflict you with the boils
of Egypt[w] and with tumors, festering
sores and the itch, from which you can-
not be cured. 28 The LORD will afflict you
with madness, blindness and confu-
sion of mind. 29 At midday you will
grope[x] about like a blind man in the
dark. You will be unsuccessful in
everything you do; day after day you
will be oppressed and robbed, with no
one to rescue[y] you.
30 You will be pledged to be married
to a woman, but another will take her
and ravish her.[z] You will build a

28:1 [a]S Lev 26:3 [b]S Nu 24:7; S Dt 26:19 **28:2** [c]Jer 32:24; Zec 1:6 **28:3** [d]Ps 144:15 [e]S Ge 39:5 **28:4** [f]S Ge 49:25; S Dt 8:18 **28:6** [g]Ps 121:8 **28:7** [h]2Ch 6:34 [i]S Lev 26:8,17 **28:8** [j]Dt 15:4 **28:9** [k]S Ex 19:6 [l]S Lev 26:3 **28:10** [m]S Nu 6:27; 1Ki 8:43; Jer 25:29; Da 9:18 **28:11** [n]S Ge 30:27 [o]ver 4; Dt 30:9 **28:12** [p]Job 38:22; Ps 135:7; Jer 10:13; 51:16 [q]Ps 65:11; 68:10; Jer 31:12 [r]S Lev 26:4; 1Ki 8:35-36; 18:1; Ps 104:13; Isa 5:6; 30:23; 32:20 [s]Isa 61:9; 65:23; Jer 32:38-41; Mal 3:12 [t]ver 44; S Lev 25:19; S Dt 15:3,6; Eze 34:26 **28:13** [u]Jer 11:6 [v]S Dt 26:19 **28:14** [w]S Dt 5:32; Jos 1:7 **28:15** [x]1Ki 9:6; 2Ch 7:19 [y]S Dt 27:26 [z]Dt 29:27; Jos 23:15; 2Ch 12:5; Da 9:11; Mal 2:2 **28:16** [a]ver 3 **28:17** [b]ver 5 **28:18** [c]ver 4 **28:19** [d]ver 6 **28:20** [e]ver 8,15; Lev 26:16; Jer 42:18; Mal 2:2; 3:9; 4:6 [f]Ps 39:11; 76:6; 80:16; Isa 17:13; 51:20; 54:9; 66:15; Eze 5:15 [g]Dt 4:26 [h]S Ex 32:22 **28:21** [i]Lev 26:25; Nu 14:12; Jer 24:10; Am 4:10 **28:22** [j]ver 48; Dt 32:24 [k]Lev 26:16; 2Ki 8:1; Job 12:15; Ps 105:16; Jer 14:1; Hag 1:11; Mal 3:9 [l]Hag 2:17 [m]S Lev 26:25 [n]Dt 4:26; Am 4:9 **28:23** [o]S Lev 26:19 **28:24** [p]Lev 26:19; Dt 11:17; 1Ki 8:35; 17:1; Isa 5:6; Jer 14:1; Hag 1:10 **28:25** [q]1Sa 4:10; Ps 78:62 [r]S Lev 26:17 [s]ver 37 [t]2Ch 29:8; 30:7; Jer 15:4; 24:9; 26:6; 29:18; 44:12; Eze 23:46 **28:26** [u]S Ge 40:19 [v]Ps 79:2; Isa 18:6; Jer 7:33; 12:9; 15:2; 16:4; 19:7; 34:20 **28:27** [w]Dt 7:15 **28:29** [x]Ge 19:11; Ex 10:21; Job 5:14; 12:25; 24:13; 38:15; Isa 59:10 [y]Jdg 3:9; 2Ki 13:5; Est 4:14; Isa 19:20; 43:11; Hos 13:4; Ob 1:21 **28:30** [z]Job 31:10

[k]20 Hebrew *me*

house, but you will not live in it.[a] You
will plant a vineyard, but you will not
even begin to enjoy its fruit.[b] 31Your ox
will be slaughtered before your eyes,
but you will eat none of it. Your don-
key will be forcibly taken from you and
will not be returned. Your sheep will
be given to your enemies, and no one
will rescue them. 32Your sons and
daughters will be given to another na-
tion,[c] and you will wear out your eyes
watching for them day after day, pow-
erless to lift a hand. 33A people that you
do not know will eat what your land
and labor produce, and you will have
nothing but cruel oppression[d] all your
days.[e] 34The sights you see will drive
you mad.[f] 35The LORD will afflict your
knees and legs with painful boils[g] that
cannot be cured, spreading from the
soles of your feet to the top of your
head.[h]

36The LORD will drive you and the
king[i] you set over you to a nation un-
known to you or your fathers.[j] There
you will worship other gods, gods of
wood and stone.[k] 37You will become a
thing of horror[l] and an object of
scorn[m] and ridicule[n] to all the nations
where the LORD will drive you.[o]

38You will sow much seed in the field
but you will harvest little,[p] because lo-
custs[q] will devour[r] it. 39You will plant
vineyards and cultivate them but you
will not drink the wine[s] or gather the
grapes, because worms will eat[t]
them.[u] 40You will have olive trees
throughout your country but you will
not use the oil, because the olives will
drop off.[v] 41You will have sons and
daughters but you will not keep them,
because they will go into captivity.[w]
42Swarms of locusts[x] will take over all
your trees and the crops of your land.

43The alien who lives among you will
rise above you higher and higher, but
you will sink lower and lower.[y] 44He
will lend to you, but you will not lend
to him.[z] He will be the head, but you
will be the tail.[a]

45All these curses will come upon
you. They will pursue you and over-
take you[b] until you are destroyed,[c] be-
cause you did not obey the LORD your
God and observe the commands and
decrees he gave you. 46They will be a
sign and a wonder to you and your de-
scendants forever.[d] 47Because you did
not serve[e] the LORD your God joyfully
and gladly[f] in the time of prosperity,
48therefore in hunger and thirst,[g] in
nakedness and dire poverty, you will
serve the enemies the LORD sends
against you. He will put an iron yoke[h]
on your neck[i] until he has destroyed
you.

49The LORD will bring a nation against
you[j] from far away, from the ends of
the earth,[k] like an eagle[l] swooping
down, a nation whose language you
will not understand,[m] 50a fierce-looking
nation without respect for the old[n] or
pity for the young. 51They will devour
the young of your livestock and the
crops of your land until you are de-
stroyed. They will leave you no grain,
new wine[o] or oil,[p] nor any calves of
your herds or lambs of your flocks until
you are ruined.[q] 52They will lay siege[r]
to all the cities throughout your land
until the high fortified walls in which
you trust fall down. They will besiege
all the cities throughout the land the
LORD your God is giving you.[s]

53Because of the suffering that your
enemy will inflict on you during the
siege, you will eat the fruit of the
womb, the flesh of the sons and
daughters the LORD your God has given
you.[t] 54Even the most gentle and sen-
sitive man among you will have no
compassion on his own brother or the
wife he loves or his surviving children,
55and he will not give to one of them
any of the flesh of his children that he
is eating. It will be all he has left be-
cause of the suffering your enemy will
inflict on you during the siege of all
your cities.[u] 56The most gentle and sen-
sitive[v] woman among you—so sensi-
tive and gentle that she would not ven-
ture to touch the ground with the sole
of her foot—will begrudge the husband
she loves and her own son or daugh-
ter[w] 57the afterbirth from her womb
and the children she bears. For she in-
tends to eat them[x] secretly during the
siege and in the distress that your ene-
my will inflict on you in your cities.

58If you do not carefully follow all the
words of this law,[y] which are written
in this book, and do not revere[z] this
glorious and awesome name[a]—the
LORD your God— 59the LORD will send
fearful plagues on you and your de-
scendants, harsh and prolonged disas-
ters, and severe and lingering illnesses.
60He will bring upon you all the dis-
eases of Egypt[b] that you dreaded, and

28:30 [a]Isa 65:22; Am 5:11 [b]Jer 12:13 **28:32** [c]ver 41 **28:33** [d]Jer 6:6; 22:17 [e]Jer 5:15-17; Eze 25:4 **28:34** [f]ver 67 **28:35** [g]Dt 7:15; Rev 16:2 [h]Job 2:7; 7:5; 13:28; 30:17,30; Isa 1:6 **28:36** [i]1Sa 12:25 [j]S Dt 4:27; 2Ki 24:14; 25:7, 11; 2Ch 33:11; 36:21; Ezr 5:12; Jer 15:14; 16:13; 27:20; 39:1-9; 52:28; La 1:3 [k]S Dt 4:28 **28:37** [l]ver 25; Jer 42:18; Eze 5:15 [m]Ps 22:7; 39:8; 44:13; 64:8; Jer 18:16; 48:27; Mic 6:16 [n]2Ch 7:20; Ezr 9:7; Jer 44:8 [o]1Ki 9:7; Ps 44:14; Jer 19:8; 24:9; 25:9,18; 29:18; La 2:15 **28:38** [p]Lev 26:20; Ps 129:7; Isa 5:10; Jer 12:13; Hos 8:7; Mic 6:15; Hag 1:6,9; 2:16 [q]S Ex 10:4 [r]S Ex 10:15 **28:39** [s]S Lev 10:9 [t]Joel 1:4; 2:25; Mal 3:11 [u]Isa 5:10; 17:10-11; Zep 1:13 **28:40** [v]Jer 11:16; Mic 6:15 **28:41** [w]ver 32 **28:42** [x]ver 38; Jdg 6:5; 7:12; Jer 46:23 **28:43** [y]ver 13 **28:44** [z]S ver 12 [a]S Dt 26:19 **28:45** [b]S Ex 15:9 [c]ver 15; Dt 4:25-26 **28:46** [d]S Nu 16:38; Ps 71:7; Isa 8:18; 20:3; Eze 5:15; Zec 3:8 **28:47** [e]S Dt 10:12 [f]S Lev 23:40; Ne 9:35 **28:48** [g]Jer 14:3; La 4:4 [h]Jer 28:13-14; La 1:14 [i]Ge 49:8 **28:49** [j]S Lev 26:44 [k]Isa 5:26-30,26; 7:18-20; 39:3; Jer 4:16; 5:15; 6:22; 25:32; 31:8; Hab 1:6 [l]2Sa 1:23; Jer 4:13; 48:40; 49:22; La 4:19; Eze 17:3; Hos 8:1 [m]S Ge 11:7; 1Co 14:21* **28:50** [n]Isa 47:6

28:51 [o]Ps 4:7; Isa 36:17; Hag 1:11 [p]S Nu 18:12 [q]ver 33; Jdg 6:4 **28:52** [r]2Ki 6:24 [s]Jer 10:18; Eze 6:10; Zep 1:14-16,17 **28:53** [t]ver 57; Lev 26:29; 2Ki 6:28-29; La 2:20 **28:55** [u]2Ki 6:29 **28:56** [v]Isa 47:1 [w]La 4:10 **28:57** [x]S ver 53 **28:58** [y]Dt 31:24 [z]Ps 96:4; Jer 5:22; Mal 1:14; 2:5; 3:5,16; 4:2 [a]S Ex 3:15; S Jos 7:9 **28:60** [b]Ex 15:26

they will cling to you. 61The LORD will
also bring on you every kind of sick-
ness and disaster not recorded in this
Book of the Law,[a] until you are de-
stroyed.[b] 62You who were as numer-
ous as the stars in the sky[c] will be left
but few[d] in number, because you did
not obey the LORD your God. 63Just as it
pleased[e] the LORD to make you prosper
and increase in number, so it will
please[f] him to ruin and destroy you.[g]
You will be uprooted[h] from the land
you are entering to possess.
64Then the LORD will scatter[i] you
among all nations,[j] from one end of
the earth to the other.[k] There you will
worship other gods—gods of wood
and stone, which neither you nor your
fathers have known.[l] 65Among those
nations you will find no repose, no
resting place[m] for the sole of your foot.
There the LORD will give you an anxious
mind, eyes[n] weary with longing, and a
despairing heart.[o] 66You will live in
constant suspense, filled with dread
both night and day, never sure of your
life. 67In the morning you will say, "If
only it were evening!" and in the eve-
ning, "If only it were morn-
ing!"—because of the terror that will fill
your hearts and the sights that your
eyes will see.[p] 68The LORD will send
you back in ships to Egypt on a journey
I said you should never make again.[q]
There you will offer yourselves for sale
to your enemies as male and female
slaves, but no one will buy you.

Renewal of the Covenant

29 These are the terms of the cov-
enant the LORD commanded
Moses to make with the Israelites in
Moab,[r] in addition to the covenant he
had made with them at Horeb.[s]
2Moses summoned all the Israelites
and said to them:

Your eyes have seen all that the LORD
did in Egypt to Pharaoh, to all his offi-
cials and to all his land.[t] 3With your
own eyes you saw those great trials,
those miraculous signs and great won-
ders.[u] 4But to this day the LORD has not
given you a mind that understands or
eyes that see or ears that hear.[v] 5Dur-
ing the forty years that I led[w] you
through the desert, your clothes did
not wear out, nor did the sandals on
your feet.[x] 6You ate no bread and
drank no wine or other fermented
drink.[y] I did this so that you might
know that I am the LORD your God.[z]

7When you reached this place, Si-
hon[a] king of Heshbon[b] and Og king of
Bashan came out to fight against us,
but we defeated them.[c] 8We took their
land and gave it as an inheritance[d] to
the Reubenites, the Gadites and the
half-tribe of Manasseh.[e]
9Carefully follow[f] the terms of this
covenant,[g] so that you may prosper in
everything you do.[h] 10All of you are
standing today in the presence of the
LORD your God—your leaders and chief
men, your elders and officials, and all
the other men of Israel, 11together with
your children and your wives, and the
aliens living in your camps who chop
your wood and carry your water.[i]
12You are standing here in order to en-
ter into a covenant with the LORD your
God, a covenant the LORD is making
with you this day and sealing with an
oath, 13to confirm you this day as his
people,[j] that he may be your God[k] as
he promised you and as he swore to
your fathers, Abraham, Isaac and
Jacob. 14I am making this covenant,[l]
with its oath, not only with you 15who
are standing here with us today in the
presence of the LORD our God but also
with those who are not here today.[m]
16You yourselves know how we lived
in Egypt and how we passed through
the countries on the way here. 17You
saw among them their detestable im-
ages and idols of wood and stone, of
silver and gold.[n] 18Make sure there is
no man or woman, clan or tribe among
you today whose heart turns[o] away
from the LORD our God to go and wor-
ship the gods of those nations; make
sure there is no root among you that
produces such bitter poison.[p]
19When such a person hears the
words of this oath, he invokes a
blessing[q] on himself and therefore
thinks, "I will be safe, even though I
persist in going my own way."[r] This
will bring disaster on the watered land
as well as the dry.[1] 20The LORD will
never be willing to forgive[s] him; his
wrath and zeal[t] will burn[u] against that
man. All the curses written in this book
will fall upon him, and the LORD will
blot[v] out his name from under heaven.
21The LORD will single him out from all
the tribes of Israel for disaster,[w] accord-
ing to all the curses of the covenant
written in this Book of the Law.[x]

28:61 [a]Dt 29:21; 30:10; 31:26; Jos 1:8; 8:34; 23:6; 24:26; 2Ki 14:6; 22:8; 2Ch 17:9; 25:4; Ne 8:1,18; Mal 4:4 [b]Dt 4:25-26 **28:62** [c]S Ge 22:17; Dt 4:27; 10:22 [d]S Lev 26:22 **28:63** [e]Dt 30:9; Isa 62:5; 65:19; Jer 32:41; Zep 3:17 [f]Pr 1:26 [g]S Ge 6:7 [h]Ps 52:5; Jer 12:14; 31:28; 45:4 **28:64** [i]S Dt 4:27; Ezr 9:7; Isa 6:12; Jer 32:23; 43:11; 52:27 [j]Ne 1:8; Ps 44:11; Jer 13:24; 18:17; 22:22 [k]S Dt 4:32; S Jer 8:19 [l]Dt 11:28; 32:17 **28:65** [m]La 1:3 [n]Job 11:20 [o]Lev 26:16,36; Hos 9:17 **28:67** [p]ver 34 **28:68** [q]S Ex 13:14 **29:1** [r]S Lev 7:38 [s]S Ex 3:1 **29:2** [t]Ex 19:4 **29:3** [u]S Dt 4:34 **29:4** [v]Isa 6:10; 32:3; 48:8; Jer 5:21; Eze 12:2; S Mt 13:15; Ro 11:8*; Eph 4:18 **29:5** [w]S Dt 8:2 [x]S Dt 8:4 **29:6** [y]S Lev 10:9 [z]Dt 8:3
29:7 [a]S Nu 21:26 [b]S Nu 21:25 [c]Nu 21:21-24, 33-35; Dt 2:26-3:11 **29:8** [d]Ps 78:55; 135:12; 136:22 [e]Nu 32:33; Dt 3:12-13 **29:9** [f]S Dt 4:6; S Jos 1:7 [g]Ex 19:5; Ps 25:10; 103:18 [h]Jos 1:8; 2Ch 31:21 **29:11** [i]Jos 9:21, 23,27; 1Ch 20:3 **29:13** [j]S Ge 6:18; S Ex 19:6 [k]S Ge 17:7 **29:14** [l]Ex 19:5; Isa 59:21; Jer 31:31; 32:40; 50:5; Eze 16:62; 37:26; Heb 8:7-8 **29:15** [m]S Ge 6:18; Ac 2:39 **29:17** [n]Ex 20:23; Dt 4:28 **29:18** [o]S Dt 13:6 [p]S Dt 11:16; Heb 12:15 **29:19** [q]Ps 72:17; Isa 65:16 [r]Ps 36:2 **29:20** [s]S Ex 23:21 [t]Ex 34:14; Eze 23:25; Zep 1:18 [u]Ps 74:1; 79:5; 80:4; Eze 36:5 [v]2Ki 13:23; 14:27; Rev 3:5 **29:21** [w]Dt 32:23; Eze 7:26 [x]S Dt 28:61

[1]19 *Or way, in order to add drunkenness to thirst."*

22Your children who follow you in
later generations and foreigners who
come from distant lands will see the
calamities that have fallen on the land
and the diseases with which the LORD
has afflicted it.[a] 23The whole land will
be a burning waste[b] of salt[c] and sul-
fur—nothing planted, nothing sprout-
ing, no vegetation growing on it. It will
be like the destruction of Sodom and
Gomorrah,[d] Admah and Zeboiim,
which the LORD overthrew in fierce an-
ger.[e] 24All the nations will ask: "Why
has the LORD done this to this land?[f]
Why this fierce, burning anger?"

25And the answer will be: "It is be-
cause this people abandoned the cov-
enant of the LORD, the God of their fa-
thers, the covenant he made with them
when he brought them out of Egypt.[g]
26They went off and worshiped other
gods and bowed down to them, gods
they did not know, gods he had not
given them. 27Therefore the LORD's an-
ger burned against this land, so that he
brought on it all the curses written in
this book.[h] 28In furious anger and in
great wrath[i] the LORD uprooted[j] them
from their land and thrust them into
another land, as it is now."

29The secret things belong to the
LORD our God,[k] but the things revealed
belong to us and to our children for-
ever, that we may follow all the words
of this law.[l]

Prosperity After Turning to the LORD

30 When all these blessings and
curses[m] I have set before you
come upon you and you take them to
heart wherever the LORD your God dis-
perses you among the nations,[n] 2and
when you and your children return[o] to
the LORD your God and obey him with
all your heart[p] and with all your soul
according to everything I command
you today, 3then the LORD your God
will restore your fortunes[m3][q] and have
compassion[r] on you and gather[s] you
again from all the nations where he
scattered[t] you.[u] 4Even if you have
been banished to the most distant land
under the heavens,[v] from there the
LORD your God will gather[w] you and
bring you back.[x] 5He will bring[y] you to
the land that belonged to your fathers,
and you will take possession of it. He
will make you more prosperous and
numerous[z] than your fathers. 6The
LORD your God will circumcise your
hearts and the hearts of your descend-
ants,[a] so that you may love[b] him with
all your heart and with all your soul,
and live. 7The LORD your God will put
all these curses[c] on your enemies who
hate and persecute you.[d] 8You will
again obey the LORD and follow all his
commands I am giving you today.
9Then the LORD your God will make
you most prosperous in all the work of
your hands and in the fruit of your
womb, the young of your livestock and
the crops of your land.[e] The LORD will
again delight[f] in you and make you
prosperous, just as he delighted in
your fathers, 10if you obey the LORD
your God and keep his commands and
decrees that are written in this Book of
the Law[g] and turn to the LORD your
God with all your heart and with all
your soul.[h]

The Offer of Life or Death

11Now what I am commanding you
today is not too difficult for you or
beyond your reach.[i] 12It is not up in
heaven, so that you have to ask, "Who
will ascend into heaven[j] to get it and
proclaim it to us so we may obey it?"[k]
13Nor is it beyond the sea,[l] so that you
have to ask, "Who will cross the sea to
get it and proclaim it to us so we may
obey it?"[m] 14No, the word is very near
you; it is in your mouth and in your
heart so you may obey it.[n]

15See, I set before you today life[o] and
prosperity,[p] death[q] and destruction.[r]
16For I command you today to love[s]
the LORD your God, to walk in his
ways, and to keep his commands, de-
crees and laws; then you will live[t] and
increase, and the LORD your God will
bless you in the land you are entering
to possess.

17But if your heart turns away and
you are not obedient, and if you are
drawn away to bow down to other
gods and worship them, 18I declare to
you this day that you will certainly be
destroyed.[u] You will not live long in
the land you are crossing the Jordan to
enter and possess.

19This day I call heaven and earth as
witnesses against you[v] that I have set
before you life and death, blessings
and curses.[w] Now choose life, so that
you and your children may live 20and
that you may love[x] the LORD your God,
listen to his voice, and hold fast to him.
For the LORD is your life,[y] and he will

29:22 [a]Jer 19:8; 49:17; 50:13 **29:23** [b]Isa 1:7; 6:11; 9:18; 64:10; Jer 12:11; 44:2,6, Mic 5:11 [c]S Ge 13:10; Eze 47:11 [d]S Ge 19:24,25; Zep 2:9; S Mt 10:15; Ro 9:29 [e]S Ge 14:8 **29:24** [f]1Ki 9:8; 2Ch 36:19; Jer 16:10; 22:8-9; 52:13 **29:25** [g]2Ki 17:23; 2Ch 36:21 **29:27** [h]S Dt 28:15 **29:28** [i]Ps 7:11 [j]1Ki 14:15; 2Ch 7:20; Ps 9:6; 52:5; Pr 2:22; Jer 12:14; 31:28; 42:10; Eze 19:12 **29:29** [k]Ac 1:7 [l]Jn 5:39; Ac 17:11; 2Ti 3:16 **30:1** [m]S Dt 11:26 [n]Lev 26:40-45; S Dt 4:32; 29:28 **30:2** [o]S Dt 4:30 [p]Dt 4:29; Ps 119:2 **30:3** [q]Ps 14:7; 53:6; 85:1; 126:4; Jer 30:18; 33:11; Eze 16:53; Joel 3:1; Zep 2:7 [r]Dt 13:17 [s]S Ge 48:21 [t]S Ge 11:4; Dt 4:27 [u]Isa 11:11; Jer 12:15; 16:15; 24:6; 29:14; 48:47; 49:6 **30:4** [v]Ps 19:6 [w]Isa 17:6; 24:13; 27:12; 40:11; 49:5; 56:8; Eze 20:34,41; 34:13 [x]Ne 1:8-9; Isa 11:12; 41:5; 42:10; 43:6; 48:20; 62:11; Jer 31:8,10; 50:2 **30:5** [y]Jer 29:14 [z]S Dt 7:13 **30:6** [a]S Dt 6:24; S 10:16 [b]Dt 6:5 **30:7** [c]S Ge 12:3 [d]Dt 7:15 **30:9** [e]Jer 1:10; 24:6; 31:28; 32:41; 42:10; 45:4 [f]S Dt 28:63 **30:10** [g]S Dt 28:61 [h]S Dt 4:29 **30:11** [i]Ps 19:8; Isa 45:19,23; 63:1 **30:12** [j]Pr 30:4 [k]Ro 10:6* **30:13** [l]Job 28:14 [m]Ro 10:7* **30:14** [n]S Dt 6:6; Ro 10:8* **30:15** [o]Pr 10:16; 11:19; 12:28; Jer 21:8 [p]Dt 28:11; Job 36:11; Ps 25:13; 106:5; Pr 3:1-2 [q]S Ge 2:17 [r]S Dt 11:26 **30:16** [s]Dt 6:5 [t]ver 19; Dt 4:1; 32:47; Ne 9:29 **30:18** [u]S Dt 8:19

30:19 [v]Dt 4:26 [w]S Dt 11:26 **30:20** [x]Dt 6:5 [y]Dt 4:1; S 8:3; 32:47; Ps 27:1; Pr 3:22; S Jn 5:26; Ac 17:28

m3 Or *will bring you back from captivity*

give[a] you many years in the land[b] he swore to give to your fathers, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

Joshua to Succeed Moses

31 Then Moses went out and spoke these words to all Israel: 2"I am now a hundred and twenty years old[c] and I am no longer able to lead you.[d] The LORD has said to me, 'You shall not cross the Jordan.'[e] 3The LORD your God himself will cross[f] over ahead of you.[g] He will destroy these nations[h] before you, and you will take possession of their land. Joshua also will cross[i] over ahead of you, as the LORD said. 4And the LORD will do to them what he did to Sihon and Og,[j] the kings of the Amorites, whom he destroyed along with their land. 5The LORD will deliver[k] them to you, and you must do to them all that I have commanded you. 6Be strong and courageous.[l] Do not be afraid or terrified[m] because of them, for the LORD your God goes with you;[n] he will never leave you[o] nor forsake[p] you."

7Then Moses summoned Joshua and said[q] to him in the presence of all Israel, "Be strong and courageous, for you must go with this people into the land that the LORD swore to their forefathers to give them,[r] and you must divide it among them as their inheritance. 8The LORD himself goes before you and will be with you;[s] he will never leave you nor forsake you.[t] Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged."

The Reading of the Law

9So Moses wrote[u] down this law and gave it to the priests, the sons of Levi, who carried[v] the ark of the covenant of the LORD, and to all the elders of Israel. 10Then Moses commanded them: "At the end of every seven years, in the year for canceling debts,[w] during the Feast of Tabernacles,[x] 11when all Israel comes to appear[y] before the LORD your God at the place he will choose,[z] you shall read this law[a] before them in their hearing. 12Assemble the people—men, women and children, and the aliens living in your towns—so they can listen and learn[b] to fear[c] the LORD your God and follow carefully all the words of this law. 13Their children,[d] who do not know this law, must hear it and learn to fear the LORD your God as long as you live in the land you are crossing the Jordan to possess."

30:20 [a]S Ge 12:7 [b]Ps 37:3 31:2 [c]S Ex 7:7 [d]Nu 27:17; 1Ki 3:7 [e]S Dt 3:23,26 31:3 [f]Nu 27:18 [g]S Dt 9:3 [h]S Dt 7:1 [i]S Dt 3:28 31:4 [j]S Nu 21:33 31:5 [k]S Dt 2:33 31:6 [l]ver 7,23; Jos 1:6,9,18; 10:25; 1Ch 22:13; 28:20; 2Ch 32:7 [m]Jer 1:8,17; Eze 2:6 [n]S Ge 28:15; S Dt 1:29; 20:4; S Mt 28:20 [o]Ps 56:9; 118:6 [p]S Dt 4:31; 1Sa 12:22; 1Ki 6:13; Ps 94:14; Isa 41:17; Heb 13:5* 31:7 [q]ver 23; Nu 27:23 [r]Jos 1:6 31:8 [s]S Ex 13:21 [t]S Ge 28:15; S Dt 4:31 31:9 [u]S Ex 17:14 [v]ver 25; 1Ch 15:2 31:10 [w]S Dt 15:1 [x]S Ex 23:16; Dt 16:13 31:11 [y]S Dt 16:16 [z]Dt 12:5 [a]Jos 8:34-35; 2Ki 23:2; Ne 8:2 31:12 [b]Dt 4:10 [c]Hag 1:12; Mal 1:6; 3:5,16 31:13 [d]S Dt 11:2

31:14 [e]S Ge 25:8; S Nu 27:13 [f]Nu 27:23; Dt 34:9; Jos 1:1-9 [g]S Nu 27:19 [h]Ex 33:9-11 31:15 [i]S Ex 33:9 31:16 [j]S Ge 15:15 [k]S Ex 34:15; Dt 4:25-28; Jdg 2:12 [l]Jdg 10:6,13; 1Ki 9:9; 18:18; 19:10; Jer 2:13; 5:19; 19:4 31:17 [m]Dt 32:16; Jdg 2:14,20; 10:7; 2Ki 13:3; 22:13; Ps 106:29,40; Jer 7:18; 21:5; 36:7 [n]Jdg 6:13; 2Ch 15:2; 24:20; Ezr 8:22; Ps 44:9; Isa 2:6 [o]Dt 32:20; Isa 1:15; 45:15; 53:3; 54:8 [p]Job 13:24; Ps 13:1; 27:9; 30:7; 104:29; Isa 50:6; Jer 33:5; Eze 39:29; Mic 3:4 [q]Jer 4:20; Eze 7:26 [r]Nu 14:42; Hos 9:12 31:19 [s]ver 22 [t]S Ge 31:50 31:20 [u]Dt 6:10-12 [v]Ps 4:2; 16:4; 40:4; Jer 13:25; Da 3:28; Am 2:4 [w]Dt 8:19;

Israel's Rebellion Predicted

14The LORD said to Moses, "Now the day of your death[e] is near. Call Joshua[f] and present yourselves at the Tent of Meeting, where I will commission him.[g]" So Moses and Joshua came and presented themselves at the Tent of Meeting.[h]

15Then the LORD appeared at the Tent in a pillar of cloud, and the cloud stood over the entrance to the Tent.[i] 16And the LORD said to Moses: "You are going to rest with your fathers,[j] and these people will soon prostitute[k] themselves to the foreign gods of the land they are entering. They will forsake[l] me and break the covenant I made with them. 17On that day I will become angry[m] with them and forsake[n] them; I will hide[o] my face[p] from them, and they will be destroyed. Many disasters[q] and difficulties will come upon them, and on that day they will ask, 'Have not these disasters come upon us because our God is not with us?'[r] 18And I will certainly hide my face on that day because of all their wickedness in turning to other gods.

19"Now write[s] down for yourselves this song and teach it to the Israelites and have them sing it, so that it may be a witness[t] for me against them. 20When I have brought them into the land flowing with milk and honey, the land I promised on oath to their forefathers,[u] and when they eat their fill and thrive, they will turn to other gods[v] and worship them,[w] rejecting me and breaking my covenant.[x] 21And when many disasters and difficulties come upon them,[y] this song will testify against them, because it will not be forgotten by their descendants. I know what they are disposed to do,[z] even before I bring them into the land I promised them on oath." 22So Moses wrote[a] down this song that day and taught it to the Israelites.

23The LORD gave this command[b] to Joshua son of Nun: "Be strong and courageous,[c] for you will bring the Israelites into the land I promised them on oath, and I myself will be with you."

24After Moses finished writing[d] in a book the words of this law[e] from beginning to end, 25he gave this command to the Levites who carried[f] the ark of the covenant of the LORD: 26"Take

11:16-17 [x]ver 16 31:21 [y]S Dt 4:30 [z]1Ch 28:9; Hos 5:3; Jn 2:24-25 31:22 [a]ver 19 31:23 [b]S ver 7 [c]Jos 1:6 31:24 [d]Dt 17:18; 2Ki 22:8 [e]Dt 28:58 31:25 [f]S ver 9

this Book of the Law and place it beside
the ark of the covenant of the LORD
your God. There it will remain as a wit-
ness against you.[a] 27For I know how
rebellious[b] and stiff-necked[c] you are.
If you have been rebellious against the
LORD while I am still alive and with
you, how much more will you rebel af-
ter I die! 28Assemble before me all the
elders of your tribes and all your offi-
cials, so that I can speak these words in
their hearing and call heaven and earth
to testify against them.[d] 29For I know
that after my death you are sure to
become utterly corrupt[e] and to turn
from the way I have commanded you.
In days to come, disaster[f] will fall
upon you because you will do evil in
the sight of the LORD and provoke him
to anger by what your hands have
made."

The Song of Moses

30And Moses recited the words of
this song from beginning to end in the
hearing of the whole assembly of Israel:

32 Listen,[g] O heavens,[h] and I will speak;
hear, O earth, the words of my mouth.[i]
2Let my teaching fall like rain[j]
and my words descend like dew,[k l]
like showers[m] on new grass,
like abundant rain on tender plants.

3I will proclaim[n] the name of the LORD.[o]
Oh, praise the greatness[p] of our God!
4He is the Rock,[q] his works are perfect,[r]
and all his ways are just.
A faithful God[s] who does no wrong,
upright[t] and just is he.[u]

5They have acted corruptly toward him;
to their shame they are no longer his children,
but a warped and crooked generation.[n v]
6Is this the way you repay[w] the LORD,
O foolish[x] and unwise people?[y]
Is he not your Father,[z] your Creator,[o]
who made you and formed you?[a]

7Remember the days of old;[b]
consider the generations long past.[c]
Ask your father and he will tell you,
your elders, and they will explain to you.[d]
8When the Most High[e] gave the nations their inheritance,
when he divided all mankind,[f]
he set up boundaries[g] for the peoples
according to the number of the sons of Israel.[p h]
9For the LORD's portion[i] is his people,
Jacob his allotted inheritance.[j]

10In a desert[k] land he found him,
in a barren and howling waste.[l]
He shielded[m] him and cared for him;
he guarded him as the apple of his eye,[n]
11like an eagle that stirs up its nest
and hovers over its young,[o]
that spreads its wings to catch them
and carries them on its pinions.[p]
12The LORD alone led[q] him;[r]
no foreign god was with him.[s]

13He made him ride on the heights[t] of the land
and fed him with the fruit of the fields.
He nourished him with honey from the rock,[u]
and with oil[v] from the flinty crag,
14with curds and milk from herd and flock
and with fattened lambs and goats,
with choice rams of Bashan[w]
and the finest kernels of wheat.[x]
You drank the foaming blood of the grape.[y]

15Jeshurun[q z] grew fat[a] and kicked;
filled with food, he became heavy and sleek.
He abandoned[b] the God who made him
and rejected the Rock[c] his Savior.
16They made him jealous[d] with their foreign gods
and angered[e] him with their detestable idols.
17They sacrificed[f] to demons,[g] which are not God—
gods they had not known,[h]
gods that recently appeared,[i]
gods your fathers did not fear.

31:26 [a]ver 19 **31:27** [b]S Ex 23:21 [c]S Dt 9:27 **31:28** [d]Dt 4:26; 30:19; 32:1; Job 20:27; Isa 26:21 **31:29** [e]S Dt 4:16; Rev 9:20 [f]1Ki 9:9; 22:23; 2Ki 22:16 **32:1** [g]Ps 49:1; Mic 1:2 [h]Jer 2:12 [i]S Dt 4:26 **32:2** [j]2Sa 23:4 [k]Ps 107:20; Isa 9:8; 55:11 [l]Mic 5:7 [m]Ps 65:10; 68:9; 72:6; 147:8 **32:3** [n]Ps 118:17; 145:6 [o]Ex 33:19; 34:5-6 [p]S Dt 3:24 **32:4** [q]S Ge 49:24 [r]2Sa 22:31; Ps 18:30; 19:7 [s]S Dt 4:35 [t]Ps 92:15 [u]S Ge 18:25 **32:5** [v]ver 20; Mt 17:17; Lk 9:41; Ac 2:40 **32:6** [w]Ps 116:12 [x]Ps 94:8; Jer 5:21 [y]ver 28 [z]S Ex 4:22; 2Sa 7:24 [a]ver 15 **32:7** [b]Ps 44:1; 74:2; 77:5; Isa 51:9; 63:9 [c]Dt 4:32; Job 8:8; 20:4; Ps 78:4; Isa 46:9 [d]S Ex 10:2; Job 15:18 **32:8** [e]Ps 7:8 [f]S Ge 11:8; Ac 8:1 [g]Ps 74:17 [h]Nu 23:9; Dt 33:12,28; Jer 23:6 **32:9** [i]Ps 16:5; 73:26; 119:57; 142:5; Jer 10:16 [j]S Dt 9:29; S 1Sa 26:19 **32:10** [k]S Dt 1:19 [l]Dt 8:15; Job 12:24; Ps 107:40 [m]Ps 32:10; Jer 31:22 [n]Ps 17:8; Pr 7:2; Hos 13:5; Zec 2:8 **32:11** [o]S Ex 19:4 [p]Ps 17:8; 18:10-19; 61:4 **32:12** [q]Ps 106:9; Isa 63:13; Jer 31:32 [r]Dt 4:35 [s]ver 39; Jdg 2:12; Ps 18:31; 81:9; Isa 43:12; 45:5 **32:13** [t]Dt 33:29; 2Sa 22:34; Ps 18:33; Isa 33:16; 58:14; Eze 36:2; Hab 3:19 [u]S Dt 8:8 [v]Dt 33:24; Job 29:6 **32:14** [w]S Nu 21:33 [x]Ps 65:9; 81:16; 147:14 [y]S Ge 49:11 **32:15** [z]Dt 33:5, 26; Isa 44:2 [a]Dt 31:20; Jer 5:28 [b]Dt 31:16; Isa 1:4,28; 58:2; 65:11; Jer 15:6; Eze 14:5 [c]S Ge 49:24 **32:16** [d]S Nu 25:11; S 1Co 10:22 [e]S Dt 31:17; S 1Ki 14:9 **32:17** [f]S Ex 32:8 [g]S Ex 22:20; 1Co 10:20 [h]S Dt 28:64 [i]Jdg 5:8

[n]5 Or *Corrupt are they and not his children, / a generation warped and twisted to their shame* [o]6 Or *Father, who bought you* [p]8 Masoretic Text; Dead Sea Scrolls (see also Septuagint) *sons of God* [q]15 *Jeshurun* means *the upright one,* that is, Israel.

[18]You deserted the Rock, who fathered
you;
you forgot[a] the God who gave
you birth.

[19]The LORD saw this and rejected
them[b]
because he was angered by his
sons and daughters.[c]
[20]"I will hide my face[d] from them," he
said,
"and see what their end will be;
for they are a perverse generation,[e]
children who are unfaithful.[f]
[21]They made me jealous[g] by what is
no god
and angered me with their
worthless idols.[h]
I will make them envious by those
who are not a people;
I will make them angry by a nation
that has no understanding.[i]
[22]For a fire has been kindled by my
wrath,[j]
one that burns to the realm of
death[c] below.[k]
It will devour[l] the earth and its
harvests[m]
and set afire the foundations of the
mountains.[n]

[23]"I will heap calamities[o] upon them
and spend my arrows[p] against
them.
[24]I will send wasting famine[q] against
them,
consuming pestilence[r] and deadly
plague;[s]
I will send against them the fangs of
wild beasts,[t]
the venom of vipers[u] that glide in
the dust.[v]
[25]In the street the sword will make
them childless;
in their homes terror[w] will reign.[x]
Young men and young women will
perish,
infants and gray-haired men.[y]
[26]I said I would scatter[z] them
and blot out their memory from
mankind,[a]
[27]but I dreaded the taunt of the
enemy,
lest the adversary misunderstand[b]
and say, 'Our hand has triumphed;
the LORD has not done all this.' "[c]

[28]They are a nation without sense,
there is no discernment[d] in them.
[29]If only they were wise and would
understand this[e]
and discern what their end
will be![f]

[30]How could one man chase a
thousand,
or two put ten thousand to flight,[g]
unless their Rock had sold them,[h]
unless the LORD had given them
up?[i]
[31]For their rock is not like our Rock,[j]
as even our enemies concede.[k]
[32]Their vine comes from the vine of
Sodom[l]
and from the fields of Gomorrah.
Their grapes are filled with poison,[m]
and their clusters with bitterness.[n]
[33]Their wine is the venom of serpents,
the deadly poison of cobras.[o]

[34]"Have I not kept this in reserve
and sealed it in my vaults?[p]
[35]It is mine to avenge;[q] I will repay.[r]
In due time their foot will slip;[s]
their day of disaster is near
and their doom rushes upon
them.[t]"

[36]The LORD will judge his people[u]
and have compassion[v] on his
servants[w]
when he sees their strength is gone
and no one is left, slave[x] or free.
[37]He will say: "Now where are their
gods,
the rock they took refuge in,[y]
[38]the gods who ate the fat of their
sacrifices
and drank the wine of their drink
offerings?[z]
Let them rise up to help you!
Let them give you shelter!

[39]"See now that I myself am He![a]
There is no god besides me.[b]
I put to death[c] and I bring to life,[d]
I have wounded and I will heal,[e]
and no one can deliver out of my
hand.[f]
[40]I lift my hand[g] to heaven and
declare:
As surely as I live forever,[h]
[41]when I sharpen my flashing sword[i]
and my hand grasps it in
judgment,
I will take vengeance[j] on my
adversaries

32:18 [a]Jdg 3:7; 1Sa 12:9; Ps 44:17,20; 106:21; Jer 2:32; Eze 23:35; Hos 8:14; 13:6 **32:19** [b]Lev 26:30; Ps 78:59 [c]Am 6:8 **32:20** [d]Dt 31:17,29; Ps 4:6; 44:24 [e]S ver 5 [f]Dt 9:23 **32:21** [g]S Nu 25:11; S 1Co 10:22 [h]ver 17; 1Ki 16:13,26; 2Ki 17:15; Ps 31:6; Jer 2:5; 8:19; 10:8; 16:19; Jnh 2:8 [i]Ro 10:19* **32:22** [j]Ps 7:11 [k]Nu 16:31-35; Ps 18:7-8; Jer 15:14; La 4:11 [l]Am 7:4 [m]Lev 26:20 [n]Ps 83:14 **32:23** [o]S Dt 29:21 [p]ver 42; 2Sa 22:15; Job 6:4; Ps 7:13; 18:14; 45:5; 77:17; 120:4; Isa 5:28; 49:2; Eze 5:16; Hab 3:9,11 **32:24** [q]Ge 26:1; S 41:55; 42:5; 2Sa 24:13; 1Ch 21:12 [r]S Dt 28:22 [s]Ps 91:6 [t]S Ge 37:20 [u]ver 33; Job 20:16; Ps 58:4; Jer 8:17; Am 5:18-19; Mic 7:17 [v]Job 20:16 **32:25** [w]Isa 24:17 [x]Jer 14:18; La 1:20; Eze 7:15; 2Co 7:5 [y]2Ch 36:17; Isa 13:18; Jer 4:31; La 2:21 **32:26** [z]Dt 4:27 [a]S Nu 14:12; Job 18:17; Ps 34:16; 37:28; 109:15; Isa 14:20 **32:27** [b]Dt 9:26-28 [c]Ps 140:8; Isa 10:13; Jer 40:2-3 **32:28** [d]Isa 1:3; 5:13; 27:11; Jer 8:7 **32:29** [e]Dt 5:29; Ps 81:13 [f]Isa 47:7; La 1:9 **32:30** [g]S Lev 26:8 [h]Jdg 2:14; 3:8; 4:2; 10:7; 1Sa 12:9 [i]Nu 21:34; 1Sa 23:7; Ps 31:8; 44:12; 106:41; Isa 50:1; 54:6 **32:31** [j]S Ge 49:24 [k]S Ex 14:25 **32:32** [l]Jer 23:14 [m]Job 6:4; 20:16 [n]Dt 29:18 **32:33** [o]S ver 24 **32:34** [p]Job 14:17; Jer 2:22; Hos 13:12 **32:35** [q]S ver 41; S Ge 4:24; S Jer 51:6 [r]S Ge 30:2; S Ex 32:34; S Ps 54:5; S Ro 12:19*; Heb 10:30* [s]Ps 17:5; 35:6; 37:31; 38:16; 66:9; 73:2,18; 94:18; 121:3; Pr 4:19; Jer 23:12 [t]Eze 7:8-9 **32:36** [u]Heb 10:30* [v]Am 7:3 [w]Lev 26:43-45; Dt 30:1-3; Jdg 2:18; Ps 90:13; 102:13; 103:13; 106:45; 135:14; Joel 2:14 [x]1Ki 14:10; 21:21; 2Ki 9:8 **32:37** [y]Jdg 10:14; Jer 2:28; 11:12 **32:38** [z]Nu 25:1-2; Jer 11:12; 44:8, 25 **32:39** [a]Isa 41:4; 43:10; 44:7; 46:4; 48:12 [b]S ver 12 [c]1Sa 2:6 [d]1Sa 2:6; 2Ki 5:7; Ps 68:20; Jn 11:25-26 [e]Ex 15:26; Job 5:18; 15:11; Ps 147:3; Isa 6:10; 19:22; 30:26; 53:5; 57:18; Jer 33:6; Hos 6:1; Mal 4:2; 1Pe 2:24 [f]Job 9:12; 10:7; Ps 7:2; 50:22; Isa 43:13; Da 4:35; Hos 5:14 **32:40** [g]S Ge 14:22 [h]S Ge 21:33; Rev 1:18 **32:41** [i]Jdg 7:20; Ps 7:12; 45:3; Isa 27:1; 34:6; 66:16; Jer 12:12; Eze 21:9-10 [j]ver 35; Ps 149:7; Jer 46:10; Na 1:2

[c]22 Hebrew *to Sheol*

and repay those who hate me.[a]
42I will make my arrows drunk with
blood,[b]
while my sword devours flesh:[c]
the blood of the slain and the
captives,
the heads of the enemy leaders."

43Rejoice,[d] O nations, with his
people,[s,t]
for he will avenge the blood of his
servants;[e]
he will take vengeance on his
enemies[f]
and make atonement for his land
and people.[g]

44Moses came with Joshua[u,h] son of
Nun and spoke all the words of this
song in the hearing of the people.
45When Moses finished reciting all
these words to all Israel, 46he said to
them, "Take to heart all the words I
have solemnly declared to you this
day,[i] so that you may command[j] your
children to obey carefully all the words
of this law. 47They are not just idle
words for you—they are your life.[k] By
them you will live long[l] in the land
you are crossing the Jordan to pos-
sess."

Moses to Die on Mount Nebo

48On that same day the LORD told
Moses,[m] 49"Go up into the Abarim[n]
Range to Mount Nebo[o] in Moab,
across from Jericho,[p] and view Ca-
naan,[q] the land I am giving the Israel-
ites as their own possession. 50There on
the mountain that you have climbed
you will die[r] and be gathered to your
people, just as your brother Aaron
died[s] on Mount Hor[t] and was gath-
ered to his people. 51This is because
both of you broke faith with me in the
presence of the Israelites at the waters
of Meribah Kadesh[u] in the Desert of
Zin[v] and because you did not uphold
my holiness among the Israelites.[w]
52Therefore, you will see the land only
from a distance;[x] you will not enter[y]
the land I am giving to the people of
Israel."

Moses Blesses the Tribes

33:1-29Ref — Ge 49:1-28

33 This is the blessing[z] that Moses
the man of God[a] pronounced on
the Israelites before his death. 2He said:

"The LORD came from Sinai[b]
and dawned over them from Seir;[c]
he shone forth[d] from Mount
Paran.[e]
He came with[v] myriads of holy
ones[f]
from the south, from his mountain
slopes.[w]
3Surely it is you who love[g] the
people;
all the holy ones are in your
hand.[h]
At your feet they all bow down,[i]
and from you receive instruction,
4the law that Moses gave us,[j]
the possession of the assembly of
Jacob.[k]
5He was king[l] over Jeshurun[x,m]
when the leaders of the people
assembled,
along with the tribes of Israel.

6"Let Reuben live and not die,
nor[y] his men be few."[n]

7And this he said about Judah:[o]

"Hear, O LORD, the cry of Judah;
bring him to his people.
With his own hands he defends his
cause.
Oh, be his help against his foes!"

8About Levi[p] he said:

"Your Thummim and Urim[q] belong
to the man you favored.[r]
You tested[s] him at Massah;
you contended with him at the
waters of Meribah.[t]
9He said of his father and mother,[u]
'I have no regard for them.'
He did not recognize his brothers
or acknowledge his own children,
but he watched over your word
and guarded your covenant.[v]
10He teaches[w] your precepts to Jacob
and your law to Israel.[x]
He offers incense before you[y]
and whole burnt offerings on your
altar.[z]
11Bless all his skills, O LORD,
and be pleased with the work of
his hands.[a]
Smite the loins of those who rise up
against him;
strike his foes till they rise no
more."

32:41 [a]Ps 137:8; Jer 25:14; 50:29; 51:24,56 **32:42** [b]S ver 23 [c]2Sa 2:26; Jer 12:12; 44:1; 46:10,14 **32:43** [d]Ps 137:6; Isa 25:9; 65:18; 66:10; Ro 15:10* [e]2Ki 9:7; S Rev 6:10 [f]Isa 1:24; Jer 9:9 [g]Ps 65:3; 79:9 **32:44** [h]Nu 13:8, 16 **32:46** [i]S Dt 6:6; Jn 1:17; 7:19 [j]Dt 6:7 **32:47** [k]S Dt 30:20 [l]S Ex 23:26; Dt 33:25; Isa 65:22 **32:48** [m]Nu 27:12 **32:49** [n]Nu 27:12 [o]S Nu 32:3 [p]S Nu 22:1 [q]S Lev 14:34 **32:50** [r]S Ge 25:8; S Nu 27:13 [s]Nu 20:29 [t]S Nu 20:22 **32:51** [u]Eze 47:19 [v]S Nu 13:21; 20:11-13 [w]Nu 27:14 **32:52** [x]Dt 34:1-3 [y]S Dt 3:27 **33:1** [z]S Ge 27:4 [a]Jos 14:6; 1Sa 2:27; 9:6; 1Ki 12:22; 13:1; 2Ki 1:9-13; 5:8; Jer 35:4 **33:2** [b]Ex 19:18; Ps 68:8 [c]Jos 11:17; Jdg 5:4 [d]Ps 50:2; 80:1; 94:1 [e]S Nu 10:12 [f]Ps 89:7; Da 4:13; 7:10; 8:13; Zec 14:5; Ac 7:53; Gal 3:19; Heb 2:2; Rev 5:11 **33:3** [g]S Dt 4:37 [h]Dt 7:6 [i]Lk 10:39; Rev 4:10 **33:4** [j]Dt 4:2; Jn 1:17; 7:19 [k]Ps 119:111 **33:5** [l]S Ex 16:8; 1Sa 10:19; Ps 10:16; 149:2 [m]S Nu 23:21; S Dt 32:15 **33:6** [n]S Ge 34:5 **33:7** [o]S Ge 49:10 **33:8** [p]S Ge 29:34 [q]Ex 28:30 [r]Ps 106:16 [s]S Nu 14:22 [t]S Ex 17:7 **33:9** [u]Ex 32:26-29 [v]Ps 61:5; Mal 2:5 **33:10** [w]Ezr 7:10; Ne 8:18; Ps 119:151; Jer 23:22; Mal 2:6 [x]S Lev 10:11; Dt 17:8-11; 31:9-13 [y]S Ex 30:7; Lev 16:12-13 [z]Ps 51:19 **33:11** [a]2Sa 24:23; Ps 20:3; 51:19

[s]43 Or *Make his people rejoice, O nations*
[t]43 Masoretic Text; Dead Sea Scrolls (see also Septuagint) *people, / and let all the angels worship him /*
[u]44 Hebrew *Hoshea,* a variant of *Joshua*
[v]2 Or *from*
[w]2 The meaning of the Hebrew for this phrase is uncertain.
[x]5 *Jeshurun* means *the upright one,* that is, Israel; also in verse 26.
[y]6 Or *but let*

12About Benjamin[a] he said:

"Let the beloved of the LORD rest
secure in him,[b]
for he shields him all day long,[c]
and the one the LORD loves[d] rests
between his shoulders.[e]"

13About Joseph[f] he said:

"May the LORD bless his land
with the precious dew from
heaven above
and with the deep waters that lie
below;[g]
14with the best the sun brings forth
and the finest the moon can yield;
15with the choicest gifts of the ancient
mountains[h]
and the fruitfulness of the
everlasting hills;
16with the best gifts of the earth and
its fullness
and the favor of him who dwelt in
the burning bush.[i]
Let all these rest on the head of
Joseph,
on the brow of the prince among[z]
his brothers.[j]
17In majesty he is like a firstborn bull;
his horns[k] are the horns of a
wild ox.[l]
With them he will gore[m] the nations,
even those at the ends of the
earth.
Such are the ten thousands of
Ephraim;[n]
such are the thousands of
Manasseh.[o]"

18About Zebulun[p] he said:

"Rejoice, Zebulun, in your going
out,
and you, Issachar,[q] in your tents.
19They will summon peoples to the
mountain[r]
and there offer sacrifices of
righteousness;[s]
they will feast on the abundance of
the seas,[t]
on the treasures hidden in the
sand."

20About Gad[u] he said:

"Blessed is he who enlarges Gad's
domain![v]
Gad lives there like a lion,
tearing at arm or head.
21He chose the best land for himself;[w]
the leader's portion was kept for
him.[x]
When the heads of the people
assembled,
he carried out the LORD's righteous
will,[y]
and his judgments concerning
Israel."

22About Dan[z] he said:

"Dan is a lion's cub,
springing out of Bashan."

23About Naphtali[a] he said:

"Naphtali is abounding with the
favor of the LORD
and is full of his blessing;
he will inherit southward to the
lake."

24About Asher[b] he said:

"Most blessed of sons is Asher;
let him be favored by his brothers,
and let him bathe his feet in oil.[c]
25The bolts of your gates will be iron
and bronze,[d]
and your strength will equal your
days.[e]
26"There is no one like the God of
Jeshurun,[f]
who rides[g] on the heavens to help
you[h]
and on the clouds[i] in his
majesty.[j]
27The eternal[k] God is your refuge,[l]
and underneath are the
everlasting[m] arms.
He will drive out your enemy before
you,[n]
saying, 'Destroy him!'[o]
28So Israel will live in safety alone;[p]
Jacob's spring is secure
in a land of grain and new wine,
where the heavens drop dew.[q]
29Blessed are you, O Israel![r]
Who is like you,[s]
a people saved by the LORD?[t]
He is your shield and helper[u]
and your glorious sword.
Your enemies will cower before you,
and you will trample down their
high places.[a][v]"

The Death of Moses

34 Then Moses climbed Mount
Nebo[w] from the plains of Moab
to the top of Pisgah,[x] across from Jeri-
cho.[y] There the LORD showed[z] him the
whole land—from Gilead to Dan,[a] 2all
of Naphtali, the territory of Ephraim
and Manasseh, all the land of Judah as

33:12 [a]S Ge 35:18 [b]Dt 4:37-38; 12:10; S 32:8 [c]S Ex 19:4 [d]Ps 60:5; 127:2; Isa 5:1 [e]S Ex 28:12 **33:13** [f]S Ge 30:24 [g]Ge 27:28; Ps 148:7 **33:15** [h]Hab 3:6 **33:16** [i]S Ex 3:2 [j]S Ge 37:8 **33:17** [k]1Sa 2:10; 2Sa 22:3; Eze 34:21 [l]S Nu 23:22 [m]1Ki 22:11; Ps 44:5 [n]S Ge 41:52 [o]S Ge 41:51 **33:18** [p]S Ge 30:20 [q]S Ge 30:18 **33:19** [r]S Ex 15:17; Ps 48:1; Isa 2:3; 65:11; 66:20; Jer 31:6 [s]Ps 4:5; 51:19 [t]Isa 18:7; 23:18; 45:14; 60:5,11; 61:6; Hag 2:7; Zec 14:14 **33:20** [u]Ge 30:11 [v]Dt 3:12-17 **33:21** [w]Nu 32:1-5, 31-32 [x]S Nu 34:14 [y]Jos 22:1-3 **33:22** [z]Ge 49:16; S Nu 1:38 **33:23** [a]S Ge 30:8 **33:24** [b]S Ge 30:13 [c]S Ge 49:20; S Dt 32:13 **33:25** [d]Ne 3:3; 7:3; Ps 147:13 [e]S Dt 32:47 **33:26** [f]S Dt 32:15 [g]Ps 18:10; 68:33 [h]S Dt 10:14; S Ps 104:3 [i]2Sa 22:10; Ps 18:9; 68:4; Da 7:13 [j]S Ex 15:7 **33:27** [k]Ex 15:18; Isa 40:28; 57:15 [l]Ps 9:9; 84:1; 90:1; 91:9 [m]S Ge 21:33 [n]Ex 34:11; Jos 24:18 [o]S Dt 7:2 **33:28** [p]S Ex 33:16; S Lev 25:18; S Dt 32:8; Ps 16:9; Pr 1:33; Isa 14:30 [q]ver 13; Ge 27:28 **33:29** [r]Ps 1:1; 32:1-2; 144:15 [s]2Sa 22:45; Ps 18:44; 66:3; 81:15 [t]Dt 4:7 [u]Ge 15:1; Ex 18:4; Ps 10:14; 18:1; 27:1,9; 30:10; 54:4; 70:5; 115:9-11; 118:7; Isa 45:24; Hos 13:9; Hab 3:19 [v]S Nu 33:52; S Dt 32:13 **34:1** [w]S Nu 32:3 [x]S Nu 21:20 [y]Dt 32:49 [z]Dt 32:52 [a]S Ge 14:14

[z]16 *Or of the one separated from* [a]29 *Or will tread upon their bodies*

far as the western sea.[b] [a] 3the Negev[b]
and the whole region from the Valley
of Jericho, the City of Palms,[c] as far as
Zoar.[d] 4Then the LORD said to him,
"This is the land I promised on oath[e]
to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob[f] when I
said, 'I will give it[g] to your descend-
ants.' I have let you see it with your
eyes, but you will not cross[h] over into
it."

5And Moses the servant of the LORD[i]
died[j] there in Moab, as the LORD had
said. 6He buried him[c] in Moab, in the
valley opposite Beth Peor,[k] but to this
day no one knows where his grave is.[l]
7Moses was a hundred and twenty
years old[m] when he died, yet his eyes
were not weak[n] nor his strength
gone.[o] 8The Israelites grieved for
Moses in the plains of Moab[p] thirty
days,[q] until the time of weeping and
mourning[r] was over.

9Now Joshua son of Nun was filled
with the spirit[d] of wisdom[s] because
Moses had laid his hands on him.[t] So
the Israelites listened to him and did
what the LORD had commanded Moses.

10Since then, no prophet[u] has risen
in Israel like Moses,[v] whom the LORD
knew face to face,[w] 11who did all those
miraculous signs and wonders[x] the
LORD sent him to do in Egypt—to Phar-
aoh and to all his officials[y] and to his
whole land. 12For no one has[z] ever
shown the mighty power or performed
the awesome deeds[a] that Moses did in
the sight of all Israel.

34:2 [a]S Ex 23:31
34:3 [b]S Ge 12:9
[c]Jdg 1:16; 3:13;
2Ch 28:15
[d]S Ge 13:10
34:4 [e]Ge 28:13
[f]Jos 21:43
[g]Ge 12:7
[h]S Dt 3:23
34:5 [i]S Nu 12:7
[j]S Ge 25:8
34:6 [k]S Dt 3:29
[l]Jude 1:9
34:7 [m]S Ex 7:7
[n]S Ge 27:1
[o]S Ge 15:15
34:8
[p]S Nu 21:11
[q]S Ge 37:34;
S Dt 1:3
[r]2Sa 11:27

34:9
[s]S Ge 41:38;
S Ex 28:3;
Isa 11:2
[t]S Dt 31:14;
Ac 6:6
34:10
[u]S Ge 20:7
[v]Dt 18:15,18
[w]S Ex 33:11 **34:11** [x]Dt 4:34 [y]S Ex 11:3 **34:12** [z]Heb 3:1-6
[a]S Dt 4:34

[b]2 That is, the Mediterranean [c]6 *Or He was buried*
[d]9 *Or Spirit*

Joshua

The LORD Commands Joshua

1 After the death of Moses the servant of the LORD, the LORD said to Joshua son of Nun, Moses' aide: 2 "Moses my servant is dead. Now then, you and all these people, get ready to cross the Jordan River into the land I am about to give to them—to the Israelites. 3 I will give you every place where you set your foot, as I promised Moses. 4 Your territory will extend from the desert to Lebanon, and from the great river, the Euphrates—all the Hittite country—to the Great Sea[a] on the west. 5 No one will be able to stand up against you all the days of your life. As I was with Moses, so I will be with you; I will never leave you nor forsake you.

6 "Be strong and courageous, because you will lead these people to inherit the land I swore to their forefathers to give them. 7 Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the law my servant Moses gave you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, that you may be successful wherever you go. 8 Do not let this Book of the Law depart from your mouth; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful. 9 Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go."

10 So Joshua ordered the officers of the people: 11 "Go through the camp and tell the people, 'Get your supplies ready. Three days from now you will cross the Jordan here to go in and take possession of the land the LORD your God is giving you for your own.'"

12 But to the Reubenites, the Gadites and the half-tribe of Manasseh, Joshua said, 13 "Remember the command that Moses the servant of the LORD gave you: 'The LORD your God is giving you rest and has granted you this land.' 14 Your wives, your children and your livestock may stay in the land that Moses gave you east of the Jordan, but all your fighting men, fully armed, must cross over ahead of your brothers. You are to help your brothers 15 until the LORD gives them rest, as he has done for you, and until they too have taken possession of the land that the LORD your God is giving them. After that, you may go back and occupy your own land, which Moses the servant of the LORD gave you east of the Jordan toward the sunrise."

16 Then they answered Joshua, "Whatever you have commanded us we will do, and wherever you send us we will go. 17 Just as we fully obeyed Moses, so we will obey you. Only may the LORD your God be with you as he was with Moses. 18 Whoever rebels against your word and does not obey your words, whatever you may command them, will be put to death. Only be strong and courageous!"

Rahab and the Spies

2 Then Joshua son of Nun secretly sent two spies from Shittim. "Go, look over the land," he said, "especially Jericho." So they went and entered the house of a prostitute[b] named Rahab and stayed there.

2 The king of Jericho was told, "Look! Some of the Israelites have come here tonight to spy out the land." 3 So the king of Jericho sent this message to Rahab: "Bring out the men who came to you and entered your house, because they have come to spy out the whole land."

4 But the woman had taken the two men and hidden them. She said,

a4 That is, the Mediterranean b1 Or possibly an innkeeper

"Yes, the men came to me, but I did not know where they had come from. 5At dusk, when it was time to close the city gate,[a] the men left. I don't know which way they went. Go after them quickly. You may catch up with them."[b] 6(But she had taken them up to the roof and hidden them under the stalks of flax[c] she had laid out on the roof.)[d] 7So the men set out in pursuit of the spies on the road that leads to the fords of the Jordan,[e] and as soon as the pursuers[f] had gone out, the gate was shut.

8Before the spies lay down for the night, she went up on the roof[g] 9and said to them, "I know that the LORD has given this land to you and that a great fear[h] of you has fallen on us, so that all who live in this country are melting in fear because of you. 10We have heard how the LORD dried up[i] the water of the Red Sea[c] for you when you came out of Egypt,[j] and what you did to Sihon and Og,[k] the two kings of the Amorites[l] east of the Jordan,[m] whom you completely destroyed.[d][n] 11When we heard of it, our hearts melted[o] and everyone's courage failed[p] because of you,[q] for the LORD your God[r] is God in heaven above and on the earth[s] below. 12Now then, please swear to me[t] by the LORD that you will show kindness[u] to my family, because I have shown kindness to you. Give me a sure sign[v] 13that you will spare the lives of my father and mother, my brothers and sisters, and all who belong to them,[w] and that you will save us from death."

14"Our lives for your lives!"[x] the men assured her. "If you don't tell what we are doing, we will treat you kindly and faithfully[y] when the LORD gives us the land."

15So she let them down by a rope[z] through the window,[a] for the house she lived in was part of the city wall. 16Now she had said to them, "Go to the hills[b] so the pursuers[c] will not find you. Hide yourselves there three days[d] until they return, and then go on your way."[e]

17The men said to her, "This oath[f] you made us swear will not be binding on us 18unless, when we enter the land, you have tied this scarlet cord[g] in the window[h] through which you let us down, and unless you have brought your father and mother, your brothers and all your family[i] into your house. 19If anyone goes outside your house into the street, his blood will be on his own head;[j] we will not be responsible. As for anyone who is in the house with you, his blood will be on our head[k] if a hand is laid on him. 20But if you tell what we are doing, we will be released from the oath you made us swear.[l]"

21"Agreed," she replied. "Let it be as you say." So she sent them away and they departed. And she tied the scarlet cord[m] in the window.[n]

22When they left, they went into the hills and stayed there three days,[o] until the pursuers[p] had searched all along the road and returned without finding them. 23Then the two men started back. They went down out of the hills, forded the river and came to Joshua son of Nun and told him everything that had happened to them. 24They said to Joshua, "The LORD has surely given the whole land into our hands;[q] all the people are melting in fear[r] because of us."

Crossing the Jordan

3 Early in the morning Joshua and all the Israelites set out from Shittim[s] and went to the Jordan,[t] where they camped before crossing over. 2After three days[u] the officers[v] went throughout the camp,[w] 3giving orders to the people: "When you see the ark of the covenant[x] of the LORD your God, and the priests,[y] who are Levites,[z] carrying it, you are to move out from your positions and follow it. 4Then you will know which way to go, since you have never been this way before. But keep a distance of about a thousand yards[e][a] between you and the ark; do not go near it."

5Joshua told the people, "Consecrate yourselves,[b] for tomorrow the LORD will do amazing things[c] among you."

6Joshua said to the priests, "Take up the ark of the covenant and pass on ahead of the people." So they took it up and went ahead of them.

7And the LORD said to Joshua, "Today I will begin to exalt you[d] in the eyes of all Israel, so they may know that I am with you as I was with Moses.[e] 8Tell the priests[f] who carry the ark of the covenant: 'When you reach the edge of the Jordan's waters, go and stand in the river.' "

2:5 [a]Jdg 5:8; 9:35; 16:2 [b]S Heb 11:31 **2:6** [c]Jdg 15:14; Pr 31:13; Isa 19:9 [d]S Ex 1:19; Jos 6:25; 2Sa 17:19 **2:7** [e]Nu 22:1; Jdg 3:28; 7:24; 12:5,6; Isa 16:2 [f]ver 16,22 **2:8** [g]S Dt 22:8; Jdg 16:27; 2Sa 16:22; Ne 8:16; Isa 15:3; 22:1; Jer 32:29 **2:9** [h]S Ge 35:5; S Ex 15:14 **2:10** [i]S Ge 8:1; Ex 14:21; Jos 3:17; Ps 74:15 [j]S Nu 23:22 [k]S Nu 21:21 [l]S Ge 10:16; S 14:7 [m]Jos 9:10 [n]S Nu 21:2 **2:11** [o]S Ge 42:28 [p]S Dt 2:25; Ps 107:26; Jnh 1:5 [q]Ex 15:14; Jos 5:1; 7:5; 2Sa 4:1; Ps 22:14; Isa 13:7; 19:1; Jer 51:30; Na 2:10 [r]2Ki 5:15; 19:15; Da 6:26 [s]S Ge 14:19; S Nu 20:14 **2:12** [t]S Ge 24:8; S 47:31 [u]S Ge 24:12; Ru 3:10 [v]S Ge 24:14; S Ex 3:12; Jos 4:6; 1Sa 2:34; 2Ki 19:29 **2:13** [w]ver 18; Jos 6:23 **2:14** [x]1Ki 20:39, 42; 2Ki 10:24 [y]S Ge 47:29 **2:15** [z]Jer 38:6,11 [a]ver 18,21; Ge 26:8; Jdg 5:28; 1Sa 19:12 **2:16** [b]S Ge 14:10 [c]S ver 7 [d]ver 22 [e]S Heb 11:31 **2:17** [f]S Ge 24:8 **2:18** [g]ver 21 [h]S ver 15 [i]S ver 13 **2:19** [j]S Lev 20:9 [k]Mt 27:25 **2:20** [l]S Ge 24:8; S 47:31 **2:21** [m]ver 18 [n]S ver 15 **2:22** [o]ver 16 [p]S ver 7 **2:24** [q]Jos 10:8; 11:6; Jdg 3:28; 7:9,14; 20:28; 1Sa 14:10 [r]S Ex 15:15 **3:1** [s]S Jos 2:1 [t]S Ge 13:10; Job 40:23 **3:2** [u]S Ge 40:13; Jos 2:16 [v]S Dt 1:15 [w]Jos 1:11 **3:3** [x]S Nu 10:33 [y]ver 8,17; Nu 4:15; Dt 31:9; 1Ki 8:3 [z]1Sa 6:15 **3:4** [a]Nu 35:5 **3:5** [b]S Ex 29:1; S Lev 11:44 [c]Jdg 6:13; 1Ch 16:9,24; Ps 26:7; 75:1 **3:7** [d]Jos 4:14; 1Ch 29:25 [e]Jos 1:5 **3:8** [f]S ver 3

[c]10 Hebrew *Yam Suph;* that is, Sea of Reeds
[d]10 The Hebrew term refers to the irrevocable giving over of things or persons to the LORD, often by totally destroying them. [e]4 Hebrew *about two thousand cubits* (about 900 meters)

9Joshua said to the Israelites, "Come
here and listen to the words of the LORD
your God. 10This is how you will know
that the living God[a] is among you[b]
and that he will certainly drive out be-
fore you the Canaanites, Hittites,[c] Hi-
vites, Perizzites,[d] Girgashites, Amo-
rites and Jebusites.[e] 11See, the ark of
the covenant of the Lord of all the
earth[f] will go into the Jordan ahead of
you.[g] 12Now then, choose twelve
men[h] from the tribes of Israel, one
from each tribe. 13And as soon as the
priests who carry the ark of the LORD—
the Lord of all the earth[i]—set foot in
the Jordan, its waters flowing down-
stream[j] will be cut off[k] and stand up
in a heap.[l]"
14So when the people broke camp to
cross the Jordan, the priests carrying
the ark of the covenant[m] went ahead[n]
of them. 15Now the Jordan[o] is at flood
stage[p] all during harvest.[q] Yet as soon
as the priests who carried the ark
reached the Jordan and their feet
touched the water's edge, 16the water
from upstream stopped flowing.[r] It
piled up in a heap[s] a great distance
away, at a town called Adam in the
vicinity of Zarethan,[t] while the water
flowing down[u] to the Sea of the Ara-
bah[v] (the Salt Sea[f][w]) was completely
cut off.[x] So the people crossed over op-
posite Jericho.[y] 17The priests[z] who car-
ried the ark of the covenant of the LORD
stood firm on dry ground in the middle
of the Jordan,[a] while all Israel passed
by until the whole nation had com-
pleted the crossing on dry ground.[b]
4 When the whole nation had fin-
ished crossing the Jordan,[c] the
LORD said to Joshua, 2"Choose twelve
men[d] from among the people, one
from each tribe, 3and tell them to take
up twelve stones[e] from the middle of
the Jordan[f] from right where the
priests stood and to carry them over
with you and put them down at the
place where you stay tonight.[g]"
4So Joshua called together the twelve
men[h] he had appointed from the Isra-
elites, one from each tribe, 5and said to
them, "Go over before the ark of the
LORD your God into the middle of the
Jordan.[i] Each of you is to take up a
stone on his shoulder, according to the
number of the tribes of the Israelites,
6to serve as a sign[j] among you. In the
future, when your children[k] ask you,
'What do these stones mean?'[l] 7tell
them that the flow of the Jordan was
cut off[m] before the ark of the covenant
of the LORD. When it crossed the Jor-
dan, the waters of the Jordan were cut
off. These stones are to be a memorial[n]
to the people of Israel forever."
8So the Israelites did as Joshua com-
manded them. They took twelve
stones[o] from the middle of the Jor-
dan,[p] according to the number of the
tribes of the Israelites, as the LORD had
told Joshua;[q] and they carried them
over with them to their camp, where
they put them down. 9Joshua set up
the twelve stones[r] that had been[g] in
the middle of the Jordan at the spot
where the priests who carried the ark
of the covenant had stood. And they
are there to this day.[s]
10Now the priests who carried the ark
remained standing in the middle of the
Jordan until everything the LORD had
commanded Joshua was done by the
people, just as Moses had directed
Joshua. The people hurried over, 11and
as soon as all of them had crossed, the
ark of the LORD and the priests came to
the other side while the people
watched. 12The men of Reuben,[t] Gad[u]
and the half-tribe of Manasseh[v]
crossed over, armed, in front of the Is-
raelites,[w] as Moses had directed
them.[x] 13About forty thousand armed
for battle[y] crossed over[z] before the
LORD to the plains of Jericho for war.
14That day the LORD exalted[a] Joshua
in the sight of all Israel; and they re-
vered him all the days of his life, just as
they had revered Moses.
15Then the LORD said to Joshua,
16"Command the priests carrying the
ark of the Testimony[b] to come up out
of the Jordan."
17So Joshua commanded the priests,
"Come up out of the Jordan."
18And the priests came up out of the
river carrying the ark of the covenant of
the LORD. No sooner had they set their
feet on the dry ground than the waters
of the Jordan returned to their place[c]
and ran at flood stage[d] as before.
19On the tenth day of the first month
the people went up from the Jordan
and camped at Gilgal[e] on the eastern
border of Jericho. 20And Joshua set up
at Gilgal the twelve stones[f] they had
taken out of the Jordan. 21He said to the
Israelites, "In the future when your de-
scendants ask their fathers, 'What do
these stones mean?'[g] 22tell them, 'Israel
crossed the Jordan on dry ground.'[h]

3:10 [a]Dt 5:26; 1Sa 17:26,36; 2Ki 19:4,16; Ps 18:46; 42:2; 84:2; Isa 37:4,17; Jer 10:10; 23:36; Da 6:26; Hos 1:10; S Mt 16:16 [b]Dt 7:21 [c]S Ge 10:18 [d]S Ge [illegible] [e]Jos 12:15; 24:11; Jdg 1:4; 3:5; S Ex 3:8; [illegible]; Jos 9:1; 11:3; 12:8; Jdg 19:11; 1Ch 11:4 **3:11** [f]ver 13; Ex 19:5; Dt 10:14; Job 9:10; 28:24; 41:11; Ps 50:12; 97:5; Zec 6:5 [g]S Dt 9:3 **3:12** [h]Jos 4:2,4 **3:13** [i]S ver 11 [j]ver 16 [k]Jos 4:7 [l]S Ex 14:22; S Isa 11:15 **3:14** [m]Ps 132:8 [n]Ac 7:44-45 **3:15** [o]2Ki 2:6 [p]Jos 4:18; 1Ch 12:15; Isa 8:7 [q]S Ge 8:22 **3:16** [r]Ps 66:6; 74:15; 114:3 [s]Job 38:37; Ps 33:7 [t]1Ki 4:12; 7:46 [u]ver 13 [v]S Dt 1:1 [w]S Ge 14:3 [x]S Ge 8:1; S Ex 14:22 [y]2Ki 2:4 **3:17** [z]S ver 3 [a]Jos 4:3,5,8,9,10 [b]S Ex 14:22; S Jos 2:10 **4:1** [c]Dt 27:2 **4:2** [d]S Jos 3:12 **4:3** [e]ver 20 [f]S Jos 3:17 [g]ver 19 **4:4** [h]S Jos 3:12 **4:5** [i]S Jos 3:17 **4:6** [j]S Jos 2:12 [k]S Ex 10:2 [l]ver 21; Ex 12:26; S 13:14 **4:7** [m]Jos 3:13 [n]S Ex 28:12 **4:8** [o]Ex 28:21 [p]S Jos 3:17 [q]ver 20 **4:9** [r]S Ge 28:18; Jos 24:26; 1Sa 7:12 [s]S Ge 35:20 **4:12** [t]S Ge 29:32 [u]S Ge 30:11 [v]S Ge 41:51 [w]S Nu 32:27 [x]Nu 32:29 **4:13** [y]S Ex 13:18 [z]S Nu 32:17 **4:14** [a]S Jos 3:7 **4:16** [b]Ex 25:22 **4:18** [c]Ex 14:27 [d]S Jos 3:15 **4:19** [e]S Dt 11:30 **4:20** [f]ver 3,8 **4:21** [g]S ver 6 **4:22** [h]S Ex 14:22

[f]16 That is, the Dead Sea [g]9 Or *Joshua also set up twelve stones*

23For the LORD your God dried up the
Jordan before you until you had
crossed over. The LORD your God did to
the Jordan just what he had done to the
Red Sea[h] when he dried it up before us
until we had crossed over.[a] 24He did
this so that all the peoples of the earth
might know[b] that the hand of the LORD
is powerful[c] and so that you might al-
ways fear the LORD your God.[d]"

Circumcision at Gilgal

5 Now when all the Amorite kings
west of the Jordan and all the Ca-
naanite kings along the coast[e] heard
how the LORD had dried up the Jordan
before the Israelites until we had
crossed over, their hearts melted[f] and
they no longer had the courage to face
the Israelites.
2At that time the LORD said to Joshua,
"Make flint knives[g] and circumcise[h]
the Israelites again." 3So Joshua made
flint knives and circumcised the Israel-
ites at Gibeath Haaraloth.[i]
4Now this is why he did so: All those
who came out of Egypt—all the men of
military age[i]—died in the desert on
the way after leaving Egypt.[j] 5All the
people that came out had been circum-
cised, but all the people born in the
desert during the journey from Egypt
had not. 6The Israelites had moved
about in the desert[k] forty years[l] until
all the men who were of military age
when they left Egypt had died, since
they had not obeyed the LORD. For the
LORD had sworn to them that they
would not see the land that he had sol-
emnly promised their fathers to give
us,[m] a land flowing with milk and
honey.[n] 7So he raised up their sons in
their place, and these were the ones
Joshua circumcised. They were still un-
circumcised because they had not been
circumcised on the way. 8And after the
whole nation had been circumcised,
they remained where they were in
camp until they were healed.[o]
9Then the LORD said to Joshua, "To-
day I have rolled away the reproach of
Egypt from you." So the place has been
called Gilgal[j][p] to this day.
10On the evening of the fourteenth
day of the month,[q] while camped at
Gilgal on the plains of Jericho, the Isra-
elites celebrated the Passover.[r] 11The
day after the Passover, that very day,
they ate some of the produce of the
land:[s] unleavened bread[t] and roasted
grain.[u] 12The manna stopped the day
after[k] they ate this food from the land;

4:23 [a]Ex 14:19-22
4:24 [b]1Ki 8:60; 18:36; 2Ki 5:15; Ps 67:2; 83:18; 106:8; Isa 37:20; 52:10 [c]Ex 15:16; 1Ch 29:12; Ps 44:3; 89:13; 98:1; 118:15-16 [d]S Ex 14:31
5:1 [e]S Nu 13:29 [f]S Ge 42:28
5:2 [g]S Ex 4:25 [h]S Ge 17:10,12, 14
5:4 [i]S Nu 1:3 [j]Dt 2:14
5:6 [k]Nu 32:13; Jos 14:10; Ps 107:4 [l]S Ex 16:35 [m]Nu 14:23, 29-35; Dt 2:14 [n]S Ex 3:8
5:8 [o]Ge 34:25
5:9 [p]S Dt 11:30
5:10 [q]S Ex 12:6 [r]S Ex 12:11
5:11 [s]S Nu 15:19 [t]Ex 12:15 [u]S Lev 23:14
5:12 [v]Ex 16:35
5:13 [w]S Ge 18:2 [x]Nu 22:23
5:14 [y]S Ge 17:3 [z]S Ge 19:1
5:15 [a]S Ge 28:17; Ex 3:5; Ac 7:33
6:1 [b]Jos 24:11
6:2 [c]ver 16; Dt 7:24; Jos 8:1
6:4 [d]S Ex 19:13 [e]S Lev 25:9
6:5 [f]Ex 19:13 [g]ver 20; 1Sa 4:5; 2Sa 6:15; Ezr 3:11; 10:12; Ps 42:4; 95:1; Isa 8:9; 42:13
6:6 [h]ver 4
6:7 [i]Ex 14:15 [j]Nu 10:35; 1Sa 4:3; 7:1
6:9 [k]ver 13; S Nu 2:31; Isa 52:12

there was no longer any manna for the
Israelites, but that year they ate of the
produce of Canaan.[v]

The Fall of Jericho

13Now when Joshua was near Jeri-
cho, he looked up and saw a man[w]
standing in front of him with a drawn
sword[x] in his hand. Joshua went up to
him and asked, "Are you for us or for
our enemies?"
14"Neither," he replied, "but as com-
mander of the army of the LORD I have
now come." Then Joshua fell face-
down[y] to the ground[z] in reverence,
and asked him, "What message does
my Lord[l] have for his servant?"
15The commander of the LORD's army
replied, "Take off your sandals, for the
place where you are standing is
holy."[a] And Joshua did so.
6 Now Jericho[b] was tightly shut up
because of the Israelites. No one
went out and no one came in.
2Then the LORD said to Joshua, "See,
I have delivered[c] Jericho into your
hands, along with its king and its fight-
ing men. 3March around the city once
with all the armed men. Do this for six
days. 4Have seven priests carry trum-
pets of rams' horns[d] in front of the ark.
On the seventh day, march around the
city seven times, with the priests blow-
ing the trumpets.[e] 5When you hear
them sound a long blast[f] on the trum-
pets, have all the people give a loud
shout;[g] then the wall of the city will
collapse and the people will go up,
every man straight in."
6So Joshua son of Nun called the
priests and said to them, "Take up the
ark of the covenant of the LORD and
have seven priests carry trumpets in
front of it."[h] 7And he ordered the
people, "Advance[i]! March around the
city, with the armed guard going ahead
of the ark[j] of the LORD."
8When Joshua had spoken to the
people, the seven priests carrying the
seven trumpets before the LORD went
forward, blowing their trumpets, and
the ark of the LORD's covenant followed
them. 9The armed guard marched
ahead of the priests who blew the
trumpets, and the rear guard[k] fol-
lowed the ark. All this time the trum-
pets were sounding. 10But Joshua had
commanded the people, "Do not give a

[h]23 Hebrew *Yam Suph;* that is, Sea of Reeds
[i]3 *Gibeath Haaraloth* means *hill of foreskins.* [j]9 *Gilgal* sounds like the Hebrew for *roll.* [k]12 Or *the day*
[l]14 Or *lord*

war cry, do not raise your voices, do
not say a word until the day I tell you
to shout. Then shout![a]" 11So he had
the ark of the LORD carried around the
city, circling it once. Then the people
returned to camp and spent the night
there.

12Joshua got up early the next morn-
ing and the priests took up the ark of
the LORD. 13The seven priests carrying
the seven trumpets went forward,
marching before the ark of the LORD
and blowing the trumpets. The armed
men went ahead of them and the rear
guard followed the ark of the LORD,
while the trumpets kept sounding. 14So
on the second day they marched
around the city once and returned to
the camp. They did this for six days.

15On the seventh day, they got up at
daybreak and marched around the city
seven times in the same manner, ex-
cept that on that day they circled the
city seven times.[b] 16The seventh time
around, when the priests sounded the
trumpet blast, Joshua commanded the
people, "Shout! For the LORD has given
you the city![c] 17The city and all that is
in it are to be devoted[m][d] to the LORD.
Only Rahab the prostitute[n][e] and all
who are with her in her house shall be
spared, because she hid[f] the spies we
sent. 18But keep away from the devoted
things,[g] so that you will not bring
about your own destruction by taking
any of them. Otherwise you will make
the camp of Israel liable to destruction[h]
and bring trouble[i] on it. 19All the silver
and gold and the articles of bronze and
iron[j] are sacred to the LORD and must
go into his treasury."

20When the trumpets sounded,[k] the
people shouted, and at the sound of
the trumpet, when the people gave a
loud shout,[l] the wall collapsed; so
every man charged straight in, and
they took the city.[m] 21They devoted[n]
the city to the LORD and destroyed[o]
with the sword every living thing in
it—men and women, young and old,
cattle, sheep and donkeys.

22Joshua said to the two men[p] who
had spied out[q] the land, "Go into the
prostitute's house and bring her out
and all who belong to her, in accor-
dance with your oath to her.[r]" 23So the
young men who had done the spying
went in and brought out Rahab, her fa-
ther and mother and brothers and all
who belonged to her.[s] They brought
out her entire family and put them in a
place outside the camp of Israel.

24Then they burned the whole city[t]
and everything in it, but they put the
silver and gold and the articles of
bronze and iron[u] into the treasury of
the LORD's house.[v] 25But Joshua
spared[w] Rahab the prostitute,[x] with
her family and all who belonged to her,
because she hid the men Joshua had
sent as spies to Jericho[y]—and she lives
among the Israelites to this day.

26At that time Joshua pronounced
this solemn oath:[z] "Cursed[a] before the
LORD is the man who undertakes to re-
build this city, Jericho:

"At the cost of his firstborn son
will he lay its foundations;
at the cost of his youngest
will he set up its gates."[b]

27So the LORD was with Joshua,[c] and
his fame spread[d] throughout the land.

Achan's Sin

7 But the Israelites acted unfaithfully
in regard to the devoted things[o];[e]
Achan[f] son of Carmi, the son of Zim-
ri,[p] the son of Zerah,[g] of the tribe of
Judah,[h] took some of them. So the
LORD's anger burned[i] against Israel.[j]

2Now Joshua sent men from Jericho
to Ai,[k] which is near Beth Aven[l] to the
east of Bethel,[m] and told them, "Go up
and spy out[n] the region." So the men
went up and spied out Ai.

3When they returned to Joshua, they
said, "Not all the people will have to go
up against Ai. Send two or three thou-
sand men to take it and do not weary
all the people, for only a few men are
there." 4So about three thousand men
went up; but they were routed by the
men of Ai,[o] 5who killed about thirty-
six[p] of them. They chased the Israelites
from the city gate as far as the stone
quarries[q] and struck them down on the
slopes. At this the hearts of the people
melted[q] and became like water.

6Then Joshua tore his clothes[r] and
fell facedown[s] to the ground before the
ark of the LORD, remaining there till
evening.[t] The elders of Israel[u] did the
same, and sprinkled dust[v] on their
heads. 7And Joshua said, "Ah, Sover-
eign LORD, why[w] did you ever bring

6:10 [a]ver 20; 1Sa 4:5; Ezr 3:11 **6:15** [b]1Ki 18:44; 2Ki 4:35; 5:14 **6:16** [c]S ver 2 **6:17** [d]ver 21; Lev 27:28; Dt 20:17; Isa 13:5; 24:1; 34:2,5; Mal 4:6 [e]S Jos 2:1 [f]ver 25; Jos 2:4 **6:18** [g]Jos 7:1; 1Ch 2:7 [h]Jos 7:12 [i]Jos 7:25,26 **6:19** [j]ver 24; Nu 31:22 **6:20** [k]Lev 25:9; Jdg 6:34; 7:22; 1Ki 1:41; Isa 18:3; 27:13; Jer 4:21; 42:14; Am 2:2 [l]S ver 5, S 10 [m]Heb 11:30 **6:21** [n]S ver 17 [o]S Dt 20:16 **6:22** [p]S Ge 42:9; S Jos 2:4 [q]S Nu 21:32 [r]Jos 2:14; Heb 11:31 **6:23** [s]S Jos 2:13 **6:24** [t]S Nu 31:10 [u]S ver 19 [v]S Dt 13:16 **6:25** [w]Jdg 1:25 [x]S Jos 2:1 [y]S ver 17; S Jos 2:6 **6:26** [z]1Sa 14:24 [a]S Nu 5:21 [b]1Ki 16:34 **6:27** [c]S Ge 39:2; S Nu 14:43 [d]Jos 9:1; 1Ch 14:17 **7:1** [e]S Jos 6:18 [f]ver 26; 1Ch 2:7 [g]Jos 22:20 [h]ver 18; Nu 1:4 [i]S Ex 4:14; S 32:20 [j]S Lev 10:6 **7:2** [k]S Ge 12:8; S Jos 8:1,28 [l]Jos 18:12; 1Sa 13:5; 14:23; Hos 4:15; 5:8; 10:5 [m]Ge 12:8; Jos 12:16; 16:1; Jdg 1:22; 1Sa 30:27; 2Ki 23:15; Jer 48:13; Am 3:14; 4:4; 5:5-6; 7:10,13 [n]S Nu 21:32 **7:4** [o]S Lev 26:17; S Dt 28:25 **7:5** [p]Jos 22:20 [q]S Ge 42:28; Ps 22:14; Isa 13:7; Eze 21:7; Na 2:10 **7:6** [r]S Ge 37:29 [s]S Ge 17:3; 1Ch 21:16; Eze 9:8 [t]Jdg 20:23 [u]Jos 8:10; 9:11; 20:4; 23:2 [v]1Sa 4:12; 2Sa 13:19; 15:32; Ne 9:1; Job 2:12; La 2:10; Eze 27:30; Rev 18:19 **7:7** [w]1Sa 4:3

[m]*17* The Hebrew term refers to the irrevocable giving over of things or persons to the LORD, often by totally destroying them; also in verses 18 and 21. [n]*17* Or possibly *innkeeper;* also in verses 22 and 25 [o]*1* The Hebrew term refers to the irrevocable giving over of things or persons to the LORD, often by totally destroying them; also in verses 11, 12, 13 and 15. [p]*1* See Septuagint and 1 Chron. 2:6; Hebrew *Zabdi;* also in verses 17 and 18. [q]*5* Or *as far as Shebarim*

this people across the Jordan to deliver
us into the hands of the Amorites to
destroy us?[a] If only we had been con-
tent to stay on the other side of the Jor-
dan! 8 O Lord, what can I say, now that
Israel has been routed by its enemies?
9 The Canaanites and the other people
of the country will hear about this and
they will surround us and wipe out our
name from the earth.[b] What then will
you do for your own great name?[c]"
10 The LORD said to Joshua, "Stand up!
What are you doing down on your
face? 11 Israel has sinned;[d] they have vi-
olated my covenant,[e] which I com-
manded them to keep. They have tak-
en some of the devoted things; they
have stolen, they have lied,[f] they have
put them with their own possessions.[g]
12 That is why the Israelites cannot
stand against their enemies;[h] they turn
their backs[i] and run[j] because they
have been made liable to destruction.[k]
I will not be with you anymore[l] unless
you destroy whatever among you is de-
voted to destruction.
13 "Go, consecrate the people. Tell
them, 'Consecrate yourselves[m] in
preparation for tomorrow; for this is
what the LORD, the God of Israel, says:
That which is devoted is among you, O
Israel. You cannot stand against your
enemies until you remove it.
14 " 'In the morning, present[n] your-
selves tribe by tribe. The tribe that the
LORD takes[o] shall come forward clan by
clan; the clan that the LORD takes shall
come forward family by family; and the
family that the LORD takes shall come
forward man by man. 15 He who is
caught with the devoted things[p] shall
be destroyed by fire,[q] along with all
that belongs to him.[r] He has violated
the covenant[s] of the LORD and has
done a disgraceful thing in Israel!' "[t]
16 Early the next morning Joshua had
Israel come forward by tribes, and
Judah was taken. 17 The clans of Judah
came forward, and he took the Zera-
hites.[u] He had the clan of the Zerahites
come forward by families, and Zimri
was taken. 18 Joshua had his family
come forward man by man, and Achan
son of Carmi, the son of Zimri, the son
of Zerah, of the tribe of Judah,[v] was
taken.[w]
19 Then Joshua said to Achan, "My
son, give glory[x] to the LORD,[r] the God
of Israel, and give him the praise.[s]
Tell[y] me what you have done; do not
hide it from me."
20 Achan replied, "It is true! I have
sinned against the LORD, the God of Is-
rael. This is what I have done: 21 When I
saw in the plunder[z] a beautiful robe
from Babylonia,[t] two hundred
shekels[u] of silver and a wedge of gold
weighing fifty shekels,[v] I coveted[a]
them and took them. They are hidden
in the ground inside my tent, with the
silver underneath."
22 So Joshua sent messengers, and
they ran to the tent, and there it was,
hidden in his tent, with the silver un-
derneath. 23 They took the things from
the tent, brought them to Joshua and
all the Israelites and spread them out
before the LORD.
24 Then Joshua, together with all Is-
rael, took Achan son of Zerah, the sil-
ver, the robe, the gold wedge, his
sons[b] and daughters, his cattle, don-
keys and sheep, his tent and all that he
had, to the Valley of Achor.[c] 25 Joshua
said, "Why have you brought this trou-
ble[d] on us? The LORD will bring trouble
on you today."
Then all Israel stoned him,[e] and af-
ter they had stoned the rest, they
burned them.[f] 26 Over Achan they
heaped[g] up a large pile of rocks, which
remains to this day.[h] Then the LORD
turned from his fierce anger.[i] There-
fore that place has been called the Val-
ley of Achor[w][j] ever since.

Ai Destroyed

8 Then the LORD said to Joshua, "Do
not be afraid;[k] do not be dis-
couraged.[l] Take the whole army[m] with
you, and go up and attack Ai.[n] For I
have delivered[o] into your hands the
king of Ai, his people, his city and his
land. 2 You shall do to Ai and its king as
you did to Jericho and its king, except
that you may carry off their plunder[p]
and livestock for yourselves.[q] Set an
ambush[r] behind the city."
3 So Joshua and the whole army
moved out to attack Ai. He chose thirty
thousand of his best fighting men and
sent them out at night 4 with these or-
ders: "Listen carefully. You are to set
an ambush behind the city. Don't go
very far from it. All of you be on the
alert. 5 I and all those with me will ad-
vance on the city, and when the men
come out against us, as they did be-
fore, we will flee from them. 6 They will

7:7 aS Ex 5:22; S Nu 14:16 **7:9** bEx 32:12; S Dt 9:28 cDt 28:58; 1Sa 12:22; Ps 48:10; 106:8; Jer 14:21 **7:11** dS Ex 9:27; Dt 29:27; Jos 24:16-27; 2Ki 17:7; Hos 10:9 ever 15; Jos 6:17-19; 23:16; Jdg 2:20; 1Sa 15:24; Ps 78:10 fAc 5:1-2 gver 21 **7:12** hLev 26:37 iPs 18:40; 21:12 jS Lev 26:17 kJos 6:18 lPs 44:9; 60:10 **7:13** mS Lev 11:44 **7:14** n1Sa 10:19 oPr 16:33 **7:15** pJos 6:18 qDt 7:25; 2Ki 25:9; 1Ch 14:12; Isa 37:19; Jer 43:12; Eze 30:16 r1Sa 14:39 sS ver 11 tGe 34:7 **7:17** uNu 26:20 **7:18** vS ver 1; S Lev 24:11 wJnh 1:7 **7:19** xEx 14:17; 1Sa 6:5; Ps 96:8; Isa 42:12; Jer 13:16; Jn 9:24* yS Lev 5:5; 1Sa 14:43

7:21 zS Ge 34:29; S 49:27 aS Dt 7:25; Eph 5:5; 1Ti 6:10 **7:24** bS Nu 16:27 cver 26; Jos 15:7; Isa 65:10; Hos 2:15 **7:25** dS Jos 6:18 eS Lev 20:2; Dt 17:5; 1Ki 12:18; 2Ch 10:18; 24:21; Ne 9:26 fS Ge 38:24 **7:26** g2Sa 18:17 hS Ge 35:20 iS Nu 25:4 jS ver 24 **8:1** kGe 26:24; Dt 31:6 lS Nu 14:9; S Dt 1:21 mJos 10:7 nJos 7:2; 9:3; 10:1; 12:9 oS Jos 6:2 **8:2** pS Ge 49:27 qver 27; Dt 20:14 rver 4,12; Jdg 9:43; 20:29

r19 A solemn charge to tell the truth s19 Or *and confess to him* t21 Hebrew *Shinar* u21 That is, about 5 pounds (about 2.3 kilograms) v21 That is, about 1 1/4 pounds (about 0.6 kilogram) w26 *Achor* means *trouble.*

pursue us until we have lured them away from the city, for they will say, 'They are running away from us as they did before.' So when we flee from them, 7you are to rise up from ambush and take the city. The LORD your God will give it into your hand.[a] 8When you have taken the city, set it on fire.[b] Do what the LORD has commanded.[c] See to it; you have my orders."

9Then Joshua sent them off, and they went to the place of ambush[d] and lay in wait between Bethel and Ai, to the west of Ai—but Joshua spent that night with the people.

10Early the next morning[e] Joshua mustered his men, and he and the leaders of Israel[f] marched before them to Ai. 11The entire force that was with him marched up and approached the city and arrived in front of it. They set up camp north of Ai, with the valley between them and the city. 12Joshua had taken about five thousand men and set them in ambush between Bethel and Ai, to the west of the city. 13They had the soldiers take up their positions—all those in the camp to the north of the city and the ambush to the west of it. That night Joshua went into the valley.

14When the king of Ai saw this, he and all the men of the city hurried out early in the morning to meet Israel in battle at a certain place overlooking the Arabah.[g] But he did not know[h] that an ambush had been set against him behind the city. 15Joshua and all Israel let themselves be driven back[i] before them, and they fled toward the desert.[j] 16All the men of Ai were called to pursue them, and they pursued Joshua and were lured away[k] from the city. 17Not a man remained in Ai or Bethel who did not go after Israel. They left the city open and went in pursuit of Israel.

18Then the LORD said to Joshua, "Hold out toward Ai the javelin[l] that is in your hand,[m] for into your hand I will deliver the city." So Joshua held out his javelin[n] toward Ai. 19As soon as he did this, the men in the ambush rose quickly[o] from their position and rushed forward. They entered the city and captured it and quickly set it on fire.[p]

20The men of Ai looked back and saw the smoke of the city rising against the sky,[q] but they had no chance to escape in any direction, for the Israelites who had been fleeing toward the desert had turned back against their pursuers. 21For when Joshua and all Israel saw that the ambush had taken the city and that smoke was going up from the city, they turned around[r] and attacked the men of Ai. 22The men of the ambush also came out of the city against them, so that they were caught in the middle, with Israelites on both sides. Israel cut them down, leaving them neither survivors nor fugitives.[s] 23But they took the king of Ai alive[t] and brought him to Joshua.

24When Israel had finished killing all the men of Ai in the fields and in the desert where they had chased them, and when every one of them had been put to the sword, all the Israelites returned to Ai and killed those who were in it. 25Twelve thousand men and women fell that day—all the people of Ai.[u] 26For Joshua did not draw back the hand that held out his javelin[v] until he had destroyed[x][w] all who lived in Ai.[x] 27But Israel did carry off for themselves the livestock and plunder of this city, as the LORD had instructed Joshua.[y]

28So Joshua burned[z] Ai[a] and made it a permanent heap of ruins,[b] a desolate place to this day.[c] 29He hung the king of Ai on a tree and left him there until evening. At sunset,[d] Joshua ordered them to take his body from the tree and throw it down at the entrance of the city gate. And they raised a large pile of rocks[e] over it, which remains to this day.

The Covenant Renewed at Mount Ebal

30Then Joshua built on Mount Ebal[f] an altar[g] to the LORD, the God of Israel, 31as Moses the servant of the LORD had commanded the Israelites. He built it according to what is written in the Book of the Law of Moses—an altar of uncut stones, on which no iron tool[h] had been used. On it they offered to the LORD burnt offerings and sacrificed fellowship offerings.[y][i] 32There, in the presence of the Israelites, Joshua copied on stones the law of Moses, which he had written.[j] 33All Israel, aliens and citizens[k] alike, with their elders, officials and judges, were standing on both sides of the ark of the covenant of the LORD, facing those who carried it—the priests, who were Levites.[l] Half of the people stood in front of Mount Gerizim and half of them in front of

8:7 [a]Jdg 7:7; 1Sa 23:4 **8:8** [b]Jdg 20:29-38 [c]ver 19 **8:9** [d]2Ch 13:13 **8:10** [e]Ge 22:3 [f]S Jos 7:6 **8:14** [g]S Dt 1:1 [h]Jdg 20:34 **8:15** [i]Jdg 20:36 [j]Jos 15:61; 16:1; 18:12 **8:16** [k]Jdg 20:31 **8:18** [l]Job 41:26; Ps 35:3 [m]S Ex 4:2; 17:9-12 [n]ver 26 **8:19** [o]Jdg 20:33 [p]S ver 8 **8:20** [q]Jdg 20:40 **8:21** [r]Jdg 20:41 **8:22** [s]Dt 7:2; Jos 10:1 **8:23** [t]1Sa 15:8 **8:25** [u]Dt 20:16-18 **8:26** [v]ver 18 [w]S Nu 21:2 [x]Ex 17:12 **8:27** [y]S ver 2 **8:28** [z]S Nu 31:10 [a]Jos 7:2; Jer 49:3 [b]S Dt 13:16; Jos 10:1 [c]S Ge 35:20 **8:29** [d]S Dt 21:23; Jn 19:31 [e]2Sa 18:17 **8:30** [f]ver 33; S Dt 11:29 [g]S Ex 20:24 **8:31** [h]S Ex 20:25 [i]Dt 27:6-7 **8:32** [j]Dt 27:8 **8:33** [k]S Lev 16:29 [l]Dt 31:12

x26 The Hebrew term refers to the irrevocable giving over of things or persons to the LORD, often by totally destroying them. y31 Traditionally *peace offerings*

Mount Ebal,[a] as Moses the servant of
the LORD had formerly commanded
when he gave instructions to bless the
people of Israel.
34 Afterward, Joshua read all the
words of the law—the blessings and
the curses—just as it is written in the
Book of the Law.[b] 35 There was not a
word of all that Moses had commanded
that Joshua did not read to the whole
assembly of Israel, including the
women and children, and the aliens
who lived among them.[c]

The Gibeonite Deception

9 Now when all the kings west of the
Jordan heard about these things—
those in the hill country,[d] in the west-
ern foothills, and along the entire coast
of the Great Sea[e1] as far as Lebanon[f]
(the kings of the Hittites, Amorites, Ca-
naanites, Perizzites,[g] Hivites[h] and Jeb-
usites)[i]— 2 they came together to make
war against Joshua and Israel.
3 However, when the people of Gibe-
on[j] heard what Joshua had done to
Jericho and Ai,[k] 4 they resorted to a
ruse: They went as a delegation whose
donkeys were loaded[a] with worn-out
sacks and old wineskins, cracked and
mended. 5 The men put worn and
patched sandals on their feet and wore
old clothes. All the bread of their food
supply was dry and moldy. 6 Then they
went to Joshua in the camp at Gilgal[l]
and said to him and the men of Israel,
"We have come from a distant coun-
try;[m] make a treaty[n] with us."
7 The men of Israel said to the Hi-
vites,[o] "But perhaps you live near us.
How then can we make a treaty[p] with
you?"
8 "We are your servants,[q]" they said
to Joshua.
But Joshua asked, "Who are you and
where do you come from?"
9 They answered: "Your servants
have come from a very distant coun-
try[r] because of the fame of the LORD
your God. For we have heard reports[s]
of him: all that he did in Egypt,[t] 10 and
all that he did to the two kings of the
Amorites east of the Jordan—Sihon
king of Heshbon,[u] and Og king of Ba-
shan,[v] who reigned in Ashtaroth.[w]
11 And our elders and all those living in
our country said to us, 'Take provisions
for your journey; go and meet them
and say to them, "We are your ser-
vants; make a treaty with us."' 12 This
bread of ours was warm when we
packed it at home on the day we left to
come to you. But now see how dry and
moldy it is. 13 And these wineskins that
we filled were new, but see how
cracked they are. And our clothes and
sandals are worn out by the very long
journey."
14 The men of Israel sampled their
provisions but did not inquire[x] of the
LORD. 15 Then Joshua made a treaty of
peace[y] with them to let them live,[z]
and the leaders of the assembly ratified
it by oath.
16 Three days after they made the
treaty with the Gibeonites, the Israel-
ites heard that they were neighbors,
living near[a] them. 17 So the Israelites set
out and on the third day came to their
cities: Gibeon, Kephirah, Beeroth[b] and
Kiriath Jearim.[c] 18 But the Israelites did
not attack them, because the leaders of
the assembly had sworn an oath[d] to
them by the LORD, the God of Israel.
The whole assembly grumbled[e]
against the leaders, 19 but all the leaders
answered, "We have given them our
oath by the LORD, the God of Israel, and
we cannot touch them now. 20 This is
what we will do to them: We will let
them live, so that wrath will not fall on
us for breaking the oath[f] we swore to
them." 21 They continued, "Let them
live,[g] but let them be woodcutters and
water carriers[h] for the entire commu-
nity." So the leaders' promise to them
was kept.
22 Then Joshua summoned the Gibe-
onites and said, "Why did you deceive
us by saying, 'We live a long way[i]
from you,' while actually you live
near[j] us? 23 You are now under a
curse:[k] You will never cease to serve as
woodcutters and water carriers for the
house of my God."
24 They answered Joshua, "Your ser-
vants were clearly told[l] how the LORD
your God had commanded his servant
Moses to give you the whole land and
to wipe out all its inhabitants from be-
fore you. So we feared for our lives be-
cause of you, and that is why we did
this. 25 We are now in your hands.[m] Do
to us whatever seems good and right[n]
to you."
26 So Joshua saved them from the Is-
raelites, and they did not kill them.
27 That day he made the Gibeonites[o]
woodcutters and water carriers[p] for the
community and for the altar of the LORD

8:33 [a]Dt 11:29; Jn 4:20
8:34 [b]S Dt 28:61; 31:11
8:35 [c]S Ex 12:38; Dt 31:12
9:1 [d]S Nu 13:17 [e]S Nu 34:6 [f]S Dt 3:25 [g]Ge 13:7; S Jos 3:10 [h]ver 7; Jos 11:19 [i]S Jos 3:10
9:3 [j]ver 17; Jos 10:10; 11:19; 18:25; 21:17; 2Sa 2:12; 3:25; 20:8; 1Ki 3:4; 9:2; 1Ch 8:29; 14:16; 16:39; 21:29; 2Ch 1:3; Ne 3:7; Isa 28:21; Jer 28:1; 41:12 [k]Ge 12:8; S Jos 8:1
9:6 [l]S Dt 11:30 [m]ver 22 [n]S Ge 26:28
9:7 [o]S ver 1 [p]S Ex 23:32; S 1Ki 5:12
9:8 [q]2Ki 10:5
9:9 [r]S Dt 20:15 [s]ver 24 [t]S Nu 23:22
9:10 [u]S Nu 21:25 [v]S Nu 21:33 [w]S Nu 21:24,35; Jos 2:10
9:14 [x]S Ex 16:28; S Nu 27:21
9:15 [y]S ver 3,7; Jos 10:1,4; 11:19; 2Sa 21:2; 24:1 [z]ver 21; Jdg 1:21; Ps 106:34
9:16 [a]ver 22
9:17 [b]Jos 18:25; 2Sa 4:2; 23:37 [c]Jos 15:9,60; 18:14,15; Jdg 18:12; 1Sa 6:21; 7:2; Ps 132:6; Jer 26:20
9:18 [d]ver 15; Jdg 21:1,7,18; 1Sa 20:17; Ps 15:4 [e]S Ex 15:24
9:20 [f]S Ge 24:8
9:21 [g]S ver 15 [h]S Dt 29:11
9:22 [i]ver 6 [j]ver 16
9:23 [k]S Ge 9:25
9:24 [l]ver 9
9:25 [m]Ge 16:6 [n]Jer 26:14
9:27 [o]S Ex 1:11 [p]S Dt 29:11

[e]1 That is, the Mediterranean [a]4 Most Hebrew manuscripts; some Hebrew manuscripts, Vulgate and Syriac (see also Septuagint) They prepared provisions and loaded their donkeys

at the place the LORD would choose.[i]
And that is what they are to this day.

The Sun Stands Still

10 Now Adoni-Zedek[a] king of
Jerusalem[b] heard that Joshua
had taken Ai[c] and totally destroyed[b][d]
it, doing to Ai and its king as he had
done to Jericho and its king, and that
the people of Gibeon[f] had made a
treaty of peace[g] with Israel and were
living near them. 2He and his people
were very much alarmed at this, be-
cause Gibeon was an important city,
like one of the royal cities; it was larger
than Ai, and all its men were good
fighters. 3So Adoni-Zedek king of
Jerusalem appealed to Hoham king of
Hebron,[h] Piram king of Jarmuth,[i]
Japhia king of Lachish[j] and Debir[k]
king of Eglon.[l] 4"Come up and help
me attack Gibeon," he said, "because it
has made peace[m] with Joshua and the
Israelites."
5Then the five kings[n] of the Amo-
rites[o]—the kings of Jerusalem, He-
bron, Jarmuth, Lachish and Eglon—
joined forces. They moved up with all
their troops and took up positions
against Gibeon and attacked it.
6The Gibeonites then sent word to
Joshua in the camp at Gilgal:[p] "Do not
abandon your servants. Come up to us
quickly and save us! Help us, because
all the Amorite kings from the hill
country have joined forces against us."
7So Joshua marched up from Gilgal
with his entire army,[q] including all the
best fighting men. 8The LORD said to
Joshua, "Do not be afraid[r] of them; I
have given them into your hand.[s] Not
one of them will be able to withstand
you."[t]
9After an all-night march from Gilgal,
Joshua took them by surprise. 10The
LORD threw them into confusion[u] be-
fore Israel,[v] who defeated them in a
great victory at Gibeon.[w] Israel pur-
sued them along the road going up to
Beth Horon[x] and cut them down all
the way to Azekah[y] and Makkedah.[z]
11As they fled before Israel on the road
down from Beth Horon to Azekah, the
LORD hurled large hailstones[a] down on
them from the sky,[b] and more of them
died from the hailstones than were
killed by the swords of the Israelites.
12On the day the LORD gave the Amo-
rites[c] over to Israel, Joshua said to the
LORD in the presence of Israel:

"O sun, stand still over Gibeon,
O moon, over the Valley of
Aijalon.[d]"
13So the sun stood still,[e]
and the moon stopped,
till the nation avenged itself on[c]
its enemies,

as it is written in the Book of Jashar.[f]
The sun stopped[g] in the middle of
the sky and delayed going down about
a full day. 14There has never been a day
like it before or since, a day when the
LORD listened to a man. Surely the LORD
was fighting[h] for Israel!
15Then Joshua returned with all Israel
to the camp at Gilgal.[i]

Five Amorite Kings Killed

16Now the five kings had fled[j] and
hidden in the cave at Makkedah.
17When Joshua was told that the five
kings had been found hiding in the
cave at Makkedah, 18he said, "Roll
large rocks up to the mouth of the cave,
and post some men there to guard it.
19But don't stop! Pursue your enemies,
attack them from the rear and don't let
them reach their cities, for the LORD
your God has given them into your
hand."
20So Joshua and the Israelites de-
stroyed them completely[k]—almost to a
man—but the few who were left
reached their fortified cities.[l] 21The
whole army then returned safely to
Joshua in the camp at Makkedah, and
no one uttered a word against the Isra-
elites.
22Joshua said, "Open the mouth of
the cave and bring those five kings out
to me." 23So they brought the five
kings out of the cave—the kings of
Jerusalem, Hebron, Jarmuth, Lachish
and Eglon. 24When they had brought
these kings[m] to Joshua, he summoned
all the men of Israel and said to the
army commanders who had come with
him, "Come here and put your feet[n]
on the necks of these kings." So they
came forward and placed their feet[o] on
their necks.
25Joshua said to them, "Do not be
afraid; do not be discouraged. Be
strong and courageous.[p] This is what
the LORD will do to all the enemies you
are going to fight." 26Then Joshua
struck and killed the kings and hung

9:27 [illegible]
10:1 [illegible]
10:3 [illegible]
10:4 [m]S Jos 9:15
10:5 [n]ver 16 [o]Nu 13:29; S Dt 1:7
10:6 [p]S Dt 11:30
10:7 [q]Jos 8:1
10:8 [r]S Dt 3:2; S Jos 1:9 [s]S Jos 2:24 [t]S Dt 7:24
10:10 [u]S Ex 14:24 [v]S Dt 7:23 [w]S Jos 9:3 [x]Jos 16:3,5; 18:13,14; 21:22; 1Sa 13:18; 1Ki 9:17; 1Ch 6:68; 7:24; 2Ch 8:5; 25:13 [y]Jos 15:35; 1Sa 17:1; 2Ch 11:9; Ne 11:30; Jer 34:7 [z]ver 16, 17,21; Jos 12:16; 15:41
10:11 [a]S Ex 9:18; Ps 18:12; Isa 28:2,17; 32:19; Eze 13:11, 13 [b]Jdg 5:20
10:12 [c]Am 2:9 [d]Jos 19:42; 21:24; Jdg 1:35; 12:12; 1Sa 14:31; 1Ch 6:69; 8:13; 2Ch 11:10; 28:18
10:13 [e]Hab 3:11 [f]2Sa 1:18 [g]Isa 38:8
10:14 [h]ver 42; S Ex 14:14; Ps 106:43; 136:24; Isa 63:10; Jer 21:5
10:15 [i]ver 43
10:16 [j]Ps 68:12
10:20 [k]Dt 20:16 [l]2Ch 11:10; Jer 4:5; 5:17; 8:14; 35:11
10:24 [m]S Dt 7:24 [n]Mal 4:3 [o]2Sa 22:40; Ps 110:1; Isa 51:23
10:25 [p]S Dt 31:6

[b]1 The Hebrew term refers to the irrevocable giving over of things or persons to the LORD, often by totally destroying them; also in verses 28, 35, 37, 39 and 40.
[c]13 Or *nation triumphed over*

them on five trees, and they were left
hanging on the trees until evening.
27At sunset[a] Joshua gave the order
and they took them down from the
trees and threw them into the cave
where they had been hiding. At the
mouth of the cave they placed large
rocks, which are there to this day.[b]
28That day Joshua took Makkedah.
He put the city and its king to the
sword and totally destroyed everyone
in it. He left no survivors.[c] And he did
to the king of Makkedah as he had
done to the king of Jericho.[d]

Southern Cities Conquered

29Then Joshua and all Israel with him
moved on from Makkedah to Libnah[e]
and attacked it. 30The LORD also gave
that city and its king into Israel's hand.
The city and everyone in it Joshua put
to the sword. He left no survivors
there. And he did to its king as he had
done to the king of Jericho.
31Then Joshua and all Israel with him
moved on from Libnah to Lachish;[f] he
took up positions against it and at-
tacked it. 32The LORD handed Lachish
over to Israel, and Joshua took it on the
second day. The city and everyone in it
he put to the sword, just as he had
done to Libnah. 33Meanwhile, Horam
king of Gezer[g] had come up to help
Lachish, but Joshua defeated him and
his army—until no survivors were left.
34Then Joshua and all Israel with him
moved on from Lachish to Eglon;[h] they
took up positions against it and at-
tacked it. 35They captured it that same
day and put it to the sword and totally
destroyed everyone in it, just as they
had done to Lachish.
36Then Joshua and all Israel with him
went up from Eglon to Hebron[i] and
attacked it. 37They took the city and put
it to the sword, together with its king,
its villages and everyone[j] in it. They
left no survivors. Just as at Eglon, they
totally destroyed it and everyone in it.
38Then Joshua and all Israel with him
turned around and attacked Debir.[k]
39They took the city, its king and its vil-
lages, and put them to the sword.
Everyone in it they totally destroyed.
They left no survivors. They did to
Debir and its king as they had done to
Libnah and its king and to Hebron.[l]
40So Joshua subdued the whole re-
gion, including the hill country, the
Negev,[m] the western foothills and the
mountain slopes,[n] together with all
their kings.[o] He left no survivors. He
totally destroyed all who breathed, just
as the LORD, the God of Israel, had com-
manded.[p] 41Joshua subdued them
from Kadesh Barnea[q] to Gaza[r] and
from the whole region of Goshen[s] to
Gibeon. 42All these kings and their
lands Joshua conquered in one cam-
paign, because the LORD, the God of Is-
rael, fought[t] for Israel.
43Then Joshua returned with all Israel
to the camp at Gilgal.[u]

Northern Kings Defeated

11 When Jabin[v] king of Hazor[w]
heard of this, he sent word to
Jobab king of Madon, to the kings of
Shimron[x] and Acshaph,[y] 2and to the
northern kings who were in the moun-
tains, in the Arabah[z] south of Kin-
nereth,[a] in the western foothills and in
Naphoth Dor[a][b] on the west; 3to the
Canaanites in the east and west; to the
Amorites, Hittites, Perizzites[c] and Jeb-
usites in the hill country;[d] and to the
Hivites[e] below Hermon[f] in the region
of Mizpah.[g] 4They came out with all
their troops and a large number of
horses and chariots—a huge army, as
numerous as the sand on the sea-
shore.[h] 5All these kings joined forces[i]
and made camp together at the Waters
of Merom,[j] to fight against Israel.
6The LORD said to Joshua, "Do not be
afraid of them, because by this time to-
morrow I will hand all of them over[k] to
Israel, slain. You are to hamstring[l]
their horses and burn their chariots."[m]
7So Joshua and his whole army came
against them suddenly at the Waters of
Merom and attacked them, 8and the
LORD gave them into the hand of Israel.
They defeated them and pursued them
all the way to Greater Sidon,[n] to Misre-
photh Maim,[o] and to the Valley of
Mizpah on the east, until no survivors
were left. 9Joshua did to them as the
LORD had directed: He hamstrung their
horses and burned their chariots.
10At that time Joshua turned back
and captured Hazor and put its king to
the sword.[p] (Hazor had been the head
of all these kingdoms.) 11Everyone in it
they put to the sword. They totally de-
stroyed[b] them,[q] not sparing anything
that breathed,[r] and he burned up[s] Ha-
zor itself.
12Joshua took all these royal cities
and their kings and put them to the

10:27 [a]S Dt 21:23 [b]S Ge 35:20 **10:28** [c]Dt 20:16 [d]ver 30,32,35,39; Jos 6:21 **10:29** [e]S Nu 33:20 **10:31** [f]S ver 3 **10:33** [g]Jos 12:12; 16:3,10; 21:21; Jdg 1:29; 2Sa 5:25; 1Ki 9:15; 1Ch 6:67 **10:34** [h]S ver 3 **10:36** [i]S Ge 13:18; Jos 14:13; 15:13; 20:7; 21:11; Jdg 16:3 **10:37** [j]S ver 28 **10:38** [k]S ver 3 **10:39** [l]S ver 28 **10:40** [m]S Ge 12:9; Jos 12:8; 15:19,21; 18:25; 19:8; 1Sa 30:27 [n]S Dt 1:7 [o]Dt 7:24 [p]Dt 20:16-17 **10:41** [q]S Ge 14:7 [r]S Ge 10:19 [s]Jos 11:16; 15:51 **10:42** [t]S ver 14 **10:43** [u]ver 15; Jos 5:9; 1Sa 7:16; 10:8; 11:14; 13:12 **11:1** [v]Jdg 4:2,7,23; Ps 83:9 [w]ver 10; Jos 12:19; 15:23,25; 19:36; Jdg 4:2,17; 1Sa 12:9; 1Ki 9:15; 2Ki 15:29; Ne 11:33; Jer 49:28,33 [x]Jos 19:15 [y]Jos 12:20; 19:25 **11:2** [z]ver 16; S Dt 1:1; Jos 12:1; 18:18 [a]S Nu 34:11; Dt 3:17; Jos 19:35; 1Ki 15:20 [b]Jos 12:23; 17:11; Jdg 1:27; 1Ki 4:11; 1Ch 7:29 **11:3** [c]S Jos 3:10 [d]Nu 13:17 [e]S Ex 3:8; Dt 7:1; Jdg 3:3,5; 1Ki 9:20 [f]S Dt 3:8 [g]ver 8; S Ge 31:49; Jos 15:38; 18:26; Jdg 11:11; 20:1; 21:1; 1Sa 7:5,6; 1Ki 15:22; 2Ki 25:23 **11:4** [h]S Ge 12:2; Jdg 7:12; 1Sa 13:5 **11:5** [i]Jdg 5:19 [j]ver 7 **11:6** [k]S Jos 2:24 [l]S Ge 49:6 [m]ver 9 **11:8** [n]S Ge 10:15; S Jdg 18:7 [o]Jos 13:6 **11:10** [p]Isa 3:25; Jer 41:2; 44:18 **11:11** [q]S Dt 7:2 [r]Dt 20:16-17 [s]S Nu 31:10

[a]2 Or *in the heights of Dor* [b]11 The Hebrew term refers to the irrevocable giving over of things or persons to the LORD, often by totally destroying them; also in verses 12, 20 and 21.

sword. He totally destroyed them, as
Moses the servant of the LORD had com-
manded.[a] 13 Yet Israel did not burn any
of the cities built on their mounds—
except Hazor, which Joshua burned.
14 The Israelites carried off for them-
selves all the plunder and livestock of
these cities, but all the people they put
to the sword until they completely de-
stroyed them, not sparing anyone that
breathed.[b] 15 As the LORD commanded
his servant Moses, so Moses com-
manded Joshua, and Joshua did it; he
left nothing undone of all that the LORD
commanded Moses.[c]

16 So Joshua took this entire land: the
hill country,[d] all the Negev,[e] the
whole region of Goshen, the western
foothills,[f] the Arabah and the moun-
tains of Israel with their foothills,
17 from Mount Halak, which rises
toward Seir,[g] to Baal Gad[h] in the Val-
ley of Lebanon[i] below Mount Her-
mon.[j] He captured all their kings and
struck them down, putting them to
death.[k] 18 Joshua waged war against all
these kings for a long time. 19 Except for
the Hivites[l] living in Gibeon,[m] not one
city made a treaty of peace[n] with the
Israelites, who took them all in battle.
20 For it was the LORD himself who hard-
ened their hearts[o] to wage war against
Israel, so that he might destroy them
totally, exterminating them without
mercy, as the LORD had commanded
Moses.[p]

21 At that time Joshua went and de-
stroyed the Anakites[q] from the hill
country: from Hebron, Debir[r] and
Anab,[s] from all the hill country of
Judah, and from all the hill country of
Israel. Joshua totally destroyed them
and their towns. 22 No Anakites were
left in Israelite territory; only in Gaza,[t]
Gath[u] and Ashdod[v] did any survive.
23 So Joshua took the entire land,[w] just
as the LORD had directed Moses, and he
gave it as an inheritance[x] to Israel ac-
cording to their tribal divisions.[y][z]

Then the land had rest[a] from war.[b]

List of Defeated Kings

12 These are the kings of the land
whom the Israelites had de-
feated and whose territory they took[c]
over east of the Jordan,[d] from the Ar-
non[e] Gorge to Mount Hermon,[f] in-
cluding all the eastern side of the Ara-
bah:[g]

2 Sihon king of the Amorites,
who reigned in Heshbon.[h] He
ruled from Aroer[i] on the rim of the
Arnon Gorge—from the middle of
the gorge—to the Jabbok River,[j]
which is the border of the Ammon-
ites.[k] This included half of Gil-
ead.[l] 3 He also ruled over the east-
ern Arabah from the Sea of Kin-
nereth[f][m] to the Sea of the Arabah
(the Salt Sea[g][n]), to Beth Jeshi-
moth,[o] and then southward below
the slopes of Pisgah.[p]

4 And the territory of Og king of Ba-
shan,[q]
one of the last of the Rephaites,[r]
who reigned in Ashtaroth[s] and
Edrei. 5 He ruled over Mount Her-
mon, Salecah,[t] all of Bashan[u] to
the border of the people of Ge-
shur[v] and Maacah,[w] and half of
Gilead[x] to the border of Sihon king
of Heshbon.

6 Moses, the servant of the LORD, and
the Israelites conquered them.[y] And
Moses the servant of the LORD gave
their land to the Reubenites, the Gad-
ites and the half-tribe of Manasseh to
be their possession.[z]

7 These are the kings of the land that
Joshua and the Israelites conquered on
the west side of the Jordan, from Baal
Gad in the Valley of Lebanon[a] to
Mount Halak, which rises toward Seir
(their lands Joshua gave as an inheri-
tance to the tribes of Israel according to
their tribal divisions— 8 the hill country,
the western foothills, the Arabah, the
mountain slopes, the desert and the
Negev[b]—the lands of the Hittites, Am-
orites, Canaanites, Perizzites, Hivites
and Jebusites):[c]

9 the king of Jericho[d] one
the king of Ai[e] (near
Bethel[f]) one
10 the king of Jerusalem[g] one
the king of Hebron one
11 the king of Jarmuth one
the king of Lachish[h] one
12 the king of Eglon[i] one
the king of Gezer[j] one
13 the king of Debir[k] one
the king of Geder one
14 the king of Hormah[l] one
the king of Arad[m] one
15 the king of Libnah[n] one
the king of Adullam[o] one

11:12 [a]Nu 33:50-52; Dt 7:2 **11:14** [b]S Dt 20:16 **11:15** [c]Ex 34:11; Dt 7:2; S Jos 1:7 **11:16** [d]Nu 13:17 [e]S Dt 1:7 [f]S Jos 10:41 **11:17** [g]S Ge 14:6; S Nu 24:18; S Dt 33:2 [h]Jos 13:5 [i]S Dt 3:25; Jos 12:7 [j]Dt 3:9; Jos 12:8 [k]Dt 7:24 **11:19** [l]S Jos 9:1 [m]S Jos 9:3 [n]S Jos 9:15 **11:20** [o]S Ex 4:21; S 14:17; Ro 9:18 [p]Dt 7:16; Jdg 14:4 **11:21** [q]S Nu 13:22,33 [r]S Jos 10:3 [s]Jos 15:50 **11:22** [t]S Ge 10:19 [u]Jos 12:17; 19:13; 1Sa 5:8; 17:4; 1Ki 2:39; 2Ki 14:25; 1Ch 8:13; Am 6:2 [v]Jos 15:47; 1Sa 5:1; Isa 20:1 **11:23** [w]Jos 21:43-45; Ne 9:24 [x]S Dt 1:38; 12:9-10; S 25:19; S Jos 13:7 [y]S Nu 26:53 [z]Ps 105:44 [a]S Ex 33:14 [b]Jos 14:15 **12:1** [c]Ps 136:21 [d]S Nu 32:19 [e]S Nu 21:13 [f]S Dt 3:8 [g]S Jos 11:2 **12:2** [h]ver 5; S Nu 21:21,25; Jos 13:10; Jdg 11:19 [i]S Nu 32:34; S Jos 13:16 [j]S Ge 32:22 [k]S Ge 19:38 [l]S Ge 31:21; S Nu 32:26; Dt 2:36; S 3:15; Jos 13:11,25; 17:1; 20:8; 21:38; Jdg 5:17; 7:3; 10:8 **12:3** [m]Jos 11:2 [n]S Ge 14:3 [o]S Nu 33:49; Jos 13:20 [p]S Nu 21:20 **12:4** [q]S Nu 21:21,33; Jos 13:30 [r]S Ge 14:5 [s]S Dt 1:4 **12:5** [t]S Dt 3:10 [u]Nu 32:33; Jos 17:1; 20:8; 21:27; 22:7 [v]Jos 13:2,13; 1Sa 27:8 [w]S Dt 3:14 [x]ver 2 **12:6** [y]S Dt 3:8 [z]Nu 32:29,33; Jos 13:8 **12:7** [a]S Jos 11:17 **12:8** [b]S Dt 1:7 [c]S Jos 3:10; S 11:17; Ezr 9:1

12:9 [d]S Nu 33:48 [e]S Ge 12:8; S Jos 8:1 [f]S Jos 7:2; 8:9; 18:13; Jdg 1:23; 4:5; 20:18; 21:2; Ne 11:31 **12:10** [g]S Jos 10:1 **12:11** [h]S Jos 10:3 **12:12** [i]S Jos 10:3 [j]S Jos 10:33 **12:13** [k]S Jos 10:3 **12:14** [l]S Nu 14:45 [m]S Nu 21:1 **12:15** [n]S Nu 33:20 [o]S Ge 38:1; Jos 15:35; Mic 1:15

f3 That is, Galilee g3 That is, the Dead Sea

16 the king of Makkedah[a]	one
the king of Bethel[b]	one
17 the king of Tappuah[c]	one
the king of Hepher[d]	one
18 the king of Aphek[e]	one
the king of Lasharon	one
19 the king of Madon	one
the king of Hazor[f]	one
20 the king of Shimron Meron	one
the king of Acshaph[g]	one
21 the king of Taanach[h]	one
the king of Megiddo[i]	one
22 the king of Kedesh[j]	one
the king of Jokneam[k] in Carmel[l]	one
23 the king of Dor (in Naphoth Dor[h][m])	one
the king of Goyim in Gilgal	one
24 the king of Tirzah[n]	one

thirty-one kings in all.[o]

Land Still to Be Taken

13 When Joshua was old and well advanced in years,[p] the LORD said to him, "You are very old, and there are still very large areas of land to be taken over.

2 "This is the land that remains: all the regions of the Philistines[q] and Geshurites:[r] 3 from the Shihor River[s] on the east of Egypt to the territory of Ekron[t] on the north, all of it counted as Canaanite (the territory of the five Philistine rulers[u] in Gaza, Ashdod,[v] Ashkelon,[w] Gath and Ekron—that of the Avvites);[x] 4 from the south, all the land of the Canaanites, from Arah of the Sidonians as far as Aphek,[y] the region of the Amorites,[z] 5 the area of the Gebalites[i];[a] and all Lebanon[b] to the east, from Baal Gad below Mount Hermon[c] to Lebo[j] Hamath.[d]

6 "As for all the inhabitants of the mountain regions from Lebanon to Misrephoth Maim,[e] that is, all the Sidonians, I myself will drive them out[f] before the Israelites. Be sure to allocate this land to Israel for an inheritance, as I have instructed you,[g] 7 and divide it as an inheritance[h] among the nine tribes and half of the tribe of Manasseh."

Division of the Land East of the Jordan

8 The other half of Manasseh,[k] the Reubenites and the Gadites had received the inheritance that Moses had given them east of the Jordan, as he, the servant of the LORD, had assigned[i] it to them.[j]

9 It extended from Aroer[k] on the rim of the Arnon Gorge, and from the town in the middle of the gorge, and included the whole plateau[l] of Medeba as far as Dibon,[m] 10 and all the towns of Sihon king of the Amorites, who ruled in Heshbon,[n] out to the border of the Ammonites.[o] 11 It also included Gilead,[p] the territory of the people of Geshur and Maacah, all of Mount Hermon and all Bashan as far as Salecah[q]— 12 that is, the whole kingdom of Og in Bashan,[r] who had reigned in Ashtaroth[s] and Edrei[t] and had survived as one of the last of the Rephaites.[u] Moses had defeated them and taken over their land.[v] 13 But the Israelites did not drive out the people of Geshur[w] and Maacah,[x] so they continue to live among the Israelites to this day.[y]

14 But to the tribe of Levi he gave no inheritance, since the offerings made by fire to the LORD, the God of Israel, are their inheritance, as he promised them.[z]

15 This is what Moses had given to the tribe of Reuben, clan by clan:

16 The territory from Aroer[a] on the rim of the Arnon Gorge, and from the town in the middle of the gorge, and the whole plateau past Medeba[b] 17 to Heshbon and all its towns on the plateau,[c] including Dibon,[d] Bamoth Baal,[e] Beth Baal Meon,[f] 18 Jahaz,[g] Kedemoth,[h] Mephaath,[i] 19 Kiriathaim,[j] Sibmah,[k] Zereth Shahar on the hill in the valley, 20 Beth Peor,[l] the slopes of Pisgah, and Beth Jeshimoth 21 —all the towns on the plateau[m] and the entire realm of Sihon king of the Amorites, who ruled at Heshbon. Moses had defeated him and the Midianite chiefs,[n] Evi, Rekem, Zur, Hur and Reba[o]—princes allied with Sihon—who lived in that country. 22 In addition to those slain in battle, the

12:16 aS Jos 10:10 bS Jos 7:2 **12:17** cJos 15:34; 16:8; 17:8 dS Jos 11:22; 1Ki 4:10 **12:18** eJos 13:4; 19:30; Jdg 1:31; 1Sa 4:1; 29:1 **12:19** fS Jos 11:1 **12:20** gS Jos 11:1 **12:21** hJos 17:11; 21:25 iJdg 1:27; 5:19; 1Ki 4:12 **12:22** jJos 15:23; 19:37; 20:7; 21:32; Jdg 4:6,9 kJos 19:11; 21:34 lJos 15:55; 19:26; 1Sa 15:12; 2Sa 23:35 **12:23** mS Jos 11:2 **12:24** n1Ki 14:17; 15:33; 16:8,23; SS 6:4 oPs 135:11; 136:18 **13:1** pGe 24:1; Jos 14:10; 23:1,2; 1Ki 1:1 **13:2** qS Ge 10:14; S Jdg 3:31 rS Jos 12:5 **13:3** s1Ch 13:5; Isa 23:3; Jer 2:18 tJos 15:11,45; 19:43; Jdg 1:18; 1Sa 5:10; 7:14 uJdg 3:3; 16:5, 18; 1Sa 6:4,17; Isa 14:29; Jer 25:20; Eze 25:15 vS Jos 11:22; Am 3:9 wJdg 1:18; 14:19; 2Sa 1:20 xS Dt 2:23 **13:4** yS Jos 12:18 zS Ge 14:7; S 15:16; Am 2:10 **13:5** a1Ki 5:18; Ps 83:7; Eze 27:9 bS Jos 11:17 cS Dt 3:8 dS Nu 13:21; 34:8; Jdg 3:3 **13:6** eJos 11:8 fPs 80:8 gNu 33:54; S 34:13 **13:7** hS Jos 11:23; Ps 78:55 **13:8** iS Jos 12:6 jJos 18:7 **13:9** kver 16; S Nu 32:34; Dt 2:36; Jdg 11:26; 2Sa 24:5 lver 17, 21; Jer 48:8,21 mS Nu 21:30; S 32:3; Isa 15:2; Jer 48:18,22 **13:10** nS Jos 12:2 oS Nu 21:24 **13:11** pS Jos 12:2 qJos 12:5 **13:12** rS Dt 1:4 sJos 12:4 tS Nu 21:33 uS Ge 14:5 vS Dt 3:8 **13:13** wS Jos 12:5 xS Dt 3:14 yDt 3:12 **13:14** zver 33; Dt 18:1-2; Jos 14:3 **13:16** aS ver 9; Jos 12:2; 1Sa 30:28 bS Nu 21:30; Isa 15:2 **13:17** cS ver 9 dS Nu 32:3 eNu 22:41 f1Ch 5:8; Jer 48:23; Eze 25:9 **13:18** gS Nu 21:23 hS Dt 2:26 iJos 21:37; Jer 48:21 **13:19** jS Nu 32:37 kS Nu 32:3 **13:20** lS Dt 3:29 **13:21** mS ver 9 nS Ge 25:2; S Nu 25:15 oNu 31:8

h23 Or *in the heights of Dor* i5 That is, the area of Byblos j5 Or *to the entrance to* k8 Hebrew *With it* (that is, with the other half of Manasseh)

Israelites had put to the sword Ba-
laam son of Beor,[a] who practiced
divination.[b] 23The boundary of the
Reubenites was the bank of the Jor-
dan. These towns and their villages
were the inheritance of the Reu-
benites, clan by clan.[c]

24This is what Moses had given to the
tribe of Gad, clan by clan:

25The territory of Jazer,[d] all the
towns of Gilead[e] and half the Am-
monite country as far as Aroer,
near Rabbah;[f] 26and from Hesh-
bon[g] to Ramath Mizpah and Beto-
nim, and from Mahanaim[h] to the
territory of Debir;[i] 27and in the val-
ley, Beth Haram, Beth Nimrah,[j]
Succoth[k] and Zaphon[l] with the
rest of the realm of Sihon king of
Heshbon (the east side of the Jor-
dan, the territory up to the end of
the Sea of Kinnereth[l][m]). 28These
towns and their villages were the
inheritance of the Gadites,[n] clan by
clan.

29This is what Moses had given to the
half-tribe of Manasseh, that is, to half
the family of the descendants of Ma-
nasseh, clan by clan:

30The territory extending from
Mahanaim[o] and including all of
Bashan,[p] the entire realm of Og
king of Bashan[q]—all the settle-
ments of Jair[r] in Bashan, sixty
towns, 31half of Gilead, and Ashta-
roth and Edrei (the royal cities of
Og in Bashan).[s] This was for the
descendants of Makir[t] son of
Manasseh—for half of the sons of
Makir, clan by clan.[u]

32This is the inheritance Moses had
given when he was in the plains of
Moab[v] across the Jordan east of Jeri-
cho.[w] 33But to the tribe of Levi, Moses
had given no inheritance;[x] the LORD,
the God of Israel, is their inheritance,[y]
as he promised them.[z]

Division of the Land West of the Jordan

14 Now these are the areas the Isra-
elites received as an inheritance[a]
in the land of Canaan, which Eleazar[b]
the priest, Joshua son of Nun and the
heads of the tribal clans of Israel[c] allot-
ted[d] to them.[e] 2Their inheritances
were assigned by lot[f] to the nine-and-
a-half tribes,[g] as the LORD had com-
manded through Moses. 3Moses had
granted the two-and-a-half tribes their
inheritance east of the Jordan[h] but had
not granted the Levites an inheritance
among the rest,[i] 4for the sons of Jo-
seph had become two tribes—Manas-
seh and Ephraim.[j] The Levites re-
ceived no share of the land but only
towns to live in, with pasturelands for
their flocks and herds.[k] 5So the Israel-
ites divided the land, just as the LORD
had commanded Moses.[l]

Hebron Given to Caleb

6Now the men of Judah approached
Joshua at Gilgal,[m] and Caleb son of Je-
phunneh[n] the Kenizzite said to him,
"You know what the LORD said to
Moses the man of God[o] at Kadesh Bar-
nea[p] about you and me.[q] 7I was forty
years old when Moses the servant of
the LORD sent me from Kadesh Barnea[r]
to explore the land.[s] And I brought
him back a report according to my con-
victions,[t] 8but my brothers who went
up with me made the hearts of the
people melt with fear.[u] I, however, fol-
lowed the LORD my God wholehearted-
ly.[v] 9So on that day Moses swore to
me, 'The land on which your feet have
walked will be your inheritance[w] and
that of your children[x] forever, because
you have followed the LORD my God
wholeheartedly.'[m]

10"Now then, just as the LORD prom-
ised,[y] he has kept me alive for forty-
five years since the time he said this to
Moses, while Israel moved[z] about in
the desert. So here I am today, eighty-
five years old![a] 11I am still as strong[b]
today as the day Moses sent me out;
I'm just as vigorous[c] to go out to battle
now as I was then. 12Now give me this
hill country that the LORD promised me
that day.[d] You yourself heard then that
the Anakites[e] were there and their cit-
ies were large and fortified,[f] but, the
LORD helping me, I will drive them out
just as he said."

13Then Joshua blessed[g] Caleb son of
Jephunneh[h] and gave him Hebron[i] as
his inheritance.[j] 14So Hebron has be-
longed to Caleb son of Jephunneh the
Kenizzite ever since, because he fol-
lowed the LORD, the God of Israel,
wholeheartedly.[k] 15(Hebron used to be
called Kiriath Arba[l] after Arba,[m] who
was the greatest man among the Ana-
kites.)

13:22 [a]S Nu 22:5 [b]S Ge 30:27; S Nu 23:23
13:23 [c]1Ch 5:7
13:25 [d]S Nu 21:32; Jos 21:39 [e]S Jos 12:2 [f]S Dt 3:11
13:26 [g]S Nu 21:25; Jer 49:3 [h]S Ge 32:2 [i]S Jos 10:3
13:27 [j]S Nu 32:3 [k]S Ge 33:17 [l]Jdg 12:1; Ps 48:2 [m]S Nu 34:11
13:28 [n]Ge 46:16; S Nu 32:33; Eze 48:27
13:30 [o]S Ge 32:2 [p]S Nu 21:33 [q]S Jos 12:4 [r]S Nu 32:41
13:31 [s]Nu 21:33 [t]S Ge 50:23 [u]Jos 17:5
13:32 [v]S Nu 26:3 [w]S Nu 22:1
13:33 [x]Nu 26:62 [y]S Nu 18:20 [z]S ver 14; Jos 18:7; Eze 44:28
14:1 [a]S Jos 11:23; Ps 16:6; 136:21 [b]S Ex 6:23 [c]Jos 21:1 [d]S Nu 26:53 [e]Nu 34:17-18; Jos 19:51
14:2 [f]S Lev 16:8 [g]Nu 34:13
14:3 [h]S Nu 32:33; S 34:14 [i]S Nu 35:2; S Jos 13:14
14:4 [j]S Ge 41:52; S Jdg 1:29 [k]S Nu 35:2-3; Jos 21:2
14:5 [l]S Nu 34:13
14:6 [m]S Dt 11:30 [n]Nu 13:6; 14:30 [o]S Dt 33:1 [p]Nu 13:26 [q]S Nu 14:38
14:7 [r]Jos 15:3 [s]S Nu 13:17 [t]Nu 13:30; S 14:6-9
14:8 [u]S Nu 13:31 [v]S Nu 14:24; S 32:12
14:9 [w]S Dt 11:24 [x]S Nu 14:24
14:10 [y]S Nu 11:28; 14:30 [z]S Jos 5:6 [a]S Jos 13:1
14:11 [b]S Dt 34:7 [c]S Ge 15:15
14:12 [d]S Nu 14:24 [e]S Nu 13:33 [f]Nu 13:28
14:13 [g]Jos 22:6, 7 [h]1Sa 25:3; 30:14 [i]S Ge 23:19; S Jos 10:36 [j]Jdg 1:20; 1Ch 6:56
14:14 [k]S Nu 14:24 **14:15** [l]S Ge 23:2 [m]Jos 15:13

[l]27 That is, Galilee [m]9 Deut. 1:36

Then the land had rest[a] from war.

Allotment for Judah

15:15-19pp — Jdg 1:11-15

15 The allotment for the tribe of
Judah, clan by clan, extended
down to the territory of Edom,[b] to the
Desert of Zin[c] in the extreme south.[d]
2 Their southern boundary started
from the bay at the southern end of
the Salt Sea,[n][e] 3 crossed south of
Scorpion[o] Pass,[f] continued on to
Zin and went over to the south of
Kadesh Barnea.[g] Then it ran past
Hezron up to Addar and curved
around to Karka. 4 It then passed
along to Azmon[h] and joined the
Wadi of Egypt,[i] ending at the sea.
This is their[p] southern boundary.
5 The eastern boundary[j] is the
Salt Sea[k] as far as the mouth of the
Jordan.

The northern boundary[l] started
from the bay of the sea at the
mouth of the Jordan, 6 went up to
Beth Hoglah[m] and continued north
of Beth Arabah[n] to the Stone of Bo-
han[o] son of Reuben. 7 The bound-
ary then went up to Debir[p] from
the Valley of Achor[q] and turned
north to Gilgal,[r] which faces the
Pass of Adummim south of the
gorge. It continued along to the
waters of En Shemesh[s] and came
out at En Rogel.[t] 8 Then it ran up
the Valley of Ben Hinnom[u] along
the southern slope of the Jebusite[v]
city (that is, Jerusalem[w]). From
there it climbed to the top of the
hill west of the Hinnom Valley[x] at
the northern end of the Valley of
Rephaim.[y] 9 From the hilltop the
boundary headed toward the
spring of the waters of Nephtoah,[z]
came out at the towns of Mount
Ephron and went down toward
Baalah[a] (that is, Kiriath Jearim).[b]
10 Then it curved westward from
Baalah[c] to Mount Seir,[d] ran along
the northern slope of Mount Jearim
(that is, Kesalon), continued down
to Beth Shemesh[e] and crossed to
Timnah.[f] 11 It went to the northern
slope of Ekron,[g] turned toward
Shikkeron, passed along to Mount
Baalah[h] and reached Jabneel.[i] The
boundary ended at the sea.
12 The western boundary is the
coastline of the Great Sea.[q][j]

These are the boundaries around the people of Judah by their clans.

13 In accordance with the LORD's com-
mand to him, Joshua gave to Caleb[k]
son of Jephunneh a portion in Judah—
Kiriath Arba[l], that is, Hebron.[m] (Arba
was the forefather of Anak.)[n] 14 From
Hebron Caleb drove out the three Ana-
kites[o]—Sheshai, Ahiman and Tal-
mai[p]—descendants of Anak.[q] 15 From
there he marched against the people
living in Debir (formerly called Kiriath
Sepher). 16 And Caleb said, "I will give
my daughter Acsah[r] in marriage to the
man who attacks and captures Kiriath
Sepher." 17 Othniel[s] son of Kenaz,
Caleb's brother, took it; so Caleb gave
his daughter Acsah to him in marriage.
18 One day when she came to Oth-
niel, she urged him[r] to ask her father
for a field. When she got off her don-
key, Caleb asked her, "What can I do
for you?"
19 She replied, "Do me a special favor.
Since you have given me land in the
Negev,[t] give me also springs of
water." So Caleb gave her the upper
and lower springs.[u]

20 This is the inheritance of the tribe
of Judah, clan by clan:

21 The southernmost towns of the tribe
of Judah in the Negev[v] toward the
boundary of Edom were:

Kabzeel,[w] Eder,[x] Jagur, 22 Kinah,
Dimonah, Adadah, 23 Kedesh,[y] Ha-
zor,[z] Ithnan, 24 Ziph,[a] Telem,
Bealoth, 25 Hazor Hadattah, Kerioth
Hezron (that is, Hazor),[b] 26 Amam,
Shema, Moladah,[c] 27 Hazar Gad-
dah, Heshmon, Beth Pelet, 28 Hazar
Shual,[d] Beersheba,[e] Biziothiah,
29 Baalah,[f] Iim, Ezem,[g] 30 Eltolad,[h]
Kesil, Hormah,[i] 31 Ziklag,[j] Mad-
mannah,[k] Sansannah, 32 Lebaoth,
Shilhim, Ain[l] and Rimmon[m]—a
total of twenty-nine towns and
their villages.

33 In the western foothills:

Eshtaol,[n] Zorah,[o] Ashnah,[p]
34 Zanoah,[q] En Gannim,[r] Tap-
puah,[s] Enam, 35 Jarmuth,[t] Adul-
lam,[u] Socoh,[v] Azekah,[w] 36 Shaa-

14:15 [a]Jos 11:23; Jdg 3:11; 1Ki 4:24; 5:4; 1Ch 22:9 **15:1** [b]Nu 34:3 [c]S Nu 13:21 [d]Jos 18:5 **15:2** [e]S Ge 14:3 **15:3** [f]S Nu 34:4 [g]S Dt 1:2 **15:4** [h]Nu 34:4 [i]S Ge 15:18 **15:5** [j]Nu 34:10 [k]S Ge 14:3 [l]Jos 18:15-19 **15:6** [m]Jos 18:19, 21 [n]ver 61; Jos 18:18 [o]Jos 18:17 **15:7** [p]S Jos 10:3 [q]S Jos 7:24 [r]S Dt 11:30 [s]Jos 18:17 [t]Jos 18:16; 2Sa 17:17; 1Ki 1:9 **15:8** [u]2Ch 28:3; Jer 19:6 [v]ver 63; Jos 18:16,28; Jdg 1:21; 19:10; 2Sa 5:6; 1Ch 11:4; Ezr 9:1 [w]S Jos 10:1 [x]2Ki 23:10; Jer 7:31; 19:2 [y]2Sa 5:18,22; 1Ch 14:9; Isa 17:5 **15:9** [z]Jos 18:15 [a]ver 10,11,29; 2Sa 6:2; 1Ch 13:6 [b]S Jos 9:17 **15:10** [c]S ver 9 [d]S Nu 24:18 [e]Jos 19:22,38; 21:16; Jdg 1:33; 1Sa 6:9; 1Ki 4:9; 2Ki 14:11 [f]S Ge 38:12 **15:11** [g]S Jos 13:3 [h]S ver 9 [i]Jos 19:33 **15:12** [j]S Nu 34:6

15:13 [k]1Sa 25:3; 30:14 [l]S Ge 23:2 [m]S Jos 10:36; 21:12; 1Ch 6:56 [n]S Nu 13:22 **15:14** [o]S Nu 13:33 [p]S Nu 13:22 [q]Jdg 1:10,20 **15:16** [r]1Ch 2:49 **15:17** [s]Jdg 3:9, 11; 1Ch 4:13; 27:15 **15:19** [t]S Jos 10:40 [u]Ge 36:24 **15:21** [v]S Jos 10:40 [w]2Sa 23:20; 1Ch 11:22 [x]Ge 35:21 **15:23** [y]S Jos 12:22 [z]S Jos 11:1 **15:24** [a]ver 55; 1Sa 23:14; 2Ch 11:8 **15:25** [b]S Jos 11:1 **15:26** [c]Jos 19:2; 1Ch 4:28; Ne 11:26 **15:28** [d]Jos 19:3; 1Ch 4:28 [e]S Ge 21:14 **15:29** [f]S ver 9 [g]Jos 19:3; 1Ch 4:29 **15:30** [h]Jos 19:4 [i]S Nu 14:45

15:31 [j]Jos 19:5; 1Sa 27:6; 1Ch 4:30; 12:1; Ne 11:28 [k]1Ch 2:49 **15:32** [l]S Nu 34:11 [m]Jos 19:7; Jdg 20:45; 21:13; Zec 14:10 **15:33** [n]Jos 19:41; Jdg 13:25; 16:31; 18:2 [o]Jdg 13:2; 18:11; 2Ch 11:10; Ne 11:29 [p]ver 43 **15:34** [q]ver 56; 1Ch 4:18; Ne 3:13; 11:30 [r]Jos 19:21; 21:29 [s]S Jos 12:17 **15:35** [t]S Jos 10:3 [u]S Ge 38:1 [v]ver 48; 1Ki 4:10 [w]S Jos 10:10

[n]2 That is, the Dead Sea; also in verse 5
[o]3 Hebrew *Akrabbim*
[p]4 Hebrew *your*
[q]12 That is, the Mediterranean; also in verse 47
[r]18 Hebrew and some Septuagint manuscripts; other Septuagint manuscripts (see also note at Judges 1:14) *Othniel, he urged her*

raim,[a] Adithaim and Gederah[b] (or
Gederothaim)[s]—fourteen towns
and their villages.
37Zenan, Hadashah, Migdal Gad,
38Dilean, Mizpah,[c] Joktheel,[d] 39La-
chish,[e] Bozkath,[f] Eglon,[g] 40Cab-
bon, Lahmas, Kitlish, 41Gederoth,[h]
Beth Dagon,[i] Naamah and Mak-
kedah[j]—sixteen towns and their
villages.
42Libnah,[k] Ether, Ashan,[l] 43Iph-
tah, Ashnah,[m] Nezib, 44Keilah,[n]
Aczib[o] and Mareshah[p]—nine
towns and their villages.
45Ekron,[q] with its surrounding
settlements and villages; 46west of
Ekron, all that were in the vicinity
of Ashdod,[r] together with their
villages; 47Ashdod,[s] its surround-
ing settlements and villages; and
Gaza, its settlements and villages,
as far as the Wadi of Egypt[t] and
the coastline of the Great Sea.[u]

48In the hill country:
Shamir,[v] Jattir,[w] Socoh,[x] 49Dan-
nah, Kiriath Sannah (that is,
Debir[y]), 50Anab,[z] Eshtemoh,[a]
Anim, 51Goshen,[b] Holon[c] and
Giloh[d]—eleven towns and their
villages.
52Arab, Dumah,[e] Eshan, 53Janim,
Beth Tappuah, Aphekah, 54Hum-
tah, Kiriath Arba[f] (that is, Hebron)
and Zior—nine towns and their vil-
lages.
55Maon,[g] Carmel,[h] Ziph,[i] Jut-
tah,[j] 56Jezreel,[k] Jokdeam, Za-
noah,[l] 57Kain, Gibeah[m] and Tim-
nah[n]—ten towns and their vil-
lages.
58Halhul, Beth Zur,[o] Gedor,[p]
59Maarath, Beth Anoth and Elte-
kon—six towns and their villages.
60Kiriath Baal[q] (that is, Kiriath
Jearim[r]) and Rabbah[s]—two towns
and their villages.

61In the desert:[t]
Beth Arabah,[u] Middin, Secacah,
62Nibshan, the City of Salt and En
Gedi[v]—six towns and their vil-
lages.
63Judah could not[w] dislodge the Jebu-
sites[x], who were living in Jerusalem;[y]
to this day the Jebusites live there with
the people of Judah.[z]

Allotment for Ephraim and Manasseh

16 The allotment for Joseph be-
gan at the Jordan of Jericho,[t]
east of the waters of Jericho, and
went up from there through the
desert[a] into the hill country of
Bethel.[b] 2It went on from Bethel
(that is, Luz[c]),[u] crossed over to the
territory of the Arkites[d] in
Ataroth,[e] 3descended westward to
the territory of the Japhletites as far
as the region of Lower Beth Hor-
on[f] and on to Gezer,[g] ending at
the sea.
4So Manasseh and Ephraim, the de-
scendants of Joseph, received their in-
heritance.[h]

5This was the territory of Ephraim, clan
by clan:
The boundary of their inheri-
tance went from Ataroth Addar[i] in
the east to Upper Beth Horon[j]
6and continued to the sea. From
Micmethath[k] on the north it
curved eastward to Taanath Shiloh,
passing by it to Janoah[l] on the
east. 7Then it went down from Ja-
noah[m] to Ataroth[n] and Naarah,
touched Jericho and came out at
the Jordan. 8From Tappuah[o] the
border went west to the Kanah Ra-
vine[p] and ended at the sea. This
was the inheritance of the tribe of
the Ephraimites, clan by clan. 9It
also included all the towns and
their villages that were set aside for
the Ephraimites within the inheri-
tance of the Manassites.[q]
10They did not dislodge the Canaanites
living in Gezer; to this day the Canaan-
ites live among the people of Ephraim
but are required to do forced labor.[r]

17 This was the allotment for the
tribe of Manasseh[s] as Joseph's
firstborn,[t] that is, for Makir,[u] Ma-
nasseh's firstborn. Makir was the
ancestor of the Gileadites, who had re-
ceived Gilead[v] and Bashan[w] because
the Makirites were great soldiers. 2So
this allotment was for the rest of the
people of Manasseh[x]—the clans of
Abiezer,[y] Helek, Asriel,[z] Shechem,
Hepher[a] and Shemida.[b] These are the
other male descendants of Manasseh
son of Joseph by their clans.
3Now Zelophehad son of Hepher,[c]
the son of Gilead, the son of Makir, the

15:36 [a]1Sa 17:52; 1Ch 4:31 [b]1Ch 12:4 **15:38** [c]S Jos 11:3 [d]2Ki 14:7 **15:39** [e]S Jos 10:3 [f]2Ki 22:1 [g]S Jos 10:3 **15:41** [h]2Ch 28:18 [i]Jos 19:27 [j]S Jos 10:10 **15:42** [k]S Nu 33:20 [l]Jos 19:7; 1Sa 30:30; 1Ch 4:32; 6:59 **15:43** [m]ver 33 **15:44** [n]1Sa 23:1-2,1; 1Ch 4:19; Ne 3:17,18 [o]Jos 19:29; Jdg 1:31; Mic 1:14 [p]Mic 1:15 **15:45** [q]S Jos 13:3 **15:46** [r]Jos 11:22 **15:47** [s]S Jos 11:22 [t]S Ge 15:18 [u]S Nu 34:6 **15:48** [v]Jdg 10:1 [w]Jos 21:14; 1Sa 30:27; 1Ch 6:57 [x]S ver 35 **15:49** [y]S Jos 10:3 **15:50** [z]Jos 11:21 [a]Jos 21:14; 1Sa 30:28 **15:51** [b]S Jos 10:41 [c]Jos 21:15; Jer 48:21 [d]2Sa 15:12 **15:52** [e]S Ge 25:14 **15:54** [f]S Ge 35:27 **15:55** [g]Jdg 10:12; 1Sa 23:24,25; 25:1,2; 1Ch 2:45 [h]S Jos 12:22 [i]S ver 24 [j]Jos 21:16 **15:56** [k]Jos 17:16; 19:18; Jdg 6:33; 1Sa 25:43; 1Ki 18:45; 1Ch 3:1; Hos 1:5 [l]S ver 34 **15:57** [m]Jos 18:28; 24:33; Jdg 19:12; 20:4; 2Sa 23:29; 1Ch 11:31 [n]S Ge 38:12 **15:58** [o]1Ch 2:45; 2Ch 11:7; Ne 3:16 [p]1Ch 4:39; 12:7 **15:60** [q]ver 9 [r]S Jos 9:17 [s]S Dt 3:11 **15:61** [t]S Jos 8:15 [u]S ver 6 **15:62** [v]1Sa 23:29; 24:1; Eze 47:10 **15:63** [w]Jos 16:10; 17:12; Jdg 1:21; 1Ki 9:21 [x]S ver 8 [y]S Jos 10:1 [z]Eze 48:7

16:1 [a]S Jos 8:15 [b]S Jos 12:9

16:2 [c]S Ge 28:19 [d]2Sa 15:32 [e]S ver 5; S Nu 32:3 **16:3** [f]S Jos 10:10 [g]S Jos 10:33 **16:4** [h]Jos 18:5 **16:5** [i]ver 2; Jos 18:13 [j]S Jos 10:10 **16:6** [k]Jos 17:7 [l]ver 7; 2Ki 15:29 **16:7** [m]S ver 6 [n]S Nu 32:3 **16:8** [o]S Jos 12:17 [p]Jos 17:9; 19:28 **16:9** [q]Eze 48:5 **16:10** [r]S Jos 15:63; 17:13; Jdg 1:28-29; 1Ki 9:16 **17:1** [s]S Nu 1:34; 1Ch 7:14 [t]S Ge 41:51 [u]S Ge 50:23 [v]S Jos 12:2 [w]S Jos 12:5 **17:2** [x]Jos 22:7 [y]S Nu 26:30; Jdg 6:11, 34; 8:2; 1Ch 7:18 [z]1Ch 7:14 [a]S Nu 27:1 [b]1Ch 7:19 **17:3** [c]S Nu 27:1

[s]36 Or *Gederah and Gederothaim* [t]1 *Jordan of Jericho* was possibly an ancient name for the Jordan River. [u]2 Septuagint; Hebrew *Bethel to Luz*

son of Manasseh, had no sons but only daughters,[a] whose names were Mahlah, Noah, Hoglah, Milcah and Tirzah. 4They went to Eleazar the priest, Joshua son of Nun, and the leaders and said, "The LORD commanded Moses to give us an inheritance among our brothers." So Joshua gave them an inheritance along with the brothers of their father, according to the LORD's command.[b] 5Manasseh's share consisted of ten tracts of land besides Gilead and Bashan east of the Jordan,[c] 6because the daughters of the tribe of Manasseh received an inheritance among the sons. The land of Gilead belonged to the rest of the descendants of Manasseh.

7The territory of Manasseh extended from Asher[d] to Micmethath[e] east of Shechem.[f] The boundary ran southward from there to include the people living at En Tappuah. 8(Manasseh had the land of Tappuah, but Tappuah[g] itself, on the boundary of Manasseh, belonged to the Ephraimites.) 9Then the boundary continued south to the Kanah Ravine.[h] There were towns belonging to Ephraim lying among the towns of Manasseh, but the boundary of Manasseh was the northern side of the ravine and ended at the sea. 10On the south the land belonged to Ephraim, on the north to Manasseh. The territory of Manasseh reached the sea and bordered Asher[i] on the north and Issachar[j] on the east.[k]

11Within Issachar[l] and Asher, Manasseh also had Beth Shan,[m] Ibleam[n] and the people of Dor,[o] Endor,[p] Taanach[q] and Megiddo,[r] together with their surrounding settlements (the third in the list is Naphoth[v]).[s]

12Yet the Manassites were not able[t] to occupy these towns, for the Canaanites were determined to live in that region. 13However, when the Israelites grew stronger, they subjected the Canaanites to forced labor but did not drive them out completely.[u]

14The people of Joseph said to Joshua, "Why have you given us only one allotment and one portion for an inheritance? We are a numerous people and the LORD has blessed us abundantly."[v]

15"If you are so numerous," Joshua answered, "and if the hill country of Ephraim is too small for you, go up into the forest[w] and clear land for yourselves there in the land of the Perizzites[x] and Rephaites.[y]"

16The people of Joseph replied, "The hill country is not enough for us, and all the Canaanites who live in the plain have iron chariots,[z] both those in Beth Shan[a] and its settlements and those in the Valley of Jezreel."[b]

17But Joshua said to the house of Joseph—to Ephraim and Manasseh—"You are numerous and very powerful. You will have not only one allotment[c] 18but the forested hill country[d] as well. Clear it, and its farthest limits will be yours; though the Canaanites have iron chariots[e] and though they are strong, you can drive them out."

Division of the Rest of the Land

18 The whole assembly of the Israelites gathered at Shiloh[f] and set up the Tent of Meeting[g] there. The country was brought under their control, 2but there were still seven Israelite tribes who had not yet received their inheritance.

3So Joshua said to the Israelites: "How long will you wait before you begin to take possession of the land that the LORD, the God of your fathers, has given you? 4Appoint three men from each tribe. I will send them out to make a survey of the land and to write a description of it,[h] according to the inheritance of each.[i] Then they will return to me. 5You are to divide the land into seven parts. Judah is to remain in its territory on the south[j] and the house of Joseph in its territory on the north.[k] 6After you have written descriptions of the seven parts of the land, bring them here to me and I will cast lots[l] for you in the presence of the LORD our God. 7The Levites, however, do not get a portion among you, because the priestly service of the LORD is their inheritance.[m] And Gad, Reuben and the half-tribe of Manasseh have already received their inheritance on the east side of the Jordan. Moses the servant of the LORD gave it to them.[n]"

8As the men started on their way to map out the land, Joshua instructed them, "Go and make a survey of the land and write a description of it.[o] Then return to me, and I will cast lots for you here at Shiloh[p] in the presence

17:3 [a]S Nu 26:33 **17:4** [b]Nu 27:5-7 **17:5** [c]Jos 13:30-31 **17:7** [d]ver 10; Jos 19:24,31; 21:6,30; Jdg 1:31; 5:17; 6:35; 7:23 [e]Jos 16:6 [f]S Ge 12:6; Jos 21:21; 24:25; Jdg 9:1 **17:8** [g]S Jos 12:17 **17:9** [h]S Jos 16:8 **17:10** [i]S ver 7 [j]S Ge 30:18 [k]Eze 48:5 **17:11** [l]ver 10 [m]ver 16; Jdg 1:27; 1Sa 31:10; 2Sa 21:12; 1Ki 4:12; 1Ch 7:29 [n]2Ki 9:27 [o]S Jos 11:2 [p]1Sa 28:7; Ps 83:10 [q]S Jos 12:21 [r]1Ki 9:15 [s]Eze 48:4 **17:12** [t]S Jos 15:63 **17:13** [u]Jdg 1:27-28 **17:14** [v]Nu 26:28-37 **17:15** [w]2Sa 18:6 [x]S Jos 3:10 [y]S Ge 14:5; Jos 15:8; 18:16; 2Sa 5:18; 23:13; Isa 17:5 **17:16** [z]ver 18; Jdg 1:19; 4:3,13 [a]S ver 11 [b]S Jos 15:56; S 1Sa 29:1 **17:17** [c]Eze 48:5 **17:18** [d]1Sa 1:1 [e]S ver 16 **18:1** [f]ver 8; Jos 19:51; 21:2; Jdg 18:31; 21:12, 19; 1Sa 1:3; 3:21; 4:3; 1Ki 14:2; Ps 78:60; Jer 7:12; 26:6; 41:5 [g]S ver 10; S Ex 27:21; S 40:2; Ac 7:45 **18:4** [h]ver 8 [i]Mic 2:5 **18:5** [j]Jos 15:1 [k]Jos 16:1-4 **18:6** [l]S Lev 16:8 **18:7** [m]S Jos 13:33 [n]Jos 13:8 **18:8** [o]ver 4 [p]S ver 1

[v]11 That is, Naphoth Dor

of the LORD." 9So the men left and went
through the land. They wrote its de-
scription on a scroll, town by town, in
seven parts, and returned to Joshua in
the camp at Shiloh. 10Joshua then cast
lots[a] for them in Shiloh in the pres-
ence[b] of the LORD, and there he distrib-
uted the land to the Israelites according
to their tribal divisions.[c]

Allotment for Benjamin

11The lot came up for the tribe of Benja-
min, clan by clan. Their allotted terri-
tory lay between the tribes of Judah
and Joseph:

12On the north side their bound-
ary began at the Jordan, passed the
northern slope of Jericho and
headed west into the hill country,
coming out at the desert[d] of Beth
Aven.[e] 13From there it crossed to
the south slope of Luz[f] (that is,
Bethel[g]) and went down to Ataroth
Addar[h] on the hill south of Lower
Beth Horon.

14From the hill facing Beth Hor-
on[i] on the south the boundary
turned south along the western
side and came out at Kiriath Baal
(that is, Kiriath Jearim),[j] a town of
the people of Judah. This was the
western side.

15The southern side began at the
outskirts of Kiriath Jearim on the
west, and the boundary came out
at the spring of the waters of Neph-
toah.[k] 16The boundary went down
to the foot of the hill facing the Val-
ley of Ben Hinnom, north of the
Valley of Rephaim.[l] It continued
down the Hinnom Valley[m] along
the southern slope of the Jebusite
city and so to En Rogel.[n] 17It then
curved north, went to En Shemesh,
continued to Geliloth,[o] which faces
the Pass of Adummim,[p] and ran
down to the Stone of Bohan[q] son
of Reuben. 18It continued to the
northern slope of Beth Arabah[w][r]
and on down into the Arabah.[s] 19It
then went to the northern slope of
Beth Hoglah[t] and came out at the
northern bay of the Salt Sea,[x][u] at
the mouth of the Jordan in the
south. This was the southern
boundary.

20The Jordan formed the bound-
ary on the eastern side.

These were the boundaries that
marked out the inheritance of the clans
of Benjamin on all sides.[v]

18:10 [a]S Nu 34:13 [b]S ver 1; Jer 7:12 [c]Nu 33:54; Jos 19:51 **18:12** [d]S Jos 8:15 [e]S Jos 7:2 **18:13** [f]S Ge 28:19 [g]S Jos 12:9 [h]S Nu 32:3; S Jos 16:5 **18:14** [i]Jos 10:10 [j]S Jos 9:17 **18:15** [k]Jos 15:9 **18:16** [l]S Jos 17:15 [m]Jos 15:8 [n]S Jos 15:7 **18:17** [o]Jos 22:10 [p]Jos 15:7 [q]Jos 15:6 **18:18** [r]S Jos 15:6 [s]S Jos 11:2 **18:19** [t]S Jos 15:6 [u]S Ge 14:3 **18:20** [v]1Sa 9:1 **18:21** [w]S Jos 15:6 **18:22** [x]Jos 15:6 [y]2Ch 13:4 [z]Jos 16:1 **18:23** [a]S Dt 2:23 [b]Jdg 6:11,24; 8:27,32; 9:5; 1Sa 13:17 **18:24** [c]Jos 21:17; 1Sa 13:3,16; 14:5; 1Ki 15:22; 2Ki 23:8; Isa 10:29 **18:25** [d]Jos 9:3 [e]S Jos 10:40; Jdg 4:5; 19:13; 1Sa 1:1,19; 2:11; 7:17; 25:1; 1Ki 15:17,21; Ezr 2:26; Ne 11:33; Isa 10:29; Jer 31:15; 40:1 [f]S Jos 9:17; Ezr 2:25; Ne 7:29 **18:26** [g]S Jos 11:3 [h]Jos 9:17; Ezr 2:25; Ne 7:29 **18:28** [i]2Sa 21:14 [j]S Jos 15:8 [k]S Jos 10:1 [l]S Jos 15:57 [m]S Jos 9:17 [n]Eze 48:23 **19:1** [o]S Ge 49:7 **19:2** [p]S Ge 21:14; 1Ki 19:3 [q]S Jos 15:26 **19:3** [r]S Jos 15:28 [s]S Jos 15:29 **19:4** [t]Jos 15:30 [u]S Nu 14:45 **19:5** [v]S Jos 15:31 **19:7** [w]S Jos 15:32 [x]S Jos 15:42 **19:8** [y]S Jos 10:40 **19:9** [z]S Ge 49:7 [a]Eze 48:24 **19:10** [b]ver 16, 27,34; Jos 21:7, 34 [c]ver 12 **19:11** [d]S Jos 12:22 **19:12** [e]ver 10 [f]Jos 21:28; 1Ch 6:72 **19:13** [g]S Jos 11:22 [h]Jos 15:32

21The tribe of Benjamin, clan by clan,
had the following cities:

Jericho, Beth Hoglah,[w] Emek Ke-
ziz, 22Beth Arabah,[x] Zemaraim,[y]
Bethel,[z] 23Avvim,[a] Parah,
Ophrah,[b] 24Kephar Ammoni, Oph-
ni and Geba[c]—twelve towns and
their villages.

25Gibeon,[d] Ramah,[e] Beeroth,[f]
26Mizpah,[g] Kephirah,[h] Mozah,
27Rekem, Irpeel, Taralah, 28Zelah,[i]
Haeleph, the Jebusite city[j] (that is,
Jerusalem[k]), Gibeah[l] and
Kiriath—fourteen towns and their
villages.[m]

This was the inheritance of Benjamin
for its clans.[n]

Allotment for Simeon

19:2-10pp — 1Ch 4:28-33

19 The second lot came out for the
tribe of Simeon, clan by clan.
Their inheritance lay within the terri-
tory of Judah.[o] 2It included:

Beersheba[p] (or Sheba),[y] Mola-
dah,[q] 3Hazar Shual,[r] Balah,
Ezem,[s] 4Eltolad,[t] Bethul, Hor-
mah,[u] 5Ziklag,[v] Beth Marcaboth,
Hazar Susah, 6Beth Lebaoth and
Sharuhen—thirteen towns and
their villages;

7Ain, Rimmon,[w] Ether and
Ashan[x]—four towns and their vil-
lages— 8and all the villages around
these towns as far as Baalath Beer
(Ramah in the Negev).[y]

This was the inheritance of the tribe of
the Simeonites, clan by clan. 9The in-
heritance of the Simeonites was taken
from the share of Judah,[z] because
Judah's portion was more than they
needed. So the Simeonites received
their inheritance within the territory of
Judah.[a]

Allotment for Zebulun

10The third lot came up for Zebulun,[b]
clan by clan:

The boundary of their inheri-
tance went as far as Sarid.[c] 11Going
west it ran to Maralah, touched
Dabbesheth, and extended to the
ravine near Jokneam.[d] 12It turned
east from Sarid[e] toward the sun-
rise to the territory of Kisloth Tabor
and went on to Daberath[f] and up
to Japhia. 13Then it continued east-
ward to Gath Hepher[g] and Eth Ka-
zin; it came out at Rimmon[h] and

w18 Septuagint; Hebrew *slope facing the Arabah*
x19 That is, the Dead Sea y2 Or *Beersheba, Sheba;*
1 Chron. 4:28 does not have *Sheba.*

turned toward Neah. 14There the
boundary went around on the
north to Hannathon and ended at
the Valley of Iphtah El.[a] 15Included
were Kattath, Nahalal,[b] Shimron,[c]
Idalah and Bethlehem.[d] There
were twelve towns and their vil-
lages.
16These towns and their villages were
the inheritance of Zebulun,[e] clan by
clan.[f]

Allotment for Issachar

17The fourth lot came out for Issachar,[g]
clan by clan. 18Their territory included:
Jezreel,[h] Kesulloth, Shunem,[i]
19Hapharaim, Shion, Anaharath,
20Rabbith, Kishion,[j] Ebez,
21Remeth, En Gannim,[k] En Had-
dah and Beth Pazzez. 22The bound-
ary touched Tabor,[l] Shahazumah
and Beth Shemesh,[m] and ended at
the Jordan. There were sixteen
towns and their villages.
23These towns and their villages were
the inheritance of the tribe of Is-
sachar,[n] clan by clan.[o]

Allotment for Asher

24The fifth lot came out for the tribe of
Asher,[p] clan by clan. 25Their territory
included:
Helkath, Hali, Beten, Acshaph,[q]
26Allammelech, Amad and Mi-
shal.[r] On the west the boundary
touched Carmel[s] and Shihor Lib-
nath. 27It then turned east toward
Beth Dagon,[t] touched Zebulun[u]
and the Valley of Iphtah El,[v] and
went north to Beth Emek and Nei-
el, passing Cabul[w] on the left. 28It
went to Abdon,[z x] Rehob,[y] Ham-
mon[z] and Kanah,[a] as far as
Greater Sidon.[b] 29The boundary
then turned back toward Ramah[c]
and went to the fortified city of
Tyre,[d] turned toward Hosah and
came out at the sea[e] in the region
of Aczib,[f] 30Ummah, Aphek[g] and
Rehob.[h] There were twenty-two
towns and their villages.
31These towns and their villages were
the inheritance of the tribe of Asher,[i]
clan by clan.

Allotment for Naphtali

32The sixth lot came out for Naphtali,
clan by clan:
33Their boundary went from He-
leph and the large tree in Zaanan-
nim,[j] passing Adami Nekeb and
Jabneel[k] to Lakkum and ending at
the Jordan. 34The boundary ran
west through Aznoth Tabor and
came out at Hukkok.[l] It touched
Zebulun[m] on the south, Asher on
the west and the Jordan[a] on the
east. 35The fortified cities were Zid-
dim, Zer, Hammath,[n] Rakkath,
Kinnereth,[o] 36Adamah, Ramah,[p]
Hazor,[q] 37Kedesh,[r] Edrei,[s] En Ha-
zor, 38Iron, Migdal El, Horem, Beth
Anath[t] and Beth Shemesh.[u] There
were nineteen towns and their vil-
lages.
39These towns and their villages were
the inheritance of the tribe of Naphtali,
clan by clan.[v]

Allotment for Dan

40The seventh lot came out for the tribe
of Dan, clan by clan. 41The territory of
their inheritance included:
Zorah, Eshtaol,[w] Ir Shemesh,
42Shaalabbin, Aijalon,[x] Ithlah,
43Elon, Timnah,[y] Ekron,[z] 44El-
tekeh, Gibbethon,[a] Baalath,[b]
45Jehud, Bene Berak, Gath Rim-
mon,[c] 46Me Jarkon and Rakkon,
with the area facing Joppa.[d]
47(But the Danites had difficulty tak-
ing possession of their territory,[e] so
they went up and attacked Leshem[f],
took it, put it to the sword and oc-
cupied it. They settled in Leshem and
named[g] it Dan after their forefather.)[h]
48These towns and their villages were
the inheritance of the tribe of Dan,[i]
clan by clan.

Allotment for Joshua

49When they had finished dividing
the land into its allotted portions, the
Israelites gave Joshua son of Nun an
inheritance among them, 50as the LORD
had commanded. They gave him the
town he asked for—Timnath Serah[b j]
in the hill country of Ephraim. And he
built up the town and settled there.
51These are the territories that Elea-
zar the priest, Joshua son of Nun and
the heads of the tribal clans of Israel
assigned by lot at Shiloh in the pres-
ence of the LORD at the entrance to the
Tent of Meeting. And so they finished
dividing[k] the land.[l]

19:14 [a]ver 27
19:15 [b]Jos 21:35 [c]Jos 11:1 [d]S Ge 35:19
19:16 [e]S ver 10 [f]Eze 48:26
19:17 [g]S Ge 30:18
19:18 [h]S Jos 15:56 [i]1Sa 28:4; 1Ki 1:3; 2Ki 4:8
19:20 [j]Jos 21:28
19:21 [k]S Jos 15:34
19:22 [l]Jdg 4:6, 12; 8:18; Ps 89:12; Jer 46:18 [m]S Jos 15:10
19:23 [n]Jos 17:10 [o]Ge 49:15; Eze 48:25
19:24 [p]S Jos 17:7
19:25 [q]S Jos 11:1
19:26 [r]Jos 21:30 [s]S Jos 12:22; 1Ki 18:19; 2Ki 2:25
19:27 [t]Jos 15:41 [u]S ver 10 [v]ver 14 [w]1Ki 9:13
19:28 [x]Jos 21:30; 1Ch 6:74 [y]ver 30; Nu 13:21; Jos 21:31; Jdg 1:31 [z]1Ch 6:76 [a]S Jos 16:8 [b]S Ge 10:19
19:29 [c]Jos 18:25 [d]2Sa 5:11; 24:7; Ezr 3:7; Ps 45:12; Isa 23:1; Jer 25:22; Eze 26:2 [e]Jdg 5:17 [f]S Jos 15:44
19:30 [g]S Jos 12:18 [h]S ver 28
19:31 [i]S Ge 30:13; S Jos 17:7; Eze 48:2
19:33 [j]Jdg 4:11 [k]Jos 15:11
19:34 [l]1Ch 6:75 [m]S ver 10
19:35 [n]1Ch 2:55 [o]S Jos 11:2
19:36 [p]Jos 18:25 [q]S Jos 11:1
19:37 [r]S Jos 12:22 [s]S Nu 21:33
19:38 [t]Jdg 1:33 [u]S Jos 15:10
19:39 [v]Eze 48:3
19:41 [w]S Jos 15:33
19:42 [x]S Jos 10:12
19:43 [y]S Ge 38:12 [z]S Jos 13:3
19:44 [a]Jos 21:23; 1Ki 15:27; 16:15 [b]1Ki 9:18; 2Ch 8:6
19:45 [c]Jos 21:24; 1Ch 6:69
19:46 [d]2Ch 2:16; Ezr 3:7; Jnh 1:3; Ac 9:36
19:47 [e]Jdg 18:1 [f]Jdg 18:7,14 [g]S Dt 3:14 [h]Jdg 18:27,29
19:48 [i]S Ge 30:6
19:50 [j]Jos 24:30; Jdg 2:9 **19:51** [k]Jos 23:4 [l]S Jos 14:1; S 18:10; Ac 13:19

[z]28 Some Hebrew manuscripts (see also Joshua 21:30); most Hebrew manuscripts *Ebron*
[a]34 Septuagint; Hebrew *west, and Judah, the Jordan,*
[b]50 Also known as *Timnath Heres* (see Judges 2:9)

Cities of Refuge

20:1-9Ref — Nu 35:9-34; Dt 4:41-43; 19:1-14

20 Then the LORD said to Joshua:
2"Tell the Israelites to designate
the cities of refuge, as I instructed you
through Moses, 3so that anyone who
kills a person accidentally and uninten-
tionally[a] may flee there and find pro-
tection from the avenger of blood.[b]
4"When he flees to one of these cit-
ies, he is to stand in the entrance of the
city gate[c] and state his case before the
elders[d] of that city. Then they are to
admit him into their city and give him a
place to live with them. 5If the avenger
of blood pursues him, they must not
surrender the one accused, because he
killed his neighbor unintentionally and
without malice aforethought. 6He is to
stay in that city until he has stood trial
before the assembly[e] and until the
death of the high priest who is serving
at that time. Then he may go back to
his own home in the town from which
he fled."
7So they set apart Kedesh[f] in Galilee
in the hill country of Naphtali, She-
chem[g] in the hill country of Ephraim,
and Kiriath Arba[h] (that is, Hebron[i]) in
the hill country of Judah.[j] 8On the east
side of the Jordan of Jericho[c] they des-
ignated Bezer[k] in the desert on the pla-
teau in the tribe of Reuben, Ramoth in
Gilead[l][m] in the tribe of Gad, and Go-
lan in Bashan[n] in the tribe of Ma-
nasseh. 9Any of the Israelites or any
alien living among them who killed
someone accidentally[o] could flee to
these designated cities and not be
killed by the avenger of blood prior to
standing trial before the assembly.[p]

Towns for the Levites

21:4-39pp — 1Ch 6:54-80

21 Now the family heads of the Le-
vites approached Eleazar the
priest, Joshua son of Nun, and the
heads of the other tribal families of Is-
rael[q] 2at Shiloh[r] in Canaan and said to
them, "The LORD commanded through
Moses that you give us towns[s] to live
in, with pasturelands for our live-
stock."[t] 3So, as the LORD had com-
manded, the Israelites gave the Levites
the following towns and pasturelands
out of their own inheritance:
4The first lot came out for the Ko-
hathites,[u] clan by clan. The Levites
who were descendants of Aaron the
priest were allotted thirteen towns
from the tribes of Judah, Simeon and
Benjamin.[v] 5The rest of Kohath's de-
scendants were allotted ten towns from
the clans of the tribes of Ephraim, Dan
and half of Manasseh.[w]
6The descendants of Gershon[x] were
allotted thirteen towns from the clans
of the tribes of Issachar,[y] Asher,[z]
Naphtali and the half-tribe of Ma-
nasseh in Bashan.
7The descendants of Merari,[a] clan by
clan, received twelve[b] towns from the
tribes of Reuben, Gad and Zebulun.[c]
8So the Israelites allotted to the Le-
vites these towns and their pasture-
lands, as the LORD had commanded
through Moses.
9From the tribes of Judah and Simeon
they allotted the following towns by
name 10(these towns were assigned to
the descendants of Aaron who were
from the Kohathite clans of the Levites,
because the first lot fell to them):
11They gave them Kiriath Arba[d]
(that is, Hebron[e]), with its sur-
rounding pastureland, in the hill
country of Judah. (Arba was the
forefather of Anak.) 12But the fields
and villages around the city they
had given to Caleb son of Jephun-
neh as his possession.[f]
13So to the descendants of Aaron
the priest they gave Hebron (a city
of refuge[g] for one accused of mur-
der), Libnah,[h] 14Jattir,[i] Esh-
temoa,[j] 15Holon,[k] Debir,[l] 16Ain,[m]
Juttah[n] and Beth Shemesh,[o] to-
gether with their pasturelands—
nine towns from these two tribes.
17And from the tribe of Benjamin
they gave them Gibeon,[p] Geba,[q]
18Anathoth[r] and Almon, together
with their pasturelands—four
towns.
19All the towns[s] for the priests, the de-
scendants of Aaron, were thirteen, to-
gether with their pasturelands.[t]
20The rest of the Kohathite clans of the
Levites were allotted towns from the
tribe of Ephraim:
21In the hill country of Ephraim
they were given Shechem[u] (a city
of refuge for one accused of mur-
der) and Gezer,[v] 22Kibzaim and
Beth Horon,[w] together with their
pasturelands—four towns.[x]
23Also from the tribe of Dan they
received Eltekeh, Gibbethon,[y]
24Aijalon[z] and Gath Rimmon,[a] to-

20:3 [a]S Lev 4:2 [b]S Nu 35:12
20:4 [c]S Ge 23:10; Jer 38:7 [d]S Jos 7:6
20:6 [e]S Nu 35:12
20:7 [f]S Jos 12:22 [g]S Ge 12:6 [h]S Ge 35:27 [i]S Jos 10:36 [j]Lk 1:39
20:8 [k]Jos 21:36; 1Ch 6:78 [l]1Ch 6:80 [m]S Jos 12:2 [n]S Jos 12:5; 1Ch 6:71
20:9 [o]S Lev 4:2 [p]S Ex 21:13
21:1 [q]Jos 14:1
21:2 [r]S Jos 18:1 [s]S Lev 25:32 [t]S Nu 35:2-3; S Jos 14:4
21:4 [u]Nu 3:17 [v]ver 19
21:5 [w]ver 26
21:6 [x]Nu 3:17 [y]S Ge 30:18 [z]S Jos 17:7
21:7 [a]S Ex 6:16 [b]ver 40 [c]S Jos 19:10
21:11 [d]S Ge 23:2 [e]S Jos 10:36
21:12 [f]S Jos 15:13
21:13 [g]Nu 35:6 [h]S Nu 33:20
21:14 [i]S Jos 15:48 [j]S Jos 15:50
21:15 [k]S Jos 15:51 [l]S Jos 10:3
21:16 [m]S Nu 34:11 [n]Jos 15:55 [o]S Jos 15:10
21:17 [p]S Jos 9:3 [q]S Jos 18:24; S Ne 11:31
21:18 [r]2Sa 23:27; 1Ki 2:26; Ezr 2:23; Ne 7:27; 11:32; Isa 10:30; Jer 1:1; 11:21; 32:7
21:19 [s]2Ch 31:15 [t]ver 4
21:21 [u]S Jos 17:7 [v]S Jos 10:33
21:22 [w]S Jos 10:10 [x]1Sa 1:1
21:23 [y]S Jos 19:44
21:24 [z]S Jos 10:12 [a]S Jos 19:45

[c]8 *Jordan of Jericho* was possibly an ancient name for the Jordan River.

gether with their pasturelands—four towns.

25From half the tribe of Manasseh they received Taanach[a] and Gath Rimmon, together with their pasturelands—two towns.

26All these ten towns and their pasturelands were given to the rest of the Kohathite clans.[b]

27The Levite clans of the Gershonites were given:

from the half-tribe of Manasseh, Golan in Bashan[c] (a city of refuge for one accused of murder[d]) and Be Eshtarah, together with their pasturelands—two towns;

28from the tribe of Issachar,[e] Kishion,[f] Daberath,[g] 29Jarmuth[h] and En Gannim,[i] together with their pasturelands—four towns;

30from the tribe of Asher,[j] Mishal,[k] Abdon,[l] 31Helkath and Rehob,[m] together with their pasturelands—four towns;

32from the tribe of Naphtali, Kedesh[n] in Galilee (a city of refuge for one accused of murder[o]), Hammoth Dor and Kartan, together with their pasturelands—three towns.

33All the towns of the Gershonite[p] clans were thirteen, together with their pasturelands.

34The Merarite clans (the rest of the Levites) were given:

from the tribe of Zebulun,[q] Jokneam,[r] Kartah, 35Dimnah and Nahalal,[s] together with their pasturelands—four towns;

36from the tribe of Reuben, Bezer,[t] Jahaz,[u] 37Kedemoth and Mephaath,[v] together with their pasturelands—four towns;

38from the tribe of Gad, Ramoth[w] in Gilead[x] (a city of refuge for one accused of murder), Mahanaim,[y] 39Heshbon and Jazer,[z] together with their pasturelands—four towns in all.

40All the towns allotted to the Merarite clans, who were the rest of the Levites, were twelve.[a]

41The towns of the Levites in the territory held by the Israelites were forty-eight in all, together with their pasturelands.[b] 42Each of these towns had pasturelands surrounding it; this was true for all these towns.

43So the LORD gave Israel all the land he had sworn to give their forefathers,[c] and they took possession[d] of it and settled there.[e] 44The LORD gave them rest[f] on every side, just as he had sworn to their forefathers. Not one of their enemies[g] withstood them; the LORD handed all their enemies[h] over to them.[i] 45Not one of all the LORD's good promises[j] to the house of Israel failed; every one was fulfilled.

Eastern Tribes Return Home

22 Then Joshua summoned the Reubenites, the Gadites and the half-tribe of Manasseh 2and said to them, "You have done all that Moses the servant of the LORD commanded,[k] and you have obeyed me in everything I commanded. 3For a long time now—to this very day—you have not deserted your brothers but have carried out the mission the LORD your God gave you. 4Now that the LORD your God has given your brothers rest[l] as he promised, return to your homes[m] in the land that Moses the servant of the LORD gave you on the other side of the Jordan.[n] 5But be very careful to keep the commandment[o] and the law that Moses the servant of the LORD gave you: to love the LORD[p] your God, to walk in all his ways, to obey his commands,[q] to hold fast to him and to serve him with all your heart and all your soul.[r]"

6Then Joshua blessed[s] them and sent them away, and they went to their homes. 7(To the half-tribe of Manasseh Moses had given land in Bashan,[t] and to the other half of the tribe Joshua gave land on the west side[u] of the Jordan with their brothers.) When Joshua sent them home, he blessed them,[v] 8saying, "Return to your homes with your great wealth—with large herds of livestock,[w] with silver, gold, bronze and iron,[x] and a great quantity of clothing—and divide[y] with your brothers the plunder[z] from your enemies."

9So the Reubenites, the Gadites and the half-tribe of Manasseh left the Israelites at Shiloh[a] in Canaan to return to Gilead,[b] their own land, which they had acquired in accordance with the command of the LORD through Moses.

10When they came to Geliloth[c] near the Jordan in the land of Canaan, the Reubenites, the Gadites and the half-tribe of Manasseh built an imposing altar[d] there by the Jordan. 11And when the Israelites heard that they had built the altar on the border of Canaan at Geliloth near the Jordan on the Israelite side, 12the whole assembly of Israel

21:25 [a]S Jos 12:21
21:26 [b]ver 5
21:27 [c]S Jos 12:5 [d]Nu 35:6
21:28 [e]S Ge 30:18 [f]Jos 19:20 [g]S Jos 19:12
21:29 [h]S Jos 10:3 [i]S Jos 15:34
21:30 [j]S Jos 17:7 [k]Jos 19:26 [l]S Jos 19:28
21:31 [m]S Jos 19:28
21:32 [n]S Jos 12:22 [o]Nu 35:6
21:33 [p]ver 6
21:34 [q]S Jos 19:10 [r]S Jos 12:22
21:35 [s]Jos 19:15
21:36 [t]S Jos 20:8 [u]S Nu 21:23; Dt 2:32; Jdg 11:20
21:37 [v]S Jos 13:18
21:38 [w]S Dt 4:43 [x]S Jos 12:2 [y]S Ge 32:2
21:39 [z]S Jos 13:25
21:40 [a]ver 7
21:41 [b]Nu 35:7
21:43 [c]Dt 34:4 [d]Dt 11:31 [e]S Dt 17:14
21:44 [f]S Ex 33:14 [g]S Dt 6:19 [h]S Ex 23:31 [i]Dt 21:10
21:45 [j]Jos 23:14; Ne 9:8
22:2 [k]S Nu 32:25
22:4 [l]S Ex 33:14 [m]Nu 32:22; Dt 3:20 [n]Nu 32:18; S Jos 1:13-15
22:5 [o]Isa 43:22; Mal 3:14 [p]Jos 23:11 [q]S Dt 5:29 [r]S Dt 6:5
22:6 [s]S Ge 24:60; S Ex 39:43
22:7 [t]S Nu 32:19; S Jos 12:5 [u]Jos 17:2 [v]S Jos 14:13; Lk 24:50
22:8 [w]S Dt 20:14 [x]S Nu 31:22 [y]S Nu 31:27 [z]S Ge 49:27; 1Sa 30:16; 2Sa 1:1; Isa 9:3
22:9 [a]Jos 18:1 [b]S Nu 32:26
22:10 [c]Jos 18:17 [d]ver 19,26-27; Isa 19:19; 56:7

gathered at Shiloh[a] to go to war
against them.
13So the Israelites sent Phinehas[b] son
of Eleazar,[c] the priest, to the land of
Gilead—to Reuben, Gad and the half-
tribe of Manasseh. 14With him they
sent ten of the chief men, one for each
of the tribes of Israel, each the head of a
family division among the Israelite
clans.[d]
15When they went to Gilead—to Reu-
ben, Gad and the half-tribe of Manas-
seh—they said to them: 16"The whole
assembly of the LORD says: 'How could
you break faith[e] with the God of Israel
like this? How could you turn away
from the LORD and build yourselves an
altar in rebellion[f] against him now?
17Was not the sin of Peor[g] enough for
us? Up to this very day we have not
cleansed ourselves from that sin, even
though a plague fell on the community
of the LORD! 18And are you now turning
away from the LORD?
"'If you rebel against the LORD to-
day, tomorrow he will be angry with
the whole community[h] of Israel. 19If
the land you possess is defiled, come
over to the LORD's land, where the
LORD's tabernacle[i] stands, and share
the land with us. But do not rebel
against the LORD or against us by build-
ing an altar[j] for yourselves, other than
the altar of the LORD our God. 20When
Achan son of Zerah acted unfaithfully
regarding the devoted things,[d][k] did
not wrath[l] come upon the whole com-
munity[m] of Israel? He was not the only
one who died for his sin.'"[n]
21Then Reuben, Gad and the half-
tribe of Manasseh replied to the heads
of the clans of Israel: 22"The Mighty
One, God, the LORD! The Mighty One,
God,[o] the LORD![p] He knows![q] And let
Israel know! If this has been in rebel-
lion or disobedience to the LORD, do not
spare us this day. 23If we have built our
own altar to turn away from the LORD
and to offer burnt offerings and grain
offerings,[r] or to sacrifice fellowship of-
ferings[e] on it, may the LORD himself
call us to account.[s]
24"No! We did it for fear that some
day your descendants might say to
ours, 'What do you have to do with the
LORD, the God of Israel? 25The LORD has
made the Jordan a boundary between
us and you—you Reubenites and Gad-
ites! You have no share in the LORD.' So
your descendants might cause ours to
stop fearing the LORD.
26"That is why we said, 'Let us get

22:12 [a]Jos 18:1 **22:13** [b]S Nu 25:7 [c]Nu 3:32; Jos 24:33 **22:14** [d]ver 32; S Nu 1:4 **22:16** [e]S Dt 7:3; 1Sa 13:13; 15:11 [f]Dt 12:13-14 **22:17** [g]S Nu 23:28; 25:1-9 **22:18** [h]S Lev 10:6 **22:19** [i]S Ex 26:1 [j]S ver 10 **22:20** [k]Jos 7:1 [l]Ps 7:11 [m]Lev 10:6 [n]Jos 7:5 **22:22** [o]S Dt 10:17 [p]Ps 50:1 [q]1Sa 2:3; 16:7; 1Ki 8:39; 1Ch 28:9; Ps 11:4; 40:9; 44:21; 139:4; Jer 17:10 **22:23** [r]Jer 41:5 [s]S Dt 12:11; S 18:19; 1Sa 20:16 **22:27** [t]S Ge 21:30; Jos 24:27; Isa 19:20 [u]S Dt 12:6 **22:28** [v]S Ge 21:30 **22:29** [w]Jos 24:16 [x]S Ex 26:1 **22:31** [y]2Ch 15:2 **22:32** [z]S ver 14 **22:33** [a]1Ch 29:20; Da 2:19; Lk 2:28 **22:34** [b]S Ge 21:30 **23:1** [c]S Dt 12:9; Jos 21:44 [d]S Jos 13:1 **23:2** [e]S Jos 7:6 [f]Jos 24:1 [g]S Jos 13:1

ready and build an altar—but not for
burnt offerings or sacrifices.' 27On the
contrary, it is to be a witness[t] between
us and you and the generations that
follow, that we will worship the LORD at
his sanctuary with our burnt offerings,
sacrifices and fellowship offerings.[u]
Then in the future your descendants
will not be able to say to ours, 'You
have no share in the LORD.'
28"And we said, 'If they ever say this
to us, or to our descendants, we will
answer: Look at the replica of the
LORD's altar, which our fathers built,
not for burnt offerings and sacrifices,
but as a witness[v] between us and you.'
29"Far be it from us to rebel[w] against
the LORD and turn away from him to-
day by building an altar for burnt offer-
ings, grain offerings and sacrifices,
other than the altar of the LORD our God
that stands before his tabernacle.[x]"
30When Phinehas the priest and the
leaders of the community—the heads
of the clans of the Israelites—heard
what Reuben, Gad and Manasseh had
to say, they were pleased. 31And Phine-
has son of Eleazar, the priest, said to
Reuben, Gad and Manasseh, "Today
we know that the LORD is with us,[y] be-
cause you have not acted unfaithfully
toward the LORD in this matter. Now
you have rescued the Israelites from
the LORD's hand."
32Then Phinehas son of Eleazar, the
priest, and the leaders returned to Ca-
naan from their meeting with the Reu-
benites and Gadites in Gilead and re-
ported to the Israelites.[z] 33They were
glad to hear the report and praised
God.[a] And they talked no more about
going to war against them to devastate
the country where the Reubenites and
the Gadites lived.
34And the Reubenites and the Gad-
ites gave the altar this name: A Wit-
ness[b] Between Us that the LORD is God.

Joshua's Farewell to the Leaders

23 After a long time had passed and
the LORD had given Israel rest[c]
from all their enemies around them,
Joshua, by then old and well advanced
in years,[d] 2summoned all Israel—their
elders,[e] leaders, judges and offi-
cials[f]—and said to them: "I am old and
well advanced in years.[g] 3You your-

[d]20 The Hebrew term refers to the irrevocable giving over of things or persons to the LORD, often by totally destroying them. [e]23 Traditionally *peace offerings*; also in verse 27

selves have seen everything the LORD
your God has done to all these nations
for your sake; it was the LORD your God
who fought for you.[a] 4Remember how
I have allotted[b] as an inheritance[c] for
your tribes all the land of the nations
that remain—the nations I con-
quered—between the Jordan and the
Great Sea[f][d] in the west. 5The LORD
your God himself will drive them out[e]
of your way. He will push them out[f]
before you, and you will take posses-
sion of their land, as the LORD your God
promised you.[g]
6"Be very strong; be careful to obey
all that is written in the Book of the
Law[h] of Moses, without turning aside[i]
to the right or to the left.[j] 7Do not asso-
ciate with these nations that remain
among you; do not invoke the names
of their gods or swear[k] by them. You
must not serve them or bow down[l] to
them. 8But you are to hold fast to the
LORD[m] your God, as you have until
now.
9"The LORD has driven out before you
great and powerful nations;[n] to this
day no one has been able to withstand
you.[o] 10One of you routs a thousand,[p]
because the LORD your God fights for
you,[q] just as he promised. 11So be very
careful[r] to love the LORD[s] your God.
12"But if you turn away and ally
yourselves with the survivors of these
nations that remain among you and if
you intermarry with them[t] and asso-
ciate with them,[u] 13then you may be
sure that the LORD your God will no
longer drive out[v] these nations before
you. Instead, they will become snares[w]
and traps for you, whips on your backs
and thorns in your eyes,[x] until you
perish from this good land,[y] which the
LORD your God has given you.
14"Now I am about to go the way of
all the earth.[z] You know with all your
heart and soul that not one of all the
good promises the LORD your God gave
you has failed. Every promise[a] has
been fulfilled; not one has failed.[b] 15But
just as every good promise[c] of the
LORD your God has come true, so the
LORD will bring on you all the evil[d] he
has threatened, until he has destroyed
you[e] from this good land he has given
you.[f] 16If you violate the covenant of
the LORD your God, which he com-
manded you, and go and serve other
gods and bow down to them, the
LORD's anger will burn against you, and
you will quickly perish from the good
land he has given you.[g]"

23:3 [a]S Ex 14:14; S Dt 20:4 **23:4** [b]Jos 19:51 [c]S Nu 34:2; Ps 78:55 [d]S Nu 34:6 **23:5** [e]ver 13; Jdg 2:21 [f]Ps 44:5; Jer 46:15 [g]Ex 23:30 **23:6** [h]S Dt 28:61 [i]S Dt 17:20 [j]Jos 1:7 **23:7** [k]Ex 23:13; Jer 5:7; 12:16 [l]S Ex 20:5 **23:8** [m]S Dt 10:20 **23:9** [n]Dt 11:23 [o]Dt 7:24 **23:10** [p]Lev 26:8; Jdg 3:31 [q]S Ex 14:14 **23:11** [r]S Dt 4:15 [s]Jos 22:5 **23:12** [t]S Ge 34:9 [u]S Ex 34:16; Ps 106:34-35 **23:13** [v]S ver 5 [w]S Ex 10:7 [x]S Nu 33:55 [y]Dt 1:8; 1Ki 9:7; 2Ki 25:21 **23:14** [z]1Ki 2:2 [a]Ps 119:140; 145:13 [b]S Jos 21:45 **23:15** [c]1Ki 8:56; Jer 33:14 [d]1Ki 14:10; 2Ki 22:16; Isa 24:6; 34:5; 43:28; Jer 6:19; 11:8; 35:17; 39:16; Mal 4:6 [e]Jos 24:20 [f]Lev 26:17; Dt 28:15; Jer 40:2 **23:16** [g]Dt 4:25-26

24:1 [h]Ge 49:2 [i]S Ge 12:6 [j]1Sa 12:7; 1Ki 8:14 [k]Jos 7:6 [l]Jos 23:2 **24:2** [m]Ge 11:26 [n]Ge 11:32 **24:3** [o]S Ge 12:1 [p]S Ge 1:28; S 12:2 [q]S Ge 21:3 **24:4** [r]S Ge 25:26 [s]S Ge 14:6; S Nu 24:18 [t]Ge 46:5-6 **24:5** [u]S Ex 3:10 [v]Ex 12:51 **24:6** [w]S Ex 14:22 [x]S Ex 14:9 [y]Ex 14:23 **24:7** [z]S Ex 14:10 [a]Ex 14:20 [b]S Ex 14:28 [c]S Ex 19:4 [d]Dt 1:46 **24:8** [e]S Ex 23:23 [f]S Nu 21:31 **24:9** [g]Nu 22:2 [h]S Nu 23:7 [i]S Nu 22:6 **24:10** [j]S Nu 23:11; S Dt 23:5 **24:11** [k]S Ex 14:29 [l]Jos 6:1 [m]S Jos 3:10 [n]S Ge 15:18-21 [o]Ex 23:23; Dt 7:1 **24:12** [p]S Ex 23:28; Ps 44:3,6-7 [q]S Ex 23:31

The Covenant Renewed at Shechem

24 Then Joshua assembled[h] all the
tribes of Israel at Shechem.[i] He
summoned[j] the elders,[k] leaders,
judges and officials of Israel,[l] and they
presented themselves before God.
2Joshua said to all the people, "This
is what the LORD, the God of Israel,
says: 'Long ago your forefathers, in-
cluding Terah the father of Abraham
and Nahor,[m] lived beyond the River[g]
and worshiped other gods.[n] 3But I took
your father Abraham from the land
beyond the River and led him through-
out Canaan[o] and gave him many de-
scendants.[p] I gave him Isaac,[q] 4and to
Isaac I gave Jacob and Esau.[r] I as-
signed the hill country of Seir[s] to Esau,
but Jacob and his sons went down to
Egypt.[t]
5" 'Then I sent Moses and Aaron,[u]
and I afflicted the Egyptians by what I
did there, and I brought you out.[v]
6When I brought your fathers out of
Egypt, you came to the sea,[w] and the
Egyptians pursued them with chariots
and horsemen[h][x] as far as the Red
Sea.[i][y] 7But they cried[z] to the LORD for
help, and he put darkness[a] between
you and the Egyptians; he brought the
sea over them and covered them.[b] You
saw with your own eyes what I did to
the Egyptians.[c] Then you lived in the
desert for a long time.[d]
8" 'I brought you to the land of the
Amorites[e] who lived east of the Jor-
dan. They fought against you, but I
gave them into your hands. I destroyed
them from before you, and you took
possession of their land.[f] 9When Balak
son of Zippor,[g] the king of Moab, pre-
pared to fight against Israel, he sent for
Balaam son of Beor[h] to put a curse on
you.[i] 10But I would not listen to Ba-
laam, so he blessed you[j] again and
again, and I delivered you out of his
hand.
11" 'Then you crossed the Jordan[k]
and came to Jericho.[l] The citizens of
Jericho fought against you, as did also
the Amorites, Perizzites,[m] Canaanites,
Hittites, Girgashites, Hivites and Jebu-
sites,[n] but I gave them into your
hands.[o] 12I sent the hornet[p] ahead of
you, which drove them out[q] before
you—also the two Amorite kings. You
did not do it with your own sword and

f4 That is, the Mediterranean g2 That is, the Euphrates; also in verses 3, 14 and 15 h6 Or *charioteers* i6 Hebrew *Yam Suph;* that is, Sea of Reeds

bow.[z] 13So I gave you a land[a] on which you did not toil and cities you did not build; and you live in them and eat from vineyards and olive groves that you did not plant.'[c]

14"Now fear the LORD[d] and serve him with all faithfulness.[e] Throw away the gods[f] your forefathers worshiped beyond the River and in Egypt,[g] and serve the LORD. 15But if serving the LORD seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your forefathers served beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites,[h] in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household,[i] we will serve the LORD."

16Then the people answered, "Far be it from us to forsake[j] the LORD to serve other gods! 17It was the LORD our God himself who brought us and our fathers up out of Egypt, from that land of slavery,[l] and performed those great signs[m] before our eyes. He protected us on our entire journey and among all the nations through which we traveled. 18And the LORD drove out[n] before us all the nations,[o] including the Amorites, who lived in the land.[p] We too will serve the LORD, because he is our God.[q]"

19Joshua said to the people, "You are not able to serve the LORD. He is a holy God;[r] he is a jealous God.[s] He will not forgive[t] your rebellion[u] and your sins. 20If you forsake the LORD[v] and serve foreign gods, he will turn[w] and bring disaster[x] on you and make an end of you,[y] after he has been good to you."

21But the people said to Joshua, "No! We will serve the LORD."

22Then Joshua said, "You are witnesses[z] against yourselves that you have chosen[a] to serve the LORD."

"Yes, we are witnesses,[b]" they replied.

23"Now then," said Joshua, "throw away the foreign gods[c] that are among you and yield your hearts[d] to the LORD, the God of Israel."

24And the people said to Joshua, "We will serve the LORD our God and obey him."[e]

24:12 [z]Ps 135:11 **24:13** [a]Ex 6:8 [c]Dt 6:10-11 **24:14** [d]1Sa 12:14; Job 23:15; Ps 19:9; 119:120 [e]Dt 10:12; 18:13; 1Sa 12:24; 2Co 1:12 [f]ver 23; S Ge 31:19; Ex 12:12; 18:11; 20:3; Nu 25:2; Dt 11:28; Jdg 10:16; Ru 1:15; Isa 55:7 [g]Eze 23:3 **24:15** [h]Jdg 6:10; Ru 1:15 [i]S Ge 35:2; Ru 1:16; 2:12; 1Ki 18:21; Da 3:18 **24:16** [j]Jos 22:29 **24:17** [l]Jdg 6:8 [m]S Ex 10:2 **24:18** [n]S Ex 23:31 [o]S Dt 33:27 [p]Ac 7:45 [q]S Ge 28:21 **24:19** [r]S Lev 11:44; S 20:26 [s]S Ex 20:5 [t]S Ex 34:7 [u]S Ex 23:21 **24:20** [v]1Ch 28:9,20; 2Ch 24:18 [w]Ac 7:42 [x]1Sa 12:25; Hos 13:11 [y]Jos 23:15 **24:22** [z]ver 27; Ru 4:10; Isa 43:10; 44:8; Jer 42:5; Mal 2:14 [a]Ps 119:30,173 [b]S Dt 25:9 **24:23** [c]S ver 14 [d]1Ki 8:58; Ps 119:36; 141:4; Jer 31:33 **24:24** [e]Ex 19:8; Jer 42:6

24:25 [f]S Ex 24:8 [g]S Jos 17:7 [h]Ex 15:25 **24:26** [i]S Dt 17:18 [j]S Dt 28:61; S 31:24 [k]S Ge 28:18; S Dt 27:2 [l]S Ge 12:6; S Jdg 4:11 **24:27** [m]S Ge 28:18; Hab 2:11 [n]S ver 22; S Ge 21:30; S Jos 22:27 [o]S Jos 7:11 [p]S Nu 11:20; S Pr 30:9

25On that day Joshua made a covenant[f] for the people, and there at Shechem[g] he drew up for them decrees and laws.[h] 26And Joshua recorded[i] these things in the Book of the Law of God.[j] Then he took a large stone[k] and set it up there under the oak[l] near the holy place of the LORD.

27"See!" he said to all the people. "This stone[m] will be a witness[n] against us. It has heard all the words the LORD has said to us. It will be a witness against you if you are untrue[o] to your God."[p]

Buried in the Promised Land

24:29-31pp — Jdg 2:6-9

28Then Joshua sent the people away, each to his own inheritance.[q]

29After these things, Joshua son of Nun, the servant of the LORD, died[r] at the age of a hundred and ten.[s] 30And they buried him in the land of his inheritance, at Timnath Serah[a][t] in the hill country of Ephraim, north of Mount Gaash.[u]

31Israel served the LORD throughout the lifetime of Joshua and of the elders[v] who outlived him and who had experienced everything the LORD had done for Israel.

32And Joseph's bones,[w] which the Israelites had brought up from Egypt,[x] were buried at Shechem in the tract of land[y] that Jacob bought for a hundred pieces of silver[b] from the sons of Hamor, the father of Shechem. This became the inheritance of Joseph's descendants.

33And Eleazar son of Aaron[z] died and was buried at Gibeah,[a] which had been allotted to his son Phinehas[b] in the hill country[c] of Ephraim.

24:28 [q]Jdg 21:23,24 **24:29** [r]Jdg 1:1 [s]S Ge 50:22 **24:30** [t]S Jos 19:50 [u]2Sa 23:30 **24:31** [v]Jos 7:6 **24:32** [w]Heb 11:22 [x]S Ge 47:29-30 [y]Ge 33:19; Jn 4:5; Ac 7:16 **24:33** [z]S Jos 22:13 [a]S Jos 15:57 [b]S Ex 6:25 [c]1Sa 9:4; 1Ki 4:8

[a]30 Also known as *Timnath Heres* (see Judges 2:9)
[b]32 Hebrew *hundred kesitahs;* a kesitah was a unit of money of unknown weight and value.

Judges

Israel Fights the Remaining Canaanites

1:11-15pp — Jos 15:15-19

1 After the death[a] of Joshua, the Isra-
elites asked the LORD, "Who will be
the first[b] to go up and fight for us
against the Canaanites?[c]"
2 The LORD answered, "Judah[d] is to
go; I have given the land into their
hands.[e]"
3 Then the men of Judah said to the
Simeonites their brothers, "Come up
with us into the territory allotted to us,
to fight against the Canaanites. We in
turn will go with you into yours." So
the Simeonites[f] went with them.
4 When Judah attacked, the LORD gave
the Canaanites and Perizzites[g] into
their hands and they struck down ten
thousand men at Bezek.[h]
5 It was there
that they found Adoni-Bezek[i] and
fought against him, putting to rout the
Canaanites and Perizzites.
6 Adoni-
Bezek fled, but they chased him and
caught him, and cut off his thumbs and
big toes.
7 Then Adoni-Bezek said, "Seventy
kings with their thumbs and big toes
cut off have picked up scraps under my
table. Now God has paid me back[j] for
what I did to them." They brought him
to Jerusalem,[k] and he died there.
8 The men of Judah attacked Jerusa-
lem[l] also and took it. They put the city
to the sword and set it on fire.
9 After that, the men of Judah went
down to fight against the Canaanites
living in the hill country,[m] the Negev[n]
and the western foothills.
10 They ad-
vanced against the Canaanites living in
Hebron[o] (formerly called Kiriath
Arba[p]) and defeated Sheshai, Ahiman
and Talmai.[q]
11 From there they advanced against
the people living in Debir[r] (formerly
called Kiriath Sepher).
12 And Caleb
said, "I will give my daughter Acsah in
marriage to the man who attacks and
captures Kiriath Sepher."
13 Othniel son
of Kenaz, Caleb's younger brother,
took it; so Caleb gave his daughter Ac-
sah to him in marriage.
14 One day when she came to Oth-
niel, she urged him[a] to ask her father
for a field. When she got off her don-
key, Caleb asked her, "What can I do
for you?"
15 She replied, "Do me a special favor.
Since you have given me land in the
Negev, give me also springs of water."
Then Caleb gave her the upper and
lower springs.[s]
16 The descendants of Moses' father-
in-law,[t] the Kenite,[u] went up from the
City of Palms[b][v] with the men of Judah
to live among the people of the Desert
of Judah in the Negev near Arad.[w]
17 Then the men of Judah went with
the Simeonites[x] their brothers and at-
tacked the Canaanites living in Ze-
phath, and they totally destroyed[c] the
city. Therefore it was called Hor-
mah.[d][y]
18 The men of Judah also took[e]
Gaza,[z] Ashkelon[a] and Ekron—each
city with its territory.
19 The LORD was with[b] the men of
Judah. They took possession of the hill
country,[c] but they were unable to
drive the people from the plains, be-
cause they had iron chariots.[d]
20 As
Moses had promised, Hebron[e] was
given to Caleb, who drove from it the
three sons of Anak.[f]
21 The Benjamites,
however, failed[g] to dislodge the Jebu-
sites, who were living in Jerusalem;[h] to
this day the Jebusites live there with
the Benjamites.
22 Now the house of Joseph[i] attacked
Bethel,[j] and the LORD was with them.
23 When they sent men to spy out Beth-
el (formerly called Luz),[k]
24 the spies
saw a man coming out of the city and
they said to him, "Show us how to get
into the city and we will see that you
are treated well.[l]"
25 So he showed

1:1 aJos 24:29 bS Nu 2:3-9; Jdg 20:18; 1K 20:14 cver 27; S Ge 10:18; Jdg 3:1-6
1:2 dS Ge 49:10 ever 4; Jdg 3:28; 4:7,14; 7:9
1:3 fver 17
1:4 gS Ge 13:7; S Jos 3:10 h1Sa 11:8
1:5 iver 6,7
1:7 jLev 26:28; Jer 25:12 kS Jos 10:1
1:8 lver 21; Jos 15:63; 2Sa 5:6
1:9 mS Nu 13:17 nS Ge 12:9; S Nu 21:1; Isa 30:6
1:10 oS Ge 13:18 pS Ge 35:27 qver 20; S Nu 13:22; Jos 15:14
1:11 rJos 10:38
1:15 sS Nu 13:6
1:16 tNu 10:29 uS Ge 15:19 vDt 34:3; Jdg 3:13; 2Ch 28:15 wNu 21:1; Jos 12:14
1:17 xver 3 yS Nu 14:45
1:18 zJos 11:22 aS Jos 13:3
1:19 bS Nu 14:43 cNu 13:17 dS Jos 17:16
1:20 eJos 10:36 fS ver 10; S Jos 14:13
1:21 gS Jos 9:15; S 15:63 hS ver 8
1:22 iJdg 10:9 jS Jos 7:2
1:23 kS Ge 28:19
1:24 lS Ge 47:29

a14 Hebrew; Septuagint and Vulgate *Othniel, he urged her* b16 That is, Jericho c17 The Hebrew term refers to the irrevocable giving over of things or persons to the LORD, often by totally destroying them. d17 *Hormah* means *destruction.* e18 Hebrew; Septuagint *Judah did not take*

them, and they put the city to the
sword but spared[a] the man and his
whole family. 26He then went to the
land of the Hittites,[b] where he built a
city and called it Luz,[c] which is its
name to this day.
27But Manasseh did not[d] drive out
the people of Beth Shan or Taanach or
Dor[e] or Ibleam[f] or Megiddo[g] and
their surrounding settlements, for the
Canaanites[h] were determined to live in
that land. 28When Israel became strong,
they pressed the Canaanites into forced
labor but never drove them out com-
pletely.[i] 29Nor did Ephraim[j] drive out
the Canaanites living in Gezer,[k] but
the Canaanites continued to live there
among them.[l] 30Neither did Zebulun
drive out the Canaanites living in Kit-
ron or Nahalol, who remained among
them; but they did subject them to
forced labor. 31Nor did Asher[m] drive
out those living in Acco or Sidon[n] or
Ahlab or Aczib[o] or Helbah or Aphek[p]
or Rehob,[q] 32and because of this the
people of Asher lived among the Ca-
naanite inhabitants of the land.
33Neither did Naphtali drive out those
living in Beth Shemesh[r] or Beth
Anath[s]; but the Naphtalites too lived
among the Canaanite inhabitants of the
land, and those living in Beth Shemesh
and Beth Anath became forced laborers
for them. 34The Amorites[t] confined the
Danites[u] to the hill country, not allow-
ing them to come down into the
plain.[v] 35And the Amorites were deter-
mined also to hold out in Mount
Heres,[w] Aijalon[x] and Shaalbim,[y] but
when the power of the house of Joseph
increased, they too were pressed into
forced labor. 36The boundary of the
Amorites was from Scorpion[f] Pass[z] to
Sela[a] and beyond.[b]

The Angel of the LORD at Bokim

2 The angel of the LORD[c] went up
from Gilgal[d] to Bokim[e] and said, "I
brought you up out of Egypt[f] and led
you into the land that I swore to give to
your forefathers.[g] I said, 'I will never
break my covenant with you,[h] 2and
you shall not make a covenant with the
people of this land,[i] but you shall
break down their altars.[j] Yet you have
disobeyed[k] me. Why have you done
this? 3Now therefore I tell you that I
will not drive them out before you;[l]
they will be ⌊thorns⌋[m] in your sides and
their gods will be a snare[n] to you."
4When the angel of the LORD had
spoken these things to all the Israelites,
the people wept aloud,[o] 5and they
called that place Bokim.[g][p] There they
offered sacrifices to the LORD.

Disobedience and Defeat

2:6-9pp — Jos 24:29-31

6After Joshua had dismissed the Isra-
elites, they went to take possession of
the land, each to his own inheritance.
7The people served the LORD through-
out the lifetime of Joshua and of the
elders who outlived him and who had
seen all the great things the LORD had
done for Israel.[q]
8Joshua son of Nun,[r] the servant of
the LORD, died at the age of a hundred
and ten. 9And they buried him in the
land of his inheritance, at Timnath
Heres[h][s] in the hill country of Ephraim,
north of Mount Gaash.
10After that whole generation had
been gathered to their fathers, another
generation grew up, who knew neither
the LORD nor what he had done for Is-
rael.[t] 11Then the Israelites did evil[u] in
the eyes of the LORD[v] and served the
Baals.[w] 12They forsook the LORD, the
God of their fathers, who had brought
them out of Egypt. They followed and
worshiped various gods[x] of the peo-
ples around them.[y] They provoked[z]
the LORD to anger[a] 13because they for-
sook[b] him and served Baal and the
Ashtoreths.[c] 14In his anger[d] against Is-
rael the LORD handed them over[e] to
raiders who plundered[f] them. He sold
them[g] to their enemies all around,
whom they were no longer able to re-
sist.[h] 15Whenever Israel went out to
fight, the hand of the LORD was against
them[i] to defeat them, just as he had
sworn to them. They were in great dis-
tress.[j]
16Then the LORD raised up judges,[i][k]
who saved[l] them out of the hands of
these raiders. 17Yet they would not lis-
ten to their judges but prostituted[m]
themselves to other gods[n] and wor-
shiped them.[o] Unlike their fathers,
they quickly turned[p] from the way in
which their fathers had walked, the
way of obedience to the LORD's com-
mands.[q] 18Whenever the LORD raised
up a judge for them, he was with the
judge and saved[r] them out of the

1:25 [a]Jos 6:25 **1:26** [b]S Dt 7:1; Eze 16:3 [c]S Ge 28:19 **1:27** [d]1Ki 9:21 [e]S Jos 11:2 [f]S Jos 17:11 [g]S Jos 12:21 [h]S ver 1 **1:28** [i]Jos 17:12-13 **1:29** [j]Jos 14:4; Jdg 5:14 [k]S Jos 10:33 [l]Jos 16:10 **1:31** [m]S Jos 17:7 [n]S Ge 49:13 [o]S Jos 15:44 [p]S Jos 12:18 [q]S Nu 13:21 **1:33** [r]S Jos 15:10 [s]Jos 19:38 **1:34** [t]Nu 13:29; Jdg 10:11; 1Sa 7:14 [u]S Ge 30:6 [v]Jdg 18:1 **1:35** [w]Jdg 8:13 [x]Jos 19:42 [y]1Ki 4:9 **1:36** [z]Jos 15:3 [a]2Ki 14:7; Isa 16:1; 42:11 [b]Ps 106:34 **2:1** [c]S Ge 16:7 [d]S Dt 11:30 [e]ver 5 [f]Ex 20:2; Jdg 6:8 [g]Ge 17:8 [h]S Lev 26:42-44; Dt 7:9 **2:2** [i]S Ex 23:32; S 34:12; Dt 7:2 [j]S Ex 23:24; 34:13; D[illegible]5; 2Ch 14:3 [k]Jer 7:28 **2:3** [l]Jos 23:13 [m]S Nu 33:55 [n]S Ex 10:7 **2:4** [o]S Ge 27:38; S Nu 25:6; 2Ki 17:13 **2:5** [p]ver 1 **2:7** [q]ver 17 **2:8** [r]Jos 1:1 **2:9** [s]S Jos 19:50 **2:10** [t]S Ex 5:2; Gal 4:8 **2:11** [u]1Ki 15:26 [v]Jdg 3:12; 4:1; 6:1; 10:6 [w]Jdg 3:7; 8:33; 1Ki 16:31; 22:53; 2Ki 10:18; 17:16 **2:12** [x]S Dt 32:12; Ps 106:36 [y]S Dt 31:16; Jdg 10:6 [z]S Nu 11:33 [a]Dt 4:25; Ps 78:58; 106:40 **2:13** [b]1Sa 7:3; 1Ki 11:5,33; 2Ki 23:13 [c]Jdg 3:7; 5:8; 6:25; 8:33; 10:6; 1Sa 31:10; Ne 9:26; Ps 78:56; Jer 11:10 **2:14** [d]S Dt 31:17 [e]Ne 9:27; Ps 106:41 [f]Ps 44:10; 89:41; Eze 34:8 [g]S Dt 32:30; S Jdg 3:8 [h]S Dt 28:25 **2:15** [i]Ru 1:13; Job 19:21; Ps 32:4 [j]Ge 35:3; 2Sa 22:7; 2Ch 15:4; Job 5:5; 20:22; Ps 4:1; 18:6 **2:16** [k]Ru 1:1; 1Sa 4:18; 7:6,15; 2Sa 7:11; 1Ch 17:10; Ac 13:20 [l]1Sa 11:3; Ps 106:43 **2:17** [m]S Ex 34:15; S Nu 15:39 [n]S Ps 4:2 [o]Ne 9:28; Ps 106:36 [p]Dt 9:12 [q]ver 7 **2:18** [r]1Sa 7:3; 2Ki 13:5; Isa 19:20; 43:3,11; 45:15,21; 49:26; 60:16; 63:8

[f]36 Hebrew *Akrabbim* [g]5 *Bokim* means *weepers.* [h]9 Also known as *Timnath Serah* (see Joshua 19:50 and 24:30) [i]16 Or *leaders;* similarly in verses 17-19

hands of their enemies as long as the
judge lived; for the LORD had compas-
sion[a] on them as they groaned[b] under
those who oppressed and afflicted[c]
them. 19 But when the judge died, the
people returned to ways even more
corrupt[d] than those of their fathers,[e]
following other gods and serving and
worshiping them.[f] They refused to
give up their evil practices and stub-
born[g] ways.

20 Therefore the LORD was very an-
gry[h] with Israel and said, "Because this
nation has violated the covenant[i] that I
laid down for their forefathers and has
not listened to me, 21 I will no longer
drive out[j] before them any of the na-
tions Joshua left when he died. 22 I will
use them to test[k] Israel and see
whether they will keep the way of the
LORD and walk in it as their forefathers
did." 23 The LORD had allowed those na-
tions to remain; he did not drive them
out at once by giving them into the
hands of Joshua.[l]

3 These are the nations the LORD left
to test[m] all those Israelites who had
not experienced any of the wars in Ca-
naan 2 (he did this only to teach warfare
to the descendants of the Israelites who
had not had previous battle experi-
ence): 3 the five[n] rulers of the Philis-
tines,[o] all the Canaanites, the Sidoni-
ans, and the Hivites[p] living in the
Lebanon mountains from Mount Baal
Hermon[q] to Lebo[j] Hamath.[r] 4 They
were left to test[s] the Israelites to see
whether they would obey the LORD's
commands, which he had given their
forefathers through Moses.

5 The Israelites lived[t] among the Ca-
naanites, Hittites, Amorites, Periz-
zites,[u] Hivites and Jebusites.[v] 6 They
took their daughters[w] in marriage and
gave their own daughters to their sons,
and served their gods.[x y]

Othniel

7 The Israelites did evil in the eyes of
the LORD; they forgot the LORD[z] their
God and served the Baals and the
Asherahs.[a] 8 The anger of the LORD
burned against Israel so that he sold[b]
them into the hands of Cushan-Risha-
thaim[c] king of Aram Naharaim,[k d] to
whom the Israelites were subject for
eight years. 9 But when they cried out[e]
to the LORD, he raised up for them a
deliverer,[f] Othniel[g] son of Kenaz,
Caleb's younger brother, who saved
them. 10 The Spirit of the LORD came
upon him,[h] so that he became Israel's
judge[l] and went to war. The LORD gave
Cushan-Rishathaim[i] king of Aram[j]
into the hands of Othniel, who over-
powered him. 11 So the land had peace[k]
for forty years,[l] until Othniel son of
Kenaz[m] died.

Ehud

12 Once again the Israelites did evil in
the eyes of the LORD,[n] and because
they did this evil the LORD gave Eglon
king of Moab[o] power over Israel. 13 Get-
ting the Ammonites[p] and Amalekites[q]
to join him, Eglon came and attacked
Israel, and they took possession of the
City of Palms.[m r] 14 The Israelites were
subject to Eglon king of Moab[s] for
eighteen years.

15 Again the Israelites cried out to the
LORD, and he gave them a deliver-
er[t]—Ehud[u], a left-handed[v] man, the
son of Gera the Benjamite. The Israel-
ites sent him with tribute[w] to Eglon
king of Moab. 16 Now Ehud[x] had made
a double-edged sword about a foot and
a half[n] long, which he strapped to his
right thigh under his clothing. 17 He
presented the tribute[y] to Eglon king of
Moab, who was a very fat man.[z] 18 Af-
ter Ehud had presented the tribute, he
sent on their way the men who had
carried it. 19 At the idols[o] near Gilgal he
himself turned back and said, "I have a
secret message for you, O king."

The king said, "Quiet!" And all his
attendants left him.

20 Ehud then approached him while
he was sitting alone in the upper room
of his summer palace[p a] and said, "I
have a message from God for you." As
the king rose[b] from his seat, 21 Ehud
reached with his left hand, drew the
sword[c] from his right thigh and
plunged it into the king's belly. 22 Even
the handle sank in after the blade,
which came out his back. Ehud did not
pull the sword out, and the fat closed
in over it. 23 Then Ehud went out to the
porch[q]; he shut the doors of the upper
room behind him and locked them.

24 After he had gone, the servants
came and found the doors of the upper
room locked. They said, "He must be
relieving himself[d] in the inner room of
the house." 25 They waited to the point

2:18 [a]S Dt 32:36 [b]S Ex 2:23 [c]S Nu 10:9 **2:19** [d]S Ge 6:11; S Dt 4:16 [e]Dt 32:17; Ne 9:2; Ps 78:57; Jer 44:3,9 [f]Jdg 4:1; 8:33 [g]S Ex 32:9 **2:20** [h]S Dt 31:17; Jos 23:16 [i]S Jos 7:11; S 2Ki 17:15 **2:21** [j]S Jos 23:5 **2:22** [k]S Ge 22:1; S Ex 15:25 **2:23** [l]Jdg 1:1 **3:1** [m]S Ex 15:25 **3:3** [n]S Jos 13:3 [o]S Ge 10:14 [p]S Ge 10:17; S Ex 3:8 [q]S Dt 3:8 [r]S Nu 13:21 **3:4** [s]S Ex 15:25 **3:5** [t]Ps 106:35 [u]S Jos 3:10 [v]S Jos 11:3; Ezr 9:1 **3:6** [w]Ezr 10:18; Ne 13:23; Mal 2:11 [x]S Ex 34:16; Dt 7:3-4 [y]S Dt 7:16 **3:7** [z]Dt 4:9; S 32:18; Jdg 8:34; Ps 78:11,42; 106:7; Jer 23:27 [a]S Ex 34:13; S Jdg 2:11,13; 1Ki 16:33; 2Ch 34:7; Isa 17:8 **3:8** [b]Jdg 2:14; Ps 44:12; Isa 50:1; 52:3 [c]ver 10 [d]S Ge 24:10 **3:9** [e]ver 15; Jdg 6:6,7; 10:10; 1Sa 12:10; Ps 106:44; 107:13 [f]S Dt 28:29; Ne 9:27 [g]S Jos 15:17 **3:10** [h]S Nu 11:25; Jdg 6:34; 11:29; 13:25; 14:6,19; 15:14; 1Sa 11:6; 16:13; 1Ki 18:46; 1Ch 12:18; 2Ch 24:20; Isa 11:2 [i]ver 8 [j]S Ge 10:22 **3:11** [k]ver 30; S Jos 14:15; Jdg 5:31; 8:28 [l]S Ex 16:35 [m]S Jos 15:17 **3:12** [n]S Jdg 2:11 [o]1Sa 12:9 **3:13** [p]S Ge 19:38; Jdg 10:11 [q]S Ge 14:7 [r]S Jdg 1:16 **3:14** [s]Jer 48:1 **3:15** [t]S ver 9 [u]ver 16; Jdg 4:1 [v]Jdg 20:16; 1Ch 12:2 [w]ver 17,18; 2Sa 8:2,6; 1Ki 4:21; 2Ki 17:3; Est 10:1; Ps 68:29; 72:10; 89:22; Ecc 2:8; Isa 60:5; Hos 10:6 **3:16** [x]S ver 15 **3:17** [y]S ver 15 [z]Job 15:27; Ps 73:4 **3:20** [a]Am 3:15 [b]Ne 8:5 **3:21** [c]2Sa 2:16; 3:27; 20:10 **3:24** [d]1Sa 24:3

[j]3 Or *to the entrance to* [k]8 That is, Northwest Mesopotamia [l]10 Or *leader* [m]13 That is, Jericho [n]16 Hebrew *a cubit* (about 0.5 meter) [o]19 Or *the stone quarries;* also in verse 26 [p]20 The meaning of the Hebrew for this phrase is uncertain. [q]23 The meaning of the Hebrew for this word is uncertain.

of embarrassment.[a] but when he did
not open the doors of the room, they
took a key and unlocked them. There
they saw their lord fallen to the floor,
dead.
[26]While they waited, Ehud got away.
He passed by the idols and escaped to
Seirah. [27]When he arrived there, he
blew a trumpet[b] in the hill country of
Ephraim, and the Israelites went down
with him from the hills, with him lead-
ing them.
[28]"Follow me," he ordered, "for the
LORD has given Moab,[c] your enemy,
into your hands.[d]" So they followed
him down and, taking possession of
the fords of the Jordan[e] that led to
Moab, they allowed no one to cross
over. [29]At that time they struck down
about ten thousand Moabites, all vigor-
ous and strong; not a man escaped.
[30]That day Moab[f] was made subject to
Israel, and the land had peace[g] for
eighty years.

Shamgar

[31]After Ehud came Shamgar son of
Anath,[h] who struck down six hun-
dred[i] Philistines[j] with an oxgoad. He
too saved Israel.

Deborah

4 After Ehud[k] died, the Israelites
once again did evil[l] in the eyes of
the LORD.[m] [2]So the LORD sold them[n]
into the hands of Jabin, a king of Ca-
naan, who reigned in Hazor.[o] The
commander of his army was Sisera,[p]
who lived in Harosheth Haggoyim.
[3]Because he had nine hundred iron
chariots[q] and had cruelly oppressed[r]
the Israelites for twenty years, they
cried to the LORD for help.
[4]Deborah,[s] a prophetess,[t] the wife
of Lappidoth, was leading[a] Israel at
that time. [5]She held court[u] under the
Palm of Deborah between Ramah[v] and
Bethel[w] in the hill country of Ephraim,
and the Israelites came to her to have
their disputes decided. [6]She sent for
Barak son of Abinoam[x] from Kedesh[y]
in Naphtali and said to him, "The
LORD, the God of Israel, commands
you: 'Go, take with you ten thousand
men of Naphtali[z] and Zebulun[a] and
lead the way to Mount Tabor.[b] [7]I will
lure Sisera, the commander of Jabin's[c]
army, with his chariots and his troops
to the Kishon River[d] and give him into
your hands.[e]' "
[8]Barak said to her, "If you go with
me, I will go; but if you don't go with
me, I won't go."
[9]"Very well," Deborah said, "I will
go with you. But because of the way
you are going about this,[b] the honor
will not be yours, for the LORD will
hand Sisera over to a woman." So
Deborah went with Barak to Kedesh,[f]
[10]where he summoned[g] Zebulun and
Naphtali. Ten thousand men followed
him, and Deborah also went with him.
[11]Now Heber the Kenite had left the
other Kenites,[h] the descendants of
Hobab,[i] Moses' brother-in-law,[c] and
pitched his tent by the great tree[j] in
Zaanannim[k] near Kedesh.
[12]When they told Sisera that Barak
son of Abinoam had gone up to Mount
Tabor,[l] [13]Sisera gathered together his
nine hundred iron chariots[m] and all the
men with him, from Harosheth Hag-
goyim to the Kishon River.[n]
[14]Then Deborah said to Barak, "Go!
This is the day the LORD has given Sis-
era into your hands.[o] Has not the LORD
gone ahead[p] of you?" So Barak went
down Mount Tabor, followed by ten
thousand men. [15]At Barak's advance,
the LORD routed[q] Sisera and all his
chariots and army by the sword, and
Sisera abandoned his chariot and fled
on foot. [16]But Barak pursued the chari-
ots and army as far as Harosheth Hag-
goyim. All the troops of Sisera fell by
the sword; not a man was left.[r]
[17]Sisera, however, fled on foot to the
tent of Jael,[s] the wife of Heber the Ke-
nite,[t] because there were friendly rela-
tions between Jabin king of Hazor[u] and
the clan of Heber the Kenite.
[18]Jael[v] went out to meet Sisera and
said to him, "Come, my lord, come
right in. Don't be afraid." So he en-
tered her tent, and she put a covering
over him.
[19]"I'm thirsty," he said. "Please give
me some water." She opened a skin of
milk,[w] gave him a drink, and covered
him up.
[20]"Stand in the doorway of the tent,"
he told her. "If someone comes by and
asks you, 'Is anyone here?' say 'No.' "
[21]But Jael,[x] Heber's wife, picked up a
tent peg and a hammer and went quiet-
ly to him while he lay fast asleep,[y] ex-
hausted. She drove the peg through his
temple into the ground, and he died.[z]
[22]Barak came by in pursuit of Sisera,
and Jael[a] went out to meet him.

3:25 [a]2Ki 2:17; 8:11
3:27 [b]S Lev 25:9; Jdg 6:34; 7:18; 2Sa 2:28; Isa 18:3; Jer 42:14
3:28 [c]S Ge 19:37 [d]S Jos 2:24; S Jdg 1:2 [e]S Nu 13:29; S Jos 2:7
3:30 [f]S Ge 36:35 [g]S ver 11
3:31 [h]Jdg 5:6 [i]S Jos 23:10 [j]Jos 13:2; Jdg 10:11; 13:1; 1Sa 5:1; 31:1; 2Sa 8:1; Jer 25:20; 47:1
4:1 [k]S Jdg 3:15 [l]S Jdg 2:19 [m]S Jdg 2:11
4:2 [n]S Dt 32:30 [o]S Jos 11:1 [p]1Sa 12:9; Ps 83:9
4:3 [q]S Jos 17:16 [r]Jdg 10:12; Ps 106:42
4:4 [s]Jdg 5:1,7, 12,15 [t]S Ex 15:20
4:5 [u]1Sa 14:2; 22:6 [v]S Jos 18:25 [w]S Jos 12:9
4:6 [x]Jdg 5:1,12, 15; 1Sa 12:11; Heb 11:32 [y]S Jos 12:22 [z]S Ge 30:8 [a]Jdg 5:18; 6:35 [b]S Jos 19:22
4:7 [c]S Jos 11:1 [d]ver 13; Jdg 5:21; 1Ki 18:40; Ps 83:9 [e]S Jdg 1:2
4:9 [f]S Jos 12:22
4:10 [g]2Ch 36:23; Ezr 1:2; Isa 41:2; 42:6; 45:3; 46:11; 48:15
4:11 [h]S Ge 15:19 [i]Nu 10:29 [j]Jos 24:26; Jdg 9:6 [k]Jos 19:33
4:12 [l]S Jos 19:22
4:13 [m]S Jos 17:16 [n]S ver 7; Jdg 5:19
4:14 [o]S Jdg 1:2 [p]Dt 9:3; 1Sa 8:20; 2Sa 5:24; Ps 68:7
4:15 [q]S Ex 14:24; Ps 18:14
4:16 [r]S Ex 14:28; Ps 83:9
4:17 [s]ver 18,21, 22; Jdg 5:6,24 [t]S Ge 15:19 [u]S Jos 11:1
4:18 [v]S ver 17
4:19 [w]S Ge 18:8
4:21 [x]S ver 17 [y]Ge 2:21; 15:12; 1Sa 26:12; Isa 29:10; Jnh 1:5 [z]Jdg 5:26
4:22 [a]S ver 17

[a]4 Traditionally *judging* [b]9 Or *But on the expedition you are undertaking* [c]11 Or *father-in-law*

"Come," she said, "I will show you the
man you're looking for." So he went in
with her, and there lay Sisera with the
tent peg through his temple—dead.[a]
23On that day God subdued[b] Jabin,[c]
the Canaanite king, before the Israel-
ites. 24And the hand of the Israelites
grew stronger and stronger against Ja-
bin, the Canaanite king, until they de-
stroyed him.[d]

The Song of Deborah

5 On that day Deborah[e] and Barak
son of Abinoam[f] sang this song:[g]

2"When the princes in Israel take the lead,
when the people willingly offer[h] themselves—
praise the LORD![i]

3"Hear this, you kings! Listen, you rulers!
I will sing to[u] the LORD, I will sing;[j]
I will make music to[v] the LORD,
the God of Israel.[k]

4"O LORD, when you went out[l] from Seir,[m]
when you marched from the land of Edom,
the earth shook,[n] the heavens poured,
the clouds poured down water.[o]
5The mountains quaked[p] before the LORD, the One of Sinai,
before the LORD, the God of Israel.

6"In the days of Shamgar son of Anath,[q]
in the days of Jael,[r] the roads[s] were abandoned;
travelers took to winding paths.[t]
7Village life[w] in Israel ceased,
ceased until I,[x] Deborah,[u] arose,
arose a mother in Israel.
8When they chose new gods,[v]
war came to the city gates,[w]
and not a shield or spear[x] was seen
among forty thousand in Israel.
9My heart is with Israel's princes,
with the willing volunteers[y]
among the people.
Praise the LORD!

10"You who ride on white donkeys,[z]
sitting on your saddle blankets,
and you who walk along the road,
consider 11the voice of the singers[y]
at the watering places.
They recite the righteous acts[a] of the LORD,
the righteous acts of his warriors[z] in Israel.

"Then the people of the LORD
went down to the city gates.[b]
12'Wake up,[c] wake up, Deborah![d]
Wake up, wake up, break out in song!
Arise, O Barak![e]
Take captive your captives,[f]
O son of Abinoam.'

13"Then the men who were left
came down to the nobles;
the people of the LORD
came to me with the mighty.
14Some came from Ephraim,[g] whose roots were in Amalek;[h]
Benjamin[i] was with the people who followed you.
From Makir[j] captains came down,
from Zebulun those who bear a commander's staff.
15The princes of Issachar[k] were with Deborah;[l]
yes, Issachar was with Barak,[m]
rushing after him into the valley.
In the districts of Reuben
there was much searching of heart.
16Why did you stay among the campfires[a][n]
to hear the whistling for the flocks?[o]
In the districts of Reuben
there was much searching of heart.
17Gilead[p] stayed beyond the Jordan.
And Dan, why did he linger by the ships?
Asher[q] remained on the coast[r]
and stayed in his coves.
18The people of Zebulun[s] risked their very lives;
so did Naphtali[t] on the heights of the field.[u]

19"Kings came[v], they fought;
the kings of Canaan fought
at Taanach by the waters of Megiddo,[w]
but they carried off no silver, no plunder.[x]
20From the heavens[y] the stars fought,
from their courses they fought against Sisera.
21The river Kishon[z] swept them away,
the age-old river, the river Kishon.
March on, my soul; be strong![a]
22Then thundered the horses' hoofs—

4:22 [a]Jdg 5:27
4:23 [b]Ne 9:24; Ps 18:47; 44:2; 47:3; 144:2 [c]S Jos 11:1
4:24 [d]Ps 83:9; 106:43
5:1 [e]S Jdg 4:4 [f]S Jdg 4:6 [g]S Ex 15:1; Ps 32:7
5:2 [h]2Ch 17:16; Ps 110:3 [i]ver 9
5:3 [j]S Ex 15:1 [k]Ps 27:6
5:4 [l]S Ex 13:21 [m]S Nu 24:18; S Dt 33:2 [n]2Sa 22:8; Ps 18:7; 77:18; 82:5; Isa 2:19,21; 13:13; 24:18; 64:3; Jer 10:10; 50:46; 51:29; Joel 3:16; Na 1:5; Hab 3:6 [o]Ps 68:8; 77:17
5:5 [p]S Ex 19:18; Ps 29:6; 46:3; 77:18; 114:4; Isa 64:3
5:6 [q]Jdg 3:31 [r]S Jdg 4:17 [s]Lev 26:22; Isa 33:8 [t]Ps 125:5; Isa 59:8
5:7 [u]S Jdg 4:4
5:8 [v]Dt 32:17; S Jdg 2:13 [w]ver 11; S Jos 2:5 [x]S Nu 25:7
5:9 [y]S ver 2
5:10 [z]S Ge 49:11; Jdg 12:14
5:11 [a]1Sa 12:7; Da 9:16; Mic 6:5 [b]S ver 8
5:12 [c]Ps 44:23; 57:8; Isa 51:9,17 [d]S Jdg 4:4 [e]S Jdg 4:6 [f]Ps 68:18; Eph 4:8
5:14 [g]S Ge 41:52; S Jdg 1:29 [h]Jdg 3:13 [i]S Nu 34:21 [j]S Ge 50:23
5:15 [k]S Ge 30:18 [l]S Jdg 4:4 [m]S Jdg 4:6
5:16 [n]S Ge 49:14 [o]S Nu 32:1
5:17 [p]S Jos 12:2 [q]S Jos 17:7 [r]Jos 19:29
5:18 [s]S Ge 30:20 [t]S Ge 30:8; Ps 68:27 [u]S Jdg 4:6
5:19 [v]Jos 11:5; S Jdg 4:13; Rev 16:16 [w]S Jos 12:21 [x]ver 30
5:20 [y]S Jos 10:11
5:21 [z]S Jdg 4:7 [a]Jos 1:6

[u]3 Or *of* [v]3 Or / *with song I will praise* [w]7 Or *Warriors* [x]7 Or *you* [y]11 Or *archers;* the meaning of the Hebrew for this word is uncertain. [z]11 Or *villagers* [a]16 Or *saddlebags*

galloping, galloping go his mighty
steeds.[a]
23 'Curse Meroz,' said the angel of the
LORD.
'Curse its people bitterly,
because they did not come to help
the LORD,
to help the LORD against the
mighty.'

24 "Most blessed of women[b] be Jael,[c]
the wife of Heber the Kenite,[d]
most blessed of tent-dwelling
women.
25 He asked for water, and she gave
him milk;[e]
in a bowl fit for nobles she
brought him curdled milk.
26 Her hand reached for the tent peg,
her right hand for the workman's
hammer.
She struck Sisera, she crushed his
head,
she shattered and pierced his
temple.[f]
27 At her feet he sank,
he fell; there he lay.
At her feet he sank, he fell;
where he sank, there he
fell—dead.[g]

28 "Through the window[h] peered
Sisera's mother;
behind the lattice she cried out,[i]
'Why is his chariot so long in
coming?
Why is the clatter of his chariots
delayed?'
29 The wisest of her ladies answer her;
indeed, she keeps saying to
herself,
30 'Are they not finding and dividing
the spoils:[j]
a girl or two for each man,
colorful garments as plunder for
Sisera,
colorful garments embroidered,
highly embroidered garments[k] for
my neck—
all this as plunder?'[l]

31 "So may all your enemies perish,[m]
O LORD!
But may they who love you be like
the sun[n]
when it rises in its strength."[o]

Then the land had peace[p] forty
years.

Gideon

6 Again the Israelites did evil in the
eyes of the LORD,[q] and for seven

5:22 [a]Jer 8:16
5:24 [b]Lk 1:42
[c]S Jdg 4:17
[d]S Ge 15:19
5:25 [e]S Ge 18:8
5:26 [f]Jdg 4:21
5:27 [g]Jdg 4:22
5:28 [h]S Jos 2:15
[i]Pr 7:6
5:30 [j]Ex 15:9;
1Sa 30:24;
Ps 68:12
[k]Ps 45:14;
Eze 16:10 [l]ver
19; 2Sa 1:24
5:31
[m]S Nu 10:35
[n]2Sa 23:4;
Job 37:21;
Ps 19:4; 89:36;
Isa 18:4
[o]2Sa 18:32
[p]S Jdg 3:11
6:1 [q]S Jdg 2:11
[r]S Ge 25:2
6:2 [s]1Sa 13:6;
Isa 5:30; 8:21;
26:16; 37:3
[t]Isa 2:19;
Jer 48:28; 49:8,30
[u]Job 24:8;
Jer 41:9;
Heb 11:38
6:3 [v]Nu 13:29
[w]S Ge 25:6;
Isa 11:14;
Jer 49:28
6:4 [x]Lev 26:16;
Dt 28:30,51;
Isa 10:6; 39:6;
42:22
[y]S Ge 10:19
6:5 [z]S Dt 28:42
[a]Jdg 8:10;
Isa 21:7; 60:6;
Jer 49:32
6:6 [b]S Jdg 3:9
6:7 [c]S Jdg 3:9
6:8 [d]Dt 18:15;
1Ki 20:13,22;
2Ki 17:13,23;
Ne 9:29;
Job 36:10;
Jer 25:5;
Eze 18:30-31
[e]S Jdg 2:1
[f]Jos 24:17
6:9 [g]S Nu 10:9;
Ps 136:24
[h]Ps 44:2
6:10 [i]S Ex 20:5
[j]S Jos 24:15
6:11 [k]S Ge 16:7
[l]S Jos 18:23 [m]ver
29; Jdg 7:14;
8:13,29
[n]S Nu 26:30
[o]Jdg 7:1; 8:1;
Heb 11:32
[p]Ru 2:17; 3:2;
1Sa 23:1;
1Ch 21:20
[q]Ne 13:15;
Isa 16:10; 63:3;
La 1:15; Joel 3:13
6:12 [r]S Jos 1:5;
Ru 2:4; 1Sa 10:7;
Ps 129:8
[s]Jdg 11:1
6:13 [t]S Jos 3:5
[u]2Sa 7:22;
Ps 44:1; 78:3
[v]S Dt 31:17
6:14
[w]Heb 11:34 [x]ver
36; Jdg 10:1;
2Ki 14:27
6:15 [y]Isa 60:22
[z]1Sa 9:21

years he gave them into the hands of
the Midianites.[r] 2 Because the power of
Midian was so oppressive,[s] the Israel-
ites prepared shelters for themselves in
mountain clefts, caves[t] and strong-
holds.[u] 3 Whenever the Israelites
planted their crops, the Midianites,
Amalekites[v] and other eastern peo-
ples[w] invaded the country. 4 They
camped on the land and ruined the
crops[x] all the way to Gaza[y] and did
not spare a living thing for Israel,
neither sheep nor cattle nor donkeys.
5 They came up with their livestock and
their tents like swarms of locusts.[z] It
was impossible to count the men and
their camels;[a] they invaded the land to
ravage it. 6 Midian so impoverished the
Israelites that they cried out[b] to the
LORD for help.
7 When the Israelites cried[c] to the
LORD because of Midian, 8 he sent them
a prophet,[d] who said, "This is what
the LORD, the God of Israel, says: I
brought you up out of Egypt,[e] out of
the land of slavery.[f] 9 I snatched you
from the power of Egypt and from the
hand of all your oppressors.[g] I drove
them from before you and gave you
their land.[h] 10 I said to you, 'I am the
LORD your God; do not worship[i] the
gods of the Amorites,[j] in whose land
you live.' But you have not listened to
me."
11 The angel of the LORD[k] came and
sat down under the oak in Ophrah[l]
that belonged to Joash[m] the Abiezrite,[n]
where his son Gideon[o] was threshing[p]
wheat in a winepress[q] to keep it from
the Midianites. 12 When the angel of the
LORD appeared to Gideon, he said,
"The LORD is with you,[r] mighty war-
rior.[s]"
13 "But sir," Gideon replied, "if the
LORD is with us, why has all this hap-
pened to us? Where are all his won-
ders[t] that our fathers told[u] us about
when they said, 'Did not the LORD
bring us up out of Egypt?' But now the
LORD has abandoned[v] us and put us
into the hand of Midian."
14 The LORD turned to him and said,
"Go in the strength you have[w] and
save[x] Israel out of Midian's hand. Am I
not sending you?"
15 "But Lord,[b]" Gideon asked, "how
can I save Israel? My clan[y] is the weak-
est in Manasseh, and I am the least in
my family.[z]"
16 The LORD answered, "I will be with

[b]15 *Or sir*

you[a], and you will strike down all the Midianites together."

[17]Gideon replied, "If now I have found favor in your eyes, give me a sign[b] that it is really you talking to me. [18]Please do not go away until I come back and bring my offering and set it before you."

And the LORD said, "I will wait until you return."

[19]Gideon went in, prepared a young goat,[c] and from an ephah[a][d] of flour he made bread without yeast. Putting the meat in a basket and its broth in a pot, he brought them out and offered them to him under the oak.[e]

[20]The angel of God said to him, "Take the meat and the unleavened bread, place them on this rock,[f] and pour out the broth." And Gideon did so. [21]With the tip of the staff[g] that was in his hand, the angel of the LORD touched the meat and the unleavened bread.[h] Fire flared from the rock, consuming the meat and the bread. And the angel of the LORD disappeared. [22]When Gideon realized[i] that it was the angel of the LORD, he exclaimed, "Ah, Sovereign LORD! I have seen the angel of the LORD face to face!"[j]

[23]But the LORD said to him, "Peace! Do not be afraid.[k] You are not going to die."[l]

[24]So Gideon built an altar to the LORD there and called[m] it The LORD is Peace. To this day it stands in Ophrah[n] of the Abiezrites.

[25]That same night the LORD said to him, "Take the second bull from your father's herd, the one seven years old.[b] Tear down your father's altar to Baal and cut down the Asherah pole[c][o] beside it. [26]Then build a proper kind of[d] altar to the LORD your God on the top of this height. Using the wood of the Asherah pole that you cut down, offer the second[e] bull as a burnt offering."[p]

[27]So Gideon took ten of his servants and did as the LORD told him. But because he was afraid of his family and the men of the town, he did it at night rather than in the daytime.

[28]In the morning when the men of the town got up, there was Baal's altar,[q] demolished, with the Asherah pole beside it cut down and the second bull sacrificed on the newly built altar!

[29]They asked each other, "Who did this?"

When they carefully investigated, they were told, "Gideon son of Joash[r] did it."

[30]The men of the town demanded of Joash, "Bring out your son. He must die, because he has broken down Baal's altar[s] and cut down the Asherah pole beside it."

[31]But Joash replied to the hostile crowd around him, "Are you going to plead Baal's cause?[t] Are you trying to save him? Whoever fights for him shall be put to death by morning! If Baal really is a god, he can defend himself when someone breaks down his altar." [32]So that day they called Gideon "Jerub-Baal,[f][u]" saying, "Let Baal contend with him," because he broke down Baal's altar.

[33]Now all the Midianites, Amalekites[v] and other eastern peoples[w] joined forces and crossed over the Jordan and camped in the Valley of Jezreel.[x] [34]Then the Spirit of the LORD came upon[y] Gideon, and he blew a trumpet,[z] summoning the Abiezrites[a] to follow him. [35]He sent messengers throughout Manasseh, calling them to arms, and also into Asher,[b] Zebulun and Naphtali,[c] so that they too went up to meet them.[d]

[36]Gideon said to God, "If you will save[e] Israel by my hand as you have promised— [37]look, I will place a wool fleece[f] on the threshing floor.[g] If there is dew only on the fleece and all the ground is dry, then I will know[h] that you will save Israel by my hand, as you said." [38]And that is what happened. Gideon rose early the next day; he squeezed the fleece and wrung out the dew—a bowlful of water.

[39]Then Gideon said to God, "Do not be angry with me. Let me make just one more request.[i] Allow me one more test with the fleece. This time make the fleece dry and the ground covered with dew." [40]That night God did so. Only the fleece was dry; all the ground was covered with dew.[j]

Gideon Defeats the Midianites

7 Early in the morning, Jerub-Baal[k] (that is, Gideon[l]) and all his men camped at the spring of Harod.[m] The camp of Midian[n] was north of them in the valley near the hill of Moreh.[o] [2]The LORD said to Gideon, "You have too many men for me to deliver Midian

6:16 [a]Ex 3:12; S Nu 14:43; Jos 1:5
6:17 [b]ver 36-37; S Ge 24:14; S Ex 3:12; S 4:8
6:19 [c]Jdg 13:15 [d]S Lev 19:36 [e]Ge 18:7-8
6:20 [f]Jdg 13:19
6:21 [g]S Ex 4:2 [h]S Lev 9:24
6:22 [i]Jdg 13:16, 21 [j]Ge 32:30; Jdg 13:22
6:23 [k]Da 10:19 [l]S Ge 16:13; S Dt 5:26
6:24 [m]S Ge 22:14 [n]S Jos 18:23
6:25 [o]ver 26, 28, 30; Ex 34:13; S Jdg 2:13
6:26 [p]S Ge 8:20
6:28 [q]ver 30; 1Ki 16:32; 2Ki 21:3
6:29 [r]S ver 11
6:30 [s]S ver 28
6:31 [t]1Sa 24:15; Ps 43:1; Jer 30:13
6:32 [u]Jdg 7:1; 8:29, 35; 9:1; 1Sa 12:11
6:33 [v]Nu 13:29 [w]S Ge 25:6 [x]S Jos 15:56; Eze 25:4; Hos 1:5
6:34 [y]S Jdg 3:10 [z]S Jos 6:20; S Jdg 3:27 [a]S Jos 17:2
6:35 [b]S Jos 17:7 [c]S Jdg 4:6 [d]Jdg 7:23
6:36 [e]S ver 14
6:37 [f]Job 31:20 [g]S Nu 18:27; 2Sa 6:6; 24:16 [h]S Ge 24:14
6:39 [i]Ge 18:32
6:40 [j]Ex 4:3-7; Isa 38:7
7:1 [k]S Jdg 6:32 [l]S Jdg 6:11 [m]2Sa 23:25 [n]S Ge 25:2 [o]S Ge 12:6

[a]19 That is, probably about 3/5 bushel (about 22 liters) [b]25 Or *Take a full-grown, mature bull from your father's herd* [c]25 That is, a symbol of the goddess Asherah; here and elsewhere in Judges [d]26 Or *build with layers of stone an* [e]26 Or *full-grown*; also in verse 28 [f]32 *Jerub-Baal* means *let Baal contend*.

into their hands. In order that Israel
may not boast against me that her own
strength[a] has saved her, 3announce
now to the people, 'Anyone who trem-
bles with fear may turn back and leave
Mount Gilead.[b]' " So twenty-two thou-
sand men left, while ten thousand re-
mained.
4But the LORD said to Gideon, "There
are still too many[c] men. Take them
down to the water, and I will sift them
for you there. If I say, 'This one shall go
with you,' he shall go; but if I say, 'This
one shall not go with you,' he shall not
go."
5So Gideon took the men down to
the water. There the LORD told him,
"Separate those who lap the water with
their tongues like a dog from those
who kneel down to drink." 6Three
hundred men[d] lapped with their
hands to their mouths. All the rest got
down on their knees to drink.
7The LORD said to Gideon, "With the
three hundred men that lapped I will
save you and give the Midianites into
your hands.[e] Let all the other men go,
each to his own place."[f] 8So Gideon
sent the rest of the Israelites to their
tents but kept the three hundred, who
took over the provisions and trumpets
of the others.
Now the camp of Midian lay below
him in the valley. 9During that night
the LORD said to Gideon, "Get up, go
down against the camp, because I am
going to give it into your hands.[g] 10If
you are afraid to attack, go down to the
camp with your servant Purah 11and
listen to what they are saying. After-
ward, you will be encouraged to attack
the camp." So he and Purah his ser-
vant went down to the outposts of the
camp. 12The Midianites, the Amalek-
ites[h] and all the other eastern peoples
had settled in the valley, thick as lo-
custs.[i] Their camels[j] could no more be
counted than the sand on the sea-
shore.[k]
13Gideon arrived just as a man was
telling a friend his dream. "I had a
dream," he was saying. "A round loaf
of barley bread came tumbling into the
Midianite camp. It struck the tent with
such force that the tent overturned and
collapsed."
14His friend responded, "This can be
nothing other than the sword of Gide-
on son of Joash,[l] the Israelite. God has
given the Midianites and the whole
camp into his hands."
15When Gideon heard the dream and
its interpretation, he worshiped God.[m]
He returned to the camp of Israel and
called out, "Get up! The LORD has given
the Midianite camp into your hands."[n]
16Dividing the three hundred men[o]
into three companies,[p] he placed trum-
pets[q] and empty jars[r] in the hands of
all of them, with torches[s] inside.
17"Watch me," he told them. "Follow
my lead. When I get to the edge of the
camp, do exactly as I do. 18When I and
all who are with me blow our trum-
pets,[t] then from all around the camp
blow yours and shout, 'For the LORD
and for Gideon.' "
19Gideon and the hundred men with
him reached the edge of the camp at
the beginning of the middle watch, just
after they had changed the guard. They
blew their trumpets and broke the jars[u]
that were in their hands. 20The three
companies blew the trumpets and
smashed the jars. Grasping the
torches[v] in their left hands and holding
in their right hands the trumpets they
were to blow, they shouted, "A
sword[w] for the LORD and for Gideon!"
21While each man held his position
around the camp, all the Midianites
ran, crying out as they fled.[x]
22When the three hundred trumpets
sounded,[y] the LORD caused the men
throughout the camp to turn on each
other[z] with their swords.[a] The army
fled to Beth Shittah toward Zererah as
far as the border of Abel Meholah[b]
near Tabbath. 23Israelites from Naph-
tali, Asher[c] and all Manasseh were
called out,[d] and they pursued the Mid-
ianites.[e] 24Gideon sent messengers
throughout the hill country of
Ephraim, saying, "Come down against
the Midianites and seize the waters of
the Jordan[f] ahead of them as far as
Beth Barah."
So all the men of Ephraim were
called out and they took the waters of
the Jordan as far as Beth Barah. 25They
also captured two of the Midianite
leaders, Oreb and Zeeb[g]. They killed
Oreb at the rock of Oreb,[h] and Zeeb at
the winepress of Zeeb. They pursued
the Midianites[i] and brought the heads
of Oreb and Zeeb to Gideon, who was
by the Jordan.[j]

Zebah and Zalmunna

8 Now the Ephraimites asked Gide-
on,[k] "Why have you treated us like
this? Why didn't you call us when you
went to fight Midian?[l]"[m] And they
criticized him sharply.[n]

7:2 [a]S Dt 8:17; 2Co 4:7
7:3 [b]Dt 20:8; S Jos 12:2
7:4 [c]1Sa 14:6
7:6 [d]Ge 14:14
7:7 [e]S Jos 8:7 [f]1Sa 14:6
7:9 [g]ver 13-15; S Jos 2:24; S Jdg 1:2
7:12 [h]Nu 13:29 [i]S Dt 28:42; Jer 46:23 [j]Jer 49:29 [k]S Jos 11:4
7:14 [l]S Jdg 6:11
7:15 [m]1Sa 15:31 [n]S ver 9
7:16 [o]Ge 14:15 [p]Jdg 9:43; 1Sa 11:11; 2Sa 18:2 [q]S Lev 25:9 [r]ver 19; Ge 24:14 [s]S Ge 15:17
7:18 [t]S Jdg 3:27
7:19 [u]S ver 16
7:20 [v]S Ge 15:17 [w]S Dt 32:41
7:21 [x]2Ki 7:7
7:22 [y]S Jos 6:20 [z]1Sa 14:20; 2Ch 20:23; Isa 9:21; 19:2; Eze 38:21; Hag 2:22; Zec 14:13 [a]Hab 3:14 [b]1Sa 18:19; 1Ki 4:12; 19:16
7:23 [c]S Jos 17:7 [d]Jdg 6:35 [e]Ps 83:9
7:24 [f]S Jos 2:7
7:25 [g]Jdg 8:3; Ps 83:11 [h]Isa 10:26 [i]Isa 9:4 [j]Jdg 8:4; Ps 106:43
8:1 [k]S Jdg 6:11 [l]S Ge 25:2 [m]Jdg 12:1 [n]2Sa 19:41

2 But he answered them, "What have
I accomplished compared to you?
Aren't the gleanings of Ephraim's
grapes better than the full grape har-
vest of Abiezer?[a] 3 God gave Oreb and
Zeeb,[b] the Midianite leaders, into your
hands. What was I able to do compared
to you?" At this, their resentment
against him subsided.

4 Gideon and his three hundred men,
exhausted yet keeping up the pursuit,
came to the Jordan[c] and crossed it. 5 He
said to the men of Succoth,[d] "Give my
troops some bread; they are worn out,[e]
and I am still pursuing Zebah and Zal-
munna,[f] the kings of Midian."

6 But the officials of Succoth[g] said,
"Do you already have the hands of
Zebah and Zalmunna in your posses-
sion? Why should we give bread[h] to
your troops?"[i]

7 Then Gideon replied, "Just for that,
when the LORD has given Zebah and
Zalmunna[j] into my hand, I will tear
your flesh with desert thorns and bri-
ers."

8 From there he went up to Peniel[l] [k]
and made the same request of them,
but they answered as the men of Suc-
coth had. 9 So he said to the men of
Peniel, "When I return in triumph, I
will tear down this tower."[l]

10 Now Zebah and Zalmunna were in
Karkor with a force of about fifteen
thousand men, all that were left of the
armies of the eastern peoples; a hun-
dred and twenty thousand swordsmen
had fallen.[m] 11 Gideon went up by the
route of the nomads east of Nobah[n]
and Jogbehah[o] and fell upon the un-
suspecting army. 12 Zebah and Zalmun-
na, the two kings of Midian, fled, but
he pursued them and captured them,
routing their entire army.

13 Gideon son of Joash[p] then returned
from the battle by the Pass of Heres.[q]
14 He caught a young man of Succoth
and questioned him, and the young
man wrote down for him the names of
the seventy-seven officials of Succoth,[r]
the elders[s] of the town. 15 Then Gideon
came and said to the men of Succoth,
"Here are Zebah and Zalmunna, about
whom you taunted me by saying, 'Do
you already have the hands of Zebah
and Zalmunna in your possession?
Why should we give bread to your ex-
hausted men?'[t]" 16 He took the elders
of the town and taught the men of Suc-
coth a lesson[u] by punishing them with
desert thorns and briers. 17 He also
pulled down the tower of Peniel[v] and
killed the men of the town.[w]

18 Then he asked Zebah and Zalmun-
na, "What kind of men did you kill at
Tabor?"[x]

"Men like you," they answered,
"each one with the bearing of a
prince."

19 Gideon replied, "Those were my
brothers, the sons of my own mother.
As surely as the LORD lives,[y] if you had
spared their lives, I would not kill
you." 20 Turning to Jether, his oldest
son, he said, "Kill them!" But Jether
did not draw his sword, because he
was only a boy and was afraid.

21 Zebah and Zalmunna said, "Come,
do it yourself. 'As is the man, so is his
strength.'" So Gideon stepped for-
ward and killed them, and took the or-
naments[z] off their camels' necks.

Gideon's Ephod

22 The Israelites said to Gideon, "Rule
over us—you, your son and your
grandson—because you have saved us
out of the hand of Midian."

23 But Gideon told them, "I will not
rule over you, nor will my son rule
over you. The LORD will rule[a] over
you." 24 And he said, "I do have one
request, that each of you give me an
earring[b] from your share of the plun-
der.[c]" (It was the custom of the Ish-
maelites[d] to wear gold earrings.)

25 They answered, "We'll be glad to
give them." So they spread out a gar-
ment, and each man threw a ring from
his plunder onto it. 26 The weight of the
gold rings he asked for came to seven-
teen hundred shekels,[j] not counting
the ornaments, the pendants and the
purple garments worn by the kings of
Midian or the chains[e] that were on
their camels' necks. 27 Gideon made the
gold into an ephod,[f] which he placed
in Ophrah,[g] his town. All Israel pros-
tituted themselves by worshiping it
there, and it became a snare[h] to Gide-
on and his family.[i]

Gideon's Death

28 Thus Midian was subdued before
the Israelites and did not raise its
head[j] again. During Gideon's lifetime,
the land enjoyed peace[k] forty years.

29 Jerub-Baal[l] son of Joash[m] went
back home to live. 30 He had seventy
sons[n] of his own, for he had many

8:2 [a]S Nu 26:30
8:3 [b]S Jdg 7:25
8:4 [c]Jdg 7:25
8:5 [d]S Ge 33:17 [e]Job 16:7; Ps 6:6; Jer 45:3 [f]ver 7, 12; Ps 83:11
8:6 [g]ver 14 [h]1Sa 25:11 [i]ver 15
8:7 [j]S ver 5
8:8 [k]ver 9,17; Ge 32:30; 1Ki 12:25
8:9 [l]ver 17
8:10 [m]S Jdg 6:5; Isa 9:4
8:11 [n]Nu 32:42 [o]S Nu 32:35
8:13 [p]S Jdg 6:11 [q]Jdg 1:35
8:14 [r]ver 6 [s]S Ex 3:16
8:15 [t]ver 6
8:16 [u]1Sa 14:12
8:17 [v]S ver 8 [w]ver 9
8:18 [x]S Jos 19:22
8:19 [y]S Nu 14:21
8:21 [z]ver 26; Isa 3:18
8:23 [a]S Ex 16:8; S Nu 11:20; 1Sa 12:12
8:24 [b]S Ge 35:4 [c]S Ge 49:27 [d]S Ge 16:11
8:26 [e]S ver 21
8:27 [f]S Ex 25:7; Jdg 17:5; 18:14 [g]S Jos 18:23 [h]S Ex 10:7 [i]S Ex 32:2
8:28 [j]Ps 83:2 [k]S Jdg 3:11
8:29 [l]S Jdg 6:32 [m]S Jdg 6:11
8:30 [n]Jdg 9:2,5, 18,24; 12:14; 2Ki 10:1

[l]8 Hebrew *Penuel*, a variant of *Peniel*; also in verses 9 and 17 [j]26 That is, about 43 pounds (about 19.5 kilograms)

wives. 31 His concubine,[a] who lived in Shechem, also bore him a son, whom he named Abimelech.[b] 32 Gideon son of Joash died at a good old age[c] and was buried in the tomb of his father Joash in Ophrah of the Abiezrites.

33 No sooner had Gideon died than the Israelites again prostituted themselves to the Baals.[d] They set up Baal-Berith[e] as their god[f] and 34 did not remember[g] the LORD their God, who had rescued them from the hands of all their enemies on every side. 35 They also failed to show kindness to the family of Jerub-Baal[h] (that is, Gideon) for all the good things he had done for them.[i]

Abimelech

9 Abimelech[j] son of Jerub-Baal[k] went to his mother's brothers in Shechem and said to them and to all his mother's clan, 2 "Ask all the citizens of Shechem, 'Which is better for you: to have all seventy of Jerub-Baal's sons rule over you, or just one man?' Remember, I am your flesh and blood.[l]"

3 When the brothers repeated all this to the citizens of Shechem, they were inclined to follow Abimelech, for they said, "He is our brother." 4 They gave him seventy shekels[k] of silver from the temple of Baal-Berith,[m] and Abimelech used it to hire reckless adventurers,[n] who became his followers. 5 He went to his father's home in Ophrah and on one stone murdered his seventy brothers,[o] the sons of Jerub-Baal. But Jotham,[p] the youngest son of Jerub-Baal, escaped by hiding.[q] 6 Then all the citizens of Shechem and Beth Millo[r] gathered beside the great tree[s] at the pillar in Shechem to crown Abimelech king.

7 When Jotham[t] was told about this, he climbed up on the top of Mount Gerizim[u] and shouted to them, "Listen to me, citizens of Shechem, so that God may listen to you. 8 One day the trees went out to anoint a king for themselves. They said to the olive tree, 'Be our king.'

9 "But the olive tree answered, 'Should I give up my oil, by which both gods and men are honored, to hold sway over the trees?'

10 "Next, the trees said to the fig tree, 'Come and be our king.'

11 "But the fig tree replied, 'Should I give up my fruit, so good and sweet, to hold sway over the trees?'

12 "Then the trees said to the vine, 'Come and be our king.'

13 "But the vine answered, 'Should I give up my wine,[v] which cheers both gods and men, to hold sway over the trees?'

14 "Finally all the trees said to the thornbush, 'Come and be our king.'

15 "The thornbush said to the trees, 'If you really want to anoint me king over you, come and take refuge in my shade;[w] but if not, then let fire come out[x] of the thornbush and consume the cedars of Lebanon!'[y]

16 "Now if you have acted honorably and in good faith when you made Abimelech king, and if you have been fair to Jerub-Baal and his family, and if you have treated him as he deserves— 17 and to think that my father fought for you, risked[z] his life to rescue you from the hand of Midian 18 (but today you have revolted against my father's family, murdered his seventy sons[a] on a single stone, and made Abimelech, the son of his slave girl, king over the citizens of Shechem because he is your brother)— 19 if then you have acted honorably and in good faith toward Jerub-Baal and his family today,[b] may Abimelech be your joy, and may you be his, too! 20 But if you have not, let fire come out[c] from Abimelech and consume you, citizens of Shechem[d] and Beth Millo,[e] and let fire come out from you, citizens of Shechem and Beth Millo, and consume Abimelech!"

21 Then Jotham[f] fled, escaping to Beer,[g] and he lived there because he was afraid of his brother Abimelech.

22 After Abimelech had governed Israel three years, 23 God sent an evil spirit[h] between Abimelech and the citizens of Shechem, who acted treacherously against Abimelech. 24 God did this in order that the crime against Jerub-Baal's seventy sons,[i] the shedding[j] of their blood, might be avenged[k] on their brother Abimelech and on the citizens of Shechem, who had helped him[l] murder his brothers. 25 In opposition to him these citizens of Shechem set men on the hilltops to ambush and rob everyone who passed by, and this was reported to Abimelech.

26 Now Gaal son of Ebed[m] moved with his brothers into Shechem, and its citizens put their confidence in him. 27 After they had gone out into the fields and gathered the grapes and

8:31 [a] S Ge 22:24 [b] Jdg 9:1; 10:1; 2Sa 11:21 **8:32** [c] S Ge 15:15 **8:33** [d] S Jdg 2:11,13,19 [e] Jdg 9:4 [f] Jdg 9:27,46 **8:34** [g] S Jdg 3:7; S Ne 9:17 **8:35** [h] S Jdg 6:32 [i] Jdg 9:16 **9:1** [j] S Jdg 8:31 [k] S Jdg 6:32 **9:2** [l] S Ge 29:14 **9:4** [m] S Jdg 8:33 [n] Jdg 11:3; 1Sa 25:25; 2Ch 13:7; Job 30:8 **9:5** [o] S Jdg 8:30 [p] ver 7,21,57 [q] 2Ki 11:2; 2Ch 22:9 **9:6** [r] ver 20; 2Ki 12:20 [s] S Ge 12:6; S Jdg 4:11 **9:7** [t] S ver 5 [u] S Dt 11:29; Jn 4:20 **9:13** [v] S Ge 14:18; Ecc 2:3; SS 4:10 **9:15** [w] Isa 30:2 [x] ver 20 [y] S Dt 3:25; 1Ki 5:6; Ps 29:5; 92:12; Isa 2:13 **9:17** [z] Jdg 12:3; 1Sa 19:5; 28:21; Job 13:14; Ps 119:109 **9:18** [a] S Jdg 8:30 **9:19** [b] ver 16 **9:20** [c] ver 15 [d] ver 45 [e] S ver 6 **9:21** [f] S ver 5 [g] Nu 21:16 **9:23** [h] 1Sa 16:14, 23; 18:10; 19:9; 1Ki 22:22 **9:24** [i] S Jdg 8:30 [j] S Ge 9:6; Nu 35:33; 1Ki 2:32 [k] ver 56-57 [l] Dt 27:25 **9:26** [m] ver 28, 31,41

[k] 4 That is, about 1 3/4 pounds (about 0.8 kilogram)

trodden[a] them, they held a festival in
the temple of their god.[b] While they
were eating and drinking, they cursed
Abimelech. 28Then Gaal son of Ebed[c]
said, "Who[d] is Abimelech, and who is
Shechem, that we should be subject to
him? Isn't he Jerub-Baal's son, and isn't
Zebul his deputy? Serve the men of
Hamor,[e] Shechem's father! Why
should we serve Abimelech? 29If only
this people were under my command![f]
Then I would get rid of him. I would
say to Abimelech, 'Call out your whole
army!' "[l] [g]

30When Zebul the governor of the
city heard what Gaal son of Ebed said,
he was very angry. 31Under cover he
sent messengers to Abimelech, saying,
"Gaal son of Ebed and his brothers
have come to Shechem and are stirring
up the city against you. 32Now then,
during the night you and your men
should come and lie in wait[h] in the
fields. 33In the morning at sunrise, ad-
vance against the city. When Gaal and
his men come out against you, do
whatever your hand finds to do.[i] "

34So Abimelech and all his troops set
out by night and took up concealed po-
sitions near Shechem in four compa-
nies. 35Now Gaal son of Ebed had gone
out and was standing at the entrance to
the city gate[j] just as Abimelech and his
soldiers came out from their hiding
place.[k]

36When Gaal saw them, he said to
Zebul, "Look, people are coming down
from the tops of the mountains!"

Zebul replied, "You mistake the
shadows of the mountains for men."

37But Gaal spoke up again: "Look,
people are coming down from the cen-
ter of the land, and a company is com-
ing from the direction of the soothsay-
ers' tree."

38Then Zebul said to him, "Where is
your big talk now, you who said, 'Who
is Abimelech that we should be subject
to him?' Aren't these the men you ridi-
culed?[l] Go out and fight them!"

39So Gaal led out[m] the citizens of She-
chem and fought Abimelech. 40Abime-
lech chased him, and many fell wound-
ed in the flight—all the way to the en-
trance to the gate. 41Abimelech stayed
in Arumah, and Zebul drove Gaal and
his brothers out of Shechem.

42The next day the people of She-
chem went out to the fields, and this
was reported to Abimelech. 43So he
took his men, divided them into three
companies[m] and set an ambush[n] in the
fields. When he saw the people coming
out of the city, he rose to attack them.
44Abimelech and the companies with
him rushed forward to a position at the
entrance to the city gate. Then two
companies rushed upon those in the
fields and struck them down. 45All that
day Abimelech pressed his attack
against the city until he had captured it
and killed its people. Then he de-
stroyed the city[o] and scattered salt[p]
over it.

46On hearing this, the citizens in the
tower of Shechem went into the strong-
hold of the temple[q] of El-Berith.
47When Abimelech heard that they had
assembled there, 48he and all his men
went up Mount Zalmon.[r] He took an
ax and cut off some branches, which he
lifted to his shoulders. He ordered the
men with him, "Quick! Do what you
have seen me do!" 49So all the men cut
branches and followed Abimelech.
They piled them against the stronghold
and set it on fire over the people inside.
So all the people in the tower of She-
chem, about a thousand men and
women, also died.

50Next Abimelech went to Thebez[s]
and besieged it and captured it. 51In-
side the city, however, was a strong
tower, to which all the men and
women—all the people of the city—
fled. They locked themselves in and
climbed up on the tower roof. 52Abime-
lech went to the tower and stormed it.
But as he approached the entrance to
the tower to set it on fire, 53a woman
dropped an upper millstone on his
head and cracked his skull.[t]

54Hurriedly he called to his armor-
bearer, "Draw your sword and kill
me,[u] so that they can't say, 'A woman
killed him.' " So his servant ran him
through, and he died. 55When the Isra-
elites saw that Abimelech was dead,
they went home.

56Thus God repaid the wickedness
that Abimelech had done to his father
by murdering his seventy brothers.
57God also made the men of Shechem
pay for all their wickedness.[v] The
curse of Jotham[w] son of Jerub-Baal
came on them.

Tola

10 After the time of Abimelech[x] a
man of Issachar,[y] Tola son of
Puah,[z] the son of Dodo, rose to save[a]

9:27 [a]Isa 16:10; Am 5:11; 9:13 [b]S Jdg 8:33 **9:28** [c]S ver 26 [d]1Sa 25:10 [e]S Ge 33:19 **9:29** [f]2Sa 15:4 [g]ver 38 **9:32** [h]Jos 8:2 **9:33** [i]1Sa 10:7 **9:35** [j]S Jos 2:5 [k]Ps 32:7; Isa 28:15,17; Jer 49:10 **9:38** [l]ver 28-29 **9:43** [m]S Jdg 7:16 [n]Jos 8:2 **9:45** [o]ver 20 [p]Jer 48:9 **9:46** [q]S Jdg 8:33 **9:48** [r]Ps 68:14 **9:50** [s]2Sa 11:21 **9:53** [t]2Sa 11:21 **9:54** [u]1Sa 31:4; 2Sa 1:9 **9:57** [v]ver 24; Ps 94:23 [w]S ver 5 **10:1** [x]S Jdg 8:31 [y]S Ge 30:18 [z]S Ge 46:13 [a]S Jdg 6:14

[l]29 Septuagint; Hebrew *him." Then he said to Abimelech, "Call out your whole army!"* [m]39 Or *Gaal went out in the sight of*

Israel. He lived in Shamir,[a] in the hill
country of Ephraim. 2He led[n] Israel
twenty-three years; then he died, and
was buried in Shamir.

Jair

3He was followed by Jair[b] of Gilead,
who led Israel twenty-two years. 4He
had thirty sons, who rode thirty don-
keys.[c] They controlled thirty towns in
Gilead, which to this day are called
Havvoth Jair.[o][d] 5When Jair[e] died, he
was buried in Kamon.

Jephthah

6Again the Israelites did evil in the
eyes of the LORD.[f] They served the
Baals and the Ashtoreths,[g] and the
gods of Aram,[h] the gods of Sidon,[i] the
gods of Moab, the gods of the Ammon-
ites[j][k] and the gods of the Philistines.[l]
And because the Israelites forsook the
LORD[m] and no longer served him, 7he
became angry[n] with them. He sold
them[o] into the hands of the Philistines
and the Ammonites, 8who that year
shattered and crushed them. For eigh-
teen years they oppressed all the Israel-
ites on the east side of the Jordan in
Gilead,[p] the land of the Amorites. 9The
Ammonites also crossed the Jordan to
fight against Judah,[q] Benjamin and the
house of Ephraim;[r] and Israel was in
great distress. 10Then the Israelites
cried[s] out to the LORD, "We have
sinned[t] against you, forsaking our
God and serving the Baals."[u]

11The LORD replied, "When the Egyp-
tians,[v] the Amorites,[w] the Ammon-
ites,[x] the Philistines,[y] 12the Sidonians,
the Amalekites[z] and the Maonites[p][a]
oppressed you[b] and you cried to me
for help, did I not save you from their
hands? 13But you have forsaken[c] me
and served other gods,[d] so I will no
longer save you. 14Go and cry out to
the gods you have chosen. Let them
save[e] you when you are in trouble![f]"

15But the Israelites said to the LORD,
"We have sinned. Do with us whatever
you think best,[g] but please rescue us
now." 16Then they got rid of the for-
eign gods among them and served the
LORD.[h] And he could bear Israel's mis-
ery[i] no longer.[j]

17When the Ammonites were called
to arms and camped in Gilead, the Isra-
elites assembled and camped at Miz-
pah.[k] 18The leaders of the people of
Gilead said to each other, "Whoever
will launch the attack against the Am-

10:1 [a]Jos 15:48
10:3
[b]S Nu 32:41
10:4
[c]S Ge 49:11;
S 1Ki 1:33
[d]S Nu 32:41
10:5
[e]S Nu 32:41
10:6 [f]S Jdg 2:11
[g]S Jdg 2:13
[h]Eze 27:16
[i]S Ge 10:15
[j]S Ge 19:38
[k]S Nu 21:29
[l]S Ge 26:1;
S Jdg 2:12
[m]S Dt 32:15
10:7 [n]S Dt 31:17
[o]S Dt 32:30
10:8 [p]S Jos 12:2
10:9 [q]ver 17;
Jdg 11:4
[r]Jdg 1:22
10:10 [s]S Jdg 3:9
[t]S Ex 9:27;
Ps 32:5; Jer 3:25;
8:14; 14:20
[u]Jer 2:27
10:11 [v]Ex 14:30
[w]S Ge 14:7
[x]S Jdg 3:13
[y]S Jdg 3:31
10:12
[z]S Ge 14:7
[a]S Jos 15:55
[b]S Jdg 4:3
10:13
[c]S Dt 32:15
[d]Jer 11:10; 13:10
10:14
[e]Isa 44:17; 57:13
[f]Dt 32:37;
Jer 2:28; 11:12;
Hab 2:18
10:15 [g]1Sa 3:18;
2Sa 10:12; 15:26;
Job 1:21; Isa 39:8
10:16
[h]Jos 24:23;
Jer 18:8 [i]Isa 63:9
[j]S Dt 32:36
10:17
[k]S Ge 31:49;
Jdg 11:29
10:18
[l]Jdg 11:8,9
11:1 [m]Jdg 12:1;
1Sa 12:11;
Heb 11:32
[n]Jdg 6:12
[o]Nu 26:29
[p]S Ge 38:15
11:3 [q]ver 5;
2Sa 10:6,8
[r]S Jdg 9:4
11:4 [s]S Jdg 10:9
11:7 [t]S Ge 26:16
11:8
[u]S Jdg 10:18
11:10
[v]S Ge 31:50;
S Isa 1:2
11:11 [w]1Sa 8:4;
2Sa 3:17
[x]Ex 19:9;
1Sa 8:21
[y]S Jos 11:3
11:13
[z]S Nu 21:13
[a]S Nu 21:24
11:15 [b]Dt 2:9
[c]Dt 2:19

monites will be the head[l] of all those
living in Gilead."

11 Jephthah[m] the Gileadite was a
mighty warrior.[n] His father was
Gilead;[o] his mother was a prostitute.[p]
2Gilead's wife also bore him sons, and
when they were grown up, they drove
Jephthah away. "You are not going to
get any inheritance in our family," they
said, "because you are the son of an-
other woman." 3So Jephthah fled from
his brothers and settled in the land of
Tob,[q] where a group of adventurers[r]
gathered around him and followed
him.

4Some time later, when the Ammon-
ites[s] made war on Israel, 5the elders of
Gilead went to get Jephthah from the
land of Tob. 6"Come," they said, "be
our commander, so we can fight the
Ammonites."

7Jephthah said to them, "Didn't you
hate me and drive me from my father's
house?[t] Why do you come to me now,
when you're in trouble?"

8The elders of Gilead said to him,
"Nevertheless, we are turning to you
now; come with us to fight the Am-
monites, and you will be our head[u]
over all who live in Gilead."

9Jephthah answered, "Suppose you
take me back to fight the Ammonites
and the LORD gives them to me—will I
really be your head?"

10The elders of Gilead replied, "The
LORD is our witness;[v] we will certainly
do as you say." 11So Jephthah went
with the elders[w] of Gilead, and the
people made him head and com-
mander over them. And he repeated[x]
all his words before the LORD in Miz-
pah.[y]

12Then Jephthah sent messengers to
the Ammonite king with the question:
"What do you have against us that you
have attacked our country?"

13The king of the Ammonites an-
swered Jephthah's messengers, "When
Israel came up out of Egypt, they took
away my land from the Arnon[z] to the
Jabbok,[a] all the way to the Jordan.
Now give it back peaceably."

14Jephthah sent back messengers to
the Ammonite king, 15saying:

"This is what Jephthah says: Israel
did not take the land of Moab[b] or
the land of the Ammonites.[c] 16But
when they came up out of Egypt,

n2 Traditionally *judged;* also in verse 3 o4 Or called *the settlements of Jair* p12 Hebrew; some Septuagint manuscripts *Midianites*

Israel went through the desert to
the Red Sea[q][a] and on to Kadesh.[b]
17Then Israel sent messengers[c] to
the king of Edom, saying, 'Give us
permission to go through your
country,'[d] but the king of Edom
would not listen. They sent also to
the king of Moab,[e] and he
refused.[f] So Israel stayed at Ka-
desh.

18"Next they traveled through
the desert, skirted the lands of
Edom[g] and Moab, passed along
the eastern side[h] of the country of
Moab, and camped on the other
side of the Arnon.[i] They did not
enter the territory of Moab, for the
Arnon was its border.

19"Then Israel sent messengers[j]
to Sihon king of the Amorites, who
ruled in Heshbon,[k] and said to
him, 'Let us pass through your
country to our own place.'[l] 20Si-
hon, however, did not trust Israel[r]
to pass through his territory. He
mustered all his men and en-
camped at Jahaz and fought with
Israel.[m]

21"Then the LORD, the God of Is-
rael, gave Sihon and all his men
into Israel's hands, and they de-
feated them. Israel took over all the
land of the Amorites who lived in
that country, 22capturing all of it
from the Arnon to the Jabbok and
from the desert to the Jordan.[n]

23"Now since the LORD, the God
of Israel, has driven the Amorites
out before his people Israel, what
right have you to take it over?
24Will you not take what your god
Chemosh[o] gives you? Likewise,
whatever the LORD our God has
given us,[p] we will possess. 25Are
you better than Balak son of Zip-
por,[q] king of Moab? Did he ever
quarrel with Israel or fight with
them?[r] 26For three hundred years
Israel occupied[s] Heshbon, Aroer,[t]
the surrounding settlements and
all the towns along the Arnon.
Why didn't you retake them during
that time? 27I have not wronged
you, but you are doing me wrong
by waging war against me. Let the
LORD, the Judge,[s][u] decide[v] the dis-
pute this day between the Israelites
and the Ammonites.[w]"

28The king of Ammon, however, paid
no attention to the message Jephthah
sent him.

29Then the Spirit[x] of the LORD came
upon Jephthah. He crossed Gilead and
Manasseh, passed through Mizpah[y] of
Gilead, and from there he advanced
against the Ammonites.[z] 30And Jeph-
thah made a vow[a] to the LORD: "If you
give the Ammonites into my hands,
31whatever comes out of the door of my
house to meet me when I return in tri-
umph[b] from the Ammonites will be
the LORD's, and I will sacrifice it as a
burnt offering.[c]"

32Then Jephthah went over to fight
the Ammonites, and the LORD gave
them into his hands. 33He devastated
twenty towns from Aroer to the vicini-
ty of Minnith,[d] as far as Abel Kera-
mim. Thus Israel subdued Ammon.

34When Jephthah returned to his
home in Mizpah, who should come out
to meet him but his daughter, danc-
ing[e] to the sound of tambourines![f] She
was an only child.[g] Except for her he
had neither son nor daughter. 35When
he saw her, he tore his clothes[h] and
cried, "Oh! My daughter! You have
made me miserable and wretched, be-
cause I have made a vow to the LORD
that I cannot break.[i]"

36"My father," she replied, "you
have given your word to the LORD. Do
to me just as you promised,[j] now that
the LORD has avenged you[k] of your
enemies,[l] the Ammonites. 37But grant
me this one request," she said. "Give
me two months to roam the hills and
weep with my friends, because I will
never marry."

38"You may go," he said. And he let
her go for two months. She and the
girls went into the hills and wept be-
cause she would never marry. 39After
the two months, she returned to her
father and he did to her as he had
vowed. And she was a virgin.

From this comes the Israelite custom
40that each year the young women of
Israel go out for four days to com-
memorate the daughter of Jephthah the
Gileadite.

Jephthah and Ephraim

12 The men of Ephraim called out
their forces, crossed over to Za-
phon[m] and said to Jephthah,[n] "Why
did you go to fight the Ammonites
without calling us to go with you?[o]
We're going to burn down your house
over your head."

11:16 [a]Nu 14:25; S Dt 1:40 [b]S Ge 14:7
11:17 [c]ver 19; S Ge 32:3; Nu 20:14 [d]S Nu 20:17 [e]Jer 48:1 [f]S Jos 24:9
11:18 [g]S Nu 20:21 [h]Dt 2:8 [i]S Nu 21:13
11:19 [j]S ver 17 [k]S Jos 12:2 [l]Nu 21:21-22
11:20 [m]Nu 21:23
11:22 [n]Nu 21:21-26; S Dt 2:26
11:24 [o]S Nu 21:29; S Jos 3:10 [p]Dt 2:36
11:25 [q]Nu 22:2 [r]S Jos 24:9
11:26 [s]Nu 21:25 [t]S Nu 32:34; S Jos 13:9
11:27 [u]S Ge 18:25 [v]S Ge 16:5 [w]2Ch 20:12
11:29 [x]S Jdg 3:10 [y]S Ge 31:49 [z]S Jdg 10:17
11:30 [a]S Ge 28:20; Nu 30:10; 1Sa 1:11; Pr 31:2
11:31 [b]Ge 28:21 [c]S Ge 8:20; Lev 1:3; Jdg 13:16
11:33 [d]Eze 27:17
11:34 [e]S Ex 15:20 [f]S Ge 31:27; S Ex 15:20 [g]Zec 12:10
11:35 [h]S Nu 14:6 [i]Nu 30:2; S Dt 23:21; Ecc 5:2,4,5
11:36 [j]Lk 1:38 [k]S Nu 31:3 [l]2Sa 18:19
12:1 [m]S Jos 13:27 [n]S Jdg 11:1 [o]Jdg 8:1

[q]16 Hebrew *Yam Suph;* that is, Sea of Reeds
[r]20 Or *however, would not make an agreement for Israel*
[s]27 Or *Ruler*

2 Jephthah answered, "I and my
people were engaged in a great strug-
gle with the Ammonites, and although
I called, you didn't save me out of their
hands. 3 When I saw that you wouldn't
help, I took my life in my hands[a] and
crossed over to fight the Ammonites,
and the LORD gave me the victory[b] over
them. Now why have you come up to-
day to fight me?"
4 Jephthah then called together the
men of Gilead[c] and fought against
Ephraim. The Gileadites struck them
down because the Ephraimites had
said, "You Gileadites are renegades
from Ephraim and Manasseh.[d]" 5 The
Gileadites captured the fords of the Jor-
dan[e] leading to Ephraim, and when-
ever a survivor of Ephraim said, "Let
me cross over," the men of Gilead
asked him, "Are you an Ephraimite?"
If he replied, "No," 6 they said, "All
right, say 'Shibboleth.'" If he said,
"Sibboleth," because he could not pro-
nounce the word correctly, they seized
him and killed him at the fords of the
Jordan. Forty-two thousand Ephraim-
ites were killed at that time.
7 Jephthah led[t] Israel six years. Then
Jephthah the Gileadite died, and was
buried in a town in Gilead.

Ibzan, Elon and Abdon

8 After him, Ibzan of Bethlehem[f] led
Israel. 9 He had thirty sons and thirty
daughters. He gave his daughters
away in marriage to those outside his
clan, and for his sons he brought in
thirty young women as wives from out-
side his clan. Ibzan led Israel seven
years. 10 Then Ibzan died, and was bur-
ied in Bethlehem.
11 After him, Elon the Zebulunite led
Israel ten years. 12 Then Elon died, and
was buried in Aijalon[g] in the land of
Zebulun.
13 After him, Abdon son of Hillel,
from Pirathon,[h] led Israel. 14 He had
forty sons and thirty grandsons,[i] who
rode on seventy donkeys.[j] He led Is-
rael eight years. 15 Then Abdon son of
Hillel died, and was buried at Pirathon
in Ephraim, in the hill country of the
Amalekites.[k]

The Birth of Samson

13 Again the Israelites did evil in
the eyes of the LORD, so the LORD
delivered them into the hands of the
Philistines[l] for forty years.[m]
2 A certain man of Zorah,[n] named
Manoah,[o] from the clan of the Dan-
ites,[p] had a wife who was sterile and
remained childless.[q] 3 The angel of the
LORD[r] appeared to her[s] and said, "You
are sterile and childless, but you are
going to conceive and have a son.[t]
4 Now see to it that you drink no wine
or other fermented drink[u] and that you
do not eat anything unclean,[v] 5 because
you will conceive and give birth to a
son.[w] No razor[x] may be used on his
head, because the boy is to be a Nazi-
rite,[y] set apart to God from birth, and
he will begin[z] the deliverance of Israel
from the hands of the Philistines."
6 Then the woman went to her hus-
band and told him, "A man of God[a]
came to me. He looked like an angel of
God,[b] very awesome.[c] I didn't ask
him where he came from, and he
didn't tell me his name. 7 But he said to
me, 'You will conceive and give birth to
a son. Now then, drink no wine[d] or
other fermented drink[e] and do not eat
anything unclean, because the boy will
be a Nazirite of God from birth until
the day of his death.[f]'"
8 Then Manoah[g] prayed to the LORD:
"O Lord, I beg you, let the man of
God[h] you sent to us come again to
teach us how to bring up the boy who
is to be born."
9 God heard Manoah, and the angel
of God came again to the woman while
she was out in the field; but her hus-
band Manoah was not with her. 10 The
woman hurried to tell her husband,
"He's here! The man who appeared to
me[i] the other day!"
11 Manoah got up and followed his
wife. When he came to the man, he
said, "Are you the one who talked to
my wife?"
"I am," he said.
12 So Manoah asked him, "When
your words are fulfilled, what is to be
the rule for the boy's life and work?"
13 The angel of the LORD answered,
"Your wife must do all that I have told
her. 14 She must not eat anything that
comes from the grapevine, nor drink
any wine or other fermented drink[j]
nor eat anything unclean.[k] She must
do everything I have commanded her."
15 Manoah said to the angel of the
LORD, "We would like you to stay until
we prepare a young goat[l] for you."
16 The angel of the LORD replied,
"Even though you detain me, I will not
eat any of your food. But if you prepare
a burnt offering,[m] offer it to the LORD."

12:3 [a]S Jdg 9:17 [b]S Dt 20:4 **12:4** [c]1Ki 17:1 [d]S Ge 46:20; Isa 9:21; 19:2 **12:5** [e]S Jos 2:7 **12:8** [f]S Ge 35:19 **12:12** [g]S Jos 10:12 **12:13** [h]ver 15; 2Sa 23:30; 1Ch 11:31; 27:14 **12:14** [i]S Jdg 8:30 [j]S Jdg 5:10 **12:15** [k]Jdg 5:14 **13:1** [l]S Jdg 3:31 [m]Jdg 14:4 **13:2** [n]S Jos 15:33 [o]ver 8; Jdg 16:31

[p]S Ge 30:6 [q]S Ge 11:30 **13:3** [r]S Ge 16:7 [s]ver 10 [t]Isa 7:14; Lk 1:13 **13:4** [u]S Lev 10:9 [v]ver 14; Nu 6:2-4; S Lk 1:15 **13:5** [w]S Ge 3:15 [x]1Sa 1:11 [y]S Nu 6:2,13; Am 2:11,12 [z]1Sa 7:13 **13:6** [a]ver 8; 1Sa 2:27; 9:6; 1Ki 13:1; 17:18 [b]S Nu 22:22 [c]Ps 66:5 **13:7** [d]Jer 35:6 [e]Lev 10:9 [f]1Sa 1:11,28 **13:8** [g]S ver 2 [h]S ver 6 **13:10** [i]ver 3 **13:14** [j]Lev 10:9 [k]S ver 4 **13:15** [l]Jdg 6:19 **13:16** [m]S Jdg 11:31

[t]7 Traditionally *judged;* also in verses 8-14

(Manoah did not realize[a] that it was
the angel of the LORD.)
17 Then Manoah inquired of the angel
of the LORD, "What is your name,[b] so
that we may honor you when your
word comes true?"
18 He replied, "Why do you ask my
name?[c] It is beyond understanding.[u]"
19 Then Manoah took a young goat, together with the grain offering, and sacrificed it on a rock[d] to the LORD. And
the LORD did an amazing thing while
Manoah and his wife watched: 20 As the
flame[e] blazed up from the altar toward
heaven, the angel of the LORD ascended
in the flame. Seeing this, Manoah and
his wife fell with their faces to the
ground.[f] 21 When the angel of the LORD
did not show himself again to Manoah
and his wife, Manoah realized[g] that it
was the angel of the LORD.
22 "We are doomed[h] to die!" he said
to his wife. "We have seen[i] God!"
23 But his wife answered, "If the LORD
had meant to kill us, he would not
have accepted a burnt offering and
grain offering from our hands, nor
shown us all these things or now told
us this."[j]
24 The woman gave birth to a boy and
named him Samson.[k] He grew[l] and
the LORD blessed him,[m] 25 and the Spirit
of the LORD began to stir[n] him while he
was in Mahaneh Dan,[o] between Zorah
and Eshtaol.

Samson's Marriage

14 Samson[p] went down to Timnah[q] and saw there a young
Philistine woman. 2 When he returned,
he said to his father and mother, "I
have seen a Philistine woman in Timnah; now get her for me as my wife."[r]
3 His father and mother replied,
"Isn't there an acceptable woman
among your relatives or among all our
people?[s] Must you go to the uncircumcised[t] Philistines to get a wife?[u]"
But Samson said to his father, "Get
her for me. She's the right one for me."
4 (His parents did not know that this
was from the LORD,[v] who was seeking
an occasion to confront the Philistines;[w] for at that time they were ruling
over Israel.)[x] 5 Samson went down to
Timnah together with his father and
mother. As they approached the vineyards of Timnah, suddenly a young
lion came roaring toward him. 6 The
Spirit of the LORD came upon him in
power[y] so that he tore the lion apart[z]
with his bare hands as he might have

13:16 [a]S Jdg 6:22
13:17 [b]S Ge 32:29
13:18 [c]S Ge 32:29
13:19 [d]Jdg 6:20
13:20 [e]S Lev 9:24 [f]S Ge 17:3
13:21 [g]S Jdg 6:22
13:22 [h]S Nu 17:12; S Dt 5:26 [i]S Ge 16:13; S Ex 3:6; S 24:10; S Jdg 6:22
13:23 [j]Ps 25:14
13:24 [k]Jdg 14:1; 15:1; 16:1; Heb 11:32 [l]1Sa 2:21,26; 3:19 [m]Lk 1:80
13:25 [n]S Jdg 3:10 [o]Jdg 18:12
14:1 [p]S Jdg 13:24 [q]S Ge 38:12
14:2 [r]S Ge 21:21
14:3 [s]S Ge 24:4 [t]S Ge 34:14; S 1Sa 14:6 [u]S Ex 34:16
14:4 [v]S Dt 2:30 [w]S Jos 11:20 [x]Jdg 13:1; 15:11
14:6 [y]S Jdg 3:10 [z]1Sa 17:35
14:10 [a]S Ge 29:22
14:12 [b]S Nu 12:8; Eze 17:2; 20:49; 24:3; Hos 12:10 [c]Ge 29:27 [d]S Ge 45:22; S 2Ki 5:5
14:14 [e]ver 18
14:15 [f]Jdg 16:5; Ecc 7:26 [g]S Lev 20:14; Jdg 15:6
14:16 [h]Jdg 16:15
14:17 [i]Est 1:5
14:18 [j]ver 14

torn a young goat. But he told neither
his father nor his mother what he had
done. 7 Then he went down and talked
with the woman, and he liked her.
8 Some time later, when he went back
to marry her, he turned aside to look at
the lion's carcass. In it was a swarm of
bees and some honey, 9 which he
scooped out with his hands and ate as
he went along. When he rejoined his
parents, he gave them some, and they
too ate it. But he did not tell them that
he had taken the honey from the lion's
carcass.
10 Now his father went down to see
the woman. And Samson made a
feast[a] there, as was customary for
bridegrooms. 11 When he appeared, he
was given thirty companions.
12 "Let me tell you a riddle,[b]" Samson said to them. "If you can give me
the answer within the seven days of
the feast,[c] I will give you thirty linen
garments and thirty sets of clothes.[d]
13 If you can't tell me the answer, you
must give me thirty linen garments and
thirty sets of clothes."
"Tell us your riddle," they said.
"Let's hear it."
14 He replied,

"Out of the eater, something to eat;
out of the strong, something
sweet."[e]

For three days they could not give the
answer.
15 On the fourth[v] day, they said to
Samson's wife, "Coax[f] your husband
into explaining the riddle for us, or we
will burn you and your father's household to death.[g] Did you invite us here
to rob us?"
16 Then Samson's wife threw herself
on him, sobbing, "You hate me! You
don't really love me.[h] You've given my
people a riddle, but you haven't told
me the answer."
"I haven't even explained it to my
father or mother," he replied, "so why
should I explain it to you?" 17 She cried
the whole seven days[i] of the feast. So
on the seventh day he finally told her,
because she continued to press him.
She in turn explained the riddle to her
people.
18 Before sunset on the seventh day
the men of the town said to him,

"What is sweeter than honey?
What is stronger than a lion?"[j]

u18 Or *is wonderful* v15 Some Septuagint
manuscripts and Syriac; Hebrew *seventh*

Samson said to them,

"If you had not plowed with my
heifer,
you would not have solved my
riddle."

19Then the Spirit of the LORD came
upon him in power.[a] He went down to
Ashkelon,[b] struck down thirty of their
men, stripped them of their belongings
and gave their clothes to those who
had explained the riddle. Burning with
anger,[c] he went up to his father's
house. 20And Samson's wife was given
to the friend[d] who had attended him at
his wedding.

Samson's Vengeance on the Philistines

15 Later on, at the time of wheat
harvest,[e] Samson[f] took a young
goat[g] and went to visit his wife. He
said, "I'm going to my wife's room."[h]
But her father would not let him go in.
2"I was so sure you thoroughly hated
her," he said, "that I gave her to your
friend.[i] Isn't her younger sister more
attractive? Take her instead."
3Samson said to them, "This time I
have a right to get even with the Philis-
tines; I will really harm them." 4So he
went out and caught three hundred
foxes[j] and tied them tail to tail in pairs.
He then fastened a torch[k] to every pair
of tails, 5lit the torches[l] and let the
foxes loose in the standing grain of the
Philistines. He burned up the shocks[m]
and standing grain, together with the
vineyards and olive groves.
6When the Philistines asked, "Who
did this?" they were told, "Samson,
the Timnite's son-in-law, because his
wife was given to his friend.[n]"
So the Philistines went up and
burned her[o] and her father to death.[p]
7Samson said to them, "Since you've
acted like this, I won't stop until I get
my revenge on you." 8He attacked
them viciously and slaughtered many
of them. Then he went down and
stayed in a cave in the rock[q] of Etam.[r]
9The Philistines went up and camped
in Judah, spreading out near Lehi.[s]
10The men of Judah asked, "Why have
you come to fight us?"
"We have come to take Samson pris-
oner," they answered, "to do to him as
he did to us."
11Then three thousand men from
Judah went down to the cave in the
rock of Etam and said to Samson,
"Don't you realize that the Philistines
are rulers over us?[t] What have you
done to us?"
He answered, "I merely did to them
what they did to me."
12They said to him, "We've come to
tie you up and hand you over to the
Philistines."
Samson said, "Swear to me[u] that
you won't kill me yourselves."
13"Agreed," they answered. "We
will only tie you up and hand you over
to them. We will not kill you." So they
bound him with two new ropes[v] and
led him up from the rock. 14As he ap-
proached Lehi,[w] the Philistines came
toward him shouting. The Spirit of the
LORD came upon him in power.[x] The
ropes on his arms became like charred
flax,[y] and the bindings dropped from
his hands. 15Finding a fresh jawbone of
a donkey, he grabbed it and struck
down a thousand men.[z]
16Then Samson said,

"With a donkey's jawbone
I have made donkeys of them.[w][a]
With a donkey's jawbone
I have killed a thousand men."

17When he finished speaking, he threw
away the jawbone; and the place was
called Ramath Lehi.[x][b]
18Because he was very thirsty, he
cried out to the LORD,[c] "You have giv-
en your servant this great victory.[d]
Must I now die of thirst and fall into
the hands of the uncircumcised?"
19Then God opened up the hollow
place in Lehi, and water came out of it.
When Samson drank, his strength re-
turned and he revived.[e] So the spring[f]
was called En Hakkore,[y] and it is still
there in Lehi.
20Samson led[z] Israel for twenty
years[g] in the days of the Philistines.

Samson and Delilah

16 One day Samson[h] went to
Gaza,[i] where he saw a prosti-
tute.[j] He went in to spend the night
with her. 2The people of Gaza were
told, "Samson is here!" So they sur-
rounded the place and lay in wait for
him all night at the city gate.[k] They
made no move during the night, say-
ing, "At dawn[l] we'll kill him."
3But Samson lay there only until the
middle of the night. Then he got up

14:19 [a]S Jdg 3:10 [b]S Jos 13:3 [c]1Sa 11:6 **14:20** [d]Jdg 15:2, 6; Jn 3:29 **15:1** [e]S Ge 30:14 [f]S Jdg 13:24 [g]S Ge 38:17 [h]Ge 29:21 **15:2** [i]S Jdg 14:20 **15:4** [j]SS 2:15 [k]S Ge 15:17 **15:5** [l]S Ge 15:17 [m]Ex 22:6; 2Sa 14:30-31 **15:6** [n]S Jdg 14:20 [o]S Ge 38:24 [p]S Jdg 14:15 **15:8** [q]Isa 2:21 [r]ver 11 **15:9** [s]ver 14, 17, 19 **15:11** [t]S Jdg 14:4; Ps 106:40-42 **15:12** [u]S Ge 47:31 **15:13** [v]Jdg 16:11,12 **15:14** [w]S ver 9 [x]S Jdg 3:10 [y]S Jos 2:6 **15:15** [z]S Lev 26:8 **15:16** [a]Jer 22:19 **15:17** [b]S ver 9 **15:18** [c]Jdg 16:28 [d]S Dt 20:4 **15:19** [e]Ge 45:27; 1Sa 30:12; Isa 40:29 [f]S Ex 17:6 **15:20** [g]Jdg 16:31 **16:1** [h]S Jdg 13:24 [i]S Ge 10:19 [j]S Ge 38:15 **16:2** [k]S Jos 2:5 [l]1Sa 19:11

[w]16 Or *made a heap or two;* the Hebrew for *donkey* sounds like the Hebrew for *heap.* [x]17 *Ramath Lehi* means *jawbone hill.* [y]19 *En Hakkore* means *caller's spring.* [z]20 Traditionally *judged*

and took hold of the doors of the city
gate, together with the two posts, and
tore them loose, bar and all. He lifted
them to his shoulders and carried them
to the top of the hill that faces He-
bron.[a]
4Some time later, he fell in love[b]
with a woman in the Valley of Sorek
whose name was Delilah.[c] 5The rulers
of the Philistines[d] went to her and
said, "See if you can lure[e] him into
showing you the secret of his great
strength[f] and how we can overpower
him so we may tie him up and subdue
him. Each one of us will give you elev-
en hundred shekels[a] of silver."[g]
6So Delilah[h] said to Samson, "Tell
me the secret of your great strength
and how you can be tied up and sub-
dued."
7Samson answered her, "If anyone
ties me with seven fresh thongs[b] that
have not been dried, I'll become as
weak as any other man."
8Then the rulers of the Philistines
brought her seven fresh thongs that
had not been dried, and she tied him
with them. 9With men hidden in the
room,[i] she called to him, "Samson,
the Philistines are upon you!"[j] But he
snapped the thongs as easily as a piece
of string snaps when it comes close to a
flame. So the secret of his strength was
not discovered.
10Then Delilah said to Samson, "You
have made a fool of me;[k] you lied to
me. Come now, tell me how you can be
tied."
11He said, "If anyone ties me secure-
ly with new ropes[l] that have never
been used, I'll become as weak as any
other man."
12So Delilah took new ropes and tied
him with them. Then, with men hid-
den in the room, she called to him,
"Samson, the Philistines are upon
you!"[m] But he snapped the ropes off
his arms as if they were threads.
13Delilah then said to Samson, "Until
now, you have been making a fool of
me and lying to me. Tell me how you
can be tied."
He replied, "If you weave the seven
braids of my head into the fabric ⌞on the
loom⌟ and tighten it with the pin, I'll
become as weak as any other man." So
while he was sleeping, Delilah took the
seven braids of his head, wove them
into the fabric 14and[c] tightened it with
the pin.
Again she called to him, "Samson,
the Philistines are upon you!"[n] He
awoke from his sleep and pulled up the
pin and the loom, with the fabric.
15Then she said to him, "How can
you say, 'I love you,'[o] when you won't
confide in me? This is the third time[p]
you have made a fool of me and
haven't told me the secret of your great
strength."[q] 16With such nagging she
prodded him day after day until he was
tired to death.
17So he told her everything.[r] "No ra-
zor has ever been used on my head,"
he said, "because I have been a Nazi-
rite[s] set apart to God since birth. If my
head were shaved, my strength would
leave me, and I would become as weak
as any other man."
18When Delilah saw that he had told
her everything, she sent word to the
rulers of the Philistines[t], "Come back
once more; he has told me everything."
So the rulers of the Philistines returned
with the silver in their hands.[u] 19Hav-
ing put him to sleep on her lap, she
called a man to shave off the seven
braids of his hair, and so began to sub-
due him.[d] And his strength left him.[v]
20Then she called, "Samson, the Phil-
istines are upon you!"[w]
He awoke from his sleep and
thought, "I'll go out as before and
shake myself free." But he did not
know that the LORD had left him.[x]
21Then the Philistines[y] seized him,
gouged out his eyes[z] and took him
down to Gaza.[a] Binding him with
bronze shackles, they set him to grind-
ing[b] in the prison. 22But the hair on his
head began to grow again after it had
been shaved.

The Death of Samson

23Now the rulers of the Philistines as-
sembled to offer a great sacrifice to Da-
gon[c] their god and to celebrate, say-
ing, "Our god has delivered Samson,
our enemy, into our hands."
24When the people saw him, they
praised their god,[d] saying,

"Our god has delivered our enemy
into our hands,[e]
the one who laid waste our land
and multiplied our slain."

25While they were in high spirits,[f]
they shouted, "Bring out Samson to

16:3 [a]S Jos 10:36
16:4 [b]S Ge 24:67; S Jdg 3:3 [c]ver 6
16:5 [d]S Jos 13:3 [e]S Ex 10:7; S Jdg 14:15 [f]ver 6, 15 [g]ver 18
16:6 [h]ver 4
16:9 [i]ver 12 [j]ver 14
16:10 [k]ver 13
16:11 [l]S Jdg 15:13
16:12 [m]ver 14
16:14 [n]ver 9,20
16:15 [o]Jdg 14:16 [p]Nu 24:10 [q]S ver 5
16:17 [r]ver 18; Mic 7:5 [s]S Nu 6:2
16:18 [t]S Jos 13:3; 1Sa 5:8 [u]ver 5
16:19 [v]Pr 7:26-27
16:20 [w]S ver 14 [x]Nu 14:42; Jos 7:12; 1Sa 16:14; 18:12; 28:15
16:21 [y]Jer 47:1 [z]S Nu 16:14 [a]S Ge 10:19 [b]Job 31:10; Isa 47:2
16:23 [c]1Sa 5:2; 1Ch 10:10
16:24 [d]Da 5:4 [e]1Sa 31:9; 1Ch 10:9
16:25 [f]Jdg 9:27; 19:6,9,22; Ru 3:7; Est 1:10

[a]5 That is, about 28 pounds (about 13 kilograms)
[b]7 Or *bowstrings;* also in verses 8 and 9
[c]13,14 Some Septuagint manuscripts; Hebrew *"I can, if you weave the seven braids of my head into the fabric on the loom."* 14*So she*
[d]19 Hebrew; some Septuagint manuscripts *and he began to weaken*

entertain us." So they called Samson
out of the prison, and he performed for
them.

When they stood him among the pil-
lars, 26Samson said to the servant who
held his hand, "Put me where I can feel
the pillars that support the temple, so
that I may lean against them." 27Now
the temple was crowded with men and
women; all the rulers of the Philistines
were there, and on the roof[a] were
about three thousand men and women
watching Samson perform. 28Then
Samson prayed to the LORD,[b] "O Sov-
ereign LORD, remember me. O God,
please strengthen me just once more,
and let me with one blow get revenge[c]
on the Philistines for my two eyes."
29Then Samson reached toward the two
central pillars on which the temple
stood. Bracing himself against them,
his right hand on the one and his left
hand on the other, 30Samson said, "Let
me die with the Philistines!" Then he
pushed with all his might, and down
came the temple on the rulers and all
the people in it. Thus he killed many
more when he died than while he
lived.

31Then his brothers and his father's
whole family went down to get him.
They brought him back and buried him
between Zorah and Eshtaol in the tomb
of Manoah[d] his father. He had led[e][a]
Israel twenty years.[f]

Micah's Idols

17 Now a man named Micah[g] from
the hill country of Ephraim 2said
to his mother, "The eleven hundred
shekels[b] of silver that were taken from
you and about which I heard you utter
a curse—I have that silver with me; I
took it."

Then his mother said, "The LORD
bless you,[h] my son!"

3When he returned the eleven hun-
dred shekels of silver to his mother,
she said, "I solemnly consecrate my sil-
ver to the LORD for my son to make a
carved image and a cast idol.[i] I will
give it back to you."

4So he returned the silver to his
mother, and she took two hundred
shekels[c] of silver and gave them to a
silversmith, who made them into the
image and the idol.[j] And they were
put in Micah's house.

5Now this man Micah had a shrine,[k]
and he made an ephod[l] and some
idols[m] and installed[n] one of his sons as
his priest.[o] 6In those days Israel had no
king;[p] everyone did as he saw fit.[q]

7A young Levite[r] from Bethlehem in
Judah,[s] who had been living within
the clan of Judah, 8left that town in
search of some other place to stay. On
his way[d] he came to Micah's house in
the hill country of Ephraim.

9Micah asked him, "Where are you
from?"

"I'm a Levite from Bethlehem in
Judah,[t]" he said, "and I'm looking for
a place to stay."

10Then Micah said to him, "Live with
me and be my father[u] and priest,[v] and
I'll give you ten shekels[e] of silver a
year, your clothes and your food." 11So
the Levite agreed to live with him, and
the young man was to him like one of
his sons. 12Then Micah installed[w] the
Levite, and the young man became his
priest[x] and lived in his house. 13And
Micah said, "Now I know that the LORD
will be good to me, since this Levite
has become my priest."[y]

Danites Settle in Laish

18 In those days Israel had no
king.[z]

And in those days the tribe of the
Danites was seeking a place of their
own where they might settle, because
they had not yet come into an inheri-
tance among the tribes of Israel.[a] 2So
the Danites[b] sent five warriors[c] from
Zorah and Eshtaol to spy out[d] the land
and explore it. These men represented
all their clans. They told them, "Go, ex-
plore the land."[e]

The men entered the hill country of
Ephraim and came to the house of
Micah,[f] where they spent the night.
3When they were near Micah's house,
they recognized the voice of the young
Levite;[g] so they turned in there and
asked him, "Who brought you here?
What are you doing in this place? Why
are you here?"

4He told them what Micah had done
for him, and said, "He has hired me
and I am his priest.[h]"

5Then they said to him, "Please in-
quire of God[i] to learn whether our
journey will be successful."

6The priest answered them, "Go in
peace.[j] Your journey has the LORD's
approval."

16:27 [a]S Jos 2:8 **16:28** [b]Jdg 15:18 [c]Jer 15:15 **16:31** [d]S Jdg 13:2 [e]Ru 1:1; 1Sa 4:18; 7:6 [f]Jdg 15:20 **17:1** [g]Jdg 18:2, 13 **17:2** [h]Ru 2:20; 3:10; 1Sa 15:13; 23:21; 2Sa 2:5 **17:3** [i]S Ex 20:4 **17:4** [j]S Ex 32:4; S Isa 17:8 **17:5** [k]Isa 44:13; Eze 8:10 [l]S Jdg 8:27 [m]S Ge 31:19 [n]S Nu 16:10 [o]S Ex 29:9 **17:6** [p]Jdg 18:1; 19:1; 21:25 [q]S Dt 12:8 **17:7** [r]Jdg 18:3 [s]S Ge 35:19; Mt 2:1 **17:9** [t]Ru 1:1 **17:10** [u]S Ge 45:8 [v]Jdg 18:19 **17:12** [w]S Nu 16:10 [x]Jdg 18:4 **17:13** [y]Nu 18:7 **18:1** [z]S Jdg 17:6 [a]Jos 19:47; Jdg 1:34 **18:2** [b]S Ge 30:6 [c]ver 17 [d]S Nu 21:32 [e]S Jos 2:1 [f]S Jdg 17:1 **18:3** [g]Jdg 17:7 **18:4** [h]Jdg 17:12 **18:5** [i]S Ge 25:22; Jdg 20:18,23,27; 1Sa 14:18; 2Sa 5:19; 2Ki 1:2; 8:8 **18:6** [j]1Ki 22:6

[a]31 Traditionally *judged* [b]2 That is, about 28 pounds (about 13 kilograms) [c]4 That is, about 5 pounds (about 2.3 kilograms) [d]8 Or *To carry on his profession* [e]10 That is, about 4 ounces (about 110 grams)

7So the five men[a] left and came to
Laish,[b] where they saw that the people
were living in safety, like the Sidoni-
ans, unsuspecting and secure.[c] And
since their land lacked nothing, they
were prosperous.[i] Also, they lived a
long way from the Sidonians[d] and had
no relationship with anyone else.[k]
8When they returned to Zorah and
Eshtaol, their brothers asked them,
"How did you find things?"
9They answered, "Come on, let's at-
tack them! We have seen that the land
is very good. Aren't you going to do
something? Don't hesitate to go there
and take it over.[e] 10When you get
there, you will find an unsuspecting
people and a spacious land that God
has put into your hands, a land that
lacks nothing[f] whatever.[g]"
11Then six hundred men[h] from the
clan of the Danites,[i] armed for battle,
set out from Zorah and Eshtaol. 12On
their way they set up camp near Kiriath
Jearim[j] in Judah. This is why the place
west of Kiriath Jearim is called Ma-
haneh Dan[l][k] to this day. 13From
there they went on to the hill coun-
try of Ephraim and came to Micah's
house.[l]
14Then the five men who had spied
out the land of Laish[m] said to their
brothers, "Do you know that one of
these houses has an ephod,[n] other
household gods, a carved image and a
cast idol?[o] Now you know what to
do." 15So they turned in there and
went to the house of the young Levite
at Micah's place and greeted him. 16The
six hundred Danites,[p] armed for battle,
stood at the entrance to the gate. 17The
five men who had spied out the land
went inside and took the carved image,
the ephod, the other household gods[q]
and the cast idol while the priest and
the six hundred armed men[r] stood at
the entrance to the gate.
18When these men went into Micah's
house and took[s] the carved image, the
ephod, the other household gods[t] and
the cast idol, the priest said to them,
"What are you doing?"
19They answered him, "Be quiet![u]
Don't say a word. Come with us, and
be our father and priest.[v] Isn't it better
that you serve a tribe and clan[w] in Is-
rael as priest rather than just one man's
household?" 20Then the priest was
glad. He took the ephod, the other
household gods and the carved image
and went along with the people. 21Put-
ting their little children, their livestock
and their possessions in front of them,
they turned away and left.
22When they had gone some distance
from Micah's house, the men who
lived near Micah were called together
and overtook the Danites. 23As they
shouted after them, the Danites turned
and said to Micah, "What's the matter
with you that you called out your men
to fight?"
24He replied, "You took[x] the gods I
made, and my priest, and went away.
What else do I have? How can you ask,
'What's the matter with you?' "
25The Danites answered, "Don't
argue with us, or some hot-tempered
men will attack you, and you and your
family will lose your lives." 26So the
Danites went their way, and Micah,
seeing that they were too strong for
him,[y] turned around and went back
home.
27Then they took what Micah had
made, and his priest, and went on to
Laish, against a peaceful and unsus-
pecting people.[z] They attacked them
with the sword and burned[a] down
their city.[b] 28There was no one to res-
cue them because they lived a long way
from Sidon[c] and had no relationship
with anyone else. The city was in a val-
ley near Beth Rehob.[d]
The Danites rebuilt the city and set-
tled there. 29They named it Dan[e] after
their forefather Dan, who was born to
Israel—though the city used to be
called Laish.[f] 30There the Danites set
up for themselves the idols, and Jona-
than son of Gershom,[g] the son of
Moses,[m] and his sons were priests for
the tribe of Dan until the time of the
captivity of the land. 31They continued
to use the idols Micah had made,[h] all
the time the house of God[i] was in Shi-
loh.[j]

A Levite and His Concubine

19 In those days Israel had no king.
Now a Levite who lived in a
remote area in the hill country of
Ephraim[k] took a concubine from Beth-
lehem in Judah.[l] 2But she was unfaith-
ful to him. She left him and went back
to her father's house in Bethlehem,
Judah. After she had been there four
months, 3her husband went to her to

18:7 [a]ver 17 [b]S Jos 19:47 [c]S Ge 34:25 [d]ver 28; Jos 11:8 **18:9** [e]Nu 13:30; 1Ki 22:3 **18:10** [f]Dt 8:9 [g]1Ch 4:40 **18:11** [h]ver 16, 17 [i]Jdg 13:2 **18:12** [j]S Jos 9:17 [k]Jdg 13:25 **18:13** [l]S Jdg 17:1 **18:14** [m]S Jos 19:47 [n]S Jdg 8:27 [o]S Ge 31:19 **18:16** [p]S ver 11 **18:17** [q]S Ge 31:19; Mic 5:13 [r]ver 11 **18:18** [s]ver 24; Isa 46:2; Jer 43:11; 48:7; 49:3; Hos 10:5 [t]S Ge 31:19 **18:19** [u]Job 13:5; 21:5; 29:9; 40:4; Isa 52:15; Mic 7:16 [v]Jdg 17:10 [w]Nu 26:42

18:24 [x]S ver 17-18 **18:26** [y]2Sa 3:39; Ps 18:17; 35:10 **18:27** [z]S Ge 34:25 [a]S Nu 31:10 [b]Ge 49:17; S Jos 19:47 **18:28** [c]S ver 7; S Ge 10:19 [d]S Nu 13:21 **18:29** [e]S Ge 14:14 [f]S Jos 19:47; 1Ki 15:20 **18:30** [g]Ex 2:22 **18:31** [h]ver 17 [i]Jdg 19:18; 20:18 [j]S Jos 18:1; Jer 7:14 **19:1** [k]ver 16,18 [l]Ru 1:1

i7 The meaning of the Hebrew for this clause is uncertain. k7 Hebrew; some Septuagint manuscripts *with the Arameans* l12 *Mahaneh Dan* means *Dan's camp.* m30 An ancient Hebrew scribal tradition, some Septuagint manuscripts and Vulgate; Masoretic Text *Manasseh*

persuade her to return. He had with
him his servant and two donkeys. She
took him into her father's house, and
when her father saw him, he gladly
welcomed him. [4]His father-in-law, the
girl's father, prevailed upon him to
stay; so he remained with him three
days, eating and drinking,[a] and sleep-
ing there.
[5]On the fourth day they got up early
and he prepared to leave, but the girl's
father said to his son-in-law, "Refresh
yourself[b] with something to eat; then
you can go." [6]So the two of them sat
down to eat and drink together. After-
ward the girl's father said, "Please stay
tonight and enjoy yourself."[c] [7]And
when the man got up to go, his father-
in-law persuaded him, so he stayed
there that night. [8]On the morning of
the fifth day, when he rose to go, the
girl's father said, "Refresh yourself.
Wait till afternoon!" So the two of them
ate together.
[9]Then when the man, with his con-
cubine and his servant, got up to leave,
his father-in-law, the girl's father, said,
"Now look, it's almost evening. Spend
the night here; the day is nearly over.
Stay and enjoy yourself. Early tomor-
row morning you can get up and be on
your way home." [10]But, unwilling to
stay another night, the man left and
went toward Jebus[d] (that is, Jerusa-
lem), with his two saddled donkeys
and his concubine.
[11]When they were near Jebus and the
day was almost gone, the servant said
to his master, "Come, let's stop at this
city of the Jebusites[e] and spend the
night."
[12]His master replied, "No. We won't
go into an alien city, whose people are
not Israelites. We will go on to Gibe-
ah." [13]He added, "Come, let's try to
reach Gibeah or Ramah[f] and spend the
night in one of those places." [14]So they
went on, and the sun set as they
neared Gibeah in Benjamin.[g] [15]There
they stopped to spend the night.[h]
They went and sat in the city square,[i]
but no one took them into his home for
the night.
[16]That evening[j] an old man from the
hill country of Ephraim,[k] who was liv-
ing in Gibeah (the men of the place
were Benjamites), came in from his
work in the fields. [17]When he looked
and saw the traveler in the city square,
the old man asked, "Where are you go-
ing? Where did you come from?"[l]
[18]He answered, "We are on our way
from Bethlehem in Judah to a remote
area in the hill country of Ephraim
where I live. I have been to Bethlehem
in Judah and now I am going to the
house of the LORD.[m] No one has taken
me into his house. [19]We have both
straw and fodder[n] for our donkeys[o]
and bread and wine[p] for ourselves
your servants—me, your maidservant,
and the young man with us. We don't
need anything."
[20]"You are welcome at my house,"
the old man said. "Let me supply
whatever you need. Only don't spend
the night in the square." [21]So he took
him into his house and fed his don-
keys. After they had washed their feet,
they had something to eat and drink.[q]
[22]While they were enjoying them-
selves,[r] some of the wicked men[s] of
the city surrounded the house. Pound-
ing on the door, they shouted to the
old man who owned the house, "Bring
out the man who came to your house
so we can have sex with him."[t]
[23]The owner of the house went out-
side[u] and said to them, "No, my
friends, don't be so vile. Since this man
is my guest, don't do this disgraceful
thing.[v] [24]Look, here is my virgin
daughter,[w] and his concubine. I will
bring them out to you now, and you
can use them and do to them whatever
you wish. But to this man, don't do
such a disgraceful thing."
[25]But the men would not listen to
him. So the man took his concubine
and sent her outside to them, and they
raped her[x] and abused her[y] through-
out the night, and at dawn they let her
go. [26]At daybreak the woman went
back to the house where her master
was staying, fell down at the door and
lay there until daylight.
[27]When her master got up in the
morning and opened the door of the
house and stepped out to continue on
his way, there lay his concubine, fallen
in the doorway of the house, with her
hands on the threshold. [28]He said to
her, "Get up; let's go." But there was
no answer. Then the man put her on
his donkey and set out for home.
[29]When he reached home, he took a
knife[z] and cut up his concubine, limb
by limb, into twelve parts and sent
them into all the areas of Israel.[a]
[30]Everyone who saw it said, "Such a
thing has never been seen or done, not
since the day the Israelites came up out
of Egypt.[b] Think about it! Consider it!
Tell us what to do!"[c]

19:4 [a]ver 6,8 [illegible]
19:5 [b]ver 8 [illegible]
[illegible]
19:17 [k]S Ge 29:4
19:18 [m]S Jdg 18:31
19:19 [n]Ge 24:25 [o]S Ge 42:27 [p]S Ge 14:18
19:21 [q]Ge 24:32-33; Lk 7:44
19:22 [r]S Jdg 16:25 [s]S Dt 13:13 [t]Ge 19:4-5; Jdg 20:5; Ro 1:26-27
19:23 [u]Ge 19:6 [v]S Ge 34:7; S Lev 19:29; S Jos 7:15; S Jdg 20:6; Ro 1:27
19:24 [w]Ge 19:8
19:25 [x]Jdg 20:5 [y]1Sa 31:4
19:29 [z]S Ge 22:6 [a]Jdg 20:6; 1Sa 11:7
19:30 [b]Hos 9:9 [c]Jdg 20:7; Pr 13:10

Israelites Fight the Benjamites

20 Then all the Israelites[a] from Dan to Beersheba[b] and from the land of Gilead came out as one man[c] and assembled[d] before the LORD in Mizpah.[e] 2The leaders of all the people of the tribes of Israel took their places in the assembly of the people of God, four hundred thousand soldiers[f] armed with swords. 3(The Benjamites heard that the Israelites had gone up to Mizpah.) Then the Israelites said, "Tell us how this awful thing happened."

4So the Levite, the husband of the murdered woman, said, "I and my concubine came to Gibeah[g] in Benjamin to spend the night.[h] 5During the night the men of Gibeah came after me and surrounded the house, intending to kill me.[i] They raped my concubine, and she died.[j] 6I took my concubine, cut her into pieces and sent one piece to each region of Israel's inheritance,[k] because they committed this lewd and disgraceful act[l] in Israel. 7Now, all you Israelites, speak up and give your verdict.[m]"

8All the people rose as one man, saying, "None of us will go home. No, not one of us will return to his house. 9But now this is what we'll do to Gibeah: We'll go up against it as the lot directs.[n] 10We'll take ten men out of every hundred from all the tribes of Israel, and a hundred from a thousand, and a thousand from ten thousand, to get provisions for the army. Then, when the army arrives at Gibeah[n] in Benjamin, it can give them what they deserve for all this vileness done in Israel." 11So all the men of Israel got together and united as one man[o] against the city.

12The tribes of Israel sent men throughout the tribe of Benjamin, saying, "What about this awful crime that was committed among you?[p] 13Now surrender those wicked men[q] of Gibeah so that we may put them to death and purge the evil from Israel.[r]"

But the Benjamites would not listen to their fellow Israelites. 14From their towns they came together at Gibeah to fight against the Israelites. 15At once the Benjamites mobilized twenty-six thousand swordsmen from their towns, in addition to seven hundred chosen men from those living in Gibeah. 16Among all these soldiers there were seven hundred chosen men who were left-handed,[s] each of whom could sling a stone at a hair and not miss.

17Israel, apart from Benjamin, mustered four hundred thousand swordsmen, all of them fighting men.

18The Israelites went up to Bethel[o][t] and inquired of God.[u] They said, "Who of us shall go first[v] to fight[w] against the Benjamites?"

The LORD replied, "Judah[x] shall go first."

19The next morning the Israelites got up and pitched camp near Gibeah. 20The men of Israel went out to fight the Benjamites and took up battle positions against them at Gibeah. 21The Benjamites came out of Gibeah and cut down twenty-two thousand Israelites[y] on the battlefield that day. 22But the men of Israel encouraged one another and again took up their positions where they had stationed themselves the first day. 23The Israelites went up and wept before the LORD[z] until evening,[a] and they inquired of the LORD.[b] They said, "Shall we go up again to battle[c] against the Benjamites, our brothers?"

The LORD answered, "Go up against them."

24Then the Israelites drew near to Benjamin the second day. 25This time, when the Benjamites came out from Gibeah to oppose them, they cut down another eighteen thousand Israelites,[d] all of them armed with swords.

26Then the Israelites, all the people, went up to Bethel, and there they sat weeping before the LORD.[e] They fasted[f] that day until evening and presented burnt offerings[g] and fellowship offerings[p][h] to the LORD.[i] 27And the Israelites inquired of the LORD.[j] (In those days the ark of the covenant of God[k] was there, 28with Phinehas son of Eleazar,[l] the son of Aaron, ministering before it.)[m] They asked, "Shall we go up again to battle with Benjamin our brother, or not?"

The LORD responded, "Go, for tomorrow I will give them into your hands.[n]"

29Then Israel set an ambush[o] around Gibeah. 30They went up against the Benjamites on the third day and took up positions against Gibeah as they had done before. 31The Benjamites came out to meet them and were

20:1 [a]Jdg 21:5 [b]S Ge 21:14; 1Sa 3:20; 2Sa 3:10; 17:11; 24:15; 1Ki 4:25; 2Ch 30:5 [c]ver 11; 1Sa 11:7 [d]1Sa 7:5 [e]S Jos 11:3
20:2 [f]1Sa 11:8
20:4 [g]S Jos 15:57 [h]S Ge 24:23
20:5 [i]S Jdg 19:22 [j]Jdg 19:25-26
20:6 [k]S Jdg 19:29 [l]S Jdg 19:23; 2Sa 13:12
20:7 [m]S Jdg 19:30
20:9 [n]S Lev 16:8
20:11 [o]S ver 1
20:12 [p]Dt 13:14
20:13 [q]S Dt 13:13 [r]S Dt 13:5; S 1Co 5:13
20:16 [s]S Jdg 3:15
20:18 [t]S Jos 12:9; S Jdg 18:31 [u]S Jdg 18:5 [v]S Jdg 1:1 [w]ver 23,28 [x]S Ge 49:10
20:21 [y]ver 25
20:23 [z]S Nu 14:1 [a]Jos 7:6 [b]S Jdg 18:5 [c]S ver 18
20:25 [d]ver 21
20:26 [e]S Nu 14:1 [f]2Sa 12:21 [g]Lev 1:3 [h]S Ex 32:6 [i]Jdg 21:4
20:27 [j]S Jdg 18:5 [k]S Nu 10:33
20:28 [l]Nu 25:7 [m]Dt 18:5 [n]S Jos 2:24
20:29 [o]S Jos 8:2

[n]10 One Hebrew manuscript; most Hebrew manuscripts *Geba*, a variant of *Gibeah* [o]18 Or *to the house of God*; also in verse 26 [p]26 Traditionally *peace offerings*

drawn away[a] from the city. They be-
gan to inflict casualties on the Israelites
as before, so that about thirty men fell
in the open field and on the roads—the
one leading to Bethel[b] and the other to
Gibeah.
32While the Benjamites were saying,
"We are defeating them as before,"[c]
the Israelites were saying, "Let's re-
treat and draw them away from the city
to the roads."
33All the men of Israel moved from
their places and took up positions at
Baal Tamar, and the Israelite ambush
charged out of its place[d] on the west[q]
of Gibeah.[r] 34Then ten thousand of Is-
rael's finest men made a frontal attack
on Gibeah. The fighting was so heavy
that the Benjamites did not realize[e]
how near disaster was.[f] 35The LORD de-
feated Benjamin[g] before Israel, and on
that day the Israelites struck down 25,-
100 Benjamites, all armed with swords.
36Then the Benjamites saw that they
were beaten.
Now the men of Israel had given
way[h] before Benjamin, because they
relied on the ambush[i] they had set
near Gibeah. 37The men who had been
in ambush made a sudden dash into
Gibeah, spread out and put the whole
city to the sword.[j] 38The men of Israel
had arranged with the ambush that
they should send up a great cloud of
smoke[k] from the city,[l] 39and then the
men of Israel would turn in the bat-
tle.
The Benjamites had begun to inflict
casualties on the men of Israel (about
thirty), and they said, "We are defeat-
ing them as in the first battle."[m] 40But
when the column of smoke began to
rise from the city, the Benjamites
turned and saw the smoke of the whole
city going up into the sky.[n] 41Then the
men of Israel turned on them,[o] and the
men of Benjamin were terrified, be-
cause they realized that disaster had
come[p] upon them. 42So they fled be-
fore the Israelites in the direction of the
desert, but they could not escape the
battle. And the men of Israel who came
out of the towns cut them down there.
43They surrounded the Benjamites,
chased them and easily[s] overran them
in the vicinity of Gibeah on the east.
44Eighteen thousand Benjamites fell, all
of them valiant fighters.[q] 45As they
turned and fled toward the desert to
the rock of Rimmon,[r] the Israelites cut
down five thousand men along the
roads. They kept pressing after the
Benjamites as far as Gidom and struck
down two thousand more.
46On that day twenty-five thousand
Benjamite[s] swordsmen fell, all of them
valiant fighters. 47But six hundred men
turned and fled into the desert to the
rock of Rimmon, where they stayed
four months. 48The men of Israel went
back to Benjamin and put all the towns
to the sword, including the animals
and everything else they found. All the
towns they came across they set on
fire.[t]

Wives for the Benjamites

21 The men of Israel had taken an
oath[u] at Mizpah:[v] "Not one of
us will give[w] his daughter in marriage
to a Benjamite."
2The people went to Bethel,[t] where
they sat before God until evening, rais-
ing their voices and weeping bitterly.
3"O LORD, the God of Israel," they
cried, "why has this happened to Is-
rael? Why should one tribe be missing[x]
from Israel today?"
4Early the next day the people built
an altar and presented burnt offerings
and fellowship offerings.[u][y]
5Then the Israelites asked, "Who
from all the tribes of Israel[z] has failed
to assemble before the LORD?" For they
had taken a solemn oath that anyone
who failed to assemble before the LORD
at Mizpah should certainly be put to
death.
6Now the Israelites grieved for their
brothers, the Benjamites. "Today one
tribe is cut off from Israel," they said.
7"How can we provide wives for those
who are left, since we have taken an
oath[a] by the LORD not to give them any
of our daughters in marriage?" 8Then
they asked, "Which one of the tribes of
Israel failed to assemble before the
LORD at Mizpah?" They discovered that
no one from Jabesh Gilead[b] had come
to the camp for the assembly. 9For
when they counted the people, they
found that none of the people of Jabesh
Gilead were there.
10So the assembly sent twelve thou-
sand fighting men with instructions to
go to Jabesh Gilead and put to the
sword those living there, including the
women and children. 11"This is what

20:31 [a]Jos 8:16 [b]Jos 16:1
20:32 [c]ver 39
20:33 [d]Jos 8:19
20:34 [e]Jos 8:14 [f]ver 41
20:35 [g]1Sa 9:21
20:36 [h]Jos 8:15 [i]Jos 8:2
20:37 [j]Jos 8:19
20:38 [k]Jos 8:20 [l]Jos 8:4-8
20:39 [m]ver 32; Ps 78:9
20:40 [n]Jos 8:20
20:41 [o]Jos 8:21 [p]ver 34
20:44 [q]1Sa 10:26; Ps 76:5
20:45 [r]S Jos 15:32
20:46 [s]1Sa 9:21
20:48 [t]Jdg 21:23
21:1 [u]S Jos 9:18 [v]S Jos 11:3 [w]ver 18,22
21:3 [x]ver 6,17
21:4 [y]Jdg 20:26
21:5 [z]Jdg 20:1
21:7 [a]S Jos 9:18
21:8 [b]1Sa 11:1; 31:11; 2Sa 2:4; 21:12; 1Ch 10:11

[q]33 Some Septuagint manuscripts and Vulgate; the meaning of the Hebrew for this word is uncertain. [r]33 Hebrew *Geba*, a variant of *Gibeah* [s]43 The meaning of the Hebrew for this word is uncertain. [t]2 Or *to the house of God* [u]4 Traditionally *peace offerings*

you are to do," they said. "Kill every
male[a] and every woman who is not a
virgin.[b]" 12They found among the
people living in Jabesh Gilead four
hundred young women who had never
slept with a man, and they took them
to the camp at Shiloh[c] in Canaan.

13Then the whole assembly sent an
offer of peace[d] to the Benjamites at the
rock of Rimmon.[e] 14So the Benjamites
returned at that time and were given
the women of Jabesh Gilead who had
been spared. But there were not
enough for all of them.

15The people grieved for Benjamin,[f]
because the LORD had made a gap in the
tribes of Israel. 16And the elders of the
assembly said, "With the women of
Benjamin destroyed, how shall we pro-
vide wives for the men who are left?
17The Benjamite survivors must have
heirs," they said, "so that a tribe of Is-
rael will not be wiped out.[g] 18We can't
give them our daughters as wives,
since we Israelites have taken this
oath:[h] 'Cursed be anyone who gives[i] a
wife to a Benjamite.' 19But look, there is
the annual festival of the LORD in Shi-
loh,[j] to the north of Bethel[k], and east
of the road that goes from Bethel to
Shechem,[l] and to the south of Lebo-
nah."

20So they instructed the Benjamites,
saying, "Go and hide in the vineyards
21and watch. When the girls of Shiloh
come out to join in the dancing,[m] then
rush from the vineyards and each of
you seize a wife from the girls of Shiloh
and go to the land of Benjamin. 22When
their fathers or brothers complain to
us, we will say to them, 'Do us a kind-
ness by helping them, because we did
not get wives for them during the war,
and you are innocent, since you did
not give[n] your daughters to them.'"

23So that is what the Benjamites did.
While the girls were dancing,[o] each
man caught one and carried her off to
be his wife. Then they returned to their
inheritance[p] and rebuilt the towns and
settled in them.[q]

24At that time the Israelites left that
place and went home to their tribes
and clans, each to his own inheritance.

25In those days Israel had no king;
everyone did as he saw fit.[r]

21:11 [a]S Nu 31:7 [b]Nu 31:17-18
21:12 [c]S Jos 18:1
21:13 [d]S Dt 2:26 [e]S Jos 15:32
21:15 [f]ver 6
21:17 [g]S ver 3
21:18 [h]S Jos 9:18 [i]S ver 1
21:19 [j]S Jos 18:1 [k]Jos 16:1 [l]S Jos 17:7
21:21 [m]S Ex 15:20
21:22 [n]S ver 1
21:23 [o]ver 21 [p]S Jos 24:28 [q]Jdg 20:48
21:25 [r]S Dt 12:8

Ruth

Naomi and Ruth

1 In the days when the judges
ruled,[a][a] there was a famine in the
land,[b] and a man from Bethlehem in
Judah,[c] together with his wife and two
sons, went to live for a while[d] in the
country of Moab.[e] 2The man's name
was Elimelech,[f] his wife's name
Naomi, and the names of his two sons
were Mahlon and Kilion.[g] They were
Ephrathites[h] from Bethlehem,[i] Judah.
And they went to Moab and lived
there.
3Now Elimelech, Naomi's husband,
died, and she was left with her two
sons. 4They married Moabite women,[j]
one named Orpah and the other
Ruth.[k] After they had lived there about
ten years, 5both Mahlon and Kilion[l]
also died,[m] and Naomi was left without
her two sons and her husband.
6When she heard in Moab[n] that the
LORD had come to the aid of his people[o]
by providing food[p] for them, Naomi
and her daughters-in-law[q] prepared to
return home from there. 7With her two
daughters-in-law she left the place
where she had been living and set out
on the road that would take them back
to the land of Judah.
8Then Naomi said to her two daugh-
ters-in-law, "Go back, each of you, to
your mother's home.[r] May the LORD
show kindness[s] to you, as you have
shown to your dead[t] and to me. 9May
the LORD grant that each of you will
find rest[u] in the home of another hus-
band."
Then she kissed[v] them and they
wept aloud[w] 10and said to her, "We
will go back with you to your people."
11But Naomi said, "Return home, my
daughters. Why would you come with
me? Am I going to have any more sons,
who could become your husbands?[x]
12Return home, my daughters; I am too
old to have another husband. Even if I
thought there was still hope for me—
even if I had a husband tonight and
then gave birth to sons— 13would you
wait until they grew up?[y] Would you
remain unmarried for them? No, my
daughters. It is more bitter[z] for me
than for you, because the LORD's hand
has gone out against me![a]"
14At this they wept[b] again. Then Or-
pah kissed her mother-in-law[c] good-
by,[d] but Ruth clung to her.[e]
15"Look," said Naomi, "your sister-
in-law[f] is going back to her people and
her gods.[g] Go back with her."
16But Ruth replied, "Don't urge me
to leave you[h] or to turn back from you.
Where you go I will go,[i] and where
you stay I will stay. Your people will be
my people[j] and your God my God.[k]
17Where you die I will die, and there I
will be buried. May the LORD deal with
me, be it ever so severely,[l] if anything
but death separates you and me."[m]
18When Naomi realized that Ruth was
determined to go with her, she stopped
urging her.[n]
19So the two women went on until
they came to Bethlehem.[o] When they
arrived in Bethlehem, the whole town
was stirred[p] because of them, and the
women exclaimed, "Can this be
Naomi?"
20"Don't call me Naomi,[b]" she told
them. "Call me Mara,[c] because the Al-
mighty[d][q] has made my life very bit-
ter.[r] 21I went away full, but the LORD
has brought me back empty.[s] Why call
me Naomi? The LORD has afflicted[e]
me;[t] the Almighty has brought misfor-
tune upon me."
22So Naomi returned from Moab ac-
companied by Ruth the Moabitess,[u]
her daughter-in-law,[v] arriving in Beth-
lehem as the barley harvest[w] was be-
ginning.[x]

1:1 [a]Jdg 2:16-18 [b]S Ge 12:10; 2Ki 6:25; Ps 105:16; Hag 1:11 [c]S Ge 35:19 [d]Ge 47:4 [e]S Ge 36:35 **1:2** [f]ver 3; Ru 2:1; 4:3 [g]ver 5; Ru 4:9 [h]S Ge 35:16 [i]Ge 35:19; 1Sa 16:18 **1:4** [j]1Ki 11:1; 2Ch 24:26; Ezr 9:2; Ne 13:23 [k]ver 14; Ru 4:13; Mt 1:5 **1:5** [l]S ver 2 [m]ver 8; Ru 2:11 **1:6** [n]S Ge 36:35 [o]S Ge 50:24; Ex 4:31; Jer 29:10; Zep 2:7 [p]Ps 132:15; Mt 6:11 [q]S Ge 11:31; S 38:16 **1:8** [r]Ge 38:11 [s]S Ge 19:19; 2Ti 1:16 [t]S ver 5 **1:9** [u]Ru 3:1 [v]S Ge 27:27; S 29:11 [w]S Ge 27:38; S Nu 25:6 **1:11** [x]Ge 38:11; Dt 25:5 **1:13** [y]Ge 38:11 [z]ver 20; Ex 1:14; 15:23; 1Sa 30:6 [a]S Jdg 2:15; S Job 4:5 **1:14** [b]ver 9 [c]Ru 2:11; 3:1; Mic 7:6 [d]S Ge 31:28 [e]S Dt 10:20 **1:15** [f]Dt 25:7 [g]S Jos 24:14 **1:16** [h]2Ki 2:2 [i]Ge 24:58 [j]Ps 45:10 [k]S Jos 24:15 **1:17** [l]1Sa 3:17; 14:44; 20:13; 25:22; 2Sa 3:9, 35; 19:13; 1Ki 2:23; 19:2; 20:10; 2Ki 6:31 [m]2Sa 15:21 **1:18** [n]Ac 21:14 **1:19** [o]S Jdg 17:7 [p]Mt 21:10 **1:20** [q]S Ge 15:1; S 17:1; Ps 91:1 [r]S ver 13 **1:21** [s]Job 1:21 [t]Job 30:11; Ps 88:7; Isa 53:4 **1:22** [u]Ru 2:2,6, 21; 4:5,10 [v]S Ge 11:31

[w]S Ex 9:31; S Lev 19:9 [x]2Sa 21:9

[a]1 Traditionally *judged* [b]20 *Naomi* means *pleasant*; also in verse 21. [c]20 *Mara* means *bitter*. [d]20 Hebrew *Shaddai*; also in verse 21 [e]21 Or *has testified against*

Ruth Meets Boaz

2 Now Naomi had a relative[a] on her
husband's side, from the clan of
Elimelech,[b] a man of standing,[c] whose
name was Boaz.[d]
2And Ruth the Moabitess[e] said to
Naomi, "Let me go to the fields and
pick up the leftover grain[f] behind any-
one in whose eyes I find favor.[g]"
Naomi said to her, "Go ahead, my
daughter." 3So she went out and began
to glean in the fields behind the har-
vesters.[h] As it turned out, she found
herself working in a field belonging to
Boaz, who was from the clan of Elime-
lech.[i]
4Just then Boaz arrived from Beth-
lehem and greeted the harvesters,
"The LORD be with you![j]"
"The LORD bless you![k]" they called
back.
5Boaz asked the foreman of his har-
vesters, "Whose young woman is
that?"
6The foreman replied, "She is the
Moabitess[l] who came back from Moab
with Naomi. 7She said, 'Please let me
glean and gather among the sheaves[m]
behind the harvesters.' She went into
the field and has worked steadily from
morning till now, except for a short
rest[n] in the shelter."
8So Boaz said to Ruth, "My daugh-
ter, listen to me. Don't go and glean in
another field and don't go away from
here. Stay here with my servant girls.
9Watch the field where the men are
harvesting, and follow along after the
girls. I have told the men not to touch
you. And whenever you are thirsty, go
and get a drink from the water jars the
men have filled."
10At this, she bowed down with her
face to the ground.[o] She exclaimed,
"Why have I found such favor in your
eyes that you notice me[p]—a for-
eigner?[q]"
11Boaz replied, "I've been told all
about what you have done for your
mother-in-law[r] since the death of your
husband[s]—how you left your father
and mother and your homeland and
came to live with a people you did not
know[t] before.[u] 12May the LORD repay
you for what you have done. May you
be richly rewarded by the LORD,[v] the
God of Israel,[w] under whose wings[x]
you have come to take refuge.[y]"
13"May I continue to find favor in
your eyes,[z] my lord," she said. "You
have given me comfort and have
spoken kindly to your servant—though
I do not have the standing of one of
your servant girls."
14At mealtime Boaz said to her,
"Come over here. Have some bread[a]
and dip it in the wine vinegar."
When she sat down with the harvest-
ers,[b] he offered her some roasted
grain.[c] She ate all she wanted and had
some left over.[d] 15As she got up to
glean, Boaz gave orders to his men,
"Even if she gathers among the
sheaves,[e] don't embarrass her.
16Rather, pull out some stalks for her
from the bundles and leave them for
her to pick up, and don't rebuke[f] her."
17So Ruth gleaned in the field until
evening. Then she threshed[g] the bar-
ley she had gathered, and it amounted
to about an ephah.[f][h] 18She carried it
back to town, and her mother-in-law
saw how much she had gathered. Ruth
also brought out and gave her what she
had left over[i] after she had eaten
enough.
19Her mother-in-law asked her,
"Where did you glean today? Where
did you work? Blessed be the man who
took notice of you![j]"
Then Ruth told her mother-in-law
about the one at whose place she had
been working. "The name of the man I
worked with today is Boaz," she said.
20"The LORD bless him![k]" Naomi said
to her daughter-in-law.[l] "He has not
stopped showing his kindness[m] to the
living and the dead." She added, "That
man is our close relative;[n] he is one of
our kinsman-redeemers.[o]"
21Then Ruth the Moabitess[p] said,
"He even said to me, 'Stay with my
workers until they finish harvesting all
my grain.'"
22Naomi said to Ruth her daughter-
in-law, "It will be good for you, my
daughter, to go with his girls, because
in someone else's field you might be
harmed."
23So Ruth stayed close to the servant
girls of Boaz to glean until the barley[q]
and wheat harvests[r] were finished.
And she lived with her mother-in-law.

Ruth and Boaz at the Threshing Floor

3 One day Naomi her mother-in-
law[s] said to her, "My daughter,
should I not try to find a home[g][t] for
you, where you will be well provided

2:1 [a]Ru 3:2; Pr 7:4 [b]S Ru 1:2 [c]1Sa 9:1; 1Ki 11:28 [d]Ru 4:21; 1Ch 2:12; Mt 1:5; Lk 3:32 **2:2** [e]S Ru 1:22 [f]S Lev 19:9; S 23:22 [g]S Ge 6:8; S 18:3 **2:3** [h]ver 14; 2Ki 4:18; Jer 9:22; Am 9:13 [i]ver 1 **2:4** [j]S Jdg 6:12; Lk 1:28; 2Th 3:16 [k]S Ge 28:3; S Nu 6:24 **2:6** [l]S Ru 1:22 **2:7** [m]S Ge 37:7; S Lev 19:9 [n]2Sa 4:5 **2:10** [o]S Ge 19:1; S 1Sa 20:41 [p]ver 19; Ps 41:1 [q]S Ge 31:15; S Dt 15:3 **2:11** [r]S Ru 1:14 [s]S Ru 1:5 [t]Isa 55:5 [u]Ru 1:16-17 **2:12** [v]1Sa 24:19; 26:23,25; Ps 18:20; Pr 25:22; Jer 31:16 [w]S Jos 24:15 [x]Ps 17:8; 36:7; 57:1; 61:4; 63:7; 91:4 [y]Ps 71:1 **2:13** [z]S Ge 18:3

2:14 [a]S Ge 3:19 [b]S ver 3 [c]S Lev 23:14 [d]ver 18 **2:15** [e]S Ge 37:7; S Lev 19:9 **2:16** [f]S Ge 37:10 **2:17** [g]S Jdg 6:11 [h]S Lev 19:36 **2:18** [i]ver 14 **2:19** [j]S ver 10 **2:20** [k]S Jdg 17:2; S 1Sa 23:21 [l]S Ge 11:31 [m]S Ge 19:19 [n]S Lev 25:25 [o]Ru 3:9,12; 4:1,14 **2:21** [p]S Ru 1:22 **2:23** [q]S Ex 9:31 [r]S Ge 30:14; S 1Sa 6:13 **3:1** [s]S Ru 1:14 [t]Ru 1:9

f17 That is, probably about 3/5 bushel (about 22 liters)
g1 Hebrew *find rest* (see Ruth 1:9)

for? 2Is not Boaz, with whose servant
girls you have been, a kinsman[a] of
ours? Tonight he will be winnowing
barley on the threshing floor.[b] 3Wash[c]
and perfume yourself,[d] and put on
your best clothes.[e] Then go down to
the threshing floor, but don't let him
know you are there until he has fin-
ished eating and drinking.[f] 4When he
lies down, note the place where he is
lying. Then go and uncover his feet
and lie down. He will tell you what to
do."

5"I will do whatever you say,"[g] Ruth
answered. 6So she went down to the
threshing floor[h] and did everything
her mother-in-law told her to do.

7When Boaz had finished eating and
drinking and was in good spirits,[i] he
went over to lie down at the far end of
the grain pile.[j] Ruth approached quiet-
ly, uncovered his feet and lay down.
8In the middle of the night something
startled the man, and he turned and
discovered a woman lying at his feet.
9"Who are you?" he asked.

"I am your servant Ruth," she said.
"Spread the corner of your garment[k]
over me, since you are a kinsman-
redeemer.[l]"

10"The LORD bless you,[m] my daugh-
ter," he replied. "This kindness is
greater than that which you showed
earlier:[n] You have not run after the
younger men, whether rich or poor.
11And now, my daughter, don't be
afraid. I will do for you all you ask. All
my fellow townsmen know that you
are a woman of noble character.[o] 12Al-
though it is true that I am near of kin,
there is a kinsman-redeemer[p] nearer
than[q] I. 13Stay here for the night, and
in the morning if he wants to redeem,[r]
good; let him redeem. But if he is not
willing, as surely as the LORD lives[s] I
will do it.[t] Lie here until morning."

14So she lay at his feet until morning,
but got up before anyone could be
recognized; and he said, "Don't let it
be known that a woman came to the
threshing floor."[u][v]

15He also said, "Bring me the shawl[w]
you are wearing and hold it out."
When she did so, he poured into it six
measures of barley and put it on her.
Then he[h] went back to town.

16When Ruth came to her mother-in-
law, Naomi asked, "How did it go, my
daughter?"

Then she told her everything Boaz
had done for her 17and added, "He
gave me these six measures of barley,
saying, 'Don't go back to your mother-
in-law empty-handed.' "

18Then Naomi said, "Wait, my
daughter, until you find out what hap-
pens. For the man will not rest until the
matter is settled today."[x]

Boaz Marries Ruth

4 Meanwhile Boaz went up to the
town gate[y] and sat there. When the
kinsman-redeemer[z] he had men-
tioned[a] came along, Boaz said, "Come
over here, my friend, and sit down."
So he went over and sat down.

2Boaz took ten of the elders[b] of the
town and said, "Sit here," and they did
so.[c] 3Then he said to the kinsman-
redeemer, "Naomi, who has come back
from Moab, is selling the piece of land
that belonged to our brother Elime-
lech.[d] 4I thought I should bring the
matter to your attention and suggest
that you buy it in the presence of these
seated here and in the presence of the
elders of my people. If you will redeem
it, do so. But if you[i] will not, tell me,
so I will know. For no one has the right
to do it except you,[e] and I am next in
line."

"I will redeem it," he said.

5Then Boaz said, "On the day you
buy the land from Naomi and from
Ruth the Moabitess,[f] you acquire[j] the
dead man's widow, in order to main-
tain the name of the dead with his
property."[g]

6At this, the kinsman-redeemer said,
"Then I cannot redeem[h] it because I
might endanger my own estate. You
redeem it yourself. I cannot do it."[i]

7(Now in earlier times in Israel, for
the redemption[j] and transfer of prop-
erty to become final, one party took off
his sandal[k] and gave it to the other.
This was the method of legalizing
transactions[l] in Israel.)[m]

8So the kinsman-redeemer said to
Boaz, "Buy it yourself." And he re-
moved his sandal.[n]

9Then Boaz announced to the elders
and all the people, "Today you are wit-
nesses[o] that I have bought from Naomi
all the property of Elimelech, Kilion
and Mahlon. 10I have also acquired
Ruth the Moabitess,[p] Mahlon's
widow, as my wife,[q] in order to main-
tain the name of the dead with his

3:2 [a]S Ru 2:1 [b]S Lev 2:14; S Nu 18:27; S Jdg 6:11 **3:3** [c]2Sa 12:20; 2Ki 5:10; Ps 26:6; 51:2; Isa 1:16; Jer 4:14; Eze 16:9 [d]2Sa 14:2; Isa 61:3 [e]S Ge 41:14 [f]S Ex 32:6; S Ecc 2:3; S Jer 15:17 **3:5** [g]Eph 6:1; Col 3:20 **3:6** [h]S Nu 18:27 **3:7** [i]Jdg 19:6,22; 1Sa 25:36; 2Sa 13:28; 1Ki 21:7; Est 1:10 [j]2Ch 31:6; SS 7:2; Jer 50:26; Hag 2:16 **3:9** [k]Eze 16:8 [l]S Ru 2:20 **3:10** [m]S Jdg 17:2 [n]S Jos 2:12 **3:11** [o]Pr 12:4, 14:1, 31:10 **3:12** [p]S Ru 2:20 [q]Ru 4:1 **3:13** [r]Dt 25:5; Ru 4:5; Mt 22:24 [s]S Nu 14:21; Hos 4:15 [t]Ru 4:6 **3:14** [u]S Nu 18:27 [v]Ro 14:16; 2Co 8:21 **3:15** [w]Isa 3:22 **3:18** [x]Ps 37:3-5 **4:1** [y]S Ge 18:1; S 23:10 [z]S Ru 2:20 [a]Ru 3:12 **4:2** [b]S Ex 3:16 [c]S Dt 25:7 **4:3** [d]S Lev 25:25; S Ru 1:2 **4:4** [e]S Lev 25:25; Jer 32:7-8 **4:5** [f]S Ru 1:22 [g]S Ge 38:8; S Ru 3:13 **4:6** [h]Lev 25:25; Ru 3:13 [i]S Dt 25:7 **4:7** [j]S Lev 25:24 [k]ver 8 [l]Isa 8:1-2, 16,20 [m]Dt 25:7-9 **4:8** [n]Dt 25:9 **4:9** [o]Isa 8:2; Jer 32:10,44 **4:10** [p]S Ru 1:22 [q]S Dt 25:5

[h]15 Most Hebrew manuscripts; many Hebrew manuscripts, Vulgate and Syriac *she* [i]4 Many Hebrew manuscripts, Septuagint, Vulgate and Syriac; most Hebrew manuscripts *he* [j]5 Hebrew; Vulgate and Syriac *Naomi, you acquire Ruth the Moabitess,*

property, so that his name will not
disappear from among his family or
from the town records.[a] Today you are
witnesses![b]"
11Then the elders and all those at the
gate[c] said, "We are witnesses.[d] May
the LORD make the woman who is com-
ing into your home like Rachel and
Leah,[e] who together built up the
house of Israel. May you have standing
in Ephrathah[f] and be famous in Beth-
lehem.[g] 12Through the offspring the
LORD gives you by this young woman,
may your family be like that of Perez,[h]
whom Tamar[i] bore to Judah."

The Genealogy of David

4:18-22pp — 1Ch 2:5-15; Mt 1:3-6; Lk 3:31-33

13So Boaz took Ruth and she became
his wife. Then he went to her, and the
LORD enabled her to conceive,[j] and she
gave birth to a son.[k] 14The women[l]
said to Naomi: "Praise be to the LORD,[m]
who this day has not left you without a
kinsman-redeemer.[n] May he become
famous throughout Israel! 15He will
renew your life and sustain you in your
old age. For your daughter-in-law,[o]
who loves you and who is better to you
than seven sons,[p] has given him
birth."
16Then Naomi took the child, laid
him in her lap and cared for him. 17The
women living there said, "Naomi has a
son." And they named him Obed. He
was the father of Jesse,[q] the father of
David.[r]
18This, then, is the family line of
Perez[s]:

Perez was the father of Hezron,[t]
19Hezron the father of Ram,
Ram the father of Amminadab,[u]
20Amminadab the father of Nah-
shon,[v]
Nahshon the father of Salmon,[k]
21Salmon the father of Boaz,[w]
Boaz the father of Obed,
22Obed the father of Jesse,
and Jesse the father of David.

4:10 [a]S Dt 25:6 [b]S Jos 24:22 **4:11** [c]S Ge 23:10 [d]S Dt 25:9 [e]S Ge 4:19; S 29:16 [f]S Ge 35:16 [g]Ru 1:19 **4:12** [h]S Ge 38:29 [i]Ge 38:6,24 **4:13** [j]S Ge 8:1; S 29:31 [k]S Ge 29:32; S 30:6; Lk 1:57 **4:14** [l]Lk 1:58 [m]S Ge 24:27 [n]S Ru 2:20 **4:15** [o]S Ge 11:31 [p]1Sa 1:8; 2:5; Job 1:2 **4:17** [q]ver 22; 1Sa 16:1,18; 17:12,17,58; 1Ch 2:12,13; Ps 72:20 [r]1Sa 16:13; 1Ch 2:15 **4:18** [s]S Ge 38:29 [t]Nu 26:21 **4:19** [u]S Ex 6:23 **4:20** [v]S Nu 7:12 **4:21** [w]S Ru 2:1

k20 A few Hebrew manuscripts, some Septuagint manuscripts and Vulgate (see also verse 21 and Septuagint of 1 Chron. 2:11); most Hebrew manuscripts *Salma*

1 Samuel

The Birth of Samuel

1 There was a certain man from Ra-
mathaim,[a] a Zuphite[a][b] from the
hill country[c] of Ephraim,[d] whose
name was Elkanah[e] son of Jeroham,
the son of Elihu, the son of Tohu, the
son of Zuph, an Ephraimite. 2 He had
two wives:[f] one was called Hannah
and the other Peninnah. Peninnah had
children, but Hannah had none.
3 Year after year[g] this man went up
from his town to worship[h] and sacri-
fice to the LORD Almighty at Shiloh,[i]
where Hophni and Phinehas, the two
sons of Eli,[j] were priests of the LORD.
4 Whenever the day came for Elkanah to
sacrifice,[k] he would give portions of
the meat to his wife Peninnah and to all
her sons and daughters.[l] 5 But to Han-
nah he gave a double portion[m] because
he loved her, and the LORD had closed
her womb.[n] 6 And because the LORD
had closed her womb, her rival kept
provoking her in order to irritate her.[o]
7 This went on year after year. When-
ever Hannah went up to the house of
the LORD, her rival provoked her till she
wept and would not eat.[p] 8 Elkanah her
husband would say to her, "Hannah,
why are you weeping? Why don't you
eat? Why are you downhearted? Don't
I mean more to you than ten sons?[q]"
9 Once when they had finished eating
and drinking in Shiloh, Hannah stood
up. Now Eli the priest was sitting on a
chair by the doorpost of the LORD's tem-
ple.[b][r] 10 In bitterness of soul[s] Hannah
wept much and prayed to the LORD.
11 And she made a vow,[t] saying, "O
LORD Almighty[u], if you will only look
upon your servant's misery and
remember[v] me, and not forget your
servant but give her a son, then I will
give him to the LORD for all the days of
his life,[w] and no razor[x] will ever be
used on his head."
12 As she kept on praying to the LORD,
Eli observed her mouth. 13 Hannah was
praying in her heart, and her lips were
moving but her voice was not heard.

1:1 [a]S Jos 18:25 [b]1Sa 9:5 [c]Jos 17:17-18 [d]Jos 21:20-22 [e]1Ch 6:27,34 **1:2** [f]S Ge 4:19 **1:3** [g]ver 21; Ex 23:14; 1Sa 2:19; 20:6, 29; Lk 2:41 [h]Dt 12:5-7 [i]S Jos 18:1 [j]1Sa 2:31; 14:3 **1:4** [k]Lev 7:15-18; Dt 12:17-18 [l]S Ge 29:34 **1:5** [m]S Ge 37:3 [n]S Ge 11:30; S 29:31 **1:6** [o]S Ge 16:4 **1:7** [p]2Sa 12:17; Ps 102:4 **1:8** [q]S Ru 4:15 **1:9** [r]1Sa 3:3 **1:10** [s]Job 3:20; 7:11; 10:1; 21:25; 23:2; 27:2; Isa 38:15; Jer 20:18 **1:11** [t]S Jdg 11:30 [u]S Ge 17:1; Ps 24:10; 46:7; Isa 1:9 [v]S Ge 8:1 [w]S Jdg 13:7 [x]Nu 6:1-21; Jdg 13:5; Lk 1:15

1:15 [y]2Ki 4:27 [z]Ps 42:4; 62:8; La 2:19 **1:16** [a]Ps 55:2 **1:17** [b]Nu 6:26; 1Sa 20:42; 2Ki 5:19; S Ac 15:33 [c]S Ge 25:21; Ps 20:3-5 **1:18** [d]S Ge 18:3; Ru 2:13 [e]Ro 15:13 **1:19** [f]S Jos 18:25 [g]S Ge 8:1; S 29:31 **1:20** [h]S Ge 17:19; S 29:32; S 30:6 [i]Ex 2:10; Mt 1:21 [j]1Sa 7:5; 12:23; 1Ch 6:27; Jer 15:1; Heb 11:32 **1:21** [k]S ver 3 [l]S Ge 28:20; Nu 30:2; Dt 12:11 **1:22** [m]Ex 13:2; Lk 2:22 **1:23** [n]S Ge 25:21 [o]Ge 21:8 **1:24** [p]Nu 15:8-10

Eli thought she was drunk 14 and said to
her, "How long will you keep on get-
ting drunk? Get rid of your wine."
15 "Not so, my lord," Hannah re-
plied, "I am a woman who is deeply
troubled.[y] I have not been drinking
wine or beer; I was pouring[z] out my
soul to the LORD. 16 Do not take your ser-
vant for a wicked woman; I have been
praying here out of my great anguish
and grief."[a]
17 Eli answered, "Go in peace,[b] and
may the God of Israel grant you what
you have asked of him.[c]"
18 She said, "May your servant find
favor in your eyes.[d]" Then she went
her way and ate something, and her
face was no longer downcast.[e]
19 Early the next morning they arose
and worshiped before the LORD and
then went back to their home at
Ramah.[f] Elkanah lay with Hannah his
wife, and the LORD remembered[g] her.
20 So in the course of time Hannah con-
ceived and gave birth to a son.[h] She
named[i] him Samuel,[c][j] saying, "Be-
cause I asked the LORD for him."

Hannah Dedicates Samuel

21 When the man Elkanah went up
with all his family to offer the annual[k]
sacrifice to the LORD and to fulfill his
vow,[l] 22 Hannah did not go. She said to
her husband, "After the boy is
weaned, I will take him and present[m]
him before the LORD, and he will live
there always."
23 "Do what seems best to you," Elka-
nah her husband told her. "Stay here
until you have weaned him; only may
the LORD make good[n] his[d] word." So
the woman stayed at home and nursed
her son until she had weaned[o] him.
24 After he was weaned, she took the
boy with her, young as he was, along
with a three-year-old bull,[e][p] an

[a]1 Or *from Ramathaim Zuphim* [b]9 That is, tabernacle [c]20 *Samuel* sounds like the Hebrew for *heard of God.* [d]23 Masoretic Text; Dead Sea Scrolls, Septuagint and Syriac *your* [e]24 Dead Sea Scrolls, Septuagint and Syriac; Masoretic Text *with three bulls*

ephah[f] of flour and a skin of wine, and brought him to the house of the LORD at Shiloh. 25When they had slaughtered the bull, they brought the boy to Eli, 26and she said to him, "As surely as you live, my lord, I am the woman who stood here beside you praying to the LORD. 27I prayed[a] for this child, and the LORD has granted me what I asked of him. 28So now I give him to the LORD. For his whole life[b] he will be given over to the LORD." And he worshiped the LORD there.

Hannah's Prayer

2 Then Hannah prayed and said:[c]

"My heart rejoices[d] in the LORD;
in the LORD my horn[g][e] is lifted high.
My mouth boasts[f] over my enemies,[g]
for I delight in your deliverance.

2"There is no one holy[h][h] like[i] the LORD;
there is no one besides you;
there is no Rock[j] like our God.

3"Do not keep talking so proudly
or let your mouth speak such arrogance,[k]
for the LORD is a God who knows,[l]
and by him deeds[m] are weighed.[n]

4"The bows of the warriors are broken,[o]
but those who stumbled are armed with strength.[p]
5Those who were full hire themselves out for food,
but those who were hungry[q] hunger no more.
She who was barren[r] has borne seven children,
but she who has had many sons pines away.

6"The LORD brings death and makes alive;[s]
he brings down to the grave[i] and raises up.[t]
7The LORD sends poverty and wealth;[u]
he humbles and he exalts.[v]
8He raises[w] the poor[x] from the dust[y]
and lifts the needy[z] from the ash heap;
he seats them with princes
and has them inherit a throne of honor.[a]

"For the foundations[b] of the earth are the LORD's;
upon them he has set the world.

1:27 [a]1Sa 2:20; Ps 66:19-20
1:28 [b]S Jdg 13:7
2:1 [c]Lk 1:46-55 [d]Ps 13:5; 33:21; Zec 10:7 [e]Ps 18:2; 89:17, 24; 148:14 [f]Ps 6:8 [g]S Nu 10:35; Ps 6:10
2:2 [h]S Ex 15:11; S Lev 11:44 [i]S Ex 8:10; Isa 40:25; 46:5 [j]S Ge 49:24; S Ex 33:22; Dt 32:37; 2Sa 22:2,32; 23:3; Ps 31:3; 71:3
2:3 [k]Ps 17:10; 31:18; 73:8; 75:4; 94:4 [l]S Jos 22:22 [m]1Sa 16:7; 1Ki 8:39; 1Ch 28:9; 2Ch 6:30; Pr 15:11; Jer 11:20; 17:10 [n]Pr 16:2; 24:11-12
2:4 [o]2Sa 1:27; Ps 37:15; 46:9; 76:3 [p]Job 17:9; Isa 40:31; 41:1; 52:1; 57:10
2:5 [q]Lk 1:53 [r]Ps 113:9; Isa 54:1; Jer 15:9
2:6 [s]Dt 32:39 [t]Isa 26:19; Eze 37:3,12
2:7 [u]S Dt 8:18 [v]Job 5:11; 40:12; Ps 75:7; Isa 2:12; 13:11; 22:19; Da 4:37
2:8 [w]Ps 113:7-8 [x]Jas 2:5 [y]1Ki 16:2 [z]Ps 72:12; 107:41; 145:14; 146:8; S Mt 23:12 [a]2Sa 7:8; Job 36:7; Isa 22:23; Eze 21:26 [b]Job 15:7; 38:4; Ps 104:5; Pr 8:29; Isa 40:12; Jer 10:12
2:9 [c]Ps 91:12; 121:3; Pr 3:26 [d]Pr 2:8 [e]Job 10:22; Isa 5:30; 8:22; 59:9; 60:2; Jer 13:16; Am 5:18,20; Zep 1:14-15; Mt 8:12 [f]1Sa 17:47; Ps 33:16-17; Zec 4:6
2:10 [g]S Ex 15:6 [h]S Ex 19:16; 1Sa 7:10; 12:17; 2Sa 22:14; Job 37:4,5; 38:1; Ps 18:13; 29:3; Isa 66:6 [i]Ps 96:13; 98:9; Mt 25:31-32 [j]Ps 18:1; 21:1; 59:16 [k]S Dt 33:17; Ps 89:24; S Lk 1:69
2:11 [l]S Jos 18:25 [m]ver 18; S Nu 16:9; 1Sa 3:1
2:12 [n]Jer 2:8; 9:6
2:13 [o]Dt 18:3 [p]Lev 7:35-36

9He will guard the feet[c] of his saints,[d]
but the wicked will be silenced in darkness.[e]

"It is not by strength[f] that one prevails;
10 those who oppose the LORD will be shattered.[g]
He will thunder[h] against them from heaven;
the LORD will judge[i] the ends of the earth.

"He will give strength[j] to his king
and exalt the horn[k] of his anointed."

11Then Elkanah went home to
Ramah,[l] but the boy ministered[m] be-
fore the LORD under Eli the priest.

Eli's Wicked Sons

12Eli's sons were wicked men; they
had no regard[n] for the LORD. 13Now it
was the practice[o] of the priests with
the people that whenever anyone of-
fered a sacrifice and while the meat[p]
was being boiled, the servant of the
priest would come with a three-
pronged fork in his hand. 14He would
plunge it into the pan or kettle or cal-
dron or pot, and the priest would take
for himself whatever the fork brought
up. This is how they treated all the Is-
raelites who came to Shiloh. 15But even
before the fat was burned, the servant
of the priest would come and say to the
man who was sacrificing, "Give the
priest some meat to roast; he won't ac-
cept boiled meat from you, but only
raw."

16If the man said to him, "Let the fat[q]
be burned up first, and then take what-
ever you want," the servant would
then answer, "No, hand it over now; if
you don't, I'll take it by force."

17This sin of the young men was very
great in the LORD's sight, for they[j]
were treating the LORD's offering with
contempt.[r]

18But Samuel was ministering[s] be-
fore the LORD—a boy wearing a linen
ephod.[t] 19Each year his mother made
him a little robe and took it to him
when she went up with her husband to
offer the annual[u] sacrifice. 20Eli would
bless Elkanah and his wife, saying,

2:16 [q]Lev 3:3,14-16; 7:29-34 2:17 [r]ver 22,29; S Nu 14:11; Jer 7:21; Eze 22:26; Mal 2:7-9 2:18 [s]S ver 11 [t]ver 28; 1Sa 22:18; 23:9; 2Sa 6:14; 1Ch 15:27 2:19 [u]S 1Sa 1:3

[f]24 That is, probably about 3/5 bushel (about 22 liters)
[g]1 *Horn* here symbolizes strength; also in verse 10.
[h]2 Or *no Holy One* [i]6 Hebrew *Sheol* [j]17 Or *men*

"May the LORD give you children by
this woman to take the place of the one
she prayed[a] for and gave to the LORD."
Then they would go home. 21And the
LORD was gracious to Hannah;[b] she
conceived and gave birth to three sons
and two daughters. Meanwhile, the
boy Samuel grew[c] up in the presence
of the LORD.
22Now Eli, who was very old, heard
about everything[d] his sons were doing
to all Israel and how they slept with the
women[e] who served at the entrance to
the Tent of Meeting. 23So he said to
them, "Why do you do such things? I
hear from all the people about these
wicked deeds of yours. 24No, my sons;
it is not a good report that I hear
spreading among the LORD's people.
25If a man sins against another man,
God[k] may mediate for him; but if a
man sins against the LORD, who will[f]
intercede[g] for him?" His sons, how-
ever, did not listen to their father's
rebuke, for it was the LORD's will to put
them to death.
26And the boy Samuel continued to
grow[h] in stature and in favor with the
LORD and with men.[i]

Prophecy Against the House of Eli

27Now a man of God[j] came to Eli
and said to him, "This is what the LORD
says: 'Did I not clearly reveal myself to
your father's house when they were in
Egypt under Pharaoh? 28I chose[k] your
father out of all the tribes of Israel to be
my priest, to go up to my altar, to burn
incense,[l] and to wear an ephod[m] in
my presence. I also gave your father's
house all the offerings[n] made with fire
by the Israelites. 29Why do you[l] scorn
my sacrifice and offering[o] that I pre-
scribed for my dwelling?[p] Why do you
honor your sons more than me by fat-
tening yourselves on the choice parts of
every offering made by my people Is-
rael?'
30"Therefore the LORD, the God of Is-
rael, declares: 'I promised that your
house and your father's house would
minister before me forever.[q]' But now
the LORD declares: 'Far be it from me!
Those who honor me I will honor,[r] but
those who despise[s] me will be dis-
dained.[t] 31The time is coming when I
will cut short your strength and the
strength of your father's house, so that
there will not be an old man in your
family line[u] 32and you will see dis-
tress[v] in my dwelling. Although good
will be done to Israel, in your family
line there will never be an old man.[w]
33Every one of you that I do not cut off
from my altar will be spared only to
blind your eyes with tears and to grieve
your heart, and all your descendants[x]
will die in the prime of life.
34" 'And what happens to your two
sons, Hophni and Phinehas, will be a
sign[y] to you—they will both die[z] on
the same day.[a] 35I will raise up for my-
self a faithful priest,[b] who will do ac-
cording to what is in my heart and
mind. I will firmly establish his house,
and he will minister before my anoint-
ed[c] one always. 36Then everyone left in
your family line will come and bow
down before him for a piece of silver
and a crust of bread and plead,[d] "Ap-
point me to some priestly office so I can
have food to eat.[e]" ' "

The LORD Calls Samuel

3 The boy Samuel ministered[f] before
the LORD under Eli. In those days
the word of the LORD was rare;[g] there
were not many visions.[h]
2One night Eli, whose eyes[i] were be-
coming so weak that he could barely
see,[j] was lying down in his usual
place. 3The lamp[k] of God had not yet
gone out, and Samuel was lying down
in the temple[m][l] of the LORD, where the
ark[m] of God was. 4Then the LORD called
Samuel.
Samuel answered, "Here I am.[n]"
5And he ran to Eli and said, "Here I
am; you called me."
But Eli said, "I did not call; go back
and lie down." So he went and lay
down.
6Again the LORD called, "Samuel!"
And Samuel got up and went to Eli and
said, "Here I am; you called me."
"My son," Eli said, "I did not call; go
back and lie down."
7Now Samuel did not yet know[o] the
LORD: The word[p] of the LORD had not
yet been revealed[q] to him.
8The LORD called Samuel a third time,
and Samuel got up and went to Eli and
said, "Here I am; you called me."
Then Eli realized that the LORD was
calling the boy. 9So Eli told Samuel,
"Go and lie down, and if he calls you,
say, 'Speak, LORD, for your servant is
listening.' " So Samuel went and lay
down in his place.
10The LORD came and stood there,

2:20 [a]S 1Sa 1:27
2:21 [b]Ge 21:1 [c]S Jdg 13:24; Lk 1:80; 2:40
2:22 [d]S ver 17 [e]S Ex 38:8
2:25 [f]Ex 4:21; Jos 11:20 [g]S Ex 32:10; S Nu 11:2; 1Sa 3:14; 1Ki 13:6; Job 9:33; Ps 106:30; Isa 1:18; 22:14; Jer 15:1; Heb 10:26
2:26 [h]S Jdg 13:24; Lk 2:52 [i]Pr 3:4
2:27 [j]S Dt 33:1; S Jdg 13:6
2:28 [k]S Ex 28:1 [l]S Ex 30:7 [m]1Sa 22:18; 23:6, 9; 30:7 [n]Lev 7:35-36
2:29 [o]ver 12-17 [p]S Dt 12:5
2:30 [q]S Ex 29:9 [r]Ps 50:23; 91:15; Pr 8:17 [s]Isa 53:3; Na 3:6; Mal 2:9 [t]Jer 18:10
2:31 [u]1Sa 4:11-18; 22:16
2:32 [v]1Sa 4:3; 22:17-20; Jer 7:12,14 [w]1Ki 2:26-27
2:33 [x]Jer 29:32; Mal 2:12
2:34 [y]S Dt 13:2 [z]1Sa 4:11 [a]1Ki 13:3
2:35 [b]2Sa 8:17; 20:25; 1Ki 1:8,32; 2:35; 4:4; 1Ch 16:39; 29:22; Eze 44:15-16 [c]1Sa 9:16; 10:1; 16:13; 2Sa 2:4; 12:7; 23:1; 1Ki 1:34; Ps 89:20
2:36 [d]Eze 44:10-14 [e]1Sa 3:12; 1Ki 2:27
3:1 [f]S 1Sa 2:11 [g]Ps 74:9; La 2:9; Eze 7:26 [h]Am 8:11
3:2 [i]1Sa 4:15 [j]S Ge 27:1
3:3 [k]Ex 25:31-38; Lev 24:1-4 [l]1Sa 1:9 [m]Dt 10:1-5; 1Ki 6:19; 8:1
3:4 [n]S Ge 22:1; S Ex 3:4
3:7 [o]1Sa 2:12 [p]Jer 1:2 [q]S Nu 12:6; Am 3:7

[k]25 Or *the judges* [l]29 The Hebrew is plural.
[m]3 That is, tabernacle

calling as at the other times, "Samuel!
Samuel![a]"
Then Samuel said, "Speak, for your
servant is listening."
11And the LORD said to Samuel: "See,
I am about to do something in Israel
that will make the ears of everyone
who hears of it tingle.[b] 12At that time I
will carry out against Eli everything[c] I
spoke against his family—from begin-
ning to end. 13For I told him that I
would judge his family forever because
of the sin he knew about; his sons
made themselves contemptible,[n] and
he failed to restrain[d] them. 14There-
fore, I swore to the house of Eli, 'The
guilt of Eli's house will never be
atoned[e] for by sacrifice or offering.' "
15Samuel lay down until morning
and then opened the doors of the
house of the LORD. He was afraid to tell
Eli the vision, 16but Eli called him and
said, "Samuel, my son."
Samuel answered, "Here I am."
17"What was it he said to you?" Eli
asked. "Do not hide[f] it from me. May
God deal with you, be it ever so severe-
ly,[g] if you hide from me anything he
told you." 18So Samuel told him every-
thing, hiding nothing from him. Then
Eli said, "He is the LORD; let him do
what is good in his eyes."[h]
19The LORD was with[i] Samuel as he
grew[j] up, and he let none[k] of his
words fall to the ground. 20And all Is-
rael from Dan to Beersheba[l] recog-
nized that Samuel was attested as a
prophet of the LORD.[m] 21The LORD con-
tinued to appear at Shiloh, and there
he revealed[n] himself to Samuel
through his word.

4 And Samuel's word came to all Is-
rael.

The Philistines Capture the Ark

Now the Israelites went out to fight
against the Philistines. The Israelites
camped at Ebenezer,[o] and the Philis-
tines at Aphek.[p] 2The Philistines de-
ployed their forces to meet Israel, and
as the battle spread, Israel was de-
feated by the Philistines, who killed
about four thousand of them on the bat-
tlefield. 3When the soldiers returned to
camp, the elders of Israel asked,
"Why[q] did the LORD bring defeat upon
us today before the Philistines? Let us
bring the ark[r] of the LORD's covenant
from Shiloh,[s] so that it[o] may go with
us[t] and save us from the hand of our
enemies."
4So the people sent men to Shiloh,
and they brought back the ark of the
covenant of the LORD Almighty, who is
enthroned between the cherubim.[u]
And Eli's two sons, Hophni and Phine-
has, were there with the ark of the cov-
enant of God.
5When the ark of the LORD's covenant
came into the camp, all Israel raised
such a great shout[v] that the ground
shook. 6Hearing the uproar, the Philis-
tines asked, "What's all this shouting
in the Hebrew[w] camp?"
When they learned that the ark of
the LORD had come into the camp, 7the
Philistines were afraid.[x] "A god has
come into the camp," they said. "We're
in trouble! Nothing like this has hap-
pened before. 8Woe to us! Who will de-
liver us from the hand of these mighty
gods? They are the gods who struck[y]
the Egyptians with all kinds of
plagues[z] in the desert. 9Be strong, Phil-
istines! Be men, or you will be subject
to the Hebrews, as they[a] have been to
you. Be men, and fight!"
10So the Philistines fought, and the
Israelites were defeated[b] and every
man fled to his tent. The slaughter was
very great; Israel lost thirty thousand
foot soldiers. 11The ark of God was cap-
tured, and Eli's two sons, Hophni and
Phinehas, died.[c]

Death of Eli

12That same day a Benjamite[d] ran
from the battle line and went to Shiloh,
his clothes torn and dust[e] on his head.
13When he arrived, there was Eli[f] sit-
ting on his chair by the side of the road,
watching, because his heart feared for
the ark of God. When the man entered
the town and told what had happened,
the whole town sent up a cry.
14Eli heard the outcry and asked,
"What is the meaning of this uproar?"
The man hurried over to Eli, 15who
was ninety-eight years old and whose
eyes[g] were set so that he could not see.
16He told Eli, "I have just come from
the battle line; I fled from it this very
day."
Eli asked, "What happened, my
son?"
17The man who brought the news re-
plied, "Israel fled before the Philis-
tines, and the army has suffered heavy
losses. Also your two sons, Hophni
and Phinehas, are dead,[h] and the ark
of God has been captured."[i]

3:10 [a]Ex 3:4
3:11 [b]2Ki 21:12; Job 15:21; Jer 19:3
3:12 [c]S 1Sa 2:27-36
3:13 [d]1Ki 1:6
3:14 [e]S 1Sa 2:25
3:17 [f]1Ki 22:14; Jer 23:28; 38:14; 42:4 [g]S Ru 1:17
3:18 [h]S Jdg 10:15
3:19 [i]S Ge 21:22; S Nu 14:43 [j]S Jdg 13:24 [k]1Sa 9:6
3:20 [l]S Jdg 20:1 [m]S Dt 18:22; Eze 33:33
3:21 [n]S Nu 12:6
4:1 [o]1Sa 5:1; 7:12 [p]Jos 12:18; 1Sa 29:1; 1Ki 20:26
4:3 [q]Jos 7:7 [r]S Jos 6:7 [s]S Jos 18:1; S 1Sa 2:32 [t]2Ch 13:8
4:4 [u]S Ge 3:24; S Ex 25:22
4:5 [v]S Jos 6:5,10
4:6 [w]S Ge 14:13
4:7 [x]S Ex 15:14
4:8 [y]Ex 12:30; 1Sa 5:12 [z]Rev 11:6
4:9 [a]S Jdg 13:1
4:10 [b]S Dt 28:25
4:11 [c]Ps 78:64; Jer 7:12
4:12 [d]Eze 24:26; 33:21 [e]S Jos 7:6; S 2Sa 1:2
4:13 [f]ver 18
4:15 [g]S 1Sa 3:2
4:17 [h]1Sa 22:18; Ps 78:64 [i]Ps 78:61

[n]13 Masoretic Text; an ancient Hebrew scribal tradition and Septuagint *sons blasphemed God*
[o]3 Or *he*

[18]When he mentioned the ark of God, Eli fell backward off his chair by the side of the gate. His neck was broken and he died, for he was an old man and heavy. He had led[p][a] Israel forty years.[b]

[19]His daughter-in-law, the wife of Phinehas, was pregnant and near the time of delivery. When she heard the news that the ark of God had been captured and that her father-in-law and her husband were dead, she went into labor and gave birth, but was overcome by her labor pains. [20]As she was dying, the women attending her said, "Don't despair; you have given birth to a son." But she did not respond or pay any attention.

[21]She named the boy Ichabod,[q][c] saying, "The glory[d] has departed from Israel"—because of the capture of the ark of God and the deaths of her father-in-law and her husband. [22]She said, "The glory[e] has departed from Israel, for the ark of God has been captured."[f]

The Ark in Ashdod and Ekron

5 After the Philistines had captured the ark of God, they took it from Ebenezer[g] to Ashdod.[h] [2]Then they carried the ark into Dagon's temple and set it beside Dagon.[i] [3]When the people of Ashdod rose early the next day, there was Dagon, fallen[j] on his face on the ground before the ark of the LORD! They took Dagon and put him back in his place. [4]But the following morning when they rose, there was Dagon, fallen on his face on the ground before the ark of the LORD! His head and hands had been broken[k] off and were lying on the threshold; only his body remained. [5]That is why to this day neither the priests of Dagon nor any others who enter Dagon's temple at Ashdod step on the threshold.[l]

[6]The LORD's hand[m] was heavy upon the people of Ashdod and its vicinity; he brought devastation[n] upon them and afflicted them with tumors.[r][o] [7]When the men of Ashdod saw what was happening, they said, "The ark of the god of Israel must not stay here with us, because his hand is heavy upon us and upon Dagon our god." [8]So they called together all the rulers[p] of the Philistines and asked them, "What shall we do with the ark of the god of Israel?"

They answered, "Have the ark of the god of Israel moved to Gath.[q]" So they moved the ark of the God of Israel.

[9]But after they had moved it, the LORD's hand was against that city, throwing it into a great panic.[r] He afflicted the people of the city, both young and old, with an outbreak of tumors.[s] [10]So they sent the ark of God to Ekron.[s]

As the ark of God was entering Ekron, the people of Ekron cried out, "They have brought the ark of the god of Israel around to us to kill us and our people." [11]So they called together all the rulers[t] of the Philistines and said, "Send the ark of the god of Israel away; let it go back to its own place, or it[t] will kill us and our people." For death had filled the city with panic; God's hand was very heavy upon it. [12]Those who did not die[u] were afflicted with tumors, and the outcry of the city went up to heaven.

The Ark Returned to Israel

6 When the ark of the LORD had been in Philistine territory seven months, [2]the Philistines called for the priests and the diviners[v] and said, "What shall we do with the ark of the LORD? Tell us how we should send it back to its place."

[3]They answered, "If you return the ark of the god of Israel, do not send it away empty,[w] but by all means send a guilt offering[x] to him. Then you will be healed, and you will know why his hand[y] has not been lifted from you."

[4]The Philistines asked, "What guilt offering should we send to him?"

They replied, "Five gold tumors and five gold rats, according to the number[z] of the Philistine rulers, because the same plague[a] has struck both you and your rulers. [5]Make models of the tumors[b] and of the rats that are destroying the country, and pay honor[c] to Israel's god. Perhaps he will lift his hand from you and your gods and your land. [6]Why do you harden[d] your hearts as the Egyptians and Pharaoh did? When he[u] treated them harshly,[e] did they[f] not send the Israelites out so they could go on their way?

[7]"Now then, get a new cart[g] ready, with two cows that have calved and have never been yoked.[h] Hitch the cows to the cart, but take their calves

4:18 [a]S Jdg 2:16; S 16:31 [b]1Sa 2:31
4:21 [c]S Ge 35:18 [d]S Ex 24:16; Ps 106:20; Jer 2:11; Eze 1:28; 9:3; 10:18
4:22 [e]S Ex 24:16; Ps 78:61 [f]Jer 7:12
5:1 [g]S 1Sa 4:1 [h]S Jos 11:22; S 13:3
5:2 [i]S Jdg 16:23; Isa 2:18; 19:1; 46:1
5:3 [j]Isa 40:20; 41:7; 46:7; Jer 10:4
5:4 [k]Eze 6:6; Mic 1:7
5:5 [l]Zep 1:9
5:6 [m]S Ex 9:3; Ac 13:11 [n]2Sa 6:7; Ps 78:66 [o]S Ex 15:26; 1Sa 6:5
5:8 [p]S Jdg 16:18 [q]S Jos 11:22
5:9 [r]S Ex 14:24
5:10 [s]S Jos 13:3
5:11 [t]ver 8
5:12 [u]S 1Sa 4:8
6:2 [v]S Ex 7:11; S Isa 44:25
6:3 [w]S Ex 22:29; S 34:20 [x]S Lev 5:15 [y]ver 9
6:4 [z]S Jos 13:3 [a]2Sa 24:25
6:5 [b]S 1Sa 5:6 [c]S Jos 7:19; Rev 14:7
6:6 [d]S Ex 4:21 [e]Ex 10:2 [f]S Ex 12:33
6:7 [g]2Sa 6:3; 1Ch 13:7 [h]S Nu 19:2

[p]18 Traditionally *judged* [q]21 *Ichabod* means *no glory.* [r]6 Hebrew; Septuagint and Vulgate *tumors. And rats appeared in their land, and death and destruction were throughout the city* [s]9 Or *with tumors in the groin* (see Septuagint) [t]11 Or *he* [u]6 That is, God

away and pen them up. 8Take the ark
of the LORD and put it on the cart, and
in a chest beside it put the gold objects
you are sending back to him as a guilt
offering. Send it on its way, 9but keep
watching it. If it goes up to its own ter-
ritory, toward Beth Shemesh,[a] then
the LORD has brought this great disaster
on us. But if it does not, then we will
know that it was not his hand that
struck us and that it happened to us by
chance."

10So they did this. They took two
such cows and hitched them to the cart
and penned up their calves. 11They
placed the ark of the LORD on the cart
and along with it the chest containing
the gold rats and the models of the tu-
mors. 12Then the cows went straight up
toward Beth Shemesh, keeping on the
road and lowing all the way; they did
not turn to the right or to the left.
The rulers of the Philistines followed
them as far as the border of Beth She-
mesh.

13Now the people of Beth Shemesh
were harvesting their wheat[b] in the
valley, and when they looked up and
saw the ark, they rejoiced at the sight.
14The cart came to the field of Joshua of
Beth Shemesh, and there it stopped be-
side a large rock. The people chopped
up the wood of the cart and sacrificed
the cows as a burnt offering[c] to the
LORD. 15The Levites[d] took down the ark
of the LORD, together with the chest
containing the gold objects, and placed
them on the large rock.[e] On that day
the people of Beth Shemesh[f] offered
burnt offerings and made sacrifices to
the LORD. 16The five rulers of the Philis-
tines saw all this and then returned
that same day to Ekron.

17These are the gold tumors the Phil-
istines sent as a guilt offering to the
LORD—one each[g] for Ashdod, Gaza,
Ashkelon, Gath and Ekron. 18And the
number of the gold rats was according
to the number of Philistine towns be-
longing to the five rulers—the fortified
towns with their country villages. The
large rock, on which[v] they set the ark
of the LORD, is a witness to this day in
the field of Joshua of Beth Shemesh.

19But God struck down[h] some of the
men of Beth Shemesh, putting seven-
ty[w] of them to death because they had
looked[i] into the ark of the LORD. The
people mourned because of the heavy
blow the LORD had dealt them, 20and
the men of Beth Shemesh asked, "Who
can stand[j] in the presence of the LORD,
this holy[k] God? To whom will the ark
go up from here?"

21Then they sent messengers to the
people of Kiriath Jearim,[l] saying, "The
Philistines have returned the ark of the
LORD. Come down and take it up to
7 your place." 1So the men of Kiriath
Jearim came and took up the ark[m]
of the LORD. They took it to Abina-
dab's[n] house on the hill and conse-
crated Eleazar his son to guard the ark
of the LORD.

Samuel Subdues the Philistines at Mizpah

2It was a long time, twenty years in
all, that the ark remained at Kiriath Jea-
rim,[o] and all the people of Israel
mourned and sought after the LORD.[p]
3And Samuel said to the whole house
of Israel, "If you are returning[q] to the
LORD with all your hearts, then rid[r]
yourselves of the foreign gods and the
Ashtoreths[s] and commit[t] yourselves
to the LORD and serve him only,[u] and
he will deliver[v] you out of the hand of
the Philistines." 4So the Israelites put
away their Baals and Ashtoreths, and
served the LORD only.

5Then Samuel[w] said, "Assemble all
Israel at Mizpah[x] and I will intercede[y]
with the LORD for you." 6When they
had assembled at Mizpah,[z] they drew
water and poured[a] it out before the
LORD. On that day they fasted and
there they confessed, "We have sinned
against the LORD." And Samuel was
leader[x][b] of Israel at Mizpah.

7When the Philistines heard that Is-
rael had assembled at Mizpah, the rul-
ers of the Philistines came up to attack
them. And when the Israelites heard of
it, they were afraid[c] because of the
Philistines. 8They said to Samuel, "Do
not stop crying[d] out to the LORD our
God for us, that he may rescue us from
the hand of the Philistines." 9Then
Samuel[e] took a suckling lamb and of-
fered it up as a whole burnt offering to
the LORD. He cried out to the LORD on
Israel's behalf, and the LORD answered
him.[f]

10While Samuel was sacrificing the
burnt offering, the Philistines drew
near to engage Israel in battle. But that
day the LORD thundered[g] with loud
thunder against the Philistines and

6:9 [a]S Jos 15:10; 21:16
6:13 [b]S Ge 30:14; Ru 2:23; 1Sa 12:17
6:14 [c]1Sa 11:7; 2Sa 24:22; 1Ki 19:21
6:15 [d]Jos 3:3 [e]ver 18 [f]Jos 21:16
6:17 [g]S Jos 13:3
6:19 [h]2Sa 6:7 [i]S Ex 19:21
6:20 [j]2Sa 6:9; Ps 130:3; Mal 3:2; Rev 6:17 [k]S Lev 11:45
6:21 [l]S Jos 9:17
7:1 [m]S Jos 6:7 [n]2Sa 6:3; 1Ch 13:7
7:2 [o]1Ch 13:5; Ps 132:6 [p]1Ch 13:3
7:3 [q]Dt 30:10; 2Ki 18:5; 23:25; Jer 24:7 [r]S Ge 31:19; S Jos 24:14 [s]S Jdg 2:12-13; 1Sa 12:10; 31:10 [t]Joel 2:12 [u]S Dt 6:13; Mt 4:10; Lk 4:8 [v]S Jdg 2:18
7:5 [w]S 1Sa 1:20; Ps 99:6; Jer 15:1 [x]S Jos 11:3; Jdg 21:5; 1Sa 10:17 [y]S ver 8; S Ge 20:7; S Dt 9:19
7:6 [z]S Jos 11:3 [a]La 2:19 [b]S Jdg 2:16; S 16:31
7:7 [c]1Sa 17:11
7:8 [d]ver 5; S Ex 32:30; S Nu 21:7; 1Sa 12:19,23; 1Ki 18:24; Isa 37:4; Jer 15:1; 27:18
7:9 [e]Ps 99:6 [f]S Ex 32:11; S Dt 9:19
7:10 [g]S Ex 9:23; S 1Sa 2:10

[v]*18* A few Hebrew manuscripts (see also Septuagint); most Hebrew manuscripts *villages as far as Greater Abel, where* [w]*19* A few Hebrew manuscripts; most Hebrew manuscripts and Septuagint *50,070*
[x]*6* Traditionally *judge*

threw them into such a panic[a] that
they were routed before the Israelites.
11The men of Israel rushed out of Miz-
pah and pursued the Philistines,
slaughtering them along the way to a
point below Beth Car.
12Then Samuel took a stone[b] and set
it up between Mizpah and Shen. He
named it Ebenezer,[y][c] saying, "Thus
far has the LORD helped us." 13So the
Philistines were subdued[d] and did not
invade Israelite territory again.
Throughout Samuel's lifetime, the
hand of the LORD was against the Philis-
tines. 14The towns from Ekron[e] to Gath
that the Philistines had captured from
Israel were restored to her, and Israel
delivered the neighboring territory
from the power of the Philistines. And
there was peace between Israel and the
Amorites.[f]
15Samuel[g] continued as judge[h] over
Israel all[i] the days of his life. 16From
year to year he went on a circuit from
Bethel[j] to Gilgal[k] to Mizpah, judging[l]
Israel in all those places. 17But he al-
ways went back to Ramah,[m] where his
home was, and there he also judged[n]
Israel. And he built an altar[o] there to
the LORD.

Israel Asks for a King

8 When Samuel grew old, he ap-
pointed[p] his sons as judges for Is-
rael. 2The name of his firstborn was
Joel and the name of his second was
Abijah,[q] and they served at Beer-
sheba.[r] 3But his sons[s] did not walk in
his ways. They turned aside[t] after dis-
honest gain and accepted bribes[u] and
perverted[v] justice.
4So all the elders[w] of Israel gathered
together and came to Samuel at
Ramah.[x] 5They said to him, "You are
old, and your sons do not walk in your
ways; now appoint a king[y] to lead[z][z]
us, such as all the other nations[a]
have."
6But when they said, "Give us a
king[b] to lead us," this displeased[c]
Samuel; so he prayed to the LORD. 7And
the LORD told him: "Listen[d] to all that
the people are saying to you; it is not
you they have rejected,[e] but they have
rejected me as their king.[f] 8As they
have done from the day I brought them
up out of Egypt until this day, forsak-
ing[g] me and serving other gods, so
they are doing to you. 9Now listen to
them; but warn them solemnly and let
them know[h] what the king who will
reign over them will do."

7:10 [a]S Ge 35:5; S Ex 14:24 **7:12** [b]S Ge 28:22; S Dt 27:2; Jos 4:9 [c]S 1Sa 4:1 **7:13** [d]Jdg 13:5 **7:14** [e]S Jos 13:3 [f]S Jdg 1:34 **7:15** [g]ver 6; 1Sa 12:11 [h]S Jdg 2:16 [i]Jdg 2:18 **7:16** [j]S Ge 12:8 [k]S Jos 10:43; S 1Sa 10:8; Am 5:5 [l]ver 6; Ac 13:20 **7:17** [m]S Jos 18:25; 1Sa 8:4; 15:34; 19:18; 25:1; 28:3 [n]ver 6 [o]1Sa 9:12; 14:35; 20:6; 2Sa 24:25 **8:1** [p]Dt 16:18-19 **8:2** [q]1Ch 6:28 [r]Ge 22:19; 1Ki 19:3; Am 5:4-5 **8:3** [s]1Sa 2:12 [t]Ne 9:29; Job 34:27; Ps 14:3; 58:3; Isa 53:6 [u]Ex 23:8; 1Sa 12:3; Job 8:22; Pr 17:23 [v]S Ex 23:2 **8:4** [w]S Jdg 11:11; 1Sa 11:3 [x]S 1Sa 7:17 **8:5** [y]ver 19; S Dt 17:14-20; 1Sa 10:19; 12:12, 13; Hos 13:11 [z]1Sa 3:20; 12:2 [a]ver 20 **8:6** [b]Hos 13:10 [c]1Sa 12:17; 15:11; 16:1 **8:7** [d]ver 22; 1Sa 12:1 [e]S Nu 11:20 [f]S Ex 16:8 **8:8** [g]1Sa 12:10; 2Ki 21:22; Jer 2:17 **8:9** [h]ver 11-18; S Dt 17:14-20; 1Sa 10:25

8:10 [i]S Ex 19:7 **8:11** [j]1Sa 14:52 [k]S Ge 41:46 [l]S Dt 17:16; 2Sa 15:1; 1Ki 1:5; 2Ch 1:14; 9:25; SS 3:7 **8:12** [m]S Dt 1:15 **8:14** [n]Eze 46:18 [o]1Ki 21:7,15; Mic 2:2 [p]2Ki 22:12 **8:15** [q]S Ge 41:34; 1Sa 17:25 **8:18** [r]1Sa 28:6; Job 27:9; 35:12, 13; Ps 18:41; 66:18; Pr 1:28; Isa 1:15; 58:4; 59:2; Jer 14:12; Eze 8:18; Mic 3:4 [s]1Sa 10:25; 1Ki 12:4 **8:19** [t]Pr 1:24; Isa 50:2; 66:4; Jer 7:13; 8:12; 13:10; 44:16 [u]Ac 13:21 [v]S ver 5 **8:20** [w]S ver 5 **8:21** [x]S Jdg 11:11

10Samuel told[i] all the words of the
LORD to the people who were asking
him for a king. 11He said, "This is what
the king who will reign over you will
do: He will take[j] your sons and make
them serve[k] with his chariots and
horses, and they will run in front of his
chariots.[l] 12Some he will assign to be
commanders[m] of thousands and com-
manders of fifties, and others to plow
his ground and reap his harvest, and
still others to make weapons of war
and equipment for his chariots. 13He
will take your daughters to be perfum-
ers and cooks and bakers. 14He will
take the best of your[n] fields and vine-
yards[o] and olive groves and give them
to his attendants.[p] 15He will take a
tenth[q] of your grain and of your vin-
tage and give it to his officials and at-
tendants. 16Your menservants and
maidservants and the best of your cat-
tle[a] and donkeys he will take for his
own use. 17He will take a tenth of your
flocks, and you yourselves will become
his slaves. 18When that day comes, you
will cry out for relief from the king you
have chosen, and the LORD will not an-
swer[r] you in that day.[s]"
19But the people refused[t] to listen to
Samuel. "No!" they said. "We want[u] a
king[v] over us. 20Then we will be like all
the other nations,[w] with a king to lead
us and to go out before us and fight our
battles."
21When Samuel heard all that the
people said, he repeated[x] it before the
LORD. 22The LORD answered, "Listen[y] to
them and give them a king."
Then Samuel said to the men of Is-
rael, "Everyone go back to his town."

Samuel Anoints Saul

9 There was a Benjamite,[z] a man of
standing,[a] whose name was Kish[b]
son of Abiel, the son of Zeror, the son
of Becorath, the son of Aphiah of Ben-
jamin. 2He had a son named Saul, an
impressive[c] young man without
equal[d] among the Israelites—a head
taller[e] than any of the others.
3Now the donkeys[f] belonging to
Saul's father Kish were lost, and Kish
said to his son Saul, "Take one of the
servants with you and go and look for
the donkeys." 4So he passed through

8:22 [y]S ver 7 **9:1** [z]Jos 18:11-20 [a]S Ru 2:1 [b]1Sa 14:51; 1Ch 8:33; 9:39; Est 2:5; Ac 13:21 **9:2** [c]S Ge 39:6 [d]1Sa 10:24 [e]1Sa 10:23 **9:3** [f]ver 20; 1Sa 10:14,16

[y]12 *Ebenezer* means *stone of help.* [z]5 Traditionally *judge;* also in verses 6 and 20 [a]16 Septuagint; Hebrew *young men*

the hill[a] country of Ephraim and
through the area around Shalisha,[b] but
they did not find them. They went on
into the district of Shaalim, but the
donkeys[c] were not there. Then he
passed through the territory of Benja-
min, but they did not find them.
5 When they reached the district of
Zuph,[d] Saul said to the servant who
was with him, "Come, let's go back, or
my father will stop thinking about the
donkeys and start worrying[e] about
us."
6 But the servant replied, "Look, in
this town there is a man of God;[f] he is
highly respected, and everything[g] he
says comes true. Let's go there now.
Perhaps he will tell us what way to
take."
7 Saul said to his servant, "If we go,
what can we give the man? The food in
our sacks is gone. We have no gift[h] to
take to the man of God. What do we
have?"
8 The servant answered him again.
"Look," he said, "I have a quarter of a
shekel[b] of silver. I will give it to the
man of God so that he will tell us what
way to take." 9 (Formerly in Israel, if a
man went to inquire[i] of God, he
would say, "Come, let us go to the
seer," because the prophet of today
used to be called a seer.)[j]
10 "Good," Saul said to his servant.
"Come, let's go." So they set out for
the town where the man of God was.
11 As they were going up the hill to
the town, they met some girls coming
out to draw[k] water, and they asked
them, "Is the seer here?"
12 "He is," they answered. "He's
ahead of you. Hurry now; he has just
come to our town today, for the people
have a sacrifice[l] at the high place.[m]
13 As soon as you enter the town, you
will find him before he goes up to the
high place to eat. The people will not
begin eating until he comes, because he
must bless[n] the sacrifice; afterward,
those who are invited will eat. Go up
now; you should find him about this
time."
14 They went up to the town, and as
they were entering it, there was Sam-
uel, coming toward them on his way
up to the high place.
15 Now the day before Saul came, the
LORD had revealed this to Samuel:
16 "About this time tomorrow I will
send you a man from the land of Benja-
min. Anoint[o] him leader[p] over my
people Israel; he will deliver[q] my
people from the hand of the Philis-
tines.[r] I have looked upon my people,
for their cry[s] has reached me."
17 When Samuel caught sight of Saul,
the LORD said to him, "This[t] is the man
I spoke to you about; he will govern my
people."
18 Saul approached Samuel in the
gateway and asked, "Would you
please tell me where the seer's house
is?"
19 "I am the seer," Samuel replied.
"Go up ahead of me to the high place,
for today you are to eat with me, and in
the morning I will let you go and will
tell you all that is in your heart. 20 As for
the donkeys[u] you lost three days ago,
do not worry about them; they have
been found. And to whom is all the de-
sire[v] of Israel turned, if not to you and
all your father's family?"
21 Saul answered, "But am I not a
Benjamite, from the smallest tribe[w] of
Israel, and is not my clan the least[x] of
all the clans of the tribe of Benjamin?[y]
Why do you say such a thing to me?"
22 Then Samuel brought Saul and his
servant into the hall and seated them at
the head of those who were invited—
about thirty in number. 23 Samuel said
to the cook, "Bring the piece of meat I
gave you, the one I told you to lay
aside."
24 So the cook took up the leg[z] with
what was on it and set it in front of
Saul. Samuel said, "Here is what has
been kept for you. Eat, because it was
set aside for you for this occasion, from
the time I said, 'I have invited
guests.'" And Saul dined with Samuel
that day.
25 After they came down from the
high place to the town, Samuel talked
with Saul on the roof[a] of his house.
26 They rose about daybreak and Sam-
uel called to Saul on the roof, "Get
ready, and I will send you on your
way." When Saul got ready, he and
Samuel went outside together. 27 As
they were going down to the edge of
the town, Samuel said to Saul, "Tell
the servant to go on ahead of us"—and
the servant did so—"but you stay here
awhile, so that I may give you a mes-
sage from God."

10 Then Samuel took a flask[b] of oil
and poured it on Saul's head and
kissed him, saying, "Has not the LORD
anointed[c] you leader over his inheri-

9:4 [a]S Jos 24:33 [b]2Ki 4:42 [c]1Sa 10:2
9:5 [d]1Sa 1:1 [e]1Sa 10:2
9:6 [f]S Dt 33:1; S Jdg 13:6 [g]1Sa 3:19
9:7 [h]S Ge 32:20; 1Ki 13:7; 14:3; 2Ki 4:42; 5:5,15; Jer 40:5
9:9 [i]S Ge 25:22 [j]2Sa 15:27; 24:11; 2Ki 17:13; 1Ch 9:22; 21:9; 26:28; 29:29; 2Ch 19:2; Isa 29:10; 30:10; Am 7:12
9:11 [k]S Ge 24:11,13
9:12 [l]Nu 28:11-15; S 1Sa 7:17 [m]S Lev 26:30
9:13 [n]S Mt 14:19; 1Co 10:16; 1Ti 4:3-5
9:16 [o]Ex 30:25; S 1Sa 2:35; 12:3; 15:1; 26:9; 2Ki 11:12; Ps 2:2 [p]2Sa 7:8; 1Ki 8:16; 1Ch 5:2 [q]Ex 3:8 [r]1Sa 23:4; 2Sa 3:18 [s]S Ge 16:11; Ps 102:1
9:17 [t]1Sa 16:12
9:20 [u]S ver 3 [v]1Sa 12:13; Ezr 6:8; Isa 60:4-9; Da 2:44; Hag 2:7; Mal 3:1
9:21 [w]Ps 68:27 [x]S Ex 3:11; Mt 2:6; 1Co 15:9 [y]Jdg 6:15; 20:35, 46; 1Sa 18:18
9:24 [z]S Lev 7:34
9:25 [a]S Dt 22:8; S Jos 2:8; S Mt 24:17; Lk 5:19
10:1 [b]1Sa 16:1; 2Ki 9:1 [c]S Ex 29:7; S 1Sa 9:16; S 1Ki 1:39

[b]8 That is, about 1/10 ounce (about 3 grams)

tance?[c1][a] 2 When you leave me today,
you will meet two men near Rachel's
tomb,[b] at Zelzah on the border of Ben-
jamin. They will say to you, 'The don-
keys[c] you set out to look for have been
found. And now your father has
stopped thinking about them and is
worried[d] about you. He is asking,
"What shall I do about my son?"'
3 "Then you will go on from there un-
til you reach the great tree of Tabor.
Three men going up to God at Bethel[e]
will meet you there. One will be carry-
ing three young goats, another three
loaves of bread, and another a skin of
wine. 4 They will greet you and offer
you two loaves of bread,[f] which you
will accept from them.
5 "After that you will go to Gibeah[g]
of God, where there is a Philistine out-
post.[h] As you approach the town, you
will meet a procession of prophets[i]
coming down from the high place[j]
with lyres, tambourines,[k] flutes[l] and
harps[m] being played before them, and
they will be prophesying.[n] 6 The Spirit[o]
of the LORD will come upon you in
power, and you will prophesy with
them; and you will be changed[p] into a
different person. 7 Once these signs are
fulfilled, do whatever[q] your hand[r]
finds to do, for God is with[s] you.
8 "Go down ahead of me to Gilgal.[t] I
will surely come down to you to sacri-
fice burnt offerings and fellowship of-
ferings,[d8] but you must wait seven[u]
days until I come to you and tell you
what you are to do."

Saul Made King

9 As Saul turned to leave Samuel,
God changed[v] Saul's heart, and all
these signs[w] were fulfilled[x] that day.
10 When they arrived at Gibeah, a
procession of prophets met him; the
Spirit[y] of God came upon him in
power, and he joined in their prophe-
sying.[z] 11 When all those who had for-
merly known him saw him prophesy-
ing with the prophets, they asked each
other, "What is this[a] that has hap-
pened to the son of Kish? Is Saul also
among the prophets?"[b]
12 A man who lived there answered,
"And who is their father?" So it
became a saying: "Is Saul also among
the prophets?"[c] 13 After Saul stopped
prophesying,[d] he went to the high
place.
14 Now Saul's uncle[e] asked him and
his servant, "Where have you been?"
"Looking for the donkeys,[f]" he
said. "But when we saw they were not
to be found, we went to Samuel."
15 Saul's uncle said, "Tell me what
Samuel said to you."
16 Saul replied, "He assured us that
the donkeys[g] had been found." But he
did not tell his uncle what Samuel had
said about the kingship.
17 Samuel summoned the people of
Israel to the LORD at Mizpah[h] 18 and said
to them, "This is what the LORD, the
God of Israel, says: 'I brought Israel up
out of Egypt, and I delivered you from
the power of Egypt and all the king-
doms that oppressed[i] you.' 19 But you
have now rejected[j] your God, who
saves[k] you out of all your calamities
and distresses. And you have said,
'No, set a king[l] over us.'[m] So now
present[n] yourselves before the LORD by
your tribes and clans."
20 When Samuel brought all the tribes
of Israel near, the tribe of Benjamin
was chosen. 21 Then he brought for-
ward the tribe of Benjamin, clan by
clan, and Matri's clan was chosen.[o] Fi-
nally Saul son of Kish was chosen. But
when they looked for him, he was not
to be found. 22 So they inquired[p] fur-
ther of the LORD, "Has the man come
here yet?"
And the LORD said, "Yes, he has hid-
den himself among the baggage."
23 They ran and brought him out, and
as he stood among the people he was a
head taller[q] than any of the others.
24 Samuel said to all the people, "Do
you see the man the LORD has chosen?[r]
There is no one like[s] him among all the
people."
Then the people shouted, "Long
live[t] the king!"
25 Samuel explained[u] to the people
the regulations[v] of the kingship.[w] He
wrote them down on a scroll and de-
posited it before the LORD. Then Sam-
uel dismissed the people, each to his
own home.
26 Saul also went to his home in Gibe-
ah,[x] accompanied by valiant men[y]
whose hearts God had touched. 27 But
some troublemakers[z] said, "How can
this fellow save us?" They despised
him and brought him no gifts.[a] But
Saul kept silent.

10:1 [a]S Ex 34:9; 2Sa 20:19; Ps 78:62,71 **10:2** [b]Ge 35:20 [c]1Sa 9:4 [d]1Sa 9:5 **10:3** [e]S Ge 35:8 **10:4** [f]ver 27; 1Sa 16:20; Pr 18:16 **10:5** [g]ver 26; 1Sa 11:4; 15:34 [h]1Sa 13:3 [i]S Nu 11:29; 1Ki 20:35; 2Ki 2:3,15; 4:1; 6:1; 9:1; Am 7:14 [j]S Lev 26:30 [k]S Ge 31:27; Jer 31:4 [l]1Ki 1:40; Isa 30:29 [m]1Sa 16:16; 18:10; 19:9; 2Ki 3:15; Ps 92:3 [n]ver 10; 1Sa 19:20; 1Ch 25:1; 1Co 14:1 **10:6** [o]S Nu 11:25 [p]ver 9 **10:7** [q]2Sa 7:3; 1Ki 8:17; 1Ch 22:7; 28:2; 2Ch 6:7; Ecc 9:10 [r]Jdg 9:33 [s]S Jos 1:5; Lk 1:28; Heb 13:5 **10:8** [t]Jos 4:20; S 10:43; 1Sa 7:16; 11:14 [u]1Sa 13:8 **10:9** [v]ver 6 [w]S Dt 13:2 [x]ver 7 **10:10** [y]S Nu 11:25; 1Sa 11:6 [z]S ver 5 **10:11** [a]Mt 13:54; Jn 7:15 [b]ver 12; 1Sa 19:24; 2Ki 9:11; Jer 29:26; Hos 9:7 **10:12** [c]S ver 11 **10:13** [d]1Sa 19:23 **10:14** [e]1Sa 14:50 [f]S 1Sa 9:3 **10:16** [g]S 1Sa 9:3 **10:17** [h]S 1Sa 7:5 **10:18** [i]S Ex 1:14; S Nu 10:9 **10:19** [j]S Nu 11:20; S Dt 33:5 [k]Ps 7:10; 18:48; 68:20; 145:19 [l]S 1Sa 8:5 [m]S Dt 17:14 [n]Jos 7:14 **10:21** [o]Est 3:7; Pr 16:33 **10:22** [p]S Ge 25:22; S Jdg 18:5 **10:23** [q]1Sa 9:2 **10:24** [r]Dt 17:15; 2Sa 21:6 [s]1Sa 9:2 [t]1Ki 1:25,34,39; 2Ki 11:12 **10:25** [u]S 1Sa 8:9 [v]S Dt 17:14-20; S 1Sa 8:11-18; 2Ki 11:12 [w]1Sa 11:14 **10:26** [x]S ver 5; S Jdg 19:14 [y]S Jdg 20:44 **10:27** [z]S Dt 13:13; S 1Sa 20:7 [a]S ver 4; 1Ki 10:25; 2Ch 17:5; 32:23; Ps 68:29

c1 Hebrew; Septuagint and Vulgate *over his people Israel? You will reign over the LORD's people and save them from the power of their enemies round about. And this will be a sign to you that the LORD has anointed you leader over his inheritance:* d8 Traditionally *peace offerings*

Saul Rescues the City of Jabesh

11 Nahash[a] the Ammonite went up
and besieged Jabesh Gilead.[b]
And all the men of Jabesh said to him,
"Make a treaty[c] with us, and we will
be subject to you."
2 But Nahash the Ammonite replied,
"I will make a treaty with you only on
the condition[d] that I gouge[e] out the
right eye of every one of you and so
bring disgrace[f] on all Israel."
3 The elders[g] of Jabesh said to him,
"Give us seven days so we can send
messengers throughout Israel; if no
one comes to rescue[h] us, we will sur-
render[i] to you."
4 When the messengers came to Gibe-
ah[j] of Saul and reported these terms to
the people, they all wept[k] aloud. 5 Just
then Saul was returning from the
fields, behind his oxen, and he asked,
"What is wrong with the people? Why
are they weeping?" Then they repeated
to him what the men of Jabesh had
said.
6 When Saul heard their words, the
Spirit[l] of God came upon him in
power, and he burned with anger. 7 He
took a pair of oxen,[m] cut them into
pieces, and sent the pieces by messen-
gers throughout Israel,[n] proclaiming,
"This is what will be done to the oxen
of anyone[o] who does not follow Saul
and Samuel." Then the terror of the
LORD fell on the people, and they
turned out as one man.[p] 8 When Saul
mustered[q] them at Bezek,[r] the men of
Israel numbered three hundred thou-
sand and the men of Judah thirty thou-
sand.
9 They told the messengers who had
come, "Say to the men of Jabesh Gil-
ead, 'By the time the sun is hot tomor-
row, you will be delivered.'" When
the messengers went and reported this
to the men of Jabesh, they were elated.
10 They said to the Ammonites, "To-
morrow we will surrender[s] to you, and
you can do to us whatever seems good
to you."
11 The next day Saul separated his
men into three divisions;[t] during the
last watch of the night they broke into
the camp of the Ammonites[u] and
slaughtered them until the heat of the
day. Those who survived were scat-
tered, so that no two of them were left
together.

Saul Confirmed as King

12 The people then said to Samuel,
"Who[v] was it that asked, 'Shall Saul
reign over us?' Bring these men to us
and we will put them to death."
13 But Saul said, "No one shall be put
to death today,[w] for this day the LORD
has rescued[x] Israel."
14 Then Samuel said to the people,
"Come, let us go to Gilgal[y] and there
reaffirm the kingship."[z] 15 So all the
people went to Gilgal[a] and confirmed
Saul as king[b] in the presence of the
LORD. There they sacrificed fellowship
offerings[c] before the LORD, and Saul
and all the Israelites held a great cele-
bration.

Samuel's Farewell Speech

12 Samuel said to all Israel, "I have
listened[c] to everything you said
to me and have set a king[d] over you.
2 Now you have a king as your leader.[e]
As for me, I am old and gray, and my
sons[f] are here with you. I have been
your leader from my youth until this
day. 3 Here I stand. Testify against me
in the presence of the LORD and his
anointed.[g] Whose ox have I taken?
Whose donkey[h] have I taken? Whom
have I cheated? Whom have I op-
pressed? From whose hand have I ac-
cepted a bribe[i] to make me shut my
eyes? If I have done[j] any of these, I
will make it right."[k]
4 "You have not cheated or oppressed
us," they replied. "You have not taken
anything from anyone's hand."
5 Samuel said to them, "The LORD is
witness[l] against you, and also his
anointed is witness this day, that you
have not found anything[m] in my
hand."[n]
"He is witness," they said.
6 Then Samuel said to the people, "It
is the LORD who appointed Moses and
Aaron and brought[o] your forefathers
up out of Egypt. 7 Now then, stand[p]
here, because I am going to confront[q]
you with evidence before the LORD as to
all the righteous acts[r] performed by
the LORD for you and your fathers.
8 "After Jacob[s] entered Egypt, they
cried[t] to the LORD for help, and the
LORD sent[u] Moses and Aaron, who
brought your forefathers out of Egypt
and settled them in this place.
9 "But they forgot[v] the LORD their
God; so he sold them[w] into the hand of
Sisera,[x] the commander of the army of
Hazor,[y] and into the hands of the Phil-
istines[z] and the king of Moab,[a] who

11:1 [a]S Ge 19:38; 1Sa 12:12; 2Sa 10:2; 17:27; 1Ch 19:1 [b]Jdg 21:8; 1Sa 31:11; 2Sa 2:4,5; 21:12 [c]S Ex 23:32; S Jer 37:1 **11:2** [d]Ge 34:15 [e]S Nu 16:14 [f]1Sa 17:26 **11:3** [g]S 1Sa 8:4 [h]S Jdg 2:16 [i]ver 10 **11:4** [j]S 1Sa 10:5, 26 [k]S Ge 27:38; S Nu 25:6 **11:6** [l]S Jdg 3:10 **11:7** [m]S 1Sa 6:14 [n]S Jdg 19:29 [o]Jdg 21:5 [p]S Jdg 20:1 **11:8** [q]Jdg 20:2 [r]Jdg 1:4 **11:10** [s]ver 3 **11:11** [t]S Jdg 7:16 [u]S Ge 19:38 **11:12** [v]S Dt 13:13; Lk 19:27 **11:13** [w]2Sa 19:22 [x]1Sa 19:5; 1Ch 11:14 **11:14** [y]S Jos 10:43; S 1Sa 10:8 [z]1Sa 10:25 **11:15** [a]S Jos 5:9; 2Sa 19:15 [b]1Sa 12:1 **12:1** [c]S 1Sa 8:7 [d]1Sa 11:15 **12:2** [e]S 1Sa 8:5 [f]1Sa 8:3 **12:3** [g]S 1Sa 9:16; 24:6; 26:9,11; 2Sa 1:14; 19:21; Ps 105:15 [h]Nu 16:15 [i]S Ex 18:21; S 1Sa 8:3 [j]Ex 20:17; Ac 20:33 [k]S Lev 25:14 **12:5** [l]S Ge 31:50 [m]Ac 23:9; 24:20 [n]Ex 22:4 **12:6** [o]S Ex 3:10; Mic 6:4 **12:7** [p]S Jos 24:1 [q]Isa 1:18; 3:14; Jer 2:9; 25:31; Eze 17:20; 20:35; Mic 6:1-5 [r]S Jdg 5:11 **12:8** [s]S Ge 46:6 [t]S Ex 2:23 [u]S Ex 3:10; 4:16 **12:9** [v]S Dt 32:18; S Jdg 3:7 [w]S Dt 32:30 [x]Jdg 4:2 [y]S Jos 11:1 [z]Jdg 10:7 [a]Jdg 3:12

[a]15 Traditionally *peace offerings*

fought against them. 10 They cried[a] out
to the LORD and said, 'We have sinned;
we have forsaken[b] the LORD and served
the Baals and the Ashtoreths.[c] But
now deliver us from the hands of our
enemies, and we will serve you.'
11 Then the LORD sent Jerub-Baal,[f][d]
Barak,[g][e] Jephthah[f] and Samuel,[h][g]
and he delivered you from the hands of
your enemies on every side, so that
you lived securely.
12 "But when you saw that Nahash[h]
king[i] of the Ammonites was moving
against you, you said to me, 'No, we
want a king to rule[j] over us'—even
though the LORD your God was your
king. 13 Now here is the king[k] you have
chosen, the one you asked[l] for; see,
the LORD has set a king over you. 14 If
you fear[m] the LORD and serve and obey
him and do not rebel[n] against his com-
mands, and if both you and the king
who reigns over you follow the LORD
your God—good! 15 But if you do not
obey the LORD, and if you rebel
against[o] his commands, his hand will
be against you, as it was against your
fathers.
16 "Now then, stand still[p] and see[q]
this great thing the LORD is about to do
before your eyes! 17 Is it not wheat har-
vest[r] now? I will call[s] upon the LORD to
send thunder[t] and rain.[u] And you will
realize what an evil[v] thing you did in
the eyes of the LORD when you asked
for a king."
18 Then Samuel called upon the
LORD,[w] and that same day the LORD sent
thunder and rain. So all the people
stood in awe[x] of the LORD and of Sam-
uel.
19 The people all said to Samuel,
"Pray[y] to the LORD your God for your
servants so that we will not die,[z] for
we have added to all our other sins the
evil of asking for a king."
20 "Do not be afraid," Samuel replied.
"You have done all this evil;[a] yet do
not turn away from the LORD, but serve
the LORD with all your heart. 21 Do not
turn away after useless[b] idols.[c] They
can do you no good, nor can they res-
cue you, because they are useless. 22 For
the sake[d] of his great name[e] the LORD
will not reject[f] his people, because the
LORD was pleased to make[g] you his
own. 23 As for me, far be it from me that
I should sin against the LORD by failing
to pray[h] for you. And I will teach[i] you
the way that is good and right. 24 But be
sure to fear[j] the LORD and serve him
faithfully with all your heart;[k] con-
sider[l] what great[m] things he has done
for you. 25 Yet if you persist[n] in doing
evil, both you and your king[o] will be
swept[p] away."

Samuel Rebukes Saul

13 Saul was [thirty][i] years old when
he became king, and he reigned
over Israel [forty-][j] two years.[k]
2 Saul[k] chose three thousand men
from Israel; two thousand[q] were with
him at Micmash[r] and in the hill coun-
try of Bethel, and a thousand were
with Jonathan at Gibeah[s] in Benjamin.
The rest of the men he sent back to
their homes.
3 Jonathan attacked the Philistine out-
post[t] at Geba,[u] and the Philistines
heard about it. Then Saul had the
trumpet[v] blown throughout the land
and said, "Let the Hebrews hear!" 4 So
all Israel heard the news: "Saul has at-
tacked the Philistine outpost, and now
Israel has become a stench[w] to the Phil-
istines." And the people were sum-
moned to join Saul at Gilgal.
5 The Philistines assembled[x] to fight
Israel, with three thousand[l] chariots,
six thousand charioteers, and soldiers
as numerous as the sand[y] on the sea-
shore. They went up and camped at
Micmash,[z] east of Beth Aven.[a] 6 When
the men of Israel saw that their situa-
tion was critical and that their army
was hard pressed, they hid[b] in caves
and thickets, among the rocks, and in
pits and cisterns.[c] 7 Some Hebrews
even crossed the Jordan to the land of
Gad[d] and Gilead.
Saul remained at Gilgal, and all the
troops with him were quaking[e] with
fear. 8 He waited seven[f] days, the time
set by Samuel; but Samuel did not
come to Gilgal, and Saul's men began
to scatter. 9 So he said, "Bring me the
burnt offering and the fellowship offer-
ings.[m]" And Saul offered[g] up the burnt
offering. 10 Just as he finished making
the offering, Samuel[h] arrived, and Saul
went out to greet[i] him.

12:10 [a]S Jdg 3:9 [b]S 1Sa 8:8 [c]S 1Sa 7:3 **12:11** [d]Jdg 6:32 [e]S Jdg 4:6 [f]S Jdg 11:1 [g]S 1Sa 7:15 **12:12** [h]S 1Sa 11:1 [i]S 1Sa 8:5 [j]1Sa 25:30; 2Sa 5:2; 1Ch 5:2 **12:13** [k]S 1Sa 8:5 [l]S 1Sa 9:20 **12:14** [m]S Jos 24:14 [n]Jer 4:17; La 1:18 **12:15** [o]Lev 26:16; Jos 24:20; Isa 1:20; Jer 4:17; 26:4 **12:16** [p]S Ex 14:14 [q]S Ex 14:13 **12:17** [r]S Ge 30:14; S 1Sa 6:13 [s]1Ki 18:42; Jas 5:18 [t]S Ex 9:23; S 1Sa 2:10 [u]Ge 7:12; Ex 9:18; Job 37:13; Pr 26:1 [v]S 1Sa 8:6 **12:18** [w]Ps 99:6 [x]S Ge 3:10; S Ex 14:31 **12:19** [y]S Ex 8:8; S 1Sa 7:8; S Jer 37:3; Jas 5:18; 1Jn 5:16 [z]S Dt 9:19 **12:20** [a]S Ex 32:30 **12:21** [b]Isa 40:20; 41:24, 29; 44:9; Jer 2:5, 11; 14:22; 16:19; Jnh 2:8; Hab 2:18; Ac 14:15 [c]Dt 11:16 **12:22** [d]Ps 25:11; 106:8; Isa 48:9, 11; Jer 14:7; Da 9:19 [e]S Jos 7:9; 2Sa 7:23; Jn 17:12 [f]S Lev 26:11; S Dt 31:6 [g]Dt 7:7; 1Pe 2:9 **12:23** [h]S Nu 11:2; S 1Sa 1:20; S 7:8; Ro 1:10 [i]1Ki 8:36; Ps 25:4; 34:11; 86:11; 94:12; Pr 4:11 **12:24** [j]Dt 6:2; Ecc 12:13 [k]Dt 6:5; S Jos 24:14
[l]Job 34:27; Isa 5:12; 22:11; 26:10 [m]S Dt 10:21 **12:25** [n]1Sa 31:1-5 [o]Dt 28:36 [p]S Jos 24:20; S 1Ki 14:10 **13:2** [q]ver 15 [r]ver 5,11,23; Ne 11:31; Isa 10:28 [s]S Jdg 19:14 **13:3** [t]S 1Sa 10:5 [u]S Jos 18:24 [v]S Lev 25:9; S Jdg 3:27 **13:4** [w]S Ge 34:30

13:5 [x]1Sa 17:1 [y]S Jos 11:4; Rev 20:8 [z]S ver 2 [a]S Jos 7:2 **13:6** [b]1Sa 14:11,22 [c]S Jdg 6:2; Eze 33:27 **13:7** [d]S Nu 32:33 [e]S Ge 35:5; S Ex 19:16 **13:8** [f]1Sa 10:8 **13:9** [g]Dt 12:5-14; 2Sa 24:25; 1Ki 3:4 **13:10** [h]1Sa 15:13 [i]1Sa 25:14

[f]*11* Also called *Gideon* [g]*11* Some Septuagint manuscripts and Syriac; Hebrew *Bedan* [h]*11* Hebrew; some Septuagint manuscripts and Syriac *Samson* [i]*1* A few late manuscripts of the Septuagint; Hebrew does not have *thirty*. [j]*1* See the round number in Acts 13:21; Hebrew does not have *forty-*. [k]*1,2* Or *and when he had reigned over Israel two years,* [2]*he* [l]*5* Some Septuagint manuscripts and Syriac; Hebrew *thirty thousand* [m]*9* Traditionally *peace offerings*

[11]"What have you done?" asked
Samuel.
Saul replied, "When I saw that the
men were scattering, and that you did
not come at the set time, and that the
Philistines were assembling at Mic-
mash,[d] [12]I thought, 'Now the Philis-
tines will come down against me at Gil-
gal,[e] and I have not sought the LORD's
favor.[f]' So I felt compelled to offer the
burnt offering."
[13]"You acted foolishly,[g]" Samuel
said. "You have not kept[h] the com-
mand the LORD your God gave you; if
you had, he would have established
your kingdom over Israel for all time.[i]
[14]But now your kingdom[j] will not en-
dure; the LORD has sought out a man
after his own heart[k] and appointed[l]
him leader[m] of his people, because you
have not kept[n] the LORD's command."
[15]Then Samuel left Gilgal[n] and went
up to Gibeah[p] in Benjamin, and Saul
counted the men who were with him.
They numbered about six hundred.[q]

Israel Without Weapons

[16]Saul and his son Jonathan and the
men with them were staying in Gibe-
ah[o][r] in Benjamin, while the Philistines
camped at Micmash. [17]Raiding[s] parties
went out from the Philistine camp in
three detachments. One turned toward
Ophrah[t] in the vicinity of Shual, [18]an-
other toward Beth Horon,[u] and the
third toward the borderland overlook-
ing the Valley of Zeboim[v] facing the
desert.
[19]Not a blacksmith[w] could be found
in the whole land of Israel, because the
Philistines had said, "Otherwise the
Hebrews will make swords or
spears![x]" [20]So all Israel went down to
the Philistines to have their plow-
shares, mattocks, axes and sickles[p]
sharpened. [21]The price was two thirds
of a shekel[q] for sharpening plowshares
and mattocks, and a third of a shekel[r]
for sharpening forks and axes and for
repointing goads.
[22]So on the day of the battle not a
soldier with Saul and Jonathan[y] had a
sword or spear[z] in his hand; only Saul
and his son Jonathan had them.

Jonathan Attacks the Philistines

[23]Now a detachment of Philistines
had gone out to the pass[a] at Mic-
mash.[b] **14** [1]One day Jonathan son
of Saul said to the young man
bearing his armor, "Come, let's go over
to the Philistine outpost on the other
side." But he did not tell his father.
[2]Saul was staying[y] on the outskirts
of Gibeah[z] under a pomegranate tree[a]
in Migron.[b] With him were about six
hundred men, [3]among whom was Ahi-
jah, who was wearing an ephod. He
was a son of Ichabod's[c] brother Ahi-
tub[d] son of Phinehas, the son of Eli,[e]
the LORD's priest in Shiloh.[f] No one
was aware that Jonathan had left.
[4]On each side of the pass[g] that Jona-
than intended to cross to reach the
Philistine outpost was a cliff; one was
called Bozez, and the other Seneh.
[5]One cliff stood to the north toward
Micmash, the other to the south
toward Geba.[h]
[6]Jonathan said to his young armor-
bearer, "Come, let's go over to the out-
post of those uncircumcised[i] fellows.
Perhaps the LORD will act in our behalf.
Nothing[j] can hinder the LORD from
saving, whether by many[k] or by
few.[l]"
[7]"Do all that you have in mind," his
armor-bearer said. "Go ahead; I am
with you heart and soul."
[8]Jonathan said, "Come, then; we will
cross over toward the men and let
them see us. [9]If they say to us, 'Wait
there until we come to you,' we will
stay where we are and not go up to
them. [10]But if they say, 'Come up to
us,' we will climb up, because that will
be our sign[m] that the LORD has given
them into our hands.[n]"
[11]So both of them showed them-
selves to the Philistine outpost.
"Look!" said the Philistines. "The He-
brews[o] are crawling out of the holes
they were hiding[p] in." [12]The men of
the outpost shouted to Jonathan and
his armor-bearer, "Come up to us and
we'll teach you a lesson.[q]"
So Jonathan said to his armor-bearer,
"Climb up after me; the LORD has given
them into the hand[r] of Israel."
[13]Jonathan climbed up, using his
hands and feet, with his armor-bearer
right behind him. The Philistines fell
before Jonathan, and his armor-bearer
followed and killed behind him. [14]In
that first attack Jonathan and his

13:11 dS ver 2
13:12 eS Jos 10:43 fS Dt 4:29; Ps 119:58; Jer 26:19
13:13 g2Ch 16:9 hver 14; S Jos 22:16; 1Sa 15:23,24 i2Sa 7:15; 1Ch 10:13 jPs 72:5
13:14 k1Sa 15:28; 18:8; 24:20; 1Ch 10:14 lAc 7:46; 13:22 m2Sa 6:21 n1Sa 25:30; 2Sa 5:2; Ps 18:43; Isa 16:5; 55:4; Jer 30:9; Eze 34:23-24; 37:24; Da 9:25; Hos 3:5; Mic 5:2 o1Sa 15:26; 16:1; 2Sa 12:9; 1Ki 13:21; Hos 13:11
13:15 p1Sa 14:2 qver 2
13:16 rS Jos 18:24
13:17 s1Sa 14:15 tS Jos 18:23
13:18 uS Jos 10:10 vNe 11:34
13:19 wS Ge 4:22 xS Nu 25:7
13:22 y1Ch 9:39 zS Nu 25:7; 1Sa 14:6; 17:47; Zec 4:6
13:23 a1Sa 14:4 bS ver 2
14:2 yS Jdg 4:5 z1Sa 13:15 aS Ex 28:33 bIsa 10:28
14:3 cS Ge 35:18 d1Sa 22:11,20 eS 1Sa 1:3 fPs 78:60
14:4 g1Sa 13:23
14:5 hS Jos 18:24
14:6 iJdg 14:3; 1Sa 17:26,36; 31:4; Jer 9:26; Eze 28:10 jS 1Sa 13:22; S 1Ki 19:12; S Mt 19:26; Heb 11:34 kJdg 7:4 lPs 33:16
14:10 mS Ge 24:14 nS Jos 2:24
14:11 oS Ge 14:13 pS 1Sa 13:6
14:12 qJdg 8:16 r1Sa 17:46; 2Sa 5:24

n15 Hebrew; Septuagint *Gilgal and went his way; the rest of the people went after Saul to meet the army, and they went out of Gilgal* o16 Two Hebrew manuscripts; most Hebrew manuscripts *Geba*, a variant of *Gibeah* p20 Septuagint; Hebrew *plowshares* q21 Hebrew *pim*; that is, about 1/4 ounce (about 8 grams) r21 That is, about 1/8 ounce (about 4 grams)

armor-bearer killed some twenty men in an area of about half an acre.[s]

Israel Routs the Philistines

15Then panic[a] struck the whole army—those in the camp and field, and those in the outposts and raiding[b] parties—and the ground shook. It was a panic sent by God.[t]

16Saul's lookouts[c] at Gibeah of Benjamin saw the army melting away in all directions. 17Then Saul said to the men who were with him, "Muster the forces and see who has left us." When they did, it was Jonathan and his armor-bearer who were not there.

18Saul said to Ahijah, "Bring[d] the ark[e] of God." (At that time it was with the Israelites.)[u] 19While Saul was talking to the priest, the tumult in the Philistine camp increased more and more. So Saul said to the priest,[f] "Withdraw your hand."

20Then Saul and all his men assembled and went to the battle. They found the Philistines in total confusion, striking[g] each other with their swords. 21Those Hebrews who had previously been with the Philistines and had gone up with them to their camp went[h] over to the Israelites who were with Saul and Jonathan. 22When all the Israelites who had hidden[i] in the hill country of Ephraim heard that the Philistines were on the run, they joined the battle in hot pursuit. 23So the LORD rescued[j] Israel that day, and the battle moved on beyond Beth Aven.[k]

Jonathan Eats Honey

24Now the men of Israel were in distress that day, because Saul had bound the people under an oath,[l] saying, "Cursed be any man who eats food before evening comes, before I have avenged myself on my enemies!" So none of the troops tasted food.

25The entire army[v] entered the woods, and there was honey on the ground. 26When they went into the woods, they saw the honey oozing out, yet no one put his hand to his mouth, because they feared the oath. 27But Jonathan had not heard that his father had bound the people with the oath, so he reached out the end of the staff that was in his hand and dipped it into the honeycomb.[m] He raised his hand to his mouth, and his eyes brightened.[w] 28Then one of the soldiers told him, "Your father bound the army under a strict oath, saying, 'Cursed be any man who eats food today!' That is why the men are faint."

29Jonathan said, "My father has made trouble[n] for the country. See how my eyes brightened[x] when I tasted a little of this honey. 30How much better it would have been if the men had eaten today some of the plunder they took from their enemies. Would not the slaughter of the Philistines have been even greater?"

31That day, after the Israelites had struck down the Philistines from Micmash[o] to Aijalon,[p] they were exhausted. 32They pounced on the plunder[q] and, taking sheep, cattle and calves, they butchered them on the ground and ate them, together with the blood.[r] 33Then someone said to Saul, "Look, the men are sinning against the LORD by eating meat that has blood[s] in it."

"You have broken faith," he said. "Roll a large stone over here at once." 34Then he said, "Go out among the men and tell them, 'Each of you bring me your cattle and sheep, and slaughter them here and eat them. Do not sin against the LORD by eating meat with blood still[t] in it.' "

So everyone brought his ox that night and slaughtered it there. 35Then Saul built an altar[u] to the LORD; it was the first time he had done this.

36Saul said, "Let us go down after the Philistines by night and plunder them till dawn, and let us not leave one of them alive."

"Do whatever seems best to you," they replied.

But the priest said, "Let us inquire[v] of God here."

37So Saul asked God, "Shall I go down after the Philistines? Will you give them into Israel's hand?" But God did not answer[w] him that day.

38Saul therefore said, "Come here, all you who are leaders of the army, and let us find out what sin has been committed[x] today. 39As surely as the LORD who rescues Israel lives,[y] even if it lies with my son Jonathan,[z] he must die."[a] But not one of the men said a word.

40Saul then said to all the Israelites,

14:15 [a]S Ge 35:5; S Ex 14:24; S 19:16; 2Ki 7:5-7 [b]1Sa 13:17
14:16 [c]2Sa 18:24; 2Ki 9:17; Isa 52:8; Eze 33:2
14:18 [d]1Sa 30:7 [e]S Jdg 18:5
14:19 [f]Nu 27:21
14:20 [g]S Jdg 7:22; Eze 38:21; Zec 14:13
14:21 [h]1Sa 29:4
14:22 [i]S 1Sa 13:6
14:23 [j]S Ex 14:30 [k]S Jos 7:2
14:24 [l]Jos 6:26
14:27 [m]ver 43; Ps 19:10; Pr 16:24; 24:13
14:29 [n]Jos 7:25; 1Ki 18:18
14:31 [o]ver 5 [p]S Jos 10:12
14:32 [q]1Sa 15:19; Est 9:10 [r]S Ge 9:4
14:33 [s]S Ge 9:4
14:34 [t]Lev 19:26
14:35 [u]S 1Sa 7:17
14:36 [v]S Ge 25:22; S Jdg 18:5
14:37 [w]1Sa 28:6,15; 2Sa 22:42; Ps 18:41
14:38 [x]Jos 7:11
14:39 [y]S Nu 14:21; 2Sa 12:5; Job 19:25; Ps 18:46; 42:2 [z]ver 44 [a]Jos 7:15

[s]14 Hebrew *half a yoke*; a "yoke" was the land plowed by a yoke of oxen in one day. [t]15 Or *a terrible panic* [u]18 Hebrew; Septuagint *"Bring the ephod." (At that time he wore the ephod before the Israelites.)* [v]25 Or *Now all the people of the land* [w]27 Or *his strength was renewed* [x]29 Or *my strength was renewed*

"You stand over there; I and Jonathan my son will stand over here."

"Do what seems best to you," the men replied.

41Then Saul prayed to the LORD, the God of Israel, "Give[a] me the right[b] answer."[y] And Jonathan and Saul were taken by lot, and the men were cleared. 42Saul said, "Cast the lot[c] between me and Jonathan my son." And Jonathan was taken.

43Then Saul said to Jonathan, "Tell me what you have done."[d]

So Jonathan told him, "I merely tasted a little honey[e] with the end of my staff. And now must I die?"

44Saul said, "May God deal with me, be it ever so severely,[f] if you do not die, Jonathan.[g]"

45But the men said to Saul, "Should Jonathan die—he who has brought about this great deliverance in Israel? Never! As surely as the LORD lives, not a hair[h] of his head will fall to the ground, for he did this today with God's help." So the men rescued[i] Jonathan, and he was not put to death.

46Then Saul stopped pursuing the Philistines, and they withdrew to their own land.

47After Saul had assumed rule over Israel, he fought against their enemies on every side: Moab,[j] the Ammonites,[k] Edom,[l] the kings[z] of Zobah,[m] and the Philistines. Wherever he turned, he inflicted punishment on them.[a] 48He fought valiantly and defeated the Amalekites,[n] delivering Israel from the hands of those who had plundered them.

Saul's Family

49Saul's sons were Jonathan, Ishvi and Malki-Shua.[o] The name of his older daughter was Merab, and that of the younger was Michal.[p] 50His wife's name was Ahinoam daughter of Ahimaaz. The name of the commander of Saul's army was Abner[q] son of Ner, and Ner was Saul's uncle.[r] 51Saul's father Kish[s] and Abner's father Ner were sons of Abiel.

52All the days of Saul there was bitter war with the Philistines, and whenever Saul saw a mighty or brave man, he took[t] him into his service.

The LORD Rejects Saul as King

15 Samuel said to Saul, "I am the one the LORD sent to anoint[u] you king over his people Israel; so listen now to the message from the LORD. 2This is what the LORD Almighty says: 'I will punish the Amalekites[v] for what they did to Israel when they waylaid them as they came up from Egypt. 3Now go, attack the Amalekites and totally[w] destroy[b] everything that belongs to them. Do not spare them; put to death men and women, children and infants, cattle and sheep, camels and donkeys.' "

4So Saul summoned the men and mustered them at Telaim—two hundred thousand foot soldiers and ten thousand men from Judah. 5Saul went to the city of Amalek and set an ambush in the ravine. 6Then he said to the Kenites,[x] "Go away, leave the Amalekites so that I do not destroy you along with them; for you showed kindness to all the Israelites when they came up out of Egypt." So the Kenites moved away from the Amalekites.

7Then Saul attacked the Amalekites[y] all the way from Havilah to Shur,[z] to the east of Egypt. 8He took Agag[a] king of the Amalekites alive,[b] and all his people he totally destroyed with the sword. 9But Saul and the army spared[c] Agag and the best of the sheep and cattle, the fat calves[c] and lambs—everything that was good. These they were unwilling to destroy completely, but everything that was despised and weak they totally destroyed.

10Then the word of the LORD came to Samuel: 11"I am grieved[d] that I have made Saul king, because he has turned[e] away from me and has not carried out my instructions."[f] Samuel was troubled,[g] and he cried out to the LORD all that night.

12Early in the morning Samuel got up and went to meet Saul, but he was told, "Saul has gone to Carmel.[h] There he has set up a monument[i] in his own honor and has turned and gone on down to Gilgal."

13When Samuel reached him, Saul said, "The LORD bless you! I have carried out the LORD's instructions."

14But Samuel said, "What then is this bleating of sheep in my ears? What is this lowing of cattle that I hear?"

14:41 [a]Ac 1:24 [b]Pr 16:33
14:42 [c]Jnh 1:7
14:43 [d]S Jos 7:19 [e]S ver 27
14:44 [f]S Ru 1:17 [g]ver 39
14:45 [h]1Ki 1:52; S Mt 10:30 [i]2Sa 14:11
14:47 [j]S Ge 19:37 [k]S Ge 19:38; 2Sa 12:31 [l]1Sa 21:7 [m]2Sa 8:3; 10:6; 23:36
14:48 [n]S Ge 36:12; Nu 13:29; Jdg 3:13; 1Sa 15:2,7; 27:8; 28:18; 30:13; 2Sa 1:13; 1Ch 4:43
14:49 [o]1Sa 31:2; 1Ch 8:33 [p]S Ge 29:26
14:50 [q]2Sa 2:8; 3:6; 1Ki 2:5 [r]1Sa 10:14
14:51 [s]S 1Sa 9:1
14:52 [t]1Sa 8:11
15:1 [u]S 1Sa 9:16
15:2 [v]S Ge 14:7; S 1Sa 14:48; S 2Sa 1:8
15:3 [w]ver 9,19; S Ge 14:23; Jos 6:17; 1Sa 22:19; 27:9; 28:18; Est 3:13; 9:5
15:6 [x]S Ge 15:19; Nu 24:22; Jdg 1:16; 1Sa 30:29
15:7 [y]S 1Sa 14:48 [z]S Ge 16:7
15:8 [a]Ex 17:8-16; S Nu 24:7 [b]S Jos 8:23
15:9 [c]S ver 3
15:11 [d]S Ge 6:6; S Ex 32:14 [e]S Jos 22:16 [f]Job 21:14; 34:27; Ps 28:5; Isa 5:12; 53:6; Jer 48:10; Eze 18:24 [g]S ver 35; S 1Sa 8:6
15:12 [h]Jos 15:55 [i]S Nu 32:42

[y]41 Hebrew; Septuagint *"Why have you not answered your servant today? If the fault is in me or my son Jonathan, respond with Urim, but if the men of Israel are at fault, respond with Thummim."* [z]47 Masoretic Text; Dead Sea Scrolls and Septuagint *king* [a]47 Hebrew; Septuagint *he was victorious* [b]3 The Hebrew term refers to the irrevocable giving over of things or persons to the LORD, often by totally destroying them; also in verses 8, 9, 15, 18, 20 and 21. [c]9 Or *the grown bulls;* the meaning of the Hebrew for this phrase is uncertain.

15Saul answered, "The soldiers
brought them from the Amalekites;
they spared the best of the sheep and
cattle to sacrifice to the LORD your God,
but we totally destroyed the rest."
16"Stop!" Samuel said to Saul. "Let
me tell you what the LORD said to me
last night."
"Tell me," Saul replied.
17Samuel said, "Although you were
once small[a] in your own eyes, did you
not become the head of the tribes of
Israel? The LORD anointed you king
over Israel. 18And he sent you on a mis-
sion, saying, 'Go and completely de-
stroy those wicked people, the Ama-
lekites; make war on them until you
have wiped them out.' 19Why did you
not obey the LORD? Why did you
pounce on the plunder[b] and do evil in
the eyes of the LORD?"
20"But I did obey[c] the LORD," Saul
said. "I went on the mission the LORD
assigned me. I completely destroyed
the Amalekites and brought back Agag
their king. 21The soldiers took sheep
and cattle from the plunder, the best of
what was devoted to God, in order to
sacrifice them to the LORD your God at
Gilgal."
22But Samuel replied:

"Does the LORD delight in burnt
offerings and sacrifices
as much as in obeying the voice of
the LORD?
To obey is better than sacrifice,[d]
and to heed is better than the fat
of rams.
23For rebellion is like the sin of
divination,[e]
and arrogance like the evil of
idolatry.
Because you have rejected[f] the word
of the LORD,
he has rejected you as king."

24Then Saul said to Samuel, "I have
sinned.[g] I violated[h] the LORD's com-
mand and your instructions. I was
afraid[i] of the people and so I gave in to
them. 25Now I beg you, forgive[j] my
sin and come back with me, so that I
may worship the LORD."
26But Samuel said to him, "I will not
go back with you. You have rejected[k]
the word of the LORD, and the LORD has
rejected you as king over Israel!"
27As Samuel turned to leave, Saul
caught hold of the hem of his robe,[l]
and it tore.[m] 28Samuel said to him,
"The LORD has torn[n] the kingdom[o] of
Israel from you today and has given it
to one of your neighbors—to one better
than you.[p] 29He who is the Glory of
Israel does not lie[q] or change[r] his
mind; for he is not a man, that he
should change his mind."
30Saul replied, "I have sinned.[s] But
please honor[t] me before the elders of
my people and before Israel; come back
with me, so that I may worship the
LORD your God." 31So Samuel went
back with Saul, and Saul worshiped the
LORD.
32Then Samuel said, "Bring me Agag
king of the Amalekites."
Agag came to him confidently,[d]
thinking, "Surely the bitterness of
death is past."
33But Samuel said,

"As your sword has made women
childless,
so will your mother be childless
among women."[u]

And Samuel put Agag to death before
the LORD at Gilgal.
34Then Samuel left for Ramah,[v] but
Saul went up to his home in Gibeah[w] of
Saul. 35Until the day Samuel[x] died, he
did not go to see Saul again, though
Samuel mourned[y] for him. And the
LORD was grieved[z] that he had made
Saul king over Israel.

Samuel Anoints David

16 The LORD said to Samuel, "How
long will you mourn[a] for Saul,
since I have rejected[b] him as king over
Israel? Fill your horn with oil[c] and be
on your way; I am sending you to
Jesse[d] of Bethlehem. I have chosen[e]
one of his sons to be king."
2But Samuel said, "How can I go?
Saul will hear about it and kill me."
The LORD said, "Take a heifer with
you and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to
the LORD.' 3Invite Jesse to the sacrifice,
and I will show[f] you what to do. You
are to anoint[g] for me the one I indi-
cate."
4Samuel did what the LORD said.
When he arrived at Bethlehem,[h] the el-
ders of the town trembled[i] when they
met him. They asked, "Do you come in
peace?[j]"
5Samuel replied, "Yes, in peace; I
have come to sacrifice to the LORD. Con-
secrate[k] yourselves and come to the
sacrifice with me." Then he conse-
crated Jesse and his sons and invited
them to the sacrifice.

15:17 [a]S Ex 3:11
15:19 [b]S Ge 14:23; S 1Sa 14:32
15:20 [c]1Sa 28:18
15:22 [d]Ps 40:6-8; 51:16; Pr 21:3; Isa 1:11-15; Jer 7:22; Hos 6:6; Am 5:25; Mic 6:6-8; S Mk 12:33
15:23 [e]Dt 18:10 [f]S 1Sa 13:13
15:24 [g]S Ex 9:27; S Nu 22:34; Ps 51:4 [h]S 1Sa 13:13 [i]Pr 29:25; Isa 51:12-13; Jer 42:11
15:25 [j]Ex 10:17
15:26 [k]S Nu 15:31; S 1Sa 13:14; S 1Ki 14:10
15:27 [l]1Sa 28:14 [m]1Ki 11:11,31; 14:8; 2Ki 17:21
15:28 [n]1Sa 28:17 [o]S 1Sa 13:14
[p]2Sa 6:21; 7:15
15:29 [q]Tit 1:2 [r]S Nu 23:19; Heb 7:21
15:30 [s]S Nu 22:34 [t]Isa 29:13; Jn 12:43
15:33 [u]Est 9:7-10; Jer 18:21
15:34 [v]S 1Sa 7:17 [w]S Jdg 19:14; S 1Sa 10:5
15:35 [x]1Sa 19:24 [y]ver 11; 1Sa 16:1 [z]S Ge 6:6
16:1 [a]S 1Sa 8:6; S 15:35 [b]S 1Sa 13:14 [c]S 1Sa 10:1 [d]S Ru 4:17 [e]2Sa 5:2; 7:8; 1Ki 8:16; 1Ch 12:23; Ps 78:70; Ac 13:22
16:3 [f]Ex 4:15 [g]S Dt 17:15
16:4 [h]S Ge 48:7; Lk 2:4 [i]1Sa 21:1 [j]1Ki 2:13; 2Ki 9:17
16:5 [k]S Ex 19:10,22

[d]32 *Or him trembling, yet*

6When they arrived, Samuel saw
Eliab[a] and thought, "Surely the LORD's
anointed stands here before the LORD."
7But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do
not consider his appearance or his
height, for I have rejected him. The
LORD does not look at the things man
looks at. Man looks at the outward ap-
pearance,[b] but the LORD looks at the
heart."[c]
8Then Jesse called Abinadab[d] and
had him pass in front of Samuel. But
Samuel said, "The LORD has not chosen
this one either." 9Jesse then had Sham-
mah[e] pass by, but Samuel said, "Nor
has the LORD chosen this one." 10Jesse
had seven of his sons pass before Sam-
uel, but Samuel said to him, "The LORD
has not chosen these." 11So he asked
Jesse, "Are these all[f] the sons you
have?"
"There is still the youngest," Jesse
answered, "but he is tending the
sheep."[g]
Samuel said, "Send for him; we will
not sit down[e] until he arrives."
12So he[h] sent and had him brought
in. He was ruddy, with a fine appear-
ance and handsome[i] features.
Then the LORD said, "Rise and anoint
him; he is the one."
13So Samuel took the horn of oil and
anointed[j] him in the presence of his
brothers, and from that day on the
Spirit of the LORD[k] came upon David in
power.[l] Samuel then went to Ramah.

David in Saul's Service

14Now the Spirit of the LORD had de-
parted[m] from Saul, and an evil[f] spirit[n]
from the LORD tormented him.[o]
15Saul's attendants said to him, "See,
an evil spirit from God is tormenting
you. 16Let our lord command his ser-
vants here to search for someone who
can play the harp.[p] He will play when
the evil spirit from God comes upon
you, and you will feel better."
17So Saul said to his attendants,
"Find someone who plays well and
bring him to me."
18One of the servants answered, "I
have seen a son of Jesse[q] of Bethlehem
who knows how to play the harp. He is
a brave man and a warrior.[r] He speaks
well and is a fine-looking man. And the
LORD is with[s] him."
19Then Saul sent messengers to Jesse
and said, "Send me your son David,
who is with the sheep.[t]" 20So Jesse
took a donkey loaded with bread,[u] a
skin of wine and a young goat and sent
them with his son David to Saul.
21David came to Saul and entered his
service.[v] Saul liked him very much,
and David became one of his armor-
bearers. 22Then Saul sent word to Jesse,
saying, "Allow David to remain in my
service, for I am pleased with him."
23Whenever the spirit from God came
upon Saul, David would take his harp
and play. Then relief would come to
Saul; he would feel better, and the evil
spirit[w] would leave him.

David and Goliath

17 Now the Philistines gathered
their forces for war and assem-
bled[x] at Socoh in Judah. They pitched
camp at Ephes Dammim, between
Socoh[y] and Azekah.[z] 2Saul and the Is-
raelites assembled and camped in the
Valley of Elah[a] and drew up their bat-
tle line to meet the Philistines. 3The
Philistines occupied one hill and the Is-
raelites another, with the valley be-
tween them.
4A champion named Goliath,[b] who
was from Gath, came out of the Philis-
tine camp. He was over nine feet[g] tall.
5He had a bronze helmet on his head
and wore a coat of scale armor of
bronze weighing five thousand
shekels[h]; 6on his legs he wore bronze
greaves, and a bronze javelin[c] was
slung on his back. 7His spear shaft was
like a weaver's rod,[d] and its iron point
weighed six hundred shekels.[i] His
shield bearer[e] went ahead of him.
8Goliath stood and shouted to the
ranks of Israel, "Why do you come out
and line up for battle? Am I not a Phil-
istine, and are you not the servants of
Saul? Choose[f] a man and have him
come down to me. 9If he is able to fight
and kill me, we will become your sub-
jects; but if I overcome him and kill
him, you will become our subjects and
serve us." 10Then the Philistine said,
"This day I defy[g] the ranks of Israel!
Give me a man and let us fight each
other.[h]" 11On hearing the Philistine's
words, Saul and all the Israelites were
dismayed and terrified.
12Now David was the son of an Eph-
rathite[i] named Jesse,[j] who was from
Bethlehem[k] in Judah. Jesse had eight[l]

16:6 [a]1Sa 17:13; 1Ch 2:13 **16:7** [b]Ps 147:10 [c]S 1Sa 2:3; 2Sa 7:20; S Ps 44:21; S 139:23; S Rev 2:23 **16:8** [d]1Sa 17:13 **16:9** [e]1Sa 17:13; 2Sa 13:3; 21:21 **16:11** [f]1Sa 17:12 [g]S Ge 37:2; 2Sa 7:8 **16:12** [h]1Sa 9:17 [i]S Ge 39:6 **16:13** [j]S 1Sa 2:35; S 2Sa 22:51 [k]1Sa 18:12 [l]S 1Sa 11:6 **16:14** [m]S Jdg 16:20 [n]ver 23; S Jdg 9:23; 1Sa 18:10 [o]2Sa 7:15 **16:16** [p]ver 23; S 1Sa 10:5,6; 2Ch 29:26-27; Ps 49:4 **16:18** [q]S Ru 4:17 [r]2Sa 17:8 [s]S Ge 39:2; 1Sa 17:37; 20:13; 1Ch 22:11; Mt 1:23 **16:19** [t]1Sa 17:15 **16:20** [u]S Ge 32:13; S 1Sa 10:4 **16:21** [v]S Ge 41:46 **16:23** [w]S ver 14; S Jdg 9:23 **17:1** [x]1Sa 13:5 [y]Jos 15:35; 2Ch 28:18 [z]S Jos 10:10,11 **17:2** [a]1Sa 21:9 **17:4** [b]1Sa 21:9; 2Sa 21:19 **17:6** [c]ver 45; 1Sa 18:10 **17:7** [d]2Sa 21:19; 1Ch 11:23; 20:5 [e]ver 41 **17:8** [f]2Sa 2:12-17 **17:10** [g]ver 26, 45; 2Sa 21:21 [h]ver 23 **17:12** [i]S Ge 35:16; S 48:7; Ps 132:6 [j]S Ru 4:17 [k]S Ge 35:19 [l]1Sa 16:11

[e]11 Some Septuagint manuscripts; Hebrew *not gather around* [f]14 Or *injurious;* also in verses 15, 16 and 23 [g]4 Hebrew *was six cubits and a span* (about 3 meters) [h]5 That is, about 125 pounds (about 57 kilograms) [i]7 That is, about 15 pounds (about 7 kilograms)

sons, and in Saul's time he was old and
well advanced in years. 13Jesse's three
oldest sons had followed Saul to the
war: The firstborn was Eliab;[a] the sec-
ond, Abinadab;[b] and the third, Sham-
mah.[c] 14David was the youngest. The
three oldest followed Saul, 15but David
went back and forth from Saul to tend[d]
his father's sheep[e] at Bethlehem.

16For forty days the Philistine came
forward every morning and evening
and took his stand.

17Now Jesse said to his son David,
"Take this ephah[j][f] of roasted grain[g]
and these ten loaves of bread for your
brothers and hurry to their camp.
18Take along these ten cheeses to the
commander of their unit.[k] See how
your brothers[h] are and bring back
some assurance[l] from them. 19They
are with Saul and all the men of Israel
in the Valley of Elah, fighting against
the Philistines."

20Early in the morning David left the
flock with a shepherd, loaded up and
set out, as Jesse had directed. He
reached the camp as the army was go-
ing out to its battle positions, shouting
the war cry. 21Israel and the Philistines
were drawing up their lines facing each
other. 22David left his things with the
keeper of supplies,[i] ran to the battle
lines and greeted his brothers. 23As he
was talking with them, Goliath, the
Philistine champion from Gath,
stepped out from his lines and shouted
his usual[j] defiance, and David heard
it. 24When the Israelites saw the man,
they all ran from him in great fear.

25Now the Israelites had been saying,
"Do you see how this man keeps com-
ing out? He comes out to defy Israel.
The king will give great wealth to the
man who kills him. He will also give
him his daughter[k] in marriage and will
exempt his father's family from taxes[l]
in Israel."

26David asked the men standing near
him, "What will be done for the man
who kills this Philistine and removes
this disgrace[m] from Israel? Who is this
uncircumcised[n] Philistine that he
should defy[o] the armies of the living[p]
God?"

27They repeated to him what they
had been saying and told him, "This is
what will be done for the man who kills
him."

28When Eliab, David's oldest brother,
heard him speaking with the men, he
burned with anger[q] at him and asked,
"Why have you come down here? And
with whom did you leave those few
sheep in the desert? I know how con-
ceited you are and how wicked your
heart is; you came down only to watch
the battle."

29"Now what have I done?" said Da-
vid. "Can't I even speak?" 30He then
turned away to someone else and
brought up the same matter, and the
men answered him as before. 31What
David said was overheard and reported
to Saul, and Saul sent for him.

32David said to Saul, "Let no one lose
heart[r] on account of this Philistine;
your servant will go and fight him."

33Saul replied,[s] "You are not able to
go out against this Philistine and fight
him; you are only a boy, and he has
been a fighting man from his youth."

34But David said to Saul, "Your ser-
vant has been keeping his father's
sheep. When a lion[t] or a bear came
and carried off a sheep from the flock,
35I went after it, struck it and rescued
the sheep from its mouth. When it
turned on me, I seized[u] it by its hair,
struck it and killed it. 36Your servant
has killed both the lion[v] and the bear;
this uncircumcised Philistine will be
like one of them, because he has defied
the armies of the living God. 37The
LORD who delivered[w] me from the paw
of the lion[x] and the paw of the bear
will deliver me from the hand of this
Philistine."

Saul said to David, "Go, and the
LORD be with[y] you."

38Then Saul dressed David in his
own[z] tunic. He put a coat of armor on
him and a bronze helmet on his head.
39David fastened on his sword over the
tunic and tried walking around, be-
cause he was not used to them.

"I cannot go in these," he said to
Saul, "because I am not used to them."
So he took them off. 40Then he took his
staff in his hand, chose five smooth
stones from the stream, put them in
the pouch of his shepherd's bag and,
with his sling in his hand, approached
the Philistine.

41Meanwhile, the Philistine, with his
shield bearer[a] in front of him, kept
coming closer to David. 42He looked
David over and saw that he was only a
boy, ruddy and handsome,[b] and he
despised[c] him. 43He said to David,
"Am I a dog,[d] that you come at me
with sticks?" And the Philistine cursed

17:13 [a]S 1Sa 16:6 [b]1Sa 16:8 [c]S 1Sa 16:9 **17:15** [d]S Ge 37:2 [e]1Sa 16:19 **17:17** [f]S Lev 19:36 [g]S Lev 23:14; 1Sa 25:18 **17:18** [h]Ge 37:14 **17:22** [i]S Jos 1:11 **17:23** [j]ver 8-10 **17:25** [k]1Sa 18:17 [l]S 1Sa 8:15 **17:26** [m]1Sa 11:2 [n]S 1Sa 14:6 [o]S ver 10 [p]Dt 5:26; S Jos 3:10; 2Ki 18:35 **17:28** [q]S Ge 27:41; Pr 18:19 **17:32** [r]S Dt 20:3; Ps 18:45; Isa 7:4; Jer 4:9; 38:4; Da 11:30 **17:33** [s]Nu 13:31 **17:34** [t]Job 10:16; Isa 31:4; Jer 49:19; Hos 13:8; Am 3:12 **17:35** [u]Jdg 14:6 **17:36** [v]1Ch 11:22 **17:37** [w]2Co 1:10 [x]2Ti 4:17 [y]S 1Sa 16:18; S 18:12 **17:38** [z]S Ge 41:42 **17:41** [a]ver 7 **17:42** [b]1Sa 16:12 [c]Ps 123:3-4; Pr 16:18 **17:43** [d]1Sa 24:14; 2Sa 3:8; 9:8; 2Ki 8:13

[j]17 That is, probably about 3/5 bushel (about 22 liters)
[k]18 Hebrew *thousand*
[l]18 Or *some token;* or *some pledge of spoils*

David by his gods. 44"Come here," he
said, "and I'll give your flesh to the
birds of the air[a] and the beasts of the
field![b]"
45David said to the Philistine, "You
come against me with sword and spear
and javelin,[c] but I come against you in
the name[d] of the LORD Almighty, the
God of the armies of Israel, whom you
have defied.[e] 46This day the LORD will
hand[f] you over to me, and I'll strike
you down and cut off your head. To-
day I will give the carcasses[g] of the
Philistine army to the birds of the air
and the beasts of the earth, and the
whole world[h] will know that there is a
God in Israel.[i] 47All those gathered
here will know that it is not by sword[j]
or spear that the LORD saves;[k] for the
battle[l] is the LORD's, and he will give
all of you into our hands."
48As the Philistine moved closer to at-
tack him, David ran quickly toward the
battle line to meet him. 49Reaching into
his bag and taking out a stone, he
slung it and struck the Philistine on the
forehead. The stone sank into his fore-
head, and he fell facedown on the
ground.
50So David triumphed over the Phil-
istine with a sling[m] and a stone; with-
out a sword in his hand he struck
down the Philistine and killed him.
51David ran and stood over him. He
took hold of the Philistine's sword and
drew it from the scabbard. After he
killed him, he cut[n] off his head with
the sword.[o]
When the Philistines saw that their
hero was dead, they turned and ran.
52Then the men of Israel and Judah
surged forward with a shout and pur-
sued the Philistines to the entrance of
Gath[m] and to the gates of Ekron.[p]
Their dead were strewn along the
Shaaraim[q] road to Gath and Ekron.
53When the Israelites returned from
chasing the Philistines, they plundered
their camp. 54David took the Philis-
tine's head and brought it to Jerusalem,
and he put the Philistine's weapons in
his own tent.
55As Saul watched David[r] going out
to meet the Philistine, he said to Ab-
ner, commander of the army, "Abner,[s]
whose son is that young man?"
Abner replied, "As surely as you
live, O king, I don't know."
56The king said, "Find out whose son
this young man is."
57As soon as David returned from
killing the Philistine, Abner took him
and brought him before Saul, with Da-
vid still holding the Philistine's head.
58"Whose son are you, young man?"
Saul asked him.
David said, "I am the son of your
servant Jesse[t] of Bethlehem."

Saul's Jealousy of David

18 After David had finished talking
with Saul, Jonathan[u] became
one in spirit with David, and he loved[v]
him as himself.[w] 2From that day Saul
kept David with him and did not let
him return to his father's house. 3And
Jonathan made a covenant[x] with David
because he loved him as himself. 4Jona-
than took off the robe[y] he was wearing
and gave it to David, along with his
tunic, and even his sword, his bow and
his belt.[z]
5Whatever Saul sent him to do, Da-
vid did it so successfully[n][a] that Saul
gave him a high rank in the army.[b]
This pleased all the people, and Saul's
officers as well.
6When the men were returning home
after David had killed the Philistine,
the women came out from all the
towns of Israel to meet King Saul with
singing and dancing,[c] with joyful
songs and with tambourines[d] and
lutes. 7As they danced, they sang:[e]

"Saul has slain his thousands,
and David his tens[f] of
thousands."

8Saul was very angry; this refrain
galled him. "They have credited David
with tens of thousands," he thought,
"but me with only thousands. What
more can he get but the kingdom?[g]"
9And from that time on Saul kept a jeal-
ous[h] eye on David.
10The next day an evil[o] spirit[i] from
God came forcefully upon Saul. He was
prophesying in his house, while David
was playing the harp,[j] as he usually[k]
did. Saul had a spear[l] in his hand
11and he hurled it, saying to himself,[m]
"I'll pin David to the wall." But David
eluded[n] him twice.[o]
12Saul was afraid[p] of David, because
the LORD[q] was with[r] David but had
left[s] Saul. 13So he sent David away
from him and gave him command over
a thousand men, and David led[t] the
troops in their campaigns.[u] 14In every-
thing he did he had great success,[p][v]
because the LORD was with[w] him.

17:44 [a]S Ge 40:19; Rev 19:17 [b]2Sa 21:10; Jer 34:20
17:45 [c]S ver 6 [d]Dt 20:1; 2Ch 13:12; 14:11; 32:8; Ps 20:7-8; 124:8; Heb 11:32-34 [e]S ver 10
17:46 [f]S 1Sa 14:12 [g]S Dt 28:26 [h]S Jos 4:24; S Isa 11:9 [i]1Ki 18:36; 2Ki 5:8; 19:19; Isa 37:20
17:47 [j]Hos 1:7 [k]1Sa 14:6; 2Ch 14:11; Jer 39:18 [l]S Ex 14:14; S Nu 21:14; S 1Sa 2:9; 2Ch 20:15; Ps 44:6-7
17:50 [m]1Sa 25:29
17:51 [n]Heb 11:34 [o]1Sa 21:9; 22:10
17:52 [p]Jos 15:11 [q]S Jos 15:36
17:55 [r]1Sa 16:21 [s]1Sa 26:5
17:58 [t]S Ru 4:17
18:1 [u]1Sa 19:1; 20:16; 31:2; 2Sa 4:4 [v]2Sa 1:26 [w]S Ge 44:30
18:3 [x]1Sa 20:8, 16,17,42; 22:8; 23:18; 24:21; 2Sa 21:7
18:4 [y]S Ge 41:42 [z]2Sa 18:11
18:5 [a]ver 30 [b]2Sa 5:2
18:6 [c]S Ex 15:20; 2Sa 1:20 [d]Ps 68:25
18:7 [e]Ex 15:21 [f]1Sa 21:11; 29:5; 2Sa 18:3
18:8 [g]S 1Sa 13:14
18:9 [h]1Sa 19:1
18:10 [i]S Jdg 9:23; S 1Sa 16:14 [j]S 1Sa 10:5 [k]1Sa 16:21; 19:7 [l]S 1Sa 17:6
18:11 [m]ver 25; 1Sa 20:7,33 [n]1Sa 19:10 [o]Ps 132:1
18:12 [p]ver 29 [q]1Sa 16:13 [r]Jos 1:5; 1Sa 17:37; 20:13; 1Ch 22:11 [s]S Jdg 16:20
18:13 [t]Nu 27:17 [u]2Sa 5:2
18:14 [v]S Ge 39:3 [w]S Ge 39:2; S Nu 14:43; 2Sa 7:9

[m]52 Some Septuagint manuscripts; Hebrew *a valley*
[n]5 Or *wisely* [o]10 Or *injurious* [p]14 Or *he was very wise*

15When Saul saw how successful[q] he
was, he was afraid of him. 16But all Is-
rael and Judah loved David, because he
led them in their campaigns.[a]
17Saul said to David, "Here is my
older daughter[b] Merab. I will give her
to you in marriage;[c] only serve me
bravely and fight the battles[d] of the
LORD." For Saul said to himself,[e] "I will
not raise a hand against him. Let the
Philistines do that!"
18But David said to Saul, "Who am
I,[f] and what is my family or my fa-
ther's clan in Israel, that I should
become the king's son-in-law?[g]" 19So[r]
when the time came for Merab,[h] Saul's
daughter, to be given to David, she
was given in marriage to Adriel of
Meholah.[i]
20Now Saul's daughter Michal[j] was
in love with David, and when they told
Saul about it, he was pleased.[k] 21"I will
give her to him," he thought, "so that
she may be a snare[l] to him and so that
the hand of the Philistines may be
against him." So Saul said to David,
"Now you have a second opportunity
to become my son-in-law."
22Then Saul ordered his attendants:
"Speak to David privately and say,
'Look, the king is pleased with you,
and his attendants all like you; now
become his son-in-law.' "
23They repeated these words to Da-
vid. But David said, "Do you think it is
a small matter to become the king's
son-in-law?[m] I'm only a poor man and
little known."
24When Saul's servants told him
what David had said, 25Saul replied,
"Say to David, 'The king wants no
other price[n] for the bride than a hun-
dred Philistine foreskins, to take re-
venge[o] on his enemies.' " Saul's plan[p]
was to have David fall by the hands of
the Philistines.
26When the attendants told David
these things, he was pleased to become
the king's son-in-law. So before the al-
lotted time elapsed, 27David and his
men went out and killed two hundred
Philistines. He brought their foreskins
and presented the full number to the
king so that he might become the
king's son-in-law. Then Saul gave him
his daughter Michal[q] in marriage.
28When Saul realized that the LORD
was with David and that his daughter
Michal[r] loved David, 29Saul became
still more afraid[s] of him, and he re-
mained his enemy the rest of his days.
30The Philistine commanders con-
tinued to go out to battle, and as often
as they did, David met with more suc-
cess[s][t] than the rest of Saul's officers,
and his name became well known.

Saul Tries to Kill David

19 Saul told his son Jonathan[u] and
all the attendants to kill[v] David.
But Jonathan was very fond of David
2and warned him, "My father Saul is
looking for a chance to kill you. Be on
your guard tomorrow morning; go into
hiding[w] and stay there. 3I will go out
and stand with my father in the field
where you are. I'll speak[x] to him about
you and will tell you what I find out."
4Jonathan spoke[y] well of David to
Saul his father and said to him, "Let
not the king do wrong[z] to his servant
David; he has not wronged you, and
what he has done has benefited you
greatly. 5He took his life[a] in his hands
when he killed the Philistine. The LORD
won a great victory[b] for all Israel, and
you saw it and were glad. Why then
would you do wrong to an innocent[c]
man like David by killing him for no
reason?"
6Saul listened to Jonathan and took
this oath: "As surely as the LORD lives,
David will not be put to death."
7So Jonathan called David and told
him the whole conversation. He
brought him to Saul, and David was
with Saul as before.[d]
8Once more war broke out, and Da-
vid went out and fought the Philis-
tines. He struck them with such force
that they fled before him.
9But an evil[t] spirit[e] from the LORD
came upon Saul as he was sitting in his
house with his spear in his hand.
While David was playing the harp,[f]
10Saul tried to pin him to the wall with
his spear, but David eluded[g] him as
Saul drove the spear into the wall. That
night David made good his escape.
11Saul sent men to David's house to
watch[h] it and to kill him in the morn-
ing.[i] But Michal, David's wife, warned
him, "If you don't run for your life to-
night, tomorrow you'll be killed." 12So
Michal let David down through a win-
dow,[j] and he fled and escaped. 13Then
Michal took an idol[u][k] and laid it on the
bed, covering it with a garment and
putting some goats' hair at the head.
14When Saul sent the men to capture
David, Michal said,[l] "He is ill."

18:16 [a]2Sa 5:2
18:17 [b]1Sa 17:25 [c]S Ge 29:26 [d]S Nu 21:14 [e]ver 25; 1Sa 20:33
18:18 [f]S Ex 3:11; S 1Sa 9:21 [g]ver 23
18:19 [h]2Sa 21:8 [i]S Jdg 7:22
18:20 [j]ver 28; S Ge 29:26 [k]ver 29
18:21 [l]S Ex 10:7; S Dt 7:16
18:23 [m]ver 18
18:25 [n]S Ge 34:12 [o]Ps 8:2; 44:16; Jer 20:10 [p]S ver 11,S 17
18:27 [q]2Sa 3:14; 6:16
18:28 [r]S ver 20
18:29 [s]ver 12
18:30 [t]ver 5
19:1 [u]S 1Sa 18:1 [v]1Sa 18:9
19:2 [w]1Sa 20:5, 19
19:3 [x]1Sa 20:12
19:4 [y]1Sa 20:32; 22:14; Pr 31:8,9; Jer 18:20 [z]1Sa 25:21; Pr 17:13
19:5 [a]S Jdg 9:17; S 12:3 [b]S 1Sa 11:13 [c]S Ge 31:36; Dt 19:10-13
19:7 [d]S 1Sa 18:10
19:9 [e]S Jdg 9:23 [f]S 1Sa 10:5
19:10 [g]1Sa 18:11
19:11 [h]Ps 59 Title [i]Jdg 16:2
19:12 [j]S Jos 2:15; Ac 9:25; 2Co 11:33
19:13 [k]S Ge 31:19
19:14 [l]S Ex 1:19; Jos 2:4

[q]15 Or *wise* [r]19 Or *However,* [s]30 Or *David acted more wisely* [t]9 Or *injurious* [u]13 Hebrew *teraphim;* also in verse 16

15Then Saul sent the men back to see
David and told them, "Bring him up to
me in his bed so that I may kill him."
16But when the men entered, there was
the idol in the bed, and at the head was
some goats' hair.
17Saul said to Michal, "Why did you
deceive me like this and send my ene-
my away so that he escaped?"
Michal told him, "He said to me, 'Let
me get away. Why should I kill you?' "
18When David had fled and made his
escape, he went to Samuel at Ramah
and told him all that Saul had done to
him. Then he and Samuel went to
Naioth and stayed there. 19Word came
to Saul: "David is in Naioth at Ramah";
20so he sent men to capture him. But
when they saw a group of prophets
prophesying, with Samuel standing
there as their leader, the Spirit of God
came upon Saul's men and they also
prophesied. 21Saul was told about it,
and he sent more men, and they
prophesied too. Saul sent men a third
time, and they also prophesied. 22Fi-
nally, he himself left for Ramah and
went to the great cistern at Secu. And
he asked, "Where are Samuel and Da-
vid?"
"Over in Naioth at Ramah," they
said.
23So Saul went to Naioth at Ramah.
But the Spirit of God came even upon
him, and he walked along prophesy-
ing until he came to Naioth. 24He
stripped off his robes and also proph-
esied in Samuel's presence. He lay
that way all that day and night. This is
why people say, "Is Saul also among
the prophets?"

David and Jonathan

20 Then David fled from Naioth at
Ramah and went to Jonathan
and asked, "What have I done? What is
my crime? How have I wronged your
father, that he is trying to take my
life?"
2"Never!" Jonathan replied. "You
are not going to die! Look, my father
doesn't do anything, great or small,
without confiding in me. Why would
he hide this from me? It's not so!"
3But David took an oath and said,
"Your father knows very well that I
have found favor in your eyes, and he
has said to himself, 'Jonathan must not
know this or he will be grieved.' Yet as
surely as the LORD lives and as you live,
there is only a step between me and
death."

4Jonathan said to David, "Whatever
you want me to do, I'll do for you."
5So David said, "Look, tomorrow is
the New Moon festival,[l] and I am sup-
posed to dine with the king; but let me
go and hide[m] in the field until the eve-
ning of the day after tomorrow. 6If your
father misses me at all, tell him, 'David
earnestly asked my permission[n] to
hurry to Bethlehem,[o] his hometown,
because an annual[p] sacrifice is being
made there for his whole clan.' 7If he
says, 'Very well,' then your servant is
safe. But if he loses his temper,[q] you
can be sure that he is determined[r] to
harm me. 8As for you, show kindness
to your servant, for you have brought
him into a covenant[s] with you before
the LORD. If I am guilty, then kill[t] me
yourself! Why hand me over to your
father?"
9"Never!" Jonathan said. "If I had
the least inkling that my father was de-
termined to harm you, wouldn't I tell
you?"
10David asked, "Who will tell me if
your father answers you harshly?"
11"Come," Jonathan said, "let's go
out into the field." So they went there
together.
12Then Jonathan said to David: "By
the LORD, the God of Israel, I will surely
sound[u] out my father by this time the
day after tomorrow! If he is favorably
disposed toward you, will I not send
you word and let you know? 13But if
my father is inclined to harm you, may
the LORD deal with me, be it ever so
severely,[v] if I do not let you know and
send you away safely. May the LORD be
with[w] you as he has been with my fa-
ther. 14But show me unfailing kind-
ness[x] like that of the LORD as long as I
live, so that I may not be killed, 15and
do not ever cut off your kindness from
my family[y]—not even when the LORD
has cut off every one of David's ene-
mies from the face of the earth."
16So Jonathan[z] made a covenant[a]
with the house of David, saying, "May
the LORD call David's enemies to ac-
count.[b]" 17And Jonathan had David
reaffirm his oath[c] out of love for him,
because he loved him as he loved him-
self.
18Then Jonathan said to David: "To-
morrow is the New Moon festival. You
will be missed, because your seat will
be empty.[d] 19The day after tomorrow,
toward evening, go to the place where
you hid[e] when this trouble began, and
wait by the stone Ezel. 20I will shoot

three arrows[a] to the side of it, as
though I were shooting at a target.
21 Then I will send a boy and say, 'Go,
find the arrows.' If I say to him, 'Look,
the arrows are on this side of you;
bring them here,' then come, because,
as surely as the LORD lives, you are safe;
there is no danger. 22 But if I say to the
boy, 'Look, the arrows are beyond[b]
you,' then you must go, because the
LORD has sent you away. 23 And about
the matter you and I discussed—
remember, the LORD is witness[c] be-
tween you and me forever."
24 So David hid in the field, and when
the New Moon festival[d] came, the king
sat down to eat. 25 He sat in his custom-
ary place by the wall, opposite Jona-
than,[v] and Abner sat next to Saul, but
David's place was empty.[e] 26 Saul said
nothing that day, for he thought,
"Something must have happened to
David to make him ceremonially un-
clean—surely he is unclean.[f]" 27 But
the next day, the second day of the
month, David's place was empty again.
Then Saul said to his son Jonathan,
"Why hasn't the son of Jesse come to
the meal, either yesterday or today?"
28 Jonathan answered, "David ear-
nestly asked me for permission[g] to go
to Bethlehem. 29 He said, 'Let me go,
because our family is observing a sacri-
fice[h] in the town and my brother has
ordered me to be there. If I have found
favor in your eyes, let me get away to
see my brothers.' That is why he has
not come to the king's table."
30 Saul's anger flared up at Jonathan
and he said to him, "You son of a per-
verse and rebellious woman! Don't I
know that you have sided with the son
of Jesse to your own shame and to the
shame of the mother who bore you?
31 As long as the son of Jesse lives on
this earth, neither you nor your king-
dom[i] will be established. Now send
and bring him to me, for he must die!"
32 "Why[j] should he be put to death?
What[k] has he done?" Jonathan asked
his father. 33 But Saul hurled his spear
at him to kill him. Then Jonathan knew
that his father intended[l] to kill David.
34 Jonathan got up from the table in
fierce anger; on that second day of the
month he did not eat, because he was
grieved at his father's shameful treat-
ment of David.
35 In the morning Jonathan went out
to the field for his meeting with David.
He had a small boy with him, 36 and he
said to the boy, "Run and find the ar-
rows I shoot." As the boy ran, he shot
an arrow beyond him. 37 When the boy
came to the place where Jonathan's ar-
row had fallen, Jonathan called out af-
ter him, "Isn't the arrow beyond[m]
you?" 38 Then he shouted, "Hurry! Go
quickly! Don't stop!" The boy picked
up the arrow and returned to his mas-
ter. 39 (The boy knew nothing of all this;
only Jonathan and David knew.)
40 Then Jonathan gave his weapons to
the boy and said, "Go, carry them back
to town."
41 After the boy had gone, David got
up from the south side of the stone
and bowed down before Jonathan
three times, with his face to the
ground.[n] Then they kissed each other
and wept together—but David wept
the most.
42 Jonathan said to David, "Go in
peace,[o] for we have sworn friendship[p]
with each other in the name of the
LORD,[q] saying, 'The LORD is witness[r]
between you and me, and between
your descendants and my descendants
forever.[s]' " Then David left, and Jona-
than went back to the town.

David at Nob

21 David went to Nob,[t] to Ahime-
lech the priest. Ahimelech trem-
bled[u] when he met him, and asked,
"Why are you alone? Why is no one
with you?"
2 David answered Ahimelech the
priest, "The king charged me with a
certain matter and said to me, 'No one
is to know anything about your mis-
sion and your instructions.' As for my
men, I have told them to meet me at a
certain place. 3 Now then, what do you
have on hand? Give me five loaves of
bread, or whatever you can find."
4 But the priest answered David, "I
don't have any ordinary bread[v] on
hand; however, there is some conse-
crated[w] bread here—provided the men
have kept[x] themselves from women."
5 David replied, "Indeed women
have been kept from us, as usual[y]
whenever[w] I set out. The men's
things[x] are holy[z] even on missions
that are not holy. How much more so
today!" 6 So the priest gave him the
consecrated bread,[a] since there was no
bread there except the bread of the
Presence that had been removed from
before the LORD and replaced by hot

20:20 [a]2Ki 13:15
20:22 [b]ver 37
20:23 [c]S Ge 31:50
20:24 [d]S Nu 10:10
20:25 [e]ver 18
20:26 [f]Lev 7:20-21
20:28 [g]ver 6
20:29 [h]S Ge 8:20
20:31 [i]1Sa 23:17; 24:20
20:32 [j]S 1Sa 19:4; Mt 27:23; [k]S Ge 31:36
20:33 [l]S 1Sa 18:11,17
20:37 [m]ver 22
20:41 [n]S Ge 33:3; Ru 2:10; 1Sa 24:8; 25:23; 2Sa 1:2
20:42 [o]S 1Sa 1:17; S Ac 15:33 [p]S Ge 40:14; 2Sa 1:26; Pr 18:24 [q]Isa 48:1 [r]S Ge 31:50; S 1Sa 18:3 [s]2Sa 9:1
21:1 [t]1Sa 22:9,19; Ne 11:32; Isa 10:32 [u]1Sa 16:4
21:4 [v]Lev 24:8-9 [w]Mt 12:4 [x]S Ex 19:15; S Lev 15:18
21:5 [y]Dt 23:9-11; Jos 3:5; 2Sa 11:11 [z]1Th 4:4
21:6 [a]S Ex 25:30; 1Sa 22:10; Mt 12:3-4; Mk 2:25-28; Lk 6:1-5

[v]25 Septuagint; Hebrew *wall. Jonathan arose* [w]5 Or *from us in the past few days since* [x]5 Or *bodies*

bread on the day it was taken away.
[7]Now one of Saul's servants was
there that day, detained before the
LORD; he was Doeg[a] the Edomite,[b]
Saul's head shepherd.
[8]David asked Ahimelech, "Don't you
have a spear or a sword here? I haven't
brought my sword or any other weap-
on, because the king's business was ur-
gent."
[9]The priest replied, "The sword[c] of
Goliath[d] the Philistine, whom you
killed in the Valley of Elah,[e] is here; it
is wrapped in a cloth behind the
ephod. If you want it, take it; there is
no sword here but that one."
David said, "There is none like it;
give it to me."

David at Gath

[10]That day David fled from Saul and
went[f] to Achish king of Gath. [11]But the
servants of Achish said to him, "Isn't
this David, the king of the land? Isn't
he the one they sing about in their
dances:

" 'Saul has slain his thousands,
and David his tens of
thousands'?"[g]

[12]David took these words to heart
and was very much afraid of Achish
king of Gath. [13]So he pretended to be
insane[h] in their presence; and while he
was in their hands he acted like a mad-
man, making marks on the doors of the
gate and letting saliva run down his
beard.
[14]Achish said to his servants, "Look
at the man! He is insane! Why bring
him to me? [15]Am I so short of madmen
that you have to bring this fellow here
to carry on like this in front of me?
Must this man come into my house?"

David at Adullam and Mizpah

22 David left Gath and escaped to
the cave[i] of Adullam.[j] When
his brothers and his father's household
heard about it, they went down to him
there. [2]All those who were in distress
or in debt or discontented gathered[k]
around him, and he became their lead-
er. About four hundred men were with
him.
[3]From there David went to Mizpah in
Moab and said to the king of Moab,
"Would you let my father and mother
come and stay with you until I learn
what God will do for me?" [4]So he left
them with the king of Moab,[l] and they
stayed with him as long as David was
in the stronghold.
[5]But the prophet Gad[m] said to David,
"Do not stay in the stronghold. Go into
the land of Judah." So David left and
went to the forest of Hereth.[n]

Saul Kills the Priests of Nob

[6]Now Saul heard that David and his
men had been discovered. And Saul,
spear in hand, was seated[o] under the
tamarisk[p] tree on the hill at Gibeah,
with all his officials standing around
him. [7]Saul said to them, "Listen, men
of Benjamin! Will the son of Jesse give
all of you fields and vineyards? Will he
make all of you commanders[q] of thou-
sands and commanders of hundreds?
[8]Is that why you have all conspired[r]
against me? No one tells me when my
son makes a covenant[s] with the son of
Jesse.[t] None of you is concerned[u]
about me or tells me that my son has
incited my servant to lie in wait for me,
as he does today."
[9]But Doeg[v] the Edomite, who was
standing with Saul's officials, said, "I
saw the son of Jesse come to Ahime-
lech son of Ahitub[w] at Nob.[x] [10]Ahime-
lech inquired[y] of the LORD for him; he
also gave him provisions[z] and the
sword[a] of Goliath the Philistine."
[11]Then the king sent for the priest
Ahimelech son of Ahitub and his fa-
ther's whole family, who were the
priests at Nob, and they all came to the
king. [12]Saul said, "Listen now, son of
Ahitub."
"Yes, my lord," he answered.
[13]Saul said to him, "Why have you
conspired[b] against me, you and the
son of Jesse, giving him bread and a
sword and inquiring of God for him, so
that he has rebelled against me and lies
in wait for me, as he does today?"
[14]Ahimelech answered the king,
"Who[c] of all your servants is as loyal
as David, the king's son-in-law, captain
of your bodyguard and highly respect-
ed in your household? [15]Was that day
the first time I inquired of God for him?
Of course not! Let not the king accuse
your servant or any of his father's
family, for your servant knows nothing
at all about this whole affair."
[16]But the king said, "You will surely
die, Ahimelech, you and your father's
whole family.[d]"
[17]Then the king ordered the guards
at his side: "Turn and kill the priests of
the LORD, because they too have sided

21:7 [a] 1Sa 22:9, 22 [b] 1Sa 14:47; Ps 52 Title
21:9 [c] S 1Sa 17:51 [d] S 1Sa 17:4 [e] 1Sa 17:2
21:10 [f] 1Sa 25:13; 27:2
21:11 [g] S 1Sa 18:7
21:13 [h] Ps 34 Title
22:1 [i] Ps 57 Title; 142 Title [j] S Ge 38:1
22:2 [k] 1Sa 23:13; 25:13; 2Sa 15:20
22:4 [l] S Ge 19:37
22:5 [m] 2Sa 24:11; 1Ch 21:9; 29:29; 2Ch 29:25 [n] 2Sa 23:14
22:6 [o] S Jdg 4:5 [p] S Ge 21:33
22:7 [q] S Dt 1:15
22:8 [r] ver 13 [s] S 1Sa 18:3 [t] 2Sa 20:1 [u] 1Sa 23:21
22:9 [v] S 1Sa 21:7 [w] 1Sa 14:3 [x] S 1Sa 21:1
22:10 [y] S Ge 25:22; S 1Sa 23:2 [z] S 1Sa 21:6 [a] S 1Sa 17:51
22:13 [b] ver 8
22:14 [c] S 1Sa 19:4
22:16 [d] S 1Sa 2:31

with David. They knew he was fleeing,
yet they did not tell me."
But the king's officials were not will-
ing to raise a hand to strike the priests
of the LORD.
[18]The king then ordered Doeg, "You
turn and strike down the priests." So
Doeg the Edomite turned and struck
them down. That day he killed eighty-
five men who wore the linen ephod.
[19]He also put to the sword Nob, the
town of the priests, with its men and
women, its children and infants, and
its cattle, donkeys and sheep.
[20]But Abiathar, a son of Ahimelech
son of Ahitub, escaped and fled to
join David. [21]He told David that Saul
had killed the priests of the LORD.
[22]Then David said to Abiathar: "That
day, when Doeg the Edomite was
there, I knew he would be sure to tell
Saul. I am responsible for the death of
your father's whole family. [23]Stay with
me; don't be afraid; the man who is
seeking your life is seeking mine also.
You will be safe with me."

David Saves Keilah

23 When David was told, "Look,
the Philistines are fighting
against Keilah[x] and are looting the
threshing floors," [2]he inquired[m] of
the LORD, saying, "Shall I go and attack
these Philistines?"
The LORD answered him, "Go, attack
the Philistines and save Keilah."
[3]But David's men said to him, "Here
in Judah we are afraid. How much
more, then, if we go to Keilah against
the Philistine forces!"
[4]Once again David inquired[n] of the
LORD, and the LORD answered him, "Go
down to Keilah, for I am going to give
the Philistines[o] into your hand.[p]" [5]So
David and his men went to Keilah,
fought the Philistines and carried off
their livestock. He inflicted heavy
losses on the Philistines and saved the
people of Keilah. [6](Now Abiathar[q] son
of Ahimelech had brought the ephod[r]
down with him when he fled to David
at Keilah.)

Saul Pursues David

[7]Saul was told that David had gone
to Keilah, and he said, "God has hand-
ed him over[s] to me, for David has im-
prisoned himself by entering a town
with gates and bars."[t] [8]And Saul
called up all his forces for battle, to go
down to Keilah to besiege David and
his men.

[illegible]

23:9 [u]S 1Sa 22:20 [v]S 1Sa 2:18
23:12 [w]ver 20
23:13 [x]S 1Sa 22:2
23:14 [y]Ps 55:7 [z]S Jos 15:24 [a]Ps 54:3-4 [b]Ps 32:7
23:15 [c]S 1Sa 20:1
23:16 [d]1Sa 30:6; Ps 18:2; 27:14
23:17 [e]S 1Sa 20:31
23:18 [f]S 1Sa 18:3; 2Sa 9:1
23:19 [g]1Sa 26:1 [h]Ps 54 Title [i]1Sa 26:3
23:20 [j]ver 12
23:21 [k]Ru 2:20; 2Sa 2:5 [l]1Sa 22:8
23:23 [m]S Ge 31:36

[9]When David learned that Saul was
plotting against him, he said to Abia-
thar[u] the priest, "Bring the ephod."[v]
[10]David said, "O LORD, God of Israel,
your servant has heard definitely that
Saul plans to come to Keilah and de-
stroy the town on account of me. [11]Will
the citizens of Keilah surrender me to
him? Will Saul come down, as your ser-
vant has heard? O LORD, God of Israel,
tell your servant."
And the LORD said, "He will."
[12]Again David asked, "Will the citi-
zens of Keilah surrender[w] me and my
men to Saul?"
And the LORD said, "They will."
[13]So David and his men,[x] about six
hundred in number, left Keilah and
kept moving from place to place. When
Saul was told that David had escaped
from Keilah, he did not go there.
[14]David stayed in the desert[y] strong-
holds and in the hills of the Desert of
Ziph.[z] Day after day Saul searched[a]
for him, but God did not[b] give David
into his hands.
[15]While David was at Horesh in the
Desert of Ziph, he learned that Saul
had come out to take his life.[c] [16]And
Saul's son Jonathan went to David at
Horesh and helped him find strength[d]
in God. [17]"Don't be afraid," he said.
"My father Saul will not lay a hand on
you. You will be king[e] over Israel, and
I will be second to you. Even my father
Saul knows this." [18]The two of them
made a covenant[f] before the LORD.
Then Jonathan went home, but David
remained at Horesh.
[19]The Ziphites[g] went up to Saul at
Gibeah and said, "Is not David hiding
among us[h] in the strongholds at Ho-
resh, on the hill of Hakilah,[i] south of
Jeshimon? [20]Now, O king, come down
whenever it pleases you to do so, and
we will be responsible for handing[j]
him over to the king."
[21]Saul replied, "The LORD bless[k] you
for your concern[l] for me. [22]Go and
make further preparation. Find out
where David usually goes and who has
seen him there. They tell me he is very
crafty. [23]Find out about all the hiding
places he uses and come back to me
with definite information.[y] Then I will
go with you; if he is in the area, I will
track[m] him down among all the clans of
Judah."
[24]So they set out and went to Ziph
ahead of Saul. Now David and his men

[y]23 *Or me at Nacon*

were in the Desert of Maon, in the
Arabah south of Jeshimon. 25 Saul and
his men began the search, and when
David was told about it, he went down
to the rock and stayed in the Desert of
Maon. When Saul heard this, he went
into the Desert of Maon in pursuit of
David.

26 Saul was going along one side of
the mountain, and David and his men
were on the other side, hurrying to get
away from Saul. As Saul and his forces
were closing in on David and his men
to capture them, 27 a messenger came to
Saul, saying, "Come quickly! The Phil-
istines are raiding the land." 28 Then
Saul broke off his pursuit of David and
went to meet the Philistines. That is
why they call this place Sela Hammah-
lekoth.[a] 29 And David went up from
there and lived in the strongholds of
En Gedi.

David Spares Saul's Life

24 After Saul returned from pursu-
ing the Philistines, he was told,
"David is in the Desert of En Gedi."
2 So Saul took three thousand chosen
men from all Israel and set out to look
for David and his men near the Crags
of the Wild Goats.

3 He came to the sheep pens along
the way; a cave was there, and Saul
went in to relieve himself. David and
his men were far back in the cave. 4 The
men said, "This is the day the LORD
spoke of when he said[b] to you, 'I will
give your enemy into your hands for
you to deal with as you wish.'" Then
David crept up unnoticed and cut off
a corner of Saul's robe.

5 Afterward, David was conscience-
stricken for having cut off a corner of
his robe. 6 He said to his men, "The
LORD forbid that I should do such a
thing to my master, the LORD's anoint-
ed, or lift my hand against him; for he
is the anointed of the LORD." 7 With
these words David rebuked his men
and did not allow them to attack Saul.
And Saul left the cave and went his
way.

8 Then David went out of the cave
and called out to Saul, "My lord the
king!" When Saul looked behind him,
David bowed down and prostrated
himself with his face to the ground.
9 He said to Saul, "Why do you listen
when men say, 'David is bent on harm-
ing you'? 10 This day you have seen
with your own eyes how the LORD de-
livered you into my hands in the cave.
Some urged me to kill you, but I
spared you; I said, 'I will not lift my
hand against my master, because he is
the LORD's anointed.' 11 See, my father,
look at this piece of your robe in my
hand! I cut off the corner of your robe
but did not kill you. Now understand
and recognize that I am not guilty of
wrongdoing or rebellion. I have not
wronged you, but you are hunting
me down to take my life. 12 May the
LORD judge between you and me. And
may the LORD avenge the wrongs you
have done to me, but my hand will not
touch you. 13 As the old saying goes,
'From evildoers come evil deeds,' so
my hand will not touch you.

14 "Against whom has the king of Is-
rael come out? Whom are you pursu-
ing? A dead dog? A flea? 15 May the
LORD be our judge and decide be-
tween us. May he consider my cause
and uphold it; may he vindicate me
by delivering me from your hand."

16 When David finished saying this,
Saul asked, "Is that your voice, David
my son?" And he wept aloud. 17 "You
are more righteous than I," he said.
"You have treated me well, but I have
treated you badly. 18 You have just
now told me of the good you did to me;
the LORD delivered me into your
hands, but you did not kill me. 19 When
a man finds his enemy, does he let him
get away unharmed? May the LORD re-
ward you well for the way you treated
me today. 20 I know that you will surely
be king and that the kingdom of Is-
rael will be established in your hands.
21 Now swear to me by the LORD that
you will not cut off my descendants or
wipe out my name from my father's
family."

22 So David gave his oath to Saul.
Then Saul returned home, but David
and his men went up to the strong-
hold.

David, Nabal and Abigail

25 Now Samuel died, and all Is-
rael assembled and mourned
for him; and they buried him at his
home in Ramah.

Then David moved down into the
Desert of Maon.[c] 2 A certain man in
Maon, who had property there at Car-
mel, was very wealthy. He had a
thousand goats and three thousand
sheep, which he was shearing in Car-

[a] 28 *Sela Hammahlekoth* means *rock of parting*. [b] 4 Or *"Today the LORD is saying* [c] 1 Some Septuagint manuscripts; Hebrew *Paran*

mel. 3His name was Nabal and his
wife's name was Abigail.[a] She was an
intelligent and beautiful woman, but
her husband, a Calebite,[b] was surly
and mean in his dealings.
4While David was in the desert, he
heard that Nabal was shearing sheep.
5So he sent ten young men and said to
them, "Go up to Nabal at Carmel and
greet him in my name. 6Say to him:
'Long life to you! Good health[c] to you
and your household! And good health
to all that is yours![d]
7" 'Now I hear that it is sheep-shear-
ing time. When your shepherds were
with us, we did not mistreat[e] them,
and the whole time they were at Car-
mel nothing of theirs was missing.
8Ask your own servants and they will
tell you. Therefore be favorable toward
my young men, since we come at a fes-
tive time. Please give your servants and
your son David whatever[f] you can
find for them.' "
9When David's men arrived, they
gave Nabal this message in David's
name. Then they waited.
10Nabal answered David's servants,
"Who[g] is this David? Who is this son
of Jesse? Many servants are breaking
away from their masters these days.
11Why should I take my bread[h] and
water, and the meat I have slaughtered
for my shearers, and give it to men
coming from who knows where?"
12David's men turned around and
went back. When they arrived, they re-
ported every word. 13David said to his
men[i], "Put on your swords!" So they
put on their swords, and David put on
his. About four hundred men went[j]
up with David, while two hundred
stayed with the supplies.[k]
14One of the servants told Nabal's
wife Abigail: "David sent messengers
from the desert to give our master his
greetings,[l] but he hurled insults at
them. 15Yet these men were very good
to us. They did not mistreat[m] us, and
the whole time we were out in the
fields near them nothing was missing.[n]
16Night and day they were a wall[o]
around us all the time we were herding
our sheep near them. 17Now think it
over and see what you can do, because
disaster is hanging over our master and
his whole household. He is such a
wicked[p] man that no one can talk to
him."
18Abigail lost no time. She took two
hundred loaves of bread, two skins of
wine, five dressed sheep, five seahs[c]
of roasted grain,[q] a hundred cakes of
raisins[r] and two hundred cakes of
pressed figs, and loaded them on don-
keys.[s] 19Then she told her servants,
"Go on ahead;[t] I'll follow you." But
she did not tell[u] her husband Nabal.
20As she came riding her donkey into
a mountain ravine, there were David
and his men descending toward her,
and she met them. 21David had just
said, "It's been useless—all my watch-
ing over this fellow's property in the
desert so that nothing of his was miss-
ing.[v] He has paid[w] me back evil[x] for
good. 22May God deal with David,[d] be
it ever so severely,[y] if by morning I
leave alive one male[z] of all who belong
to him!"
23When Abigail saw David, she
quickly got off her donkey and bowed
down before David with her face to the
ground.[a] 24She fell at his feet and said:
"My lord, let the blame[b] be on me
alone. Please let your servant speak to
you; hear what your servant has to say.
25May my lord pay no attention to that
wicked man Nabal. He is just like his
name—his name is Fool[c],[d] and folly
goes with him. But as for me, your ser-
vant, I did not see the men my master
sent.
26"Now since the LORD has kept you,
my master, from bloodshed[e] and from
avenging[f] yourself with your own
hands, as surely as the LORD lives and
as you live, may your enemies and all
who intend to harm my master be like
Nabal.[g] 27And let this gift,[h] which
your servant has brought to my master,
be given to the men who follow you.
28Please forgive[i] your servant's of-
fense, for the LORD will certainly make a
lasting[j] dynasty for my master, be-
cause he fights the LORD's battles.[k] Let
no wrongdoing[l] be found in you as
long as you live. 29Even though some-
one is pursuing you to take your life,[m]
the life of my master will be bound se-
curely in the bundle of the living by the
LORD your God. But the lives of your
enemies he will hurl[n] away as from the
pocket of a sling.[o] 30When the LORD has
done for my master every good thing
he promised concerning him and has
appointed him leader[p] over Israel,
31my master will not have on his con-
science the staggering burden of need-
less bloodshed or of having avenged
himself. And when the LORD has

25:3 [a]Pr 31:10 [b]S Jos 14:13; S 15:13 **25:6** [c]Ps 122:7; Mt 10:12 [d]1Ch 12:18 **25:7** [e]ver 15 **25:8** [f]Ne 8:10 **25:10** [g]Jdg 9:28 **25:11** [h]Jdg 8:6 **25:13** [i]S 1Sa 22:2 [j]S 1Sa 21:10 [k]S Nu 31:27 **25:14** [l]1Sa 13:10 **25:15** [m]ver 7 [n]ver 21 **25:16** [o]Ex 14:22; Job 1:10; Ps 139:5 **25:17** [p]S Dt 13:13; S 1Sa 20:7 **25:18** [q]S Lev 23:14; S 1Sa 17:17 [r]1Ch 12:40 [s]S Ge 42:26; 2Sa 16:1; Isa 30:6 **25:19** [t]Ge 32:20 [u]ver 36 **25:21** [v]ver 15 [w]Ps 109:5 [x]S 1Sa 19:4 **25:22** [y]S Ru 1:17 [z]1Ki 14:10; 21:21; 2Ki 9:8 **25:23** [a]S Ge 19:1; S 1Sa 20:41 **25:24** [b]2Sa 14:9 **25:25** [c]Pr 17:12 [d]Pr 12:16; 14:16; 20:3; Isa 32:5 **25:26** [e]ver 33 [f]Heb 10:30 [g]ver 34; 2Sa 18:32 **25:27** [h]S Ge 33:11 **25:28** [i]ver 24; 2Sa 14:9 [j]2Sa 7:11,26 [k]1Sa 18:17 [l]1Sa 24:11 **25:29** [m]S 1Sa 20:1 [n]Jer 10:18; 22:26 [o]1Sa 17:50; 2Sa 4:8 **25:30** [p]S 1Sa 12:12; S 13:14

[c]18 That is, probably about a bushel (about 37 liters)
[d]22 Some Septuagint manuscripts; Hebrew *with David's enemies*

brought my master success, remem-
ber[c] your servant."[b]
32David said to Abigail, "Praise[c] be
to the LORD, the God of Israel, who has
sent you today to meet me. 33May you
be blessed for your good judgment and
for keeping me from bloodshed[d] this
day and from avenging myself with my
own hands. 34Otherwise, as surely as
the LORD, the God of Israel, lives, who
has kept me from harming you, if you
had not come quickly to meet me, not
one male belonging to Nabal[e] would
have been left alive by daybreak."
35Then David accepted from her
hand what she had brought him and
said, "Go home in peace. I have heard
your words and granted[f] your re-
quest."
36When Abigail went to Nabal, he
was in the house holding a banquet
like that of a king. He was in high[g]
spirits and very drunk.[h] So she told[i]
him nothing until daybreak. 37Then in
the morning, when Nabal was sober,
his wife told him all these things, and
his heart failed him and he became like
a stone.[j] 38About ten days later, the
LORD struck[k] Nabal and he died.
39When David heard that Nabal was
dead, he said, "Praise be to the LORD,
who has upheld my cause against Na-
bal for treating me with contempt. He
has kept his servant from doing wrong
and has brought Nabal's wrongdoing
down on his own head."
Then David sent word to Abigail,
asking her to become his wife. 40His
servants went to Carmel and said to
Abigail, "David has sent us to you to
take you to become his wife."
41She bowed down with her face to
the ground and said, "Here is your
maidservant, ready to serve you and
wash the feet of my master's servants."
42Abigail[l] quickly got on a donkey and,
attended by her five maids, went with
David's messengers and became his
wife. 43David had also married Ahin-
oam[m] of Jezreel, and they both were
his wives.[n] 44But Saul had given his
daughter Michal, David's wife, to Palti-
el[a][o] son of Laish, who was from Gal-
lim.[p]

David Again Spares Saul's Life

26 The Ziphites[q] went to Saul at
Gibeah and said, "Is not David
hiding[r] on the hill of Hakilah, which
faces Jeshimon?[s]"
2So Saul went down to the Desert of
Ziph, with his three thousand chosen

25:31 [a]S Ge 40:14 [b]2Sa 3:10
25:32 [c]S Ge 24:27
25:33 [d]ver 26
25:34 [e]S ver 26
25:35 [f]S Ge 19:21
25:36 [g]S Ru 3:7 [h]Pr 20:1; Ecc 10:17; Isa 5:11,22; 22:13; 28:7; 56:12; Hos 4:11 [i]ver 19
25:37 [j]Ex 15:16
25:38 [k]Dt 32:35; 1Sa 24:12; 26:10; 2Sa 6:7; 12:15
25:42 [l]2Sa 2:2; 3:3; 1Ch 3:1
25:43 [m]2Sa 3:2; 1Ch 3:1 [n]1Sa 27:3; 30:5; 2Sa 2:2
25:44 [o]2Sa 3:15 [p]Isa 10:30
26:1 [q]1Sa 23:19 [r]Ps 54 Title [s]1Sa 23:24
26:2 [t]1Sa 24:2
26:3 [u]1Sa 23:19
26:5 [v]1Sa 17:55
26:6 [w]S Ge 10:15 [x]2Sa 2:18; 10:10; 16:9; 18:2; 19:21; 23:18; 1Ch 11:20; 19:11 [y]1Ch 2:16
26:9 [z]ver 16; S Ge 26:11; S 1Sa 9:16; 2Sa 1:14; 19:21; La 4:20 [a]S 1Sa 24:5
26:10 [b]S Ge 16:5; S 1Sa 25:38; S Ro 12:19 [c]Dt 31:14; Ps 37:13 [d]1Sa 31:6; 2Sa 1:1
26:12 [e]S Jdg 4:21

men of Israel, to search[t] there for Da-
vid. 3Saul made his camp beside the
road on the hill of Hakilah[u] facing Je-
shimon, but David stayed in the desert.
When he saw that Saul had followed
him there, 4he sent out scouts and
learned that Saul had definitely ar-
rived.[b]
5Then David set out and went to the
place where Saul had camped. He saw
where Saul and Abner[v] son of Ner, the
commander of the army, had lain
down. Saul was lying inside the camp,
with the army encamped around him.
6David then asked Ahimelech the
Hittite[w] and Abishai[x] son of Zeruiah,[y]
Joab's brother, "Who will go down into
the camp with me to Saul?"
"I'll go with you," said Abishai.
7So David and Abishai went to the
army by night, and there was Saul, ly-
ing asleep inside the camp with his
spear stuck in the ground near his
head. Abner and the soldiers were ly-
ing around him.
8Abishai said to David, "Today God
has delivered your enemy into your
hands. Now let me pin him to the
ground with one thrust of my spear; I
won't strike him twice."
9But David said to Abishai, "Don't
destroy him! Who can lay a hand on
the LORD's anointed[z] and be guiltless?[a]
10As surely as the LORD lives," he said,
"the LORD himself will strike[b] him;
either his time[c] will come and he will
die,[d] or he will go into battle and per-
ish. 11But the LORD forbid that I should
lay a hand on the LORD's anointed.
Now get the spear and water jug that
are near his head, and let's go."
12So David took the spear and water
jug near Saul's head, and they left. No
one saw or knew about it, nor did any-
one wake up. They were all sleeping,
because the LORD had put them into a
deep sleep.[e]
13Then David crossed over to the
other side and stood on top of the hill
some distance away; there was a wide
space between them. 14He called out to
the army and to Abner son of Ner,
"Aren't you going to answer me, Ab-
ner?"
Abner replied, "Who are you who
calls to the king?"
15David said, "You're a man, aren't
you? And who is like you in Israel?
Why didn't you guard your lord the

[a]44 Hebrew *Palti*, a variant of *Paltiel* [b]4 *Or had come to Nacon*

king? Someone came to destroy your
lord the king. 16What you have done is
not good. As surely as the LORD lives,
you and your men deserve to die, be-
cause you did not guard your master,
the LORD's anointed. Look around you.
Where are the king's spear and water
jug that were near his head?"
17Saul recognized David's voice and
said, "Is that your voice,[a] David my
son?"
David replied, "Yes it is, my lord the
king." 18And he added, "Why is my
lord pursuing his servant? What have I
done, and what wrong[b] am I guilty of?
19Now let my lord the king listen[c] to
his servant's words. If the LORD has in-
cited you against me, then may he ac-
cept an offering.[d] If, however, men
have done it, may they be cursed be-
fore the LORD! They have now driven
me from my share in the LORD's inheri-
tance[e] and have said, 'Go, serve other
gods.'[f] 20Now do not let my blood[g] fall
to the ground far from the presence of
the LORD. The king of Israel has come
out to look for a flea[h]—as one hunts a
partridge in the mountains.[i]"
21Then Saul said, "I have sinned.[j]
Come back, David my son. Because
you considered my life precious[k] to-
day, I will not try to harm you again.
Surely I have acted like a fool and have
erred greatly."
22"Here is the king's spear," David
answered. "Let one of your young men
come over and get it. 23The LORD re-
wards[l] every man for his righteous-
ness[m] and faithfulness. The LORD de-
livered[n] you into my hands today, but
I would not lay a hand on the LORD's
anointed. 24As surely as I valued your
life today, so may the LORD value my
life and deliver[o] me from all trouble."
25Then Saul said to David, "May you
be blessed,[p] my son David; you will do
great things and surely triumph."
So David went on his way, and Saul
returned home.

David Among the Philistines

27 But David thought to himself,
"One of these days I will be de-
stroyed by the hand of Saul. The best
thing I can do is to escape to the land of
the Philistines. Then Saul will give up
searching for me anywhere in Israel,
and I will slip out of his hand."
2So David and the six hundred men[q]
with him left and went[r] over to
Achish[s] son of Maoch king of Gath.
3David and his men settled in Gath

26:17 [illegible]
26:18 [illegible]
26:19 [illegible]
26:20 [illegible]
26:21 [illegible]
26:23 [illegible]
26:24 [illegible] Ps 54:7
26:25 [illegible] Ru 3:10
27:2 [illegible] 1Sa 30:9; 2Sa 2:3 [illegible] S 1Sa 21:10 [illegible] 1Ki 2:39
27:3 [t]S 1Sa 25:43
27:6 [u]Jos 15:31; 19:5; 1Sa 30:1; 1Ch 12:20; Ne 11:28
27:7 [v]1Sa 29:3
27:8 [w]S Jos 12:5 [x]S Ex 17:14; S 1Sa 14:48; 30:1; 2Sa 1:8; 8:12 [y]S Ge 16:7
27:9 [z]S 1Sa 15:3
27:10 [a]1Sa 30:29 [b]Jdg 1:16
27:12 [c]S Ge 34:30 [d]1Sa 29:6
28:1 [e]1Sa 29:1
28:2 [f]1Sa 29:2
28:3 [g]1Sa 25:1 [h]S 1Sa 7:17 [i]ver 9 [j]S Ex 22:18
28:4 [k]S Jos 19:18

with Achish. Each man had his family
with him, and David had his two
wives:[t] Ahinoam of Jezreel and Abigail
of Carmel, the widow of Nabal. 4When
Saul was told that David had fled to
Gath, he no longer searched for him.
5Then David said to Achish, "If I
have found favor in your eyes, let a
place be assigned to me in one of the
country towns, that I may live there.
Why should your servant live in the
royal city with you?"
6So on that day Achish gave him Zik-
lag,[u] and it has belonged to the kings
of Judah ever since. 7David lived[v] in
Philistine territory a year and four
months.
8Now David and his men went up
and raided the Geshurites,[w] the Gir-
zites and the Amalekites.[x] (From an-
cient times these peoples had lived in
the land extending to Shur[y] and
Egypt.) 9Whenever David attacked an
area, he did not leave a man or woman
alive,[z] but took sheep and cattle, don-
keys and camels, and clothes. Then he
returned to Achish.
10When Achish asked, "Where did
you go raiding today?" David would
say, "Against the Negev of Judah" or
"Against the Negev of Jerahmeel[a]" or
"Against the Negev of the Kenites.[b]"
11He did not leave a man or woman
alive to be brought to Gath, for he
thought, "They might inform on us
and say, 'This is what David did.'"
And such was his practice as long as he
lived in Philistine territory. 12Achish
trusted David and said to himself, "He
has become so odious[c] to his people,
the Israelites, that he will be my ser-
vant forever.[d]"

Saul and the Witch of Endor

28 In those days the Philistines
gathered[e] their forces to fight
against Israel. Achish said to David,
"You must understand that you and
your men will accompany me in the
army."
2David said, "Then you will see for
yourself what your servant can do."
Achish replied, "Very well, I will
make you my bodyguard[f] for life."
3Now Samuel was dead,[g] and all Is-
rael had mourned for him and buried
him in his own town of Ramah.[h] Saul
had expelled[i] the mediums and spirit-
ists[j] from the land.
4The Philistines assembled and came
and set up camp at Shunem,[k] while
Saul gathered all the Israelites and set

up camp at Gilboa.[a] 5When Saul saw
the Philistine army, he was afraid; ter-
ror[b] filled his heart. 6He inquired[c] of
the LORD, but the LORD did not answer
him by dreams[d] or Urim[e] or proph-
ets.[f] 7Saul then said to his attendants,
"Find me a woman who is a medium,[g]
so I may go and inquire of her."

"There is one in Endor,[h]" they said.

8So Saul disguised[i] himself, putting
on other clothes, and at night he and
two men went to the woman. "Con-
sult[j] a spirit for me," he said, "and
bring up for me the one I name."

9But the woman said to him, "Surely
you know what Saul has done. He has
cut off[k] the mediums and spiritists
from the land. Why have you set a
trap[l] for my life to bring about my
death?"

10Saul swore to her by the LORD, "As
surely as the LORD lives, you will not be
punished for this."

11Then the woman asked, "Whom
shall I bring up for you?"

"Bring up Samuel," he said.

12When the woman saw Samuel, she
cried out at the top of her voice and
said to Saul, "Why have you deceived
me?[m] You are Saul!"

13The king said to her, "Don't be
afraid. What do you see?"

The woman said, "I see a spirit[g]
coming up out of the ground."[n]

14"What does he look like?" he
asked.

"An old man wearing a robe[o] is
coming up," she said.

Then Saul knew it was Samuel, and
he bowed down and prostrated himself
with his face to the ground.

15Samuel said to Saul, "Why have
you disturbed me by bringing me up?"

"I am in great distress," Saul said.
"The Philistines are fighting against
me, and God has turned[p] away from
me. He no longer answers[q] me, either
by prophets or by dreams.[r] So I have
called on you to tell me what to do."

16Samuel said, "Why do you consult
me, now that the LORD has turned away
from you and become your enemy?
17The LORD has done what he predicted
through me. The LORD has torn[s] the
kingdom out of your hands and given
it to one of your neighbors—to David.
18Because you did not obey[t] the LORD
or carry out his fierce wrath[u] against
the Amalekites,[v] the LORD has done
this to you today. 19The LORD will hand
over both Israel and you to the Philis-
tines, and tomorrow you and your
sons[w] will be with me. The LORD will
also hand over the army of Israel to the
Philistines."

20Immediately Saul fell full length on
the ground, filled with fear because of
Samuel's words. His strength was
gone, for he had eaten nothing all that
day and night.

21When the woman came to Saul and
saw that he was greatly shaken, she
said, "Look, your maidservant has
obeyed you. I took my life[x] in my
hands and did what you told me to do.
22Now please listen to your servant and
let me give you some food so you may
eat and have the strength to go on your
way."

23He refused[y] and said, "I will not
eat."

But his men joined the woman in
urging him, and he listened to them.
He got up from the ground and sat on
the couch.

24The woman had a fattened calf[z] at
the house, which she butchered at
once. She took some flour, kneaded it
and baked bread without yeast. 25Then
she set it before Saul and his men, and
they ate. That same night they got up
and left.

Achish Sends David Back to Ziklag

29 The Philistines gathered[a] all
their forces at Aphek,[b] and Is-
rael camped by the spring in Jezreel.[c]
2As the Philistine rulers marched with
their units of hundreds and thousands,
David and his men were marching at
the rear[d] with Achish. 3The command-
ers of the Philistines asked, "What
about these Hebrews?"

Achish replied, "Is this not David,[e]
who was an officer of Saul king of Is-
rael? He has already been with me for
over a year,[f] and from the day he left
Saul until now, I have found no fault in
him."

4But the Philistine commanders were
angry with him and said, "Send[g] the
man back, that he may return to the
place you assigned him. He must not
go with us into battle, or he will turn[h]
against us during the fighting. How
better could he regain his master's fa-
vor than by taking the heads of our
own men? 5Isn't this the David they
sang about in their dances:

" 'Saul has slain his thousands,
and David his tens of
thousands'?"[i]

28:4 [a]1Sa 31:1, 3; 2Sa 1:6,21; 21:12
28:5 [b]S Ex 19:16
28:6 [c]S 1Sa 8:18; 14:37 [d]S Dt 13:3 [e]S Ex 28:30; S Lev 8:8 [f]Eze 20:3; Am 8:11; Mic 3:7
28:7 [g]1Ch 10:13; Ac 16:16 [h]Jos 17:11; Ps 83:10
28:8 [i]1Ki 22:30; 2Ch 18:29; 35:22 [j]2Ki 1:3; Isa 8:19
28:9 [k]ver 3 [l]Job 18:10; Ps 31:4; 69:22; Isa 8:14
28:12 [m]S Ge 27:36; 1Ki 14:6
28:13 [n]ver 15; S Lev 19:31; 2Ch 33:6
28:14 [o]1Sa 15:27
28:15 [p]S Jdg 16:20 [q]S 1Sa 14:37 [r]S Dt 13:3
28:17 [s]1Sa 15:28
28:18 [t]1Sa 15:20 [u]S Dt 9:8; S 1Sa 15:3 [v]S Ge 14:7; S 1Sa 14:48
28:19 [w]1Sa 31:2; 1Ch 8:33
28:21 [x]S Jdg 9:17; S 12:3
28:23 [y]1Ki 21:4
28:24 [z]S Ge 18:7
29:1 [a]1Sa 28:1 [b]S 1Sa 4:1 [c]Jos 17:16; 1Ki 18:45; 21:1, 23; 2Ki 9:30; Jer 50:5; Hos 1:4, 5,11; 2:22
29:2 [d]1Sa 28:2
29:3 [e]1Ch 12:19 [f]1Sa 27:7
29:4 [g]1Ch 12:19 [h]1Sa 14:21
29:5 [i]S 1Sa 18:7

[g]13 Or *see spirits; or see gods*

6So Achish called David and said to
him, "As surely as the LORD lives, you
have been reliable, and I would be
pleased to have you serve with me in
the army. From the day[a] you came to
me until now, I have found no fault in
you, but the rulers[b] don't approve of
you. 7Turn back and go in peace; do
nothing to displease the Philistine rul-
ers."
8"But what have I done?" asked Da-
vid. "What have you found against
your servant from the day I came to
you until now? Why can't I go and
fight against the enemies of my lord
the king?"
9Achish answered, "I know that you
have been as pleasing in my eyes as an
angel[c] of God; nevertheless, the Philis-
tine commanders[d] have said, 'He must
not go up with us into battle.' 10Now
get up early, along with your master's
servants who have come with you, and
leave[e] in the morning as soon as it is
light."
11So David and his men got up early
in the morning to go back to the land of
the Philistines, and the Philistines went
up to Jezreel.

David Destroys the Amalekites

30 David and his men reached Zik-
lag[f] on the third day. Now the
Amalekites[g] had raided the Negev and
Ziklag. They had attacked Ziklag and
burned[h] it, 2and had taken captive the
women and all who were in it, both
young and old. They killed none of
them, but carried them off as they went
on their way.
3When David and his men came to
Ziklag, they found it destroyed by fire
and their wives and sons and daugh-
ters taken captive.[i] 4So David and his
men wept[j] aloud until they had no
strength left to weep. 5David's two
wives[k] had been captured—Ahinoam
of Jezreel and Abigail, the widow of
Nabal of Carmel. 6David was greatly
distressed because the men were talk-
ing of stoning[l] him; each one was bit-
ter[m] in spirit because of his sons and
daughters. But David found strength[n]
in the LORD his God.
7Then David said to Abiathar[o] the
priest, the son of Ahimelech, "Bring
me the ephod.[p]" Abiathar brought it to
him, 8and David inquired[q] of the LORD,
"Shall I pursue this raiding party? Will
I overtake them?"
"Pursue them," he answered. "You
will certainly overtake them and suc-
ceed[r] in the rescue.[s]"
9David and the six hundred men[t]
with him came to the Besor Ravine,
where some stayed behind, 10for two
hundred men were too exhausted[u] to
cross the ravine. But David and four
hundred men continued the pursuit.
11They found an Egyptian in a field
and brought him to David. They gave
him water to drink and food to eat—
12part of a cake of pressed figs and two
cakes of raisins. He ate and was
revived,[v] for he had not eaten any
food or drunk any water for three days
and three nights.
13David asked him, "To whom do
you belong, and where do you come
from?"
He said, "I am an Egyptian, the slave
of an Amalekite.[w] My master aban-
doned me when I became ill three days
ago. 14We raided the Negev of the
Kerethites[x] and the territory belonging
to Judah and the Negev of Caleb.[y] And
we burned[z] Ziklag."
15David asked him, "Can you lead
me down to this raiding party?"
He answered, "Swear to me before
God that you will not kill me or hand
me over to my master,[a] and I will take
you down to them."
16He led David down, and there they
were, scattered over the countryside,
eating, drinking and reveling[b] because
of the great amount of plunder[c] they
had taken from the land of the Philis-
tines and from Judah. 17David fought[d]
them from dusk until the evening of
the next day, and none of them got
away, except four hundred young men
who rode off on camels and fled.[e]
18David recovered[f] everything the
Amalekites had taken, including his
two wives. 19Nothing was missing:
young or old, boy or girl, plunder or
anything else they had taken. David
brought everything back. 20He took all
the flocks and herds, and his men
drove them ahead of the other live-
stock, saying, "This is David's plun-
der."
21Then David came to the two hun-
dred men who had been too exhaust-
ed[g] to follow him and who were left
behind at the Besor Ravine. They came
out to meet David and the people with
him. As David and his men ap-
proached, he greeted them. 22But all
the evil men and troublemakers among
David's followers said, "Because they
did not go out with us, we will not

29:6 [a]1Sa 27:8-12 [b]ver 3
29:9 [c]2Sa 14:17, 20; 19:27 [d]ver 4
29:10 [e]1Ch 12:19
30:1 [f]S 1Sa 27:6 [g]S 1Sa 27:8 [h]ver 14
30:3 [i]S Ge 31:26
30:4 [j]S Ge 27:38
30:5 [k]S 1Sa 25:43
30:6 [l]S Ex 17:4; Jn 8:59 [m]S Ru 1:13 [n]S 1Sa 23:16; Ro 4:20
30:7 [o]S 1Sa 22:20 [p]S 1Sa 2:28
30:8 [q]S 1Sa 23:2 [r]S Ge 14:16 [s]S Ex 2:17
30:9 [t]S 1Sa 27:2
30:10 [u]ver 21
30:12 [v]S Jdg 15:19
30:13 [w]S 1Sa 14:48
30:14 [x]2Sa 8:18; 15:18; 20:7,23; 1Ki 1:38,44; 1Ch 18:17; Eze 25:16; Zep 2:5 [y]S Jos 14:13; S 15:13 [z]ver 1
30:15 [a]Dt 23:15
30:16 [b]Lk 12:19 [c]S ver 17; S Jos 22:8
30:17 [d]ver 16; 1Sa 11:11; 2Sa 1:1 [e]2Sa 1:8
30:18 [f]S Ge 14:16
30:21 [g]ver 10

share with them the plunder we recov-
ered. However, each man may take his
wife and children and go."
23 David replied, "No, my brothers,
you must not do that with what the
LORD has given us. He has protected us
and handed over to us the forces that
came against us. 24 Who will listen to
what you say? The share of the man
who stayed with the supplies is to be
the same as that of him who went
down to the battle. All will share
alike.[a]" 25 David made this a statute
and ordinance for Israel from that day
to this.
26 When David arrived in Ziklag, he
sent some of the plunder to the elders
of Judah, who were his friends, saying,
"Here is a present[b] for you from the
plunder of the LORD's enemies."
27 He sent it to those who were in
Bethel,[c] Ramoth[d] Negev and Jattir;[e]
28 to those in Aroer,[f] Siphmoth,[g] Esh-
temoa[h] 29 and Racal; to those in the
towns of the Jerahmeelites[i] and the
Kenites;[j] 30 to those in Hormah,[k] Bor
Ashan,[l] Athach 31 and Hebron;[m] and to
those in all the other places where Da-
vid and his men had roamed.

Saul Takes His Life

31:1-13pp — 2Sa 1:4-12; 1Ch 10:1-12

31 Now the Philistines fought
against Israel; the Israelites fled
before them, and many fell slain on
Mount Gilboa.[n] 2 The Philistines
pressed hard after Saul and his sons,[o]
and they killed his sons Jonathan,[p]
Abinadab and Malki-Shua.[q] 3 The fight-
ing grew fierce around Saul, and when
the archers overtook him, they wound-
ed[r] him critically.

4 Saul said to his armor-bearer,
"Draw your sword and run me
through,[s] or these uncircumcised[t] fel-
lows will come and run me through
and abuse me."
But his armor-bearer was terrified
and would not do it; so Saul took his
own sword and fell on it. 5 When the
armor-bearer saw that Saul was dead,
he too fell on his sword and died with
him. 6 So Saul and his three sons and
his armor-bearer and all his men died[u]
together that same day.
7 When the Israelites along the valley
and those across the Jordan saw that
the Israelite army had fled and that
Saul and his sons had died, they aban-
doned their towns and fled. And the
Philistines came and occupied them.
8 The next day, when the Philistines[v]
came to strip the dead, they found Saul
and his three sons fallen on Mount Gil-
boa. 9 They cut off his head and
stripped off his armor, and they sent
messengers throughout the land of the
Philistines to proclaim the news[w] in the
temple of their idols and among their
people.[x] 10 They put his armor in the
temple of the Ashtoreths[y] and fas-
tened his body to the wall of Beth
Shan.[z]
11 When the people of Jabesh Gilead[a]
heard of what the Philistines had done
to Saul, 12 all their valiant men[b] jour-
neyed through the night to Beth Shan.
They took down the bodies of Saul and
his sons from the wall of Beth Shan and
went to Jabesh, where they burned[c]
them. 13 Then they took their bones[d]
and buried them under a tamarisk[e]
tree at Jabesh, and they fasted[f] seven
days.[g]

30:24 [a] S Nu 31:27; S Jdg 5:30
30:26 [b] S Ge 33:11
30:27 [c] S Jos 7:2 [d] S Jos 10:40 [e] S Jos 15:48
30:28 [f] S Nu 32:34; S Jos 13:16 [g] 1Ch 27:27 [h] S Jos 15:50
30:29 [i] 1Sa 27:10 [j] S 1Sa 15:6
30:30 [k] S Nu 14:45; S 21:3 [l] S Jos 15:42
30:31 [m] Nu 13:22; S Jos 10:36; 2Sa 2:1,4
31:1 [n] S 1Sa 28:4
31:2 [o] S 1Sa 28:19 [p] S 1Sa 18:1 [q] S 1Sa 14:49
31:3 [r] S 1Sa 28:4
31:4 [s] S Jdg 9:54 [t] S Ge 34:14; S 1Sa 14:6
31:6 [u] S 1Sa 26:10
31:8 [v] 2Sa 1:20
31:9 [w] 2Sa 1:20; 4:4 [x] S Jdg 16:24
31:10 [y] S Jdg 2:12-13; S 1Sa 7:3 [z] S Jos 17:11
31:11 [a] S Jdg 21:8; S 1Sa 11:1
31:12 [b] Ps 76:5 [c] S Ge 38:24; Am 6:10
31:13 [d] 2Sa 21:12-14 [e] S Ge 21:33 [f] 2Sa 3:35; 12:19-23 [g] S Ge 50:10

2 Samuel

David Hears of Saul's Death

1:4-12pp — 1Sa 31:1-13; 1Ch 10:1-12

1 After the death of Saul, David re-
turned from defeating the Amal-
ekites and stayed in Ziklag two days.
2 On the third day a man arrived from
Saul's camp, with his clothes torn and
with dust on his head. When he came
to David, he fell to the ground to pay
him honor.
3 "Where have you come from?" Da-
vid asked him.
He answered, "I have escaped from
the Israelite camp."
4 "What happened?" David asked.
"Tell me."
He said, "The men fled from the
battle. Many of them fell and died.
And Saul and his son Jonathan are
dead."
5 Then David said to the young man
who brought him the report, "How do
you know that Saul and his son Jona-
than are dead?"
6 "I happened to be on Mount Gil-
boa," the young man said, "and there
was Saul, leaning on his spear, with
the chariots and riders almost upon
him. 7 When he turned around and saw
me, he called out to me, and I said,
'What can I do?'
8 "He asked me, 'Who are you?'
"'An Amalekite,' I answered.
9 "Then he said to me, 'Stand over me
and kill me! I am in the throes of
death, but I'm still alive.'
10 "So I stood over him and killed
him, because I knew that after he had
fallen he could not survive. And I took
the crown that was on his head and
the band on his arm and have brought
them here to my lord."
11 Then David and all the men with
him took hold of their clothes and
tore them. 12 They mourned and wept
and fasted till evening for Saul and his
son Jonathan, and for the army of the
LORD and the house of Israel, because
they had fallen by the sword.
13 David said to the young man who
brought him the report, "Where are
you from?"
"I am the son of an alien, an Amalek-
ite," he answered.
14 David asked him, "Why were you
not afraid to lift your hand to destroy
the LORD's anointed?"
15 Then David called one of his men
and said, "Go, strike him down!" So
he struck him down, and he died.
16 For David had said to him, "Your
blood be on your own head. Your
own mouth testified against you when
you said, 'I killed the LORD's anoint-
ed.'"

David's Lament for Saul and Jonathan

17 David took up this lament con-
cerning Saul and his son Jonathan,
18 and ordered that the men of Judah be
taught this lament of the bow (it is writ-
ten in the Book of Jashar):

19 "Your glory, O Israel, lies slain on
your heights.
How the mighty have fallen!
20 "Tell it not in Gath,
proclaim it not in the streets of
Ashkelon,
lest the daughters of the Philistines
be glad,
lest the daughters of the
uncircumcised rejoice.
21 "O mountains of Gilboa,
may you have neither dew nor
rain,
nor fields that yield offerings of
grain.
For there the shield of the mighty
was defiled,
the shield of Saul—no longer
rubbed with oil.
22 From the blood of the slain,
from the flesh of the mighty,
the bow of Jonathan did not turn
back,
the sword of Saul did not return
unsatisfied.
23 "Saul and Jonathan—

in life they were loved and
gracious,
and in death they were not parted.
They were swifter than eagles,[a]
they were stronger than lions.[b]

24 "O daughters of Israel,
weep for Saul,
who clothed you in scarlet and
finery,
who adorned your garments with
ornaments of gold.[c]

25 "How the mighty have fallen in
battle!
Jonathan lies slain on your
heights.
26 I grieve[d] for you, Jonathan[e] my
brother;[f]
you were very dear to me.
Your love for me was wonderful,[g]
more wonderful than that of
women.

27 "How the mighty have fallen!
The weapons of war have
perished!"[h]

David Anointed King Over Judah

2 In the course of time, David in-
quired[i] of the LORD. "Shall I go up
to one of the towns of Judah?" he
asked.
The LORD said, "Go up."
David asked, "Where shall I go?"
"To Hebron,"[j] the LORD answered.
2 So David went up there with his
two wives,[k] Ahinoam of Jezreel and
Abigail,[l] the widow of Nabal of Car-
mel. 3 David also took the men who
were with him,[m] each with his family,
and they settled in Hebron[n] and its
towns. 4 Then the men of Judah came to
Hebron[o] and there they anointed[p] Da-
vid king over the house of Judah.
When David was told that it was the
men of Jabesh Gilead[q] who had buried
Saul, 5 he sent messengers to the men
of Jabesh Gilead to say to them, "The
LORD bless[r] you for showing this kind-
ness to Saul your master by burying
him. 6 May the LORD now show you
kindness and faithfulness,[s] and I too
will show you the same favor because
you have done this. 7 Now then, be
strong[t] and brave, for Saul your mas-
ter is dead, and the house of Judah has
anointed me king over them."

War Between the Houses of David and Saul

3:2-5pp — 1Ch 3:1-4

8 Meanwhile, Abner[u] son of Ner, the
commander of Saul's army, had taken
Ish-Bosheth[v] son of Saul and brought
him over to Mahanaim.[w] 9 He made
him king over Gilead,[x] Ashuri[a][y] and
Jezreel, and also over Ephraim, Benja-
min and all Israel.[z]
10 Ish-Bosheth son of Saul was forty
years old when he became king over
Israel, and he reigned two years. The
house of Judah, however, followed Da-
vid. 11 The length of time David was
king in Hebron over the house of Judah
was seven years and six months.[a]
12 Abner son of Ner, together with the
men of Ish-Bosheth son of Saul, left
Mahanaim and went to Gibeon.[b]
13 Joab[c] son of Zeruiah and David's
men went out and met them at the pool
of Gibeon. One group sat down on one
side of the pool and one group on the
other side.
14 Then Abner said to Joab, "Let's
have some of the young men get up
and fight hand to hand in front of us."
"All right, let them do it," Joab said.
15 So they stood up and were counted
off—twelve men for Benjamin and Ish-
Bosheth son of Saul, and twelve for Da-
vid. 16 Then each man grabbed his op-
ponent by the head and thrust his dag-
ger[d] into his opponent's side, and they
fell down together. So that place in
Gibeon was called Helkath Hazzurim.[b]
17 The battle that day was very fierce,
and Abner and the men of Israel were
defeated[e] by David's men.[f]
18 The three sons of Zeruiah[g] were
there: Joab,[h] Abishai[i] and Asahel.[j]
Now Asahel was as fleet-footed as a
wild gazelle.[k] 19 He chased Abner,
turning neither to the right nor to the
left as he pursued him. 20 Abner looked
behind him and asked, "Is that you,
Asahel?"
"It is," he answered.
21 Then Abner said to him, "Turn
aside to the right or to the left; take on
one of the young men and strip him of
his weapons." But Asahel would not
stop chasing him.
22 Again Abner warned Asahel, "Stop
chasing me! Why should I strike you
down? How could I look your brother
Joab in the face?"[l]
23 But Asahel refused to give up the
pursuit; so Abner thrust the butt of his
spear into Asahel's stomach,[m] and the
spear came out through his back. He
fell there and died on the spot. And

1:23 [a]S Dt 28:49 [b]Jdg 14:18
1:24 [c]S Jdg 5:30
1:26 [d]Jer 22:18; 34:5 [e]ver 17 [f]S 1Sa 20:42 [g]S 1Sa 18:1
1:27 [h]S 1Sa 2:4
2:1 [i]S 1Sa 23:2, 11-12 [j]S Ge 13:18; S 23:19
2:2 [k]S 1Sa 25:43 [l]S 1Sa 25:42
2:3 [m]S 1Sa 27:2; 1Ch 12:22 [n]S Ge 13:18; 23:2; 37:14
2:4 [o]S 1Sa 30:31 [p]S 1Sa 2:35; 2Sa 5:3-5; 1Ch 12:23-40 [q]S Jdg 21:8; S 1Sa 11:1
2:5 [r]S Jdg 17:2; S 1Sa 23:21; 2Ti 1:16
2:6 [s]Ex 34:6
2:7 [t]S Jos 1:6; S Jdg 5:21
2:8 [u]S 1Sa 14:50; S 2Sa 3:27 [v]2Sa 4:5; 1Ch 8:33; 9:39 [w]S Ge 32:2
2:9 [x]S Nu 32:26 [y]S Jos 19:24-31 [z]1Ch 12:29
2:11 [a]2Sa 5:5
2:12 [b]S Jos 9:3
2:13 [c]2Sa 8:16; 19:13; 1Ki 1:7; 1Ch 2:16; 11:6; 27:34
2:16 [d]S Jdg 3:21
2:17 [e]2Sa 3:1 [f]S 1Sa 17:8
2:18 [g]2Sa 3:39; 16:10; 19:22 [h]2Sa 3:30; 10:7; 11:1; 14:1; 18:14; 20:8; 24:3; 1Ki 1:7; 2:5,34 [i]S 1Sa 26:6 [j]2Sa 23:24; 1Ch 2:16; 11:26; 27:7 [k]1Ch 12:8; Pr 6:5; SS 2:9
2:22 [l]2Sa 3:27
2:23 [m]2Sa 3:27; 4:6

[a]9 Or *Asher* [b]16 *Helkath Hazzurim* means *field of daggers* or *field of hostilities.*

every man stopped when he came to
the place where Asahel had fallen and
died.[a]
24But Joab and Abishai pursued Ab-
ner, and as the sun was setting, they
came to the hill of Ammah, near Giah
on the way to the wasteland of Gibeon.
25Then the men of Benjamin rallied be-
hind Abner. They formed themselves
into a group and took their stand on
top of a hill.
26Abner called out to Joab, "Must the
sword devour[b] forever? Don't you
realize that this will end in bitterness?
How long before you order your men
to stop pursuing their brothers?"
27Joab answered, "As surely as God
lives, if you had not spoken, the men
would have continued the pursuit of
their brothers until morning.[c]"
28So Joab[c] blew the trumpet,[d] and all
the men came to a halt; they no longer
pursued Israel, nor did they fight any-
more.
29All that night Abner and his men
marched through the Arabah.[e] They
crossed the Jordan, continued through
the whole Bithron[d] and came to Maha-
naim.[f]
30Then Joab returned from pursuing
Abner and assembled all his men. Be-
sides Asahel, nineteen of David's men
were found missing. 31But David's men
had killed three hundred and sixty
Benjamites who were with Abner.
32They took Asahel and buried him in
his father's tomb[g] at Bethlehem. Then
Joab and his men marched all night
and arrived at Hebron by daybreak.

3 The war between the house of Saul
and the house of David lasted a
long time.[h] David grew stronger and
stronger,[i] while the house of Saul
grew weaker and weaker.[j]
2Sons were born to David in Hebron:
His firstborn was Amnon[k] the son of Ahinoam[l] of Jezreel;
3his second, Kileab the son of Abigail[m] the widow of Nabal of Carmel;
the third, Absalom[n] the son of Maacah daughter of Talmai king of Geshur;[o]
4the fourth, Adonijah[p] the son of Haggith;
the fifth, Shephatiah the son of Abital;
5and the sixth, Ithream the son of David's wife Eglah.
These were born to David in Hebron.

2:23 [a]2Sa 20:12
2:26 [b]S Dt 32:42; Jer 46:10,14; Na 2:13; 3:15
2:28 [c]2Sa 18:16; 20:23 [d]S Jdg 3:27
2:29 [e]S Dt 3:17 [f]S Ge 32:2
2:32 [g]S Ge 49:29
3:1 [h]1Ki 14:30 [i]2Sa 5:10 [j]2Sa 2:17; 22:44; Est 9:4
3:2 [k]2Sa 13:1 [l]S 1Sa 25:43
3:3 [m]S 1Sa 25:42 [n]2Sa 13:1,28 [o]2Sa 13:37; 14:32; 15:8
3:4 [p]1Ki 1:5,11; 2:13,22
3:6 [q]S 1Sa 14:50
3:7 [r]S Ge 22:24; 2Sa 16:21-22; S 1Ki 1:3 [s]2Sa 21:8-11
3:8 [t]S 1Sa 17:43; 2Sa 9:8; 16:9; 2Ki 8:13
3:9 [u]S 1Sa 15:28
3:10 [v]S Jdg 20:1; 1Sa 25:28-31; 2Sa 24:2
3:13 [w]S Ge 43:5
3:14 [x]S 1Sa 18:27
3:15 [y]Dt 24:1-4 [z]1Sa 25:44
3:16 [a]2Sa 16:5; 17:18
3:17 [b]S Jdg 11:11
3:18 [c]S 1Sa 9:16 [d]2Sa 8:6

Abner Goes Over to David

6During the war between the house
of Saul and the house of David, Ab-
ner[q] had been strengthening his own
position in the house of Saul. 7Now
Saul had had a concubine[r] named Riz-
pah[s] daughter of Aiah. And Ish-
Bosheth said to Abner, "Why did you
sleep with my father's concubine?"
8Abner was very angry because of
what Ish-Bosheth said and he an-
swered, "Am I a dog's head[t]—on
Judah's side? This very day I am loyal
to the house of your father Saul and to
his family and friends. I haven't hand-
ed you over to David. Yet now you ac-
cuse me of an offense involving this
woman! 9May God deal with Abner, be
it ever so severely, if I do not do for
David what the LORD promised[u] him
on oath 10and transfer the kingdom
from the house of Saul and establish
David's throne over Israel and Judah
from Dan to Beersheba."[v] 11Ish-
Bosheth did not dare to say another
word to Abner, because he was afraid
of him.
12Then Abner sent messengers on his
behalf to say to David, "Whose land is
it? Make an agreement with me, and I
will help you bring all Israel over to
you."
13"Good," said David. "I will make
an agreement with you. But I demand
one thing of you: Do not come into my
presence unless you bring Michal
daughter of Saul when you come to see
me."[w] 14Then David sent messengers
to Ish-Bosheth son of Saul, demanding,
"Give me my wife Michal,[x] whom I be-
trothed to myself for the price of a hun-
dred Philistine foreskins."
15So Ish-Bosheth gave orders and
had her taken away from her husband[y]
Paltiel[z] son of Laish. 16Her husband,
however, went with her, weeping be-
hind her all the way to Bahurim.[a] Then
Abner said to him, "Go back home!"
So he went back.
17Abner conferred with the elders[b] of
Israel and said, "For some time you
have wanted to make David your king.
18Now do it! For the LORD promised Da-
vid, 'By my servant David I will rescue
my people Israel from the hand of the
Philistines[c] and from the hand of all
their enemies.[d]' "

[c]27 Or *spoken this morning, the men would not have taken up the pursuit of their brothers;* or *spoken, the men would have given up the pursuit of their brothers by morning* [d]29 Or *morning;* or *ravine;* the meaning of the Hebrew for this word is uncertain.

19Abner also spoke to the Benjamites
in person. Then he went to Hebron to
tell David everything that Israel and
the whole house of Benjamin[a] wanted
to do. 20When Abner, who had twenty
men with him, came to David at He-
bron, David prepared a feast[b] for him
and his men. 21Then Abner said to Da-
vid, "Let me go at once and assemble
all Israel for my lord the king, so that
they may make a compact[c] with you,
and that you may rule over all that
your heart desires."[d] So David sent
Abner away, and he went in peace.

Joab Murders Abner

22Just then David's men and Joab re-
turned from a raid and brought with
them a great deal of plunder. But Ab-
ner was no longer with David in He-
bron, because David had sent him
away, and he had gone in peace.
23When Joab and all the soldiers with
him arrived, he was told that Abner
son of Ner had come to the king and
that the king had sent him away and
that he had gone in peace.
24So Joab went to the king and said,
"What have you done? Look, Abner
came to you. Why did you let him go?
Now he is gone! 25You know Abner son
of Ner; he came to deceive you and ob-
serve your movements and find out
everything you are doing."
26Joab then left David and sent mes-
sengers after Abner, and they brought
him back from the well of Sirah. But
David did not know it. 27Now when
Abner[e] returned to Hebron, Joab took
him aside into the gateway, as though
to speak with him privately. And there,
to avenge the blood of his brother Asa-
hel, Joab stabbed him[f] in the stomach,
and he died.[g]
28Later, when David heard about
this, he said, "I and my kingdom are
forever innocent[h] before the LORD con-
cerning the blood of Abner son of Ner.
29May his blood[i] fall upon the head of
Joab and upon all his father's house![j]
May Joab's house never be without
someone who has a running sore[k] or
leprosy[e] or who leans on a crutch or
who falls by the sword or who lacks
food."
30(Joab and his brother Abishai mur-
dered Abner because he had killed
their brother Asahel in the battle at
Gibeon.)
31Then David said to Joab and all the
people with him, "Tear your clothes
and put on sackcloth[l] and walk in
mourning[m] in front of Abner." King
David himself walked behind the bier.
32They buried Abner in Hebron, and
the king wept[n] aloud at Abner's tomb.
All the people wept also.
33The king sang this lament[o] for Ab-
ner:

"Should Abner have died as the
lawless die?
34 Your hands were not bound,
your feet were not fettered.[p]
You fell as one falls before wicked
men."

And all the people wept over him
again.
35Then they all came and urged Da-
vid to eat something while it was still
day; but David took an oath, saying,
"May God deal with me, be it ever so
severely,[q] if I taste bread[r] or anything
else before the sun sets!"
36All the people took note and were
pleased; indeed, everything the king
did pleased them. 37So on that day all
the people and all Israel knew that the
king had no part[s] in the murder of Ab-
ner son of Ner.
38Then the king said to his men, "Do
you not realize that a prince and a great
man has fallen[t] in Israel this day?
39And today, though I am the anointed
king, I am weak, and these sons of Zer-
uiah[u] are too strong[v] for me.[w] May the
LORD repay[x] the evildoer according to
his evil deeds!"

Ish-Bosheth Murdered

4 When Ish-Bosheth son of Saul
heard that Abner[y] had died in He-
bron, he lost courage, and all Israel
became alarmed. 2Now Saul's son had
two men who were leaders of raiding
bands. One was named Baanah and
the other Recab; they were sons of
Rimmon the Beerothite from the tribe
of Benjamin—Beeroth[z] is considered
part of Benjamin, 3because the people
of Beeroth fled to Gittaim[a] and have
lived there as aliens to this day.
4(Jonathan[b] son of Saul had a son
who was lame in both feet. He was five
years old when the news[c] about Saul
and Jonathan came from Jezreel. His
nurse picked him up and fled, but as
she hurried to leave, he fell and
became crippled.[d] His name was Me-
phibosheth.)[e]
5Now Recab and Baanah, the sons of

3:19 [a]1Ch 12:2, 16,29
3:20 [b]1Ch 12:39
3:21 [c]2Sa 5:3 [d]1Ki 11:37
3:27 [e]2Sa 2:8; 4:1; 1Ki 2:5,32 [f]S Ex 21:14; S Jdg 3:21; S 2Sa 2:23 [g]2Sa 2:22
3:28 [h]ver 37; Dt 21:9
3:29 [i]S Lev 20:9 [j]1Ki 2:31-33 [k]S Lev 15:2
3:31 [l]Ps 30:11; 35:13; 69:11; Isa 20:2 [m]S Ge 37:34
3:32 [n]S Nu 14:1; Pr 24:17
3:33 [o]S Ge 50:10
3:34 [p]Job 36:8; Ps 2:3; 149:8; Isa 45:14; Na 3:10
3:35 [q]S Ru 1:17 [r]S 1Sa 31:13; 2Sa 12:17; Jer 16:7
3:37 [s]S ver 28
3:38 [t]2Sa 1:19
3:39 [u]S 2Sa 2:18 [v]2Sa 16:9; 18:11 [w]S Jdg 18:26 [x]1Ki 2:32; Ps 41:10; 101:8
4:1 [y]S 2Sa 3:27
4:2 [z]S Jos 9:17
4:3 [a]Ne 11:33
4:4 [b]S 1Sa 18:1 [c]S 1Sa 31:9 [d]S Lev 21:18 [e]2Sa 9:8,12; 16:1-4; 19:24; 21:7-8; 1Ch 8:34; 9:40

e29 The Hebrew word was used for various diseases affecting the skin—not necessarily leprosy.

Rimmon the Beerothite, set out for the
house of Ish-Bosheth,[a] and they ar-
rived there in the heat of the day while
he was taking his noonday rest.[b] 6They
went into the inner part of the house as
if to get some wheat, and they
stabbed[c] him in the stomach. Then
Recab and his brother Baanah slipped
away.
7They had gone into the house while
he was lying on the bed in his bed-
room. After they stabbed and killed
him, they cut off his head. Taking it
with them, they traveled all night by
way of the Arabah.[d] 8They brought the
head[e] of Ish-Bosheth to David at He-
bron and said to the king, "Here is the
head of Ish-Bosheth son of Saul,[f] your
enemy, who tried to take your life. This
day the LORD has avenged[g] my lord the
king against Saul and his offspring."
9David answered Recab and his
brother Baanah, the sons of Rimmon
the Beerothite, "As surely as the LORD
lives, who has delivered[h] me out of all
trouble, 10when a man told me, 'Saul is
dead,' and thought he was bringing
good news, I seized him and put him
to death in Ziklag.[i] That was the re-
ward I gave him for his news! 11How
much more—when wicked men have
killed an innocent man in his own
house and on his own bed—should I
not now demand his blood[j] from your
hand and rid the earth of you!"
12So David gave an order to his men,
and they killed them.[k] They cut off
their hands and feet and hung the bod-
ies by the pool in Hebron. But they
took the head of Ish-Bosheth and bur-
ied it in Abner's tomb at Hebron.

David Becomes King Over Israel

5:1-3pp — 1Ch 11:1-3

5 All the tribes of Israel[l] came to Da-
vid at Hebron and said, "We are
your own flesh and blood.[m] 2In the
past, while Saul was king over us, you
were the one who led Israel on their
military campaigns.[n] And the LORD
said[o] to you, 'You will shepherd[p] my
people Israel, and you will become
their ruler.[q]' "
3When all the elders of Israel had
come to King David at Hebron, the
king made a compact[r] with them at
Hebron before the LORD, and they
anointed[s] David king over Israel.
4David was thirty years old[t] when
he became king, and he reigned[u]
forty[v] years. 5In Hebron he reigned
over Judah seven years and six
months,[w] and in Jerusalem he reigned
over all Israel and Judah thirty-three
years.

David Conquers Jerusalem

5:6-10pp — 1Ch 11:4-9
5:11-16pp — 1Ch 3:5-9; 14:1-7

6The king and his men marched to
Jerusalem[x] to attack the Jebusites,[y]
who lived there. The Jebusites said to
David, "You will not get in here; even
the blind and the lame can ward you
off." They thought, "David cannot get
in here." 7Nevertheless, David cap-
tured the fortress of Zion,[z] the City of
David.[a] [b]
8On that day, David said, "Anyone
who conquers the Jebusites will have to
use the water shaft[f][c] to reach those
'lame and blind'[d] who are David's ene-
mies.[g][e]" That is why they say, "The
'blind and lame' will not enter the pal-
ace."
9David then took up residence in the
fortress and called it the City of David.
He built up the area around it, from the
supporting terraces[h][e] inward. 10And
he became more and more powerful,[f]
because the LORD God Almighty[g] was
with him.[h]
11Now Hiram[i] king of Tyre sent
messengers to David, along with cedar
logs and carpenters and stonemasons,
and they built a palace for David.
12And David knew that the LORD had
established him as king over Israel and
had exalted his kingdom[j] for the sake
of his people Israel.
13After he left Hebron, David took
more concubines and wives[k] in Jerusa-
lem, and more sons and daughters
were born to him. 14These are the
names of the children born to him
there:[l] Shammua, Shobab, Nathan,[m]
Solomon, 15Ibhar, Elishua, Nepheg,
Japhia, 16Elishama, Eliada and Eliphe-
let.

David Defeats the Philistines

5:17-25pp — 1Ch 14:8-17

17When the Philistines heard that Da-
vid had been anointed king over Israel,
they went up in full force to search for
him, but David heard about it and
went down to the stronghold.[n] 18Now
the Philistines had come and spread
out in the Valley of Rephaim;[o] 19so Da-
vid inquired[p] of the LORD, "Shall I go

4:5 [a]S 2Sa 2:8 [b]Ru 2:7
4:6 [c]S 2Sa 2:23
4:7 [d]S Dt 3:17
4:8 [e]2Sa 20:21; 2Ki 10:7 [f]1Sa 24:4; 25:29 [g]S Nu 31:3
4:9 [h]S Ge 48:16; 1Ki 1:29
4:10 [i]2Sa 1:2-16
4:11 [j]S Ge 4:10; 9:5; Ps 9:12; 72:14
4:12 [k]2Sa 1:15
5:1 [l]2Sa 19:43 [m]S Ge 29:14; 35:26
5:2 [n]1Sa 18:5, 13,16 [o]S 1Sa 11:6 [p]S Ge 48:15; S 1Sa 16:1; 2Sa 7:7; Mt 2:6; Jn 21:16 [q]S 1Sa 12:12; S 13:14; S 2Sa 6:21
5:3 [r]2Sa 3:21 [s]S Dt 17:15; 2Sa 2:4
5:4 [t]S Ge 37:2; Lk 3:23 [u]1Ki 2:11; 1Ch 3:4 [v]1Ch 26:31
5:5 [w]2Sa 2:11; 1Ki 2:11; 1Ch 3:4
5:6 [x]S Jdg 1:8 [y]S Jos 15:8
5:7 [z]Ps 76:2 [a]Jer 21:13 [b]2Sa 6:12,16; 1Ki 2:10; 8:1; Isa 29:1; Jer 25:29
5:8 [c]2Ki 20:20; 2Ch 32:30 [d]Mt 21:14
5:9 [e]1Ki 9:15,24
5:10 [f]2Sa 3:1 [g]Ps 24:10 [h]2Sa 7:9
5:11 [i]1Ki 5:1,18; 2Ch 2:3
5:12 [j]S Nu 24:7
5:13 [k]S Dt 17:17
5:14 [l]1Ch 3:5 [m]Lk 3:31
5:17 [n]2Sa 23:14; 1Ch 11:16
5:18 [o]S Jos 15:8; S 17:15
5:19 [p]S Jdg 18:5; S 1Sa 23:2

[f]8 *Or use scaling hooks* [g]8 *Or are hated by David*
[h]9 *Or the Millo*

and attack the Philistines? Will you
hand them over to me?"
The LORD answered him, "Go, for I
will surely hand the Philistines over to
you."
[20]So David went to Baal Perazim, and
there he defeated them. He said, "As
waters break out, the LORD has broken
out against my enemies before me." So
that place was called Baal Perazim.[e][h]
[21]The Philistines abandoned their idols
there, and David and his men carried
them off.[f]
[22]Once more the Philistines came up
and spread out in the Valley of Reph-
aim; [23]so David inquired of the LORD,
and he answered, "Do not go straight
up, but circle around behind them and
attack them in front of the balsam
trees. [24]As soon as you hear the
sound[g] of marching in the tops of the
balsam trees, move quickly, because
that will mean the LORD has gone out in
front[h] of you to strike the Philistine
army." [25]So David did as the LORD com-
manded him, and he struck down the
Philistines[i] all the way from Gibeon[j][i]
to Gezer.[k]

The Ark Brought to Jerusalem

6:1-11pp — 1Ch 13:1-14
6:12-19pp — 1Ch 15:25–16:3

6 David again brought together out
of Israel chosen men, thirty thou-
sand in all. [2]He and all his men set out
from Baalah[h] of Judah[k] to bring up
from there the ark[i] of God, which is
called by the Name,[l][j] the name of the
LORD Almighty, who is enthroned[k] be-
tween the cherubim[l] that are on the
ark. [3]They set the ark of God on a new
cart[m] and brought it from the house of
Abinadab, which was on the hill.[n] Uz-
zah and Ahio, sons of Abinadab, were
guiding the new cart [4]with the ark of
God on it,[m] and Ahio was walking in
front of it. [5]David and the whole house
of Israel were celebrating[o] with all their
might before the LORD, with songs[n]
and with harps, lyres, tambourines,
sistrums and cymbals.[p]
[6]When they came to the threshing
floor of Nacon, Uzzah reached out and
took hold of[q] the ark of God, because
the oxen stumbled. [7]The LORD's anger
burned against Uzzah because of his ir-
reverent act;[r] therefore God struck him
down[s] and he died there beside the
ark of God.
[8]Then David was angry because the
LORD's wrath[t] had broken out against
Uzzah, and to this day that place is
called Perez Uzzah.[u][o]
[9]David was afraid of the LORD that
day and said, "How[v] can the ark of the
LORD ever come to me?" [10]He was not
willing to take the ark of the LORD to be
with him in the City of David. Instead,
he took it aside to the house of Obed-
Edom[w] the Gittite. [11]The ark of the
LORD remained in the house of Obed-
Edom the Gittite for three months, and
the LORD blessed him and his entire
household.[x]
[12]Now King David[y] was told, "The
LORD has blessed the household of
Obed-Edom and everything he has, be-
cause of the ark of God." So David
went down and brought up the ark of
God from the house of Obed-Edom to
the City of David with rejoicing.
[13]When those who were carrying the
ark of the LORD had taken six steps, he
sacrificed[z] a bull and a fattened calf.
[14]David, wearing a linen ephod,[a]
danced[b] before the LORD with all his
might, [15]while he and the entire house
of Israel brought up the ark of the LORD
with shouts[c] and the sound of trum-
pets.[d]
[16]As the ark of the LORD was entering
the City of David,[e] Michal[f] daughter
of Saul watched from a window. And
when she saw King David leaping and
dancing before the LORD, she despised
him in her heart.
[17]They brought the ark of the LORD
and set it in its place inside the tent that
David had pitched for it,[g] and David
sacrificed burnt offerings[h] and fellow-
ship offerings[p] before the LORD. [18]After
he had finished sacrificing[i] the burnt
offerings and fellowship offerings, he
blessed[j] the people in the name of the
LORD Almighty. [19]Then he gave a loaf of
bread, a cake of dates and a cake of
raisins[k] to each person in the whole
crowd of Israelites, both men and
women.[l] And all the people went to
their homes.
[20]When David returned home to
bless his household, Michal daughter

5:20 [e]S Ge 38:29
5:21 [f]Dt 7:5; Isa 46:2
5:24 [g]S Ex 14:24 [h]Jdg 4:14
5:25 [i]2Sa 8:12; 21:15 [j]Isa 28:21 [k]S Jos 10:33
6:2 [h]S Jos 15:9 [i]1Sa 4:4; 7:1 [j]Lev 24:16; Dt 28:10; Isa 63:14 [k]Ps 99:1; 132:14 [l]S Ge 3:24; S Ex 25:22
6:3 [m]ver 7; Nu 7:4-9; S 1Sa 6:7 [n]2Sa 7:1
6:5 [o]S Ex 15:20 [p]Ezr 3:10; Ne 12:27; Ps 150:5
6:6 [q]S Nu 4:15, 19-20
6:7 [r]1Ch 15:13-15 [s]S Ex 19:22; S 1Sa 5:6; 6:19; S 25:38
6:8 [t]Ps 7:11 [u]S Ge 38:29
6:9 [v]S 1Sa 6:20
6:10 [w]1Ch 15:18; 26:4-5
6:11 [x]S Ge 30:27; 39:5
6:12 [y]1Ki 8:1
6:13 [z]1Ki 8:5, 62; Ezr 6:17
6:14 [a]Ex 19:6; S 1Sa 2:18 [b]S Ex 15:20
6:15 [c]S Jos 6:5 [d]Ps 47:5; 98:6
6:16 [e]S 2Sa 5:7 [f]S 1Sa 18:27
6:17 [g]1Ki 8:6; 1Ch 15:1; 2Ch 1:4 [h]Lev 1:1-17; 1Ki 8:62-64
6:18 [i]1Ki 8:22 [j]S Ex 39:43
6:19 [k]Hos 3:1 [l]Dt 26:13; Ne 8:10

[h]20 *Baal Perazim* means *the lord who breaks out.*
[i]25 Septuagint (see also 1 Chron. 14:16); Hebrew *Geba*
[k]2 That is, Kiriath Jearim; Hebrew *Baale Judah,* a variant of *Baalah of Judah*
[l]2 Hebrew; Septuagint and Vulgate do not have *the Name.*
[m]3,4 Dead Sea Scrolls and some Septuagint manuscripts; Masoretic Text *cart* [4]*and they brought it with the ark of God from the house of Abinadab, which was on the hill*
[n]5 See Dead Sea Scrolls, Septuagint and 1 Chronicles 13:8; Masoretic Text *celebrating before the LORD with all kinds of instruments made of pine.*
[o]8 *Perez Uzzah* means *outbreak against Uzzah.*
[p]17 Traditionally *peace offerings;* also in verse 18

of Saul came out to meet him and said,
"How the king of Israel has distin-
guished himself today, disrobing[a] in
the sight of the slave girls of his ser-
vants as any vulgar fellow would!"
21 David said to Michal, "It was before
the LORD, who chose me rather than
your father or anyone from his house
when he appointed[b] me ruler[c] over
the LORD's people Israel—I will cele-
brate before the LORD. 22 I will become
even more undignified than this, and I
will be humiliated in my own eyes. But
by these slave girls you spoke of, I will
be held in honor."
23 And Michal daughter of Saul had
no children to the day of her death.

God's Promise to David

7:1-17pp — 1Ch 17:1-15

7 After the king was settled in his
palace[d] and the LORD had given
him rest from all his enemies[e] around
him,[f] 2 he said to Nathan[g] the prophet,
"Here I am, living in a palace[h] of ce-
dar, while the ark of God remains in a
tent."[i]
3 Nathan replied to the king, "What-
ever you have in mind,[j] go ahead and
do it, for the LORD is with you."
4 That night the word of the LORD
came to Nathan, saying:

5 "Go and tell my servant David,
'This is what the LORD says: Are
you[k] the one to build me a house
to dwell in?[l] 6 I have not dwelt in a
house from the day I brought the
Israelites up out of Egypt to this
day.[m] I have been moving from
place to place with a tent[n] as my
dwelling.[o] 7 Wherever I have
moved with all the Israelites,[p] did I
ever say to any of their rulers
whom I commanded to shepherd[q]
my people Israel, "Why have you
not built me a house[r] of cedar?[s]"'
8 "Now then, tell my servant Da-
vid, 'This is what the LORD Al-
mighty says: I took you from the
pasture and from following the
flock[t] to be ruler[u] over my people
Israel.[v] 9 I have been with you
wherever you have gone,[w] and I
have cut off all your enemies from
before you.[x] Now I will make your
name great, like the names of the
greatest men of the earth.[y] 10 And I
will provide a place for my people
Israel and will plant[z] them so that
they can have a home of their own
and no longer be disturbed.[a]
Wicked[b] people will not oppress
them anymore,[c] as they did at the
beginning 11 and have done ever
since the time I appointed lead-
ers[a][d] over my people Israel. I will
also give you rest from all your
enemies.[e]
" 'The LORD declares[f] to you that
the LORD himself will establish[g] a
house[h] for you: 12 When your days
are over and you rest[i] with your
fathers, I will raise up your off-
spring to succeed you, who will
come from your own body,[j] and I
will establish his kingdom.[k] 13 He is
the one who will build a house[l] for
my Name,[m] and I will establish the
throne of his kingdom forever.[n] 14 I
will be his father, and he will be my
son.[o] When he does wrong, I will
punish him[p] with the rod[q] of men,
with floggings inflicted by men.
15 But my love will never be taken
away from him,[r] as I took it away
from Saul,[s] whom I removed from
before you. 16 Your house and your
kingdom will endure forever before
me[b]; your throne[t] will be estab-
lished[u] forever.[v]' "

17 Nathan reported to David all the
words of this entire revelation.

David's Prayer

7:18-29pp — 1Ch 17:16-27

18 Then King David went in and sat
before the LORD, and he said:

"Who am I,[w] O Sovereign LORD,
and what is my family, that you
have brought me this far? 19 And as
if this were not enough in your
sight, O Sovereign LORD, you have
also spoken about the future of the
house of your servant. Is this your
usual way of dealing with man,[x] O
Sovereign LORD?
20 "What more can David say[y] to
you? For you know[z] your ser-
vant,[a] O Sovereign LORD. 21 For the
sake of your word and according to
your will, you have done this great
thing and made it known to your
servant.
22 "How great[b] you are,[c] O Sov-

6:20 aS 1Sa 19:24 **6:21** b1Sa 13:14; S 15:28 c2Sa 5:2; 7:8; 1Ch 5:2; 17:7; Mic 5:2 **7:1** d2Sa 6:3 ever 11 f1Ch 22:18 **7:2** g2Sa 12:1; 1Ki 1:8,22; 1Ch 29:29; 2Ch 9:29 h2Sa 5:11; 1Ki 3:1; 7:1,2,7; 9:1; 2Ch 8:1; Jer 22:14; Hag 1:4 iS Ex 26:1; Ps 132:3; Ac 7:45-46 **7:3** jS 1Sa 10:7; Ps 132:1-5 **7:5** k1Ki 8:19; 1Ch 22:8 l1Ki 5:3-5; 1Ch 28:3 **7:6** mAc 7:45 nEx 40:18,34; Jos 18:1 o1Ki 8:16 **7:7** pDt 23:14 qS 2Sa 5:2 r1Ki 8:27; Isa 66:1 sLev 26:11-12 **7:8** tS 1Sa 16:11; 1Ch 21:17; Ps 74:1; Am 7:15 uS 1Sa 2:7-8; S 9:16; S 16:1; S 2Sa 6:21 vPs 78:70-72; 2Co 6:18* **7:9** wS 1Sa 18:14; 2Sa 5:10 xPs 18:37-42 yS Ex 11:3 **7:10** zS Ex 15:17; Isa 5:1-7 a2Ki 21:8; 2Ch 33:8 bPs 89:22-23 cPs 147:14; Isa 54:14; 60:18 **7:11** dS Jdg 2:16; 1Sa 12:9-11 ever 1 f1Ki 2:24 g1Sa 25:28; Ps 89:35-37; S Mt 1:1; Lk 1:32-33; Ac 13:22-23; 2Ti 2:8 hS Ex 1:21; Isa 7:2 **7:12** iS Ge 15:15; 1Ki 2:1; Ac 13:36 j1Ki 8:20; Ps 132:11-12; Jer 30:21; 33:15 k2Ch 23:3 **7:13** lS Dt 12:5; 1Ki 6:12 mDt 16:11; 1Ki 5:5; 8:19,29; 2Ki 21:4,7 nver 16; S Ge 9:16; 2Sa 22:51; 1Ki 2:4,45; 1Ch 22:10; 28:6; 2Ch 6:16; 7:18; 13:5; 21:7; Ps 89:3-4,29, 35-37; Pr 25:5; Isa 9:7; 16:5; Jer 17:25; 33:17, 21; Da 7:27 **7:14** oPs 2:7; 89:26; Jer 3:19; S Mt 3:17; Jn 1:49; 2Co 6:18*; Heb 1:5*; Rev 21:7 pS Dt 8:5; 1Ki 11:34; 1Ch 22:10; Heb 12:7 qPs 89:30-33; Pr 13:24 **7:15** rver 25; 1Ki 2:4; 6:12; 8:25; 9:5; 11:13,32; 2Ki 19:34; 2Ch 6:16; 7:18; 21:7; Ps 89:24,33; Jer 33:17 sS 1Sa 13:13; S 15:28; 16:14 **7:16** tPs 89:36-37; S Lk 1:33 uPs 9:7; 93:2; 103:19 vS ver 13 **7:18** wS Ex 3:11 **7:19** xIsa 55:8-9 **7:20** yIsa 38:15 zJn 21:17 aS 1Sa 16:7 **7:22** bPs 48:1; 77:13; 86:10; Jer 10:6 cDt 3:24

a11 Traditionally *judges* b16 Some Hebrew manuscripts and Septuagint; most Hebrew manuscripts *you*

ereign LORD! There is no one like[a]
you, and there is no God[b] but you,
as we have heard with our own
ears.[c] 23 And who is like your
people Israel[d]—the one nation on
earth that God went out to redeem
as a people for himself, and to
make a name[e] for himself, and to
perform great and awesome won-
ders[f] by driving out nations and
their gods from before your people,
whom you redeemed[g] from
Egypt?[s] 24 You have established
your people Israel as your very
own[h] forever, and you, O LORD,
have become their God.[i]
25 "And now, LORD God, keep for-
ever the promise[j] you have made
concerning your servant and his
house. Do as you promised, 26 so
that your name[k] will be great for-
ever. Then men will say, 'The LORD
Almighty is God over Israel!' And
the house of your servant David
will be established[l] before you.
27 "O LORD Almighty, God of Is-
rael, you have revealed this to your
servant, saying, 'I will build a
house for you.' So your servant has
found courage to offer you this
prayer. 28 O Sovereign LORD, you
are God! Your words are trust-
worthy,[m] and you have promised
these good things to your servant.
29 Now be pleased to bless the
house of your servant, that it may
continue forever in your sight; for
you, O Sovereign LORD, have
spoken, and with your blessing[n]
the house of your servant will be
blessed forever."

David's Victories

8:1-14pp — 1Ch 18:1-13

8 In the course of time, David de-
feated the Philistines[o] and sub-
dued[p] them, and he took Metheg Am-
mah from the control of the Philistines.
2 David also defeated the Moabites.[q]
He made them lie down on the ground
and measured them off with a length of
cord. Every two lengths of them were
put to death, and the third length was
allowed to live. So the Moabites
became subject to David and brought
tribute.[r]
3 Moreover, David fought Hadade-
zer[s] son of Rehob, king of Zobah,[t]
when he went to restore his control
along the Euphrates[u] River. 4 David
captured a thousand of his chariots,

7:22 [a]S Ex 9:14 [b]S Ex 8:10; S 20:4 [c]Ex 10:2; S Jdg 6:13; Ps 44:1
7:23 [d]Dt 4:32-38; S 33:29; S 1Sa 12:22 [e]S Nu 6:27 [f]Dt 10:21 [g]Dt 7:7-8; S 9:26
7:24 [h]Dt 26:18 [i]Ex 6:6-7; Ps 48:14
7:25 [j]S ver 15; S Nu 23:19; 2Ch 1:9
7:26 [k]S Ex 6:3; Ne 9:5; Ps 72:19; 96:8; Mt 6:9 [l]S 1Sa 25:28
7:28 [m]Ex 34:6; Jn 17:17
7:29 [n]Nu 6:23-27
8:1 [o]Ps 60:8; 87:4; 108:9 [p]Heb 11:32-33
8:2 [q]S Ge 19:37; S Nu 21:29 [r]S Jdg 3:15; S Isa 45:14
8:3 [s]2Sa 10:16, 19; 1Ki 11:23 [t]S 1Sa 14:47 [u]S Ge 2:14
8:4 [v]S Ge 49:6; Jos 11:9
8:5 [w]S Ge 14:15; 2Sa 10:6; 1Ki 11:24; 2Ki 8:7; 14:28
8:6 [x]1Ki 20:34 [y]2Sa 10:19 [z]2Sa 3:18
8:7 [a]1Ki 10:16; 14:26; 2Ki 11:10
8:8 [b]Eze 47:16
8:9 [c]1Ki 8:65; 2Ki 14:28; 2Ch 8:4 [d]Lk 14:31-32
8:11 [e]ver 12; 1Ki 7:51; 15:15; 1Ch 26:26; 2Ch 5:1
8:12 [f]S Nu 24:18 [g]ver 2 [h]2Sa 10:14 [i]S 2Sa 5:25 [j]S Nu 24:20; S 1Sa 27:8
8:13 [k]2Sa 7:9 [l]2Ki 14:7; 1Ch 18:12; Ps 60 Title
8:14 [m]Nu 24:17-18; Ps 108:9; Isa 34:5; 63:1; Jer 49:7; Eze 25:12 [n]S Ge 27:29, 37-40 [o]Ps 144:10 [p]2Sa 22:44; Ps 18:43
8:15 [q]S Ge 18:19; 1Ki 11:38; 14:8; 15:11; 22:43; 2Ki 12:2; Job 29:14; Ps 5:12; 119:121; Heb 11:33
8:16 [r]S 2Sa 2:13 [s]2Sa 20:24; 1Ki 4:3

seven thousand charioteers[t] and
twenty thousand foot soldiers. He
hamstrung[v] all but a hundred of the
chariot horses.
5 When the Arameans of Damascus[w]
came to help Hadadezer king of Zobah,
David struck down twenty-two thou-
sand of them. 6 He put garrisons[x] in the
Aramean kingdom of Damascus, and
the Arameans became subject[y] to him
and brought tribute. The LORD gave Da-
vid victory wherever he went.[z]
7 David took the gold shields[a] that
belonged to the officers of Hadadezer
and brought them to Jerusalem. 8 From
Tebah[u] and Berothai,[b] towns that be-
longed to Hadadezer, King David took
a great quantity of bronze.
9 When Tou[v] king of Hamath[c] heard
that David had defeated the entire
army of Hadadezer,[d] 10 he sent his son
Joram[w] to King David to greet him and
congratulate him on his victory in bat-
tle over Hadadezer, who had been at
war with Tou. Joram brought with him
articles of silver and gold and bronze.
11 King David dedicated[e] these arti-
cles to the LORD, as he had done with
the silver and gold from all the nations
he had subdued: 12 Edom[x][f] and
Moab,[g] the Ammonites[h] and the Phil-
istines,[i] and Amalek.[j] He also dedi-
cated the plunder taken from Hadade-
zer son of Rehob, king of Zobah.
13 And David became famous[k] after
he returned from striking down eigh-
teen thousand Edomites[y] in the Valley
of Salt.[l]
14 He put garrisons throughout
Edom, and all the Edomites[m] became
subject to David.[n] The LORD gave Da-
vid victory[o] wherever he went.[p]

David's Officials

8:15-18pp — 1Ch 18:14-17

15 David reigned over all Israel, doing
what was just and right[q] for all his
people. 16 Joab[r] son of Zeruiah was
over the army; Jehoshaphat[s] son of

[s]23 See Septuagint and 1 Chronicles 17:21; Hebrew *wonders for your land and before your people, whom you redeemed from Egypt, from the nations and their gods.*
[t]4 Septuagint (see also Dead Sea Scrolls and 1 Chron. 18:4); Masoretic Text *captured seventeen hundred of his charioteers*
[u]8 See some Septuagint manuscripts (see also 1 Chron. 18:8); Hebrew *Betah.*
[v]9 Hebrew *Toi,* a variant of *Tou;* also in verse 10
[w]10 A variant of *Hadoram*
[x]12 Some Hebrew manuscripts, Septuagint and Syriac (see also 1 Chron. 18:11); most Hebrew manuscripts *Aram*
[y]13 A few Hebrew manuscripts, Septuagint and Syriac (see also 1 Chron. 18:12); most Hebrew manuscripts *Aram* (that is, Arameans)

Ahilud was recorder;[a] 17 Zadok[b] son of
Ahitub and Ahimelech son of Abia-
thar[c] were priests; Seraiah was secre-
tary;[d] 18 Benaiah[e] son of Jehoiada was
over the Kerethites[f] and Pelethites;
and David's sons were royal advisers.[z]

David and Mephibosheth

9 David asked, "Is there anyone still
left of the house of Saul to whom I
can show kindness for Jonathan's
sake?"[g]

2 Now there was a servant of Saul's
household named Ziba.[h] They called
him to appear before David, and the
king said to him, "Are you Ziba?"

"Your servant," he replied.

3 The king asked, "Is there no one
still left of the house of Saul to whom I
can show God's kindness?"

Ziba answered the king, "There is
still a son of Jonathan;[i] he is crippled[j]
in both feet."

4 "Where is he?" the king asked.

Ziba answered, "He is at the house
of Makir[k] son of Ammiel in Lo Debar."

5 So King David had him brought
from Lo Debar, from the house of
Makir son of Ammiel.

6 When Mephibosheth son of Jona-
than, the son of Saul, came to David,
he bowed down to pay him honor.[l]

David said, "Mephibosheth!"

"Your servant," he replied.

7 "Don't be afraid," David said to
him, "for I will surely show you kind-
ness for the sake of your father Jona-
than.[m] I will restore to you all the land
that belonged to your grandfather Saul,
and you will always eat at my table.[n]"

8 Mephibosheth[o] bowed down and
said, "What is your servant, that you
should notice a dead dog[p] like me?"

9 Then the king summoned Ziba,
Saul's servant, and said to him, "I have
given your master's grandson every-
thing that belonged to Saul and his
family. 10 You and your sons and your
servants are to farm the land for him
and bring in the crops, so that your
master's grandson[q] may be provided
for. And Mephibosheth, grandson of
your master, will always eat at my ta-
ble." (Now Ziba had fifteen sons and
twenty servants.)

11 Then Ziba said to the king, "Your
servant will do whatever my lord the
king commands his servant to do." So
Mephibosheth ate at David's[a] table like
one of the king's sons.[r]

12 Mephibosheth had a young son
named Mica, and all the members of
Ziba's household were servants of Me-
phibosheth.[s] 13 And Mephibosheth
lived in Jerusalem, because he always
ate at the king's table, and he was crip-
pled in both feet.

David Defeats the Ammonites

10:1-19pp — 1Ch 19:1-19

10 In the course of time, the king of
the Ammonites died, and his
son Hanun succeeded him as king.
2 David thought, "I will show kindness
to Hanun son of Nahash,[t] just as his
father showed kindness to me." So Da-
vid sent a delegation to express his
sympathy to Hanun concerning his fa-
ther.

When David's men came to the land
of the Ammonites, 3 the Ammonite no-
bles said to Hanun their lord, "Do you
think David is honoring your father by
sending men to you to express sympa-
thy? Hasn't David sent them to you to
explore the city and spy it out[u] and
overthrow it?" 4 So Hanun seized Da-
vid's men, shaved off half of each
man's beard,[v] cut off their garments in
the middle at the buttocks,[w] and sent
them away.

5 When David was told about this, he
sent messengers to meet the men, for
they were greatly humiliated. The king
said, "Stay at Jericho till your beards
have grown, and then come back."

6 When the Ammonites realized that
they had become a stench[x] in David's
nostrils, they hired twenty thousand
Aramean[y] foot soldiers from Beth
Rehob[z] and Zobah,[a] as well as the
king of Maacah[b] with a thousand men,
and also twelve thousand men from
Tob.[c]

7 On hearing this, David sent Joab[d]
out with the entire army of fighting
men. 8 The Ammonites came out and
drew up in battle formation at the en-
trance to their city gate, while the Ara-
means of Zobah and Rehob and the
men of Tob and Maacah were by them-
selves in the open country.

9 Joab saw that there were battle lines
in front of him and behind him; so he
selected some of the best troops in Is-
rael and deployed them against the
Arameans. 10 He put the rest of the men
under the command of Abishai[e] his
brother and deployed them against the
Ammonites. 11 Joab said, "If the Ara-
means are too strong for me, then you
are to come to my rescue; but if the

8:16 [a]Isa 36:3, 22
8:17 [b]S 1Sa 2:35; 2Sa 15:24,29; 20:25; 1Ki 1:8; 4:4; 1Ch 6:8,53; 16:39; 24:3; 27:17; 2Ch 31:10; Eze 40:46; 43:19; 44:15; 48:11 [c]Mk 2:26 [d]1Ki 4:3; 2Ki 12:10; 19:2; 22:3; Isa 36:3; Jer 36:12
8:18 [e]2Sa 20:23; 23:20; 1Ki 1:8,38; 2:25,35,46; 4:4 [f]S 1Sa 30:14
9:1 [g]S 1Sa 20:14-17, 42; S 23:18
9:2 [h]2Sa 16:1-4; 19:17,26,29
9:3 [i]1Ch 8:34 [j]S Lev 21:18
9:4 [k]2Sa 17:27-29
9:6 [l]S Ge 37:7
9:7 [m]S 1Sa 20:14-15 [n]ver 13; 2Sa 19:28; 21:7; 1Ki 2:7; 2Ki 25:29; Jer 52:33
9:8 [o]S 2Sa 4:4 [p]S 2Sa 3:8
9:10 [q]2Sa 16:3
9:11 [r]Job 36:7; Ps 113:8
9:12 [s]S 2Sa 4:4
10:2 [t]S 1Sa 11:1
10:3 [u]S Nu 21:32
10:4 [v]S Lev 19:27; Isa 7:20; 15:2; 50:6; 52:14; Jer 48:37; Eze 5:1 [w]Isa 20:4
10:6 [x]S Ge 34:30 [y]S 2Sa 8:5 [z]S Nu 13:21 [a]S 1Sa 14:47 [b]S Dt 3:14 [c]Jdg 11:3-5
10:7 [d]S 2Sa 2:18
10:10 [e]S 1Sa 26:6

[z]18 Or *were priests* [a]11 Septuagint; Hebrew *my*

Ammonites are too strong for you,
then I will come to rescue you. [12]Be
strong[a] and let us fight bravely for our
people and the cities of our God. The
LORD will do what is good in his
sight."[b]

[13]Then Joab and the troops with him
advanced to fight the Arameans, and
they fled before him. [14]When the Am-
monites[c] saw that the Arameans were
fleeing, they fled before Abishai and
went inside the city. So Joab returned
from fighting the Ammonites and came
to Jerusalem.

[15]After the Arameans saw that they
had been routed by Israel, they re-
grouped. [16]Hadadezer had Arameans
brought from beyond the River[b]; they
went to Helam, with Shobach the com-
mander of Hadadezer's army leading
them.

[17]When David was told of this, he
gathered all Israel, crossed the Jordan
and went to Helam. The Arameans
formed their battle lines to meet David
and fought against him. [18]But they fled
before Israel, and David killed seven
hundred of their charioteers and forty
thousand of their foot soldiers.[c] He
also struck down Shobach the com-
mander of their army, and he died
there. [19]When all the kings who were
vassals of Hadadezer saw that they had
been defeated by Israel, they made
peace with the Israelites and became
subject[d] to them.

So the Arameans[e] were afraid to
help the Ammonites anymore.

David and Bathsheba

11 In the spring,[f] at the time when
kings go off to war, David sent
Joab[g] out with the king's men and the
whole Israelite army.[h] They destroyed
the Ammonites and besieged Rabbah.[i]
But David remained in Jerusalem.

[2]One evening David got up from his
bed and walked around on the roof[j] of
the palace. From the roof he saw[k] a
woman bathing. The woman was very
beautiful, [3]and David sent someone to
find out about her. The man said,
"Isn't this Bathsheba,[l] the daughter of
Eliam[m] and the wife of Uriah[n] the Hit-
tite?" [4]Then David sent messengers to
get her.[o] She came to him, and he
slept[p] with her. (She had purified her-
self from her uncleanness.)[q] Then[d] she
went back home. [5]The woman con-
ceived and sent word to David, saying,
"I am pregnant."

[6]So David sent this word to Joab:
"Send me Uriah[r] the Hittite." And
Joab sent him to David. [7]When Uriah
came to him, David asked him how
Joab was, how the soldiers were and
how the war was going. [8]Then David
said to Uriah, "Go down to your house
and wash your feet."[s] So Uriah left the
palace, and a gift from the king was
sent after him. [9]But Uriah slept at the
entrance to the palace with all his mas-
ter's servants and did not go down to
his house.

[10]When David was told, "Uriah did
not go home," he asked him, "Haven't
you just come from a distance? Why
didn't you go home?"

[11]Uriah said to David, "The ark[t] and
Israel and Judah are staying in tents,
and my master Joab and my lord's men
are camped in the open fields. How
could I go to my house to eat and drink
and lie[u] with my wife? As surely as
you live, I will not do such a thing!"

[12]Then David said to him, "Stay here
one more day, and tomorrow I will
send you back." So Uriah remained in
Jerusalem that day and the next. [13]At
David's invitation, he ate and drank
with him, and David made him drunk.
But in the evening Uriah went out to
sleep on his mat among his master's
servants; he did not go home.

[14]In the morning David wrote a let-
ter[v] to Joab and sent it with Uriah. [15]In
it he wrote, "Put Uriah in the front line
where the fighting is fiercest. Then
withdraw from him so he will be struck
down[w] and die.[x]"

[16]So while Joab had the city under
siege, he put Uriah at a place where he
knew the strongest defenders were.
[17]When the men of the city came out
and fought against Joab, some of the
men in David's army fell; moreover,
Uriah the Hittite was dead.

[18]Joab sent David a full account of the
battle. [19]He instructed the messenger:
"When you have finished giving the
king this account of the battle, [20]the
king's anger may flare up, and he may
ask you, 'Why did you get so close to
the city to fight? Didn't you know they
would shoot arrows from the wall?
[21]Who killed Abimelech[y] son of Jerub-
Besheth[e]? Didn't a woman throw an
upper millstone on him from the wall,[z]
so that he died in Thebez? Why did

[illegible]
11:6 [r]1Ch 11:41
11:8 [s]S Ge 18:4
11:11 [t]2Sa 7:2
[u]S 1Sa 21:5
11:14 [v]1Ki 21:8
11:15 [w]ver 14-17; 2Sa 12:9
[x]2Sa 12:12
11:21
[y]S Jdg 8:31
[z]Jdg 9:50-54

[b]16 That is, the Euphrates [c]18 Some Septuagint manuscripts (see also 1 Chron. 19:18); Hebrew *horsemen* [d]4 Or *with her. When she purified herself from her uncleanness,* [e]21 Also known as *Jerub-Baal* (that is, Gideon)

you get so close to the wall?' If he asks
you this, then say to him, 'Also, your
servant Uriah the Hittite is dead.' "
22The messenger set out, and when
he arrived he told David everything
Joab had sent him to say. 23The mes-
senger said to David, "The men over-
powered us and came out against us in
the open, but we drove them back to
the entrance to the city gate. 24Then the
archers shot arrows at your servants
from the wall, and some of the king's
men died. Moreover, your servant
Uriah the Hittite is dead."
25David told the messenger, "Say
this to Joab: 'Don't let this upset you;
the sword devours one as well as an-
other. Press the attack against the city
and destroy it.' Say this to encourage
Joab."
26When Uriah's wife heard that her
husband was dead, she mourned for
him. 27After the time of mourning[a] was
over, David had her brought to his
house, and she became his wife and
bore him a son. But the thing David
had done displeased[b] the LORD.

Nathan Rebukes David

11:1; 12:29-31pp — 1Ch 20:1-3

12 The LORD sent Nathan[c] to Da-
vid.[d] When he came to him,[e] he
said, "There were two men in a certain
town, one rich and the other poor.
2The rich man had a very large number
of sheep and cattle, 3but the poor man
had nothing except one little ewe lamb
he had bought. He raised it, and it
grew up with him and his children. It
shared his food, drank from his cup
and even slept in his arms. It was like a
daughter to him.
4"Now a traveler came to the rich
man, but the rich man refrained from
taking one of his own sheep or cattle to
prepare a meal for the traveler who had
come to him. Instead, he took the ewe
lamb that belonged to the poor man
and prepared it for the one who had
come to him."
5David[f] burned with anger[g] against
the man[h] and said to Nathan, "As
surely as the LORD lives,[i] the man who
did this deserves to die! 6He must pay
for that lamb four times over,[j] because
he did such a thing and had no pity."
7Then Nathan said to David, "You
are the man![k] This is what the LORD,
the God of Israel, says: 'I anointed[l]
you[m] king over Israel, and I delivered
you from the hand of Saul. 8I gave your
master's house to you,[n] and your mas-
ter's wives into your arms. I gave you
the house of Israel and Judah. And if
all this had been too little, I would have
given you even more. 9Why did you
despise[o] the word of the LORD by doing
what is evil in his eyes? You struck
down[p] Uriah[q] the Hittite with the
sword and took his wife to be your
own. You killed[r] him with the sword
of the Ammonites. 10Now, therefore,
the sword[s] will never depart from your
house, because you despised me and
took the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be
your own.'
11"This is what the LORD says: 'Out of
your own household[t] I am going to
bring calamity upon you.[u] Before your
very eyes I will take your wives and
give them to one who is close to you,
and he will lie with your wives in broad
daylight.[v] 12You did it in secret,[w] but I
will do this thing in broad daylight[x]
before all Israel.' "
13Then David said to Nathan, "I have
sinned[y] against the LORD."
Nathan replied, "The LORD has taken
away[z] your sin.[a] You are not going to
die.[b] 14But because by doing this you
have made the enemies of the LORD
show utter contempt,[f][c] the son born
to you will die."
15After Nathan had gone home, the
LORD struck[d] the child that Uriah's wife
had borne to David, and he became ill.
16David pleaded with God for the child.
He fasted and went into his house and
spent the nights lying[e] on the ground.
17The elders of his household stood be-
side him to get him up from the
ground, but he refused,[f] and he would
not eat any food with them.[g]
18On the seventh day the child died.
David's servants were afraid to tell him
that the child was dead, for they
thought, "While the child was still liv-
ing, we spoke to David but he would
not listen to us. How can we tell him
the child is dead? He may do some-
thing desperate."
19David noticed that his servants
were whispering among themselves
and he realized the child was dead. "Is
the child dead?" he asked.
"Yes," they replied, "he is dead."
20Then David got up from the
ground. After he had washed,[h] put on
lotions and changed his clothes,[i] he
went into the house of the LORD and

11:27 [a]Dt 34:8 [b]2Sa 12:9; Ps 51:4-5 **12:1** [c]S 2Sa 7:2 [d]Ps 51 Title [e]2Sa 14:4 **12:5** [f]1Ki 20:40 [g]S Ge 34:7 [h]Ro 2:1 [i]S 1Sa 14:39 **12:6** [j]Ex 22:1 **12:7** [k]2Sa 14:13; Da 4:22 [l]S 1Sa 2:35 [m]1Ki 20:42 **12:8** [n]S 2Sa 9:7 **12:9** [o]S Nu 15:31; S 1Sa 13:14 [p]S 2Sa 11:15 [q]1Ki 15:5 [r]Ps 26:9; 51:14 **12:10** [s]2Sa 13:28; 18:14-15; 1Ki 2:25 **12:11** [t]2Sa 16:11 [u]Dt 28:30; 2Sa 16:21-22 [v]S Dt 17:17 **12:12** [w]2Sa 11:4-15 [x]2Sa 16:22 **12:13** [y]S Ge 13:13; S 20:6; S Nu 22:34 [z]Ps 32:1-5; 51:1, 9; 103:12; Isa 43:25; 44:22; Zec 3:4,9 [a]Pr 28:13; Jer 2:35; Mic 7:18-19 [b]Lev 20:10; 24:17 **12:14** [c]Isa 52:5; Ro 2:24 **12:15** [d]S 1Sa 25:38 **12:16** [e]Ps 5:7; 95:6 **12:17** [f]S Ge 37:35; S 1Sa 1:7 [g]S 2Sa 3:35; Da 6:18 **12:20** [h]Mt 6:17 [i]S Ge 41:14

[f]14 Masoretic Text; an ancient Hebrew scribal tradition *this you have shown utter contempt for the LORD*

worshiped. Then he went to his own
house, and at his request they served
him food, and he ate.
21His servants asked him, "Why are
you acting this way? While the child
was alive, you fasted and wept,[a] but
now that the child is dead, you get up
and eat!"
22He answered, "While the child was
still alive, I fasted and wept. I thought,
'Who knows?[b] The LORD may be gra-
cious to me and let the child live.'[c]
23But now that he is dead, why should I
fast? Can I bring him back again? I will
go to him,[d] but he will not return to
me."[e]
24Then David comforted his wife
Bathsheba,[f] and he went to her and
lay with her. She gave birth to a son,
and they named him Solomon.[g] The
LORD loved him; 25and because the LORD
loved him, he sent word through Na-
than the prophet to name him Jedi-
diah.[g][h]
26Meanwhile Joab fought against
Rabbah[i] of the Ammonites and cap-
tured the royal citadel. 27Joab then sent
messengers to David, saying, "I have
fought against Rabbah and taken its
water supply. 28Now muster the rest of
the troops and besiege the city and cap-
ture it. Otherwise I will take the city,
and it will be named after me."
29So David mustered the entire army
and went to Rabbah, and attacked and
captured it. 30He took the crown[j] from
the head of their king[h]—its weight was
a talent[i] of gold, and it was set with
precious stones—and it was placed on
David's head. He took a great quantity
of plunder from the city 31and brought
out the people who were there, con-
signing them to labor with saws and
with iron picks and axes, and he made
them work at brickmaking.[j] He did
this to all the Ammonite[k] towns. Then
David and his entire army returned to
Jerusalem.

Amnon and Tamar

13 In the course of time, Amnon[l]
son of David fell in love with Ta-
mar,[m] the beautiful sister of Absalom[n]
son of David.
2Amnon became frustrated to the
point of illness on account of his sister
Tamar, for she was a virgin, and it
seemed impossible for him to do any-
thing to her.
3Now Amnon had a friend named
Jonadab son of Shimeah,[o] David's
brother. Jonadab was a very shrewd
man. 4He asked Amnon, "Why do you,
the king's son, look so haggard morn-
ing after morning? Won't you tell me?"
Amnon said to him, "I'm in love
with Tamar, my brother Absalom's sis-
ter."
5"Go to bed and pretend to be ill,"
Jonadab said. "When your father
comes to see you, say to him, 'I would
like my sister Tamar to come and give
me something to eat. Let her prepare
the food in my sight so I may watch her
and then eat it from her hand.' "
6So Amnon lay down and pretended
to be ill. When the king came to see
him, Amnon said to him, "I would like
my sister Tamar to come and make
some special bread in my sight, so I
may eat from her hand."
7David sent word to Tamar at the
palace: "Go to the house of your broth-
er Amnon and prepare some food for
him." 8So Tamar went to the house of
her brother Amnon, who was lying
down. She took some dough, kneaded
it, made the bread in his sight and
baked it. 9Then she took the pan and
served him the bread, but he refused to
eat.
"Send everyone out of here,"[p] Am-
non said. So everyone left him. 10Then
Amnon said to Tamar, "Bring the food
here into my bedroom so I may eat
from your hand." And Tamar took the
bread she had prepared and brought it
to her brother Amnon in his bedroom.
11But when she took it to him to eat, he
grabbed[q] her and said, "Come to bed
with me, my sister."[r]
12"Don't, my brother!" she said to
him. "Don't force me. Such a thing
should not be done in Israel![s] Don't do
this wicked thing.[t] 13What about me?[u]
Where could I get rid of my disgrace?
And what about you? You would be
like one of the wicked fools in Israel.
Please speak to the king; he will not
keep me from being married to you."
14But he refused to listen to her, and
since he was stronger than she, he
raped her.[v]
15Then Amnon hated her with in-
tense hatred. In fact, he hated her more
than he had loved her. Amnon said to
her, "Get up and get out!"
16"No!" she said to him. "Sending
me away would be a greater wrong

12:21 [a] Jdg 20:26 **12:22** [b] Jnh 3:9 [c] Isa 38:1-5 **12:23** [d] Ge 37:35 [e] S 1Sa 31:13; 2Sa 13:39; Job 7:10; 10:21 **12:24** [f] 1Ki 1:11 [g] 1Ki 1:10; 1Ch 22:9; 28:5; Mt 1:6 **12:25** [h] Ne 13:26 **12:26** [i] S Dt 3:11 **12:30** [j] Est 8:15; Ps 21:3; 132:18 **12:31** [k] S 1Sa 14:47 **13:1** [l] 2Sa 3:2 [m] 2Sa 14:27; 1Ch 3:9 [n] S 2Sa 3:3 **13:3** [o] S 1Sa 16:9 **13:9** [p] Ge 45:1 **13:11** [q] S Ge 39:12 [r] S Ge 38:16 **13:12** [s] Lev 20:17 [t] S Ge 34:7 **13:13** [u] S Lev 18:9; S Dt 22:21,23-24 **13:14** [v] S Ge 34:2; Eze 22:11

[g]25 *Jedidiah* means *loved by the LORD.* [h]30 *Or of Milcom* (that is, Molech) [i]30 That is, about 75 pounds (about 34 kilograms) [j]31 The meaning of the Hebrew for this clause is uncertain.

than what you have already done to
me."
But he refused to listen to her. 17He
called his personal servant and said,
"Get this woman out of here and bolt
the door after her." 18So his servant put
her out and bolted the door after her.
She was wearing a richly ornamented[k]
robe,[z] for this was the kind of garment
the virgin daughters of the king wore.
19Tamar put ashes[a] on her head and
tore the ornamented[l] robe she was
wearing. She put her hand[b] on her head
and went away, weeping aloud as she
went.
20Her brother Absalom said to her,
"Has that Amnon, your brother, been
with you? Be quiet now, my sister; he
is your brother. Don't take this thing to
heart." And Tamar lived in her brother
Absalom's house, a desolate woman.
21When King David heard all this, he
was furious.[c] 22Absalom never said a
word to Amnon, either good or bad;[d]
he hated[e] Amnon because he had dis-
graced his sister Tamar.

Absalom Kills Amnon

23Two years later, when Absalom's
sheepshearers[f] were at Baal Hazor
near the border of Ephraim, he invited
all the king's sons to come there. 24Ab-
salom went to the king and said, "Your
servant has had shearers come. Will
the king and his officials please join
me?"
25"No, my son," the king replied.
"All of us should not go; we would
only be a burden to you." Although
Absalom urged him, he still refused to
go, but gave him his blessing.
26Then Absalom said, "If not, please
let my brother Amnon come with us."
The king asked him, "Why should
he go with you?" 27But Absalom urged
him, so he sent with him Amnon and
the rest of the king's sons.
28Absalom[g] ordered his men, "Lis-
ten! When Amnon is in high[h] spirits
from drinking wine and I say to you,
'Strike Amnon down,' then kill him.
Don't be afraid. Have not I given you
this order? Be strong and brave.[i]" 29So
Absalom's men did to Amnon what
Absalom had ordered. Then all the
king's sons got up, mounted their
mules and fled.
30While they were on their way, the
report came to David: "Absalom has
struck down all the king's sons; not
one of them is left." 31The king stood
up, tore[j] his clothes and lay down on
the ground; and all his servants stood
by with their clothes torn.
32But Jonadab son of Shimeah, Da-
vid's brother, said, "My lord should
not think that they killed all the
princes; only Amnon is dead. This has
been Absalom's expressed intention
ever since the day Amnon raped his
sister Tamar. 33My lord the king should
not be concerned about the report that
all the king's sons are dead. Only Am-
non is dead."
34Meanwhile, Absalom had fled.
Now the man standing watch looked
up and saw many people on the road
west of him, coming down the side of
the hill. The watchman went and told
the king, "I see men in the direction of
Horonaim, on the side of the hill."[m]
35Jonadab said to the king, "See, the
king's sons are here; it has happened
just as your servant said."
36As he finished speaking, the king's
sons came in, wailing loudly. The king,
too, and all his servants wept very bit-
terly.
37Absalom fled and went to Talmai[k]
son of Ammihud, the king of Geshur.
But King David mourned for his son
every day.
38After Absalom fled and went to Ge-
shur, he stayed there three years.
39And the spirit of the king[n] longed to
go to Absalom,[l] for he was consoled[m]
concerning Amnon's death.

Absalom Returns to Jerusalem

14 Joab[n] son of Zeruiah knew that
the king's heart longed for Absa-
lom. 2So Joab sent someone to Tekoa[o]
and had a wise woman[p] brought from
there. He said to her, "Pretend you are
in mourning. Dress in mourning
clothes, and don't use any cosmetic lo-
tions.[q] Act like a woman who has
spent many days grieving for the dead.
3Then go to the king and speak these
words to him." And Joab[r] put the
words in her mouth.
4When the woman from Tekoa
went[o] to the king, she fell with her face
to the ground to pay him honor, and
she said, "Help me, O king!"
5The king asked her, "What is trou-
bling you?"

13:18 [z][illegible] 13:19 [a][illegible]; Est 4:1; [illegible] 13:21 [b][illegible] 13:22 [c][illegible] [d]Lev 19:17-18; 1Jn 2:9-11 13:23 [f]1Sa 25:7 13:28 [g]S 2Sa 3:3 [h][illegible] [i]S 2Sa 12:10 13:31 [j]S Nu 14:6
13:37 [k]S 2Sa 3:3
13:39 [l]2Sa 14:13 [m]S 2Sa 12:19-23
14:1 [n]S 2Sa 2:18
14:2 [o]Ne 3:5; Jer 6:1; Am 1:1 [p]2Sa 20:16 [q]S Ru 3:3; S Isa 1:6
14:3 [r]ver 19

[k]18 The meaning of the Hebrew for this phrase is uncertain. [l]19 The meaning of the Hebrew for this word is uncertain. [m]34 Septuagint; Hebrew does not have this sentence. [n]39 Dead Sea Scrolls and some Septuagint manuscripts; Masoretic Text *But the spirit of David the king* [o]4 Many Hebrew manuscripts, Septuagint, Vulgate and Syriac; most Hebrew manuscripts *spoke*

She said, "I am indeed a widow; my
husband is dead. 6I your servant had
two sons. They got into a fight with
each other in the field, and no one was
there to separate them. One struck the
other and killed him. 7Now the whole
clan has risen up against your servant;
they say, 'Hand over the one who
struck his brother down, so that we
may put him to death[a] for the life of
his brother whom he killed; then we
will get rid of the heir[b] as well.' They
would put out the only burning coal I
have left,[c] leaving my husband neither
name nor descendant on the face of the
earth."

8The king said to the woman, "Go
home,[d] and I will issue an order in
your behalf."

9But the woman from Tekoa said to
him, "My lord the king, let the blame[e]
rest on me and on my father's family,[f]
and let the king and his throne be with-
out guilt.[g]"

10The king replied, "If anyone says
anything to you, bring him to me, and
he will not bother you again."

11She said, "Then let the king invoke
the LORD his God to prevent the aveng-
er[h] of blood from adding to the de-
struction, so that my son will not be
destroyed."

"As surely as the LORD lives," he
said, "not one hair[i] of your son's head
will fall to the ground.[j]"

12Then the woman said, "Let your
servant speak a word to my lord the
king."

"Speak," he replied.

13The woman said, "Why then have
you devised a thing like this against the
people of God? When the king says
this, does he not convict himself,[k] for
the king has not brought back his ban-
ished son?[l] 14Like water[m] spilled on
the ground, which cannot be recov-
ered, so we must die.[n] But God does
not take away life; instead, he devises
ways so that a banished person[o] may
not remain estranged from him.

15"And now I have come to say this
to my lord the king because the people
have made me afraid. Your servant
thought, 'I will speak to the king; per-
haps he will do what his servant asks.
16Perhaps the king will agree to deliver
his servant from the hand of the man
who is trying to cut off both me and my
son from the inheritance[p] God gave
us.'

17"And now your servant says, 'May
the word of my lord the king bring me
rest, for my lord the king is like an an-
gel[q] of God in discerning[r] good and
evil. May the LORD your God be with
you.' "

18Then the king said to the woman,
"Do not keep from me the answer to
what I am going to ask you."

"Let my lord the king speak," the
woman said.

19The king asked, "Isn't the hand of
Joab[s] with you in all this?"

The woman answered, "As surely as
you live, my lord the king, no one can
turn to the right or to the left from any-
thing my lord the king says. Yes, it was
your servant Joab who instructed me to
do this and who put all these words
into the mouth of your servant. 20Your
servant Joab did this to change the
present situation. My lord has wis-
dom[t] like that of an angel of God—he
knows everything that happens in the
land.[u]"

21The king said to Joab, "Very well, I
will do it. Go, bring back the young
man Absalom."

22Joab fell with his face to the ground
to pay him honor, and he blessed the
king.[v] Joab said, "Today your servant
knows that he has found favor in your
eyes, my lord the king, because the
king has granted his servant's re-
quest."

23Then Joab went to Geshur and
brought Absalom back to Jerusalem.
24But the king said, "He must go to his
own house; he must not see my face."
So Absalom went to his own house and
did not see the face of the king.

25In all Israel there was not a man so
highly praised for his handsome ap-
pearance as Absalom. From the top of
his head to the sole of his foot there
was no blemish in him. 26Whenever he
cut the hair of his head[w]—he used to
cut his hair from time to time when it
became too heavy for him—he would
weigh it, and its weight was two hun-
dred shekels[p] by the royal standard.

27Three sons[x] and a daughter were
born to Absalom. The daughter's name
was Tamar,[y] and she became a beauti-
ful woman.

28Absalom lived two years in Jerusa-
lem without seeing the king's face.
29Then Absalom sent for Joab in order
to send him to the king, but Joab
refused to come to him. So he sent a
second time, but he refused to come.
30Then he said to his servants, "Look,

14:7 [a] Nu 35:19 [b] Mt 21:38 [c] Dt 19:10-13 **14:8** [d] 1Sa 25:35 **14:9** [e] 1Sa 25:24 [f] Mt 27:25 [g] 1Sa 25:28 **14:11** [h] S Nu 35:12,21 [i] S Mt 10:30 [j] S 1Sa 14:45 **14:13** [k] S 2Sa 12:7; 1Ki 20:40 [l] 2Sa 13:38-39 **14:14** [m] Job 14:11; Ps 58:7; Isa 19:5 [n] Job 10:9; 17:13; 30:23; Ps 22:15; Heb 9:27 [o] Nu 35:15,25-28 **14:16** [p] S Ex 34:9; S 1Sa 26:19 **14:17** [q] S 1Sa 29:9 [r] 1Ki 3:9; Da 2:21 **14:19** [s] ver 3 **14:20** [t] 1Ki 3:12,28; 10:23-24; Isa 28:6 [u] 2Sa 18:13 **14:22** [v] S Ge 47:7 **14:26** [w] 2Sa 18:9 **14:27** [x] 2Sa 18:18 [y] S 2Sa 13:1

[p]26 That is, about 5 pounds (about 2.3 kilograms)

Joab's field is next to mine, and he has
barley[a] there. Go and set it on fire." So
Absalom's servants set the field on fire.
31 Then Joab did go to Absalom's
house and he said to him, "Why have
your servants set my field on fire?"[b]
32 Absalom said to Joab, "Look, I sent
word to you and said, 'Come here so I
can send you to the king to ask, "Why
have I come from Geshur?[c] It would be
better for me if I were still there!"'[d]
Now then, I want to see the king's face,
and if I am guilty of anything, let him
put me to death."[d]
33 So Joab went to the king and told
him this. Then the king summoned Ab-
salom, and he came in and bowed
down with his face to the ground be-
fore the king. And the king kissed[e]
Absalom.

Absalom's Conspiracy

15 In the course of time,[f] Absalom
provided himself with a chariot[g]
and horses and with fifty men to run
ahead of him. 2 He would get up early
and stand by the side of the road lead-
ing to the city gate.[h] Whenever anyone
came with a complaint to be placed be-
fore the king for a decision, Absalom
would call out to him, "What town are
you from?" He would answer, "Your
servant is from one of the tribes of Is-
rael." 3 Then Absalom would say to
him, "Look, your claims are valid and
proper, but there is no representative
of the king to hear you."[i] 4 And Absa-
lom would add, "If only I were ap-
pointed judge in the land![j] Then
everyone who has a complaint or case
could come to me and I would see that
he gets justice."
5 Also, whenever anyone approached
him to bow down before him, Absalom
would reach out his hand, take hold of
him and kiss him. 6 Absalom behaved
in this way toward all the Israelites
who came to the king asking for
justice, and so he stole the hearts[k] of
the men of Israel.
7 At the end of four[q] years, Absalom
said to the king, "Let me go to Hebron
and fulfill a vow I made to the LORD.
8 While your servant was living at Ge-
shur[l] in Aram, I made this vow:[m] 'If
the LORD takes me back to Jerusalem, I
will worship the LORD in Hebron.[r]'"
9 The king said to him, "Go in
peace." So he went to Hebron.
10 Then Absalom sent secret messen-
gers throughout the tribes of Israel to
say, "As soon as you hear the sound of
the trumpets,[n] then say, 'Absalom is
king in Hebron.'" 11 Two hundred men
from Jerusalem had accompanied Ab-
salom. They had been invited as guests
and went quite innocently, knowing
nothing about the matter. 12 While Ab-
salom was offering sacrifices, he also
sent for Ahithophel[o] the Gilonite, Da-
vid's counselor,[p] to come from Giloh,[q]
his hometown. And so the conspiracy
gained strength, and Absalom's follow-
ing kept on increasing.[r]

David Flees

13 A messenger came and told David,
"The hearts of the men of Israel are
with Absalom."
14 Then David said to all his officials
who were with him in Jerusalem,
"Come! We must flee,[s] or none of us
will escape from Absalom.[t] We must
leave immediately, or he will move
quickly to overtake us and bring ruin
upon us and put the city to the sword."
15 The king's officials answered him,
"Your servants are ready to do what-
ever our lord the king chooses."
16 The king set out, with his entire
household following him; but he left
ten concubines[u] to take care of the pal-
ace. 17 So the king set out, with all the
people following him, and they halted
at a place some distance away. 18 All his
men marched past him, along with all
the Kerethites[v] and Pelethites; and all
the six hundred Gittites who had ac-
companied him from Gath marched be-
fore the king.
19 The king said to Ittai[w] the Gittite,
"Why should you come along with us?
Go back and stay with King Absalom.
You are a foreigner,[x] an exile from
your homeland. 20 You came only yes-
terday. And today shall I make you
wander[y] about with us, when I do not
know where I am going? Go back, and
take your countrymen. May kindness
and faithfulness[z] be with you."
21 But Ittai replied to the king, "As
surely as the LORD lives, and as my lord
the king lives, wherever my lord the
king may be, whether it means life or
death, there will your servant be."[a]
22 David said to Ittai, "Go ahead,
march on." So Ittai the Gittite marched
on with all his men and the families
that were with him.

14:30 aS Ex 9:31 **14:31** bS Jdg 15:5 **14:32** cS 2Sa 3:3 d1Sa 20:8 **14:33** eLk 15:20 **15:1** fS 2Sa 12:11 gS 1Sa 8:11 **15:2** hS Ge 23:10; 2Sa 19:8 **15:3** iPr 12:2 **15:4** jJdg 9:29 **15:6** kRo 16:18 **15:8** lS 2Sa 3:3 mS Ge 28:20 **15:10** n1Ki 1:34, 39; 2Ki 9:13 **15:12** over 31, 34; 2Sa 16:15,23; 17:14; 23:34; 1Ch 27:33 pJob 19:14; Ps 41:9; 55:13; Jer 9:4 qJos 15:51 rPs 3:1 **15:14** s1Ki 2:26; Ps 132:1; Ps 3 Title t2Sa 19:9 **15:16** u2Sa 16:21-22; 20:3 **15:18** vS 1Sa 30:14; 2Sa 20:7,23; 1Ki 1:38,44; 1Ch 18:17 **15:19** w2Sa 18:2 xS Ge 31:15 **15:20** yS 1Sa 22:2 z2Sa 2:6 **15:21** aRu 1:16-17; Pr 17:17

q7 Some Septuagint manuscripts, Syriac and Josephus; Hebrew *forty* r8 Some Septuagint manuscripts; Hebrew does not have *in Hebron*.

23The whole countryside wept
aloud[a] as all the people passed by. The
king also crossed the Kidron Valley,[b]
and all the people moved on toward
the desert.
24Zadok[c] was there, too, and all the
Levites who were with him were carry-
ing the ark[d] of the covenant of God.
They set down the ark of God, and
Abiathar[e] offered sacrifices[a] until all
the people had finished leaving the
city.
25Then the king said to Zadok, "Take
the ark of God back into the city. If I
find favor in the LORD's eyes, he will
bring me back and let me see it and his
dwelling place[f] again. 26But if he says,
'I am not pleased with you,' then I am
ready; let him do to me whatever
seems good to him.[g]"
27The king also said to Zadok the
priest, "Aren't you a seer?[h] Go back to
the city in peace, with your son Ahima-
az and Jonathan[i] son of Abiathar. You
and Abiathar take your two sons with
you. 28I will wait at the fords[j] in the
desert until word comes from you to
inform me." 29So Zadok and Abiathar
took the ark of God back to Jerusalem
and stayed there.
30But David continued up the Mount
of Olives, weeping[k] as he went; his
head[l] was covered and he was bare-
foot. All the people with him covered
their heads too and were weeping as
they went up. 31Now David had been
told, "Ahithophel[m] is among the con-
spirators with Absalom." So David
prayed, "O LORD, turn Ahithophel's
counsel into foolishness."
32When David arrived at the summit,
where people used to worship God,
Hushai[n] the Arkite[o] was there to meet
him, his robe torn and dust[p] on his
head. 33David said to him, "If you go
with me, you will be a burden[q] to me.
34But if you return to the city and say to
Absalom, 'I will be your servant, O
king; I was your father's servant in the
past, but now I will be your servant,'[r]
then you can help me by frustrating[s]
Ahithophel's advice. 35Won't the
priests Zadok and Abiathar be there
with you? Tell them anything you hear
in the king's palace.[t] 36Their two sons,
Ahimaaz[u] son of Zadok and Jonathan[v]
son of Abiathar, are there with them.
Send them to me with anything you
hear."
37So David's friend Hushai[w] arrived
at Jerusalem as Absalom[x] was entering
the city.

David and Ziba

16 When David had gone a short
distance beyond the summit,
there was Ziba,[y] the steward of Me-
phibosheth, waiting to meet him. He
had a string of donkeys saddled and
loaded with two hundred loaves of
bread, a hundred cakes of raisins, a
hundred cakes of figs and a skin of
wine.[z]
2The king asked Ziba, "Why have
you brought these?"
Ziba answered, "The donkeys are for
the king's household to ride on, the
bread and fruit are for the men to eat,
and the wine is to refresh[a] those who
become exhausted in the desert."
3The king then asked, "Where is
your master's grandson?"[b]
Ziba[c] said to him, "He is staying in
Jerusalem, because he thinks, 'Today
the house of Israel will give me back
my grandfather's kingdom.'"
4Then the king said to Ziba, "All that
belonged to Mephibosheth[d] is now
yours."
"I humbly bow," Ziba said. "May I
find favor in your eyes, my lord the
king."

Shimei Curses David

5As King David approached Bahu-
rim,[e] a man from the same clan as
Saul's family came out from there. His
name was Shimei[f] son of Gera, and he
cursed[g] as he came out. 6He pelted Da-
vid and all the king's officials with
stones, though all the troops and the
special guard were on David's right
and left. 7As he cursed, Shimei said,
"Get out, get out, you man of blood,
you scoundrel! 8The LORD has repaid
you for all the blood you shed in the
household of Saul, in whose place you
have reigned.[h] The LORD has handed
the kingdom over to your son Absa-
lom. You have come to ruin because
you are a man of blood!"[i]
9Then Abishai[j] son of Zeruiah said
to the king, "Why should this dead
dog[k] curse my lord the king? Let me go
over and cut off his head."[l]
10But the king said, "What do you
and I have in common, you sons of
Zeruiah?[m] If he is cursing because the
LORD said to him, 'Curse David,' who
can ask, 'Why do you do this?'"[n]
11David then said to Abishai and all
his officials, "My son,[o] who is of my
own flesh, is trying to take my life.

15:23 [a]1Sa 11:4; Job 2:12 [b]1Ki 2:37; 2Ki 23:12; 2Ch 15:16; 29:16; 30:14; Jer 31:40 Jn 18:1
15:24 [c]S 2Sa 8:17; 19:11 [d]Nu 4:15; S 10:33; 1Ki 2:26 [e]S 1Sa 22:20
15:25 [f]Ex 15:13; S Lev 15:31; Ps 43:3; 46:4; 84:1; 132:7
15:26 [g]S Jdg 10:15; 2Sa 22:20
15:27 [h]S 1Sa 9:9 [i]ver 36; 2Sa 17:17; 1Ki 1:42
15:28 [j]2Sa 17:16
15:30 [k]S Nu 25:6; S Ps 30:5 [l]Est 6:12
15:31 [m]S ver 12
15:32 [n]ver 37; 2Sa 16:16; 17:5; 1Ki 4:16 [o]Jos 16:2 [p]S Jos 7:6
15:33 [q]2Sa 19:35
15:34 [r]2Sa 16:19 [s]2Sa 17:14; Pr 11:14
15:35 [t]2Sa 17:15-16
15:36 [u]2Sa 18:19 [v]S ver 27; 2Sa 17:17; 1Ki 1:42
15:37 [w]1Ch 27:33 [x]2Sa 16:15
16:1 [y]2Sa 9:1-13 [z]S 1Sa 25:18; 1Ch 12:40
16:2 [a]2Sa 17:27-29
16:3 [b]2Sa 9:9-10 [c]S 2Sa 9:2
16:4 [d]S 2Sa 4:4
16:5 [e]S 2Sa 3:16 [f]2Sa 19:16-23; 1Ki 2:8-9,36,44 [g]S Ex 22:28
16:8 [h]2Sa 19:28; 21:9 [i]2Sa 19:19; Ps 55:3
16:9 [j]S 1Sa 26:6 [k]S 2Sa 3:8 [l]S 2Sa 3:39; Lk 9:54
16:10 [m]S 2Sa 2:18; 19:22 [n]Ro 9:20
16:11 [o]2Sa 12:11

[a]24 *Or Abiathar went up*

How much more, then, this Benjamite!
Leave him alone; let him curse, for the
LORD has told him to.[a] [12]It may be that
the LORD will see my distress[b] and
repay me with good[c] for the cursing I
am receiving today.[d]"
[13]So David and his men continued
along the road while Shimei was going
along the hillside opposite him, cursing
as he went and throwing stones at him
and showering him with dirt. [14]The
king and all the people with him ar-
rived at their destination exhausted.[e]
And there he refreshed himself.

The Advice of Hushai and Ahithophel

[15]Meanwhile, Absalom[f] and all the
men of Israel came to Jerusalem, and
Ahithophel[g] was with him. [16]Then Hu-
shai[h] the Arkite, David's friend, went
to Absalom and said to him, "Long live
the king! Long live the king!"
[17]Absalom asked Hushai, "Is this the
love you show your friend? Why didn't
you go with your friend?"[i]
[18]Hushai said to Absalom, "No, the
one chosen by the LORD, by these
people, and by all the men of Israel—
his I will be, and I will remain with
him. [19]Furthermore, whom should I
serve? Should I not serve the son? Just
as I served your father, so I will serve
you."[j]
[20]Absalom said to Ahithophel, "Give
us your advice. What should we do?"
[21]Ahithophel answered, "Lie with
your father's concubines whom he left
to take care of the palace. Then all Is-
rael will hear that you have made your-
self a stench in your father's nostrils,
and the hands of everyone with you
will be strengthened." [22]So they
pitched a tent for Absalom on the roof,
and he lay with his father's concubines
in the sight of all Israel.[k]
[23]Now in those days the advice[l]
Ahithophel gave was like that of one
who inquires of God. That was how
both David[m] and Absalom regarded all
of Ahithophel's advice.

17 Ahithophel said to Absalom, "I
would[t] choose twelve thousand
men and set out tonight in pursuit of
David. [2]I would[u] attack him while he is
weary and weak.[n] I would[u] strike him
with terror, and then all the people
with him will flee. I would[u] strike
down only the king[o] [3]and bring all the
people back to you. The death of the
man you seek will mean the return of
all; all the people will be unharmed."
[4]This plan seemed good to Absalom
and to all the elders of Israel.
[5]But Absalom said, "Summon also
Hushai[p] the Arkite, so we can hear
what he has to say." [6]When Hushai
came to him, Absalom said, "Ahitho-
phel has given this advice. Should we
do what he says? If not, give us your
opinion."
[7]Hushai replied to Absalom, "The
advice Ahithophel has given is not
good this time. [8]You know your father
and his men; they are fighters, and as
fierce as a wild bear robbed of her
cubs.[q] Besides, your father is an
experienced fighter;[r] he will not spend
the night with the troops. [9]Even now,
he is hidden in a cave or some other
place.[s] If he should attack your troops
first,[v] whoever hears about it will say,
'There has been a slaughter among the
troops who follow Absalom.' [10]Then
even the bravest soldier, whose heart is
like the heart of a lion,[t] will melt[u] with
fear, for all Israel knows that your fa-
ther is a fighter and that those with him
are brave.[v]
[11]"So I advise you: Let all Israel, from
Dan to Beersheba[w]—as numerous as
the sand[x] on the seashore—be gath-
ered to you, with you yourself leading
them into battle. [12]Then we will attack
him wherever he may be found, and
we will fall on him as dew settles on
the ground. Neither he nor any of his
men will be left alive. [13]If he withdraws
into a city, then all Israel will bring
ropes to that city, and we will drag it
down to the valley[y] until not even a
piece of it can be found."
[14]Absalom and all the men of Israel
said, "The advice[z] of Hushai the Ar-
kite is better than that of Ahitho-
phel."[a] For the LORD had determined
to frustrate[b] the good advice of Ahitho-
phel in order to bring disaster[c] on Ab-
salom.[d]
[15]Hushai told Zadok and Abiathar,
the priests, "Ahithophel has advised
Absalom and the elders of Israel to do
such and such, but I have advised
them to do so and so. [16]Now send a
message immediately and tell David,
'Do not spend the night at the fords in
the desert;[e] cross over without fail, or
the king and all the people with him
will be swallowed up.[f]'"
[17]Jonathan[g] and Ahimaaz were stay-
ing at En Rogel.[h] A servant girl was to

16:11 [a]S Ge 45:5; 1Sa 26:19
16:12 [b]Ps 4:1; 25:18 [c]Dt 23:5; Ro 8:28 [d]Ps 109:28
16:14 [e]2Sa 17:2
16:15 [f]S 2Sa 15:37 [g]S 2Sa 15:12
16:16 [h]S 2Sa 15:32
16:17 [i]2Sa 19:25
16:19 [j]2Sa 15:34
16:22 [k]S 2Sa 3:7; 12:11-12; S 15:16
16:23 [l]2Sa 17:14,23 [m]S 2Sa 15:12
17:2 [n]2Sa 16:14 [o]1Ki 22:31; Zec 13:7
17:5 [p]S 2Sa 15:32
17:8 [q]Hos 13:8 [r]1Sa 16:18
17:9 [s]Jer 41:9
17:10 [t]1Ch 12:8 [u]Jos 2:9,11; Eze 21:15 [v]2Sa 23:8; 1Ch 11:11
17:11 [w]S Jdg 20:1 [x]S Ge 12:2; S Jos 11:4
17:13 [y]Mic 1:6
17:14 [z]S 2Sa 16:23 [a]S 2Sa 15:12 [b]S 2Sa 15:34; Ne 4:15 [c]Ps 9:16 [d]2Ch 10:8
17:16 [e]2Sa 15:28 [f]2Sa 15:35
17:17 [g]S 2Sa 15:27,36 [h]Jos 15:7; 18:16; 1Ki 1:9

[t]1 *Or Let me* [u]2 *Or will* [v]9 *Or When some of the men fall at the first attack*

go and inform them, and they were to go and tell King David, for they could not risk being seen entering the city.[s] 18But a young man saw them and told Absalom. So the two of them left quickly and went to the house of a man in Bahurim.[s] He had a well in his courtyard, and they climbed down into it. 19His wife took a covering and spread it out over the opening of the well and scattered grain over it. No one knew anything about it.[t]

20When Absalom's men came to the woman[u] at the house, they asked, "Where are Ahimaaz and Jonathan?"

The woman answered them, "They crossed over the brook."[w] The men searched but found no one, so they returned to Jerusalem.

21After the men had gone, the two climbed out of the well and went to inform King David. They said to him, "Set out and cross the river at once; Ahithophel has advised such and such against you." 22So David and all the people with him set out and crossed the Jordan. By daybreak, no one was left who had not crossed the Jordan.

23When Ahithophel saw that his advice[v] had not been followed, he saddled his donkey and set out for his house in his hometown. He put his house in order[w] and then hanged himself. So he died and was buried in his father's tomb.

24David went to Mahanaim,[x] and Absalom crossed the Jordan with all the men of Israel. 25Absalom had appointed Amasa[y] over the army in place of Joab. Amasa was the son of a man named Jether,[x][z] an Israelite[y] who had married Abigail,[z] the daughter of Nahash and sister of Zeruiah the mother of Joab. 26The Israelites and Absalom camped in the land of Gilead.

27When David came to Mahanaim, Shobi son of Nahash[b] from Rabbah[c] of the Ammonites, and Makir[d] son of Ammiel from Lo Debar, and Barzillai[e] the Gileadite[f] from Rogelim 28brought bedding and bowls and articles of pottery. They also brought wheat and barley, flour and roasted grain, beans and lentils,[a] 29honey and curds, sheep, and cheese from cows' milk for David and his people to eat.[g] For they said, "The people have become hungry and tired and thirsty in the desert.[h]"

Absalom's Death

18 David mustered the men who were with him and appointed over them commanders of thousands and commanders of hundreds. 2David sent the troops out[p]—a third under the command of Joab, a third under Joab's brother Abishai[q] son of Zeruiah, and a third under Ittai[r] the Gittite. The king told the troops, "I myself will surely march out with you."

3But the men said, "You must not go out; if we are forced to flee, they won't care about us. Even if half of us die, they won't care; but you are worth ten[s] thousand of us.[b] It would be better now for you to give us support from the city."[t]

4The king answered, "I will do whatever seems best to you."

So the king stood beside the gate while all the men marched out in units of hundreds and of thousands. 5The king commanded Joab, Abishai and Ittai, "Be gentle with the young man Absalom for my sake." And all the troops heard the king giving orders concerning Absalom to each of the commanders.

6The army marched into the field to fight Israel, and the battle took place in the forest[u] of Ephraim. 7There the army of Israel was defeated by David's men, and the casualties that day were great—twenty thousand men. 8The battle spread out over the whole countryside, and the forest claimed more lives that day than the sword.

9Now Absalom happened to meet David's men. He was riding his mule, and as the mule went under the thick branches of a large oak, Absalom's head[v] got caught in the tree. He was left hanging in midair, while the mule he was riding kept on going.

10When one of the men saw this, he told Joab, "I just saw Absalom hanging in an oak tree."

11Joab said to the man who had told him this, "What! You saw him? Why didn't you strike[w] him to the ground right there? Then I would have had to give you ten shekels[c] of silver and a warrior's belt.[x]"

12But the man replied, "Even if a

17:18 sS 2Sa 3:16
17:19 tS Jos 2:6
17:20 uS Ex 1:19
17:23 vS 2Sa 16:23 wS 2Ki 20:1
17:24 xS Ge 32:2
17:25 y2Sa 19:13; 20:4 z1Ki 2:5,32; 1Ch 12:18 a1Ch 2:13-17
17:27 bS 1Sa 11:1 cS Dt 3:11 d2Sa 9:4 e2Sa 19:31-39; 1Ki 2:7 f2Sa 19:31; Ezr 2:61
17:29 g1Ch 12:40 h2Sa 16:2; S Ro 12:13
18:2 pS Jdg 7:16; 1Sa 11:11 qS 1Sa 26:6 r2Sa 15:19
18:3 sS 1Sa 18:7 t2Sa 21:17
18:6 uS Jos 17:15
18:9 v2Sa 14:26
18:11 wS 2Sa 3:39 x1Sa 18:4

w20 Or *"They passed by the sheep pen toward the water."*
x25 Hebrew *Ithra*, a variant of *Jether*
y25 Hebrew and some Septuagint manuscripts; other Septuagint manuscripts (see also 1 Chron. 2:17) *Ishmaelite* or *Jezreelite*
z25 Hebrew *Abigal*, a variant of *Abigail*
a28 Most Septuagint manuscripts and Syriac; Hebrew *lentils, and roasted grain*
b3 Two Hebrew manuscripts, some Septuagint manuscripts and Vulgate; most Hebrew manuscripts *care; for now there are ten thousand like us*
c11 That is, about 4 ounces (about 115 grams)

thousand shekels[d] were weighed out
into my hands, I would not lift my
hand against the king's son. In our
hearing the king commanded you and
Abishai and Ittai, 'Protect the young
man Absalom for my sake.[e]
13 And if I
had put my life in jeopardy[f]—and
nothing is hidden from the king[a]—you
would have kept your distance from
me."
14 Joab[b] said, "I'm not going to wait
like this for you." So he took three
javelins in his hand and plunged them
into Absalom's heart while Absalom
was still alive in the oak tree.
15 And ten
of Joab's armor-bearers surrounded
Absalom, struck him and killed him.[c]
16 Then Joab[d] sounded the trumpet,
and the troops stopped pursuing Is-
rael, for Joab halted them.
17 They took
Absalom, threw him into a big pit in
the forest and piled up[e] a large heap of
rocks[f] over him. Meanwhile, all the Is-
raelites fled to their homes.
18 During his lifetime Absalom had
taken a pillar and erected it in the
King's Valley[g] as a monument[h] to
himself, for he thought, "I have no
son[i] to carry on the memory of my
name." He named the pillar after him-
self, and it is called Absalom's Monu-
ment to this day.

David Mourns

19 Now Ahimaaz[j] son of Zadok said,
"Let me run and take the news to the
king that the LORD has delivered him
from the hand of his enemies.[k]"
20 "You are not the one to take the
news today," Joab told him. "You may
take the news another time, but you
must not do so today, because the
king's son is dead."
21 Then Joab said to a Cushite, "Go,
tell the king what you have seen." The
Cushite bowed down before Joab and
ran off.
22 Ahimaaz son of Zadok again said to
Joab, "Come what may, please let me
run behind the Cushite."
But Joab replied, "My son, why do
you want to go? You don't have any
news that will bring you a reward."
23 He said, "Come what may, I want
to run."
So Joab said, "Run!" Then Ahimaaz
ran by way of the plain[g] and outran
the Cushite.
24 While David was sitting between
the inner and outer gates, the watch-
man[l] went up to the roof of the gate-
way by the wall. As he looked out, he
saw a man running alone.
25 The watch-
man called out to the king and reported
it.
The king said, "If he is alone, he
must have good news." And the man
came closer and closer.
26 Then the watchman saw another
man running, and he called down to
the gatekeeper, "Look, another man
running alone!"
The king said, "He must be bringing
good news,[m] too."
27 The watchman said, "It seems to
me that the first one runs like[n] Ahima-
az son of Zadok."
"He's a good man," the king said.
"He comes with good news."
28 Then Ahimaaz called out to the
king, "All is well!" He bowed down be-
fore the king with his face to the
ground and said, "Praise be to the LORD
your God! He has delivered up the
men who lifted their hands against my
lord the king."
29 The king asked, "Is the young man
Absalom safe?"
Ahimaaz answered, "I saw great
confusion just as Joab was about to
send the king's servant and me, your
servant, but I don't know what it was."
30 The king said, "Stand aside and
wait here." So he stepped aside and
stood there.
31 Then the Cushite arrived and said,
"My lord the king, hear the good news!
The LORD has delivered you today from
all who rose up against you."
32 The king asked the Cushite, "Is the
young man Absalom safe?"
The Cushite replied, "May the ene-
mies of my lord the king and all who
rise up to harm you be like that young
man."[o]
33 The king was shaken. He went up
to the room over the gateway and
wept. As he went, he said: "O my son
Absalom! My son, my son Absalom! If
only I had died[p] instead of you—O Ab-
salom, my son, my son!"[q]

19 Joab was told, "The king is
weeping and mourning for Ab-
salom."
2 And for the whole army the
victory that day was turned into
mourning, because on that day the
troops heard it said, "The king is griev-
ing for his son."
3 The men stole into

18:13 [a]2Sa 14:19-20 **18:14** [b]S 2Sa 2:18 **18:15** [c]S 2Sa 12:10 **18:16** [d]S 2Sa 2:28 **18:17** [e]Jos 7:26 [f]Jos 8:29 **18:18** [g]Ge 14:17 [h]S Ge 50:5; S Nu 32:42 [i]2Sa 14:27 **18:19** [j]S 2Sa 15:36 [k]Jdg 11:36 **18:24** [l]S 1Sa 14:16; S Jer 51:12 **18:26** [m]1Ki 1:42; Isa 52:7; 61:1 **18:27** [n]2Ki 9:20 **18:32** [o]Jdg 5:31; S 1Sa 25:26 **18:33** [p]Ex 32:32 [q]S Ge 43:14; 2Sa 19:4

[d]12 That is, about 25 pounds (about 11 kilograms)
[e]12 A few Hebrew manuscripts, Septuagint, Vulgate and Syriac; most Hebrew manuscripts may be translated *Absalom, whoever you may be.*
[f]13 Or *Otherwise, if I had acted treacherously toward him*
[g]23 That is, the plain of the Jordan

the city that day as men steal in who
are ashamed when they flee from bat-
tle. 4The king covered his face and
cried aloud, "O my son Absalom! O
Absalom, my son, my son!"
5Then Joab went into the house to
the king and said, "Today you have
humiliated all your men, who have just
saved your life and the lives of your
sons and daughters and the lives of
your wives and concubines. 6You love
those who hate you and hate those
who love you. You have made it clear
today that the commanders and their
men mean nothing to you. I see that
you would be pleased if Absalom were
alive today and all of us were dead.
7Now go out and encourage your men.
I swear by the LORD that if you don't go
out, not a man will be left with you by
nightfall. This will be worse for you
than all the calamities that have come
upon you from your youth till now."[a]
8So the king got up and took his seat
in the gateway. When the men were
told, "The king is sitting in the gate-
way,[b]" they all came before him.

David Returns to Jerusalem

Meanwhile, the Israelites had fled to
their homes. 9Throughout the tribes of
Israel, the people were all arguing with
each other, saying, "The king delivered
us from the hand of our enemies; he is
the one who rescued us from the hand
of the Philistines.[c] But now he has fled
the country because of Absalom;[d]
10and Absalom, whom we anointed to
rule over us, has died in battle. So why
do you say nothing about bringing the
king back?"
11King David sent this message to
Zadok[e] and Abiathar, the priests: "Ask
the elders of Judah, 'Why should you
be the last to bring the king back to his
palace, since what is being said
throughout Israel has reached the king
at his quarters? 12You are my brothers,
my own flesh and blood. So why
should you be the last to bring back the
king?' 13And say to Amasa,[f] 'Are you
not my own flesh and blood?[g] May
God deal with me, be it ever so severe-
ly,[h] if from now on you are not the
commander of my army in place of
Joab.[i]' "
14He won over the hearts of all the
men of Judah as though they were one
man. They sent word to the king, "Re-
turn, you and all your men." 15Then
the king returned and went as far as
the Jordan.

19:7 [a]Pr 14:28
19:8 [b]S 2Sa 15:2
19:9 [c]2Sa 8:1-14
[d]2Sa 15:14
19:11
[e]S 2Sa 15:24
19:13
[f]S 2Sa 17:25
[g]S Ge 29:14
[h]S Ru 1:17
[i]S 2Sa 2:13

19:15
[j]S 1Sa 11:15
19:16
[k]2Sa 16:5-13
19:17 [l]S 2Sa 9:2
[m]S Ge 43:16
19:19
[n]S 2Sa 16:6-8
19:21
[o]S 1Sa 26:6
[p]S Ex 22:28
[q]S 1Sa 12:3;
S 26:9
19:22
[r]S 2Sa 2:18;
S 16:10
[s]1Sa 11:13
19:23 [t]1Ki 2:8,
42
19:24 [u]S 2Sa 4:4
19:25
[v]2Sa 16:17
19:26
[w]S Lev 21:18
[x]S 2Sa 9:2
19:27
[y]S 1Sa 29:9
19:28
[z]S 2Sa 16:8
[a]S 2Sa 9:7,13

Now the men of Judah had come to
Gilgal[j] to go out and meet the king
and bring him across the Jordan.
16Shimei[k] son of Gera, the Benjamite
from Bahurim, hurried down with the
men of Judah to meet King David.
17With him were a thousand Benja-
mites, along with Ziba,[l] the steward of
Saul's household,[m] and his fifteen sons
and twenty servants. They rushed to
the Jordan, where the king was. 18They
crossed at the ford to take the king's
household over and to do whatever he
wished.
When Shimei son of Gera crossed the
Jordan, he fell prostrate before the king
19and said to him, "May my lord not
hold me guilty. Do not remember how
your servant did wrong on the day my
lord the king left Jerusalem.[n] May the
king put it out of his mind. 20For I your
servant know that I have sinned, but
today I have come here as the first of
the whole house of Joseph to come
down and meet my lord the king."
21Then Abishai[o] son of Zeruiah said,
"Shouldn't Shimei be put to death for
this? He cursed[p] the LORD's anoint-
ed."[q]
22David replied, "What do you and I
have in common, you sons of Zeru-
iah?[r] This day you have become my
adversaries! Should anyone be put to
death in Israel today?[s] Do I not know
that today I am king over Israel?" 23So
the king said to Shimei, "You shall not
die." And the king promised him on
oath.[t]
24Mephibosheth,[u] Saul's grandson,
also went down to meet the king. He
had not taken care of his feet or
trimmed his mustache or washed his
clothes from the day the king left until
the day he returned safely. 25When he
came from Jerusalem to meet the king,
the king asked him, "Why didn't you
go with me,[v] Mephibosheth?"
26He said, "My lord the king, since I
your servant am lame,[w] I said, 'I will
have my donkey saddled and will ride
on it, so I can go with the king.' But
Ziba[x] my servant betrayed me. 27And
he has slandered your servant to my
lord the king. My lord the king is like
an angel[y] of God; so do whatever
pleases you. 28All my grandfather's de-
scendants deserved nothing but
death[z] from my lord the king, but you
gave your servant a place among those
who sat at your table.[a] So what right
do I have to make any more appeals to
the king?"

29The king said to him, "Why say
more? I order you and Ziba to divide
the fields."
30Mephibosheth said to the king,
"Let him take everything, now that my
lord the king has arrived home safely."
31Barzillai[a] the Gileadite also came
down from Rogelim to cross the Jordan
with the king and to send him on his
way from there. 32Now Barzillai was a
very old man, eighty years of age. He
had provided for the king during his
stay in Mahanaim, for he was a very
wealthy[b] man. 33The king said to Bar-
zillai, "Cross over with me and stay
with me in Jerusalem, and I will pro-
vide for you."
34But Barzillai answered the king,
"How many more years will I live, that
I should go up to Jerusalem with the
king? 35I am now eighty[c] years old.
Can I tell the difference between what
is good and what is not? Can your ser-
vant taste what he eats and drinks?
Can I still hear the voices of men and
women singers?[d] Why should your
servant be an added[e] burden to my
lord the king? 36Your servant will cross
over the Jordan with the king for a
short distance, but why should the
king reward me in this way? 37Let your
servant return, that I may die in my
own town near the tomb of my father[f]
and mother. But here is your servant
Kimham.[g] Let him cross over with my
lord the king. Do for him whatever
pleases you."
38The king said, "Kimham shall cross
over with me, and I will do for him
whatever pleases you. And anything
you desire from me I will do for you."
39So all the people crossed the Jor-
dan, and then the king crossed over.
The king kissed Barzillai and gave him
his blessing,[h] and Barzillai returned to
his home.
40When the king crossed over to Gil-
gal, Kimham crossed with him. All the
troops of Judah and half the troops of
Israel had taken the king over.
41Soon all the men of Israel were
coming to the king and saying to him,
"Why did our brothers, the men of
Judah, steal the king away and bring
him and his household across the Jor-
dan, together with all his men?"[i]
42All the men of Judah answered the
men of Israel, "We did this because the
king is closely related to us. Why are
you angry about it? Have we eaten any
of the king's provisions? Have we tak-
en anything for ourselves?"

19:31 [a] S 2Sa 17:27-29; 1Ki 2:7
19:32 [b] 1Sa 25:2
19:35 [c] Ps 90:10 [d] 2Ch 35:25; Ezr 2:65; Ecc 2:8; Isa 5:11-12 [e] 2Sa 15:33
19:37 [f] S Ge 49:29 [g] 1Ki 2:7
19:39 [h] S Ge 47:7
19:41 [i] Jdg 8:1; 12:1
19:43 [j] S 2Sa 5:1
20:1 [k] S Ge 31:14 [l] S Ge 29:14; 1Ki 12:16 [m] 1Sa 22:7-8
20:3 [n] S 2Sa 15:16
20:4 [o] S 2Sa 17:25
20:6 [p] 2Sa 21:17
20:7 [q] S 1Sa 30:14; S 2Sa 15:18
20:8 [r] S Jos 9:3 [s] S 2Sa 2:18
20:10 [t] S Jdg 3:21 [u] 1Ki 2:5

43Then the men of Israel[j] answered
the men of Judah, "We have ten shares
in the king; and besides, we have a
greater claim on David than you have.
So why do you treat us with contempt?
Were we not the first to speak of bring-
ing back our king?"
But the men of Judah responded
even more harshly than the men of Is-
rael.

Sheba Rebels Against David

20 Now a troublemaker named
Sheba son of Bicri, a Benjamite,
happened to be there. He sounded the
trumpet and shouted,

"We have no share[k] in David,[l]
no part in Jesse's son![m]
Every man to his tent, O Israel!"

2So all the men of Israel deserted Da-
vid to follow Sheba son of Bicri. But the
men of Judah stayed by their king all
the way from the Jordan to Jerusalem.
3When David returned to his palace
in Jerusalem, he took the ten concu-
bines[n] he had left to take care of the
palace and put them in a house under
guard. He provided for them, but did
not lie with them. They were kept in
confinement till the day of their death,
living as widows.
4Then the king said to Amasa,[o]
"Summon the men of Judah to come to
me within three days, and be here
yourself." 5But when Amasa went to
summon Judah, he took longer than
the time the king had set for him.
6David said to Abishai,[p] "Now
Sheba son of Bicri will do us more harm
than Absalom did. Take your master's
men and pursue him, or he will find
fortified cities and escape from us." 7So
Joab's men and the Kerethites[q] and
Pelethites and all the mighty warriors
went out under the command of Abish-
ai. They marched out from Jerusalem to
pursue Sheba son of Bicri.
8While they were at the great rock in
Gibeon,[r] Amasa came to meet them.
Joab[s] was wearing his military tunic,
and strapped over it at his waist was a
belt with a dagger in its sheath. As he
stepped forward, it dropped out of its
sheath.
9Joab said to Amasa, "How are you,
my brother?" Then Joab took Amasa by
the beard with his right hand to kiss
him. 10Amasa was not on his guard
against the dagger[t] in Joab[u]'s hand,
and Joab plunged it into his belly, and
his intestines spilled out on the

ground. Without being stabbed again,
Amasa died. Then Joab and his brother
Abishai pursued Sheba son of Bicri.
11One of Joab's men stood beside
Amasa and said, "Whoever favors
Joab, and whoever is for David, let him
follow Joab!" 12Amasa lay wallowing in
his blood in the middle of the road, and
the man saw that all the troops came to
a halt there. When he realized that
everyone who came up to Amasa
stopped, he dragged him from the road
into a field and threw a garment over
him. 13After Amasa had been removed
from the road, all the men went on
with Joab to pursue Sheba son of Bicri.
14Sheba passed through all the tribes
of Israel to Abel Beth Maacah[a] and
through the entire region of the Be-
rites, who gathered together and fol-
lowed him. 15All the troops with Joab
came and besieged Sheba in Abel Beth
Maacah. They built a siege ramp up
to the city, and it stood against the out-
er fortifications. While they were bat-
tering the wall to bring it down, 16a
wise woman called from the city,
"Listen! Listen! Tell Joab to come here
so I can speak to him." 17He went
toward her, and she asked, "Are you
Joab?"

"I am," he answered.

She said, "Listen to what your ser-
vant has to say."

"I'm listening," he said.

18She continued, "Long ago they
used to say, 'Get your answer at Abel,'
and that settled it. 19We are the peace-
ful and faithful in Israel. You are try-
ing to destroy a city that is a mother in
Israel. Why do you want to swallow up
the LORD's inheritance?"

20"Far be it from me!" Joab replied,
"Far be it from me to swallow up or
destroy! 21That is not the case. A man
named Sheba son of Bicri, from the hill
country of Ephraim, has lifted up his
hand against the king, against David.
Hand over this one man, and I'll with-
draw from the city."

The woman said to Joab, "His head
will be thrown to you from the wall."

22Then the woman went to all the
people with her wise advice, and they
cut off the head of Sheba son of Bicri
and threw it to Joab. So he sounded the
trumpet, and his men dispersed from
the city, each returning to his home.
And Joab went back to the king in
Jerusalem.

23Joab was over Israel's entire army;
Benaiah son of Jehoiada was over the
Kerethites and Pelethites; 24Adoni-
ram[b] was in charge of forced labor;
Jehoshaphat son of Ahilud was
recorder; 25Sheva was secretary;
Zadok and Abiathar were priests;
26and Ira the Jairite was David's priest.

The Gibeonites Avenged

21 During the reign of David, there
was a famine for three succes-
sive years; so David sought the face of
the LORD. The LORD said, "It is on ac-
count of Saul and his blood-stained
house; it is because he put the Gibeon-
ites to death."

2The king summoned the Gibeon-
ites and spoke to them. (Now the Gib-
eonites were not a part of Israel but
were survivors of the Amorites; the Is-
raelites had sworn to spare them, but
Saul in his zeal for Israel and Judah had
tried to annihilate them.) 3David asked
the Gibeonites, "What shall I do for
you? How shall I make amends so that
you will bless the LORD's inheritance?"

4The Gibeonites answered him, "We
have no right to demand silver or gold
from Saul or his family, nor do we have
the right to put anyone in Israel to
death."

"What do you want me to do for
you?" David asked.

5They answered the king, "As for the
man who destroyed us and plotted
against us so that we have been deci-
mated and have no place anywhere in
Israel, 6let seven of his male descend-
ants be given to us to be killed and ex-
posed before the LORD at Gibeah of
Saul—the LORD's chosen one."

So the king said, "I will give them to
you."

7The king spared Mephibosheth
son of Jonathan, the son of Saul, be-
cause of the oath before the LORD be-
tween David and Jonathan son of Saul.
8But the king took Armoni and Me-
phibosheth, the two sons of Aiah's
daughter Rizpah, whom she had
borne to Saul, together with the five
sons of Saul's daughter Merab,[c] whom
she had borne to Adriel son of Barzillai
the Meholathite. 9He handed them
over to the Gibeonites, who killed and
exposed them on a hill before the LORD.
All seven of them fell together; they

20:12 [illegible]
20:14 Nu 21:16
20:15 [illegible]
20:16 2Sa 14:2
20:19 [illegible]
20:21 [illegible]
20:22 Ecc 9:15
20:23 2Sa 2:28; 8:16-18; 23:2
20:24 1Ki 4:6; 5:14; 12:18; 2Ch 10:18; 2Sa 8:16
20:25 1Sa 2:35; 2Sa 8:17
21:1 Ge 12:10; Dt 32:24; Ex 32:11
21:2 Jos 9:15
21:3 1Sa 26:19
21:4 Nu 35:33-34
21:6 Nu 25:4; 1Sa 10:24
21:7 2Sa 4:4; 1Sa 18:3; 2Sa 9:7
21:8 2Sa 3:7; 1Sa 18:19

a14 *Or Abel, even Beth Maacah;* also in verse 15
b24 Some Septuagint manuscripts (see also 1 Kings 4:6 and 5:14); Hebrew *Adoram*
c8 Two Hebrew manuscripts, some Septuagint manuscripts and Syriac (see also 1 Samuel 18:19); most Hebrew and Septuagint manuscripts *Michal*

were put to death[a] during the first
days of the harvest, just as the barley
harvest was beginning.[b]
10 Rizpah daughter of Aiah took sack-
cloth and spread it out for herself on a
rock. From the beginning of the harvest
till the rain poured down from the
heavens on the bodies, she did not let
the birds of the air touch them by day
or the wild animals by night.[c] 11 When
David was told what Aiah's daughter
Rizpah, Saul's concubine, had done,
12 he went and took the bones of Saul[d]
and his son Jonathan from the citizens
of Jabesh Gilead.[e] (They had taken
them secretly from the public square at
Beth Shan,[f] where the Philistines had
hung[g] them after they struck Saul
down on Gilboa.)[h] 13 David brought the
bones of Saul and his son Jonathan
from there, and the bones of those who
had been killed and exposed were
gathered up.
14 They buried the bones of Saul and
his son Jonathan in the tomb of Saul's
father Kish, at Zela[i] in Benjamin, and
did everything the king commanded.
After that,[j] God answered prayer[k] in
behalf of the land.[l]

Wars Against the Philistines

21:15-22pp — 1Ch 20:4-8

15 Once again there was a battle be-
tween the Philistines[m] and Israel. Da-
vid went down with his men to fight
against the Philistines, and he became
exhausted. 16 And Ishbi-Benob, one of
the descendants of Rapha, whose
bronze spearhead weighed three hun-
dred shekels[k] and who was armed
with a new ⌞sword⌟, said he would kill
David. 17 But Abishai[n] son of Zeruiah
came to David's rescue; he struck the
Philistine down and killed him. Then
David's men swore to him, saying,
"Never again will you go out with us to
battle, so that the lamp[o] of Israel will
not be extinguished.[p]"
18 In the course of time, there was an-
other battle with the Philistines, at
Gob. At that time Sibbecai[q] the Hu-
shathite killed Saph, one of the de-
scendants of Rapha.
19 In another battle with the Philis-
tines at Gob, Elhanan son of Jaare-
Oregim[l] the Bethlehemite killed
Goliath[m] the Gittite,[r] who had a spear
with a shaft like a weaver's rod.[s]
20 In still another battle, which took
place at Gath, there was a huge man
with six fingers on each hand and six
toes on each foot—twenty-four in all.
He also was descended from Rapha.
21 When he taunted[t] Israel, Jonathan
son of Shimeah,[u] David's brother,
killed him.
22 These four were descendants of
Rapha in Gath, and they fell at the
hands of David and his men.

David's Song of Praise

22:1-51pp — Ps 18:1-50

22 David sang[v] to the LORD the words of this song when the LORD delivered him from the hand of all his enemies and from the hand of Saul.
2 He said:

"The LORD is my rock,[w] my fortress[x]
and my deliverer;[y]
3 my God is my rock, in whom I
take refuge,[z]
my shield[a] and the horn[n][b] of my
salvation.
He is my stronghold,[c] my refuge
and my savior—
from violent men you save me.
4 I call to the LORD, who is worthy[d] of
praise,
and I am saved from my enemies.

5 "The waves[e] of death swirled
about me;
the torrents of destruction
overwhelmed me.
6 The cords of the grave[o][f] coiled
around me;
the snares of death confronted me.
7 In my distress[g] I called[h] to the LORD;
I called out to my God.
From his temple he heard my voice;
my cry came to his ears.
8 "The earth[i] trembled and quaked,[j]
the foundations[k] of the heavens[p]
shook;
they trembled because he was
angry.
9 Smoke rose from his nostrils;
consuming fire[l] came from his
mouth,
burning coals[m] blazed out of it.
10 He parted the heavens and came
down;
dark clouds[n] were under his feet.
11 He mounted the cherubim[o] and
flew;

21:9 [a]S 2Sa 16:8 [b]S Ru 1:22
21:10 [c]S Ge 40:19; S 1Sa 17:44
21:12 [d]1Sa 31:11-13 [e]S Jdg 21:8; S 1Sa 11:1 [f]S Jos 17:11 [g]1Sa 31:10 [h]S 1Sa 28:4
21:14 [i]Jos 18:28 [j]Jos 7:26 [k]2Sa 24:25 [l]1Ch 8:34
21:15 [m]S 2Sa 5:25
21:17 [n]2Sa 20:6 [o]1Ki 11:36; 15:4; 2Ki 8:19; 2Ch 21:7; Ps 132:17 [p]2Sa 18:3
21:18 [q]1Ch 11:29; 27:11
21:19 [r]S 1Sa 17:4 [s]S 1Sa 17:7
21:21 [t]S 1Sa 17:10 [u]S 1Sa 16:9
22:1 [v]S Ex 15:1
22:2 [w]S 1Sa 2:2 [x]Ps 31:3; 91:2 [y]Ps 144:2
22:3 [z]S Dt 23:15; S 32:37; Ps 14:6; 31:2; 59:16; 71:7; 91:2; 94:22; Pr 10:29; Isa 25:4; Jer 16:19; Joel 3:16 [a]S Ge 15:1 [b]S Dt 33:17; S Lk 1:69 [c]Ps 9:9; 52:7
22:4 [d]Ps 48:1; 96:4; 145:3
22:5 [e]Ps 69:14-15; Jnh 2:3
22:6 [f]Ps 116:3; Ac 2:24
22:7 [g]Ge 35:3; S Jdg 2:15; 2Ch 15:4; Ps 4:1; 77:2; 120:1; Isa 26:16 [h]Ps 34:6,15; 116:4
22:8 [i]Jdg 5:4; Ps 97:4 [j]S Ex 19:18; S Jdg 5:4; Ps 68:8; 77:18; Jer 10:10 [k]Job 9:6; 26:11; Ps 75:3
22:9 [l]Ps 50:3; 97:3; Heb 12:29; S Rev 11:5 [m]Isa 6:6; Eze 1:13; 10:2
22:10 [n]S Ex 19:9; Lev 16:2; S Dt 33:26; 1Ki 8:12; Job 26:9; Ps 104:3; Isa 19:1; Jer 4:13; Na 1:3
22:11 [o]S Ge 3:24; S Ex 25:22

[k]16 That is, about 7 1/2 pounds (about 3.5 kilograms) [l]19 Or *son of Jair the weaver* [m]19 Hebrew and Septuagint 1 Chron. 20:5 *son of Jair killed Lahmi the brother of Goliath* [n]3 *Horn* here symbolizes strength. [o]6 Hebrew *Sheol* [p]8 Hebrew; Vulgate and Syriac (see also Psalm 18:7) *mountains*

he soared[q] on the wings of the
wind.[a]
12He made darkness[b] his canopy
around him—
the dark[r] rain clouds of the sky.
13Out of the brightness of his presence
bolts of lightning[c] blazed forth.
14The LORD thundered[d] from heaven;
the voice of the Most High
resounded.
15He shot arrows[e] and scattered ⌊the
enemies⌋,
bolts of lightning and routed
them.
16The valleys of the sea were exposed
and the foundations of the earth
laid bare
at the rebuke[f] of the LORD,
at the blast[g] of breath from his
nostrils.

17"He reached down from on high[h]
and took hold of me;
he drew[i] me out of deep waters.
18He rescued[j] me from my powerful
enemy,
from my foes, who were too
strong for me.
19They confronted me in the day of
my disaster,
but the LORD was my support.[k]
20He brought me out into a spacious[l]
place;
he rescued[m] me because he
delighted[n] in me.[o]

21"The LORD has dealt with me
according to my
righteousness;[p]
according to the cleanness[q] of my
hands[r] he has rewarded me.
22For I have kept[s] the ways of the
LORD;
I have not done evil by turning
from my God.
23All his laws are before me;[t]
I have not turned[u] away from his
decrees.
24I have been blameless[v] before him
and have kept myself from sin.
25The LORD has rewarded me according
to my righteousness,[w]
according to my cleanness[s] in his
sight.

26"To the faithful you show yourself
faithful,
to the blameless you show
yourself blameless,
27to the pure[x] you show yourself
pure,
but to the crooked you show
yourself shrewd.[y]
28You save the humble,[z]
but your eyes are on the haughty[a]
to bring them low.[b]
29You are my lamp,[c] O LORD;
the LORD turns my darkness into
light.
30With your help I can advance against
a troop[t];
with my God I can scale a wall.

31"As for God, his way is perfect;[d]
the word of the LORD is flawless.[e]
He is a shield[f]
for all who take refuge in him.
32For who is God besides the LORD?
And who is the Rock[g] except our
God?[h]
33It is God who arms me with
strength[u]
and makes my way perfect.
34He makes my feet like the feet of a
deer;[i]
he enables me to stand on the
heights.[j]
35He trains my hands[k] for battle;
my arms can bend a bow[l] of
bronze.
36You give me your shield[m] of victory;
you stoop down to make me great.
37You broaden the path[n] beneath me,
so that my ankles do not turn.

38"I pursued my enemies and crushed
them;
I did not turn back till they were
destroyed.
39I crushed[o] them completely, and
they could not rise;
they fell beneath my feet.
40You armed me with strength for
battle;
you made my adversaries bow at
my feet.[p]
41You made my enemies turn their
backs[q] in flight,
and I destroyed my foes.
42They cried for help,[r] but there was
no one to save them—[s]
to the LORD, but he did not
answer.[t]
43I beat them as fine as the dust[u] of
the earth;
I pounded and trampled[v] them
like mud[w] in the streets.

22:11 [a]Ps 104:3 **22:12** [b]S Ex 19:9 **22:13** [c]Job 37:3; Ps 77:18 **22:14** [d]S 1Sa 2:10 **22:15** [e]S Dt 32:23 **22:16** [f]Ps 6:1; 50:8,21; 106:9; Na 1:4 [g]S Ex 14:21; Isa 30:33; 40:24 **22:17** [h]Ps 144:7 [i]Ex 2:10 **22:18** [j]Lk 1:71 **22:19** [k]Ps 23:4 **22:20** [l]Job 36:16; Ps 31:8 [m]Ps 118:5 [n]Ps 22:8; Isa 42:1; Mt 12:18 [o]S 2Sa 15:26 **22:21** [p]S 1Sa 26:23 [q]Ps 26:6 [r]Job 17:9; 22:30; 42:7-8; Ps 24:4 **22:22** [s]Ge 18:19; Ps 128:1; Pr 8:32 **22:23** [t]Dt 6:4-9; Ps 119:30-32 [u]Ps 119:102 **22:24** [v]S Ge 6:9; Eph 1:4 **22:25** [w]S 1Sa 26:23 **22:27** [x]Mt 5:8 [y]Lev 26:23-24 **22:28** [z]S Ex 3:8; 1Sa 2:8-9; Ps 72:12-13 [a]Ps 131:1; Pr 30:13; Da 4:31; Zep 3:11 [b]Isa 2:12,17; 5:15; S Lk 1:51 **22:29** [c]Ps 27:1; Isa 2:5; Mic 7:8; Rev 21:23; 22:5 **22:31** [d]S Dt 32:4; Mt 5:48 [e]Ps 12:6; 119:140; Pr 30:5-6 [f]S Ge 15:1 **22:32** [g]S 1Sa 2:2 [h]S 2Sa 7:22 **22:34** [i]Isa 35:6; Hab 3:19 [j]S Dt 32:13 **22:35** [k]Ps 144:1 [l]Ps 7:12; 11:2; Zec 9:13 **22:36** [m]Eph 6:16 **22:37** [n]Pr 4:11 **22:39** [o]Ps 44:5; 110:6; Mal 4:3 **22:40** [p]S Jos 10:24; S 1Ki 5:3 **22:41** [q]S Ex 23:27 **22:42** [r]Isa 1:15 [s]Ps 50:22 [t]S 1Sa 14:37 **22:43** [u]1Ki 20:10; 2Ki 13:7; Isa 41:2; Am 1:3 [v]Ps 7:5; Isa 41:25; Mic 7:10; Zec 10:5 [w]Isa 5:25; 10:6; 22:5; Mic 7:10

[q]*11* Many Hebrew manuscripts (see also Psalm 18:10); most Hebrew manuscripts *appeared* [r]*12* Septuagint and Vulgate (see also Psalm 18:11); Hebrew *massed* [s]*25* Hebrew; Septuagint and Vulgate (see also Psalm 18:24) *to the cleanness of my hands* [t]*30* Or *can run through a barricade* [u]*33* Dead Sea Scrolls, some Septuagint manuscripts, Vulgate and Syriac (see also Psalm 18:32); Masoretic Text *who is my strong refuge*

44 "You have delivered[a] me from the
attacks of my people;
you have preserved[b] me as the
head of nations.
People[c] I did not know are subject
to me,
45 and foreigners come cringing[d]
to me;
as soon as they hear me, they
obey me.[e]
46 They all lose heart;
they come trembling[v][f] from their
strongholds.

47 "The LORD lives! Praise be to my
Rock!
Exalted[g] be God, the Rock, my
Savior![h]
48 He is the God who avenges[i] me,[j]
who puts the nations under me,
49 who sets me free from my
enemies.[k]
You exalted me[l] above my foes;
from violent men you rescued me.
50 Therefore I will praise you, O LORD,
among the nations;
I will sing praises[m] to your name.[n]
51 He gives his king great victories;[o]
he shows unfailing kindness to his
anointed,[p]
to David[q] and his descendants
forever."[r]

The Last Words of David

23 These are the last words of David:

"The oracle of David son of Jesse,
the oracle of the man exalted[s] by
the Most High,
the man anointed[t] by the God of
Jacob,
Israel's singer of songs[w]:

2 "The Spirit[u] of the LORD spoke
through me;
his word was on my tongue.
3 The God of Israel spoke,
the Rock[v] of Israel said to me:
'When one rules over men in
righteousness,[w]
when he rules in the fear[x] of
God,[y]
4 he is like the light[z] of morning[a] at
sunrise[b]
on a cloudless morning,
like the brightness after rain[c]
that brings the grass from the
earth.'

5 "Is not my house right with God?
Has he not made with me an
everlasting covenant,[d]
arranged and secured in every
part?
Will he not bring to fruition my
salvation
and grant me my every desire?
6 But evil men are all to be cast aside
like thorns,[e]
which are not gathered with the
hand.
7 Whoever touches thorns
uses a tool of iron or the shaft of a
spear;
they are burned up where they
lie."

David's Mighty Men

23:8-39pp — 1Ch 11:10-41

8 These are the names of David's
mighty men:[f]
Josheb-Basshebeth,[x][g] a Tahkemonite,[y] was chief of the Three; he raised
his spear against eight hundred men,
whom he killed[z] in one encounter.
9 Next to him was Eleazar son of
Dodai[h] the Ahohite.[i] As one of the
three mighty men, he was with David
when they taunted the Philistines gathered ⌞at Pas Dammim⌟[a] for battle. Then
the men of Israel retreated,
10 but he
stood his ground and struck down the
Philistines till his hand grew tired and
froze to the sword. The LORD brought
about a great victory that day. The
troops returned to Eleazar, but only to
strip the dead.
11 Next to him was Shammah son of
Agee the Hararite. When the Philistines banded together at a place where
there was a field full of lentils, Israel's
troops fled from them.
12 But Shammah
took his stand in the middle of the
field. He defended it and struck the
Philistines down, and the LORD brought
about a great victory.
13 During harvest time, three of the
thirty chief men came down to David at
the cave of Adullam,[j] while a band of
Philistines was encamped in the Valley
of Rephaim.[k]
14 At that time David was
in the stronghold,[l] and the Philistine
garrison was at Bethlehem.[m]
15 David
longed for water and said, "Oh, that
someone would get me a drink of

22:44 [a]S Ex 11:3; S 2Sa 3:1 [b]Dt 28:13 [c]S 2Sa 8:1-14; Isa 55:3-5 **22:45** [d]Ps 66:3; 81:15 [e]S Dt 33:29 **22:46** [f]Mic 7:17 **22:47** [g]S Ex 15:2 [h]Dt 32:15; Ps 18:31; 89:26; 95:1 **22:48** [i]S Nu 31:3 [j]Ps 144:2 **22:49** [k]Ps 140:1, 4 [l]Ps 27:6 **22:50** [m]Ps 9:11; 47:6; 68:4 [n]Ro 15:9* **22:51** [o]Ps 21:1; 144:9-10 [p]1Sa 16:13; Ps 89:20; Ac 13:23 [q]S 2Sa 7:13 [r]Ps 89:24,29 **23:1** [s]S Ex 11:3; Ps 78:70-71; 89:27 [t]1Sa 2:10, 35; Ps 18:50; 20:6; 84:9; Isa 45:1; Hab 3:13 **23:2** [u]Mt 22:43; Mk 12:36; 2Pe 1:21 **23:3** [v]Dt 32:4; S 1Sa 2:2; Ps 18:31 [w]Ps 72:3 [x]S Ge 42:18 [y]Isa 11:1-5 **23:4** [z]Jn 1:5 [a]Ps 119:147; 130:6; Pr 4:18 [b]S Jdg 5:31; Mt 13:43 [c]S Dt 32:2 **23:5** [d]S Ge 9:16; Ps 89:29 **23:6** [e]Isa 5:6; 9:18; 10:17; 27:4; 33:12; Mic 7:4; Na 1:10; Mt 13:40-41 **23:8** [f]S 2Sa 17:10 [g]1Ch 27:2 **23:9** [h]1Ch 27:4 [i]1Ch 8:4 **23:13** [j]S Ge 38:1; S Jos 12:15 [k]S Jos 17:15 **23:14** [l]1Sa 22:4-5; S 2Sa 5:17 [m]Ru 1:19

[v]46 Some Septuagint manuscripts and Vulgate (see also Psalm 18:45); Masoretic Text *they arm themselves.* [w]1 Or *Israel's beloved singer* [x]8 Hebrew; some Septuagint manuscripts suggest *Ish-Bosheth,* that is, *Esh-Baal* (see also 1 Chron. 11:11 *Jashobeam*). [y]8 Probably a variant of *Hacmonite* (see 1 Chron. 11:11) [z]8 Some Septuagint manuscripts (see also 1 Chron. 11:11); Hebrew and other Septuagint manuscripts *Three; it was Adino the Eznite who killed eight hundred men* [a]9 See 1 Chron. 11:13; Hebrew *gathered there.*

water from the well near the gate of
Bethlehem!" 16So the three mighty men
broke through the Philistine lines,
drew water from the well near the gate
of Bethlehem and carried it back to David. But he refused to drink it; instead,
he poured[a] it out before the LORD.
17"Far be it from me, O LORD, to do
this!" he said. "Is it not the blood[b] of
men who went at the risk of their
lives?" And David would not drink it.

Such were the exploits of the three mighty men.

18Abishai[c] the brother of Joab son of
Zeruiah was chief of the Three.[b] He
raised his spear against three hundred
men, whom he killed, and so he
became as famous as the Three. 19Was
he not held in greater honor than the
Three? He became their commander,
even though he was not included
among them.

20Benaiah[d] son of Jehoiada was a valiant fighter from Kabzeel,[e] who performed great exploits. He struck down
two of Moab's best men. He also went
down into a pit on a snowy day and
killed a lion. 21And he struck down a
huge Egyptian. Although the Egyptian
had a spear in his hand, Benaiah went
against him with a club. He snatched
the spear from the Egyptian's hand and
killed him with his own spear. 22Such
were the exploits of Benaiah son of Jehoiada; he too was as famous as the
three mighty men. 23He was held in
greater honor than any of the Thirty,
but he was not included among the
Three. And David put him in charge of
his bodyguard.

24Among the Thirty were:
Asahel[f] the brother of Joab,
Elhanan son of Dodo from Bethlehem,
25Shammah the Harodite,[g]
Elika the Harodite,
26Helez[h] the Paltite,
Ira[i] son of Ikkesh from Tekoa,
27Abiezer[j] from Anathoth,[k]
Mebunnai[c] the Hushathite,
28Zalmon the Ahohite,
Maharai[l] the Netophathite,[m]
29Heled[d][n] son of Baanah the Netophathite,
Ithai son of Ribai from Gibeah[o] in Benjamin,
30Benaiah the Pirathonite,[p]
Hiddai[e] from the ravines of Gaash,[q]
31Abi-Albon the Arbathite,
Azmaveth the Barhumite,[r]
32Eliahba the Shaalbonite,
the sons of Jashen,
Jonathan 33son of[f] Shammah the Hararite,
Ahiam son of Sharar[g] the Hararite,
34Eliphelet son of Ahasbai the Maacathite,[s]
Eliam[t] son of Ahithophel[u] the Gilonite,
35Hezro the Carmelite,[v]
Paarai the Arbite,
36Igal son of Nathan from Zobah,[w]
the son of Hagri,[h]
37Zelek the Ammonite,
Naharai the Beerothite,[x] the armor-bearer of Joab son of Zeruiah,
38Ira the Ithrite,[y]
Gareb the Ithrite
39and Uriah[z] the Hittite.
There were thirty-seven in all.

David Counts the Fighting Men

24:1-17pp — 1Ch 21:1-17

24 Again[a] the anger of the LORD
burned against Israel,[b] and he
incited David against them, saying,
"Go and take a census of[c] Israel and
Judah."

2So the king said to Joab[d] and the
army commanders[i] with him, "Go
throughout the tribes of Israel from
Dan to Beersheba[e] and enroll[f] the
fighting men, so that I may know how
many there are."

3But Joab[g] replied to the king, "May
the LORD your God multiply the troops
a hundred times over,[h] and may the
eyes of my lord the king see it. But why
does my lord the king want to do such
a thing?"

4The king's word, however, overruled Joab and the army commanders;
so they left the presence of the king to
enroll the fighting men of Israel.

5After crossing the Jordan, they
camped near Aroer,[i] south of the town
in the gorge, and then went through
Gad and on to Jazer.[j] 6They went to
Gilead and the region of Tahtim Hod-

23:16 [a]S Ge 35:14
23:17 [b]Lev 17:10-12
23:18 [c]S 1Sa 26:6
23:20 [d]S 2Sa 8:18; 1Ch 27:5 [e]Jos 15:21
23:24 [f]S 2Sa 2:18
23:25 [g]Jdg 7:1
23:26 [h]1Ch 27:10 [i]1Ch 27:9
23:27 [j]1Ch 27:12 [k]S Jos 21:18
23:28 [l]1Ch 27:13 [m]2Ki 25:23; Ezr 2:22; Ne 7:26; Jer 40:8
23:29 [n]1Ch 27:15 [o]S Jos 15:57
23:30 [p]S Jdg 12:13 [q]Jos 24:30
23:31 [r]2Sa 3:16
23:34 [s]S Dt 3:14 [t]S 2Sa 11:3 [u]S 2Sa 15:12
23:35 [v]S Jos 12:22
23:36 [w]S 1Sa 14:47
23:37 [x]S Jos 9:17
23:38 [y]1Ch 2:53
23:39 [z]2Sa 11:3
24:1 [a]S Jos 9:15 [b]Job 1:6; Zec 3:1 [c]S Ex 30:12; 1Ch 27:23
24:2 [d]S 2Sa 20:23 [e]S 2Sa 3:10 [f]2Ch 2:17; 17:14; 25:5
24:3 [g]S 2Sa 2:18 [h]S Dt 1:11
24:5 [i]S Jos 13:9 [j]S Nu 21:32

[b]*18* Most Hebrew manuscripts (see also 1 Chron. 11:20); two Hebrew manuscripts and Syriac *Thirty* [c]*27* Hebrew; some Septuagint manuscripts (see also 1 Chron. 11:29) *Sibbecai* [d]*29* Some Hebrew manuscripts and Vulgate (see also 1 Chron. 11:30); most Hebrew manuscripts *Heleb* [e]*30* Hebrew; some Septuagint manuscripts (see also 1 Chron. 11:32) *Hurai* [f]*33* Some Septuagint manuscripts (see also 1 Chron. 11:34); Hebrew does not have *son of.* [g]*33* Hebrew; some Septuagint manuscripts (see also 1 Chron. 11:35) *Sacar* [h]*36* Some Septuagint manuscripts (see also 1 Chron. 11:38); Hebrew *Haggadi* [i]*2* Septuagint (see also verse 4 and 1 Chron. 21:2); Hebrew *Joab the army commander*

shi, and on to Dan Jaan and around
toward Sidon.[a] 7 Then they went
toward the fortress of Tyre[b] and all the
towns of the Hivites[c] and Canaanites.
Finally, they went on to Beersheba[d] in
the Negev[e] of Judah.
8 After they had gone through the en-
tire land, they came back to Jerusalem
at the end of nine months and twenty
days.
9 Joab reported the number of the
fighting men to the king: In Israel there
were eight hundred thousand able-
bodied men who could handle a
sword, and in Judah five hundred
thousand.[f]
10 David was conscience-stricken[g] af-
ter he had counted the fighting men,
and he said to the LORD, "I have
sinned[h] greatly in what I have done.
Now, O LORD, I beg you, take away the
guilt of your servant. I have done a
very foolish thing.[i]"
11 Before David got up the next morn-
ing, the word of the LORD had come to
Gad[j] the prophet, David's seer:[k]
12 "Go and tell David, 'This is what the
LORD says: I am giving you three op-
tions. Choose one of them for me to
carry out against you.'"
13 So Gad went to David and said to
him, "Shall there come upon you
three[i] years of famine[l] in your land?
Or three months of fleeing from your
enemies while they pursue you? Or
three days of plague[m] in your land?
Now then, think it over and decide
how I should answer the one who sent
me."
14 David said to Gad, "I am in deep
distress. Let us fall into the hands of
the LORD, for his mercy[n] is great; but do
not let me fall into the hands of men."
15 So the LORD sent a plague on Israel
from that morning until the end of the
time designated, and seventy thousand
of the people from Dan to Beersheba
died.[o] 16 When the angel stretched out
his hand to destroy Jerusalem, the LORD
was grieved[p] because of the calamity
and said to the angel who was afflicting
the people, "Enough! Withdraw your
hand." The angel of the LORD[q] was
then at the threshing floor of Araunah
the Jebusite.
17 When David saw the angel who
was striking down the people, he said
to the LORD, "I am the one who has
sinned and done wrong. These are but
sheep.[r] What have they done?[s] Let
your hand fall upon me and my
family."[t]

David Builds an Altar

24:18-25pp — 1Ch 21:18-26

18 On that day Gad went to David and
said to him, "Go up and build an altar
to the LORD on the threshing floor of
Araunah[u] the Jebusite." 19 So David
went up, as the LORD had commanded
through Gad. 20 When Araunah looked
and saw the king and his men coming
toward him, he went out and bowed
down before the king with his face to
the ground.
21 Araunah said, "Why has my lord
the king come to his servant?"
"To buy your threshing floor," Da-
vid answered, "so I can build an altar
to the LORD, that the plague on the
people may be stopped."[v]
22 Araunah said to David, "Let my
lord the king take whatever pleases
him and offer it up. Here are oxen[w] for
the burnt offering, and here are thresh-
ing sledges and ox yokes for the wood.
23 O king, Araunah gives[x] all this to the
king." Araunah also said to him, "May
the LORD your God accept you."
24 But the king replied to Araunah,
"No, I insist on paying you for it. I will
not sacrifice to the LORD my God burnt
offerings that cost me nothing."[y]
So David bought the threshing floor
and the oxen and paid fifty shekels[k][z]
of silver for them. 25 David built an al-
tar[a] to the LORD there and sacrificed
burnt offerings and fellowship offer-
ings.[l] Then the LORD answered
prayer[b] in behalf of the land, and the
plague on Israel was stopped.

[i]13 Septuagint (see also 1 Chron. 21:12); Hebrew *seven* [k]24 That is, about 1 1/4 pounds (about 0.6 kilogram) [l]25 Traditionally *peace offerings*

24:6 [a]S Ge 10:19; Jdg 1:31
24:7 [b]S Jos 19:29 [c]S Ex 3:8 [d]Ge 21:31 [e]S Dt 1:7
24:9 [f]S Nu 1:44-46
24:10 [g]S 1Sa 24:5 [h]S Nu 22:34 [i]S Nu 12:11
24:11 [j]S 1Sa 22:5 [k]1Sa 9:9
24:13 [l]Dt 28:38-42,48; S 32:24; Eze 14:21 [m]S Ex 5:3; S 30:12; S Lev 26:25; Dt 28:21-22, 27-28,35
24:14 [n]Ne 9:28; Ps 4:1; 51:1; 86:5; 103:8,13; 119:132; 130:4; Isa 54:7; 55:7; Jer 33:8; 42:12; Da 9:9
24:15 [o]1Ch 27:24
24:16 [p]S Ge 6:6 [q]S Ge 16:7; S 19:13; S Ex 12:23; Ac 12:23
24:17 [r]Ps 74:1; 100:3; Jer 49:20 [s]S Ge 18:23 [t]Jnh 1:12
24:18 [u]Ge 22:2; 2Ch 3:1
24:21 [v]Nu 16:44-50
24:22 [w]S 1Sa 6:14
24:23 [x]Ge 23:11
24:24 [y]Mal 1:13-14 [z]S Ge 23:16
24:25 [a]S 1Sa 7:17 [b]2Sa 21:14

1 Kings

Adonijah Sets Himself Up as King

1 When King David was old and well
advanced in years, he could not
keep warm even when they put covers
over him. 2So his servants said to him,
"Let us look for a young virgin to at-
tend the king and take care of him. She
can lie beside him so that our lord the
king may keep warm."
3Then they searched throughout Is-
rael for a beautiful girl and found Abi-
shag,[a] a Shunammite,[b] and brought
her to the king. 4The girl was very
beautiful; she took care of the king and
waited on him, but the king had no in-
timate relations with her.
5Now Adonijah,[c] whose mother was
Haggith, put himself forward and said,
"I will be king." So he got chariots[d]
and horses[a] ready, with fifty men to
run ahead of him. 6(His father had nev-
er interfered[e] with him by asking,
"Why do you behave as you do?" He
was also very handsome and was born
next after Absalom.)
7Adonijah conferred with Joab[f] son
of Zeruiah and with Abiathar[g] the
priest, and they gave him their sup-
port. 8But Zadok[h] the priest, Benaiah[i]
son of Jehoiada, Nathan[j] the prophet,
Shimei[k] and Rei[b] and David's special
guard[l] did not join Adonijah.
9Adonijah then sacrificed sheep, cat-
tle and fattened calves at the Stone of
Zoheleth near En Rogel.[m] He invited all
his brothers, the king's sons,[n] and all
the men of Judah who were royal offi-
cials, 10but he did not invite[o] Nathan
the prophet or Benaiah or the special
guard or his brother Solomon.[p]
11Then Nathan asked Bathsheba,[q]
Solomon's mother, "Have you not
heard that Adonijah,[r] the son of Hag-
gith, has become king without our lord
David's knowing it? 12Now then, let me
advise[s] you how you can save your
own life and the life of your son Solo-
mon. 13Go in to King David and say to
him, 'My lord the king, did you not
swear[t] to me your servant: "Surely
Solomon your son shall be king after
me, and he will sit on my throne"?
Why then has Adonijah become king?'
14While you are still there talking to the
king, I will come in and confirm what
you have said."
15So Bathsheba went to see the aged
king in his room, where Abishag[u] the
Shunammite was attending him.
16Bathsheba bowed low and knelt be-
fore the king.
"What is it you want?" the king
asked.
17She said to him, "My lord, you
yourself swore[v] to me your servant by
the LORD your God: 'Solomon your son
shall be king after me, and he will sit
on my throne.' 18But now Adonijah has
become king, and you, my lord the
king, do not know about it. 19He has
sacrificed[w] great numbers of cattle, fat-
tened calves, and sheep, and has in-
vited all the king's sons, Abiathar the
priest and Joab the commander of the
army, but he has not invited Solomon
your servant. 20My lord the king, the
eyes of all Israel are on you, to learn
from you who will sit on the throne of
my lord the king after him. 21Other-
wise, as soon as my lord the king is laid
to rest[x] with his fathers, I and my son
Solomon will be treated as criminals."
22While she was still speaking with
the king, Nathan the prophet arrived.
23And they told the king, "Nathan the
prophet is here." So he went before the
king and bowed with his face to the
ground.
24Nathan said, "Have you, my lord
the king, declared that Adonijah shall
be king after you, and that he will sit
on your throne? 25Today he has gone
down and sacrificed great numbers of
cattle, fattened calves, and sheep. He
has invited all the king's sons, the com-
manders of the army and Abiathar the
priest. Right now they are eating and
drinking with him and saying, 'Long
live King Adonijah!' 26But me your ser-

1:3 [a]ver 15; S 2Sa 3:7; 1Ki 2:17,22 [b]S Jos 19:18
1:5 [c]S 2Sa 3:4 [d]S 1Sa 8:11
1:6 [e]1Sa 3:13
1:7 [f]S 2Sa 2:13 [g]S 1Sa 22:20
1:8 [h]S 1Sa 2:35; S 2Sa 8:17 [i]S 2Sa 8:18 [j]S 2Sa 7:2 [k]1Ki 4:18 [l]2Sa 23:8
1:9 [m]S 2Sa 17:17 [n]1Ch 29:24
1:10 [o]ver 26 [p]S 2Sa 12:24
1:11 [q]2Sa 12:24 [r]S 2Sa 3:4
1:12 [s]Pr 15:22
1:13 [t]ver 17,30
1:15 [u]S ver 3
1:17 [v]S ver 13
1:19 [w]ver 9
1:21 [x]S Ge 15:15; 1Ki 2:10

[a]5 *Or charioteers* [b]8 *Or and his friends*

vant, and Zadok the priest, and Be-
naiah son of Jehoiada, and your ser-
vant Solomon he did not invite.[a] 27Is
this something my lord the king has
done without letting his servants know
who should sit on the throne of my
lord the king after him?"

David Makes Solomon King

1:28-53pp — 1Ch 29:21-25

28Then King David said, "Call in
Bathsheba." So she came into the
king's presence and stood before him.
29The king then took an oath: "As
surely as the LORD lives, who has de-
livered me out of every trouble,[b] 30I
will surely carry out today what I
swore[c] to you by the LORD, the God of
Israel: Solomon your son shall be king
after me, and he will sit on my throne
in my place."
31Then Bathsheba bowed low with
her face to the ground and, kneeling
before the king, said, "May my lord
King David live forever!"
32King David said, "Call in Zadok[d]
the priest, Nathan the prophet and Be-
naiah son of Jehoiada." When they
came before the king, 33he said to them:
"Take your lord's servants with you
and set Solomon my son on my own
mule[e] and take him down to Gihon.[f]
34There have Zadok the priest and Na-
than the prophet anoint[g] him king
over Israel. Blow the trumpet[h] and
shout, 'Long live King Solomon!'
35Then you are to go up with him, and
he is to come and sit on my throne and
reign in my place. I have appointed
him ruler over Israel and Judah."
36Benaiah son of Jehoiada answered
the king, "Amen! May the LORD, the
God of my lord the king, so declare it.
37As the LORD was with my lord the
king, so may he be with[i] Solomon to
make his throne even greater[j] than the
throne of my lord King David!"
38So Zadok[k] the priest, Nathan the
prophet, Benaiah son of Jehoiada, the
Kerethites[l] and the Pelethites went
down and put Solomon on King Da-
vid's mule and escorted him to Gi-
hon.[m] 39Zadok the priest took the horn
of oil[n] from the sacred tent[o] and
anointed Solomon. Then they sounded
the trumpet[p] and all the people shout-
ed,[q] "Long live King Solomon!" 40And
all the people went up after him, play-
ing flutes[r] and rejoicing greatly, so
that the ground shook with the sound.
41Adonijah and all the guests who
were with him heard it as they were
finishing their feast. On hearing the
sound of the trumpet, Joab asked,
"What's the meaning of all the noise in
the city?"[s]
42Even as he was speaking, Jona-
than[t] son of Abiathar the priest ar-
rived. Adonijah said, "Come in. A
worthy man like you must be bringing
good news."[u]
43"Not at all!" Jonathan answered.
"Our lord King David has made Solo-
mon king. 44The king has sent with him
Zadok the priest, Nathan the prophet,
Benaiah son of Jehoiada, the Kerethites
and the Pelethites, and they have put
him on the king's mule, 45and Zadok
the priest and Nathan the prophet have
anointed him king at Gihon. From
there they have gone up cheering, and
the city resounds[v] with it. That's the
noise you hear. 46Moreover, Solomon
has taken his seat[w] on the royal throne.
47Also, the royal officials have come to
congratulate our lord King David, say-
ing, 'May your God make Solomon's
name more famous than yours and his
throne greater[x] than yours!' And the
king bowed in worship on his bed
48and said, 'Praise be to the LORD, the
God of Israel, who has allowed my
eyes to see a successor[y] on my throne
today.' "
49At this, all Adonijah's guests rose
in alarm and dispersed. 50But Adoni-
jah, in fear of Solomon, went and took
hold of the horns[z] of the altar. 51Then
Solomon was told, "Adonijah is afraid
of King Solomon and is clinging to the
horns of the altar. He says, 'Let King
Solomon swear to me today that he will
not put his servant to death with the
sword.' "
52Solomon replied, "If he shows him-
self to be a worthy man, not a hair[a] of
his head will fall to the ground; but if
evil is found in him, he will die."
53Then King Solomon sent men, and
they brought him down from the altar.
And Adonijah came and bowed down
to King Solomon, and Solomon said,
"Go to your home."

David's Charge to Solomon

2:10-12pp — 1Ch 29:26-28

2 When the time drew near for David
to die,[b] he gave a charge to Solo-
mon his son.
2"I am about to go the way of all the
earth," he said. "So be strong,[d] show
yourself a man, 3and observe[e] what

1:26 [a]ver 10
1:29 [b]S 2Sa 4:9
1:30 [c]S ver 13; 1Ch 23:1
1:32 [d]S 1Sa 2:35
1:33 [e]Jdg 10:4; Zec 9:9 [f]ver 38; 2Ch 32:30; 33:14
1:34 [g]S 1Sa 2:35; 10:1 [h]S 2Sa 15:10
1:37 [i]Jos 1:5,17 [j]ver 47
1:38 [k]ver 8 [l]S 1Sa 30:14; S 2Sa 15:18 [m]S ver 33
1:39 [n]S Ex 29:7; S 1Sa 10:1; 2Ki 11:12; Ps 89:20 [o]S Ex 26:1; S 27:21 [p]S 2Sa 15:10; 2Ki 11:14 [q]ver 34; Nu 23:21; Ps 47:5; Zec 9:9
1:40 [r]S 1Sa 10:5
1:41 [s]2Ch 23:12-13
1:42 [t]S 2Sa 15:27,36 [u]S 2Sa 18:26
1:45 [v]ver 40
1:46 [w]S Dt 17:18
1:47 [x]ver 37
1:48 [y]1Ki 3:6
1:50 [z]S Ex 27:2
1:52 [a]S 1Sa 14:45
2:1 [b]S Ge 27:2; S Nu 27:13
2:2 [c]Jos 23:14 [d]S Jos 1:6
2:3 [e]S Dt 4:6; S 10:12; S 17:14-20; S Jos 1:7

the LORD your God requires: Walk in
his ways, and keep his decrees and
commands, his laws and requirements,
as written in the Law of Moses, so that
you may prosper[a] in all you do and
wherever you go, 4and that the LORD
may keep his promise[b] to me: 'If your
descendants watch how they live, and
if they walk faithfully[c] before me with
all their heart and soul, you will never
fail to have a man on the throne of Is-
rael.'
5"Now you yourself know what
Joab[d] son of Zeruiah did to me—what
he did to the two commanders of Is-
rael's armies, Abner[e] son of Ner and
Amasa[f] son of Jether. He killed them,
shedding their blood in peacetime as if
in battle, and with that blood stained
the belt around his waist and the san-
dals on his feet. 6Deal with him accord-
ing to your wisdom,[g] but do not let his
gray head go down to the grave[a] in
peace.
7"But show kindness[h] to the sons of
Barzillai[i] of Gilead and let them be
among those who eat at your table.[j]
They stood by me when I fled from
your brother Absalom.
8"And remember, you have with you
Shimei[k] son of Gera, the Benjamite
from Bahurim, who called down bitter
curses on me the day I went to Maha-
naim.[l] When he came down to meet
me at the Jordan, I swore[m] to him by
the LORD: 'I will not put you to death by
the sword.' 9But now, do not consider
him innocent. You are a man of wis-
dom;[n] you will know what to do to
him. Bring his gray head down to the
grave in blood."
10Then David rested with his fathers
and was buried[o] in the City of David.[p]
11He had reigned[q] forty years over Isra-
el—seven years in Hebron and thirty-
three in Jerusalem. 12So Solomon sat on
the throne[r] of his father David, and his
rule was firmly established.[s]

Solomon's Throne Established

13Now Adonijah,[t] the son of Hag-
gith, went to Bathsheba, Solomon's
mother. Bathsheba asked him, "Do
you come peacefully?"[u]
He answered, "Yes, peacefully."
14Then he added, "I have something to
say to you."
"You may say it," she replied.
15"As you know," he said, "the king-
dom was mine. All Israel looked to me
as their king. But things changed, and
the kingdom has gone to my brother;
for it has come to him from the LORD.
16Now I have one request to make of
you. Do not refuse me."
"You may make it," she said.
17So he continued, "Please ask King
Solomon—he will not refuse you—to
give me Abishag[v] the Shunammite as
my wife."
18"Very well," Bathsheba replied, "I
will speak to the king for you."
19When Bathsheba went to King
Solomon to speak to him for Adonijah,
the king stood up to meet her, bowed
down to her and sat down on his
throne. He had a throne brought for
the king's mother,[w] and she sat down
at his right hand.[x]
20"I have one small request to make
of you," she said. "Do not refuse me."
The king replied, "Make it, my
mother; I will not refuse you."
21So she said, "Let Abishag[y] the
Shunammite be given in marriage to
your brother Adonijah."
22King Solomon answered his
mother, "Why do you request Abi-
shag[z] the Shunammite for Adonijah?
You might as well request the kingdom
for him—after all, he is my older broth-
er[a]—yes, for him and for Abiathar[b]
the priest and Joab son of Zeruiah!"
23Then King Solomon swore by the
LORD: "May God deal with me, be it
ever so severely,[c] if Adonijah does not
pay with his life for this request! 24And
now, as surely as the LORD lives—he
who has established me securely on the
throne of my father David and has
founded a dynasty for me as he prom-
ised[d]—Adonijah shall be put to death
today!" 25So King Solomon gave orders
to Benaiah[e] son of Jehoiada, and he
struck down Adonijah and he died.[f]
26To Abiathar[g] the priest the king
said, "Go back to your fields in Ana-
thoth.[h] You deserve to die, but I will
not put you to death now, because you
carried the ark[i] of the Sovereign LORD
before my father David and shared all
my father's hardships."[j] 27So Solomon
removed Abiathar from the priesthood
of the LORD, fulfilling[k] the word the
LORD had spoken at Shiloh about the
house of Eli.
28When the news reached Joab, who
had conspired with Adonijah though
not with Absalom, he fled to the tent of
the LORD and took hold of the horns[l] of
the altar. 29King Solomon was told that
Joab had fled to the tent of the LORD

a6 Hebrew *Sheol*; also in verse 9

2:3 a 1Ch 22:13
2:4 b S 2Sa 7:25, 15; 2Ch 23:3 c 2Ki 18:3-6; 20:3; Ps 26:1-3; 132:12
2:5 d S 2Sa 2:18 e S 1Sa 14:50; S 2Sa 3:27 f S 2Sa 17:25
2:6 g ver 9
2:7 h S Ge 40:14 i S 2Sa 17:27; 19:31-39 j S 2Sa 9:7
2:8 k ver 36-46; 2Sa 16:5-13 l S Ge 32:2 m 2Sa 19:18-23
2:9 n ver 6
2:10 o Ac 2:29 p S 2Sa 5:7
2:11 q S 2Sa 5:4,5
2:12 r 1Ch 17:14; 29:23; 2Ch 9:8 s ver 46; 2Ch 1:1; 12:13; 17:1; 21:4
2:13 t S 2Sa 3:4 u S 1Sa 16:4
2:17 v S 1Ki 1:3
2:19 w 1Ki 15:13; 2Ki 10:13; 24:15; 2Ch 15:16; Jer 13:18; 22:26; 29:2 x Ps 45:9
2:21 y 1Ki 1:3
2:22 z S Ge 22:24; S 1Ki 1:3 a 1Ch 3:2 b S 1Sa 22:20
2:23 c S Ru 1:17
2:24 d 2Sa 7:11
2:25 e S 2Sa 8:18 f S 2Sa 12:10
2:26 g S 1Sa 22:20 h S Jos 21:18 i S 2Sa 15:24 j S 2Sa 15:14
2:27 k S 1Sa 2:27-36
2:28 l S Ex 27:2

and was beside the altar.[a] Then Solo-
mon ordered Benaiah[b] son of Jehoiada,
"Go, strike him down!"
30So Benaiah entered the tent[c] of the
LORD and said to Joab, "The king says,
'Come out![d]' "
But he answered, "No, I will die
here."
Benaiah reported to the king, "This
is how Joab answered me."
31Then the king commanded Be-
naiah, "Do as he says. Strike him down
and bury him, and so clear me and my
father's house of the guilt of the inno-
cent blood[e] that Joab shed. 32The LORD
will repay[f] him for the blood he
shed,[g] because without the knowledge
of my father David he attacked two
men and killed them with the sword.
Both of them—Abner son of Ner, com-
mander of Israel's army, and Amasa[h]
son of Jether, commander of Judah's
army—were better[i] men and more up-
right than he. 33May the guilt of their
blood rest on the head of Joab and his
descendants forever. But on David and
his descendants, his house and his
throne, may there be the LORD's peace
forever."
34So Benaiah[j] son of Jehoiada went
up and struck down Joab[k] and killed
him, and he was buried on his own
land[d] in the desert. 35The king put Be-
naiah[l] son of Jehoiada over the army
in Joab's position and replaced Abia-
thar with Zadok[m] the priest.
36Then the king sent for Shimei[n] and
said to him, "Build yourself a house in
Jerusalem and live there, but do not go
anywhere else. 37The day you leave
and cross the Kidron Valley,[o] you can
be sure you will die; your blood will be
on your own head."[p]
38Shimei answered the king, "What
you say is good. Your servant will do
as my lord the king has said." And
Shimei stayed in Jerusalem for a long
time.
39But three years later, two of Shim-
ei's slaves ran off to Achish[q] son of
Maacah, king of Gath, and Shimei was
told, "Your slaves are in Gath." 40At
this, he saddled his donkey and went
to Achish at Gath in search of his
slaves. So Shimei went away and
brought the slaves back from Gath.
41When Solomon was told that Shim-
ei had gone from Jerusalem to Gath
and had returned, 42the king sum-
moned Shimei and said to him, "Did I
not make you swear by the LORD and
warn[r] you, 'On the day you leave to

2:29 [a]Ex 21:14 [b]ver 25
2:30 [c]2Ki 11:15 [d]Ex 21:14
2:31 [e]S Dt 19:13
2:32 [f]Jdg 9:57 [g]S Ge 4:14; S Jdg 9:24 [h]S 2Sa 17:25 [i]2Ch 21:13
2:34 [j]ver 25 [k]S 2Sa 2:18
2:35 [l]S 2Sa 8:18 [m]S 1Sa 2:35
2:36 [n]S 2Sa 16:5
2:37 [o]S 2Sa 15:23; Jn 18:1 [p]S Lev 20:9
2:39 [q]1Sa 27:2
2:42 [r]S 2Sa 19:23
2:44 [s]2Sa 16:5-13
2:45 [t]S 2Sa 7:13
2:46 [u]S 2Sa 8:18 [v]S ver 8 [w]S ver 12
3:1 [x]1Ki 7:8; 11:1-13 [y]1Ki 9:24; 2Ch 8:11 [z]2Sa 5:7; 1Ki 2:10 [a]S 2Sa 7:2; 1Ki 9:10
3:2 [b]Lev 17:3-5; S 26:30; Dt 12:14; 1Ki 15:14; 22:43 [c]S Dt 14:23
3:3 [d]Dt 6:5; Ps 31:23; 145:20 [e]S Dt 10:12; S Jos 1:7 [f]S Dt 17:19; S 1Ki 14:8 [g]S ver 2; Lev 17:3-5; 2Ki 12:3; 15:4,35; 16:4; 21:3
3:4 [h]S Jos 9:3
3:5 [i]1Ki 9:2; 11:9 [j]S Mt 27:19 [k]S Mt 7:7
3:6 [l]S Ge 17:1 [m]1Ki 1:48
3:7 [n]Nu 27:17; 1Ch 22:5; 29:1; Jer 1:6
3:8 [o]S Dt 7:6 [p]S Ge 12:2; S 1Ch 27:23

go anywhere else, you can be sure you
will die'? At that time you said to me,
'What you say is good. I will obey.'
43Why then did you not keep your oath
to the LORD and obey the command I
gave you?"
44The king also said to Shimei, "You
know in your heart all the wrong[s] you
did to my father David. Now the LORD
will repay you for your wrongdoing.
45But King Solomon will be blessed,
and David's throne will remain secure[t]
before the LORD forever."
46Then the king gave the order to Be-
naiah[u] son of Jehoiada, and he went
out and struck Shimei[v] down and
killed him.
The kingdom was now firmly estab-
lished[w] in Solomon's hands.

Solomon Asks for Wisdom

3:4-15pp — 2Ch 1:2-13

3 Solomon made an alliance with
Pharaoh king of Egypt and mar-
ried[x] his daughter.[y] He brought her to
the City of David[z] until he finished
building his palace[a] and the temple of
the LORD, and the wall around Jerusa-
lem. 2The people, however, were still
sacrificing at the high places,[b] because
a temple had not yet been built for the
Name[c] of the LORD. 3Solomon showed
his love[d] for the LORD by walking[e] ac-
cording to the statutes[f] of his father
David, except that he offered sacrifices
and burned incense on the high
places.[g]
4The king went to Gibeon[h] to offer
sacrifices, for that was the most impor-
tant high place, and Solomon offered a
thousand burnt offerings on that altar.
5At Gibeon the LORD appeared[i] to Solo-
mon during the night in a dream,[j] and
God said, "Ask[k] for whatever you
want me to give you."
6Solomon answered, "You have
shown great kindness to your servant,
my father David, because he was faith-
ful[l] to you and righteous and upright
in heart. You have continued this great
kindness to him and have given him a
son[m] to sit on his throne this very day.
7"Now, O LORD my God, you have
made your servant king in place of my
father David. But I am only a little
child[n] and do not know how to carry
out my duties. 8Your servant is here
among the people you have chosen,[o] a
great people, too numerous to count or
number.[p] 9So give your servant a dis-

[d]34 Or *buried in his tomb*

cerning[a] heart to govern your people
and to distinguish[b] between right and
wrong. For who is able[c] to govern this
great people of yours?"
10The Lord was pleased that Solomon
had asked for this. 11So God said to
him, "Since you have asked[d] for this
and not for long life or wealth for your-
self, nor have asked for the death of
your enemies but for discernment[e] in
administering justice, 12I will do what
you have asked.[f] I will give you a
wise[g] and discerning heart, so that
there will never have been anyone like
you, nor will there ever be. 13Moreover,
I will give you what you have not[h]
asked for—both riches and honor[i] —so
that in your lifetime you will have no
equal[j] among kings. 14And if you
walk[k] in my ways and obey my stat-
utes and commands as David your fa-
ther did, I will give you a long life."[l]
15Then Solomon awoke[m]—and he real-
ized it had been a dream.[n]
He returned to Jerusalem, stood be-
fore the ark of the Lord's covenant and
sacrificed burnt offerings[o] and fellow-
ship offerings.[e][p] Then he gave a feast[q]
for all his court.

A Wise Ruling

16Now two prostitutes came to the
king and stood before him. 17One of
them said, "My lord, this woman and I
live in the same house. I had a baby
while she was there with me. 18The
third day after my child was born, this
woman also had a baby. We were
alone; there was no one in the house
but the two of us.
19"During the night this woman's
son died because she lay on him. 20So
she got up in the middle of the night
and took my son from my side while I
your servant was asleep. She put him
by her breast and put her dead son by
my breast. 21The next morning, I got up
to nurse my son—and he was dead!
But when I looked at him closely in the
morning light, I saw that it wasn't the
son I had borne."
22The other woman said, "No! The
living one is my son; the dead one is
yours."
But the first one insisted, "No! The
dead one is yours; the living one is
mine." And so they argued before the
king.
23The king said, "This one says, 'My
son is alive and your son is dead,'
while that one says, 'No! Your son is
dead and mine is alive.' "

3:9 [a]S 2Sa 14:17; Jas 1:5 [b]S Dt 1:16; Heb 5:14 [c]2Co 2:16 **3:11** [d]Jas 4:3 [e]1Ch 22:12 **3:12** [f]1Jn 5:14-15 [g]S 2Sa 14:20; 1Ki 4:29,30,31; 5:12; 10:23; Ecc 1:16 **3:13** [h]Mt 6:33; Eph 3:20 [i]Pr 3:1-2,16; 8:18 [j]1Ki 10:23; 2Ch 9:22; Ne 13:26 **3:14** [k]1Ki 9:4; Ps 25:13; 101:2; 128:1; Pr 3:1-2,16 [l]Ps 61:6 **3:15** [m]S Ge 28:16 [n]ver 5 [o]Lev 6:8-13 [p]Lev 7:11-21 [q]Est 1:3,9; 2:18; 5:8; 6:14; 9:17; Da 5:1

3:26 [r]Ps 102:13; Isa 49:15; 63:15; Jer 3:12; 31:20; Hos 11:8 **3:28** [s]S 2Sa 14:20; Col 2:3 **4:2** [t]1Ki 12:6; Job 12:12 [u]1Ch 6:10; 2Ch 26:17 **4:3** [v]S 2Sa 8:17 [w]S 2Sa 8:16 **4:4** [x]S 2Sa 8:18 [y]S 2Sa 8:17 **4:6** [z]S Ge 41:40 [a]S 2Sa 20:24 [b]S Ge 49:15 **4:7** [c]ver 27 **4:8** [d]S Jos 24:33 **4:9** [e]Jdg 1:35 [f]S Jos 15:10 **4:10** [g]S Jos 15:35 [h]S Jos 12:17

24Then the king said, "Bring me a
sword." So they brought a sword for
the king. 25He then gave an order: "Cut
the living child in two and give half to
one and half to the other."
26The woman whose son was alive
was filled with compassion[r] for her
son and said to the king, "Please, my
lord, give her the living baby! Don't kill
him!"
But the other said, "Neither I nor
you shall have him. Cut him in two!"
27Then the king gave his ruling:
"Give the living baby to the first
woman. Do not kill him; she is his
mother."
28When all Israel heard the verdict
the king had given, they held the king
in awe, because they saw that he had
wisdom[s] from God to administer
justice.

Solomon's Officials and Governors

4 So King Solomon ruled over all Is-
rael. 2And these were his chief offi-
cials:[t]

Azariah[u] son of Zadok—the priest;
3Elihoreph and Ahijah, sons of Shisha—secretaries;[v]
Jehoshaphat[w] son of Ahilud—recorder;
4Benaiah[x] son of Jehoiada—commander in chief;
Zadok[y] and Abiathar—priests;
5Azariah son of Nathan—in charge of the district officers;
Zabud son of Nathan—a priest and personal adviser to the king;
6Ahishar—in charge of the palace;[z]
Adoniram[a] son of Abda—in charge of forced labor.[b]

7Solomon also had twelve district
governors[c] over all Israel, who sup-
plied provisions for the king and the
royal household. Each one had to pro-
vide supplies for one month in the
year. 8These are their names:

Ben-Hur—in the hill country[d] of Ephraim;
9Ben-Deker—in Makaz, Shaalbim,[e] Beth Shemesh[f] and Elon Bethhanan;
10Ben-Hesed—in Arubboth (Socoh[g] and all the land of Hepher[h] were his);
11Ben-Abinadab — in Naphoth

[e]15 Traditionally *peace offerings*

Dor[f][a] (he was married to Ta-
phath daughter of Solomon);
12 Baana son of Ahilud—in Taanach
and Megiddo, and in all of Beth
Shan[b] next to Zarethan[c] below
Jezreel, from Beth Shan to Abel
Meholah[d] across to Jokmeam;[e]
13 Ben-Geber—in Ramoth Gilead (the
settlements of Jair[f] son of Ma-
nasseh in Gilead[g] were his, as
well as the district of Argob in
Bashan and its sixty large walled
cities[h] with bronze gate bars);
14 Ahinadab son of Iddo—in Maha-
naim;[i]
15 Ahimaaz[j]—in Naphtali (he had
married Basemath daughter of
Solomon);
16 Baana son of Hushai[k]—in Asher
and in Aloth;
17 Jehoshaphat son of Paruah—in Is-
sachar;
18 Shimei[l] son of Ela—in Benjamin;
19 Geber son of Uri—in Gilead (the
country of Sihon[m] king of the
Amorites and the country of
Og[n] king of Bashan). He was
the only governor over the dis-
trict.

Solomon's Daily Provisions

20 The people of Judah and Israel
were as numerous as the sand[o] on the
seashore; they ate, they drank and they
were happy.[p] 21 And Solomon ruled[q]
over all the kingdoms from the River[g][r]
to the land of the Philistines, as far as
the border of Egypt.[s] These countries
brought tribute[t] and were Solomon's
subjects all his life.
22 Solomon's daily provisions[u] were
thirty cors[h] of fine flour and sixty cors[i]
of meal, 23 ten head of stall-fed cattle,
twenty of pasture-fed cattle and a hun-
dred sheep and goats, as well as deer,
gazelles, roebucks and choice fowl.[v]
24 For he ruled over all the kingdoms
west of the River, from Tiphsah[w] to
Gaza, and had peace[x] on all sides.
25 During Solomon's lifetime Judah and
Israel, from Dan to Beersheba,[y] lived
in safety,[z] each man under his own
vine and fig tree.[a]
26 Solomon had four[j] thousand stalls
for chariot horses,[b] and twelve thou-
sand horses.[k]
27 The district officers,[c] each in his
month, supplied provisions for King
Solomon and all who came to the
king's table. They saw to it that noth-
ing was lacking. 28 They also brought to
the proper place their quotas of barley
and straw for the chariot horses and
the other horses.

Solomon's Wisdom

29 God gave Solomon wisdom[d] and
very great insight, and a breadth of
understanding as measureless as the
sand[e] on the seashore. 30 Solomon's
wisdom was greater than the wisdom
of all the men of the East,[f] and greater
than all the wisdom of Egypt.[g] 31 He
was wiser[h] than any other man, in-
cluding Ethan the Ezrahite—wiser than
Heman, Calcol and Darda, the sons of
Mahol. And his fame spread to all the
surrounding nations. 32 He spoke three
thousand proverbs[i] and his songs[j]
numbered a thousand and five. 33 He
described plant life, from the cedar of
Lebanon to the hyssop[k] that grows out
of walls. He also taught about animals
and birds, reptiles and fish. 34 Men of all
nations came to listen to Solomon's
wisdom, sent by all the kings[l] of the
world, who had heard of his wisdom.

Preparations for Building the Temple

5:1-16pp — 2Ch 2:1-18

5 When Hiram[m] king of Tyre heard
that Solomon had been anointed
king to succeed his father David, he
sent his envoys to Solomon, because he
had always been on friendly terms with
David. 2 Solomon sent back this mes-
sage to Hiram:

3 "You know that because of the
wars[n] waged against my father Da-
vid from all sides, he could not
build[o] a temple for the Name of
the LORD his God until the LORD put
his enemies under his feet.[p] 4 But
now the LORD my God has given
me rest[q] on every side, and there is
no adversary[r] or disaster. 5 I in-
tend, therefore, to build a temple[s]
for the Name of the LORD my God,
as the LORD told my father David,
when he said, 'Your son whom I
will put on the throne in your place
will build the temple for my
Name.'[t]
6 "So give orders that cedars[u] of
Lebanon be cut for me. My men
will work with yours, and I will
pay you for your men whatever
wages you set. You know that we

4:11 [a]S Jos 11:2 **4:12** [b]S Jos 17:11 [c]S Jos 3:16 [d]S Jdg 7:22 [e]1Ch 6:68 **4:13** [f]S Nu 32:41 [g]Nu 32:40 [h]Dt 3:4 **4:14** [i]Jos 13:26 **4:15** [j]2Sa 15:27 **4:16** [k]S 2Sa 15:32 **4:18** [l]1Ki 1:8 **4:19** [m]S Jos 12:2 [n]Dt 3:8-10; S Jos 12:4 **4:20** [o]S Ge 12:2; S 32:12 [p]1Ch 22:9 **4:21** [q]2Ch 9:26; Ezr 4:20; Ps 72:11; La 1:1 [r]S Ge 2:14; Ps 72:8 [s]S Ex 23:31 [t]S Jdg 3:15; Eze 16:13 **4:22** [u]1Ki 10:5 **4:23** [v]Ne 5:18 **4:24** [w]2Ki 15:16 [x]S Jos 14:15 **4:25** [y]S Jdg 20:1 [z]1Ch 22:9; Jer 23:6; Eze 28:26; 39:26 [a]Dt 8:8; 2Ki 18:31; Ps 105:33; Isa 36:16; Jer 5:17; Joel 2:22; Mic 4:4; Zec 3:10 **4:26** [b]S Dt 17:16 **4:27** [c]ver 7

4:29 [d]S 1Ki 3:12 [e]S Ge 32:12 **4:30** [f]S Ge 25:6; S Jdg 6:3; Da 1:20; Mt 2:1 [g]Isa 19:11; Ac 7:22 **4:31** [h]S 1Ki 3:12 **4:32** [i]Pr 1:1; 10:1; 25:1; Ecc 12:9 [j]Ps 78:63; SS 1:1; Eze 33:32 **4:33** [k]S Lev 14:49 **4:34** [l]2Ch 9:23 **5:1** [m]S 2Sa 5:11 **5:3** [n]1Ch 22:8; 28:3 [o]S 2Sa 7:5 [p]2Sa 22:40; Ps 8:6; 110:1; S Mt 22:44; 1Co 15:25 **5:4** [q]S Jos 14:15; 1Ch 22:9; Lk 2:14 [r]1Ki 11:14,23 **5:5** [s]S Dt 12:5; 1Ch 17:12; 1Co 3:16; Rev 21:22 [t]Dt 12:5; 2Sa 7:13 **5:6** [u]1Ch 14:1; 22:4

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[f]11 Or *in the heights of Dor* [g]21 That is, the Euphrates; also in verse 24 [h]22 That is, probably about 185 bushels (about 6.6 kiloliters) [i]22 That is, probably about 375 bushels (about 13.2 kiloliters) [j]26 Some Septuagint manuscripts (see also 2 Chron. 9:25); Hebrew *forty* [k]26 Or *charioteers*

have no one so skilled in felling
timber as the Sidonians."

[7]When Hiram heard Solomon's mes-
sage, he was greatly pleased and said,
"Praise be to the LORD[a] today, for he
has given David a wise son to rule over
this great nation."

[8]So Hiram sent word to Solomon:

"I have received the message
you sent me and will do all you
want in providing the cedar and
pine logs. [9]My men will haul them
down from Lebanon to the sea[b],
and I will float them in rafts by sea
to the place you specify. There I
will separate them and you can
take them away. And you are to
grant my wish by providing food[c]
for my royal household."

[10]In this way Hiram kept Solomon
supplied with all the cedar and pine
logs he wanted, [11]and Solomon gave
Hiram twenty thousand cors[l] of wheat
as food[d] for his household, in addition
to twenty thousand baths[m,n] of pressed
olive oil. Solomon continued to do this
for Hiram year after year. [12]The LORD
gave Solomon wisdom,[e] just as he had
promised him. There were peaceful re-
lations between Hiram and Solomon,
and the two of them made a treaty.[f]

[13]King Solomon conscripted labor-
ers[g] from all Israel—thirty thousand
men. [14]He sent them off to Lebanon in
shifts of ten thousand a month, so that
they spent one month in Lebanon and
two months at home. Adoniram[h] was
in charge of the forced labor. [15]Solomon
had seventy thousand carriers and
eighty thousand stonecutters in the
hills, [16]as well as thirty-three hundred[o]
foremen[i] who supervised the project
and directed the workmen. [17]At the
king's command they removed from
the quarry[j] large blocks of quality
stone[k] to provide a foundation of
dressed stone for the temple. [18]The
craftsmen of Solomon and Hiram[l] and
the men of Gebal[p,m] cut and prepared
the timber and stone for the building of
the temple.

Solomon Builds the Temple

6:1-29pp — 2Ch 3:1-14

6 In the four hundred and eightieth[q]
year after the Israelites had come
out of Egypt, in the fourth year of Solo-
mon's reign over Israel, in the month
of Ziv, the second month,[n] he began to
build the temple of the LORD.[o]

[2]The temple[p] that King Solomon
built for the LORD was sixty cubits long,
twenty wide and thirty high.[r] [3]The
portico[q] at the front of the main hall of
the temple extended the width of the
temple, that is twenty cubits,[s] and pro-
jected ten cubits[t] from the front of the
temple. [4]He made narrow clerestory
windows[r] in the temple. [5]Against the
walls of the main hall and inner sanctu-
ary he built a structure around the
building, in which there were side
rooms.[s] [6]The lowest floor was five cu-
bits[u] wide, the middle floor six cubits[v]
and the third floor seven.[w] He made
offset ledges around the outside of the
temple so that nothing would be insert-
ed into the temple walls.

[7]In building the temple, only blocks
dressed[t] at the quarry were used, and
no hammer, chisel or any other iron
tool[u] was heard at the temple site
while it was being built.

[8]The entrance to the lowest[x] floor
was on the south side of the temple; a
stairway led up to the middle level and
from there to the third. [9]So he built the
temple and completed it, roofing it
with beams and cedar[v] planks. [10]And
he built the side rooms all along the
temple. The height of each was five cu-
bits, and they were attached to the
temple by beams of cedar.

[11]The word of the LORD came[w] to
Solomon: [12]"As for this temple you are
building, if you follow my decrees, car-
ry out my regulations and keep all my
commands[x] and obey them, I will ful-
fill through you the promise[y] I gave to
David your father. [13]And I will live
among the Israelites and will not aban-
don[z] my people Israel."

[14]So Solomon[a] built the temple and
completed[b] it. [15]He lined its interior
walls with cedar boards, paneling them
from the floor of the temple to the ceil-
ing,[c] and covered the floor of the tem-
ple with planks of pine.[d] [16]He parti-
tioned off twenty cubits[s] at the rear of
the temple with cedar boards from

5:7 [a]1Ki 10:9; Isa 60:6 **5:9** [b]Ezr 3:7 [c]ver 11; Eze 27:17; Ac 12:20 **5:11** [d]S ver 9 **5:12** [e]S 1Ki 3:12 [f]Jos 9:7; 1Ki 15:19; Am 1:9 **5:13** [g]S Ge 49:15; S Lev 25:39; 1Ki 9:15 **5:14** [h]S 2Sa 20:24; 1Ki 4:6; 2Ch 10:18 **5:16** [i]1Ki 9:23 **5:17** [j]1Ki 6:7 [k]1Ch 22:2 **5:18** [l]S 2Sa 5:11 [m]S Jos 13:5 **6:1** [n]Ezr 3:8 [o]Ezr 5:11

6:2 [p]Ex 26:1 **6:3** [q]Eze 40:49 **6:4** [r]Eze 41:16 **6:5** [s]Jer 35:2; Eze 41:5-6 **6:7** [t]S Ex 20:25 [u]S Dt 27:5 **6:9** [v]SS 1:17 **6:11** [w]1Ki 12:22; 13:20; 16:1,7; 17:2; 21:17; Jer 40:1 **6:12** [x]1Ki 11:10 [y]2Sa 7:12-16; 1Ki 9:5 **6:13** [z]S Lev 26:11; S Dt 31:6; Jn 14:18; Heb 13:5 **6:14** [a]Ac 7:47 [b]1Ch 28:20; 2Ch 5:1 **6:15** [c]1Ki 7:7 [d]Eze 41:15-16

[l]*11* That is, probably about 125,000 bushels (about 4,400 kiloliters) [m]*11* Septuagint (see also 2 Chron. 2:10); Hebrew *twenty cors* [n]*11* That is, about 115,000 gallons (about 440 kiloliters) [o]*16* Hebrew; some Septuagint manuscripts (see also 2 Chron. 2:2, 18) *thirty-six hundred* [p]*18* That is, Byblos [q]*1* Hebrew; Septuagint *four hundred and fortieth* [r]*2* That is, about 90 feet (about 27 meters) long and 30 feet (about 9 meters) wide and 45 feet (about 13.5 meters) high [s]*3,16* That is, about 30 feet (about 9 meters) [t]*3* That is, about 15 feet (about 4.5 meters) [u]*6* That is, about 7 1/2 feet (about 2.3 meters); also in verses 10 and 24 [v]*6* That is, about 9 feet (about 2.7 meters) [w]*6* That is, about 10 1/2 feet (about 3.1 meters) [x]*8* Septuagint; Hebrew *middle*

floor to ceiling to form within the tem-
ple an inner sanctuary, the Most Holy
Place.[a] 17The main hall in front of this
room was forty cubits[y] long. 18The in-
side of the temple was cedar,[b] carved
with gourds and open flowers. Every-
thing was cedar; no stone was to be
seen.
19He prepared the inner sanctuary[c]
within the temple to set the ark of the
covenant[d] of the LORD there. 20The in-
ner sanctuary[e] was twenty cubits long,
twenty wide and twenty high.[z] He
overlaid the inside with pure gold, and
he also overlaid the altar of cedar.[f]
21Solomon covered the inside of the
temple with pure gold, and he ex-
tended gold chains across the front of
the inner sanctuary, which was over-
laid with gold. 22So he overlaid the
whole interior with gold. He also over-
laid with gold the altar that belonged to
the inner sanctuary.
23In the inner sanctuary he made a
pair of cherubim[g] of olive wood, each
ten cubits[a] high. 24One wing of the first
cherub was five cubits long, and the
other wing five cubits—ten cubits from
wing tip to wing tip. 25The second cher-
ub also measured ten cubits, for the
two cherubim were identical in size
and shape. 26The height of each cherub
was ten cubits. 27He placed the cher-
ubim[h] inside the innermost room of
the temple, with their wings spread
out. The wing of one cherub touched
one wall, while the wing of the other
touched the other wall, and their wings
touched each other in the middle of the
room. 28He overlaid the cherubim with
gold.
29On the walls[i] all around the tem-
ple, in both the inner and outer rooms,
he carved cherubim,[j] palm trees and
open flowers. 30He also covered the
floors of both the inner and outer
rooms of the temple with gold.
31For the entrance of the inner sanc-
tuary he made doors of olive wood
with five-sided jambs. 32And on the
two olive wood doors[k] he carved cher-
ubim, palm trees and open flowers,
and overlaid the cherubim and palm
trees with beaten gold. 33In the same
way he made four-sided jambs of olive
wood for the entrance to the main hall.
34He also made two pine doors, each
having two leaves that turned in sock-
ets. 35He carved cherubim, palm trees
and open flowers on them and overlaid
them with gold hammered evenly over
the carvings.

36And he built the inner courtyard[l]
of three courses[m] of dressed stone and
one course of trimmed cedar beams.
37The foundation of the temple of the
LORD was laid in the fourth year, in the
month of Ziv. 38In the eleventh year in
the month of Bul, the eighth month,
the temple was finished in all its de-
tails[n] according to its specifications.[o]
He had spent seven years building it.

Solomon Builds His Palace

7 It took Solomon thirteen years,
however, to complete the construc-
tion of his palace.[p] 2He built the Pal-
ace[q] of the Forest of Lebanon[r] a hun-
dred cubits long, fifty wide and thirty
high,[b] with four rows of cedar columns
supporting trimmed cedar beams. 3It
was roofed with cedar above the beams
that rested on the columns—forty-five
beams, fifteen to a row. 4Its windows
were placed high in sets of three, fac-
ing each other. 5All the doorways had
rectangular frames; they were in the
front part in sets of three, facing each
other.[c]
6He made a colonnade fifty cubits
long and thirty wide.[d] In front of it was
a portico, and in front of that were pil-
lars and an overhanging roof.
7He built the throne hall, the Hall of
Justice, where he was to judge,[s] and
he covered it with cedar from floor to
ceiling.[e][t] 8And the palace in which he
was to live, set farther back, was simi-
lar in design. Solomon also made a pal-
ace like this hall for Pharaoh's daugh-
ter, whom he had married.[u]
9All these structures, from the out-
side to the great courtyard and from
foundation to eaves, were made of
blocks of high-grade stone cut to size
and trimmed with a saw on their inner
and outer faces. 10The foundations
were laid with large stones of good
quality, some measuring ten cubits[e]
and some eight.[f] 11Above were high-
grade stones, cut to size, and cedar
beams. 12The great courtyard was sur-
rounded by a wall of three courses[v] of
dressed stone and one course of
trimmed cedar beams, as was the inner

6:16 [a]S Ex 26:33
6:18 [b]ver 29;
Ps 74:6;
Eze 41:18
6:19 [c]1Ki 8:6
[d]S Ex 25:10;
S 1Sa 3:3
6:20 [e]Eze 41:3-4
[f]S Ex 30:1
6:23 [g]S Ex 37:7
6:27 [h]S Ge 3:24;
S Ex 25:18
6:29 [i]S ver 18
[j]ver 32,35;
Eze 41:18,25
6:32 [k]Eze 41:23
6:36 [l]2Ch 4:9
[m]1Ki 7:12;
Ezr 6:4
6:38 [n]1Ch 28:19
[o]Ex 25:9;
Heb 8:5
7:1 [p]S 2Sa 7:2
7:2 [q]S 2Sa 7:2
[r]1Ki 10:17;
2Ch 9:16;
Isa 22:8; 37:24;
Jer 22:6,23
7:7 [s]1Sa 7:15;
Ps 122:5; Pr 20:8
[t]1Ki 6:15
7:8 [u]S 1Ki 3:1
7:12 [v]S 1Ki 6:36

[y]*17* That is, about 60 feet (about 18 meters)
[z]*20* That is, about 30 feet (about 9 meters) long, wide and high
[a]*23,10* That is, about 15 feet (about 4.5 meters)
[b]*2* That is, about 150 feet (about 46 meters) long, 75 feet (about 23 meters) wide and 45 feet (about 13.5 meters) high
[c]*5* The meaning of the Hebrew for this verse is uncertain.
[d]*6* That is, about 75 feet (about 23 meters) long and 45 feet (about 13.5 meters) wide
[e]*7* Vulgate and Syriac; Hebrew *floor*
[f]*10* That is, about 12 feet (about 3.6 meters)

courtyard of the temple of the LORD
with its portico.

The Temple's Furnishings

7:23-26pp — 2Ch 4:2-5
7:38-51pp — 2Ch 4:6,10-5:1

13King Solomon sent to Tyre and
brought Huram,[a] 14whose mother
was a widow from the tribe of Naphtali
and whose father was a man of Tyre
and a craftsman in bronze. Huram was
highly skilled and experienced in all
kinds of bronze work. He came to King
Solomon and did all the work as-
signed to him.
15He cast two bronze pillars, each
eighteen cubits high and twelve cubits
around,[b] by line. 16He also made two
capitals of cast bronze to set on the
tops of the pillars; each capital was five
cubits[c] high. 17A network of inter-
woven chains festooned the capitals on
top of the pillars, seven for each capi-
tal. 18He made pomegranates in two
rows[d] encircling each network to deco-
rate the capitals on top of the pillars.[e]
He did the same for each capital. 19The
capitals on top of the pillars in the por-
tico were in the shape of lilies, four cu-
bits[f] high. 20On the capitals of both pil-
lars, above the bowl-shaped part next
to the network, were the two hundred
pomegranates in rows all around.
21He erected the pillars at the portico of
the temple. The pillar to the south he
named Jakin[g] and the one to the north
Boaz.[h] 22The capitals on top were in
the shape of lilies. And so the work on
the pillars was completed.
23He made the Sea of cast metal, cir-
cular in shape, measuring ten cubits[i]
from rim to rim and five cubits high. It
took a line of thirty cubits[j] to mea-
sure around it. 24Below the rim, gourds
encircled it—ten to a cubit. The gourds
were cast in two rows in one piece with
the Sea.
25The Sea stood on twelve bulls,
three facing north, three facing west,
three facing south and three facing
east. The Sea rested on top of them,
and their hindquarters were toward the
center. 26It was a handbreadth[k] in
thickness, and its rim was like the rim
of a cup, like a lily blossom. It held two
thousand baths.[l]
27He also made ten movable stands
of bronze; each was four cubits long,
four wide and three high.[m] 28This is
how the stands were made: They had
side panels attached to uprights. 29On
the panels between the uprights were
lions, bulls and cherubim—and on the
uprights as well. Above and below the
lions and bulls were wreaths of ham-
mered work. 30Each stand had four
bronze wheels with bronze axles, and
each had a basin resting on four sup-
ports, cast with wreaths on each side.
31On the inside of the stand there was
an opening that had a circular frame
one cubit[n] deep. This opening was
round, and with its basework it mea-
sured a cubit and a half.[o] Around its
opening there was engraving. The pan-
els of the stands were square, not
round. 32The four wheels were under
the panels, and the axles of the wheels
were attached to the stand. The diame-
ter of each wheel was a cubit and a
half. 33The wheels were made like char-
iot wheels; the axles, rims, spokes and
hubs were all of cast metal.
34Each stand had four handles, one
on each corner, projecting from the
stand. 35At the top of the stand there
was a circular band half a cubit[p] deep.
The supports and panels were attached
to the top of the stand. 36He engraved
cherubim, lions and palm trees on the
surfaces of the supports and on the
panels, in every available space, with
wreaths all around. 37This is the way he
made the ten stands. They were all cast
in the same molds and were identical
in size and shape.
38He then made ten bronze basins,
each holding forty baths[q] and measur-
ing four cubits across, one basin to go
on each of the ten stands. 39He placed
five of the stands on the south side of
the temple and five on the north. He
placed the Sea on the south side, at the
southeast corner of the temple. 40He

[illegible cross-references for 7:13–7:27]
7:30 2Ki 16:17
7:38 Ex 30:18

a13 Hebrew *Hiram*, a variant of *Huram*; also in verses 40 and 45 b15 That is, about 27 feet (about 8.1 meters) high and 18 feet (about 5.4 meters) around c16 That is, about 7 1/2 feet (about 2.3 meters); also in verse 23 d18 Two Hebrew manuscripts and Septuagint; most Hebrew manuscripts *made the pillars, and there were two rows* e18 Many Hebrew manuscripts and Syriac; most Hebrew manuscripts *pomegranates* f19 That is, about 6 feet (about 1.8 meters); also in verse 38 g21 *Jakin* probably means *he establishes*. h21 *Boaz* probably means *in him is strength*. i23 That is, about 15 feet (about 4.5 meters) j23 That is, about 45 feet (about 13.5 meters) k26 That is, about 3 inches (about 8 centimeters) l26 That is, probably about 11,500 gallons (about 44 kiloliters); the Septuagint does not have this sentence. m27 That is, about 6 feet (about 1.8 meters) long and wide and about 4 1/2 feet (about 1.3 meters) high n31 That is, about 1 1/2 feet (about 0.5 meter) o31 That is, about 2 1/4 feet (about 0.7 meter); also in verse 32 p35 That is, about 3/4 foot (about 0.2 meter) q38 That is, about 230 gallons (about 880 liters)

also made the basins and shovels and
sprinkling bowls.[a]
So Huram finished all the work he
had undertaken for King Solomon in
the temple of the LORD:

[41]the two pillars;
the two bowl-shaped capitals on
top of the pillars;
the two sets of network decorating
the two bowl-shaped capitals on
top of the pillars;
[42]the four hundred pomegranates
for the two sets of network (two
rows of pomegranates for each
network, decorating the bowl-
shaped capitals[b] on top of the
pillars);
[43]the ten stands with their ten ba-
sins;
[44]the Sea and the twelve bulls under
it;
[45]the pots, shovels and sprinkling
bowls.[c]

All these objects that Huram[d] made
for King Solomon for the temple of the
LORD were of burnished bronze. [46]The
king had them cast in clay molds in the
plain[e] of the Jordan between Succoth[f]
and Zarethan.[g] [47]Solomon left all these
things unweighed,[h] because there
were so many;[i] the weight of the
bronze[j] was not determined.
[48]Solomon also made all[k] the fur-
nishings that were in the LORD's tem-
ple:

the golden altar;
the golden table[l] on which was
the bread of the Presence;[m]
[49]the lampstands[n] of pure gold (five
on the right and five on the
left, in front of the inner sanctu-
ary);
the gold floral work and lamps and
tongs;
[50]the pure gold basins, wick trim-
mers, sprinkling bowls, dishes[o]
and censers;[p]
and the gold sockets for the doors
of the innermost room, the Most
Holy Place, and also for the
doors of the main hall of the
temple.

[51]When all the work King Solomon
had done for the temple of the LORD
was finished, he brought in the things
his father David had dedicated[q]—the
silver and gold and the fur-
nishings[r]—and he placed them in the
treasuries of the LORD's temple.

7:40 [a]S Ex 27:3; Jer 52:18 **7:42** [b]S ver 16 **7:45** [c]S Ex 27:3; Jer 52:18 [d]S ver 13 **7:46** [e]S Ge 13:10 [f]S Ge 33:17 [g]Jos 3:16 **7:47** [h]1Ch 22:3; Jer 52:20 [i]Ex 36:5-7 [j]S ver 23 **7:48** [k]Ex 39:32-43 [l]S Ex 25:23 [m]S Ex 25:30 **7:49** [n]S Ex 25:31 **7:50** [o]S Nu 7:14 [p]2Ki 25:15; Jer 52:19 **7:51** [q]S 2Sa 8:11 [r]2Ki 12:13; 24:13; Jer 27:19

The Ark Brought to the Temple

8:1-21pp — 2Ch 5:2-6:11

8 Then King Solomon summoned
into his presence at Jerusalem the
elders of Israel, all the heads of the
tribes and the chiefs[s] of the Israelite
families, to bring up the ark[t] of the
LORD's covenant from Zion, the City of
David.[u] [2]All the men of Israel came to-
gether to King Solomon at the time of
the festival[v] in the month of Ethanim,
the seventh month.[w]
[3]When all the elders of Israel had ar-
rived, the priests[x] took up the ark,
[4]and they brought up the ark of the
LORD and the Tent of Meeting[y] and all
the sacred furnishings in it. The priests
and Levites[z] carried them up, [5]and
King Solomon and the entire assembly
of Israel that had gathered about him
were before the ark, sacrificing[a] so
many sheep and cattle that they could
not be recorded or counted.
[6]The priests then brought the ark of
the LORD's covenant[b] to its place in the
inner sanctuary of the temple, the Most
Holy Place,[c] and put it beneath the
wings of the cherubim.[d] [7]The cher-
ubim spread their wings over the place
of the ark and overshadowed[e] the ark
and its carrying poles. [8]These poles
were so long that their ends could be
seen from the Holy Place in front of the
inner sanctuary, but not from outside
the Holy Place; and they are still there
today.[f] [9]There was nothing in the ark
except the two stone tablets[g] that
Moses had placed in it at Horeb, where
the LORD made a covenant with the Is-
raelites after they came out of Egypt.
[10]When the priests withdrew from
the Holy Place, the cloud[h] filled the
temple of the LORD. [11]And the priests
could not perform their service[i] be-
cause of the cloud, for the glory[j] of the
LORD filled his temple.
[12]Then Solomon said, "The LORD has
said that he would dwell in a dark
cloud;[k] [13]I have indeed built a magnifi-
cent temple for you, a place for you to
dwell[l] forever."
[14]While the whole assembly of Israel
was standing there, the king turned
around and blessed[m] them. [15]Then he
said:

"Praise be to the LORD,[n] the God
of Israel, who with his own hand
has fulfilled what he promised with
his own mouth to my father David.
For he said, [16]'Since the day I
brought my people Israel out of

8:1 [s]Nu 7:2 [t]S 1Sa 3:3; Rev 11:19 [u]S 2Sa 5:7 **8:2** [v]ver 65; S Lev 23:36; Ne 8:17 [w]S Lev 23:34; S Nu 29:12 **8:3** [x]S Jos 3:3 **8:4** [y]S Lev 17:4 [z]1Ch 15:13 **8:5** [a]S 2Sa 6:13; S 2Ch 30:24 **8:6** [b]S Ex 26:33; S 2Sa 6:17; Rev 11:19 [c]S Ex 26:33 [d]S Ge 3:24; S Ex 25:18 **8:7** [e]S Ex 25:20 **8:8** [f]Ex 25:13-15 **8:9** [g]S Ex 16:34; S 25:16; Heb 9:4 **8:10** [h]S Ex 16:10; S Lev 16:2; Rev 15:8 **8:11** [i]2Ch 7:2; Rev 15:8 [j]S Ex 16:7; S 29:43 **8:12** [k]S Ex 40:34; S 2Sa 22:10 **8:13** [l]Ex 15:17; Ps 132:13; 135:21; Mt 23:21 **8:14** [m]S Ex 39:43 **8:15** [n]1Ch 16:36; Lk 1:68

Egypt,[a] I have not chosen a city in
any tribe of Israel to have a temple
built for my Name[b] to be there, but
I have chosen[c] David[d] to rule my
people Israel.'
17 "My father David had it in his
heart[e] to build a temple[f] for the
Name of the LORD, the God of Israel.
18 But the LORD said to my father
David, 'Because it was in your
heart to build a temple for my
Name, you did well to have this in
your heart.
19 Nevertheless, you[g]
are not the one to build the temple,
but your son, who is your own
flesh and blood—he is the one who
will build the temple for my
Name.'[h]
20 "The LORD has kept the promise
he made: I have succeeded[i] David
my father and now I sit on the
throne of Israel, just as the LORD
promised, and I have built[j] the
temple for the Name of the LORD,
the God of Israel.
21 I have provided
a place there for the ark, in which is
the covenant of the LORD that he
made with our fathers when he
brought them out of Egypt."

Solomon's Prayer of Dedication

8:22-53pp — 2Ch 6:12-40

22 Then Solomon stood before the altar
of the LORD in front of the whole
assembly of Israel, spread out his
hands[k] toward heaven
23 and said:

"O LORD, God of Israel, there is
no God like[l] you in heaven above
or on earth below—you who keep
your covenant of love[m] with your
servants who continue wholeheartedly
in your way.
24 You have kept
your promise to your servant David
my father; with your mouth
you have promised and with your
hand you have fulfilled it—as it is
today.
25 "Now LORD, God of Israel, keep
for your servant David my father
the promises[n] you made to him
when you said, 'You shall never
fail to have a man to sit before me
on the throne of Israel, if only your
sons are careful in all they do to
walk before me as you have done.'
26 And now, O God of Israel, let
your word that you promised[o]
your servant David my father come
true.
27 "But will God really dwell[p] on
earth? The heavens, even the highest
heaven,[q] cannot contain[r] you.
How much less this temple I have
built!
28 Yet give attention to your
servant's prayer and his plea for
mercy, O LORD my God. Hear the
cry and the prayer that your servant
is praying in your presence
this day.
29 May your eyes be open[s]
toward[t] this temple night and day,
this place of which you said, 'My
Name[u] shall be there,' so that you
will hear the prayer your servant
prays toward this place.
30 Hear the
supplication of your servant and of
your people Israel when they
pray[v] toward this place. Hear[w]
from heaven, your dwelling place,
and when you hear, forgive.[x]
31 "When a man wrongs his
neighbor and is required to take an
oath and he comes and swears the
oath[y] before your altar in this temple,
32 then hear from heaven and
act. Judge between your servants,
condemning the guilty and bringing
down on his own head what he
has done. Declare the innocent not
guilty, and so establish his innocence.[z]
33 "When your people Israel have
been defeated[a] by an enemy because
they have sinned[b] against
you, and when they turn back to
you and confess your name, praying
and making supplication to you
in this temple,[c]
34 then hear from
heaven and forgive the sin of your
people Israel and bring them back
to the land you gave to their fathers.
35 "When the heavens are shut up
and there is no rain[d] because your
people have sinned[e] against you,
and when they pray toward this
place and confess your name and
turn from their sin because you
have afflicted them,
36 then hear
from heaven and forgive the sin of
your servants, your people Israel.
Teach[f] them the right way[g] to live,
and send rain[h] on the land you
gave your people for an inheritance.
37 "When famine[i] or plague[j]
comes to the land, or blight[k] or
mildew, locusts or grasshoppers,[l]
or when an enemy besieges them
in any of their cities, whatever
disaster or disease may come,
38 and
when a prayer or plea is made by
any of your people Israel—each
one aware of the afflictions of his

8:16 [a]S Ex 3:10 [b]S Dt 12:5 [c]S 1Sa 9:16; S 16:1 [d]Ps 89:3-4
8:17 [e]S 1Sa 10:7; Ac 7:46 [f]2Sa 7:27; 1Ch 22:7; Ps 26:8; 132:5
8:19 [g]S 2Sa 7:5 [h]S 2Sa 7:13
8:20 [i]S 2Sa 7:12 [j]1Ch 28:6
8:22 [k]S Ex 9:29
8:23 [l]S Ex 9:14 [m]S Dt 7:9,12; Ne 1:5; 9:32; Da 9:4
8:25 [n]S 2Sa 7:15; 1Ch 17:23; 2Ch 1:9
8:26 [o]S 2Sa 7:25
8:27 [p]Ac 7:48; 17:24 [q]S Dt 10:14 [r]2Ch 2:6; Ps 139:7-16; Isa 66:1; Jer 23:24
8:29 [s]ver 52; 2Ki 19:16; 2Ch 7:15; Ne 1:6; Ps 5:1; 31:2; 102:17; 130:2; Isa 37:17 [t]Ps 28:2; 138:2; Da 6:10 [u]S Dt 11:12; 12:11; S 2Sa 7:13
8:30 [v]ver 47; Lev 26:40; Ne 1:6; Jer 29:12; Da 9:4 [w]ver 39; Ps 34:6 [x]S Ex 34:7,9; Lev 26:40-42; Ps 85:2
8:31 [y]S Ex 22:11
8:32 [z]Dt 25:1; Eze 18:20
8:33 [a]S Lev 26:17 [b]Lev 26:39 [c]Isa 37:1,14,38
8:35 [d]S Dt 28:24; S 2Sa 1:21 [e]Jer 5:25
8:36 [f]S Dt 8:3; S 1Sa 12:23 [g]Ps 5:8; 27:11; 107:7; Pr 11:5; Isa 45:13; Jer 6:16; 7:23; 31:21 [h]ver 35; 1Ki 17:1; 18:1,45; Jer 5:24; 10:3; 14:22; Zec 10:1
8:37 [i]S Lev 26:26 [j]S Ex 30:12; S Lev 26:25 [k]S Dt 28:22 [l]S Ex 10:13; Ps 105:34

own heart, and spreading out his
hands[a] toward this temple—
39then hear[b] from heaven, your
dwelling place. Forgive[c] and act;
deal with each man according to all
he does, since you know[d] his heart
(for you alone know the hearts of
all men), 40so that they will fear[e]
you all the time they live in the
land[f] you gave our fathers.

41"As for the foreigner[g] who
does not belong to your people Is-
rael but has come from a distant
land because of your name— 42for
men will hear[h] of your great name
and your mighty hand[i] and your
outstretched arm—when he comes
and prays toward this temple,
43then hear from heaven, your
dwelling place, and do whatever
the foreigner asks of you, so that all
the peoples of the earth may
know[j] your name and fear[k] you,
as do your own people Israel, and
may know that this house I have
built bears your Name.[l]

44"When your people go to war
against their enemies, wherever
you send them, and when they
pray[m] to the LORD toward the city
you have chosen and the temple I
have built for your Name, 45then
hear from heaven their prayer and
their plea, and uphold their
cause.[n]

46"When they sin against you—
for there is no one who does not
sin[o]—and you become angry with
them and give them over to the
enemy, who takes them captive[p] to
his own land, far away or near;
47and if they have a change of heart
in the land where they are held
captive, and repent and plead[q]
with you in the land of their con-
querors and say, 'We have sinned,
we have done wrong, we have act-
ed wickedly';[r] 48and if they turn
back[s] to you with all their heart[t]
and soul in the land of their ene-
mies who took them captive, and
pray[u] to you toward the land you
gave their fathers, toward the city
you have chosen and the temple[v] I
have built for your Name;[w] 49then
from heaven, your dwelling place,
hear their prayer and their plea,
and uphold their cause. 50And for-
give your people, who have sinned
against you; forgive all the offenses
they have committed against you,
and cause their conquerors to show
them mercy;[x] 51for they are your
people and your inheritance,[y]
whom you brought out of Egypt,
out of that iron-smelting furnace.[z]

52"May your eyes be open[a] to
your servant's plea and to the plea
of your people Israel, and may you
listen to them whenever they cry
out to you.[b] 53For you singled them
out from all the nations of the
world to be your own inheritance,[c]
just as you declared through your
servant Moses when you, O Sover-
eign LORD, brought our fathers out
of Egypt."

54When Solomon had finished all
these prayers and supplications to the
LORD, he rose from before the altar of
the LORD, where he had been kneeling
with his hands spread out toward
heaven. 55He stood and blessed[d] the
whole assembly of Israel in a loud
voice, saying:

56"Praise be to the LORD, who has
given rest[e] to his people Israel just
as he promised. Not one word has
failed of all the good promises[f] he
gave through his servant Moses.
57May the LORD our God be with us
as he was with our fathers; may he
never leave us nor forsake[g] us.
58May he turn our hearts[h] to him,
to walk in all his ways and to keep
the commands, decrees and regula-
tions he gave our fathers. 59And
may these words of mine, which I
have prayed before the LORD, be
near to the LORD our God day and
night, that he may uphold the
cause of his servant and the cause
of his people Israel according to
each day's need, 60so that all the
peoples[i] of the earth may know
that the LORD is God and that there
is no other.[j] 61But your hearts[k]
must be fully committed[l] to the
LORD our God, to live by his decrees
and obey his commands, as at this
time."

The Dedication of the Temple

8:62-66pp — 2Ch 7:1-10

62Then the king and all Israel with
him offered sacrifices[m] before the LORD.
63Solomon offered a sacrifice of fellow-
ship offerings[n] to the LORD: twenty-two
thousand cattle and a hundred and
twenty thousand sheep and goats. So

8:38 aS Ex 9:29
8:39 bS ver 30 cPs 130:4 dS Jos 22:22; S Ps 44:21; Jn 2:24; S Rev 2:23
8:40 ever 39-40; Dt 6:13; Ps 103:11; 130:4 fS Dt 12:1
8:41 gS Ge 31:15; Isa 56:3,6; 61:5
8:42 h1Ki 10:1; Isa 60:3; Ac 8:27 iDt 3:24
8:43 jS Jos 4:24; S 1Sa 17:46 kPs 102:15 lS Dt 28:10
8:44 m1Ch 5:20; 2Ch 14:11
8:45 nPs 9:4; 140:12
8:46 oPs 130:3; 143:2; Pr 20:9; S Ro 3:9 pLev 26:33-39; S Dt 4:27; S 21:10; S 28:64; 2Ki 25:21
8:47 qS ver 30; S Lev 5:5; Ezr 9:15; Ne 1:6; Jer 14:20 rEzr 9:7; Ps 106:6; Jer 3:25
8:48 sS Dt 4:30 tS Dt 4:29 uJn 1:8-10 vPs 5:7; 11:4; Jnh 2:4 wDt 12:11-14; Ne 1:9; Jer 23:3; 31:8
8:50 x2Ki 25:28; 2Ch 30:9; Ps 106:46; Da 1:9
8:51 yS Ex 34:9; S Dt 9:29 zS Ex 1:13; Isa 48:10; Jer 11:4
8:52 aS ver 29 bJob 30:20; Ps 3:4; 22:2; 77:1; 142:1
8:53 cEx 19:5; S 34:9
8:55 dS Ex 39:43; Nu 6:23
8:56 eS Ex 33:14; Dt 12:10; Heb 4:8 fS Jos 23:15; S Jer 29:10
8:57 gS Dt 4:31; S 31:6; S Mt 28:20; Heb 13:5
8:58 hS Jos 24:23
8:60 iS Jos 4:24 jS Dt 4:35
8:61 kDt 6:5 l1Ki 9:4; 11:4; 15:3,14; 22:43; 2Ki 20:3; 1Ch 28:9; 29:19; 2Ch 16:9; 17:6; 25:2; Ps 119:80; Isa 38:3
8:62 mS 2Sa 6:13; 1Ch 29:21; Eze 45:17

n63 Traditionally *peace offerings;* also in verse 64

the king and all the Israelites dedicat-
ed the temple of the LORD.
64 On that same day the king conse-
crated the middle part of the courtyard
in front of the temple of the LORD, and
there he offered burnt offerings, grain
offerings and the fat of the fellowship
offerings, because the bronze altar be-
fore the LORD was too small to hold the
burnt offerings, the grain offerings and
the fat of the fellowship offerings.
65 So Solomon observed the festival
at that time, and all Israel with him—a
vast assembly, people from Lebo[a]
Hamath to the Wadi of Egypt. They
celebrated it before the LORD our God
for seven days and seven days more,
fourteen days in all. 66 On the following
day he sent the people away. They
blessed the king and then went home,
joyful and glad in heart for all the
good things the LORD had done for his
servant David and his people Israel.

The LORD Appears to Solomon

9:1-9pp—2Ch 7:11-22

9 When Solomon had finished
building the temple of the LORD and
the royal palace, and had achieved all
he had desired to do, 2 the LORD ap-
peared to him a second time, as he
had appeared to him at Gibeon. 3 The
LORD said to him:

"I have heard the prayer and
plea you have made before me; I
have consecrated this temple,
which you have built, by putting
my Name there forever. My eyes
and my heart will always be there.
4 "As for you, if you walk before
me in integrity of heart and up-
rightness, as David your father
did, and do all I command and ob-
serve my decrees and laws, 5 I will
establish your royal throne over
Israel forever, as I promised David
your father when I said, 'You shall
never fail to have a man on the
throne of Israel.'
6 "But if you[b] or your sons turn
away from me and do not observe
the commands and decrees I have
given you and go off to serve
other gods and worship them,
7 then I will cut off Israel from the
land I have given them and will
reject this temple I have conse-
crated for my Name. Israel will
then become a byword and an ob-
ject of ridicule among all peoples.
8 And though this temple is now

8:63 [illegible]
8:64 [illegible]
8:65 [illegible]
8:66 [illegible]
9:1 [illegible]
9:2 [illegible]
9:3 [illegible]
9:4 [illegible]
9:5 [illegible]
9:6 [illegible]
9:7 [illegible]
9:8 S Lev 26:32; S Dt 29:24; Jer 7:4-15; Mt 23:38
9:9 Dt 29:25; 2Ki 22:17; Jer 5:19; 13:22; 16:11-13; 22:9; S Nu 25:3; Jer 40:3; 44:23; La 4:12; S Dt 31:29
9:11 ver 14
9:13 Jos 19:27
9:14 ver 11
9:15 1Ki 5:13; S 2Sa 5:9; Jos 11:10-11; S Jos 10:33
9:16 1Ki 3:1; Ps 45:12; 68:29; 72:10
9:17 S Jos 10:10
9:18 S Jos 19:44
9:19 S Ex 1:11; S Dt 17:16; 1Ki 4:26; 2Ch 1:14; 9:25
9:20 S Nu 13:29; S Jos 11:3
9:21 S Ge 9:25-26

imposing, all who pass by will be
appalled and will scoff and say,
'Why has the LORD done such a
thing to this land and to this tem-
ple?' 9 People will answer, 'Be-
cause they have forsaken the LORD
their God, who brought their fa-
thers out of Egypt, and have em-
braced other gods, worshiping and
serving them—that is why the LORD
brought all this disaster on
them.'"

Solomon's Other Activities

9:10-28pp—2Ch 8:1-18

10 At the end of twenty years, during
which Solomon built these two build-
ings—the temple of the LORD and the
royal palace— 11 King Solomon gave
twenty towns in Galilee to Hiram king
of Tyre, because Hiram had supplied
him with all the cedar and pine and
gold he wanted. 12 But when Hiram
went from Tyre to see the towns that
Solomon had given him, he was not
pleased with them. 13 "What kind of
towns are these you have given me,
my brother?" he asked. And he called
them the Land of Cabul,[c] a name
they have to this day. 14 Now Hiram
had sent to the king 120 talents[d] of
gold.
15 Here is the account of the forced la-
bor King Solomon conscripted to
build the LORD's temple, his own pal-
ace, the supporting terraces,[e] the
wall of Jerusalem, and Hazor, Megid-
do and Gezer. 16 (Pharaoh king of
Egypt had attacked and captured Ge-
zer. He had set it on fire. He killed its
Canaanite inhabitants and then gave it
as a wedding gift to his daughter,
Solomon's wife. 17 And Solomon rebuilt
Gezer.) He built up Lower Beth Hor-
on, 18 Baalath, and Tadmor[f] in the
desert, within his land, 19 as well as all
his store cities and the towns for his
chariots[g] and for his horses—what-
ever he desired to build in Jerusalem, in
Lebanon and throughout all the terri-
tory he ruled.
20 All the people left from the Amo-
rites, Hittites, Perizzites, Hivites and
Jebusites (these peoples were not Isra-
elites), 21 that is, their descendants re-
maining in the land, whom the Israel-

a65 *Or from the entrance to* b6 The Hebrew is plural. c13 *Cabul* sounds like the Hebrew for *good-for-nothing.* d14 That is, about 4 1/2 tons (about 4 metric tons) e15 *Or the Millo;* also in verse 24 f18 The Hebrew may also be read *Tamar.* g19 *Or charioteers*

ites could not exterminate[f a]—these
Solomon conscripted for his slave labor
force,[b] as it is to this day. 22But Solo-
mon did not make slaves[c] of any of the
Israelites; they were his fighting men,
his government officials, his officers,
his captains, and the commanders of
his chariots and charioteers. 23They
were also the chief officials[d] in charge
of Solomon's projects—550 officials su-
pervising the men who did the work.
24After Pharaoh's daughter[e] had
come up from the City of David to the
palace Solomon had built for her, he
constructed the supporting terraces.[f]
25Three[g] times a year Solomon sacri-
ficed burnt offerings and fellowship of-
ferings[g] on the altar he had built for
the LORD, burning incense before the
LORD along with them, and so fulfilled
the temple obligations.
26King Solomon also built ships[h] at
Ezion Geber,[i] which is near Elath[j] in
Edom, on the shore of the Red Sea.[h]
27And Hiram sent his men—sailors[k]
who knew the sea—to serve in the fleet
with Solomon's men. 28They sailed to
Ophir[l] and brought back 420 talents[i]
of gold,[m] which they delivered to King
Solomon.

The Queen of Sheba Visits Solomon

10:1-13pp — 2Ch 9:1-12

10 When the queen of Sheba[n]
heard about the fame[o] of Solo-
mon and his relation to the name of the
LORD, she came to test him with hard
questions.[p] 2Arriving at Jerusalem with
a very great caravan[q]—with camels
carrying spices, large quantities of
gold, and precious stones—she came to
Solomon and talked with him about all
that she had on her mind. 3Solomon
answered all her questions; nothing
was too hard for the king to explain to
her. 4When the queen of Sheba saw all
the wisdom of Solomon and the palace
he had built, 5the food on his table,[r]
the seating of his officials, the attend-
ing servants in their robes, his cupbear-
ers, and the burnt offerings he made
at[j] the temple of the LORD, she was
overwhelmed.
6She said to the king, "The report I
heard in my own country about your
achievements and your wisdom is true.
7But I did not believe[s] these things un-
til I came and saw with my own eyes.
Indeed, not even half was told me; in
wisdom and wealth[t] you have far ex-
ceeded the report I heard. 8How happy
your men must be! How happy your
officials, who continually stand before
you and hear[u] your wisdom! 9Praise[v]
be to the LORD your God, who has de-
lighted in you and placed you on the
throne of Israel. Because of the LORD's
eternal love[w] for Israel, he has made
you king, to maintain justice[x] and
righteousness."
10And she gave the king 120 talents[k]
of gold,[y] large quantities of spices, and
precious stones. Never again were so
many spices brought in as those the
queen of Sheba gave to King Solomon.
11(Hiram's ships brought gold from
Ophir;[z] and from there they brought
great cargoes of almugwood[l] and pre-
cious stones. 12The king used the al-
mugwood to make supports for the
temple of the LORD and for the royal
palace, and to make harps and lyres for
the musicians. So much almugwood
has never been imported or seen since
that day.)
13King Solomon gave the queen of
Sheba all she desired and asked for, be-
sides what he had given her out of his
royal bounty. Then she left and re-
turned with her retinue to her own
country.

Solomon's Splendor

10:14-29pp — 2Ch 1:14-17; 9:13-28

14The weight of the gold[a] that Solo-
mon received yearly was 666 talents,[m]
15not including the revenues from mer-
chants and traders and from all the
Arabian kings and the governors of the
land.
16King Solomon made two hundred
large shields[b] of hammered gold; six
hundred bekas[n] of gold went into each
shield. 17He also made three hundred
small shields of hammered gold, with
three minas[o] of gold in each shield.
The king put them in the Palace of the
Forest of Lebanon.[c]
18Then the king made a great throne
inlaid with ivory and overlaid with fine
gold. 19The throne had six steps, and
its back had a rounded top. On both
sides of the seat were armrests, with a
lion standing beside each of them.

9:21 a S Jos 15:63 b S Ge 49:15; S Ex 1:11; S Dt 20:11
9:22 c S Lev 25:39
9:23 d 1Ki 5:16
9:24 e S 1Ki 3:1 f 2Sa 5:9; 1Ki 11:27
9:25 g S Ex 23:14
9:26 h 1Ki 10:22; 22:48; 2Ch 20:37; Isa 2:16 i S Nu 33:35 j 2Ki 14:22; 16:6
9:27 k Eze 27:8
9:28 l S Ge 10:29 m ver 14; 1Ki 10:10,11,14,21; 2Ch 1:15; Ecc 2:8
10:1 n S Ge 10:7,28; S 25:3; Mt 12:42; Lk 11:31 o Eze 16:14 p S Nu 12:8; S Jdg 14:12
10:2 q S Ge 24:10
10:5 r 1Ki 4:22
10:7 s S Ge 45:26 t 1Ch 29:25
10:8 u Pr 8:34
10:9 v S 1Ki 5:7; S Isa 42:10 w S Dt 7:8 x Ps 11:7; 33:5; 72:2; 99:4; 103:6
10:10 y S 1Ki 9:28; Isa 60:6
10:11 z S Ge 10:29
10:14 a S 1Ki 9:28
10:16 b S 2Sa 8:7
10:17 c S 1Ki 7:2

f21 The Hebrew term refers to the irrevocable giving over of things or persons to the LORD, often by totally destroying them. g25 Traditionally *peace offerings* h26 Hebrew *Yam Suph*; that is, Sea of Reeds i28 That is, about 16 tons (about 14.5 metric tons) j5 Or *the ascent by which he went up to* k10 That is, about 4 1/2 tons (about 4 metric tons) l11 Probably a variant of *algumwood*; also in verse 12 m14 That is, about 25 tons (about 23 metric tons) n16 That is, about 7 1/2 pounds (about 3.5 kilograms) o17 That is, about 3 3/4 pounds (about 1.7 kilograms)

20 Twelve lions stood on the six steps,
one at either end of each step. Nothing
like it had ever been made for any
other kingdom. 21 All King Solomon's
goblets were gold, and all the house-
hold articles in the Palace of the Forest
of Lebanon were pure gold.[a] Nothing
was made of silver, because silver was
considered of little value in Solomon's
days. 22 The king had a fleet of trading
ships[p][b] at sea along with the ships[c] of
Hiram. Once every three years it re-
turned, carrying gold, silver and ivory,
and apes and baboons.
23 King Solomon was greater in
riches[d] and wisdom[e] than all the other
kings of the earth. 24 The whole world
sought audience with Solomon to hear
the wisdom[f] God had put in his heart.
25 Year after year, everyone who came
brought a gift[g]—articles of silver and
gold, robes, weapons and spices, and
horses and mules.
26 Solomon accumulated chariots and
horses;[h] he had fourteen hundred
chariots and twelve thousand horses,[q]
which he kept in the chariot cities and
also with him in Jerusalem. 27 The king
made silver as common[i] in Jerusalem
as stones,[j] and cedar as plentiful as
sycamore-fig[k] trees in the foothills.
28 Solomon's horses were imported
from Egypt[r] and from Kue[s]—the royal
merchants purchased them from Kue.
29 They imported a chariot from Egypt
for six hundred shekels[t] of silver, and
a horse for a hundred and fifty.[u] They
also exported them to all the kings of
the Hittites[l] and of the Arameans.

Solomon's Wives

11 King Solomon, however, loved
many foreign women[m] besides
Pharaoh's daughter—Moabites, Am-
monites,[n] Edomites, Sidonians and
Hittites. 2 They were from nations about
which the LORD had told the Israelites,
"You must not intermarry[o] with them,
because they will surely turn your
hearts after their gods." Nevertheless,
Solomon held fast to them in love. 3 He
had seven hundred wives of royal birth
and three hundred concubines,[p] and
his wives led him astray.[q] 4 As Solomon
grew old, his wives turned his heart af-
ter other gods,[r] and his heart was not
fully devoted[s] to the LORD his God, as
the heart of David his father had been.
5 He followed Ashtoreth[t] the goddess
of the Sidonians, and Molech[v][u] the de-
testable god of the Ammonites. 6 So
Solomon did evil[v] in the eyes of the
LORD; he did not follow the LORD com-
pletely, as David his father had done.
7 On a hill east[w] of Jerusalem, Solo-
mon built a high place for Chemosh[x]
the detestable god of Moab, and for
Molech[y] the detestable god of the Am-
monites. 8 He did the same for all his
foreign wives, who burned incense and
offered sacrifices to their gods.
9 The LORD became angry with Solo-
mon because his heart had turned
away from the LORD, the God of Israel,
who had appeared[z] to him twice. 10 Al-
though he had forbidden Solomon to
follow other gods,[a] Solomon did not
keep the LORD's command.[b] 11 So the
LORD said to Solomon, "Since this is
your attitude and you have not kept
my covenant and my decrees,[c] which I
commanded you, I will most certainly
tear[d] the kingdom away from you and
give it to one of your subordinates.
12 Nevertheless, for the sake of David[e]
your father, I will not do it during your
lifetime. I will tear it out of the hand of
your son. 13 Yet I will not tear the whole
kingdom from him, but will give him
one tribe[f] for the sake[g] of David my
servant and for the sake of Jerusalem,
which I have chosen."[h]

Solomon's Adversaries

14 Then the LORD raised up against
Solomon an adversary,[i] Hadad the
Edomite, from the royal line of Edom.
15 Earlier when David was fighting with
Edom, Joab the commander of the
army, who had gone up to bury the
dead, had struck down all the men in
Edom.[j] 16 Joab and all the Israelites
stayed there for six months, until they
had destroyed all the men in Edom.
17 But Hadad, still only a boy, fled to
Egypt with some Edomite officials who
had served his father. 18 They set out
from Midian and went to Paran.[k] Then
taking men from Paran with them, they
went to Egypt, to Pharaoh king of
Egypt, who gave Hadad a house and
land and provided him with food.
19 Pharaoh was so pleased with
Hadad that he gave him a sister of his
own wife, Queen Tahpenes, in mar-
riage. 20 The sister of Tahpenes bore
him a son named Genubath, whom
Tahpenes brought up in the royal pal-

10:21 [a]Isa 60:17
10:22 [b]S 1Ki 9:26 [c]1Ki 9:27; Ps 48:7; Isa 2:16; 23:1,14; 60:6,9
10:23 [d]1Ki 3:13; Mt 6:29 [e]S 1Ki 3:12; Mt 12:42
10:24 [f]S 2Sa 14:20
10:25 [g]S 1Sa 10:27
10:26 [h]S Dt 17:16
10:27 [i]Dt 17:17 [j]Job 27:16; Isa 60:17 [k]1Ch 27:28; Am 7:14
10:29 [l]S Nu 13:29
11:1 [m]S ver 3; S Ex 34:16 [n]1Ki 14:21,31
11:2 [o]S Ex 34:16; 1Ki 16:31
11:3 [p]S Ge 22:24; S Est 2:14 [q]ver 1; Dt 17:17; Ne 13:26; Pr 31:3
11:4 [r]S Ex 34:16 [s]S 1Ki 8:61; S 1Ch 29:19
11:5 [t]S Jdg 2:13 [u]ver 7; S Lev 18:21; Isa 57:9; Zep 1:5
11:6 [v]S Dt 4:25
11:7 [w]2Ki 23:13 [x]S Nu 21:29 [y]S Lev 18:21; 20:2-5; Ac 7:43
11:9 [z]S 1Ki 3:5
11:10 [a]S 1Ki 9:6 [b]1Ki 6:12
11:11 [c]S Lev 18:4 [d]ver 31; S 1Sa 15:27; 2Ki 17:21; Mt 21:43
11:12 [e]Ps 89:33
11:13 [f]1Ki 12:20 [g]S 2Sa 7:15 [h]Dt 12:11
11:14 [i]S 1Ki 5:4
11:15 [j]1Ch 18:12
11:18 [k]Nu 10:12

[p]22 Hebrew *of ships of Tarshish* [q]26 Or *charioteers* [r]28 Or possibly *Muzur*, a region in Cilicia; also in verse 29 [s]28 Probably *Cilicia* [t]29 That is, about 15 pounds (about 7 kilograms) [u]29 That is, about 3 3/4 pounds (about 1.7 kilograms) [v]5 Hebrew *Milcom*; also in verse 33

ace. There Genubath lived with Phar-
aoh's own children.
21While he was in Egypt, Hadad
heard that David rested with his fa-
thers and that Joab the commander of
the army was also dead. Then Hadad
said to Pharaoh, "Let me go, that I may
return to my own country."
22"What have you lacked here that
you want to go back to your own coun-
try?" Pharaoh asked.
"Nothing," Hadad replied, "but do
let me go!"
23And God raised up against Solo-
mon another adversary,[a] Rezon son of
Eliada, who had fled from his master,
Hadadezer[b] king of Zobah. 24He gath-
ered men around him and became the
leader of a band of rebels when David
destroyed the forces[w] of Zobah; the
rebels went to Damascus,[c] where they
settled and took control. 25Rezon was
Israel's adversary as long as Solomon
lived, adding to the trouble caused by
Hadad. So Rezon ruled in Aram[d] and
was hostile toward Israel.

Jeroboam Rebels Against Solomon

26Also, Jeroboam son of Nebat re-
belled[e] against the king. He was one of
Solomon's officials, an Ephraimite from
Zeredah, and his mother was a widow
named Zeruah.
27Here is the account of how he re-
belled against the king: Solomon had
built the supporting terraces[x][f] and
had filled in the gap in the wall of the
city of David his father. 28Now Jero-
boam was a man of standing,[g] and
when Solomon saw how well[h] the
young man did his work, he put him in
charge of the whole labor force of the
house of Joseph.
29About that time Jeroboam was go-
ing out of Jerusalem, and Ahijah[i] the
prophet of Shiloh met him on the way,
wearing a new cloak. The two of them
were alone out in the country, 30and
Ahijah took hold of the new cloak he
was wearing and tore[j] it into twelve
pieces. 31Then he said to Jeroboam,
"Take ten pieces for yourself, for this is
what the LORD, the God of Israel, says:
'See, I am going to tear[k] the kingdom
out of Solomon's hand and give you
ten tribes. 32But for the sake[l] of my ser-
vant David and the city of Jerusalem,
which I have chosen out of all the tribes
of Israel, he will have one tribe. 33I will
do this because they have[y] forsaken
me and worshiped[m] Ashtoreth the
goddess of the Sidonians, Chemosh
the god of the Moabites, and Molech
the god of the Ammonites, and have
not walked[n] in my ways, nor done
what is right in my eyes, nor kept my
statutes[o] and laws as David, Solo-
mon's father, did.
34" 'But I will not take the whole
kingdom out of Solomon's hand; I have
made him ruler all the days of his life
for the sake of David my servant,
whom I chose and who observed my
commands and statutes. 35I will take
the kingdom from his son's hands and
give you ten tribes. 36I will give one
tribe[p] to his son so that David my ser-
vant may always have a lamp[q] before
me in Jerusalem, the city where I chose
to put my Name. 37However, as for
you, I will take you, and you will rule[r]
over all that your heart desires;[s] you
will be king over Israel. 38If you do
whatever I command you and walk in
my ways and do what is right[t] in my
eyes by keeping my statutes[u] and com-
mands, as David my servant did, I will
be with you. I will build you a dynas-
ty[v] as enduring as the one I built for
David and will give Israel to you. 39I
will humble David's descendants be-
cause of this, but not forever.' "
40Solomon tried to kill Jeroboam, but
Jeroboam fled[w] to Egypt, to Shishak[x]
the king, and stayed there until Solo-
mon's death.

Solomon's Death

11:41-43pp — 2Ch 9:29-31

41As for the other events of Solo-
mon's reign—all he did and the wis-
dom he displayed—are they not writ-
ten in the book of the annals of Solo-
mon? 42Solomon reigned in Jerusalem
over all Israel forty years. 43Then he
rested with his fathers and was buried
in the city of David his father. And
Rehoboam[y] his son succeeded him as
king.

Israel Rebels Against Rehoboam

12:1-24pp — 2Ch 10:1-11:4

12 Rehoboam went to Shechem,[z]
for all the Israelites had gone
there to make him king. 2When Jero-
boam son of Nebat heard this (he was
still in Egypt, where he had fled[a] from
King Solomon), he returned from[a]
Egypt. 3So they sent for Jeroboam, and
he and the whole assembly of Israel
went to Rehoboam and said to him:

11:23 [a]S 1Ki 5:4 [b]S 2Sa 8:3 **11:24** [c]S 2Sa 8:5 **11:25** [d]S Ge 10:22; S 2Sa 10:19 **11:26** [e]2Ch 13:6 **11:27** [f]S 1Ki 9:24 **11:28** [g]S Ru 2:1 [h]S Ge 39:4; Pr 22:29 **11:29** [i]1Ki 12:15; 14:2; 2Ch 9:29; 10:15 **11:30** [j]1Sa 15:27 **11:31** [k]S ver 11; S 1Sa 15:27 **11:32** [l]S 2Sa 7:15 **11:33** [m]S Jdg 2:13 [n]2Ki 21:22 [o]1Ki 3:3 **11:36** [p]1Ki 12:17 [q]S 2Sa 21:17 **11:37** [r]1Ki 14:7 [s]2Sa 3:21 **11:38** [t]S Dt 12:25; S 2Sa 8:15 [u]S Dt 17:19 [v]S Ex 1:21 **11:40** [w]1Ki 12:2; 2Ch 10:2 [x]2Ch 12:2 **11:43** [y]Mt 1:7 **12:1** [z]ver 25; S Ge 12:6; Jos 24:32 **12:2** [a]S 1Ki 11:40

[w]24 Hebrew *destroyed them* [x]27 Or *the Millo*
[y]33 Hebrew; Septuagint, Vulgate and Syriac *because he has* [a]2 Or *he remained in*

4"Your father put a heavy yoke[a] on us, but now lighten the harsh labor and the heavy yoke he put on us, and we will serve you."

5Rehoboam answered, "Go away for three days and then come back to me." So the people went away.

6Then King Rehoboam consulted the elders[b] who had served his father Solomon during his lifetime. "How would you advise me to answer these people?" he asked.

7They replied, "If today you will be a servant to these people and serve them and give them a favorable answer,[c] they will always be your servants."

8But Rehoboam rejected[d] the advice the elders gave him and consulted the young men who had grown up with him and were serving him. 9He asked them, "What is your advice? How should we answer these people who say to me, 'Lighten the yoke your father put on us'?"

10The young men who had grown up with him replied, "Tell these people who have said to you, 'Your father put a heavy yoke on us, but make our yoke lighter'—tell them, 'My little finger is thicker than my father's waist. 11My father laid on you a heavy yoke; I will make it even heavier. My father scourged you with whips; I will scourge you with scorpions.' "

12Three days later Jeroboam and all the people returned to Rehoboam, as the king had said, "Come back to me in three days." 13The king answered the people harshly. Rejecting the advice given him by the elders, 14he followed the advice of the young men and said, "My father made your yoke heavy; I will make it even heavier. My father scourged[e] you with whips; I will scourge you with scorpions." 15So the king did not listen to the people, for this turn of events was from the LORD,[f] to fulfill the word the LORD had spoken to Jeroboam son of Nebat through Ahijah[g] the Shilonite.

16When all Israel saw that the king refused to listen to them, they answered the king:

"What share[h] do we have in David,
what part in Jesse's son?
To your tents, O Israel![i]
Look after your own house,
O David!"[j]

So the Israelites went home. 17But as for the Israelites who were living in the towns of Judah,[k] Rehoboam still ruled over them.

18King Rehoboam sent out Adoniram,[b][l] who was in charge of forced labor, but all Israel stoned him to death.[m] King Rehoboam, however, managed to get into his chariot and escape to Jerusalem. 19So Israel has been in rebellion against the house of David[n] to this day.

20When all the Israelites heard that Jeroboam had returned, they sent and called him to the assembly and made him king over all Israel. Only the tribe of Judah remained loyal to the house of David.[o]

21When Rehoboam arrived in Jerusalem, he mustered the whole house of Judah and the tribe of Benjamin—a hundred and eighty thousand fighting men—to make war[p] against the house of Israel and to regain the kingdom for Rehoboam son of Solomon.

22But this word of God came to Shemaiah[q] the man of God:[r] 23"Say to Rehoboam son of Solomon king of Judah, to the whole house of Judah and Benjamin, and to the rest of the people, 24'This is what the LORD says: Do not go up to fight against your brothers, the Israelites. Go home, every one of you, for this is my doing.' " So they obeyed the word of the LORD and went home again, as the LORD had ordered.

Golden Calves at Bethel and Dan

25Then Jeroboam fortified Shechem[s] in the hill country of Ephraim and lived there. From there he went out and built up Peniel.[c][t]

26Jeroboam thought to himself, "The kingdom will now likely revert to the house of David. 27If these people go up to offer sacrifices at the temple of the LORD in Jerusalem,[u] they will again give their allegiance to their lord, Rehoboam king of Judah. They will kill me and return to King Rehoboam."

28After seeking advice, the king made two golden calves.[v] He said to the people, "It is too much for you to go up to Jerusalem. Here are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of Egypt."[w] 29One he set up in Bethel,[x] and the other in Dan.[y] 30And this thing became a sin;[z] the people went even as far as Dan to worship the one there.

12:4 [a]S 1Sa 8:11-18; 1Ki 4:20-28
12:6 [b]S 1Ki 4:2
12:7 [c]Pr 15:1
12:8 [d]Lev 19:32
12:14 [e]Ex 1:14
12:15 [f]S Dt 2:30; 2Ch 25:20 [g]S 1Ki 11:29
12:16 [h]S Ge 31:14 [i]S 2Sa 20:1 [j]Isa 7:17
12:17 [k]1Ki 11:36
12:18 [l]S 2Sa 20:24 [m]S Jos 7:25
12:19 [n]2Ki 17:21
12:20 [o]1Ki 11:13; Eze 37:16
12:21 [p]1Ki 14:30; 15:6, 16; 2Ch 11:1
12:22 [q]2Ch 12:5-7 [r]S Dt 33:1; 2Ki 4:7
12:25 [s]S ver 1 [t]S Jdg 8:8
12:27 [u]Dt 12:5-6
12:28 [v]S Ex 32:4; S 2Ch 11:15 [w]S Ex 32:8
12:29 [x]S Ge 12:8; S Jos 7:2 [y]Jdg 18:27-31; Am 8:14
12:30 [z]1Ki 13:34; 14:16; 15:26,30; 16:2; 2Ki 3:3; 10:29; 13:2; 17:21

[b]18 Some Septuagint manuscripts and Syriac (see also 1 Kings 4:6 and 5:14); Hebrew *Adoram*
[c]25 Hebrew *Penuel*, a variant of *Peniel*

31 Jeroboam built shrines[a] on high
places and appointed priests[b] from all
sorts of people, even though they were
not Levites. 32 He instituted a festival on
the fifteenth day of the eighth[c] month,
like the festival held in Judah, and of-
fered sacrifices on the altar. This he did
in Bethel,[d] sacrificing to the calves he
had made. And at Bethel he also in-
stalled priests at the high places he had
made. 33 On the fifteenth day of the
eighth month, a month of his own
choosing, he offered sacrifices on the
altar he had built at Bethel.[e] So he in-
stituted the festival for the Israelites
and went up to the altar to make offer-
ings.

The Man of God From Judah

13 By the word of the LORD a man of
God[f] came from Judah to Beth-
el,[g] as Jeroboam was standing by the
altar to make an offering. 2 He cried out
against the altar by the word of the
LORD: "O altar, altar! This is what the
LORD says: 'A son named Josiah[h] will
be born to the house of David. On you
he will sacrifice the priests of the high
places[i] who now make offerings here,
and human bones will be burned on
you.' " 3 That same day the man of God
gave a sign:[j] "This is the sign the LORD
has declared: The altar will be split
apart and the ashes on it will be poured
out."

4 When King Jeroboam heard what
the man of God cried out against the
altar at Bethel, he stretched out his
hand from the altar and said, "Seize
him!" But the hand he stretched out
toward the man shriveled up, so that
he could not pull it back. 5 Also, the al-
tar was split apart and its ashes poured
out according to the sign given by the
man of God by the word of the LORD.

6 Then the king said to the man of
God, "Intercede[k] with the LORD your
God and pray for me that my hand
may be restored." So the man of God
interceded with the LORD, and the
king's hand was restored and became
as it was before.

7 The king said to the man of God,
"Come home with me and have some-
thing to eat, and I will give you a
gift."[l]

8 But the man of God answered the
king, "Even if you were to give me half
your possessions,[m] I would not go with
you, nor would I eat bread[n] or drink
water here. 9 For I was commanded by
the word of the LORD: 'You must not eat
bread or drink water or return by the
way you came.' " 10 So he took another
road and did not return by the way he
had come to Bethel.

11 Now there was a certain old
prophet living in Bethel, whose sons
came and told him all that the man of
God had done there that day. They
also told their father what he had said
to the king. 12 Their father asked them,
"Which way did he go?" And his sons
showed him which road the man of
God from Judah had taken. 13 So he said
to his sons, "Saddle the donkey for
me." And when they had saddled the
donkey for him, he mounted it 14 and
rode after the man of God. He found
him sitting under an oak tree and
asked, "Are you the man of God who
came from Judah?"

"I am," he replied.

15 So the prophet said to him, "Come
home with me and eat."

16 The man of God said, "I cannot
turn back and go with you, nor can I
eat bread[o] or drink water with you in
this place. 17 I have been told by the
word of the LORD: 'You must not eat
bread or drink water there or return by
the way you came.' "

18 The old prophet answered, "I too
am a prophet, as you are. And an angel
said to me by the word of the LORD:[p]
'Bring him back with you to your house
so that he may eat bread and drink
water.' " (But he was lying[q] to him.)
19 So the man of God returned with him
and ate and drank in his house.

20 While they were sitting at the table,
the word of the LORD came to the old
prophet who had brought him back.
21 He cried out to the man of God who
had come from Judah, "This is what
the LORD says: 'You have defied[r] the
word of the LORD and have not kept the
command the LORD your God gave you.
22 You came back and ate bread and
drank water in the place where he told
you not to eat or drink. Therefore your
body will not be buried in the tomb of
your fathers.' "

23 When the man of God had finished
eating and drinking, the prophet who
had brought him back saddled his don-
key for him. 24 As he went on his way, a
lion[s] met him on the road and killed
him, and his body was thrown down
on the road, with both the donkey and
the lion standing beside it. 25 Some
people who passed by saw the body
thrown down there, with the lion
standing beside the body, and they

12:31 [a]S Lev 26:30; 1Ki 13:32; 2Ki 17:29 [b]S Ex 29:9; 1Ki 13:33; 2Ki 17:32; 2Ch 11:14-15; 13:9
12:32 [c]S Nu 29:12 [d]2Ki 10:29
12:33 [e]2Ki 23:15; Am 7:13
13:1 [f]S Dt 33:1; S Jdg 13:6 [g]Am 7:13
13:2 [h]2Ki 23:15-16, 20; 2Ch 34:5 [i]S Lev 26:30
13:3 [j]S Ge 24:14; S Ex 4:8; S Jn 2:11
13:6 [k]S Ge 20:7; S Nu 11:2; S Jer 37:3; Ac 8:24
13:7 [l]S 1Sa 9:7
13:8 [m]Nu 22:18 [n]ver 16
13:16 [o]ver 8
13:18 [p]1Ki 22:6, 12; 2Ch 35:21; Isa 36:10 [q]S Ge 19:14; S Dt 13:3
13:21 [r]ver 26; S 1Sa 13:14; 1Ki 20:35
13:24 [s]1Ki 20:36

went and reported it in the city where
the old prophet lived.
26 When the prophet who had
brought him back from his journey
heard of it, he said, "It is the man of
God who defied[a] the word of the LORD.
The LORD has given him over to the
lion, which has mauled him and killed
him, as the word of the LORD had
warned him."
27 The prophet said to his sons, "Sad-
dle the donkey for me," and they did
so. 28 Then he went out and found the
body thrown down on the road, with
the donkey and the lion standing be-
side it. The lion had neither eaten the
body nor mauled the donkey. 29 So the
prophet picked up the body of the man
of God, laid it on the donkey, and
brought it back to his own city to
mourn for him and bury him. 30 Then
he laid the body in his own tomb,[b] and
they mourned over him and said, "Oh,
my brother!"[c]
31 After burying him, he said to his
sons, "When I die, bury me in the
grave where the man of God is buried;
lay my bones[d] beside his bones. 32 For
the message he declared by the word of
the LORD against the altar in Bethel and
against all the shrines on the high
places[e] in the towns of Samaria[f] will
certainly come true."[g]
33 Even after this, Jeroboam did not
change his evil ways,[h] but once more
appointed priests for the high places
from all sorts[i] of people. Anyone who
wanted to become a priest he conse-
crated for the high places. 34 This was
the sin[j] of the house of Jeroboam that
led to its downfall and to its destruc-
tion[k] from the face of the earth.

Ahijah's Prophecy Against Jeroboam

14 At that time Abijah son of Jero-
boam became ill, 2 and Jeroboam
said to his wife, "Go, disguise yourself,
so you won't be recognized as the wife
of Jeroboam. Then go to Shiloh. Ahi-
jah[l] the prophet is there—the one who
told me I would be king over this
people. 3 Take ten loaves of bread[m] with
you, some cakes and a jar of honey,
and go to him. He will tell you what
will happen to the boy." 4 So Jero-
boam's wife did what he said and went
to Ahijah's house in Shiloh.
Now Ahijah could not see; his sight
was gone because of his age. 5 But the
LORD had told Ahijah, "Jeroboam's wife
is coming to ask you about her son, for
he is ill, and you are to give her such
and such an answer. When she arrives,
she will pretend to be someone else."
6 So when Ahijah heard the sound of
her footsteps at the door, he said,
"Come in, wife of Jeroboam. Why this
pretense?[n] I have been sent to you
with bad news. 7 Go, tell Jeroboam that
this is what the LORD, the God of Israel,
says:[o] 'I raised you up from among the
people and made you a leader[p] over
my people Israel. 8 I tore[q] the kingdom
away from the house of David and
gave it to you, but you have not been
like my servant David, who kept my
commands and followed me with all
his heart, doing only what was right[r]
in my eyes. 9 You have done more evil[s]
than all who lived before you.[t] You
have made for yourself other gods,
idols[u] made of metal; you have pro-
voked[v] me to anger and thrust me be-
hind your back.[w]
10 "'Because of this, I am going to
bring disaster[x] on the house of Jero-
boam. I will cut off from Jeroboam
every last male in Israel—slave or
free.[y] I will burn up the house of Jero-
boam as one burns dung, until it is all
gone.[z] 11 Dogs[a] will eat those belong-
ing to Jeroboam who die in the city,
and the birds of the air[b] will feed on
those who die in the country. The LORD
has spoken!'
12 "As for you, go back home. When
you set foot in your city, the boy will
die. 13 All Israel will mourn for him and
bury him. He is the only one belonging
to Jeroboam who will be buried, be-
cause he is the only one in the house of
Jeroboam in whom the LORD, the God
of Israel, has found anything good.[c]
14 "The LORD will raise up for himself
a king over Israel who will cut off the
family of Jeroboam. This is the day!
What? Yes, even now.[d] 15 And the LORD
will strike Israel, so that it will be like a
reed swaying in the water. He will
uproot[d] Israel from this good land that
he gave to their forefathers and scatter
them beyond the River,[e] because they
provoked[e] the LORD to anger by mak-
ing Asherah[f] poles.[f] 16 And he will
give Israel up because of the sins[g] Jero-
boam has committed and has caused
Israel to commit."
17 Then Jeroboam's wife got up and
left and went to Tirzah.[h] As soon as

[d]14 The meaning of the Hebrew for this sentence is uncertain. [e]15 That is, the Euphrates [f]15 That is, symbols of the goddess Asherah; here and elsewhere in 1 Kings

13:26 [a]S ver 21
13:30 [b]2Ki 23:17 [c]Jer 22:18
13:31 [d]2Ki 23:18
13:32 [e]S Lev 26:30; S 1Ki 12:31 [f]1Ki 16:24,28; 20:1; 2Ki 10:1; 15:13 [g]2Ki 23:16
13:33 [h]1Ki 15:26 [i]S 1Ki 12:31
13:34 [j]S 1Ki 12:30 [k]1Ki 14:10; 15:29; 2Ki 9:9; Jer 35:17; Am 7:9
14:2 [l]S 1Ki 11:29
14:3 [m]S 1Sa 9:7
14:6 [n]S 1Sa 28:12
14:7 [o]1Ki 15:29 [p]1Ki 11:37
14:8 [q]S 1Sa 15:27 [r]S 2Sa 8:15; 1Ki 3:3; 15:5; 2Ki 14:3; 15:3,34; 16:2; 18:3; 20:3; 22:2
14:9 [s]1Ki 16:30, 33; 21:25; 2Ki 21:9,11; 24:3 [t]1Ki 16:2 [u]S Ex 20:4; S 32:4; 2Ch 11:15 [v]Dt 32:16; 1Ki 16:2; Ps 78:58; Jer 7:18; 8:19; 32:32; 44:3; Eze 8:17; 16:26 [w]Ne 9:26; Ps 50:17; Jer 2:27, 32:33; Eze 23:35
14:10 [x]S Jos 23:15; S 1Ki 13:34 [y]S Dt 32:36; 2Ki 9:8-9 [z]1Sa 12:25; 15:26; 1Ki 15:29; Hos 13:11
14:11 [a]1Ki 16:4; 21:24 [b]S Ge 40:19; S Dt 28:26
14:13 [c]2Ch 12:12; 19:3
14:15 [d]S Dt 29:28; S 2Ch 7:20 [e]Jer 44:3 [f]S Dt 12:3
14:16 [g]S 1Ki 12:30; S 15:26
14:17 [h]S Jos 12:24; S 1Ki 15:33

she stepped over the threshold of the house, the boy died. 18They buried him, and all Israel mourned for him, as the LORD had said through his servant the prophet Ahijah.

19The other events of Jeroboam's reign, his wars and how he ruled, are written in the book of the annals of the kings of Israel. 20He reigned for twenty-two years and then rested with his fathers. And Nadab his son succeeded him as king.

Rehoboam King of Judah

14:21,25-31pp — 2Ch 12:9-16

21Rehoboam son of Solomon was king in Judah. He was forty-one years old when he became king, and he reigned seventeen years in Jerusalem, the city the LORD had chosen out of all the tribes of Israel in which to put his Name. His mother's name was Naamah; she was an Ammonite.[a]

22Judah[b] did evil in the eyes of the LORD. By the sins they committed they stirred up his jealous anger[c] more than their fathers had done. 23They also set up for themselves high places, sacred stones[d] and Asherah poles[e] on every high hill and under every spreading tree.[f] 24There were even male shrine prostitutes[g] in the land; the people engaged in all the detestable[h] practices of the nations the LORD had driven out before the Israelites.

25In the fifth year of King Rehoboam, Shishak king of Egypt attacked[i] Jerusalem. 26He carried off the treasures of the temple[j] of the LORD and the treasures of the royal palace. He took everything, including all the gold shields[k] Solomon had made. 27So King Rehoboam made bronze shields to replace them and assigned these to the commanders of the guard on duty at the entrance to the royal palace.[l] 28Whenever the king went to the LORD's temple, the guards bore the shields, and afterward they returned them to the guardroom.

29As for the other events of Rehoboam's reign, and all he did, are they not written in the book of the annals of the kings of Judah? 30There was continual warfare[m] between Rehoboam and Jeroboam. 31And Rehoboam rested with his fathers and was buried with them in the City of David. His mother's name was Naamah; she was an Ammonite.[n] And Abijah[g] his son succeeded him as king.

14:21 [a]S 1Ki 11:1
14:22 [b]2Ki 17:19; 2Ch 12:1 [c]Dt 32:21; Ps 78:58; Jer 44:3; S 1Co 10:22
14:23 [d]S Ex 23:24; Dt 16:22; Hos 10:1 [e]S Dt 12:3 [f]S Dt 12:2; Eze 6:13
14:24 [g]S Dt 23:17 [h]1Ki 11:5-7; 2Ki 21:2; Ezr 9:11; Pr 21:27; Isa 1:13; Jer 16:18; 32:35; 44:4
14:25 [i]2Ch 12:2
14:26 [j]1Ki 15:15,18 [k]S 2Sa 8:7
14:27 [l]2Ki 11:5
14:30 [m]2Sa 3:1; S 1Ki 12:21
14:31 [n]S 1Ki 11:1
15:2 [o]ver 10,13; 2Ch 11:20
15:3 [p]S 1Ki 8:61
15:4 [q]S 2Sa 21:17
15:5 [r]S Dt 5:32; S 1Ki 9:4 [s]2Sa 11:2-27; 12:9
15:6 [t]ver 16,32; S 1Ki 12:21; 2Ch 16:9
15:10 [u]S ver 2
15:11 [v]1Ki 9:4
15:12 [w]1Ki 14:24 [x]2Ch 15:8
15:13 [y]S ver 2 [z]S 1Ki 2:19 [a]S Ex 34:13
15:14 [b]2Ch 14:5; 17:6 [c]S 1Ki 8:61

Abijah King of Judah

15:1-2,6-8pp — 2Ch 13:1-2,22–14:1

15 In the eighteenth year of the reign of Jeroboam son of Nebat, Abijah[h] became king of Judah, 2and he reigned in Jerusalem three years. His mother's name was Maacah[o] daughter of Abishalom.[i]

3He committed all the sins his father had done before him; his heart was not fully devoted[p] to the LORD his God, as the heart of David his forefather had been. 4Nevertheless, for David's sake the LORD his God gave him a lamp[q] in Jerusalem by raising up a son to succeed him and by making Jerusalem strong. 5For David had done what was right in the eyes of the LORD and had not failed to keep[r] any of the LORD's commands all the days of his life—except in the case of Uriah[s] the Hittite.

6There was war[t] between Rehoboam[j] and Jeroboam throughout ⌞Abijah's⌟ lifetime. 7As for the other events of Abijah's reign, and all he did, are they not written in the book of the annals of the kings of Judah? There was war between Abijah and Jeroboam. 8And Abijah rested with his fathers and was buried in the City of David. And Asa his son succeeded him as king.

Asa King of Judah

15:9-22pp — 2Ch 14:2-3; 15:16–16:6
15:23-24pp — 2Ch 16:11–17:1

9In the twentieth year of Jeroboam king of Israel, Asa became king of Judah, 10and he reigned in Jerusalem forty-one years. His grandmother's name was Maacah[u] daughter of Abishalom.

11Asa did what was right in the eyes of the LORD, as his father David[v] had done. 12He expelled the male shrine prostitutes[w] from the land and got rid of all the idols[x] his fathers had made. 13He even deposed his grandmother Maacah[y] from her position as queen mother,[z] because she had made a repulsive Asherah pole. Asa cut the pole down[a] and burned it in the Kidron Valley. 14Although he did not remove[b] the high places, Asa's heart was fully committed[c] to the LORD all his life. 15He brought into the temple of the

[g]*31* Some Hebrew manuscripts and Septuagint (see also 2 Chron. 12:16); most Hebrew manuscripts *Abijam* [h]*1* Some Hebrew manuscripts and Septuagint (see also 2 Chron. 12:16); most Hebrew manuscripts *Abijam*; also in verses 7 and 8 [i]*2* A variant of *Absalom*; also in verse 10 [j]*6* Most Hebrew manuscripts; some Hebrew manuscripts and Syriac *Abijam* (that is, Abijah)

LORD the silver and gold and the articles
that he and his father had dedicated.[a]
16There was war[b] between Asa and
Baasha king of Israel throughout their
reigns. 17Baasha king of Israel went up
against Judah and fortified Ramah[c] to
prevent anyone from leaving or enter-
ing the territory of Asa king of Judah.
18Asa then took all the silver and
gold that was left in the treasuries of
the LORD's temple[d] and of his own pal-
ace. He entrusted it to his officials and
sent[e] them to Ben-Hadad[f] son of Tab-
rimmon, the son of Hezion, the king of
Aram, who was ruling in Damascus.
19"Let there be a treaty[g] between me
and you," he said, "as there was be-
tween my father and your father. See, I
am sending you a gift of silver and
gold. Now break your treaty with Ba-
asha king of Israel so he will withdraw
from me."

20Ben-Hadad agreed with King Asa
and sent the commanders of his forces
against the towns of Israel. He con-
quered[h] Ijon, Dan, Abel Beth Maacah
and all Kinnereth in addition to Naph-
tali. 21When Baasha heard this, he
stopped building Ramah[i] and with-
drew to Tirzah.[j] 22Then King Asa is-
sued an order to all Judah—no one was
exempt—and they carried away from
Ramah[k] the stones and timber Baasha
had been using there. With them King
Asa[l] built up Geba[m] in Benjamin, and
also Mizpah.[n]

23As for all the other events of Asa's
reign, all his achievements, all he did
and the cities he built, are they not
written in the book of the annals of the
kings of Judah? In his old age, how-
ever, his feet became diseased. 24Then
Asa rested with his fathers and was
buried with them in the city of his fa-
ther David. And Jehoshaphat[o] his son
succeeded him as king.

Nadab King of Israel

25Nadab son of Jeroboam became
king of Israel in the second year of Asa
king of Judah, and he reigned over Is-
rael two years. 26He did evil[p] in the
eyes of the LORD, walking in the ways
of his father[q] and in his sin, which he
had caused Israel to commit.

27Baasha son of Ahijah of the house
of Issachar plotted against him, and he
struck him down[r] at Gibbethon,[s] a
Philistine town, while Nadab and all Is-
rael were besieging it. 28Baasha killed
Nadab in the third year of Asa king of
Judah and succeeded him as king.

15:15 [a]S 2Sa 8:11
15:16 [b]S ver 6; S 1Ki 12:21
15:17 [c]S Jos 18:25
15:18 [d]S 1Ki 14:26 [e]2Ki 12:18; 16:8; 18:14-16, 15; Joel 3:5 [f]ver 18-20; 1Ki 20:1; 2Ki 6:24; 13:3; Jer 49:27
15:19 [g]S Ex 23:32; S 1Ki 5:12
15:20 [h]1Ki 20:34
15:21 [i]S Jos 18:25 [j]1Ki 16:15-17
15:22 [k]ver 17 [l]ver 9-24; Jer 41:9 [m]S Jos 18:24; 2Ki 23:8 [n]S Jos 11:3
15:24 [o]Mt 1:8
15:26 [p]S Dt 4:25 [q]S 1Ki 12:30
15:27 [r]1Ki 14:14 [s]S Jos 19:44
15:29 [t]S 1Ki 13:34
15:30 [u]S 1Ki 12:30 [v]1Ki 16:26; 2Ki 3:3; 14:24; 15:28; 21:16
15:31 [w]1Ki 11:41
15:32 [x]S ver 6
15:33 [y]1Ki 14:17; 16:6, 23; 2Ki 15:14; SS 6:4
15:34 [z]ver 26
16:1 [a]ver 7; 2Ch 19:2; 20:34 [b]2Ch 16:7
16:2 [c]1Sa 2:8 [d]S 1Ki 14:7-9 [e]S 1Ki 12:30
16:3 [f]2Ki 9:9 [g]ver 11; 1Ki 21:22
16:4 [h]S 1Ki 14:11 [i]S Ge 40:19
16:5 [j]1Ki 15:31
16:6 [k]S 1Ki 15:33
16:7 [l]S 1Ki 6:11 [m]S ver 1

29As soon as he began to reign, he
killed Jeroboam's whole family.[t] He
did not leave Jeroboam anyone that
breathed, but destroyed them all, ac-
cording to the word of the LORD given
through his servant Ahijah the Shilo-
nite— 30because of the sins[u] Jeroboam
had committed and had caused[v] Israel
to commit, and because he provoked
the LORD, the God of Israel, to anger.

31As for the other events of Nadab's
reign, and all he did, are they not writ-
ten in the book of the annals[w] of the
kings of Israel? 32There was war[x] be-
tween Asa and Baasha king of Israel
throughout their reigns.

Baasha King of Israel

33In the third year of Asa king of
Judah, Baasha son of Ahijah became
king of all Israel in Tirzah,[y] and he
reigned twenty-four years. 34He did
evil[z] in the eyes of the LORD, walking in
the ways of Jeroboam and in his sin,
which he had caused Israel to commit.

16 Then the word of the LORD came
to Jehu[a] son of Hanani[b] against
Baasha: 2"I lifted you up from the
dust[c] and made you leader[d] of my
people Israel, but you walked in the
ways of Jeroboam and caused[e] my
people Israel to sin and to provoke me
to anger by their sins. 3So I am about to
consume Baasha[f] and his house,[g] and
I will make your house like that of Jero-
boam son of Nebat. 4Dogs[h] will eat
those belonging to Baasha who die in
the city, and the birds of the air[i] will
feed on those who die in the country."

5As for the other events of Baasha's
reign, what he did and his achieve-
ments, are they not written in the book
of the annals[j] of the kings of Israel?
6Baasha rested with his fathers and was
buried in Tirzah.[k] And Elah his son
succeeded him as king.

7Moreover, the word of the LORD
came[l] through the prophet Jehu[m] son
of Hanani to Baasha and his house, be-
cause of all the evil he had done in the
eyes of the LORD, provoking him to an-
ger by the things he did, and becoming
like the house of Jeroboam—and also
because he destroyed it.

Elah King of Israel

8In the twenty-sixth year of Asa king
of Judah, Elah son of Baasha became
king of Israel, and he reigned in Tirzah
two years.

9Zimri, one of his officials, who had
command of half his chariots, plotted

against him. Elah was in Tirzah at the
time, getting drunk[a] in the home of
Arza, the man in charge[b] of the palace
at Tirzah. 10Zimri came in, struck him
down and killed him in the twenty-
seventh year of Asa king of Judah.
Then he succeeded him as king.[c]
11As soon as he began to reign and
was seated on the throne, he killed off
Baasha's whole family.[d] He did not
spare a single male, whether relative or
friend. 12So Zimri destroyed the whole
family of Baasha, in accordance with
the word of the LORD spoken against
Baasha through the prophet Jehu—
13because of all the sins Baasha and his
son Elah had committed and had
caused Israel to commit, so that they
provoked the LORD, the God of Israel,
to anger by their worthless idols.[e]
14As for the other events of Elah's
reign, and all he did, are they not writ-
ten in the book of the annals of the
kings of Israel?

Zimri King of Israel

15In the twenty-seventh year of Asa
king of Judah, Zimri reigned in Tirzah
seven days. The army was encamped
near Gibbethon,[f] a Philistine town.
16When the Israelites in the camp heard
that Zimri had plotted against the king
and murdered him, they proclaimed
Omri, the commander of the army,
king over Israel that very day there in
the camp. 17Then Omri and all the Isra-
elites with him withdrew from Gibbe-
thon and laid siege to Tirzah. 18When
Zimri saw that the city was taken, he
went into the citadel of the royal palace
and set the palace on fire around him.
So he died, 19because of the sins he had
committed, doing evil in the eyes of the
LORD and walking in the ways of Jero-
boam and in the sin he had committed
and had caused Israel to commit.
20As for the other events of Zimri's
reign, and the rebellion he carried out,
are they not written in the book of the
annals of the kings of Israel?

Omri King of Israel

21Then the people of Israel were split
into two factions; half supported Tibni
son of Ginath for king, and the other
half supported Omri. 22But Omri's fol-
lowers proved stronger than those of
Tibni son of Ginath. So Tibni died and
Omri became king.
23In the thirty-first year of Asa king
of Judah, Omri became king of Israel,
and he reigned twelve years, six of
them in Tirzah.[g] 24He bought the hill of
Samaria from Shemer for two talents[k]
of silver and built a city on the hill, call-
ing it Samaria,[h] after Shemer, the
name of the former owner of the hill.
25But Omri did evil[i] in the eyes of
the LORD and sinned more than all
those before him. 26He walked in all the
ways of Jeroboam son of Nebat and in
his sin, which he had caused[j] Israel to
commit, so that they provoked the
LORD, the God of Israel, to anger by
their worthless idols.[k]
27As for the other events of Omri's
reign, what he did and the things he
achieved, are they not written in the
book of the annals of the kings of Is-
rael? 28Omri rested with his fathers and
was buried in Samaria.[l] And Ahab his
son succeeded him as king.

Ahab Becomes King of Israel

29In the thirty-eighth year of Asa king
of Judah, Ahab son of Omri became
king of Israel, and he reigned in Sa-
maria over Israel twenty-two years.
30Ahab son of Omri did more[m] evil in
the eyes of the LORD than any of those
before him. 31He not only considered it
trivial to commit the sins of Jeroboam
son of Nebat, but he also married[n]
Jezebel daughter[o] of Ethbaal king of
the Sidonians, and began to serve
Baal[p] and worship him. 32He set up an
altar[q] for Baal in the temple[r] of Baal
that he built in Samaria. 33Ahab also
made an Asherah pole[s] and did more[t]
to provoke the LORD, the God of Israel,
to anger than did all the kings of Israel
before him.
34In Ahab's time, Hiel of Bethel re-
built Jericho. He laid its foundations at
the cost of his firstborn son Abiram,
and he set up its gates at the cost of his
youngest son Segub, in accordance
with the word of the LORD spoken by
Joshua son of Nun.[u]

Elijah Fed by Ravens

17 Now Elijah[v] the Tishbite, from
Tishbe[l] in Gilead,[w] said to
Ahab, "As the LORD, the God of Israel,
lives, whom I serve, there will be
neither dew nor rain[x] in the next few
years except at my word."
2Then the word of the LORD came to
Elijah: 3"Leave here, turn eastward and
hide[y] in the Kerith Ravine, east of the
Jordan. 4You will drink from the brook,

16:9 [a]1Ki 20:12; Pr 31:4-5 [b]1Ki 18:3
16:10 [c]2Ki 9:31
16:11 [d]S ver 3
16:13 [e]S Dt 32:21
16:15 [f]S Jos 19:44
16:23 [g]S Jos 12:24; S 1Ki 15:33
16:24 [h]S 1Ki 13:32; S Mt 10:5
16:25 [i]ver 25-26; S Dt 4:25; Mic 6:16
16:26 [j]S 1Ki 15:30 [k]S Dt 32:21
16:28 [l]S 1Ki 13:32
16:30 [m]S 1Ki 14:9
16:31 [n]S 1Ki 11:2 [o]S Jdg 3:6; 2Ki 9:34 [p]S Jdg 2:11
16:32 [q]S Jdg 6:28 [r]2Ki 10:27; 11:18; Jer 43:12
16:33 [s]S Jdg 3:7; 2Ki 13:6 [t]S 1Ki 14:9; 21:25
16:34 [u]Jos 6:26
17:1 [v]Mal 4:5; Mt 11:14; 17:3 [w]Jdg 12:4 [x]S Dt 11:17; S 28:24; S 2Sa 1:21; S 1Ki 8:36; Job 12:15; S Lk 4:25
17:3 [y]1Ki 18:4, 10; Jer 36:19,26

k24 That is, about 150 pounds (about 70 kilograms)
l1 Or *Tishbite, of the settlers*

and I have ordered the ravens[a] to feed
you there."
5 So he did what the LORD had told
him. He went to the Kerith Ravine,
east of the Jordan, and stayed there.
6 The ravens brought him bread and
meat in the morning[b] and bread and
meat in the evening, and he drank
from the brook.

The Widow at Zarephath

7 Some time later the brook dried up
because there had been no rain in the
land. 8 Then the word of the LORD came
to him: 9 "Go at once to Zarephath[c] of
Sidon and stay there. I have com-
manded a widow[d] in that place to sup-
ply you with food." 10 So he went to
Zarephath. When he came to the town
gate, a widow was there gathering
sticks. He called to her and asked,
"Would you bring me a little water in a
jar so I may have a drink?"[e] 11 As she
was going to get it, he called, "And
bring me, please, a piece of bread."
12 "As surely as the LORD your God
lives," she replied, "I don't have any
bread—only a handful of flour in a jar
and a little oil[f] in a jug. I am gathering
a few sticks to take home and make a
meal for myself and my son, that we
may eat it—and die."
13 Elijah said to her, "Don't be afraid.
Go home and do as you have said. But
first make a small cake of bread for me
from what you have and bring it to me,
and then make something for yourself
and your son. 14 For this is what the
LORD, the God of Israel, says: 'The jar of
flour will not be used up and the jug of
oil will not run dry until the day the
LORD gives rain[g] on the land.' "
15 She went away and did as Elijah
had told her. So there was food every
day for Elijah and for the woman and
her family. 16 For the jar of flour was not
used up and the jug of oil did not run
dry, in keeping with the word of the
LORD spoken by Elijah.
17 Some time later the son of the
woman who owned the house became
ill. He grew worse and worse, and fi-
nally stopped breathing. 18 She said to
Elijah, "What do you have against me,
man of God? Did you come to remind
me of my sin[h] and kill my son?"
19 "Give me your son," Elijah replied.
He took him from her arms, carried
him to the upper room where he was
staying, and laid him on his bed.
20 Then he cried[i] out to the LORD, "O
LORD my God, have you brought trage-
dy also upon this widow I am staying
with, by causing her son to die?"
21 Then he stretched[j] himself out on the
boy three times and cried to the LORD,
"O LORD my God, let this boy's life re-
turn to him!"
22 The LORD heard Elijah's cry, and the
boy's life returned to him, and he
lived. 23 Elijah picked up the child and
carried him down from the room into
the house. He gave him to his mother[k]
and said, "Look, your son is alive!"
24 Then the woman said to Elijah,
"Now I know[l] that you are a man of
God[m] and that the word of the LORD
from your mouth is the truth."[n]

Elijah and Obadiah

18 After a long time, in the third[o]
year, the word of the LORD came
to Elijah: "Go and present[p] yourself to
Ahab, and I will send rain[q] on the
land." 2 So Elijah went to present him-
self to Ahab.
Now the famine was severe[r] in Sa-
maria, 3 and Ahab had summoned Oba-
diah, who was in charge[s] of his palace.
(Obadiah was a devout believer[t] in the
LORD. 4 While Jezebel[u] was killing off
the LORD's prophets, Obadiah had tak-
en a hundred prophets and hidden[v]
them in two caves, fifty in each, and
had supplied[w] them with food and
water.) 5 Ahab had said to Obadiah,
"Go through the land to all the
springs[x] and valleys. Maybe we can
find some grass to keep the horses and
mules alive so we will not have to kill
any of our animals."[y] 6 So they divided
the land they were to cover, Ahab go-
ing in one direction and Obadiah in an-
other.
7 As Obadiah was walking along, Eli-
jah met him. Obadiah recognized[z]
him, bowed down to the ground, and
said, "Is it really you, my lord Elijah?"
8 "Yes," he replied. "Go tell your
master, 'Elijah is here.' "
9 "What have I done wrong," asked
Obadiah, "that you are handing your
servant over to Ahab to be put to
death? 10 As surely as the LORD your
God lives, there is not a nation or king-
dom where my master has not sent
someone to look[a] for you. And when-
ever a nation or kingdom claimed you
were not there, he made them swear
they could not find you. 11 But now you
tell me to go to my master and say, 'Eli-
jah is here.' 12 I don't know where the
Spirit[b] of the LORD may carry you when
I leave you. If I go and tell Ahab and he

17:4 [a]S Ge 8:7
17:6 [b]Ex 16:8
17:9 [c]Ob 1:20 [d]Lk 4:26
17:10 [e]S Ge 24:17; Jn 4:7
17:12 [f]2Ki 4:2
17:14 [g]ver 1
17:18 [h]Lk 5:8
17:20 [i]2Ki 4:33
17:21 [j]2Ki 4:34; Ac 20:10
17:23 [k]Heb 11:35
17:24 [l]Jn 16:30 [m]ver 18 [n]1Ki 22:16; Ps 119:43; Jn 17:17
18:1 [o]1Ki 17:1; Lk 4:25 [p]ver 15 [q]S Dt 28:12
18:2 [r]S Lev 26:26
18:3 [s]1Ki 16:9 [t]Ne 7:2
18:4 [u]1Ki 21:23; 2Ki 9:7 [v]S 1Ki 17:3; Isa 16:3; 25:4; 32:2; Ob 1:14 [w]Jer 26:24
18:5 [x]Jer 14:3 [y]S Ge 47:4
18:7 [z]2Ki 1:8; Zec 13:4
18:10 [a]S 1Ki 17:3
18:12 [b]2Ki 2:16; Eze 3:14; Ac 8:39

doesn't find you, he will kill me. Yet I
your servant have worshiped the LORD
since my youth. 13Haven't you heard,
my lord, what I did while Jezebel was
killing the prophets of the LORD? I hid a
hundred of the LORD's prophets in two
caves, fifty in each, and supplied them
with food and water. 14And now you
tell me to go to my master and say, 'Eli-
jah is here.' He will kill me!"

15Elijah said, "As the LORD Almighty
lives, whom I serve, I will surely
present[a] myself to Ahab today."

Elijah on Mount Carmel

16So Obadiah went to meet Ahab and
told him, and Ahab went to meet Eli-
jah. 17When he saw Elijah, he said to
him, "Is that you, you troubler[b] of Is-
rael?"

18"I have not made trouble for Is-
rael," Elijah replied. "But you[c] and
your father's family have. You have
abandoned[d] the LORD's commands and
have followed the Baals. 19Now sum-
mon[e] the people from all over Israel to
meet me on Mount Carmel.[f] And
bring the four hundred and fifty proph-
ets of Baal and the four hundred
prophets of Asherah, who eat at Jeze-
bel's table."[g]

20So Ahab sent word throughout all
Israel and assembled the prophets on
Mount Carmel.[h] 21Elijah went before
the people and said, "How long will
you waver[i] between two opinions? If
the LORD[j] is God, follow him; but if
Baal is God, follow him."

But the people said nothing.

22Then Elijah said to them, "I am the
only one of the LORD's prophets left,[k]
but Baal has four hundred and fifty
prophets.[l] 23Get two bulls for us. Let
them choose one for themselves, and
let them cut it into pieces and put it on
the wood but not set fire to it. I will
prepare the other bull and put it on the
wood but not set fire to it. 24Then you
call[m] on the name of your god, and I
will call on the name of the LORD.[n] The
god who answers by fire[o]—he is God."

Then all the people said, "What you
say is good."

25Elijah said to the prophets of Baal,
"Choose one of the bulls and prepare it
first, since there are so many of you.
Call on the name of your god, but do
not light the fire." 26So they took the
bull given them and prepared it.

Then they called[p] on the name of
Baal from morning till noon. "O Baal,
answer us!" they shouted. But there
was no response;[q] no one answered.
And they danced around the altar they
had made.

27At noon Elijah began to taunt them.
"Shout louder!" he said. "Surely he is a
god! Perhaps he is deep in thought, or
busy, or traveling. Maybe he is sleep-
ing and must be awakened."[r] 28So
they shouted louder and slashed[s]
themselves with swords and spears, as
was their custom, until their blood
flowed. 29Midday passed, and they
continued their frantic prophesying
until the time for the evening sacri-
fice.[t] But there was no response, no
one answered, no one paid attention.[u]

30Then Elijah said to all the people,
"Come here to me." They came to him,
and he repaired the altar[v] of the LORD,
which was in ruins. 31Elijah took twelve
stones, one for each of the tribes de-
scended from Jacob, to whom the word
of the LORD had come, saying, "Your
name shall be Israel."[w] 32With the
stones he built an altar in the name[x] of
the LORD, and he dug a trench around it
large enough to hold two seahs[m] of
seed. 33He arranged[y] the wood, cut the
bull into pieces and laid it on the wood.
Then he said to them, "Fill four large
jars with water and pour it on the offer-
ing and on the wood."

34"Do it again," he said, and they did
it again.

"Do it a third time," he ordered, and
they did it the third time. 35The water
ran down around the altar and even
filled the trench.

36At the time[z] of sacrifice, the
prophet Elijah stepped forward and
prayed: "O LORD, God of Abraham,[a]
Isaac and Israel, let it be known[b] today
that you are God in Israel and that I am
your servant and have done all these
things at your command.[c] 37Answer
me, O LORD, answer me, so these
people will know[d] that you, O LORD,
are God, and that you are turning their
hearts back again."

38Then the fire[e] of the LORD fell and
burned up the sacrifice, the wood, the
stones and the soil, and also licked up
the water in the trench.

39When all the people saw this, they
fell prostrate[f] and cried, "The LORD—
he is God! The LORD—he is God!"[g]

40Then Elijah commanded them,
"Seize the prophets of Baal. Don't let
anyone get away!" They seized them,
and Elijah had them brought down to

18:15 [a]ver 1
18:17 [b]Jos 7:25; 1Sa 14:29; 1Ki 21:20; Jer 38:4
18:18 [c]1Ki 16:33; 21:25 [d]S Dt 31:16
18:19 [e]2Ki 10:19 [f]S Jos 19:26 [g]2Ki 9:22
18:20 [h]2Ki 2:25; 4:25
18:21 [i]Jos 24:15; 2Ki 17:41; Ps 119:113; Mt 6:24 [j]ver 39; Ps 100:3; 118:27
18:22 [k]1Ki 19:10 [l]Jer 2:8; 23:13
18:24 [m]S 1Sa 7:8 [n]S Ge 4:26 [o]S ver 38; S Ex 19:18; S Lev 9:24
18:26 [p]Isa 44:17; 45:20 [q]Ps 115:4-5; 135:16; Isa 41:26, 28; 46:7; Jer 10:5; 1Co 8:4; 12:2
18:27 [r]Hab 2:19
18:28 [s]S Lev 19:28
18:29 [t]S Ex 29:41 [u]2Ki 19:12; Isa 16:12; Jer 10:5
18:30 [v]1Ki 19:10
18:31 [w]S Ge 17:5; 2Ki 17:34
18:32 [x]S Dt 18:7; Col 3:17
18:33 [y]S Ge 22:9
18:36 [z]S Ex 29:39,41 [a]S Ge 24:12; S Ex 4:5; Mt 22:32 [b]S Jos 4:24; S 1Sa 17:46; S Ps 46:10 [c]Nu 16:28
18:37 [d]S Jos 4:24
18:38 [e]ver 24; S Ex 19:18; S Lev 9:24; 2Ki 1:10; 1Ch 21:26; 2Ch 7:1; Job 1:16
18:39 [f]S Lev 9:24 [g]S ver 21; S Ps 46:10

[m]32 That is, probably about 13 quarts (about 15 liters)

the Kishon Valley[a] and slaughtered[b] there.

41 And Elijah said to Ahab, "Go, eat and drink, for there is the sound of a heavy rain." 42 So Ahab went off to eat and drink, but Elijah climbed to the top of Carmel, bent down to the ground and put his face between his knees.[c]

43 "Go and look toward the sea," he told his servant. And he went up and looked.

"There is nothing there," he said.

Seven times Elijah said, "Go back."

44 The seventh time[d] the servant reported, "A cloud[e] as small as a man's hand is rising from the sea."

So Elijah said, "Go and tell Ahab, 'Hitch up your chariot and go down before the rain stops you.' "

45 Meanwhile, the sky grew black with clouds, the wind rose, a heavy rain[f] came on and Ahab rode off to Jezreel.[g] 46 The power[h] of the LORD came upon Elijah and, tucking his cloak into his belt,[i] he ran ahead of Ahab all the way to Jezreel.

Elijah Flees to Horeb

19 Now Ahab told Jezebel[j] everything Elijah had done and how he had killed[k] all the prophets with the sword. 2 So Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah to say, "May the gods deal with me, be it ever so severely,[l] if by this time tomorrow I do not make your life like that of one of them."[m]

3 Elijah was afraid[n] and ran[n] for his life.[o] When he came to Beersheba[p] in Judah, he left his servant there, 4 while he himself went a day's journey into the desert. He came to a broom tree,[q] sat down under it and prayed that he might die. "I have had enough, LORD," he said. "Take my life;[r] I am no better than my ancestors." 5 Then he lay down under the tree and fell asleep.[s]

All at once an angel[t] touched him and said, "Get up and eat." 6 He looked around, and there by his head was a cake of bread baked over hot coals, and a jar of water. He ate and drank and then lay down again.

7 The angel of the LORD came back a second time and touched him and said, "Get up and eat, for the journey is too much for you." 8 So he got up and ate and drank. Strengthened by that food, he traveled forty[u] days and forty nights until he reached Horeb,[v] the mountain of God. 9 There he went into a cave[w] and spent the night.

The LORD Appears to Elijah

And the word of the LORD came to him: "What are you doing here, Elijah?"[x]

10 He replied, "I have been very zealous[y] for the LORD God Almighty. The Israelites have rejected your covenant,[z] broken down your altars,[a] and put your prophets to death with the sword. I am the only one left,[b] and now they are trying to kill me too."

11 The LORD said, "Go out and stand on the mountain[c] in the presence of the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by."[d]

Then a great and powerful wind[e] tore the mountains apart and shattered[f] the rocks before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind. After the wind there was an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake. 12 After the earthquake came a fire,[g] but the LORD was not in the fire. And after the fire came a gentle whisper.[h] 13 When Elijah heard it, he pulled his cloak over his face[i] and went out and stood at the mouth of the cave.

Then a voice said to him, "What are you doing here, Elijah?"

14 He replied, "I have been very zealous for the LORD God Almighty. The Israelites have rejected your covenant, broken down your altars, and put your prophets to death with the sword. I am the only one left,[j] and now they are trying to kill me too."

15 The LORD said to him, "Go back the way you came, and go to the Desert of Damascus. When you get there, anoint Hazael[k] king over Aram. 16 Also, anoint[l] Jehu son of Nimshi king over Israel, and anoint Elisha[m] son of Shaphat from Abel Meholah[n] to succeed you as prophet. 17 Jehu will put to death any who escape the sword of Hazael,[o] and Elisha will put to death any who escape the sword of Jehu.[p] 18 Yet I reserve[q] seven thousand in Israel—all whose knees have not bowed down to Baal and all whose mouths have not kissed[r] him."

The Call of Elisha

19 So Elijah went from there and found Elisha son of Shaphat. He was plowing with twelve yoke of oxen, and he himself was driving the twelfth pair. Elijah went up to him and threw his cloak[s] around him. 20 Elisha then left his oxen and ran after Elijah. "Let me

18:40 [a]S Jdg 4:7 [b]S Ex 22:20; S Dt 17:12; S 2Ki 11:18 **18:42** [c]S 1Sa 12:17; Jas 5:18 **18:44** [d]S Jos 6:15 [e]Lk 12:54 **18:45** [f]S 1Ki 8:36; Job 37:13 [g]S 1Sa 29:1; S Hos 1:4 **18:46** [h]S Jdg 3:10; S 1Sa 11:6; Lk 1:35; 4:14 [i]2Ki 4:29; 9:1 **19:1** [j]1Ki 16:31 [k]S Ex 22:20 **19:2** [l]S Ru 1:17 [m]Ps 13:4; Jer 20:10; 26:21; 36:26 **19:3** [n]S Ge 31:21 [o]S Ge 19:17 [p]S Jos 19:2 **19:4** [q]Job 30:4 [r]S Nu 11:15; Job 6:9; 7:16; 10:1; Ps 69:19; Jer 20:18; Jnh 4:8 **19:5** [s]Ge 28:11 [t]S Ge 16:7 **19:8** [u]Ex 24:18; Mt 4:2 [v]S Ex 3:1 **19:9** [w]S Ex 33:22 [x]S Ge 3:9 **19:10** [y]S Nu 25:13; Ac 22:3; Gal 4:18 [z]S Dt 31:16 [a]1Ki 18:30 [b]1Ki 18:22; Jer 5:11; 9:2; Ro 11:3* **19:11** [c]Ex 34:2; Mt 17:1-3 [d]Ex 33:19 [e]S Ex 14:21; S 2Ki 2:1 [f]Na 1:6 **19:12** [g]S Ex 3:2 [h]ver 11; S 1Sa 14:6; Job 4:16; Zec 4:6; 2Co 12:9 **19:13** [i]Ex 3:6 **19:14** [j]1Ki 18:22; Ro 11:3* **19:15** [k]2Ki 8:7-15 **19:16** [l]2Ki 9:6 [m]ver 21; 2Ki 2:1; 3:11 [n]S Jdg 7:22 **19:17** [o]2Ki 8:12, 29; 10:32; 12:17; 13:3,7,22; Am 1:4 [p]Jer 48:44 **19:18** [q]Ro 11:4* [r]Hos 13:2 **19:19** [s]S Ge 41:42; 2Ki 2:8,14

[n]3 Or *Elijah saw*

kiss my father and mother good-by,"[a]
he said, "and then I will come with
you."
"Go back," Elijah replied. "What
have I done to you?"
21So Elisha left him and went back.
He took his yoke of oxen[b] and slaugh-
tered them. He burned the plowing
equipment to cook the meat and gave it
to the people, and they ate. Then he set
out to follow Elijah and became his at-
tendant.[c]

Ben-Hadad Attacks Samaria

20 Now Ben-Hadad[d] king of Aram
mustered his entire army. Ac-
companied by thirty-two kings with
their horses and chariots, he went up
and besieged Samaria[e] and attacked it.
2He sent messengers into the city to
Ahab king of Israel, saying, "This is
what Ben-Hadad says: 3'Your silver
and gold are mine, and the best of your
wives and children are mine.' "
4The king of Israel answered, "Just as
you say, my lord the king. I and all I
have are yours."
5The messengers came again and
said, "This is what Ben-Hadad says: 'I
sent to demand your silver and gold,
your wives and your children. 6But
about this time tomorrow I am going to
send my officials to search your palace
and the houses of your officials. They
will seize everything you value and car-
ry it away.' "
7The king of Israel summoned all the
elders[f] of the land and said to them,
"See how this man is looking for trou-
ble![g] When he sent for my wives and
my children, my silver and my gold, I
did not refuse him."
8The elders and the people all an-
swered, "Don't listen to him or agree
to his demands."
9So he replied to Ben-Hadad's mes-
sengers, "Tell my lord the king, 'Your
servant will do all you demanded the
first time, but this demand I cannot
meet.' " They left and took the answer
back to Ben-Hadad.
10Then Ben-Hadad sent another mes-
sage to Ahab: "May the gods deal with
me, be it ever so severely, if enough
dust[h] remains in Samaria to give each
of my men a handful."
11The king of Israel answered, "Tell
him: 'One who puts on his armor
should not boast[i] like one who takes it
off.' "
12Ben-Hadad heard this message
while he and the kings were drinking[j]
in their tents,[e] and he ordered his
men: "Prepare to attack." So they pre-
pared to attack the city.

Ahab Defeats Ben-Hadad

13Meanwhile a prophet[k] came to
Ahab king of Israel and announced,
"This is what the LORD says: 'Do you
see this vast army? I will give it into
your hand today, and then you will
know[l] that I am the LORD.' "
14"But who will do this?" asked
Ahab.
The prophet replied, "This is what
the LORD says: 'The young officers of
the provincial commanders will do
it.' "
"And who will start[m] the battle?" he
asked.
The prophet answered, "You will."
15So Ahab summoned the young offi-
cers of the provincial commanders, 232
men. Then he assembled the rest of the
Israelites, 7,000 in all. 16They set out at
noon while Ben-Hadad and the 32
kings allied with him were in their
tents getting drunk.[n] 17The young offi-
cers of the provincial commanders
went out first.
Now Ben-Hadad had dispatched
scouts, who reported, "Men are ad-
vancing from Samaria."
18He said, "If they have come out for
peace, take them alive; if they have
come out for war, take them alive."
19The young officers of the provincial
commanders marched out of the city
with the army behind them 20and each
one struck down his opponent. At that,
the Arameans fled, with the Israelites
in pursuit. But Ben-Hadad king of
Aram escaped on horseback with some
of his horsemen. 21The king of Israel
advanced and overpowered the horses
and chariots and inflicted heavy losses
on the Arameans.
22Afterward, the prophet[o] came to
the king of Israel and said, "Strengthen
your position and see what must be
done, because next spring[p] the king of
Aram will attack you again."
23Meanwhile, the officials of the king
of Aram advised him, "Their gods are
gods[q] of the hills. That is why they
were too strong for us. But if we fight
them on the plains, surely we will be
stronger than they. 24Do this: Remove
all the kings from their commands and
replace them with other officers. 25You
must also raise an army like the one

19:20 [a]Lk 9:61
19:21 [b]S 1Sa 6:14 [c]S ver 16
20:1 [d]S 1Ki 15:18 [e]S 1Ki 13:32
20:7 [f]1Sa 11:3 [g]2Ki 5:7
20:10 [h]S 2Sa 22:43
20:11 [i]Pr 27:1; Jer 9:23; Am 2:14
20:12 [j]S 1Ki 16:9
20:13 [k]S Jdg 6:8 [l]S Ex 6:7
20:14 [m]S Jdg 1:1
20:16 [n]S 1Ki 16:9
20:22 [o]S Jdg 6:8 [p]S 2Sa 11:1
20:23 [q]ver 28; Isa 36:20; Ro 1:21-23

[e]12 Or *in Succoth;* also in verse 16

you lost—horse for horse and chariot for chariot—so we can fight Israel on the plains. Then surely we will be stronger than they." He agreed with them and acted accordingly.

26The next spring[a] Ben-Hadad mustered the Arameans and went up to Aphek[b] to fight against Israel. 27When the Israelites were also mustered and given provisions, they marched out to meet them. The Israelites camped opposite them like two small flocks of goats, while the Arameans covered the countryside.[c]

28The man of God came up and told the king of Israel, "This is what the LORD says: 'Because the Arameans think the LORD is a god of the hills and not a god[d] of the valleys, I will deliver this vast army into your hands, and you will know[e] that I am the LORD.' "

29For seven days they camped opposite each other, and on the seventh day the battle was joined. The Israelites inflicted a hundred thousand casualties on the Aramean foot soldiers in one day. 30The rest of them escaped to the city of Aphek,[f] where the wall collapsed[g] on twenty-seven thousand of them. And Ben-Hadad fled to the city and hid[h] in an inner room.

31His officials said to him, "Look, we have heard that the kings of the house of Israel are merciful.[i] Let us go to the king of Israel with sackcloth[j] around our waists and ropes around our heads. Perhaps he will spare your life."

32Wearing sackcloth around their waists and ropes around their heads, they went to the king of Israel and said, "Your servant Ben-Hadad says: 'Please let me live.' "

The king answered, "Is he still alive? He is my brother."

33The men took this as a good sign and were quick to pick up his word. "Yes, your brother Ben-Hadad!" they said.

"Go and get him," the king said. When Ben-Hadad came out, Ahab had him come up into his chariot.

34"I will return the cities[k] my father took from your father," Ben-Hadad[l] offered. "You may set up your own market areas[m] in Damascus,[n] as my father did in Samaria."

⌞Ahab said,⌟ "On the basis of a treaty[o] I will set you free." So he made a treaty with him, and let him go.

A Prophet Condemns Ahab

35By the word of the LORD one of the sons of the prophets[p] said to his companion, "Strike me with your weapon," but the man refused.[q]

36So the prophet said, "Because you have not obeyed the LORD, as soon as you leave me a lion[r] will kill you." And after the man went away, a lion found him and killed him.

37The prophet found another man and said, "Strike me, please." So the man struck him and wounded him. 38Then the prophet went and stood by the road waiting for the king. He disguised himself with his headband down over his eyes. 39As the king passed by, the prophet called out to him, "Your servant went into the thick of the battle, and someone came to me with a captive and said, 'Guard this man. If he is missing, it will be your life for his life,[s] or you must pay a talent[p] of silver.' 40While your servant was busy here and there, the man disappeared."

"That is your sentence,"[t] the king of Israel said. "You have pronounced it yourself."

41Then the prophet quickly removed the headband from his eyes, and the king of Israel recognized him as one of the prophets. 42He said to the king, "This is what the LORD says: 'You[u] have set free a man I had determined should die.[q][v] Therefore it is your life for his life,[w] your people for his people.' " 43Sullen and angry,[x] the king of Israel went to his palace in Samaria.

Naboth's Vineyard

21 Some time later there was an incident involving a vineyard belonging to Naboth[y] the Jezreelite. The vineyard was in Jezreel,[z] close to the palace of Ahab king of Samaria. 2Ahab said to Naboth, "Let me have your vineyard to use for a vegetable garden, since it is close to my palace. In exchange I will give you a better vineyard or, if you prefer, I will pay you whatever it is worth."

3But Naboth replied, "The LORD forbid that I should give you the inheritance[a] of my fathers."

4So Ahab went home, sullen and angry[b] because Naboth the Jezreelite had said, "I will not give you the inheri-

20:26 [a] S 2Sa 11:1 [b] ver 30; S 1Sa 4:1; 2Ki 13:17 **20:27** [c] Jdg 6:6; S 1Sa 13:6 **20:28** [d] S ver 23 [e] S Ex 6:7; Jer 16:19-21 **20:30** [f] S ver 26 [g] Ps 62:4; Isa 26:21; 30:13 [h] 1Ki 22:25 **20:31** [i] Job 41:3 [j] S Ge 37:34 **20:34** [k] 1Ki 15:20 [l] S Ge 10:22 [m] 2Sa 8:6 [n] S Ge 14:15; Jer 49:23-27 [o] S Ex 23:32 **20:35** [p] S 1Sa 10:5; Am 7:14 [q] S 1Ki 13:21 **20:36** [r] 1Ki 13:24 **20:39** [s] S Jos 2:14 **20:40** [t] 2Sa 12:5; S 14:13 **20:42** [u] S 2Sa 12:7 [v] Jer 48:10 [w] S Jos 2:14 **20:43** [x] 1Ki 21:4 **21:1** [y] 2Ki 9:21 [z] S 1Sa 29:1; 2Ki 10:1 **21:3** [a] S Lev 25:23 **21:4** [b] 1Ki 20:43

[p]39 That is, about 75 pounds (about 34 kilograms)
[q]42 The Hebrew term refers to the irrevocable giving over of things or persons to the LORD, often by totally destroying them.

tance of my fathers." He lay on his bed
sulking and refused[a] to eat.
5His wife Jezebel came in and asked
him, "Why are you so sullen? Why
won't you eat?"
6He answered her, "Because I said to
Naboth the Jezreelite, 'Sell me your
vineyard; or if you prefer, I will give
you another vineyard in its place.' But
he said, 'I will not give you my vine-
yard.'"
7Jezebel his wife said, "Is this how
you act as king over Israel? Get up and
eat! Cheer up. I'll get you the vine-
yard[b] of Naboth the Jezreelite."
8So she wrote letters[c] in Ahab's
name, placed his seal[d] on them, and
sent them to the elders and nobles who
lived in Naboth's city with him. 9In
those letters she wrote:

"Proclaim a day of fasting and
seat Naboth in a prominent place
among the people. 10But seat two
scoundrels[e] opposite him and
have them testify that he has
cursed[f] both God and the king.
Then take him out and stone him
to death."

11So the elders and nobles who lived
in Naboth's city did as Jezebel directed
in the letters she had written to them.
12They proclaimed a fast[g] and seated
Naboth in a prominent place among
the people. 13Then two scoundrels
came and sat opposite him and brought
charges against Naboth before the
people, saying, "Naboth has cursed
both God and the king." So they took
him outside the city and stoned him to
death.[h] 14Then they sent word to Jeze-
bel: "Naboth has been stoned and is
dead."
15As soon as Jezebel heard that
Naboth had been stoned to death, she
said to Ahab, "Get up and take posses-
sion of the vineyard[i] of Naboth the
Jezreelite that he refused to sell you.
He is no longer alive, but dead."
16When Ahab heard that Naboth was
dead, he got up and went down to take
possession of Naboth's vineyard.
17Then the word of the LORD came to
Elijah the Tishbite: 18"Go down to meet
Ahab king of Israel, who rules in Sa-
maria. He is now in Naboth's vineyard,
where he has gone to take possession
of it. 19Say to him, 'This is what the
LORD says: Have you not murdered a
man and seized his property?'[j] Then
say to him, 'This is what the LORD says:
In the place where dogs licked up
Naboth's blood,[k] dogs[l] will lick up
your blood—yes, yours!'"
20Ahab said to Elijah, "So you have
found me, my enemy!"[m]
"I have found you," he answered,
"because you have sold[n] yourself to do
evil in the eyes of the LORD. 21'I am go-
ing to bring disaster on you. I will con-
sume your descendants and cut off
from Ahab every last male[o] in Israel—
slave or free.[p] 22I will make your
house[q] like that of Jeroboam son of
Nebat and that of Baasha son of Ahi-
jah, because you have provoked me to
anger and have caused Israel to sin.'[r]
23"And also concerning Jezebel the
LORD says: 'Dogs[s] will devour Jezebel
by the wall of[r] Jezreel.'
24"Dogs[t] will eat those belonging to
Ahab who die in the city, and the birds
of the air[u] will feed on those who die in
the country."
25(There was never[v] a man like
Ahab, who sold himself to do evil in
the eyes of the LORD, urged on by Jeze-
bel his wife. 26He behaved in the vilest
manner by going after idols, like the
Amorites[w] the LORD drove out before
Israel.)
27When Ahab heard these words, he
tore his clothes, put on sackcloth[x] and
fasted. He lay in sackcloth and went
around meekly.[y]
28Then the word of the LORD came to
Elijah the Tishbite: 29"Have you noticed
how Ahab has humbled himself before
me? Because he has humbled[z] himself,
I will not bring this disaster in his
day,[a] but I will bring it on his house in
the days of his son."[b]

Micaiah Prophesies Against Ahab

22:1-28pp — 2Ch 18:1-27

22 For three years there was no war
between Aram and Israel. 2But in
the third year Jehoshaphat king of
Judah went down to see the king of Is-
rael. 3The king of Israel had said to his
officials, "Don't you know that Ramoth
Gilead[c] belongs to us and yet we are
doing nothing to retake it from the king
of Aram?"
4So he asked Jehoshaphat, "Will you
go with me to fight[d] against Ramoth
Gilead?"
Jehoshaphat replied to the king of Is-
rael, "I am as you are, my people as
your people, my horses as your
horses." 5But Jehoshaphat also said to

21:4 [a]1Sa 28:23
21:7 [b]S 1Sa 8:14
21:8 [c]2Sa 11:14
[d]S Ge 38:18
21:10
[e]S Dt 13:13;
Ac 6:11
[f]S Ex 22:28;
Lev 24:15-16
21:12 [g]Isa 58:4
21:13
[h]S Lev 24:16
21:15
[i]S 1Sa 8:14
21:19 [j]Job 24:6;
31:39
[k]2Ki 9:26;
Ps 9:12; Isa 14:20
[l]1Ki 22:38;
Ps 68:23; Jer 15:3
21:20
[m]S 1Ki 18:17
[n]2Ki 17:17;
Ro 7:14
21:21 [o]Jdg 9:5;
2Ki 10:7
[p]S Dt 32:36
21:22 [q]1Ki 16:3
[r]S 1Ki 12:30
21:23 [s]2Ki 9:10,
34-36
21:24 [t]1Ki 14:11
[u]S Ge 40:19;
S Dt 28:26
21:25
[v]S 1Ki 14:9;
S 16:33
21:26
[w]S Ge 15:16
21:27
[x]S Ge 37:34;
S Jer 4:8
[y]Isa 38:15
21:29 [z]S Ex 10:3
[a]S Ex 32:14;
2Ki 22:20
[b]Ex 20:5;
2Ki 9:26; 10:6-10
22:3 [c]S Dt 4:43
22:4 [d]2Ki 3:7

[r]23 Most Hebrew manuscripts; a few Hebrew manuscripts, Vulgate and Syriac (see also 2 Kings 9:26) *the plot of ground at*

the king of Israel, "First seek the coun-
sel[a] of the LORD."
6So the king of Israel brought to-
gether the prophets—about four hun-
dred men—and asked them, "Shall I go
to war against Ramoth Gilead, or shall I
refrain?"
"Go,"[b] they answered, "for the Lord
will give it into the king's hand."[c]
7But Jehoshaphat asked, "Is there
not a prophet[d] of the LORD here whom
we can inquire[e] of?"
8The king of Israel answered Jehosh-
aphat, "There is still one man through
whom we can inquire of the LORD, but I
hate[f] him because he never prophesies
anything good[g] about me, but always
bad. He is Micaiah son of Imlah."
"The king should not say that," Je-
hoshaphat replied.
9So the king of Israel called one of his
officials and said, "Bring Micaiah son
of Imlah at once."
10Dressed in their royal robes, the
king of Israel and Jehoshaphat king of
Judah were sitting on their thrones at
the threshing floor[h] by the entrance of
the gate of Samaria, with all the proph-
ets prophesying before them. 11Now
Zedekiah[i] son of Kenaanah had made
iron horns[j] and he declared, "This is
what the LORD says: 'With these you
will gore the Arameans until they are
destroyed.'"
12All the other prophets were
prophesying the same thing. "Attack
Ramoth Gilead and be victorious,"
they said, "for the LORD will give it into
the king's hand."
13The messenger who had gone to
summon Micaiah said to him, "Look,
as one man the other prophets are pre-
dicting success for the king. Let your
word agree with theirs, and speak
favorably."[k]
14But Micaiah said, "As surely as the
LORD lives, I can tell him only what the
LORD tells me."[l]
15When he arrived, the king asked
him, "Micaiah, shall we go to war
against Ramoth Gilead, or shall I re-
frain?"
"Attack and be victorious," he an-
swered, "for the LORD will give it into
the king's hand."
16The king said to him, "How many
times must I make you swear to tell me
nothing but the truth in the name of
the LORD?"
17Then Micaiah answered, "I saw all
Israel scattered[m] on the hills like sheep
without a shepherd,[n] and the LORD

22:5 [illegible]
22:6 [illegible]
22:7 [illegible]
22:8 [illegible]
22:10 [illegible]
22:11 [illegible]
22:13 [illegible]
22:14 [illegible]
22:17 [illegible]
22:19 [illegible]
22:22 [illegible]
22:23 [illegible]
22:24 [illegible]
22:25 [illegible]
22:27 [illegible]
22:28 [illegible]
22:30 [illegible]
22:31 [illegible]

said, 'These people have no master. Let
each one go home in peace.'"
18The king of Israel said to Jehosha-
phat, "Didn't I tell you that he never
prophesies anything good about me,
but only bad?"
19Micaiah continued, "Therefore hear
the word of the LORD: I saw the LORD
sitting on his throne[o] with all the host[p]
of heaven standing around him on his
right and on his left. 20And the LORD
said, 'Who will entice Ahab into attack-
ing Ramoth Gilead and going to his
death there?'
"One suggested this, and another
that. 21Finally, a spirit came forward,
stood before the LORD and said, 'I will
entice him.'
22" 'By what means?' the LORD asked.
" 'I will go out and be a lying[q] spirit
in the mouths of all his prophets,' he
said.
" 'You will succeed in enticing him,'
said the LORD. 'Go and do it.'
23"So now the LORD has put a lying[r]
spirit in the mouths of all these proph-
ets[s] of yours. The LORD has decreed
disaster[t] for you."
24Then Zedekiah[u] son of Kenaanah
went up and slapped[v] Micaiah in the
face. "Which way did the spirit from[a]
the LORD go when he went from me to
speak[w] to you?" he asked.
25Micaiah replied, "You will find out
on the day you go to hide[x] in an inner
room."
26The king of Israel then ordered,
"Take Micaiah and send him back to
Amon the ruler of the city and to Joash
the king's son 27and say, 'This is what
the king says: Put this fellow in prison[y]
and give him nothing but bread and
water until I return safely.'"
28Micaiah declared, "If you ever re-
turn safely, the LORD has not spoken[z]
through me." Then he added, "Mark
my words, all you people!"

Ahab Killed at Ramoth Gilead

22:29-36pp—2Ch 18:28-34

29So the king of Israel and Jehosha-
phat king of Judah went up to Ramoth
Gilead. 30The king of Israel said to Je-
hoshaphat, "I will enter the battle in
disguise,[a] but you wear your royal
robes." So the king of Israel disguised
himself and went into battle.
31Now the king of Aram[b] had or-
dered his thirty-two chariot command-
ers, "Do not fight with anyone, small

a24 Or *Spirit of*

or great, except the king[a] of Israel." [32]When the chariot commanders saw Jehoshaphat, they thought, "Surely this is the king of Israel." So they turned to attack him, but when Jehoshaphat cried out, [33]the chariot commanders saw that he was not the king of Israel and stopped pursuing him.

[34]But someone drew his bow[b] at random and hit the king of Israel between the sections of his armor. The king told his chariot driver, "Wheel around and get me out of the fighting. I've been wounded." [35]All day long the battle raged, and the king was propped up in his chariot facing the Arameans. The blood from his wound ran onto the floor of the chariot, and that evening he died. [36]As the sun was setting, a cry spread through the army: "Every man to his town; everyone to his land!"[c]

[37]So the king died and was brought to Samaria, and they buried him there. [38]They washed the chariot at a pool in Samaria (where the prostitutes bathed),[t] and the dogs[d] licked up his blood, as the word of the LORD had declared.

[39]As for the other events of Ahab's reign, including all he did, the palace he built and inlaid with ivory,[e] and the cities he fortified, are they not written in the book of the annals of the kings of Israel? [40]Ahab rested with his fathers. And Ahaziah his son succeeded him as king.

Jehoshaphat King of Judah

22:41-50pp — 2Ch 20:31–21:1

[41]Jehoshaphat son of Asa became king of Judah in the fourth year of Ahab king of Israel. [42]Jehoshaphat was thirty-five years old when he became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem twenty-five years. His mother's name was Azubah daughter of Shilhi. [43]In everything he walked in the ways of his father Asa[f] and did not stray from them; he did what was right in the eyes of the LORD. The high places,[g] however, were not removed, and the people continued to offer sacrifices and burn incense there. [44]Jehoshaphat was also at peace with the king of Israel.

[45]As for the other events of Jehoshaphat's reign, the things he achieved and his military exploits, are they not written in the book of the annals of the kings of Judah? [46]He rid the land of the rest of the male shrine prostitutes[h] who remained there even after the reign of his father Asa. [47]There was then no king[i] in Edom; a deputy ruled.

[48]Now Jehoshaphat built a fleet of trading ships[u][j] to go to Ophir for gold, but they never set sail—they were wrecked at Ezion Geber.[k] [49]At that time Ahaziah son of Ahab said to Jehoshaphat, "Let my men sail with your men," but Jehoshaphat refused.

[50]Then Jehoshaphat rested with his fathers and was buried with them in the city of David his father. And Jehoram his son succeeded him.

Ahaziah King of Israel

[51]Ahaziah son of Ahab became king of Israel in Samaria in the seventeenth year of Jehoshaphat king of Judah, and he reigned over Israel two years. [52]He did evil[l] in the eyes of the LORD, because he walked in the ways of his father and mother and in the ways of Jeroboam son of Nebat, who caused Israel to sin. [53]He served and worshiped Baal[m] and provoked the LORD, the God of Israel, to anger, just as his father[n] had done.

22:31 [a]S 2Sa 17:2
22:34 [b]2Ki 9:24; 2Ch 35:23
22:36 [c]2Ki 14:12
22:38 [d]S 1Ki 21:19
22:39 [e]2Ch 9:17; Ps 45:8; Am 3:15
22:43 [f]S 1Ki 8:61; 2Ch 17:3 [g]S 1Ki 3:2
22:46 [h]S Dt 23:17
22:47 [i]1Ki 11:14-18; 2Ki 3:9; 8:20
22:48 [j]S 1Ki 9:26 [k]S Nu 33:35
22:52 [l]1Ki 15:26
22:53 [m]S Jdg 2:11 [n]1Ki 21:25

[t]38 Or *Samaria and cleaned the weapons* [u]48 Hebrew *of ships of Tarshish*

2 Kings

The Lord's Judgment on Ahaziah

1 After Ahab's death, Moab[a] rebelled against Israel. 2Now Ahaziah had fallen through the lattice of his upper room in Samaria and injured himself. So he sent messengers,[b] saying to them, "Go and consult Baal-Zebub,[c] the god of Ekron,[d] to see if I will recover[e] from this injury."

3But the angel[f] of the Lord said to Elijah[g] the Tishbite, "Go up and meet the messengers of the king of Samaria and ask them, 'Is it because there is no God in Israel[h] that you are going off to consult Baal-Zebub, the god of Ekron?' 4Therefore this is what the Lord says: 'You will not leave[i] the bed you are lying on. You will certainly die!' " So Elijah went.

5When the messengers returned to the king, he asked them, "Why have you come back?"

6"A man came to meet us," they replied. "And he said to us, 'Go back to the king who sent you and tell him, "This is what the Lord says: Is it because there is no God in Israel that you are sending men to consult Baal-Zebub, the god of Ekron? Therefore you will not leave[j] the bed you are lying on. You will certainly die!" ' "

7The king asked them, "What kind of man was it who came to meet you and told you this?"

8They replied, "He was a man with a garment of hair[k] and with a leather belt around his waist."

The king said, "That was Elijah the Tishbite."

9Then he sent[l] to Elijah a captain[m] with his company of fifty men. The captain went up to Elijah, who was sitting on the top of a hill, and said to him, "Man of God, the king says, 'Come down!' "

10Elijah answered the captain, "If I am a man of God, may fire come down from heaven and consume you and your fifty men!" Then fire[n] fell from heaven and consumed the captain and his men.

11At this the king sent to Elijah another captain with his fifty men. The captain said to him, "Man of God, this is what the king says, 'Come down at once!' "

12"If I am a man of God," Elijah replied, "may fire come down from heaven and consume you and your fifty men!" Then the fire of God fell from heaven and consumed him and his fifty men.

13So the king sent a third captain with his fifty men. This third captain went up and fell on his knees before Elijah. "Man of God," he begged, "please have respect for my life[o] and the lives of these fifty men, your servants! 14See, fire has fallen from heaven and consumed the first two captains and all their men. But now have respect for my life!"

15The angel[p] of the Lord said to Elijah, "Go down with him; do not be afraid[q] of him." So Elijah got up and went down with him to the king.

16He told the king, "This is what the Lord says: Is it because there is no God in Israel for you to consult that you have sent messengers[r] to consult Baal-Zebub, the god of Ekron? Because you have done this, you will never leave[s] the bed you are lying on. You will certainly die!" 17So he died,[t] according to the word of the Lord that Elijah had spoken.

Because Ahaziah had no son, Joram[a][u] succeeded him as king in the second year of Jehoram son of Jehoshaphat king of Judah. 18As for all the other events of Ahaziah's reign, and what he did, are they not written in the book of the annals of the kings of Israel?

Elijah Taken Up to Heaven

2 When the Lord was about to take[v] Elijah up to heaven in a whirl-

1:1 [a]S Ge 19:37; 2Ki 3:5
1:2 [b]ver 16 [c]S Mk 3:22 [d]1Sa 6:2; Isa 2:6; 14:29 [e]S Jdg 18:5
1:3 [f]ver 15 [g]1Ki 17:1 [h]S 1Sa 28:8
1:4 [i]ver 6,16; Ps 41:8
1:6 [j]S ver 4
1:8 [k]S 1Ki 18:7; Mt 3:4; Mk 1:6
1:9 [l]2Ki 6:14 [m]Ex 18:25; Isa 3:3
1:10 [n]S 1Ki 18:38; S Rev 11:5; S 13:13
1:13 [o]Ps 72:14
1:15 [p]ver 3 [q]Isa 51:12; 57:11; Jer 1:17; Eze 2:6
1:16 [r]S ver 2 [s]ver 4
1:17 [t]2Ki 8:15; Jer 20:6; 28:17 [u]2Ki 3:1; 8:16
2:1 [v]S Ge 5:24

[a]17 Hebrew *Jehoram*, a variant of *Joram*

wind.[a] Elijah and Elisha[b] were on
their way from Gilgal.[c] 2Elijah said to
Elisha, "Stay here;[d] the LORD has sent
me to Bethel."
But Elisha said, "As surely as the
LORD lives and as you live, I will not
leave you."[e] So they went down to
Bethel.
3The company[f] of the prophets at
Bethel came out to Elisha and asked,
"Do you know that the LORD is go-
ing to take your master from you to-
day?"
"Yes, I know," Elisha replied, "but
do not speak of it."
4Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here,
Elisha; the LORD has sent me to Jeri-
cho.[g]"
And he replied, "As surely as the
LORD lives and as you live, I will not
leave you." So they went to Jericho.
5The company[h] of the prophets at
Jericho went up to Elisha and asked
him, "Do you know that the LORD is
going to take your master from you to-
day?"
"Yes, I know," he replied, "but do
not speak of it."
6Then Elijah said to him, "Stay
here;[i] the LORD has sent me to the Jor-
dan."[j]
And he replied, "As surely as the
LORD lives and as you live, I will not
leave you."[k] So the two of them
walked on.
7Fifty men of the company of the
prophets went and stood at a distance,
facing the place where Elijah and Elisha
had stopped at the Jordan. 8Elijah took
his cloak,[l] rolled it up and struck[m] the
water with it. The water divided[n] to
the right and to the left, and the two of
them crossed over on dry[o] ground.
9When they had crossed, Elijah said
to Elisha, "Tell me, what can I do for
you before I am taken from you?"
"Let me inherit a double[p] portion of
your spirit,"[q] Elisha replied.
10"You have asked a difficult thing,"
Elijah said, "yet if you see me when I
am taken from you, it will be yours—
otherwise not."
11As they were walking along and
talking together, suddenly a chariot of
fire[r] and horses of fire appeared and
separated the two of them, and Elijah
went up to heaven[s] in a whirlwind.[t]
12Elisha saw this and cried out, "My fa-
ther! My father! The chariots[u] and
horsemen of Israel!" And Elisha saw
him no more. Then he took hold of his
own clothes and tore[v] them apart.

2:1 [a] ver 11; 1Ki 19:11; Isa 5:28; 66:15; Jer 4:13; Na 1:3 [b] S 1Ki 19:16 [c] S Dt 11:30; 2Ki 4:38
2:2 [d] ver 6 [e] Ru 1:16
2:3 [f] S 1Sa 10:5
2:4 [g] Jos 3:16
2:5 [h] ver 3
2:6 [i] ver 2 [j] Jos 3:15 [k] Ru 1:16
2:8 [l] S 1Ki 19:19 [m] ver 14 [n] S Ex 14:21 [o] Ex 14:22,29
2:9 [p] S Dt 21:17 [q] S Nu 11:17
2:11 [r] 2Ki 6:17; Ps 68:17; 104:3,4; Isa 66:15; Hab 3:8; Zec 6:1 [s] S Ge 5:24 [t] S ver 1
2:12 [u] 2Ki 6:17; 13:14 [v] S Ge 37:29

13He picked up the cloak that had
fallen from Elijah and went back and
stood on the bank of the Jordan. 14Then
he took the cloak[w] that had fallen from
him and struck[x] the water with it.
"Where now is the LORD, the God of
Elijah?" he asked. When he struck the
water, it divided to the right and to the
left, and he crossed over.
15The company[y] of the prophets
from Jericho, who were watching, said,
"The spirit[z] of Elijah is resting on Eli-
sha." And they went to meet him and
bowed to the ground before him.
16"Look," they said, "we your servants
have fifty able men. Let them go and
look for your master. Perhaps the
Spirit[a] of the LORD has picked him up[b]
and set him down on some mountain
or in some valley."
"No," Elisha replied, "do not send
them."
17But they persisted until he was too
ashamed[c] to refuse. So he said, "Send
them." And they sent fifty men, who
searched for three days but did not find
him. 18When they returned to Elisha,
who was staying in Jericho, he said to
them, "Didn't I tell you not to go?"

Healing of the Water

19The men of the city said to Elisha,
"Look, our lord, this town is well situ-
ated, as you can see, but the water is
bad and the land is unproductive."
20"Bring me a new bowl," he said,
"and put salt in it." So they brought it
to him.
21Then he went out to the spring and
threw[d] the salt into it, saying, "This is
what the LORD says: 'I have healed this
water. Never again will it cause death
or make the land unproductive.' "
22And the water has remained whole-
some[e] to this day, according to the
word Elisha had spoken.

Elisha Is Jeered

23From there Elisha went up to Beth-
el. As he was walking along the road,
some youths came out of the town and
jeered[f] at him. "Go on up, you bald-
head!" they said. "Go on up, you bald-
head!" 24He turned around, looked at
them and called down a curse[g] on
them in the name[h] of the LORD. Then
two bears came out of the woods and
mauled forty-two of the youths. 25And
he went on to Mount Carmel[i] and
from there returned to Samaria.

2:14 [w] S 1Ki 19:19 [x] ver 8
2:15 [y] S 1Sa 10:5 [z] S Nu 11:17
2:16 [a] S 1Ki 18:12 [b] Ac 8:39
2:17 [c] S Jdg 3:25
2:21 [d] S Ex 15:25; 2Ki 4:41; 6:6
2:22 [e] Ex 15:25
2:23 [f] S Ex 22:28; 2Ch 30:10; 36:16; Job 19:18; Ps 31:18
2:24 [g] S Ge 4:11 [h] S Dt 18:19
2:25 [i] S 1Ki 18:20

Moab Revolts

3 Joram[b][a] son of Ahab became king of Israel in Samaria in the eighteenth year of Jehoshaphat king of Judah, and he reigned twelve years. 2He did evil[b] in the eyes of the LORD, but not as his father[c] and mother had done. He got rid of the sacred stone[d] of Baal that his father had made. 3Nevertheless he clung to the sins[e] of Jeroboam son of Nebat, which he had caused Israel to commit; he did not turn away from them.

4Now Mesha king of Moab[f] raised sheep, and he had to supply the king of Israel with a hundred thousand lambs[g] and with the wool of a hundred thousand rams. 5But after Ahab died, the king of Moab rebelled[h] against the king of Israel. 6So at that time King Joram set out from Samaria and mobilized all Israel. 7He also sent this message to Jehoshaphat king of Judah: "The king of Moab has rebelled against me. Will you go with me to fight[i] against Moab?"

"I will go with you," he replied. "I am as you are, my people as your people, my horses as your horses."

8"By what route shall we attack?" he asked.

"Through the Desert of Edom," he answered.

9So the king of Israel set out with the king of Judah and the king of Edom.[j] After a roundabout march of seven days, the army had no more water for themselves or for the animals with them.

10"What!" exclaimed the king of Israel. "Has the LORD called us three kings together only to hand us over to Moab?"

11But Jehoshaphat asked, "Is there no prophet of the LORD here, that we may inquire[k] of the LORD through him?"

An officer of the king of Israel answered, "Elisha[l] son of Shaphat is here. He used to pour water on the hands of Elijah.[c][m]"

12Jehoshaphat said, "The word[n] of the LORD is with him." So the king of Israel and Jehoshaphat and the king of Edom went down to him.

13Elisha said to the king of Israel, "What do we have to do with each other? Go to the prophets of your father and the prophets of your mother."

"No," the king of Israel answered, "because it was the LORD who called us three kings together to hand us over to Moab."

14Elisha said, "As surely as the LORD Almighty lives, whom I serve, if I did not have respect for the presence of Jehoshaphat king of Judah, I would not look at you or even notice you. 15But now bring me a harpist."[o]

While the harpist was playing, the hand[p] of the LORD came upon Elisha 16and he said, "This is what the LORD says: Make this valley full of ditches. 17For this is what the LORD says: You will see neither wind nor rain, yet this valley will be filled with water,[q] and you, your cattle and your other animals will drink. 18This is an easy[r] thing in the eyes of the LORD; he will also hand Moab over to you. 19You will overthrow every fortified city and every major town. You will cut down every good tree, stop up all the springs, and ruin every good field with stones."

20The next morning, about the time[s] for offering the sacrifice, there it was—water flowing from the direction of Edom! And the land was filled with water.[t]

21Now all the Moabites had heard that the kings had come to fight against them; so every man, young and old, who could bear arms was called up and stationed on the border. 22When they got up early in the morning, the sun was shining on the water. To the Moabites across the way, the water looked red—like blood. 23"That's blood!" they said. "Those kings must have fought and slaughtered each other. Now to the plunder, Moab!"

24But when the Moabites came to the camp of Israel, the Israelites rose up and fought them until they fled. And the Israelites invaded the land and slaughtered the Moabites. 25They destroyed the towns, and each man threw a stone on every good field until it was covered. They stopped up all the springs and cut down every good tree. Only Kir Hareseth[u] was left with its stones in place, but men armed with slings surrounded it and attacked it as well.

26When the king of Moab saw that the battle had gone against him, he took with him seven hundred swordsmen to break through to the king of Edom, but they failed. 27Then he took his firstborn[v] son, who was to succeed

3:1 [a]S 2Ki 1:17
3:2 [b]1Ki 15:26
[c]1Ki 16:30
[d]S Ex 23:24
3:3 [e]S 1Ki 12:30
3:4 [f]S Ge 19:37; 2Ki 1:1
[g]Ezr 7:17; Isa 16:1
3:5 [h]S 2Ki 1:1
3:7 [i]1Ki 22:4
3:9 [j]S 1Ki 22:47
3:11 [k]S Ge 25:22; S 1Ki 22:5
[l]S Ge 20:7
[m]S 1Ki 19:16
3:12 [n]S Nu 11:17
3:15 [o]S 1Sa 10:5
[p]Jer 15:17; Eze 1:3
3:17 [q]Ps 107:35; Isa 12:3; 32:2; 35:6; 41:18; 65:13
3:18 [r]S Ge 18:14; 2Ki 20:10; Isa 49:6; Jer 32:17,27; Mk 10:27
3:20 [s]S Ex 29:41
[t]S Ex 17:6
3:25 [u]Isa 15:1; 16:7; Jer 48:31,36
3:27 [v]S Dt 12:31; 2Ki 16:3; 21:6; 2Ch 28:3; Ps 106:38; Jer 19:4-5; Mic 6:7

[b]*1* Hebrew *Jehoram,* a variant of *Joram;* also in verse 6
[c]*11* That is, he was Elijah's personal servant.

him as king, and offered him as a sacri-
fice on the city wall. The fury against
Israel was great; they withdrew and re-
turned to their own land.

The Widow's Oil

4 The wife of a man from the com-
pany[a] of the prophets cried out to
Elisha, "Your servant my husband is
dead, and you know that he revered
the LORD. But now his creditor[b] is com-
ing to take my two boys as his slaves."
2 Elisha replied to her, "How can I
help you? Tell me, what do you have in
your house?"
"Your servant has nothing there at
all," she said, "except a little oil."[c]
3 Elisha said, "Go around and ask all
your neighbors for empty jars. Don't
ask for just a few.
4 Then go inside and
shut the door behind you and your
sons. Pour oil into all the jars, and as
each is filled, put it to one side."
5 She left him and afterward shut the
door behind her and her sons. They
brought the jars to her and she kept
pouring.
6 When all the jars were full,
she said to her son, "Bring me another
one."
But he replied, "There is not a jar
left." Then the oil stopped flowing.
7 She went and told the man of God,[d]
and he said, "Go, sell the oil and pay
your debts. You and your sons can live
on what is left."

The Shunammite's Son Restored to Life

8 One day Elisha went to Shunem.[e]
And a well-to-do woman was there,
who urged him to stay for a meal. So
whenever he came by, he stopped
there to eat.
9 She said to her husband,
"I know that this man who often comes
our way is a holy man of God.
10 Let's
make a small room on the roof and put
in it a bed and a table, a chair and a
lamp for him. Then he can stay[f] there
whenever he comes to us."
11 One day when Elisha came, he
went up to his room and lay down
there.
12 He said to his servant Gehazi,
"Call the Shunammite."[g] So he called
her, and she stood before him.
13 Elisha
said to him, "Tell her, 'You have gone
to all this trouble for us. Now what can
be done for you? Can we speak on your
behalf to the king or the commander of
the army?' "
She replied, "I have a home among
my own people."

14 "What can be done for her?" Elisha
asked.
Gehazi said, "Well, she has no son
and her husband is old."
15 Then Elisha said, "Call her." So he
called her, and she stood in the door-
way.
16 "About this time[h] next year,"
Elisha said, "you will hold a son in
your arms."
"No, my lord," she objected. "Don't
mislead your servant, O man of God!"
17 But the woman became pregnant,
and the next year about that same time
she gave birth to a son, just as Elisha
had told her.
18 The child grew, and one day he
went out to his father, who was with
the reapers.[i]
19 "My head! My head!"
he said to his father.
His father told a servant, "Carry him
to his mother."
20 After the servant had
lifted him up and carried him to his
mother, the boy sat on her lap until
noon, and then he died.
21 She went up
and laid him on the bed[j] of the man of
God, then shut the door and went out.
22 She called her husband and said,
"Please send me one of the servants
and a donkey so I can go to the man of
God quickly and return."
23 "Why go to him today?" he asked.
"It's not the New Moon[k] or the Sab-
bath."
"It's all right," she said.
24 She saddled the donkey and said to
her servant, "Lead on; don't slow
down for me unless I tell you."
25 So she
set out and came to the man of God at
Mount Carmel.[l]
When he saw her in the distance, the
man of God said to his servant Gehazi,
"Look! There's the Shunammite!
26 Run
to meet her and ask her, 'Are you all
right? Is your husband all right? Is your
child all right?' "
"Everything is all right," she said.
27 When she reached the man of God
at the mountain, she took hold of his
feet. Gehazi came over to push her
away, but the man of God said, "Leave
her alone! She is in bitter distress,[m] but
the LORD has hidden it from me and has
not told me why."
28 "Did I ask you for a son, my lord?"
she said. "Didn't I tell you, 'Don't raise
my hopes'?"
29 Elisha said to Gehazi, "Tuck your
cloak into your belt,[n] take my staff[o] in
your hand and run. If you meet any-
one, do not greet him, and if anyone
greets you, do not answer. Lay my
staff on the boy's face."

4:1 [a]S 1Sa 10:5 [b]S Ex 22:26; Lev 25:39-43; Ne 5:3-5; Job 22:6; 24:9 **4:2** [c]S 1Ki 17:12 **4:7** [d]S 1Ki 12:22 **4:8** [e]S Jos 19:18 **4:10** [f]Mt 10:41; S Ro 12:13 **4:12** [g]2Ki 8:1

4:16 [h]S Ge 18:10 **4:18** [i]S Ru 2:3 **4:21** [j]ver 32 **4:23** [k]S Nu 10:10; 1Ch 23:31; Ps 81:3 **4:25** [l]S 1Ki 18:20 **4:27** [m]1Sa 1:15 **4:29** [n]S 1Ki 18:46 [o]S Ex 4:2

30But the child's mother said, "As
surely as the LORD lives and as you live,
I will not leave you." So he got up and
followed her.
31Gehazi went on ahead and laid the
staff on the boy's face, but there was no
sound or response. So Gehazi went
back to meet Elisha and told him, "The
boy has not awakened."
32When Elisha reached the house,
there was the boy lying dead on his
couch.[a] 33He went in, shut the door on
the two of them and prayed[b] to the
LORD. 34Then he got on the bed and lay
upon the boy, mouth to mouth, eyes to
eyes, hands to hands. As he stretched[c]
himself out upon him, the boy's body
grew warm. 35Elisha turned away and
walked back and forth in the room and
then got on the bed and stretched out
upon him once more. The boy sneezed
seven times[d] and opened his eyes.[e]
36Elisha summoned Gehazi and said,
"Call the Shunammite." And he did.
When she came, he said, "Take your
son."[f] 37She came in, fell at his feet
and bowed to the ground. Then she
took her son and went out.

Death in the Pot

38Elisha returned to Gilgal[g] and there
was a famine[h] in that region. While the
company of the prophets was meeting
with him, he said to his servant, "Put
on the large pot and cook some stew
for these men."
39One of them went out into the
fields to gather herbs and found a wild
vine. He gathered some of its gourds
and filled the fold of his cloak. When
he returned, he cut them up into the
pot of stew, though no one knew what
they were. 40The stew was poured out
for the men, but as they began to eat it,
they cried out, "O man of God, there is
death in the pot!" And they could not
eat it.
41Elisha said, "Get some flour." He
put it into the pot and said, "Serve it to
the people to eat." And there was
nothing harmful in the pot.[i]

Feeding of a Hundred

42A man came from Baal Shalishah,[j]
bringing the man of God twenty
loaves[k] of barley bread[l] baked from
the first ripe grain, along with some
heads of new grain. "Give it to the
people to eat," Elisha said.
43"How can I set this before a hun-
dred men?" his servant asked.
But Elisha answered, "Give it to the
people to eat.[m] For this is what the
LORD says: 'They will eat and have
some left over.'[n]" 44Then he set it be-
fore them, and they ate and had some
left over, according to the word of the
LORD.

Naaman Healed of Leprosy

5 Now Naaman was commander of
the army of the king of Aram.[o] He
was a great man in the sight of his mas-
ter and highly regarded, because
through him the LORD had given vic-
tory to Aram. He was a valiant soldier,
but he had leprosy.[d][p]
2Now bands[q] from Aram had gone
out and had taken captive a young girl
from Israel, and she served Naaman's
wife. 3She said to her mistress, "If only
my master would see the prophet[r]
who is in Samaria! He would cure him
of his leprosy."
4Naaman went to his master and told
him what the girl from Israel had said.
5"By all means, go," the king of Aram
replied. "I will send a letter to the king
of Israel." So Naaman left, taking with
him ten talents[e] of silver, six thousand
shekels[f] of gold and ten sets of cloth-
ing.[s] 6The letter that he took to the
king of Israel read: "With this letter I
am sending my servant Naaman to you
so that you may cure him of his lep-
rosy."
7As soon as the king of Israel read
the letter,[t] he tore his robes and said,
"Am I God?[u] Can I kill and bring back
to life?[v] Why does this fellow send
someone to me to be cured of his lep-
rosy? See how he is trying to pick a
quarrel[w] with me!"
8When Elisha the man of God heard
that the king of Israel had torn his
robes, he sent him this message: "Why
have you torn your robes? Have the
man come to me and he will know that
there is a prophet[x] in Israel." 9So Naa-
man went with his horses and chariots
and stopped at the door of Elisha's
house. 10Elisha sent a messenger to say
to him, "Go, wash[y] yourself seven
times[z] in the Jordan, and your flesh
will be restored and you will be
cleansed."
11But Naaman went away angry and
said, "I thought that he would surely
come out to me and stand and call on

4:32 [a]ver 21
4:33 [b]1Ki 17:20; Mt 6:6
4:34 [c]1Ki 17:21; Ac 20:10
4:35 [d]S Jos 6:15 [e]2Ki 8:5
4:36 [f]Heb 11:35
4:38 [g]S 2Ki 2:1 [h]S Lev 26:26; 2Ki 8:1
4:41 [i]S Ex 15:25; S 2Ki 2:21
4:42 [j]1Sa 9:4 [k]Mt 14:17; 15:36 [l]S 1Sa 9:7
4:43 [m]Lk 9:13 [n]Mt 14:20; Jn 6:12
5:1 [o]S Ge 10:22; S 2Sa 10:19 [p]S Ex 4:6; S Nu 12:10; Lk 4:27
5:2 [q]2Ki 6:23; 13:20; 24:2
5:3 [r]S Ge 20:7
5:5 [s]ver 22; S Ge 24:53; Jdg 14:12; S 1Sa 9:7
5:7 [t]2Ki 19:14 [u]S Ge 30:2 [v]S Dt 32:39 [w]1Ki 20:7
5:8 [x]S 1Ki 22:7
5:10 [y]Jn 9:7 [z]S Ge 33:3; S Lev 14:7

[d]1 The Hebrew word was used for various diseases affecting the skin—not necessarily leprosy; also in verses 3, 6, 7, 11 and 27. [e]5 That is, about 750 pounds (about 340 kilograms) [f]5 That is, about 150 pounds (about 70 kilograms)

the name of the LORD his God, wave his
hand[a] over the spot and cure me of my
leprosy. 12 Are not Abana and Pharpar,
the rivers of Damascus, better than any
of the waters[b] of Israel? Couldn't I
wash in them and be cleansed?" So he
turned and went off in a rage.[c]
13 Naaman's servants went to him
and said, "My father,[d] if the prophet
had told you to do some great thing,
would you not have done it? How
much more, then, when he tells you,
'Wash and be cleansed'!" 14 So he went
down and dipped himself in the Jordan
seven times,[e] as the man of God had
told him, and his flesh was restored[f]
and became clean like that of a young
boy.[g]
15 Then Naaman and all his atten-
dants went back to the man of God[h].
He stood before him and said, "Now I
know[i] that there is no God in all the
world except in Israel. Please accept
now a gift[j] from your servant."
16 The prophet answered, "As surely
as the LORD lives, whom I serve, I will
not accept a thing." And even though
Naaman urged him, he refused.[k]
17 "If you will not," said Naaman,
"please let me, your servant, be given
as much earth[l] as a pair of mules can
carry, for your servant will never again
make burnt offerings and sacrifices to
any other god but the LORD. 18 But may
the LORD forgive your servant for this
one thing: When my master enters the
temple of Rimmon to bow down and
he is leaning[m] on my arm and I bow
there also—when I bow down in the
temple of Rimmon, may the LORD for-
give your servant for this."
19 "Go in peace,"[n] Elisha said.
After Naaman had traveled some
distance, 20 Gehazi, the servant of Eli-
sha the man of God, said to himself,
"My master was too easy on Naaman,
this Aramean, by not accepting from
him what he brought. As surely as the
LORD[o] lives, I will run after him and get
something from him."
21 So Gehazi hurried after Naaman.
When Naaman saw him running
toward him, he got down from the
chariot to meet him. "Is everything all
right?" he asked.
22 "Everything is all right," Gehazi
answered. "My master sent me to say,
'Two young men from the company of
the prophets have just come to me
from the hill country of Ephraim.
Please give them a talent[g] of silver and
two sets of clothing.' "[p]

5:11 [a]S Ex 7:19
5:12 [b]Isa 8:6
[c]Pr 14:17,29; 19:11; 29:11
5:13 [d]2Ki 6:21; 13:14
5:14 [e]S Ge 33:3; S Lev 14:7; S Jos 6:15
[f]S Ex 4:7
[g]Job 33:25
5:15 [h]S Jos 2:11
[i]S Jos 4:24; S 1Sa 17:46
[j]S 1Sa 9:7
5:16 [k]ver 20,26; Ge 14:23; Da 5:17
5:17 [l]Ex 20:24
5:18 [m]2Ki 7:2
5:19 [n]1Sa 1:17; S Ac 15:33
5:20 [o]Ex 20:7
5:22 [p]S ver 5; S Ge 45:22

23 "By all means, take two talents,"
said Naaman. He urged Gehazi to ac-
cept them, and then tied up the two
talents of silver in two bags, with two
sets of clothing. He gave them to two
of his servants, and they carried them
ahead of Gehazi. 24 When Gehazi came
to the hill, he took the things from the
servants and put them away in the
house. He sent the men away and they
left. 25 Then he went in and stood be-
fore his master Elisha.
"Where have you been, Gehazi?"
Elisha asked.
"Your servant didn't go anywhere,"
Gehazi answered.
26 But Elisha said to him, "Was not
my spirit with you when the man got
down from his chariot to meet you? Is
this the time[q] to take money, or to ac-
cept clothes, olive groves, vineyards,
flocks, herds, or menservants and
maidservants?[r] 27 Naaman's leprosy[s]
will cling to you and to your descend-
ants forever." Then Gehazi[t] went from
Elisha's presence and he was leprous,
as white as snow.[u]

An Axhead Floats

6 The company[v] of the prophets said
to Elisha, "Look, the place where
we meet with you is too small for us.
2 Let us go to the Jordan, where each of
us can get a pole; and let us build a
place there for us to live."
And he said, "Go."
3 Then one of them said, "Won't you
please come with your servants?"
"I will," Elisha replied. 4 And he
went with them.
They went to the Jordan and began
to cut down trees. 5 As one of them was
cutting down a tree, the iron axhead
fell into the water. "Oh, my lord," he
cried out, "it was borrowed!"
6 The man of God asked, "Where did
it fall?" When he showed him the
place, Elisha cut a stick and threw[w] it
there, and made the iron float. 7 "Lift it
out," he said. Then the man reached
out his hand and took it.

Elisha Traps Blinded Arameans

8 Now the king of Aram was at war
with Israel. After conferring with his
officers, he said, "I will set up my camp
in such and such a place."
9 The man of God sent word to the
king[x] of Israel: "Beware of passing that
place, because the Arameans are going

5:26 [q]S ver 16
[r]Jer 45:5
5:27 [s]S Nu 12:10
[t]Col 3:5
[u]S Ex 4:6
6:1 [v]S 1Sa 10:5
6:6 [w]S Ex 15:25; S 2Ki 2:21
6:9 [x]ver 12

g22 That is, about 75 pounds (about 34 kilograms)

down there."[a] 10So the king of Israel
checked on the place indicated by the
man of God. Time and again Elisha
warned[a] the king, so that he was on
his guard in such places.
11This enraged the king of Aram. He
summoned his officers and demanded
of them, "Will you not tell me which of
us is on the side of the king of Israel?"
12"None of us, my lord the king[b],"
said one of his officers, "but Elisha, the
prophet who is in Israel, tells the king
of Israel the very words you speak in
your bedroom."
13"Go, find out where he is," the
king ordered, "so I can send men and
capture him." The report came back:
"He is in Dothan."[c] 14Then he sent[d]
horses and chariots and a strong force
there. They went by night and sur-
rounded the city.
15When the servant of the man of
God got up and went out early the next
morning, an army with horses and
chariots had surrounded the city. "Oh,
my lord, what shall we do?" the ser-
vant asked.
16"Don't be afraid,"[e] the prophet an-
swered. "Those who are with us are
more[f] than those who are with them."
17And Elisha prayed, "O LORD, open
his eyes so he may see." Then the LORD
opened the servant's eyes, and he
looked and saw the hills full of horses
and chariots[g] of fire all around Elisha.
18As the enemy came down toward
him, Elisha prayed to the LORD, "Strike
these people with blindness."[h] So he
struck them with blindness, as Elisha
had asked.
19Elisha told them, "This is not the
road and this is not the city. Follow me,
and I will lead you to the man you are
looking for." And he led them to Sa-
maria.
20After they entered the city, Elisha
said, "LORD, open the eyes of these
men so they can see." Then the LORD
opened their eyes and they looked, and
there they were, inside Samaria.
21When the king of Israel saw them,
he asked Elisha, "Shall I kill them, my
father?[i] Shall I kill them?"
22"Do not kill them," he answered.
"Would you kill men you have cap-
tured[j] with your own sword or bow?
Set food and water before them so that
they may eat and drink and then go
back to their master." 23So he prepared
a great feast for them, and after they
had finished eating and drinking, he
sent them away, and they returned to

6:10 [a]Jer 11:18
6:12 [b]ver 9
6:13 [c]Ge 37:17
6:14 [d]2Ki 1:9
6:16 [e]S Ge 15:1 [f]2Ch 32:7; Ps 55:18; Ro 8:31; 1Jn 4:4
6:17 [g]S 2Ki 2:11,12
6:18 [h]Ge 19:11; Ac 13:11
6:21 [i]S 2Ki 5:13
6:22 [j]S Dt 20:11; 2Ch 28:8-15

6:23 [k]S 2Ki 5:2
6:24 [l]S 1Ki 15:18; 2Ki 8:7 [m]Dt 28:52
6:25 [n]S Lev 26:26; S Ru 1:1 [o]Isa 36:12
6:29 [p]S Lev 26:29; Dt 28:53-55
6:30 [q]2Ki 18:37; Isa 22:15 [r]S Ge 37:34
6:32 [s]Eze 8:1; 14:1; 20:1 [t]1Ki 18:4 [u]ver 31
6:33 [v]Lev 24:11; Job 2:9; 14:14; Isa 40:31

their master. So the bands[k] from Aram
stopped raiding Israel's territory.

Famine in Besieged Samaria

24Some time later, Ben-Hadad[l] king
of Aram mobilized his entire army and
marched up and laid siege[m] to Samaria.
25There was a great famine[n] in the city;
the siege lasted so long that a donkey's
head sold for eighty shekels[h] of silver,
and a fourth of a cab[i] of seed pods[j] [o]
for five shekels.[k]
26As the king of Israel was passing by
on the wall, a woman cried to him,
"Help me, my lord the king!"
27The king replied, "If the LORD does
not help you, where can I get help for
you? From the threshing floor? From
the winepress?" 28Then he asked her,
"What's the matter?"
She answered, "This woman said to
me, 'Give up your son so we may eat
him today, and tomorrow we'll eat my
son.' 29So we cooked my son and ate[p]
him. The next day I said to her, 'Give
up your son so we may eat him,' but
she had hidden him."
30When the king heard the woman's
words, he tore[q] his robes. As he went
along the wall, the people looked, and
there, underneath, he had sackcloth[r]
on his body. 31He said, "May God deal
with me, be it ever so severely, if the
head of Elisha son of Shaphat remains
on his shoulders today!"
32Now Elisha was sitting in his
house, and the elders[s] were sitting
with him. The king sent a messenger
ahead, but before he arrived, Elisha
said to the elders, "Don't you see how
this murderer[t] is sending someone to
cut off my head?[u] Look, when the
messenger comes, shut the door and
hold it shut against him. Is not the
sound of his master's footsteps behind
him?"
33While he was still talking to them,
the messenger came down to him. And
the king said, "This disaster is from
the LORD. Why should I wait[v] for the
LORD any longer?"
7 Elisha said, "Hear the word of the
LORD. This is what the LORD says:
About this time tomorrow, a seah[l] of
flour will sell for a shekel[m] and two

[h]25 That is, about 2 pounds (about 1 kilogram)
[i]25 That is, probably about 1/2 pint (about 0.3 liter)
[j]25 Or *of dove's dung* [k]25 That is, about 2 ounces (about 55 grams) [l]1 That is, probably about 7 quarts (about 7.3 liters); also in verses 16 and 18
[m]1 That is, about 2/5 ounce (about 11 grams); also in verses 16 and 18

seahs[n] of barley for a shekel[a] at the
gate of Samaria."
2 The officer on whose arm the king
was leaning[b] said to the man of God,
"Look, even if the LORD should open
the floodgates[c] of the heavens, could
this happen?"
"You will see it with your own
eyes," answered Elisha, "but you will
not eat[d] any of it!"

The Siege Lifted

3 Now there were four men with lep-
rosy[o][e] at the entrance of the city gate.
They said to each other, "Why stay
here until we die? 4 If we say, 'We'll go
into the city'—the famine is there, and
we will die. And if we stay here, we
will die. So let's go over to the camp of
the Arameans and surrender. If they
spare us, we live; if they kill us, then
we die."
5 At dusk they got up and went to the
camp of the Arameans. When they
reached the edge of the camp, not a
man was there, 6 for the Lord had
caused the Arameans to hear the
sound[f] of chariots and horses and a
great army, so that they said to one an-
other, "Look, the king of Israel has
hired[g] the Hittite[h] and Egyptian kings
to attack us!" 7 So they got up and fled[i]
in the dusk and abandoned their tents
and their horses and donkeys. They
left the camp as it was and ran for their
lives.
8 The men who had leprosy[j] reached
the edge of the camp and entered one
of the tents. They ate and drank, and
carried away silver, gold and clothes,
and went off and hid them. They re-
turned and entered another tent and
took some things from it and hid them
also.
9 Then they said to each other,
"We're not doing right. This is a day of
good news and we are keeping it to
ourselves. If we wait until daylight,
punishment will overtake us. Let's go
at once and report this to the royal pal-
ace."
10 So they went and called out to the
city gatekeepers and told them, "We
went into the Aramean camp and not a
man was there—not a sound of any-
one—only tethered horses and don-
keys, and the tents left just as they
were." 11 The gatekeepers shouted the
news, and it was reported within the
palace.
12 The king got up in the night and
said to his officers, "I will tell you what
the Arameans have done to us. They
know we are starving; so they have left
the camp to hide[k] in the countryside,
thinking, 'They will surely come out,
and then we will take them alive and
get into the city.'"
13 One of his officers answered,
"Have some men take five of the
horses that are left in the city. Their
plight will be like that of all the Israel-
ites left here—yes, they will only be
like all these Israelites who are
doomed. So let us send them to find
out what happened."
14 So they selected two chariots with
their horses, and the king sent them
after the Aramean army. He com-
manded the drivers, "Go and find out
what has happened." 15 They followed
them as far as the Jordan, and they
found the whole road strewn with the
clothing and equipment the Arameans
had thrown away in their headlong
flight.[l] So the messengers returned
and reported to the king. 16 Then the
people went out and plundered[m] the
camp of the Arameans. So a seah of
flour sold for a shekel, and two seahs
of barley sold for a shekel,[n] as the LORD
had said.
17 Now the king had put the officer on
whose arm he leaned in charge of the
gate, and the people trampled him in
the gateway, and he died,[o] just as the
man of God had foretold when the
king came down to his house. 18 It hap-
pened as the man of God had said to
the king: "About this time tomorrow, a
seah of flour will sell for a shekel and
two seahs of barley for a shekel at the
gate of Samaria."
19 The officer had said to the man of
God, "Look, even if the LORD should
open the floodgates[p] of the heavens,
could this happen?" The man of God
had replied, "You will see it with your
own eyes, but you will not eat any of
it!" 20 And that is exactly what hap-
pened to him, for the people trampled
him in the gateway, and he died.

The Shunammite's Land Restored

8 Now Elisha had said to the
woman[q] whose son he had re-
stored to life, "Go away with your
family and stay for a while wherever
you can, because the LORD has decreed
a famine[r] in the land that will last

7:1 [a]ver 16
7:2 [b]2Ki 5:18
[c]ver 19; Ge 7:11;
Ps 78:23;
Mal 3:10 [d]ver 17
7:3
[e]Lev 13:45-46;
Nu 5:1-4
7:6 [f]S Ex 14:24;
Eze 1:24
[g]2Sa 10:6;
Jer 46:21
[h]S Nu 13:29
7:7 [i]Jdg 7:21;
Ps 48:4-6;
Pr 28:1; Isa 30:17
7:8 [j]Isa 33:23;
35:6
7:12 [k]Jos 8:4
7:15 [l]Job 27:22
7:16 [m]Isa 33:4,
23 [n]ver 1
7:17 [o]S ver 2
7:19 [p]S ver 2
8:1 [q]2Ki 4:8-37
[r]S Lev 26:26;
S Dt 28:22;
S Ru 1:1

[n]1 That is, probably about 13 quarts (about 15 liters); also in verses 16 and 18 [o]3 The Hebrew word is used for various diseases affecting the skin—not necessarily leprosy; also in verse 8.

seven years."[a] 2The woman proceeded to do as the man of God said. She and her family went away and stayed in the land of the Philistines seven years.

3At the end of the seven years she came back from the land of the Philistines and went to the king to beg for her house and land. 4The king was talking to Gehazi, the servant of the man of God, and had said, "Tell me about all the great things Elisha has done." 5Just as Gehazi was telling the king how Elisha had restored[b] the dead to life, the woman whose son Elisha had brought back to life came to beg the king for her house and land.

Gehazi said, "This is the woman, my lord the king, and this is her son whom Elisha restored to life." 6The king asked the woman about it, and she told him.

Then he assigned an official to her case and said to him, "Give back everything that belonged to her, including all the income from her land from the day she left the country until now."

Hazael Murders Ben-Hadad

7Elisha went to Damascus,[c] and Ben-Hadad[d] king of Aram was ill. When the king was told, "The man of God has come all the way up here," 8he said to Hazael,[e] "Take a gift[f] with you and go to meet the man of God. Consult[g] the LORD through him; ask him, 'Will I recover from this illness?' "

9Hazael went to meet Elisha, taking with him as a gift forty camel-loads of all the finest wares of Damascus. He went in and stood before him, and said, "Your son Ben-Hadad king of Aram has sent me to ask, 'Will I recover from this illness?' "

10Elisha answered, "Go and say to him, 'You will certainly recover';[h] but[p] the LORD has revealed to me that he will in fact die." 11He stared at him with a fixed gaze until Hazael felt ashamed.[i] Then the man of God began to weep.[j]

12"Why is my lord weeping?" asked Hazael.

"Because I know the harm[k] you will do to the Israelites," he answered. "You will set fire to their fortified places, kill their young men with the sword, dash[l] their little children[m] to the ground, and rip open[n] their pregnant women."

13Hazael said, "How could your servant, a mere dog,[o] accomplish such a feat?"

"The LORD has shown me that you will become king[p] of Aram," answered Elisha.

14Then Hazael left Elisha and returned to his master. When Ben-Hadad asked, "What did Elisha say to you?" Hazael replied, "He told me that you would certainly recover." 15But the next day he took a thick cloth, soaked it in water and spread it over the king's face, so that he died.[q] Then Hazael succeeded him as king.

Jehoram King of Judah

8:16-24pp — 2Ch 21:5-10,20

16In the fifth year of Joram[r] son of Ahab king of Israel, when Jehoshaphat was king of Judah, Jehoram[s] son of Jehoshaphat began his reign as king of Judah. 17He was thirty-two years old when he became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem eight years. 18He walked in the ways of the kings of Israel, as the house of Ahab had done, for he married a daughter[t] of Ahab. He did evil in the eyes of the LORD. 19Nevertheless, for the sake of his servant David, the LORD was not willing to destroy[u] Judah. He had promised to maintain a lamp[v] for David and his descendants forever.

20In the time of Jehoram, Edom rebelled against Judah and set up its own king.[w] 21So Jehoram[q] went to Zair with all his chariots. The Edomites surrounded him and his chariot commanders, but he rose up and broke through by night; his army, however, fled back home. 22To this day Edom has been in rebellion[x] against Judah. Libnah[y] revolted at the same time.

23As for the other events of Jehoram's reign, and all he did, are they not written in the book of the annals of the kings of Judah? 24Jehoram rested with his fathers and was buried with them in the City of David. And Ahaziah his son succeeded him as king.

Ahaziah King of Judah

8:25-29pp — 2Ch 22:1-6

25In the twelfth[z] year of Joram son of Ahab king of Israel, Ahaziah son of Jehoram king of Judah began to reign. 26Ahaziah was twenty-two years old when he became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem one year. His mother's name was Athaliah,[a] a granddaughter of Omri[b] king of Israel. 27He walked in the ways of the house of Ahab[c] and

8:1 [a]S Ge 12:10 **8:5** [b]2Ki 4:35 **8:7** [c]S 2Sa 8:5 [d]S 2Ki 6:24 **8:8** [e]1Ki 19:15 [f]S Ge 32:20; S 1Sa 9:7 [g]S Jdg 18:5 **8:10** [h]Isa 38:1 **8:11** [i]S Jdg 3:25 [j]Lk 19:41 **8:12** [k]S 1Ki 19:17 [l]Ps 137:9; Isa 13:16; Hos 13:16; Na 3:10; Lk 19:44 [m]S Ge 34:29 [n]2Ki 15:16; Am 1:13 **8:13** [o]S 1Sa 17:43; S 2Sa 3:8 [p]1Ki 19:15 **8:15** [q]S 2Ki 1:17 **8:16** [r]S 2Ki 1:17 [s]2Ch 21:1-4 **8:18** [t]ver 26; 2Ki 11:1 **8:19** [u]S Ge 6:13 [v]S 2Sa 21:17; Rev 21:23 **8:20** [w]S 1Ki 22:47 **8:22** [x]Ge 27:40 [y]S Nu 33:20; Jos 21:13; 2Ki 19:8 **8:25** [z]2Ki 9:29 **8:26** [a]S ver 18 [b]1Ki 16:23 **8:27** [c]1Ki 16:30

[p]10 The Hebrew may also be read *Go and say, 'You will certainly not recover,' for.* [q]21 Hebrew *Joram,* a variant of *Jehoram;* also in verses 23 and 24

did evil in the eyes of the LORD, as the house of Ahab had done, for he was related by marriage to Ahab's family.

28Ahaziah went with Joram son of Ahab to war against Hazael king of Aram at Ramoth Gilead. The Arameans wounded Joram; 29so King Joram returned to Jezreel to recover from the wounds the Arameans had inflicted on him at Ramoth[a] in his battle with Hazael king of Aram.

Then Ahaziah son of Jehoram king of Judah went down to Jezreel to see Joram son of Ahab, because he had been wounded.

Jehu Anointed King of Israel

9 The prophet Elisha summoned a man from the company of the prophets and said to him, "Tuck your cloak into your belt, take this flask of oil with you and go to Ramoth Gilead. 2When you get there, look for Jehu son of Jehoshaphat, the son of Nimshi. Go to him, get him away from his companions and take him into an inner room. 3Then take the flask and pour the oil on his head and declare, 'This is what the LORD says: I anoint you king over Israel.' Then open the door and run; don't delay!"

4So the young man, the prophet, went to Ramoth Gilead. 5When he arrived, he found the army officers sitting together. "I have a message for you, commander," he said.

"For which of us?" asked Jehu.

"For you, commander," he replied.

6Jehu got up and went into the house. Then the prophet poured the oil on Jehu's head and declared, "This is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: 'I anoint you king over the LORD's people Israel. 7You are to destroy the house of Ahab your master, and I will avenge the blood of my servants the prophets and the blood of all the LORD's servants shed by Jezebel. 8The whole house of Ahab will perish. I will cut off from Ahab every last male in Israel—slave or free. 9I will make the house of Ahab like the house of Jeroboam son of Nebat and like the house of Baasha son of Ahijah. 10As for Jezebel, dogs will devour her on the plot of ground at Jezreel, and no one will bury her.'" Then he opened the door and ran.

11When Jehu went out to his fellow officers, one of them asked him, "Is everything all right? Why did this madman come to you?"

"You know the man and the sort of things he says," Jehu replied.

12"That's not true!" they said. "Tell us."

Jehu said, "Here is what he told me: 'This is what the LORD says: I anoint you king over Israel.'"

13They hurried and took their cloaks and spread them under him on the bare steps. Then they blew the trumpet and shouted, "Jehu is king!"

Jehu Kills Joram and Ahaziah

9:21-29pp — 2Ch 22:7-9

14So Jehu son of Jehoshaphat, the son of Nimshi, conspired against Joram. (Now Joram and all Israel had been defending Ramoth Gilead against Hazael king of Aram, 15but King Joram[b] had returned to Jezreel to recover from the wounds the Arameans had inflicted on him in the battle with Hazael king of Aram.) Jehu said, "If this is the way you feel, don't let anyone slip out of the city to go and tell the news in Jezreel." 16Then he got into his chariot and rode to Jezreel, because Joram was resting there and Ahaziah king of Judah had gone down to see him.

17When the lookout standing on the tower in Jezreel saw Jehu's troops approaching, he called out, "I see some troops coming."

"Get a horseman," Joram ordered. "Send him to meet them and ask, 'Do you come in peace?'"

18The horseman rode off to meet Jehu and said, "This is what the king says: 'Do you come in peace?'"

"What do you have to do with peace?" Jehu replied. "Fall in behind me."

The lookout reported, "The messenger has reached them, but he isn't coming back."

19So the king sent out a second horseman. When he came to them he said, "This is what the king says: 'Do you come in peace?'"

Jehu replied, "What do you have to do with peace? Fall in behind me."

20The lookout reported, "He has reached them, but he isn't coming back either. The driving is like that of Jehu son of Nimshi—he drives like a madman."

21"Hitch up my chariot," Joram ordered. And when it was hitched up, Joram king of Israel and Ahaziah king

8:27 [illegible] 8:28 [illegible] 8:29 [illegible] 9:1 [illegible] 9:3 [illegible] 9:6 [illegible] 9:7 [illegible] 9:8 [illegible] 9:9 [illegible] 9:10 [illegible] 9:11 [illegible]

9:13 Mt 21:8; Lk 19:36; 2Sa 15:10 9:14 [illegible] 2Ki 8:28 9:15 2Ki 8:29 9:16 2Ch 22:7 9:17 1Sa 14:16; Isa 21:6; 2Sa 18:24 9:20 2Sa 18:27

a29 Hebrew *Ramah*, a variant of *Ramoth*
b15 Hebrew *Jehoram*, a variant of *Joram*; also in verses 17 and 21-24

of Judah rode out, each in his own
chariot, to meet Jehu. They met him at
the plot of ground that had belonged to
Naboth[a] the Jezreelite. 22When Joram
saw Jehu he asked, "Have you come in
peace, Jehu?"

"How can there be peace," Jehu re-
plied, "as long as all the idolatry and
witchcraft of your mother Jezebel[b]
abound?"

23Joram turned about and fled, call-
ing out to Ahaziah, "Treachery,[c] Aha-
ziah!"

24Then Jehu drew his bow[d] and shot
Joram between the shoulders. The ar-
row pierced his heart and he slumped
down in his chariot. 25Jehu said to Bid-
kar, his chariot officer, "Pick him up
and throw him on the field that be-
longed to Naboth the Jezreelite.
Remember how you and I were riding
together in chariots behind Ahab his fa-
ther when the LORD made this proph-
ecy[e] about him: 26'Yesterday I saw the
blood of Naboth[f] and the blood of his
sons, declares the LORD, and I will sure-
ly make you pay for it on this plot of
ground, declares the LORD.'[g] Now
then, pick him up and throw him on
that plot, in accordance with the word
of the LORD."[z]

27When Ahaziah king of Judah saw
what had happened, he fled up the
road to Beth Haggan.[a] Jehu chased
him, shouting, "Kill him too!" They
wounded him in his chariot on the way
up to Gur near Ibleam,[h] but he es-
caped to Megiddo[i] and died there.
28His servants took him by chariot[j] to
Jerusalem and buried him with his fa-
thers in his tomb in the City of David.
29(In the eleventh[k] year of Joram son of
Ahab, Ahaziah had become king of
Judah.)

Jezebel Killed

30Then Jehu went to Jezreel. When
Jezebel heard about it, she painted[l]
her eyes, arranged her hair and looked
out of a window. 31As Jehu entered the
gate, she asked, "Have you come in
peace, Zimri,[m] you murderer of your
master?"[b]

32He looked up at the window and
called out, "Who is on my side? Who?"
Two or three eunuchs looked down at
him. 33"Throw her down!" Jehu said.
So they threw her down, and some of
her blood spattered the wall and the
horses as they trampled her under-
foot.[n]

34Jehu went in and ate and drank.
"Take care of that cursed woman," he
said, "and bury her, for she was a
king's daughter."[o] 35But when they
went out to bury her, they found noth-
ing except her skull, her feet and her
hands. 36They went back and told Jehu,
who said, "This is the word of the LORD
that he spoke through his servant Eli-
jah the Tishbite: On the plot of ground
at Jezreel dogs[p] will devour Jezebel's
flesh.[c q] 37Jezebel's body will be like
refuse[r] on the ground in the plot at
Jezreel, so that no one will be able to
say, 'This is Jezebel.'"

Ahab's Family Killed

10 Now there were in Samaria[s]
seventy sons[t] of the house of
Ahab. So Jehu wrote letters and sent
them to Samaria: to the officials of Jez-
reel,[d u] to the elders and to the guard-
ians[v] of Ahab's children. He said, 2"As
soon as this letter reaches you, since
your master's sons are with you and
you have chariots and horses, a forti-
fied city and weapons, 3choose the best
and most worthy of your master's sons
and set him on his father's throne.
Then fight for your master's house."

4But they were terrified and said, "If
two kings could not resist him, how
can we?"

5So the palace administrator, the city
governor, the elders and the guardians
sent this message to Jehu: "We are
your servants[w] and we will do any-
thing you say. We will not appoint
anyone as king; you do whatever you
think best."

6Then Jehu wrote them a second let-
ter, saying, "If you are on my side and
will obey me, take the heads of your
master's sons and come to me in Jez-
reel by this time tomorrow."

Now the royal princes, seventy of
them, were with the leading men of the
city, who were rearing them. 7When
the letter arrived, these men took the
princes and slaughtered all seventy[x] of
them. They put their heads[y] in baskets
and sent them to Jehu in Jezreel.
8When the messenger arrived, he told
Jehu, "They have brought the heads of
the princes."

Then Jehu ordered, "Put them in two
piles at the entrance of the city gate un-
til morning."

9:21 [a]1Ki 21:1
9:22 [b]1Ki 18:19; Rev 2:20
9:23 [c]2Ki 11:14
9:24 [d]S 1Ki 22:34
9:25 [e]1Ki 21:19-22
9:26 [f]S 1Ki 21:19 [g]S 1Ki 21:29
9:27 [h]S Jdg 1:27 [i]2Ki 23:29
9:28 [j]2Ki 14:20; 23:30
9:29 [k]2Ki 8:25
9:30 [l]Jer 4:30; Eze 23:40
9:31 [m]1Ki 16:9-10
9:33 [n]Ps 7:5
9:34 [o]S 1Ki 16:31
9:36 [p]Ps 68:23; Jer 15:3 [q]S 1Ki 21:23
9:37 [r]Ps 83:10; Isa 5:25; Jer 8:2; 9:22; 16:4; 25:33; Zep 1:17
10:1 [s]S 1Ki 13:32 [t]S Jdg 8:30 [u]S 1Ki 21:1 [v]ver 5
10:5 [w]Jos 9:8
10:7 [x]S 1Ki 21:21 [y]S 2Sa 4:8

[z]26 See 1 Kings 21:19 [a]27 *Or fled by way of the garden house* [b]31 *Or "Did Zimri have peace, who murdered his master?"* [c]36 See 1 Kings 21:23
[d]1 *Hebrew; some Septuagint manuscripts and Vulgate of the city*

9The next morning Jehu went out.
He stood before all the people and
said, "You are innocent. It was I who
conspired against my master and killed
him, but who killed all these? 10Know
then, that not a word the LORD has
spoken against the house of Ahab will
fail. The LORD has done what he prom-
ised[a] through his servant Elijah."[b]
11So Jehu[c] killed everyone in Jezreel
who remained of the house of Ahab, as
well as all his chief men, his close
friends and his priests, leaving him no
survivor.[d]
12Jehu then set out and went toward
Samaria. At Beth Eked of the Shep-
herds, 13he met some relatives of Aha-
ziah king of Judah and asked, "Who
are you?"
They said, "We are relatives of Aha-
ziah,[e] and we have come down to
greet the families of the king and of the
queen mother.[f]"
14"Take them alive!" he ordered. So
they took them alive and slaughtered
them by the well of Beth Eked—forty-
two men. He left no survivor.[g]
15After he left there, he came upon
Jehonadab[h] son of Recab,[i] who was
on his way to meet him. Jehu greeted
him and said, "Are you in accord with
me, as I am with you?"
"I am," Jehonadab answered.
"If so," said Jehu, "give me your
hand."[j] So he did, and Jehu helped
him up into the chariot. 16Jehu said,
"Come with me and see my zeal[k] for
the LORD." Then he had him ride along
in his chariot.
17When Jehu came to Samaria, he
killed all who were left there of Ahab's
family;[l] he destroyed them, according
to the word of the LORD spoken to Eli-
jah.

Ministers of Baal Killed

18Then Jehu brought all the people
together and said to them, "Ahab
served[m] Baal a little; Jehu will serve
him much. 19Now summon[n] all the
prophets of Baal, all his ministers and
all his priests. See that no one is miss-
ing, because I am going to hold a great
sacrifice for Baal. Anyone who fails to
come will no longer live." But Jehu was
acting deceptively in order to destroy
the ministers of Baal.
20Jehu said, "Call an assembly[o] in
honor of Baal." So they proclaimed it.
21Then he sent word throughout Israel,
and all the ministers of Baal came; not
one stayed away. They crowded into
the temple of Baal until it was full from
one end to the other. 22And Jehu said
to the keeper of the wardrobe, "Bring
robes for all the ministers of Baal." So
he brought out robes for them.
23Then Jehu and Jehonadab son of
Recab went into the temple of Baal.
Jehu said to the ministers of Baal,
"Look around and see that no servants
of the LORD are here with you—only
ministers of Baal." 24So they went in to
make sacrifices and burnt offerings.
Now Jehu had posted eighty men out-
side with this warning: "If one of you
lets any of the men I am placing in your
hands escape, it will be your life for his
life."[p]
25As soon as Jehu had finished mak-
ing the burnt offering, he ordered the
guards and officers: "Go in and kill[q]
them; let no one escape."[r] So they cut
them down with the sword. The
guards and officers threw the bodies
out and then entered the inner shrine
of the temple of Baal. 26They brought
the sacred stone[s] out of the temple of
Baal and burned it. 27They demolished
the sacred stone of Baal and tore down
the temple[t] of Baal, and people have
used it for a latrine to this day.
28So Jehu[u] destroyed Baal worship in
Israel. 29However, he did not turn
away from the sins[v] of Jeroboam son of
Nebat, which he had caused Israel to
commit—the worship of the golden
calves[w] at Bethel[x] and Dan.
30The LORD said to Jehu, "Because
you have done well in accomplishing
what is right in my eyes and have done
to the house of Ahab all I had in mind
to do, your descendants will sit on the
throne of Israel to the fourth genera-
tion."[y] 31Yet Jehu was not careful[z] to
keep the law of the LORD, the God of
Israel, with all his heart. He did not
turn away from the sins[a] of Jeroboam,
which he had caused Israel to commit.
32In those days the LORD began to
reduce[b] the size of Israel. Hazael[c]
overpowered the Israelites throughout
their territory 33east of the Jordan in all
the land of Gilead (the region of Gad,
Reuben and Manasseh), from Aroer[d]
by the Arnon[e] Gorge through Gilead
to Bashan.
34As for the other events of Jehu's
reign, all he did, and all his achieve-
ments, are they not written in the book
of the annals[f] of the kings of Israel?
35Jehu rested with his fathers and
was buried in Samaria. And Jehoahaz
his son succeeded him as king. 36The

10:10 [a] 2Ki 9:7-10 [b] S 1Ki 21:29 **10:11** [c] Hos 1:4 [d] ver 14; Job 18:19; Mal 4:1 **10:13** [e] 2Ki 8:29; 2Ch 22:8 [f] S 1Ki 2:19 **10:14** [g] S ver 11 **10:15** [h] Jer 35:6, 14-19 [i] 1Ch 2:55; Jer 35:2 [j] Ezr 10:19; Eze 17:18 **10:16** [k] S Nu 25:13 **10:17** [l] 2Ki 9:8 **10:18** [m] S Jdg 2:11 **10:19** [n] 1Ki 18:19 **10:20** [o] S Ex 32:5

10:24 [p] S Jos 2:14 **10:25** [q] S Ex 22:20; S 2Ki 11:18 [r] S 1Ki 18:40 **10:26** [s] S Ex 23:24 **10:27** [t] S 1Ki 16:32 **10:28** [u] 1Ki 19:17 **10:29** [v] S 1Ki 12:30 [w] S Ex 32:4 [x] 1Ki 12:32 **10:30** [y] 2Ki 15:12 **10:31** [z] Dt 4:9; Pr 4:23 [a] 1Ki 12:30 **10:32** [b] 2Ki 13:25; Ps 107:39 [c] S 1Ki 19:17 **10:33** [d] S Nu 32:34; Dt 2:36; Jdg 11:26; Isa 17:2 [e] S Nu 21:13 **10:34** [f] 1Ki 15:31

time that Jehu reigned over Israel in Samaria was twenty-eight years.

Athaliah and Joash

11:1-21pp — 2Ch 22:10-23:21

11 When Athaliah[a] the mother of Ahaziah saw that her son was dead, she proceeded to destroy the whole royal family. 2But Jehosheba, the daughter of King Jehoram[a] and sister of Ahaziah, took Joash[b] son of Ahaziah and stole him away from among the royal princes, who were about to be murdered. She put him and his nurse in a bedroom to hide him from Athaliah; so he was not killed.[c] 3He remained hidden with his nurse at the temple of the LORD for six years while Athaliah ruled the land.

4In the seventh year Jehoiada sent for the commanders of units of a hundred, the Carites[d] and the guards and had them brought to him at the temple of the LORD. He made a covenant with them and put them under oath at the temple of the LORD. Then he showed them the king's son. 5He commanded them, saying, "This is what you are to do: You who are in the three companies that are going on duty on the Sabbath[e]—a third of you guarding the royal palace,[f] 6a third at the Sur Gate, and a third at the gate behind the guard, who take turns guarding the temple— 7and you who are in the other two companies that normally go off Sabbath duty are all to guard the temple for the king. 8Station yourselves around the king, each man with his weapon in his hand. Anyone who approaches your ranks[b] must be put to death. Stay close to the king wherever he goes."

9The commanders of units of a hundred did just as Jehoiada the priest ordered. Each one took his men—those who were going on duty on the Sabbath and those who were going off duty—and came to Jehoiada the priest. 10Then he gave the commanders the spears and shields[g] that had belonged to King David and that were in the temple of the LORD. 11The guards, each with his weapon in his hand, stationed themselves around the king—near the altar and the temple, from the south side to the north side of the temple.

12Jehoiada brought out the king's son and put the crown on him; he presented him with a copy of the covenant[h] and proclaimed him king. They anointed[i] him, and the people clapped their hands[j] and shouted, "Long live the king!"[k]

13When Athaliah heard the noise made by the guards and the people, she went to the people at the temple of the LORD. 14She looked and there was the king, standing by the pillar,[l] as the custom was. The officers and the trumpeters were beside the king, and all the people of the land were rejoicing and blowing trumpets.[m] Then Athaliah tore[n] her robes and called out, "Treason! Treason!"[o]

15Jehoiada the priest ordered the commanders of units of a hundred, who were in charge of the troops: "Bring her out between the ranks[c] and put to the sword anyone who follows her." For the priest had said, "She must not be put to death in the temple[p] of the LORD." 16So they seized her as she reached the place where the horses enter[q] the palace grounds, and there she was put to death.[r]

17Jehoiada then made a covenant[s] between the LORD and the king and people that they would be the LORD's people. He also made a covenant between the king and the people.[t] 18All the people of the land went to the temple[u] of Baal and tore it down. They smashed[v] the altars and idols to pieces and killed Mattan the priest[w] of Baal in front of the altars.

Then Jehoiada the priest posted guards at the temple of the LORD. 19He took with him the commanders of hundreds, the Carites,[x] the guards and all the people of the land, and together they brought the king down from the temple of the LORD and went into the palace, entering by way of the gate of the guards. The king then took his place on the royal throne, 20and all the people of the land rejoiced.[y] And the city was quiet, because Athaliah had been slain with the sword at the palace.

21Joash[d] was seven years old when he began to reign.

Joash Repairs the Temple

12:1-21pp — 2Ch 24:1-14; 24:23-27

12 In the seventh year of Jehu, Joash[e][z] became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem forty years. His mother's name was Zibiah; she was from Beersheba. 2Joash did what was

11:1 [a]S 2Ki 8:26
11:2 [b]2Ki 12:1 [c]S Jdg 9:5
11:4 [d]ver 19
11:5 [e]1Ch 9:25 [f]1Ki 14:27
11:10 [g]S 2Sa 8:7
11:12 [h]Ex 25:16; 2Ki 23:3 [i]S 1Sa 9:16; S 1Ki 1:39 [j]Ps 47:1; 98:8; Isa 55:12 [k]S 1Sa 10:24
11:14 [l]S 1Ki 7:15 [m]S 1Ki 1:39 [n]S Ge 37:29 [o]2Ki 9:23
11:15 [p]1Ki 2:30
11:16 [q]Ne 3:28; Jer 31:40 [r]S Ge 4:14
11:17 [s]S Ex 24:8; 2Sa 5:3; 2Ch 15:12; 23:3; 29:10; 34:31; Ezr 10:3 [t]2Ki 23:3; Jer 34:8
11:18 [u]S 1Ki 16:32 [v]S Dt 12:3 [w]S 1Ki 18:40; 2Ki 10:25; 23:20
11:19 [x]ver 4
11:20 [y]Pr 11:10; 28:12; 29:2
12:1 [z]2Ki 11:2

[a]2 Hebrew *Joram,* a variant of *Jehoram* [b]8 Or *approaches the precincts* [c]15 Or *out from the precincts* [d]21 Hebrew *Jehoash,* a variant of *Joash* [e]1 Hebrew *Jehoash,* a variant of *Joash;* also in verses 2, 4, 6, 7 and 18

right[a] in the eyes of the LORD all the
years Jehoiada the priest instructed
him. 3The high places,[b] however, were
not removed; the people continued to
offer sacrifices and burn incense there.
4Joash said to the priests, "Collect[c]
all the money that is brought as sacred
offerings[d] to the temple of the LORD—
the money collected in the census,[e] the
money received from personal vows
and the money brought voluntarily[f] to
the temple. 5Let every priest receive the
money from one of the treasurers, and
let it be used to repair[g] whatever dam-
age is found in the temple."
6But by the twenty-third year of King
Joash the priests still had not repaired
the temple. 7Therefore King Joash sum-
moned Jehoiada the priest and the
other priests and asked them, "Why
aren't you repairing the damage done
to the temple? Take no more money
from your treasurers, but hand it over
for repairing the temple." 8The priests
agreed that they would not collect any
more money from the people and that
they would not repair the temple them-
selves.
9Jehoiada the priest took a chest and
bored a hole in its lid. He placed it be-
side the altar, on the right side as one
enters the temple of the LORD. The
priests who guarded the entrance[h] put
into the chest all the money[i] that was
brought to the temple of the LORD.
10Whenever they saw that there was a
large amount of money in the chest,
the royal secretary[j] and the high priest
came, counted the money that had
been brought into the temple of the
LORD and put it into bags. 11When the
amount had been determined, they
gave the money to the men appointed
to supervise the work on the temple.
With it they paid those who worked on
the temple of the LORD—the carpenters
and builders, 12the masons and stone-
cutters.[k] They purchased timber and
dressed stone for the repair of the tem-
ple of the LORD, and met all the other
expenses of restoring the temple.
13The money brought into the temple
was not spent for making silver basins,
wick trimmers, sprinkling bowls, trum-
pets or any other articles of gold[l] or
silver for the temple of the LORD; 14it
was paid to the workmen, who used it
to repair the temple. 15They did not re-
quire an accounting from those to
whom they gave the money to pay the
workers, because they acted with com-
plete honesty.[m] 16The money from the

12:2 [a]S Dt 12:25; S 2Sa 8:15 **12:3** [b]S 1Ki 3:3; S 2Ki 18:4 **12:4** [c]2Ki 22:4 [d]Nu 18:19 [e]S Ex 30:12 [f]S Ex 25:2; S 35:29 **12:5** [g]2Ki 22:5 **12:9** [h]2Ki 25:18; Jer 35:4; 52:24 [i]Mk 12:41; Lk 21:1 **12:10** [j]S 2Sa 8:17 **12:12** [k]2Ki 22:5-6 **12:13** [l]S 1Ki 7:51 **12:15** [m]2Ki 22:7; 1Co 4:2

12:16 [n]Lev 5:14-19 [o]Lev 4:1-35 [p]S Lev 7:7 **12:17** [q]2Ki 8:12 **12:18** [r]S 1Ki 15:18; S 2Ch 21:16-17 [s]1Ki 15:21; 2Ki 15:20; 19:36 **12:20** [t]2Ki 14:5 [u]2Ki 14:19; 15:10,14,25,30; 21:23; 25:25 [v]Jdg 9:6 **13:2** [w]1Ki 12:26-33 **13:3** [x]S Dt 31:17 [y]S 1Ki 19:17 [z]ver 24 **13:4** [a]S Dt 4:29 [b]S Dt 26:7 [c]S Nu 10:9; 2Sa 7:10 **13:5** [d]S Ge 45:7; S Dt 28:29; S Jdg 2:18 **13:6** [e]1Ki 12:30 [f]S 1Ki 16:33 **13:7** [g]2Ki 10:32-33

guilt offerings[n] and sin offerings[o] was
not brought into the temple of the
LORD; it belonged[p] to the priests.
17About this time Hazael[q] king of
Aram went up and attacked Gath and
captured it. Then he turned to attack
Jerusalem. 18But Joash king of Judah
took all the sacred objects dedicated by
his fathers—Jehoshaphat, Jehoram and
Ahaziah, the kings of Judah—and the
gifts he himself had dedicated and all
the gold found in the treasuries of the
temple of the LORD and of the royal pal-
ace, and he sent[r] them to Hazael king
of Aram, who then withdrew[s] from
Jerusalem.
19As for the other events of the reign
of Joash, and all he did, are they not
written in the book of the annals of the
kings of Judah? 20His officials[t] con-
spired against him and assassinated[u]
him at Beth Millo,[v] on the road down
to Silla. 21The officials who murdered
him were Jozabad son of Shimeath and
Jehozabad son of Shomer. He died and
was buried with his fathers in the City
of David. And Amaziah his son suc-
ceeded him as king.

Jehoahaz King of Israel

13 In the twenty-third year of Joash
son of Ahaziah king of Judah,
Jehoahaz son of Jehu became king of
Israel in Samaria, and he reigned
seventeen years. 2He did evil[w] in the
eyes of the LORD by following the sins
of Jeroboam son of Nebat, which he
had caused Israel to commit, and he
did not turn away from them. 3So the
LORD's anger[x] burned against Israel,
and for a long time he kept them under
the power[y] of Hazael king of Aram
and Ben-Hadad[z] his son.
4Then Jehoahaz sought[a] the LORD's
favor, and the LORD listened to him, for
he saw[b] how severely the king of
Aram was oppressing[c] Israel. 5The
LORD provided a deliverer[d] for Israel,
and they escaped from the power of
Aram. So the Israelites lived in their
own homes as they had before. 6But
they did not turn away from the sins[e]
of the house of Jeroboam, which he
had caused Israel to commit; they con-
tinued in them. Also, the Asherah
pole[d][f] remained standing in Samaria.
7Nothing had been left[g] of the army
of Jehoahaz except fifty horsemen, ten
chariots and ten thousand foot sol-

[d]6 That is, a symbol of the goddess Asherah; here and elsewhere in 2 Kings

diers, for the king of Aram had de-
stroyed the rest and made them like
the dust[a] at threshing time.
8As for the other events of the reign
of Jehoahaz, all he did and his achieve-
ments, are they not written in the book
of the annals of the kings of Israel?
9Jehoahaz rested with his fathers and
was buried in Samaria. And Jehoash[e]
his son succeeded him as king.

Jehoash King of Israel

10In the thirty-seventh year of Joash
king of Judah, Jehoash son of Jehoahaz
became king of Israel in Samaria, and
he reigned sixteen years. 11He did evil
in the eyes of the LORD and did not turn
away from any of the sins of Jeroboam
son of Nebat, which he had caused Is-
rael to commit; he continued in them.
12As for the other events of the reign
of Jehoash, all he did and his achieve-
ments, including his war against Ama-
ziah[b] king of Judah, are they not writ-
ten in the book of the annals[c] of the
kings of Israel? 13Jehoash rested with
his fathers, and Jeroboam[d] succeeded
him on the throne. Jehoash was buried
in Samaria with the kings of Israel.
14Now Elisha was suffering from the
illness from which he died. Jehoash
king of Israel went down to see him
and wept over him. "My father! My fa-
ther!" he cried. "The chariots[e] and
horsemen of Israel!"
15Elisha said, "Get a bow and some
arrows,"[f] and he did so. 16"Take the
bow in your hands," he said to the
king of Israel. When he had taken it,
Elisha put his hands on the king's
hands.
17"Open the east window," he said,
and he opened it. "Shoot!"[g] Elisha
said, and he shot. "The LORD's arrow of
victory, the arrow of victory over
Aram!" Elisha declared. "You will com-
pletely destroy the Arameans at
Aphek."[h]
18Then he said, "Take the arrows,"
and the king took them. Elisha told
him, "Strike the ground." He struck it
three times and stopped. 19The man of
God was angry with him and said,
"You should have struck the ground
five or six times; then you would have
defeated Aram and completely de-
stroyed it. But now you will defeat it
only three times."[i]
20Elisha died and was buried.
Now Moabite raiders[j] used to enter
the country every spring. 21Once while
some Israelites were burying a man,

13:7 [a]S 2Sa 22:43
13:12 [b]2Ki 14:15 [c]1Ki 15:31
13:13 [d]2Ki 14:23; Hos 1:1
13:14 [e]S 2Ki 2:12
13:15 [f]1Sa 20:20
13:17 [g]Jos 8:18 [h]S 1Ki 20:26
13:19 [i]ver 25
13:20 [j]S 2Ki 5:2

suddenly they saw a band of raiders; so
they threw the man's body into Elisha's
tomb. When the body touched Elisha's
bones, the man came to life[k] and stood
up on his feet.
22Hazael king of Aram oppressed[l]
Israel throughout the reign of Jehoa-
haz. 23But the LORD was gracious to
them and had compassion and showed
concern for them because of his cov-
enant[m] with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.
To this day he has been unwilling to
destroy[n] them or banish them from his
presence.[o]
24Hazael king of Aram died, and Ben-
Hadad[p] his son succeeded him as king.
25Then Jehoash son of Jehoahaz recap-
tured from Ben-Hadad son of Hazael
the towns he had taken in battle from
his father Jehoahaz. Three times[q] Je-
hoash defeated him, and so he recov-
ered[r] the Israelite towns.

Amaziah King of Judah

14:1-7pp — 2Ch 25:1-4,11-12
14:8-22pp — 2Ch 25:17–26:2

14 In the second year of Jehoash[f]
son of Jehoahaz king of Israel,
Amaziah son of Joash king of Judah be-
gan to reign. 2He was twenty-five years
old when he became king, and he
reigned in Jerusalem twenty-nine
years. His mother's name was Jehoad-
din; she was from Jerusalem. 3He did
what was right in the eyes of the LORD,
but not as his father David had done.
In everything he followed the example
of his father Joash. 4The high places,[s]
however, were not removed; the
people continued to offer sacrifices and
burn incense there.
5After the kingdom was firmly in his
grasp, he executed[t] the officials[u] who
had murdered his father the king. 6Yet
he did not put the sons of the assassins
to death, in accordance with what is
written in the Book of the Law[v] of
Moses where the LORD commanded:
"Fathers shall not be put to death for
their children, nor children put to
death for their fathers; each is to die for
his own sins."[g] [w]
7He was the one who defeated ten
thousand Edomites in the Valley of
Salt[x] and captured Sela[y] in battle, call-
ing it Joktheel, the name it has to this
day.
8Then Amaziah sent messengers to

13:21 [k]Mt 27:52
13:22 [l]S 1Ki 19:17
13:23 [m]S Ex 2:24 [n]S Dt 29:20 [o]S Ex 33:15; 2Ki 17:18; 24:3, 20
13:24 [p]ver 3
13:25 [q]ver 19 [r]S 2Ki 10:32
14:4 [s]2Ki 12:3
14:5 [t]2Ki 21:24 [u]2Ki 12:20
14:6 [v]S Dt 28:61 [w]S Nu 26:11; Job 21:20; Jer 31:30; 44:3; Eze 18:4,20
14:7 [x]S 2Sa 8:13 [y]S Jdg 1:36

[e]9 Hebrew *Joash*, a variant of *Jehoash*; also in verses 12-14 and 25 [f]1 Hebrew *Joash*, a variant of *Jehoash*; also in verses 13, 23 and 27 [g]6 Deut. 24:16

Jehoash son of Jehoahaz, the son of
Jehu, king of Israel, with the challenge:
"Come, meet me face to face."
9But Jehoash king of Israel replied to
Amaziah king of Judah: "A thistle[a] in
Lebanon sent a message to a cedar in
Lebanon, 'Give your daughter to my
son in marriage.' Then a wild beast in
Lebanon came along and trampled the
thistle underfoot. 10You have indeed
defeated Edom and now you are arro-
gant.[b] Glory in your victory, but stay
at home! Why ask for trouble and cause
your own downfall and that of Judah
also?"
11Amaziah, however, would not lis-
ten, so Jehoash king of Israel attacked.
He and Amaziah king of Judah faced
each other at Beth Shemesh[c] in Judah.
12Judah was routed by Israel, and every
man fled to his home.[d] 13Jehoash king
of Israel captured Amaziah king of
Judah, the son of Joash, the son of
Ahaziah, at Beth Shemesh. Then Je-
hoash went to Jerusalem and broke
down the wall[e] of Jerusalem from the
Ephraim Gate[f] to the Corner Gate[g]—a
section about six hundred feet long.[h]
14He took all the gold and silver and all
the articles found in the temple of the
LORD and in the treasuries of the royal
palace. He also took hostages and re-
turned to Samaria.
15As for the other events of the reign
of Jehoash, what he did and his
achievements, including his war[h]
against Amaziah king of Judah, are
they not written in the book of the an-
nals of the kings of Israel? 16Jehoash
rested with his fathers and was buried
in Samaria with the kings of Israel.
And Jeroboam his son succeeded him
as king.
17Amaziah son of Joash king of Judah
lived for fifteen years after the death of
Jehoash son of Jehoahaz king of Israel.
18As for the other events of Amaziah's
reign, are they not written in the book
of the annals of the kings of Judah?
19They conspired[i] against him in
Jerusalem, and he fled to Lachish,[j] but
they sent men after him to Lachish and
killed him there. 20He was brought
back by horse[k] and was buried in
Jerusalem with his fathers, in the City
of David.
21Then all the people of Judah took
Azariah,[i][l] who was sixteen years old,
and made him king in place of his fa-
ther Amaziah. 22He was the one who
rebuilt Elath[m] and restored it to Judah
after Amaziah rested with his fathers.

14:9 [a]Jdg 9:8-15
14:10 [b]2Ch 26:16; 32:25
14:11 [c]S Jos 15:10
14:12 [d]1Ki 22:36
14:13 [e]1Ki 3:1; 2Ch 33:14; 36:19; Jer 39:2 [f]Ne 8:16; 12:39 [g]2Ch 26:9; Jer 31:38; Zec 14:10
14:15 [h]2Ki 13:12
14:19 [i]S 2Ki 12:20 [j]S Jos 10:3
14:20 [k]S 2Ki 9:28
14:21 [l]2Ki 15:1; 2Ch 26:23; Isa 1:1; Hos 1:1; Am 1:1
14:22 [m]S 1Ki 9:26

Jeroboam II King of Israel

23In the fifteenth year of Amaziah
son of Joash king of Judah, Jeroboam[n]
son of Jehoash king of Israel became
king in Samaria, and he reigned forty-
one years. 24He did evil in the eyes of
the LORD and did not turn away from
any of the sins of Jeroboam son of
Nebat, which he had caused Israel to
commit.[o] 25He was the one who re-
stored the boundaries of Israel from
Lebo[j] Hamath[p] to the Sea of the Ara-
bah,[k][q] in accordance with the word of
the LORD, the God of Israel, spoken
through his servant Jonah[r] son of
Amittai, the prophet from Gath He-
pher.
26The LORD had seen how bitterly
everyone in Israel, whether slave or
free,[s] was suffering;[t] there was no one
to help them.[u] 27And since the LORD
had not said he would blot out[v] the
name of Israel from under heaven, he
saved[w] them by the hand of Jeroboam
son of Jehoash.
28As for the other events of Jero-
boam's reign, all he did, and his mili-
tary achievements, including how he
recovered for Israel both Damascus[x]
and Hamath,[y] which had belonged to
Yaudi,[l] are they not written in the
book of the annals[z] of the kings of Is-
rael? 29Jeroboam rested with his fa-
thers, the kings of Israel. And Zecha-
riah his son succeeded him as king.

Azariah King of Judah

15:1-7pp — 2Ch 26:3-4,21-23

15 In the twenty-seventh year of
Jeroboam king of Israel, Aza-
riah[a] son of Amaziah king of Judah be-
gan to reign. 2He was sixteen years old
when he became king, and he reigned
in Jerusalem fifty-two years. His
mother's name was Jecoliah; she was
from Jerusalem. 3He did what was
right[b] in the eyes of the LORD, just as
his father Amaziah had done. 4The
high places, however, were not re-
moved; the people continued to offer
sacrifices and burn incense there.
5The LORD afflicted[c] the king with
leprosy[m] until the day he died, and he
lived in a separate house.[n][d] Jotham[e]
the king's son had charge of the pal-

14:23 [n]S 2Ki 13:13; 1Ch 5:17; Am 1:1; 7:10
14:24 [o]S 1Ki 15:30
14:25 [p]S Nu 13:21 [q]Dt 3:17 [r]Jnh 1:1; Mt 12:39
14:26 [s]Dt 32:36 [t]2Ki 13:4 [u]Ps 18:41; 22:11; 72:12; 107:12; Isa 63:5; La 1:7
14:27 [v]S Dt 29:20 [w]S Jdg 6:14
14:28 [x]S 2Sa 8:5 [y]S 2Sa 8:9 [z]1Ki 15:31
15:1 [a]S ver 32; S 2Ki 14:21
15:3 [b]S 1Ki 14:8
15:5 [c]S Ge 12:17 [d]Lev 13:46 [e]ver 7,32; 2Ch 27:1; Mic 1:1

h13 Hebrew *four hundred cubits* (about 180 meters)
i21 Also called *Uzziah*
j25 Or *from the entrance to*
k25 That is, the Dead Sea
l28 Or *Judah*
m5 The Hebrew word was used for various diseases affecting the skin—not necessarily leprosy.
n5 Or *in a house where he was relieved of responsibility*

ace[v] and governed the people of the
land.
6 As for the other events of Azariah's
reign, and all he did, are they not writ-
ten in the book of the annals of the
kings of Judah? 7 Azariah rested[w] with
his fathers and was buried near them
in the City of David. And Jotham[x] his
son succeeded him as king.

Zechariah King of Israel

8 In the thirty-eighth year of Azariah
king of Judah, Zechariah son of Jero-
boam became king of Israel in Samaria,
and he reigned six months. 9 He did
evil[y] in the eyes of the LORD, as his fa-
thers had done. He did not turn away
from the sins of Jeroboam son of
Nebat, which he had caused Israel to
commit.
10 Shallum son of Jabesh conspired
against Zechariah. He attacked him in
front of the people,[a] assassinated[c] him
and succeeded him as king. 11 The other
events of Zechariah's reign are written
in the book of the annals[d] of the kings
of Israel. 12 So the word of the LORD
spoken to Jehu was fulfilled:[e] "Your
descendants will sit on the throne of
Israel to the fourth generation."[b]

Shallum King of Israel

13 Shallum son of Jabesh became king
in the thirty-ninth year of Uzziah king
of Judah, and he reigned in Samaria[f]
one month. 14 Then Menahem son of
Gadi went from Tirzah[g] up to Samaria.
He attacked Shallum son of Jabesh in
Samaria, assassinated[h] him and suc-
ceeded him as king.
15 The other events of Shallum's
reign, and the conspiracy he led, are
written in the book of the annals[i] of
the kings of Israel.
16 At that time Menahem, starting out
from Tirzah, attacked Tiphsah[j] and
everyone in the city and its vicinity, be-
cause they refused to open[k] their
gates. He sacked Tiphsah and ripped
open all the pregnant women.

Menahem King of Israel

17 In the thirty-ninth year of Azariah
king of Judah, Menahem son of Gadi
became king of Israel, and he reigned
in Samaria ten years. 18 He did evil[l] in
the eyes of the LORD. During his entire
reign he did not turn away from the
sins of Jeroboam son of Nebat, which
he had caused Israel to commit.
19 Then Pul[c][m] king of Assyria invad-
ed the land, and Menahem gave him a
thousand talents[d] of silver to gain his
support and strengthen his own hold
on the kingdom. 20 Menahem exacted
this money from Israel. Every wealthy
man had to contribute fifty shekels[e] of
silver to be given to the king of Assyria.
So the king of Assyria withdrew[n] and
stayed in the land no longer.
21 As for the other events of Mena-
hem's reign, and all he did, are they
not written in the book of the annals of
the kings of Israel? 22 Menahem rested
with his fathers. And Pekahiah his son
succeeded him as king.

Pekahiah King of Israel

23 In the fiftieth year of Azariah king
of Judah, Pekahiah son of Menahem
became king of Israel in Samaria, and
he reigned two years. 24 Pekahiah did
evil[o] in the eyes of the LORD. He did
not turn away from the sins of Jero-
boam son of Nebat, which he had
caused Israel to commit. 25 One of his
chief officers, Pekah[p] son of Remaliah,
conspired against him. Taking fifty
men of Gilead with him, he assassinat-
ed[q] Pekahiah, along with Argob and
Arieh, in the citadel of the royal palace
at Samaria. So Pekah killed Pekahiah
and succeeded him as king.
26 The other events of Pekahiah's
reign, and all he did, are written in the
book of the annals of the kings of Is-
rael.

Pekah King of Israel

27 In the fifty-second year of Azariah
king of Judah, Pekah[r] son of Rema-
liah[s] became king of Israel in Samaria,
and he reigned twenty years. 28 He did
evil in the eyes of the LORD. He did not
turn away from the sins of Jeroboam
son of Nebat, which he had caused Is-
rael to commit.
29 In the time of Pekah king of Israel,
Tiglath-Pileser[t] king of Assyria came
and took Ijon,[u] Abel Beth Maacah, Ja-
noah, Kedesh and Hazor. He took Gil-
ead and Galilee, including all the land
of Naphtali,[v] and deported[w] the
people to Assyria. 30 Then Hoshea[x] son
of Elah conspired against Pekah son of
Remaliah. He attacked and assassinat-
ed[y] him, and then succeeded him as
king in the twentieth year of Jotham
son of Uzziah.
31 As for the other events of Pekah's

15:5 v S Ge 41:40
15:7 w Isa 6:1; 14:28 x S ver 5
15:9 y 1Ki 15:26
15:10 c S 2Ki 12:20
15:11 d 1Ki 15:31
15:12 e 2Ki 10:30
15:13 f S 1Ki 13:32
15:14 g S 1Ki 15:33 h S 2Ki 12:20
15:15 i 1Ki 15:31
15:16 j 1Ki 4:24 k S 2Ki 8:12; S Hos 13:16
15:18 l 1Ki 15:26
15:19 m 1Ch 5:6, 26
15:20 n S 2Ki 12:18
15:24 o 1Ki 15:26
15:25 p 2Ch 28:6; Isa 7:1 q S 2Ki 12:20
15:27 r 2Ch 28:6; Isa 7:1 s Isa 7:4
15:29 t 2Ki 16:7; 17:6; 1Ch 5:26; 2Ch 28:20; Jer 50:17 u 1Ki 15:20 v 2Ki 16:9; 17:24; 2Ch 16:4; Isa 7:9; 9:1; 10:9,10; 28:1; 36:19; 37:18 w 2Ki 24:14-16; 1Ch 5:22; Isa 14:6,17; 36:17; 45:13
15:30 x 2Ki 17:1 y S 2Ki 12:20

a10 Hebrew; some Septuagint manuscripts *in Ibleam*
b12 2 Kings 10:30
c19 Also called *Tiglath-Pileser*
d19 That is, about 37 tons (about 34 metric tons)
e20 That is, about 1 1/4 pounds (about 0.6 kilogram)

reign, and all he did, are they not writ-
ten in the book of the annals[a] of the
kings of Israel?

Jotham King of Judah

15:33-38pp — 2Ch 27:1-4,7-9

32In the second year of Pekah son of
Remaliah king of Israel, Jotham[b] son of
Uzziah king of Judah began to reign.
33He was twenty-five years old when
he became king, and he reigned in
Jerusalem sixteen years. His mother's
name was Jerusha daughter of Zadok.
34He did what was right[c] in the eyes of
the LORD, just as his father Uzziah had
done. 35The high places,[d] however,
were not removed; the people con-
tinued to offer sacrifices and burn in-
cense there. Jotham rebuilt the Upper
Gate[e] of the temple of the LORD.
36As for the other events of Jotham's
reign, and what he did, are they not
written in the book of the annals of the
kings of Judah? 37(In those days the
LORD began to send Rezin[f] king of
Aram and Pekah son of Remaliah
against Judah.) 38Jotham rested with
his fathers and was buried with them
in the City of David, the city of his fa-
ther. And Ahaz his son succeeded him
as king.

Ahaz King of Judah

16:1-20pp — 2Ch 28:1-27

16 In the seventeenth year of Pekah
son of Remaliah, Ahaz[g] son of
Jotham king of Judah began to reign.
2Ahaz was twenty years old when he
became king, and he reigned in Jerusa-
lem sixteen years. Unlike David his fa-
ther, he did not do what was right[h] in
the eyes of the LORD his God. 3He
walked in the ways of the kings of Is-
rael[i] and even sacrificed his son[j] in[t]
the fire, following the detestable[k] ways
of the nations the LORD had driven out
before the Israelites. 4He offered sacri-
fices and burned incense[l] at the high
places, on the hilltops and under every
spreading tree.[m]
5Then Rezin[n] king of Aram and
Pekah son of Remaliah king of Israel
marched up to fight against Jerusalem
and besieged Ahaz, but they could not
overpower him. 6At that time, Rezin[o]
king of Aram recovered Elath[p] for
Aram by driving out the men of Judah.
Edomites then moved into Elath and
have lived there to this day.
7Ahaz sent messengers to say to Ti-
glath-Pileser[q] king of Assyria, "I am
your servant and vassal. Come up and
save[r] me out of the hand of the king of
Aram and of the king of Israel, who are
attacking me." 8And Ahaz took the sil-
ver and gold found in the temple of the
LORD and in the treasuries of the royal
palace and sent it as a gift[s] to the king
of Assyria. 9The king of Assyria com-
plied by attacking Damascus[t] and cap-
turing it. He deported its inhabitants to
Kir[u] and put Rezin to death.
10Then King Ahaz went to Damascus
to meet Tiglath-Pileser king of Assyria.
He saw an altar in Damascus and sent
to Uriah[v] the priest a sketch of the al-
tar, with detailed plans for its construc-
tion. 11So Uriah the priest built an altar
in accordance with all the plans that
King Ahaz had sent from Damascus
and finished it before King Ahaz re-
turned. 12When the king came back
from Damascus and saw the altar, he
approached it and presented offer-
ings[u][w] on it. 13He offered up his burnt
offering[x] and grain offering,[y] poured
out his drink offering,[z] and sprinkled
the blood of his fellowship offerings[v][a]
on the altar. 14The bronze altar[b] that
stood before the LORD he brought from
the front of the temple—from between
the new altar and the temple of the
LORD—and put it on the north side of
the new altar.
15King Ahaz then gave these orders
to Uriah the priest: "On the large new
altar, offer the morning[c] burnt offering
and the evening grain offering, the
king's burnt offering and his grain of-
fering, and the burnt offering of all the
people of the land, and their grain of-
fering and their drink offering. Sprin-
kle on the altar all the blood of the
burnt offerings and sacrifices. But I will
use the bronze altar for seeking guid-
ance."[d] 16And Uriah the priest did just
as King Ahaz had ordered.
17King Ahaz took away the side pan-
els and removed the basins from the
movable stands. He removed the Sea
from the bronze bulls that supported it
and set it on a stone base.[e] 18He took
away the Sabbath canopy[w] that had
been built at the temple and removed
the royal entryway outside the temple
of the LORD, in deference to the king of
Assyria.[f]
19As for the other events of the reign
of Ahaz, and what he did, are they not
written in the book of the annals of the

15:31 [a]1Ki 15:31
15:32 [b]ver 1, 5; 1Ch 5:17; Isa 1:1; Hos 1:1
15:34 [c]S 1Ki 14:8
15:35 [d]2Ki 12:3 [e]S Ge 23:10; 2Ch 23:20
15:37 [f]2Ki 16:5; Isa 7:1; 8:6; 9:11
16:1 [g]Isa 1:1; 7:1; 14:28; Hos 1:1; Mic 1:1
16:2 [h]S 1Ki 14:8
16:3 [i]2Ki 17:19 [j]S Lev 18:21; S 2Ki 3:27 [k]S Lev 18:3; S Dt 9:4
16:4 [l]2Ki 22:17; 23:5 [m]Dt 12:2; Eze 6:13
16:5 [n]S 2Ki 15:37
16:6 [o]Isa 9:12 [p]S 1Ki 9:26
16:7 [q]S 2Ki 15:29 [r]Isa 2:6; 10:20; Jer 2:18; 3:1; Eze 16:28; 23:5; Hos 10:6
16:8 [s]S 1Ki 15:18; 2Ki 12:18
16:9 [t]S Ge 14:15; S 2Ki 15:29 [u]Isa 22:6; Am 1:5; 9:7
16:10 [v]ver 11, 15, 16; Isa 8:2
16:12 [w]2Ch 26:16
16:13 [x]Lev 6:8-13 [y]Lev 6:14-23 [z]S Ex 29:40 [a]Lev 7:11-21
16:14 [b]S Ex 20:24; S 40:6; S 1Ki 8:64
16:15 [c]Ex 29:38-41 [d]1Sa 9:9
16:17 [e]1Ki 7:27
16:18 [f]Eze 16:28

[t]3 *Or even made his son pass through* [u]12 *Or and went up* [v]13 Traditionally *peace offerings* [w]18 *Or the dais of his throne* (see Septuagint)

kings of Judah? 20 Ahaz rested with his
fathers and was buried with them in
the City of David. And Hezekiah his
son succeeded him as king.

Hoshea Last King of Israel

17 In the twelfth year of Ahaz king
of Judah, Hoshea son of Elah
became king of Israel in Samaria, and
he reigned nine years. 2 He did evil in
the eyes of the LORD, but not like the
kings of Israel who preceded him.
3 Shalmaneser king of Assyria came
up to attack Hoshea, who had been
Shalmaneser's vassal and had paid him
tribute. 4 But the king of Assyria dis-
covered that Hoshea was a traitor, for
he had sent envoys to So[a] king of
Egypt, and he no longer paid tribute
to the king of Assyria, as he had done
year by year. Therefore Shalmaneser
seized him and put him in prison.
5 The king of Assyria invaded the entire
land, marched against Samaria and laid
siege to it for three years. 6 In the
ninth year of Hoshea, the king of As-
syria captured Samaria and deport-
ed the Israelites to Assyria. He settled
them in Halah, in Gozan on the Ha-
bor River and in the towns of the
Medes.

Israel Exiled Because of Sin

7 All this took place because the Isra-
elites had sinned against the LORD
their God, who had brought them up
out of Egypt from under the power of
Pharaoh king of Egypt. They wor-
shiped other gods 8 and followed the
practices of the nations the LORD had
driven out before them, as well as the
practices that the kings of Israel had in-
troduced. 9 The Israelites secretly did
things against the LORD their God that
were not right. From watchtower to
fortified city they built themselves
high places in all their towns. 10 They
set up sacred stones and Asherah
poles on every high hill and under
every spreading tree. 11 At every high
place they burned incense, as the na-
tions whom the LORD had driven out
before them had done. They did
wicked things that provoked the LORD
to anger. 12 They worshiped idols,
though the LORD had said, "You shall
not do this."[b] 13 The LORD warned Is-
rael and Judah through all his prophets
and seers: "Turn from your evil
ways. Observe my commands and
decrees, in accordance with the entire
Law that I commanded your fathers to
obey and that I delivered to you
through my servants the prophets."
14 But they would not listen and were
as stiff-necked as their fathers, who
did not trust in the LORD their God.
15 They rejected his decrees and the cov-
enant he had made with their fathers
and the warnings he had given them.
They followed worthless idols and
themselves became worthless. They
imitated the nations around them al-
though the LORD had ordered them,
"Do not do as they do," and they did
the things the LORD had forbidden
them to do.

16 They forsook all the commands of
the LORD their God and made for them-
selves two idols cast in the shape of
calves, and an Asherah pole. They
bowed down to all the starry hosts,
and they worshiped Baal. 17 They sac-
rificed[c] their sons and daughters in
the fire. They practiced divination and
sorcery and sold themselves to do
evil in the eyes of the LORD, provoking
him to anger.

18 So the LORD was very angry with
Israel and removed them from his pres-
ence. Only the tribe of Judah was left,
19 and even Judah did not keep the com-
mands of the LORD their God. They fol-
lowed the practices Israel had intro-
duced. 20 Therefore the LORD rejected
all the people of Israel; he afflicted
them and gave them into the hands of
plunderers, until he thrust them from
his presence.

21 When he tore Israel away from the
house of David, they made Jeroboam
son of Nebat their king. Jeroboam en-
ticed Israel away from following the
LORD and caused them to commit a
great sin. 22 The Israelites persisted in
all the sins of Jeroboam and did not
turn away from them 23 until the LORD
removed them from his presence, as
he had warned through all his ser-
vants the prophets. So the people of
Israel were taken from their home-
land into exile in Assyria, and they
are still there.

Samaria Resettled

24 The king of Assyria brought
people from Babylon, Cuthah, Avva,

a4 Or *to Sais, to the*; *So* is possibly an abbreviation for *Osorkon*. b12 Exodus 20:4, 5 c17 Or *They made their sons and daughters pass through*

Hamath and Sepharvaim and settled them in the towns of Samaria to replace the Israelites. They took over Samaria and lived in its towns. 25 When they first lived there, they did not worship the LORD; so he sent lions among them and they killed some of the people. 26 It was reported to the king of Assyria: "The people you deported and resettled in the towns of Samaria do not know what the god of that country requires. He has sent lions among them, which are killing them off, because the people do not know what he requires."

27 Then the king of Assyria gave this order: "Have one of the priests you took captive from Samaria go back to live there and teach the people what the god of the land requires." 28 So one of the priests who had been exiled from Samaria came to live in Bethel and taught them how to worship the LORD.

29 Nevertheless, each national group made its own gods in the several towns where they settled, and set them up in the shrines the people of Samaria had made at the high places. 30 The men from Babylon made Succoth Benoth, the men from Cuthah made Nergal, and the men from Hamath made Ashima; 31 the Avvites made Nibhaz and Tartak, and the Sepharvites burned their children in the fire as sacrifices to Adrammelech and Anammelech, the gods of Sepharvaim. 32 They worshiped the LORD, but they also appointed all sorts of their own people to officiate for them as priests in the shrines at the high places. 33 They worshiped the LORD, but they also served their own gods in accordance with the customs of the nations from which they had been brought.

34 To this day they persist in their former practices. They neither worship the LORD nor adhere to the decrees and ordinances, the laws and commands that the LORD gave the descendants of Jacob, whom he named Israel. 35 When the LORD made a covenant with the Israelites, he commanded them: "Do not worship any other gods or bow down to them, serve them or sacrifice to them. 36 But the LORD, who brought you up out of Egypt with mighty power and outstretched arm, is the one you must worship. To him you shall bow down and to him offer sacrifices. 37 You must always be careful to keep the decrees and ordinances, the laws and commands he wrote for you. Do not worship other gods. 38 Do not forget the covenant I have made with you, and do not worship other gods. 39 Rather, worship the LORD your God; it is he who will deliver you from the hand of all your enemies."

40 They would not listen, however, but persisted in their former practices. 41 Even while these people were worshiping the LORD, they were serving their idols. To this day their children and grandchildren continue to do as their fathers did.

Hezekiah King of Judah

18:2-4pp — 2Ch 29:1-2; 31:1
18:5-7pp — 2Ch 31:20-21
18:9-12pp — 2Ki 17:3-7

18 In the third year of Hoshea son of Elah king of Israel, Hezekiah son of Ahaz king of Judah began to reign. 2 He was twenty-five years old when he became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem twenty-nine years. His mother's name was Abijah[a] daughter of Zechariah. 3 He did what was right in the eyes of the LORD, just as his father David had done. 4 He removed the high places, smashed the sacred stones and cut down the Asherah poles. He broke into pieces the bronze snake Moses had made, for up to that time the Israelites had been burning incense to it. (It was called[b] Nehushtan.[c])

5 Hezekiah trusted in the LORD, the God of Israel. There was no one like him among all the kings of Judah, either before him or after him. 6 He held fast to the LORD and did not cease to follow him; he kept the commands the LORD had given Moses. 7 And the LORD was with him; he was successful in whatever he undertook. He rebelled against the king of Assyria and did not serve him. 8 From watchtower to fortified city, he defeated the Philistines, as far as Gaza and its territory.

9 In King Hezekiah's fourth year, which was the seventh year of Hoshea son of Elah king of Israel, Shalmaneser king of Assyria marched against Samaria and laid siege to it. 10 At the end of three years the Assyrians took it. So Samaria was captured in Hezekiah's sixth year, which was the ninth year of Hoshea king of Israel. 11 The king of Assyria deported Israel to Assyria and settled them in Halah, in Gozan on the

a2 Hebrew *Abi*, a variant of *Abijah* b4 Or *He called* c4 *Nehushtan* sounds like the Hebrew for *bronze* and *snake* and *unclean thing*.

Habor River and in towns of the
Medes.[a] 12This happened because they
had not obeyed the LORD their God, but
had violated his covenant[b]—all that
Moses the servant of the LORD com-
manded.[c] They neither listened to the
commands[d] nor carried them out.
13In the fourteenth year[e] of King
Hezekiah's reign, Sennacherib king of
Assyria attacked all the fortified cities
of Judah[f] and captured them. 14So
Hezekiah king of Judah sent this mes-
sage to the king of Assyria at Lachish:[g]
"I have done wrong.[h] Withdraw from
me, and I will pay whatever you de-
mand of me." The king of Assyria ex-
acted from Hezekiah king of Judah
three hundred talents[d] of silver and
thirty talents[e] of gold. 15So Hezekiah
gave[i] him all the silver that was found
in the temple of the LORD and in the
treasuries of the royal palace.
16At this time Hezekiah king of Judah
stripped off the gold with which he
had covered the doors[j] and doorposts
of the temple of the LORD, and gave it to
the king of Assyria.

Sennacherib Threatens Jerusalem

18:13, 17-37pp — Isa 36:1-22
18:17-35pp — 2Ch 32:9-19

17The king of Assyria sent his su-
preme commander,[k] his chief officer
and his field commander with a large
army, from Lachish to King Hezekiah
at Jerusalem. They came up to Jerusa-
lem and stopped at the aqueduct of the
Upper Pool,[l] on the road to the Wash-
erman's Field. 18They called for the
king; and Eliakim[m] son of Hilkiah the
palace administrator, Shebna[n] the sec-
retary, and Joah son of Asaph the
recorder went out to them.
19The field commander said to them,
"Tell Hezekiah:

" 'This is what the great king, the
king of Assyria, says: On what are
you basing this confidence[o] of
yours? 20You say you have strategy
and military strength—but you
speak only empty words. On
whom are you depending, that you
rebel against me? 21Look now, you
are depending on Egypt,[p] that
splintered reed of a staff,[q] which
pierces a man's hand and wounds
him if he leans on it! Such is Phar-
aoh king of Egypt to all who de-
pend on him. 22And if you say to
me, "We are depending on the
LORD our God"—isn't he the one
whose high places and altars Heze-
kiah removed, saying to Judah and
Jerusalem, "You must worship be-
fore this altar in Jerusalem"?
23" 'Come now, make a bargain
with my master, the king of As-
syria: I will give you two thousand
horses—if you can put riders on
them! 24How can you repulse one
officer[r] of the least of my master's
officials, even though you are de-
pending on Egypt for chariots and
horsemen[f]? 25Furthermore, have I
come to attack and destroy this
place without word from the
LORD?[s] The LORD himself told me to
march against this country and de-
stroy it.' "

26Then Eliakim son of Hilkiah, and
Shebna and Joah said to the field com-
mander, "Please speak to your ser-
vants in Aramaic,[t] since we under-
stand it. Don't speak to us in Hebrew
in the hearing of the people on the
wall."
27But the commander replied, "Was
it only to your master and you that my
master sent me to say these things, and
not to the men sitting on the wall—
who, like you, will have to eat their
own filth and drink their own urine?"
28Then the commander stood and
called out in Hebrew: "Hear the word
of the great king, the king of Assyria!
29This is what the king says: Do not let
Hezekiah deceive[u] you. He cannot de-
liver you from my hand. 30Do not let
Hezekiah persuade you to trust in the
LORD when he says, 'The LORD will
surely deliver us; this city will not be
given into the hand of the king of As-
syria.'
31"Do not listen to Hezekiah. This is
what the king of Assyria says: Make
peace with me and come out to me.
Then every one of you will eat from his
own vine and fig tree[v] and drink water
from his own cistern,[w] 32until I come
and take you to a land like your own, a
land of grain and new wine, a land of
bread and vineyards, a land of olive
trees and honey. Choose life[x] and not
death!
"Do not listen to Hezekiah, for he is
misleading you when he says, 'The
LORD will deliver us.' 33Has the god[y] of
any nation ever delivered his land from
the hand of the king of Assyria?

18:11 [a]Eze 16:39; 23:9
18:12 [b]S 2Ki 17:15 [c]2Ki 21:8; Da 9:6,10 [d]S 1Ki 9:6
18:13 [e]S ver 2 [f]Isa 1:7; Mic 1:9
18:14 [g]2Ki 19:8 [h]Isa 24:5; 33:8
18:15 [i]S 1Ki 15:18; Isa 39:2
18:16 [j]2Ch 29:3
18:17 [k]Isa 20:1 [l]2Ki 20:20; 2Ch 32:4,30; Ne 2:14; Isa 22:9
18:18 [m]2Ki 19:2; Isa 22:20; 36:3, 11,22; 37:2 [n]ver 26,37; Isa 22:15
18:19 [o]S ver 5; S Job 4:6
18:21 [p]Isa 20:5; 31:1; Eze 29:6 [q]2Ki 24:7; Isa 20:6; 30:5,7; Jer 25:19; 37:7; 46:2
18:24 [r]Isa 10:8
18:25 [s]2Ki 19:6, 22; 24:3; 2Ch 35:21
18:26 [t]Ezr 4:7
18:29 [u]2Ki 19:10
18:31 [v]S Nu 13:23; S 1Ki 4:25 [w]Jer 14:3; La 4:4
18:32 [x]Dt 30:19
18:33 [y]2Ki 19:12

[d]14 That is, about 11 tons (about 10 metric tons)
[e]14 That is, about 1 ton (about 1 metric ton)
[f]24 Or *charioteers*

[34]Where are the gods of Hamath[z] and
Arpad?[a] Where are the gods of Sephar-
vaim, Hena and Ivvah? Have they res-
cued Samaria from my hand?[b] [35]Who of
all the gods of these countries has been
able to save his land from me? How
then can the LORD deliver Jerusalem
from my hand?"[c]

[36]But the people remained silent and
said nothing in reply, because the king
had commanded, "Do not answer
him."

[37]Then Eliakim[d] son of Hilkiah the
palace administrator, Shebna the secre-
tary and Joah son of Asaph the
recorder went to Hezekiah, with their
clothes torn,[e] and told him what the
field commander had said.

Jerusalem's Deliverance Foretold

19:1-13pp — Isa 37:1-13

19 When King Hezekiah heard this,
he tore[f] his clothes and put on
sackcloth and went into the temple of
the LORD. [2]He sent Eliakim[g] the palace
administrator, Shebna the secretary
and the leading priests,[h] all wearing
sackcloth,[i] to the prophet Isaiah[j] son
of Amoz. [3]They told him, "This is what
Hezekiah says: This day is a day of dis-
tress and rebuke and disgrace, as when
children come to the point[k] of birth
and there is no strength to deliver
them. [4]It may be that the LORD your
God will hear all the words of the field
commander, whom his master, the
king of Assyria, has sent to ridicule[l]
the living God, and that he will
rebuke[m] him for the words the LORD
your God has heard. Therefore pray for
the remnant[n] that still survives."

[5]When King Hezekiah's officials
came to Isaiah, [6]Isaiah said to them,
"Tell your master, 'This is what the
LORD says: Do not be afraid[o] of what
you have heard—those words with
which the underlings of the king of As-
syria have blasphemed[p] me. [7]Listen! I
am going to put such a spirit in him
that when he hears a certain report,[q]
he will return to his own country, and
there I will have him cut down with the
sword.[r]' "

[8]When the field commander heard
that the king of Assyria had left La-
chish,[s] he withdrew and found the
king fighting against Libnah.[t]

[9]Now Sennacherib received a report
that Tirhakah, the Cushite[g] king of
Egypt, was marching out to fight
against him. So he again sent messen-
gers to Hezekiah with this word: [10]"Say
to Hezekiah king of Judah: Do not let
the god you depend[u] on deceive[v] you
when he says, 'Jerusalem will not be
handed over to the king of Assyria.'
[11]Surely you have heard what the kings
of Assyria have done to all the coun-
tries, destroying them completely. And
will you be delivered? [12]Did the gods of
the nations that were destroyed by my
forefathers deliver[w] them: the gods of
Gozan,[x] Haran,[y] Rezeph and the
people of Eden who were in Tel Assar?
[13]Where is the king of Hamath, the
king of Arpad, the king of the city of
Sepharvaim, or of Hena or Ivvah?"[z]

Hezekiah's Prayer

19:14-19pp — Isa 37:14-20

[14]Hezekiah received the letter[a] from
the messengers and read it. Then he
went up to the temple of the LORD and
spread it out before the LORD. [15]And
Hezekiah prayed to the LORD: "O LORD,
God of Israel, enthroned between the
cherubim,[b] you alone[c] are God over
all the kingdoms of the earth. You have
made heaven and earth. [16]Give ear,[d] O
LORD, and hear;[e] open your eyes,[f] O
LORD, and see; listen to the words Sen-
nacherib has sent to insult the living
God.

[17]"It is true, O LORD, that the Assyr-
ian kings have laid waste these nations
and their lands. [18]They have thrown
their gods into the fire and destroyed
them, for they were not gods[g] but only
wood and stone, fashioned by men's
hands.[h] [19]Now, O LORD our God, de-
liver[i] us from his hand, so that all
kingdoms[j] on earth may know[k] that
you alone, O LORD, are God."

Isaiah Prophesies Sennacherib's Fall

19:20-37pp — Isa 37:21-38
19:35-37pp — 2Ch 32:20-21

[20]Then Isaiah son of Amoz sent a
message to Hezekiah: "This is what the
LORD, the God of Israel, says: I have
heard[l] your prayer concerning Sen-
nacherib king of Assyria. [21]This is the
word that the LORD has spoken
against[m] him:

" 'The Virgin Daughter[n] of Zion
despises[o] you and mocks[p] you.
The Daughter of Jerusalem
tosses her head[q] as you flee.
[22]Who is it you have insulted and
blasphemed?[r]

18:34 [z] S 2Ki 17:24 [a] S Jer 49:23 [b] Isa 10:9 **18:35** [c] Ps 2:1-2 **18:37** [d] S ver 18; Isa 33:7; 36:3,22 [e] S 2Ki 6:30 **19:1** [f] S Ge 37:34; S Nu 14:6 **19:2** [g] S 2Ki 18:18 [h] Jer 19:1 [i] S Ge 37:34 [j] Isa 1:1 **19:3** [k] Hos 13:13 **19:4** [l] S 1Sa 17:26 [m] 2Sa 16:12 [n] S Ge 45:7; S Jer 37:3 **19:6** [o] S Dt 3:2; S Jos 1:9 [p] S 2Ki 18:25 **19:7** [q] S Ex 14:24; Jer 51:46 [r] ver 37; 2Ch 32:21; Isa 10:12 **19:8** [s] 2Ki 18:14 [t] S Nu 33:20; S 2Ki 8:22 **19:10** [u] S 2Ki 18:5 [v] 2Ki 18:29 **19:12** [w] 2Ki 18:33; 2Ch 32:17 [x] 2Ki 17:6 [y] S Ge 11:31 **19:13** [z] Isa 10:9-11; Jer 49:23 **19:14** [a] 2Ki 5:7 **19:15** [b] S Ge 3:24; S Ex 25:22 [c] S Ge 1:1; S Jos 2:11 **19:16** [d] Ps 31:2; 71:2; 88:2; 102:2 [e] S 1Ki 8:29 [f] S Ex 3:16 **19:18** [g] Isa 44:9-11; Jer 10:3-10 [h] Dt 4:28; Ps 115:4; Ac 17:29 **19:19** [i] 1Sa 12:10; Job 6:23; Ps 3:7; 71:4 [j] S 1Ki 8:43; 1Ch 16:8 [k] S Jos 4:24; S 1Sa 17:46 **19:20** [l] S 1Ki 9:3 **19:21** [m] Isa 10:5; 33:1 [n] Isa 47:1; Jer 14:17; 18:13; 31:4; 46:11; La 2:13; Am 5:2 [o] Ps 53:5 [p] Pr 1:26; 3:34 [q] Job 16:4; Ps 44:14; 64:8; 109:25; Jer 18:16 **19:22** [r] S 2Ki 18:25

g9 That is, from the upper Nile region

Against whom have you raised
 your voice
and lifted your eyes in pride?
 Against the Holy One[z] of Israel!
23By your messengers
 you have heaped insults on the
 Lord.
And you have said,[a]
 "With my many chariots[b]
I have ascended the heights of the
 mountains,
 the utmost heights of Lebanon.
I have cut down[c] its tallest cedars,
 the choicest of its pines.
I have reached its remotest parts,
 the finest of its forests.
24I have dug wells in foreign lands
 and drunk the water there.
With the soles of my feet
 I have dried up all the streams of
 Egypt."

25"Have you not heard?[d]
 Long ago I ordained it.
In days of old I planned[e] it;
 now I have brought it to pass,
that you have turned fortified cities
 into piles of stone.[f]
26Their people, drained of power,[g]
 are dismayed[h] and put to shame.
They are like plants in the field,
 like tender green shoots,[i]
like grass sprouting on the roof,
 scorched[j] before it grows up.

27"But I know[k] where you stay
 and when you come and go
 and how you rage against me.
28Because you rage against me
 and your insolence has reached
 my ears,
I will put my hook[l] in your nose
 and my bit[m] in your mouth,
and I will make you return[n]
 by the way you came.'

29"This will be the sign[p] for you,
O Hezekiah:

"This year you will eat what grows
 by itself,[q]
 and the second year what springs
 from that.
But in the third year sow and reap,
 plant vineyards[r] and eat their
 fruit.
30Once more a remnant[s] of the house
 of Judah
 will take root[t] below and bear
 fruit above.
31For out of Jerusalem will come a
 remnant,[u]
 and out of Mount Zion a band of
 survivors.[v]

19:22 [z]Lev 19:2; 1Sa 2:2; Job 6:10; Ps 16:10; 22:3; 71:22; 78:41; 89:18; Isa 1:4; 6:3; 37:23; Hos 11:9 **19:23** [a]Isa 10:18; Jer 21:14; Eze 20:47 [b]Ps 20:7; Jer 50:37 [c]Isa 10:34; 14:8; 33:9; Eze 31:3 **19:25** [d]Isa 40:21,28 [e]Isa 22:11 [f]Mic 1:6 **19:26** [g]Isa 13:7; Eze 7:17; Zep 3:16 [h]Ps 6:10; 71:24; 83:17; Isa 41:23; Jer 8:9 [i]Isa 4:2; 11:1; 53:2; Jer 23:5 [j]Job 8:12; Ps 37:2; 129:6 **19:27** [k]Ps 139:1-4 **19:28** [l]2Ch 33:11; Eze 19:9; 29:4; 38:4; Am 4:2 [m]Isa 30:28 [n]ver 33 **19:29** [p]S Ex 7:9; S Dt 13:2; Lk 2:12 [q]Lev 25:5 [r]Ps 107:37; Isa 65:21; Am 9:14 **19:30** [s]S Ge 45:7 [t]Isa 5:24; 11:1; 27:6; Eze 17:22; Am 2:9 **19:31** [u]S Ge 45:7 [v]Isa 66:19; Zep 2:9; Zec 14:16 [w]Isa 9:7 **19:33** [x]ver 28 **19:34** [y]2Ki 20:6 [z]S 2Sa 7:15 **19:35** [a]S Ge 19:13; S Ex 12:23 [b]Job 24:24; Isa 17:14; 41:12; Na 3:3 **19:36** [c]S 2Ki 12:18 [d]S Ge 10:11 **19:37** [e]2Ki 17:31 [f]S ver 7 [g]S Ge 8:4 [h]S 2Ki 17:24 **20:3** [i]S Ge 8:1; Ne 1:8; 5:19; 13:14 [j]S Ge 5:22 [k]S 1Ki 2:4; 2Ch 31:20 **20:5** [l]S 1Ki 9:3 [m]Ps 6:6,8; 39:12; 56:8

The zeal[w] of the LORD Almighty will accomplish this.

32"Therefore this is what the LORD
says concerning the king of Assyria:

"He will not enter this city
 or shoot an arrow here.
He will not come before it with
 shield
 or build a siege ramp against it.
33By the way that he came he will
 return;[x]
 he will not enter this city,
 declares the LORD.
34I will defend[y] this city and save it,
 for my sake and for the sake of
 David[z] my servant."

35That night the angel of the LORD[a]
went out and put to death a hundred
and eighty-five thousand men in the
Assyrian camp. When the people got
up the next morning—there were all
the dead bodies![b]
36So Sennacherib
king of Assyria broke camp and withdrew.[c] He returned to Nineveh[d] and
stayed there.
37One day, while he was worshiping
in the temple of his god Nisroch, his
sons Adrammelech[e] and Sharezer cut
him down with the sword,[f] and they
escaped to the land of Ararat.[g] And
Esarhaddon[h] his son succeeded him as
king.

Hezekiah's Illness

20:1-11pp — 2Ch 32:24-26; Isa 38:1-8

20 In those days Hezekiah became
ill and was at the point of death.
The prophet Isaiah son of Amoz went
to him and said, "This is what the LORD
says: Put your house in order, because
you are going to die; you will not
recover."
2Hezekiah turned his face to the wall
and prayed to the LORD,
3"Remember,[i]
O LORD, how I have walked[j] before
you faithfully[k] and with wholehearted
devotion and have done what is good
in your eyes." And Hezekiah wept bitterly.
4Before Isaiah had left the middle
court, the word of the LORD came to
him:
5"Go back and tell Hezekiah, the
leader of my people, 'This is what the
LORD, the God of your father David,
says: I have heard[l] your prayer and
seen your tears;[m] I will heal you. On
the third day from now you will go up
to the temple of the LORD.
6I will add
fifteen years to your life. And I will deliver you and this city from the hand of

the king of Assyria. I will defend[a] this
city for my sake and for the sake of my
servant David.' "
7 Then Isaiah said, "Prepare a poul-
tice of figs." They did so and applied it
to the boil,[b] and he recovered.
8 Hezekiah had asked Isaiah, "What
will be the sign that the LORD will heal
me and that I will go up to the temple
of the LORD on the third day from
now?"
9 Isaiah answered, "This is the LORD's
sign[c] to you that the LORD will do what
he has promised: Shall the shadow go
forward ten steps, or shall it go back
ten steps?"
10 "It is a simple[d] matter for the shad-
ow to go forward ten steps," said
Hezekiah. "Rather, have it go back ten
steps."
11 Then the prophet Isaiah called
upon the LORD, and the LORD made the
shadow go back[e] the ten steps it had
gone down on the stairway of Ahaz.

Envoys From Babylon

20:12-19pp — Isa 39:1-8
20:20-21pp — 2Ch 32:32-33

12 At that time Merodach-Baladan son
of Baladan king of Babylon sent Heze-
kiah letters and a gift, because he had
heard of Hezekiah's illness. 13 Hezekiah
received the messengers and showed
them all that was in his storehouses—
the silver, the gold, the spices and the
fine oil—his armory and everything
found among his treasures. There was
nothing in his palace or in all his
kingdom that Hezekiah did not show
them.
14 Then Isaiah the prophet went to
King Hezekiah and asked, "What did
those men say, and where did they
come from?"
"From a distant land," Hezekiah re-
plied. "They came from Babylon."
15 The prophet asked, "What did they
see in your palace?"
"They saw everything in my palace,"
Hezekiah said. "There is nothing
among my treasures that I did not
show them."
16 Then Isaiah said to Hezekiah,
"Hear the word of the LORD: 17 The time
will surely come when everything in
your palace, and all that your fathers
have stored up until this day, will be
carried off to Babylon.[f] Nothing will be
left, says the LORD. 18 And some of your
descendants,[g] your own flesh and
blood, that will be born to you, will be
taken away, and they will become eu-
nuchs in the palace of the king of Bab-
ylon."[h]
19 "The word of the LORD you have
spoken is good," Hezekiah replied. For
he thought, "Will there not be peace
and security in my lifetime?"
20 As for the other events of Heze-
kiah's reign, all his achievements and
how he made the pool[i] and the tun-
nel[j] by which he brought water into
the city, are they not written in the
book of the annals of the kings of
Judah? 21 Hezekiah rested with his fa-
thers. And Manasseh his son suc-
ceeded him as king.

Manasseh King of Judah

21:1-10pp — 2Ch 33:1-10
21:17-18pp — 2Ch 33:18-20

21 Manasseh was twelve years old
when he became king, and he
reigned in Jerusalem fifty-five years.
His mother's name was Hephzibah.[k]
2 He did evil[l] in the eyes of the LORD,
following the detestable practices[m] of
the nations the LORD had driven out be-
fore the Israelites. 3 He rebuilt the high
places[n] his father Hezekiah had de-
stroyed; he also erected altars to Baal[o]
and made an Asherah pole,[p] as Ahab
king of Israel had done. He bowed
down to all the starry hosts[q] and wor-
shiped them. 4 He built altars[r] in the
temple of the LORD, of which the LORD
had said, "In Jerusalem I will put my
Name."[s] 5 In both courts[t] of the tem-
ple of the LORD, he built altars to all the
starry hosts. 6 He sacrificed his own
son[u] in[h] the fire, practiced sorcery and
divination,[v] and consulted mediums
and spiritists.[w] He did much evil in the
eyes of the LORD, provoking[x] him to
anger.
7 He took the carved Asherah pole[y]
he had made and put it in the temple,[z]
of which the LORD had said to David
and to his son Solomon, "In this tem-
ple and in Jerusalem, which I have cho-
sen out of all the tribes of Israel, I will
put my Name[a] forever. 8 I will not
again[b] make the feet of the Israelites
wander from the land I gave their fore-
fathers, if only they will be careful to
do everything I commanded them and
will keep the whole Law that my ser-
vant Moses[c] gave them." 9 But the
people did not listen. Manasseh led
them astray, so that they did more
evil[d] than the nations[e] the LORD had
destroyed before the Israelites.

20:6 [a]S 2Ki 19:34; S 1Ch 17:19 **20:7** [b]S Ex 9:9 **20:9** [c]S Dt 13:2; Jer 44:29 **20:10** [d]S 2Ki 3:18 **20:11** [e]Jos 10:13; 2Ch 32:31 **20:17** [f]2Ki 24:13; 2Ch 36:10; Jer 20:5; 27:22; 52:17-23 **20:18** [g]2Ki 24:15; Da 1:3 [h]Mic 4:10 **20:20** [i]S 2Ki 18:17 [j]S 2Sa 5:8 **21:1** [k]Isa 62:4 **21:2** [l]ver 16; S Dt 4:25; Jer 15:4 [m]Dt 9:4; S 18:9; S 1Ki 14:24; 2Ki 16:3 **21:3** [n]S 1Ki 3:3; S 2Ki 18:4 [o]S Jdg 6:28 [p]S Dt 16:21 [q]S Ge 2:1; Dt 17:3; Jer 19:13 **21:4** [r]Isa 66:4; Jer 4:1; 7:30; 23:11; 32:34; Eze 23:39 [s]S Ex 20:24; S 2Sa 7:13 **21:5** [t]1Ki 7:12; 2Ki 23:12 **21:6** [u]S Lev 18:21; S Dt 18:10; S 2Ki 3:27 [v]Dt 18:14 [w]S Lev 19:31 [x]2Ki 23:26 **21:7** [y]Dt 16:21; 2Ki 23:4 [z]S Lev 15:31 [a]S Ex 20:24; S 2Sa 7:13 **21:8** [b]S 2Sa 7:10 [c]S 2Ki 18:12 **21:9** [d]S 1Ki 14:9; Eze 5:7 [e]Dt 9:4

[h]6 Or *He made his own son pass through*

[10]The LORD said through his servants
the prophets: [11]"Manasseh king of
Judah has committed these detestable
sins. He has done more evil[a] than the
Amorites[b] who preceded him and has
led Judah into sin with his idols.[c]
[12]Therefore this is what the LORD, the
God of Israel, says: I am going to bring
such disaster[d] on Jerusalem and Judah
that the ears of everyone who hears of
it will tingle.[e] [13]I will stretch out over
Jerusalem the measuring line used
against Samaria and the plumb line[f]
used against the house of Ahab. I will
wipe[g] out Jerusalem as one wipes a
dish, wiping it and turning it upside
down. [14]I will forsake[h] the remnant[i] of
my inheritance and hand them over to
their enemies. They will be looted and
plundered by all their foes, [15]because
they have done evil[j] in my eyes and
have provoked[k] me to anger from the
day their forefathers came out of Egypt
until this day."

[16]Moreover, Manasseh also shed so
much innocent blood[l] that he filled
Jerusalem from end to end—besides
the sin that he had caused Judah[m] to
commit, so that they did evil in the
eyes of the LORD.

[17]As for the other events of Manasseh's reign, and all he did, including the sin he committed, are they not
written in the book of the annals of the
kings of Judah? [18]Manasseh rested with
his fathers and was buried in his palace
garden,[n] the garden of Uzza. And
Amon his son succeeded him as king.

Amon King of Judah

21:19-24pp — 2Ch 33:21-25

[19]Amon was twenty-two years old
when he became king, and he reigned
in Jerusalem two years. His mother's
name was Meshullemeth daughter of
Haruz; she was from Jotbah. [20]He did
evil[o] in the eyes of the LORD, as his father Manasseh had done. [21]He walked
in all the ways of his father; he worshiped the idols his father had worshiped, and bowed down to them. [22]He
forsook[p] the LORD, the God of his fathers, and did not walk[q] in the way of
the LORD.

[23]Amon's officials conspired against
him and assassinated[r] the king in his
palace. [24]Then the people of the land
killed[s] all who had plotted against
King Amon, and they made Josiah[t] his
son king in his place.

[25]As for the other events of Amon's
reign, and what he did, are they not
written in the book of the annals of the
kings of Judah? [26]He was buried in his
grave in the garden[u] of Uzza. And Josiah his son succeeded him as king.

The Book of the Law Found

22:1-20pp — 2Ch 34:1-2,8-28

22 Josiah[v] was eight years old
when he became king, and he
reigned in Jerusalem thirty-one years.
His mother's name was Jedidah daughter of Adaiah; she was from Bozkath.[w]
[2]He did what was right[x] in the eyes of
the LORD and walked in all the ways of
his father David, not turning aside to
the right[y] or to the left.

[3]In the eighteenth year of his reign,
King Josiah sent the secretary, Shaphan[z] son of Azaliah, the son of Meshullam, to the temple of the LORD. He
said: [4]"Go up to Hilkiah[a] the high
priest and have him get ready the
money that has been brought into the
temple of the LORD, which the doorkeepers have collected[b] from the
people. [5]Have them entrust it to the
men appointed to supervise the work
on the temple. And have these men
pay the workers who repair[c] the temple of the LORD— [6]the carpenters, the
builders and the masons. Also have
them purchase timber and dressed
stone to repair the temple.[d] [7]But they
need not account for the money entrusted to them, because they are acting faithfully."[e]

[8]Hilkiah the high priest said to Shaphan the secretary, "I have found the
Book of the Law[f] in the temple of the
LORD." He gave it to Shaphan, who
read it. [9]Then Shaphan the secretary
went to the king and reported to him:
"Your officials have paid out the
money that was in the temple of the
LORD and have entrusted it to the workers and supervisors at the temple."
[10]Then Shaphan the secretary informed
the king, "Hilkiah the priest has given
me a book." And Shaphan read from it
in the presence of the king.[g]

[11]When the king heard the words of
the Book of the Law,[h] he tore his
robes. [12]He gave these orders to Hilkiah the priest, Ahikam[i] son of Shaphan, Acbor son of Micaiah, Shaphan
the secretary and Asaiah the king's attendant:[j] [13]"Go and inquire[k] of the
LORD for me and for the people and for
all Judah about what is written in this
book that has been found. Great is the

21:11 aS 1Ki 14:9 bS Ge 15:16 cEze 18:12
21:12 d2Ki 22:16; 24:3; Jer 15:4; Eze 7:5 eS 1Sa 3:11
21:13 fIsa 28:17; 34:11; La 2:8; Am 7:7-9 g2Ki 23:27
21:14 hPs 78:60; Jer 12:7; 23:33 i2Ki 19:4; Ezr 9:8; Ne 1:2; Isa 1:9; 10:21; Jer 6:9; 40:15; 42:2; 44:7,28; 50:20; Mic 2:12
21:15 jS Ex 32:22 kJer 25:7
21:16 l2Ki 24:4; Job 22:14; Ps 10:11; 94:7; 106:38; Isa 29:15; 47:10; 59:3,7; Jer 2:34; 7:6; 19:4; 22:17; La 4:13; Eze 7:23; 8:12; 9:9; 22:3-4; Hos 4:2; Zep 1:12 mS ver 2,11
21:18 nver 26; Est 1:5; 7:7
21:20 o1Ki 15:26
21:22 pS 1Sa 8:8 q1Ki 11:33
21:23 rS 2Ki 12:20
21:24 s2Ki 14:5 t2Ch 33:21; Zep 1:1
21:26 uS ver 18
22:1 vJer 1:2; 25:3 wJos 15:39
22:2 xS Dt 17:19; S 1Ki 14:8 yS Dt 5:32
22:3 z2Ch 34:20; Jer 39:14
22:4 aEzr 7:1 b2Ki 12:4-5
22:5 c2Ki 12:5
22:6 d2Ki 12:11-12
22:7 eS 2Ki 12:15
22:8 fS Dt 28:61; S 31:24; Gal 3:10
22:10 gJer 36:21
22:11 hver 8
22:12 i2Ki 25:22; Jer 26:24; 39:14 j1Sa 8:14
22:13 kS Ge 25:22; S 1Sa 9:9

Lord's anger[a] that burns against us be-
cause our fathers have not obeyed the
words of this book; they have not acted
in accordance with all that is written
there concerning us."
14 Hilkiah the priest, Ahikam, Acbor,
Shaphan and Asaiah went to speak to
the prophetess[b] Huldah, who was the
wife of Shallum son of Tikvah, the son
of Harhas, keeper of the wardrobe. She
lived in Jerusalem, in the Second Dis-
trict.
15 She said to them, "This is what the
Lord, the God of Israel, says: Tell the
man who sent you to me, 16 'This is
what the Lord says: I am going to bring
disaster[c] on this place and its people,
according to everything written in the
book[d] the king of Judah has read. 17 Be-
cause they have forsaken[e] me and
burned incense to other gods and pro-
voked me to anger by all the idols their
hands have made,[i] my anger will burn
against this place and will not be
quenched.' 18 Tell the king of Judah,
who sent you to inquire[f] of the Lord,
'This is what the Lord, the God of Is-
rael, says concerning the words you
heard: 19 Because your heart was re-
sponsive and you humbled[g] yourself
before the Lord when you heard what I
have spoken against this place and its
people, that they would become ac-
cursed[h] and laid waste,[i] and because
you tore your robes and wept in my
presence, I have heard you, declares
the Lord. 20 Therefore I will gather you
to your fathers, and you will be buried
in peace.[j] Your eyes[k] will not see all
the disaster I am going to bring on this
place.'"
So they took her answer back to the
king.

Josiah Renews the Covenant

23:1-3pp — 2Ch 34:29-32
23:4-20Ref — 2Ch 34:3-7,33
23:21-23pp — 2Ch 35:1,18-19
23:28-30pp — 2Ch 35:20-36:1

23 Then the king called together all
the elders of Judah and Jerusa-
lem. 2 He went up to the temple of the
Lord with the men of Judah, the people
of Jerusalem, the priests and the proph-
ets—all the people from the least to
the greatest. He read[l] in their hearing
all the words of the Book of the Cov-
enant,[m] which had been found in the
temple of the Lord. 3 The king stood by
the pillar[n] and renewed the covenant[o]
in the presence of the Lord—to follow[p]
the Lord and keep his commands,
regulations and decrees with all his
heart and all his soul, thus confirming
the words of the covenant written in
this book. Then all the people pledged
themselves to the covenant.
4 The king ordered Hilkiah the high
priest, the priests next in rank and the
doorkeepers[q] to remove[r] from the
temple of the Lord all the articles made
for Baal and Asherah and all the starry
hosts. He burned them outside Jerusa-
lem in the fields of the Kidron Valley
and took the ashes to Bethel. 5 He did
away with the pagan priests appointed
by the kings of Judah to burn incense
on the high places of the towns of
Judah and on those around Jerusa-
lem—those who burned incense[s] to
Baal, to the sun and moon, to the con-
stellations and to all the starry hosts.[t][u]
6 He took the Asherah pole from the
temple of the Lord to the Kidron Val-
ley[v] outside Jerusalem and burned it
there. He ground it to powder[w] and
scattered the dust over the graves[x] of
the common people.[y] 7 He also tore
down the quarters of the male shrine
prostitutes,[z] which were in the temple
of the Lord and where women did
weaving for Asherah.
8 Josiah brought all the priests from
the towns of Judah and desecrated the
high places, from Geba[a] to Beersheba,
where the priests had burned incense.
He broke down the shrines[j] at the
gates—at the entrance to the Gate of
Joshua, the city governor, which is on
the left of the city gate. 9 Although the
priests of the high places did not
serve[b] at the altar of the Lord in Jerusa-
lem, they ate unleavened bread with
their fellow priests.
10 He desecrated Topheth,[c] which
was in the Valley of Ben Hinnom,[d] so
no one could use it to sacrifice his son[e]
or daughter in[k] the fire to Molech. 11 He
removed from the entrance to the tem-
ple of the Lord the horses that the
kings of Judah[f] had dedicated to the
sun. They were in the court near the
room of an official named Nathan-
Melech. Josiah then burned the chari-
ots dedicated to the sun.[g]
12 He pulled down[h] the altars the
kings of Judah had erected on the roof[i]
near the upper room of Ahaz, and the
altars Manasseh had built in the two
courts[j] of the temple of the Lord. He
removed them from there, smashed

22:13 [a]Dt 29:24-28; S 31:17; Isa 5:25; 42:25; Am 2:4
22:14 [b]S Ex 15:20
22:16 [c]S Dt 31:29; S Jos 23:15; Jer 6:19; 11:11; 18:11; 35:17 [d]Da 9:11
22:17 [e]S 1Ki 9:9
22:18 [f]Jer 21:2; 37:3,7
22:19 [g]S Ex 10:3; Isa 57:15; 61:1; Mic 6:8 [h]Jer 24:9; 25:18; 26:6 [i]Lev 26:31
22:20 [j]Isa 47:11; 57:1; Jer 18:11 [k]S 1Ki 21:29
23:2 [l]S Dt 31:11 [m]S Ex 24:7
23:3 [n]S 1Ki 7:15 [o]S 2Ki 11:12 [p]S Dt 13:4
23:4 [q]2Ki 25:18; Jer 35:4 [r]S 2Ki 21:7
23:5 [s]S 2Ki 16:4 [t]Jer 8:2 [u]Jer 43:13
23:6 [v]Jer 31:40 [w]S Ex 32:20 [x]S Nu 19:16 [y]Jer 26:23
23:7 [z]S Ge 38:21; 1Ki 14:24; Eze 16:16
23:8 [a]S Jos 18:24; S 1Ki 15:22
23:9 [b]Eze 44:10-14
23:10 [c]Isa 30:33; Jer 7:31,32; 19:6 [d]S Jos 15:8 [e]S Lev 18:21; S Dt 18:10
23:11 [f]ver 5,19; Ne 9:34; Jer 44:9 [g]S Dt 4:19
23:12 [h]2Ch 33:15 [i]Jer 19:13; Zep 1:5 [j]S 2Ki 21:5

[i]17 Or *by everything they have done* [j]8 Or *high places*
[k]10 Or *to make his son or daughter pass through*

them to pieces and threw the rubble
into the Kidron Valley.[a] [13]The king also
desecrated the high places that were
east of Jerusalem on the south of the
Hill of Corruption—the ones Solomon[b]
king of Israel had built for Ashtoreth
the vile goddess of the Sidonians, for
Chemosh the vile god of Moab, and for
Molech[r] the detestable[c] god of the
people of Ammon.[d] [14]Josiah smashed[e]
the sacred stones and cut down the
Asherah poles and covered the sites
with human bones.[f]
[15]Even the altar[g] at Bethel, the high
place made by Jeroboam[h] son of
Nebat, who had caused Israel to sin—
even that altar and high place he
demolished. He burned the high place
and ground it to powder, and burned
the Asherah pole also. [16]Then Josiah[i]
looked around, and when he saw the
tombs that were there on the hillside,
he had the bones removed from them
and burned on the altar to defile it, in
accordance[j] with the word of the LORD
proclaimed by the man of God who
foretold these things.
[17]The king asked, "What is that
tombstone I see?"
The men of the city said, "It marks
the tomb of the man of God who came
from Judah and pronounced against
the altar of Bethel the very things you
have done to it."
[18]"Leave it alone," he said. "Don't let
anyone disturb his bones[k]." So they
spared his bones and those of the
prophet[l] who had come from Samaria.
[19]Just as he had done at Bethel, Jo-
siah removed and defiled all the
shrines at the high places that the kings
of Israel had built in the towns of Sa-
maria that had provoked the LORD to
anger. [20]Josiah slaughtered[m] all the
priests of those high places on the al-
tars and burned human bones[n] on
them. Then he went back to Jerusalem.
[21]The king gave this order to all the
people: "Celebrate the Passover[o] to the
LORD your God, as it is written in this
Book of the Covenant."[p] [22]Not since
the days of the judges who led Israel,
nor throughout the days of the kings of
Israel and the kings of Judah, had any
such Passover been observed. [23]But in
the eighteenth year of King Josiah, this
Passover was celebrated to the LORD in
Jerusalem.[q]
[24]Furthermore, Josiah got rid of the
mediums and spiritists,[r] the house-
hold gods,[s] the idols and all the other
detestable[t] things seen in Judah and
Jerusalem. This he did to fulfill the re-
quirements of the law written in the
book that Hilkiah the priest had discov-
ered in the temple of the LORD.
[25]Neither before nor after Josiah was
there a king like him who turned[u] to
the LORD as he did—with all his heart
and with all his soul and with all his
strength, in accordance with all the
Law of Moses.[v]
[26]Nevertheless, the LORD did not turn
away from the heat of his fierce an-
ger,[w] which burned against Judah be-
cause of all that Manasseh[x] had done
to provoke him to anger. [27]So the LORD
said, "I will remove[y] Judah also from
my presence[z] as I removed Israel, and
I will reject[a] Jerusalem, the city I
chose, and this temple, about which I
said, 'There shall my Name be.'[m]"
[28]As for the other events of Josiah's
reign, and all he did, are they not writ-
ten in the book of the annals of the
kings of Judah?
[29]While Josiah was king, Pharaoh
Neco[b] king of Egypt went up to the
Euphrates River to help the king of As-
syria. King Josiah marched out to meet
him in battle, but Neco faced him and
killed him at Megiddo.[c] [30]Josiah's ser-
vants brought his body in a chariot[d]
from Megiddo to Jerusalem and buried
him in his own tomb. And the people
of the land took Jehoahaz son of Josiah
and anointed him and made him king
in place of his father.

Jehoahaz King of Judah

23:31-34pp — 2Ch 36:2-4

[31]Jehoahaz[e] was twenty-three years
old when he became king, and he
reigned in Jerusalem three months. His
mother's name was Hamutal[f] daugh-
ter of Jeremiah; she was from Libnah.
[32]He did evil[g] in the eyes of the LORD,
just as his fathers had done. [33]Pharaoh
Neco put him in chains at Riblah[h] in
the land of Hamath[n][i] so that he might
not reign in Jerusalem, and he imposed
on Judah a levy of a hundred talents[o]
of silver and a talent[p] of gold. [34]Phar-
aoh Neco made Eliakim[j] son of Josiah
king in place of his father Josiah and
changed Eliakim's name to Jehoiakim.
But he took Jehoahaz and carried him
off to Egypt, and there he died.[k]
[35]Jehoiakim paid Pharaoh Neco the sil-

23:12 [a] S 2Sa 15:23
23:13 [b] 1Ki 11:7 [c] S Dt 27:15 [d] Jer 11:13
23:14 [e] S Ex 23:24 [f] S Nu 19:16; S Ps 53:5
23:15 [g] S Jos 7:2; 1Ki 13:1-3 [h] S 1Ki 12:33
23:16 [i] S 1Ki 13:2 [j] 1Ki 13:32
23:18 [k] 1Ki 13:31 [l] 1Ki 13:29
23:20 [m] S Ex 22:20; S 2Ki 11:18 [n] S 1Ki 13:2
23:21 [o] S Ex 12:11; Dt 16:1-8 [p] S Ex 24:7
23:23 [q] S Ex 12:11; S Nu 28:16
23:24 [r] S Lev 19:31; S Dt 18:11 [s] S Ge 31:19 [t] Dt 7:26; 2Ki 16:3
23:25 [u] S 1Sa 7:3 [v] Jer 22:15
23:26 [w] 2Ki 21:6; Jer 23:20; 30:24 [x] S 2Ki 21:12
23:27 [y] 2Ki 21:13 [z] S Ex 33:15; 2Ki 24:3 [a] Jer 27:10; 32:31
23:29 [b] ver 33-35; Jer 46:2 [c] 2Ki 9:27
23:30 [d] S 2Ki 9:28
23:31 [e] 1Ch 3:15; Jer 22:11 [f] 2Ki 24:18
23:32 [g] 1Ki 15:26
23:33 [h] S Nu 34:11 [i] 1Ki 8:65
23:34 [j] 2Ki 24:17; 1Ch 3:15; 2Ch 36:5-6; Jer 1:3 [k] Jer 22:12

[r]13 Hebrew *Milcom* [m]27 1 Kings 8:29
[n]33 Hebrew; Septuagint (see also 2 Chron. 36:3) *Neco at Riblah in Hamath removed him* [o]33 That is, about 3 3/4 tons (about 3.4 metric tons) [p]33 That is, about 75 pounds (about 34 kilograms)

ver and gold he demanded. In order to
do so, he taxed the land and exacted
the silver and gold from the people of
the land according to their assess-
ments.[a]

Jehoiakim King of Judah

23:36–24:6pp — 2Ch 36:5-8

36Jehoiakim[b] was twenty-five years
old when he became king, and he
reigned in Jerusalem eleven years. His
mother's name was Zebidah daughter
of Pedaiah; she was from Rumah.
37And he did evil[c] in the eyes of the
LORD, just as his fathers had done.

24 During Jehoiakim's reign, Nebu-
chadnezzar[d] king of Babylon in-
vaded[e] the land, and Jehoiakim
became his vassal for three years. But
then he changed his mind and re-
belled[f] against Nebuchadnezzar. 2The
LORD sent Babylonian,[a][g] Aramean,[h]
Moabite and Ammonite raiders[i]
against him. He sent them to destroy[j]
Judah, in accordance with the word of
the LORD proclaimed by his servants the
prophets.[k] 3Surely these things hap-
pened to Judah according to the LORD's
command,[l] in order to remove them
from his presence[m] because of the sins
of Manasseh[n] and all he had done, 4in-
cluding the shedding of innocent
blood.[o] For he had filled Jerusalem
with innocent blood, and the LORD was
not willing to forgive.[p]

5As for the other events of Jehoia-
kim's reign,[q] and all he did, are they
not written in the book of the annals of
the kings of Judah? 6Jehoiakim rested[r]
with his fathers. And Jehoiachin[s] his
son succeeded him as king.

7The king of Egypt[t] did not march
out from his own country again, be-
cause the king of Babylon[u] had taken
all his territory, from the Wadi of Egypt
to the Euphrates River.

Jehoiachin King of Judah

24:8-17pp — 2Ch 36:9-10

8Jehoiachin[v] was eighteen years old
when he became king, and he reigned
in Jerusalem three months. His
mother's name was Nehushta[w] daugh-
ter of Elnathan; she was from Jerusa-
lem. 9He did evil[x] in the eyes of the
LORD, just as his father had done.

10At that time the officers of Nebu-
chadnezzar[y] king of Babylon advanced
on Jerusalem and laid siege to it, 11and
Nebuchadnezzar himself came up to
the city while his officers were besieg-
ing it. 12Jehoiachin king of Judah, his
mother, his attendants, his nobles and
his officials all surrendered[z] to him.

In the eighth year of the reign of the
king of Babylon, he took Jehoiachin
prisoner. 13As the LORD had declared,[a]
Nebuchadnezzar removed all the trea-
sures[b] from the temple of the LORD and
from the royal palace, and took away
all the gold articles[c] that Solomon[d]
king of Israel had made for the temple
of the LORD. 14He carried into exile[e] all
Jerusalem: all the officers and fighting
men,[f] and all the craftsmen and arti-
sans—a total of ten thousand. Only the
poorest[g] people of the land were left.

15Nebuchadnezzar took Jehoiachin[h]
captive to Babylon. He also took from
Jerusalem to Babylon the king's
mother,[i] his wives, his officials and
the leading men[j] of the land. 16The
king of Babylon also deported to Bab-
ylon the entire force of seven thousand
fighting men, strong and fit for war,
and a thousand craftsmen and arti-
sans.[k] 17He made Mattaniah, Jehoia-
chin's uncle, king in his place and
changed his name to Zedekiah.[l]

Zedekiah King of Judah

24:18-20pp — 2Ch 36:11-16; Jer 52:1-3

18Zedekiah[m] was twenty-one years
old when he became king, and he
reigned in Jerusalem eleven years. His
mother's name was Hamutal[n] daugh-
ter of Jeremiah; she was from Libnah.
19He did evil[o] in the eyes of the LORD,
just as Jehoiakim had done. 20It was be-
cause of the LORD's anger that all this
happened to Jerusalem and Judah, and
in the end he thrust[p] them from his
presence.[q]

The Fall of Jerusalem

25:1-12pp — Jer 39:1-10
25:1-21pp — 2Ch 36:17-20; Jer 52:4-27
25:22-26pp — Jer 40:7-9; 41:1-3, 16-18

Now Zedekiah rebelled against the
king of Babylon.

25 So in the ninth[r] year of Zede-
kiah's reign, on the tenth day of
the tenth month, Nebuchadnezzar[s]
king of Babylon marched against
Jerusalem with his whole army. He en-
camped outside the city and built siege
works[t] all around it. 2The city was
kept under siege until the eleventh

23:35 aJer 2:16 **23:36** bJer 26:1 **23:37** c1Ki 15:26 **24:1** dver 10; 2Ki 25:11; Ezr 5:12; Jer 4:7; 25:1,9; 39:1; 40:1; 50:17; 52:15; Eze 32:2; Da 1:1; 7:4 eJer 35:11 fS 2Ki 18:7 **24:2** gJer 5:15; Hab 1:6 hJer 35:11 iS 2Ki 5:2 jIsa 28:18-19 kJer 12:7-9; 25:1; 26:1; 36:1; Eze 23:23; Da 1:2 **24:3** lS 2Ki 18:25 mS 2Ki 13:23 nS 1Ki 14:9; S 2Ki 21:12; Jer 15:4 **24:4** oS 2Ki 21:16; Jer 22:3 pS Ex 23:21; La 3:42 **24:5** qJer 22:18-19 **24:6** rJer 22:19; 36:30 s1Ch 3:16; Jer 22:24,28; Eze 19:1 **24:7** tS Ge 15:18; S 2Ki 18:21; S Jer 46:25 uJer 1:14; 25:9; 46:24 **24:8** v1Ch 3:16; Jer 22:24; 37:1 wver 15; Jer 13:18; 22:26; 29:2 **24:9** x1Ki 15:26 **24:10** yS ver 1 **24:12** z2Ki 25:27; Jer 13:18; 22:24-30; 24:1; 29:2 **24:13** a2Ki 20:17 b2Ki 25:15; Isa 39:6; 42:22 c2Ki 25:14; Ezr 1:7; Isa 39:6; Jer 15:13; 17:3; 20:5; 27:16; 28:3; Eze 7:21; Da 1:2; 5:2,23; Zep 1:13 dS 1Ki 7:51 **24:14** eS Dt 28:36; S 2Ch 36:20; S Mt 1:11 fIsa 3:1-3 gDt 15:11; 2Ki 25:12; Job 5:16; Ps 9:18; Jer 40:7; 52:16 **24:15** hS 2Ki 20:18; Eze 19:9 iS ver 8; S 1Ki 2:19 jEst 2:6; Isa 39:7; La 2:9; Eze 1:2; 17:12-14; Da 1:3 **24:16** kEzr 2:1; Jer 24:1 **24:17** l1Ch 3:15; 2Ch 36:11; Jer 1:3; 37:1; 52:1; Eze 17:13 **24:18** m1Ch 3:16; Jer 39:1 n2Ki 23:31 **24:19** o1Ki 15:26; Jer 37:2

24:20 pDt 4:26; 29:27 qS Ex 33:15; S 2Ki 13:23 **25:1** rJer 32:1 sJer 21:2; 34:1-7 tIsa 23:13; 29:3; Jer 4:16-17; 32:2; 33:4; Eze 21:22; 24:2

a2 Or *Chaldean*

year of King Zedekiah. 3By the ninth
day of the ⌊fourth⌋[r] month the famine[a]
in the city had become so severe that
there was no food for the people to eat.
4Then the city wall was broken
through,[b] and the whole army fled at
night through the gate between the
two walls near the king's garden,
though the Babylonians[s] were sur-
rounding[c] the city. They fled toward
the Arabah,[t] 5but the Babylonian[u]
army pursued the king and overtook
him in the plains of Jericho. All his sol-
diers were separated from him and
scattered,[d] 6and he was captured.[e] He
was taken to the king of Babylon at Rib-
lah,[f] where sentence was pronounced
on him. 7They killed the sons of Zede-
kiah before his eyes. Then they put out
his eyes, bound him with bronze
shackles and took him to Babylon.[g]
8On the seventh day of the fifth
month, in the nineteenth year of Nebu-
chadnezzar king of Babylon, Nebuzar-
adan commander of the imperial
guard, an official of the king of Bab-
ylon, came to Jerusalem. 9He set fire[h]
to the temple of the LORD, the royal pal-
ace and all the houses of Jerusalem.
Every important building he burned
down.[i] 10The whole Babylonian army,
under the commander of the imperial
guard, broke down the walls[j] around
Jerusalem. 11Nebuzaradan the com-
mander of the guard carried into exile[k]
the people who remained in the city,
along with the rest of the populace and
those who had gone over to the king of
Babylon.[l] 12But the commander left be-
hind some of the poorest people[m] of
the land to work the vineyards and
fields.
13The Babylonians broke[n] up the
bronze pillars, the movable stands and
the bronze Sea that were at the temple
of the LORD and they carried the bronze
to Babylon. 14They also took away the
pots, shovels, wick trimmers, dishes[o]
and all the bronze articles[p] used in the
temple service. 15The commander of
the imperial guard took away the cen-
sers and sprinkling bowls—all that
were made of pure gold or silver.[q]
16The bronze from the two pillars,
the Sea and the movable stands, which
Solomon had made for the temple of
the LORD, was more than could be
weighed. 17Each pillar[r] was twenty-
seven feet[v] high. The bronze capital on
top of one pillar was four and a half
feet[w] high and was decorated with a
network and pomegranates of bronze
all around. The other pillar, with its
network, was similar.
18The commander of the guard took
as prisoners Seraiah[s] the chief priest,
Zephaniah[t] the priest next in rank and
the three doorkeepers.[u] 19Of those still
in the city, he took the officer in charge
of the fighting men and five royal ad-
visers. He also took the secretary who
was chief officer in charge of conscript-
ing the people of the land and sixty of
his men who were found in the city.
20Nebuzaradan the commander took
them all and brought them to the king
of Babylon at Riblah. 21There at Rib-
lah,[v] in the land of Hamath, the king
had them executed.[w]
So Judah went into captivity,[x] away
from her land.[y]
22Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon
appointed Gedaliah[z] son of Ahikam,[a]
the son of Shaphan, to be over the
people he had left behind in Judah.
23When all the army officers and their
men heard that the king of Babylon
had appointed Gedaliah as governor,
they came to Gedaliah at Mizpah—
Ishmael son of Nethaniah, Johanan son
of Kareah, Seraiah son of Tanhumeth
the Netophathite, Jaazaniah the son of
the Maacathite, and their men. 24Geda-
liah took an oath to reassure them and
their men. "Do not be afraid of the Bab-
ylonian officials," he said. "Settle
down in the land and serve the king
of Babylon, and it will go well with
you."
25In the seventh month, however,
Ishmael son of Nethaniah, the son of
Elishama, who was of royal blood,
came with ten men and assassinated[b]
Gedaliah and also the men of Judah
and the Babylonians who were with
him at Mizpah.[c] 26At this, all the
people from the least to the greatest,
together with the army officers, fled to
Egypt[d] for fear of the Babylonians.

Jehoiachin Released

25:27-30pp — Jer 52:31-34

27In the thirty-seventh year of the ex-
ile of Jehoiachin king of Judah, in the
year Evil-Merodach[x] became king of
Babylon, he released Jehoiachin[e] from

25:3 [a]S Lev 26:26; Isa 22:2; Jer 14:18; 37:21; La 2:20; 4:9 **25:4** [b]Job 30:14; Ps 144:14; Jer 50:15; 51:44, 58; Eze 33:21 [c]Jer 4:17; 6:3 **25:5** [d]S Lev 26:36; Eze 12:14; 17:21 **25:6** [e]Isa 22:3; Jer 38:23 [f]S Nu 34:11 **25:7** [g]S Dt 28:36; Jer 21:7; 32:4-5; 34:3,21; Eze 12:11; 19:9; 40:1 **25:9** [h]Isa 60:7; 63:15,18; 64:11 [i]S Dt 13:16; Ne 1:3; Ps 74:3-8; 79:1; Jer 2:15; 17:27; 21:10; 26:6,18; La 4:11; Am 2:5; Mic 3:12 **25:10** [j]Ne 1:3; Jer 50:15 **25:11** [k]S Lev 26:44; 2Ki 24:14 [l]S Dt 28:36; S 2Ki 24:1 **25:12** [m]S 2Ki 24:14 **25:13** [n]S 1Ki 7:50 **25:14** [o]S Nu 7:14 [p]S 2Ki 24:13; Ezr 1:7 **25:15** [q]S 2Ki 24:13; Jer 15:13; 20:5; 27:16-22 **25:17** [r]1Ki 7:15-22 **25:18** [s]ver 18-21; 1Ch 6:14; Ezr 7:1; Ne 11:11 [t]Jer 21:1; 29:25; 37:3 [u]S 2Ki 12:9; S 23:4 **25:21** [v]S Nu 34:11 [w]Jer 34:21 [x]S 1Ki 8:46 [y]S Ge 12:7; S Jos 23:13 **25:22** [z]Jer 39:14; 40:5, 7; 41:18 [a]S 2Ki 22:12 **25:25** [b]S 2Ki 12:20 [c]Zec 7:5 **25:26** [d]Isa 30:2; Jer 43:7 **25:27** [e]S 2Ki 24:12

r3 See Jer. 52:6. s4 Or *Chaldeans;* also in verses 13, 25 and 26 t4 Or *the Jordan Valley*
u5 Or *Chaldean;* also in verses 10 and 24
v17 Hebrew *eighteen cubits* (about 8.1 meters)
w17 Hebrew *three cubits* (about 1.3 meters)
x27 Also called *Amel-Marduk*

prison on the twenty-seventh day of the twelfth month. [28]He spoke kindly[a] to him and gave him a seat of honor[b] higher than those of the other kings who were with him in Babylon. [29]So Jehoiachin put aside his prison clothes and for the rest of his life ate regularly at the king's table.[c] [30]Day by day the king gave Jehoiachin a regular allowance as long as he lived.[d]

25:28 [a]S 1Ki 8:50 [b]Ezr 5:5; 7:6,28; 9:9; Ne 2:1; Da 2:48
25:29 [c]S 2Sa 9:7
25:30 [d]Ge 43:34; Est 2:9; 9:22; Jer 28:4

1 Chronicles

Historical Records From Adam to Abraham

To Noah's Sons

1 Adam, Seth, Enosh, [2]Kenan,
Mahalalel, Jared, [3]Enoch, Methuselah, Lamech, Noah.

[4]The sons of Noah:[a]
Shem, Ham and Japheth.

The Japhethites

1:5-7pp — Ge 10:2-5

[5]The sons[b] of Japheth:
Gomer, Magog, Madai, Javan, Tubal, Meshech and Tiras.
[6]The sons of Gomer:
Ashkenaz, Riphath[c] and Togarmah.
[7]The sons of Javan:
Elishah, Tarshish, the Kittim and the Rodanim.

The Hamites

1:8-16pp — Ge 10:6-20

[8]The sons of Ham:
Cush, Mizraim,[d] Put and Canaan.
[9]The sons of Cush:
Seba, Havilah, Sabta, Raamah and Sabteca.
The sons of Raamah:
Sheba and Dedan.
[10]Cush was the father[e] of
Nimrod, who grew to be a mighty warrior on earth.
[11]Mizraim was the father of
the Ludites, Anamites, Lehabites, Naphtuhites, [12]Pathrusites, Casluhites (from whom the Philistines came) and Caphtorites.
[13]Canaan was the father of
Sidon his firstborn,[f] and of the Hittites, [14]Jebusites, Amorites, Girgashites, [15]Hivites, Arkites, Sinites, [16]Arvadites, Zemarites and Hamathites.

1:24
kS Ge 10:21-25; Lk 3:34-36

The Semites

1:17-23pp — Ge 10:21-31; 11:10-27

[17]The sons of Shem:
Elam, Asshur, Arphaxad, Lud and Aram.
The sons of Aram[g]:
Uz, Hul, Gether and Meshech.
[18]Arphaxad was the father of Shelah,
and Shelah the father of Eber.
[19]Two sons were born to Eber:
One was named Peleg,[h] because in his time the earth was divided; his brother was named Joktan.
[20]Joktan was the father of
Almodad, Sheleph, Hazarmaveth, Jerah, [21]Hadoram, Uzal, Diklah, [22]Obal,[i] Abimael, Sheba, [23]Ophir, Havilah and Jobab. All these were sons of Joktan.

[24]Shem,[k] Arphaxad,[j] Shelah,
[25]Eber, Peleg, Reu,
[26]Serug, Nahor, Terah
[27]and Abram (that is, Abraham).

The Family of Abraham

[28]The sons of Abraham:
Isaac and Ishmael.

Descendants of Hagar

1:29-31pp — Ge 25:12-16

[29]These were their descendants:
Nebaioth the firstborn of Ishmael, Kedar, Adbeel, Mibsam, [30]Mishma, Dumah, Massa,

a4 Septuagint; Hebrew does not have *The sons of Noah:* b5 *Sons* may mean *descendants* or *successors* or *nations;* also in verses 6-10, 17 and 20. c6 Many Hebrew manuscripts and Vulgate (see also Septuagint and Gen. 10:3); most Hebrew manuscripts *Diphath* d8 That is, Egypt; also in verse 11 e10 *Father* may mean *ancestor* or *predecessor* or *founder;* also in verses 11, 13, 18 and 20. f13 Or *of the Sidonians, the foremost* g17 One Hebrew manuscript and some Septuagint manuscripts (see also Gen. 10:23); most Hebrew manuscripts do not have this line. h19 *Peleg* means *division.* i22 Some Hebrew manuscripts and Syriac (see also Gen. 10:28); most Hebrew manuscripts *Ebal* j24 Hebrew; some Septuagint manuscripts *Arphaxad, Cainan* (see also note at Gen. 11:10)

Hadad, Tema, 31 Jetur, Naphish and Kedemah. These were the sons of Ishmael.

Descendants of Keturah

1:32-33pp — Ge 25:1-4

32 The sons born to Keturah, Abraham's concubine:[a]
Zimran, Jokshan, Medan, Midian, Ishbak and Shuah.
The sons of Jokshan:
Sheba and Dedan.[b]
33 The sons of Midian:
Ephah, Epher, Hanoch, Abida and Eldaah.
All these were descendants of Keturah.

Descendants of Sarah

1:35-37pp — Ge 36:10-14

34 Abraham[c] was the father of Isaac.[d]
The sons of Isaac:
Esau and Israel.[e]

Esau's Sons

35 The sons of Esau:[f]
Eliphaz, Reuel,[g] Jeush, Jalam and Korah.
36 The sons of Eliphaz:
Teman, Omar, Zepho,[k] Gatam and Kenaz;
by Timna: Amalek.[l] [h]
37 The sons of Reuel:
Nahath, Zerah, Shammah and Mizzah.

The People of Seir in Edom

1:38-42pp — Ge 36:20-28

38 The sons of Seir:
Lotan, Shobal, Zibeon, Anah, Dishon, Ezer and Dishan.
39 The sons of Lotan:
Hori and Homam. Timna was Lotan's sister.
40 The sons of Shobal:
Alvan,[m] Manahath, Ebal, Shepho and Onam.
The sons of Zibeon:
Aiah and Anah.[j]
41 The son of Anah:
Dishon.
The sons of Dishon:
Hemdan,[n] Eshban, Ithran and Keran.
42 The sons of Ezer:
Bilhan, Zaavan and Akan.[o]
The sons of Dishan[p]:
Uz and Aran.

1:32 a S Ge 22:24 b S Ge 10:7
1:34 c Lk 3:34 d Mt 1:2; Ac 7:8 e S Ge 17:5
1:35 f Ge 36:19 g S Ge 36:4
1:36 h S Ex 17:14
1:37 i Ge 36:17
1:40 j S Ge 36:2
1:45 k S Ge 36:11

The Rulers of Edom

1:43-54pp — Ge 36:31-43

43 These were the kings who reigned in Edom before any Israelite king reigned[q]:
Bela son of Beor, whose city was named Dinhabah.
44 When Bela died, Jobab son of Zerah from Bozrah succeeded him as king.
45 When Jobab died, Husham from the land of the Temanites[k] succeeded him as king.
46 When Husham died, Hadad son of Bedad, who defeated Midian in the country of Moab, succeeded him as king. His city was named Avith.
47 When Hadad died, Samlah from Masrekah succeeded him as king.
48 When Samlah died, Shaul from Rehoboth on the river[r] succeeded him as king.
49 When Shaul died, Baal-Hanan son of Acbor succeeded him as king.
50 When Baal-Hanan died, Hadad succeeded him as king. His city was named Pau,[s] and his wife's name was Mehetabel daughter of Matred, the daughter of Me-Zahab. 51 Hadad also died.

The chiefs of Edom were:
Timna, Alvah, Jetheth, 52 Oholibamah, Elah, Pinon, 53 Kenaz, Teman, Mibzar, 54 Magdiel and Iram. These were the chiefs of Edom.

Israel's Sons

2:1-2pp — Ge 35:23-26

2 These were the sons of Israel:
Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Issachar, Zebulun, 2 Dan, Joseph, Benjamin, Naphtali, Gad and Asher.

k36 Many Hebrew manuscripts, some Septuagint manuscripts and Syriac (see also Gen. 36:11); most Hebrew manuscripts *Zephi* l36 Some Septuagint manuscripts (see also Gen. 36:12); Hebrew *Gatam, Kenaz, Timna and Amalek* m40 Many Hebrew manuscripts and some Septuagint manuscripts (see also Gen. 36:23); most Hebrew manuscripts *Alian* n41 Many Hebrew manuscripts and some Septuagint manuscripts (see also Gen. 36:26); most Hebrew manuscripts *Hamran* o42 Many Hebrew and Septuagint manuscripts (see also Gen. 36:27); most Hebrew manuscripts *Zaavan, Jaakan* p42 Hebrew *Dishon*, a variant of *Dishan* q43 Or *before an Israelite king reigned over them* r48 Possibly the Euphrates s50 Many Hebrew manuscripts, some Septuagint manuscripts, Vulgate and Syriac (see also Gen. 36:39); most Hebrew manuscripts *Pai*

Judah

2:5-15pp — Ru 4:18-22; Mt 1:3-6

To Hezron's Sons

3The sons of Judah:[a]
Er, Onan and Shelah.[b] These
three were born to him by a Ca-
naanite woman, the daughter of
Shua.[c] Er, Judah's firstborn,
was wicked in the LORD's sight;
so the LORD put him to death.[d]
4Tamar,[e] Judah's daughter-in-
law,[f] bore him Perez[g] and
Zerah. Judah had five sons in
all.

5The sons of Perez:[h]
Hezron[i] and Hamul.
6The sons of Zerah:
Zimri, Ethan, Heman, Calcol
and Darda[t]—five in all.
7The son of Carmi:
Achar,[u] [j] who brought trouble
on Israel by violating the ban on
taking devoted things.[v] [k]
8The son of Ethan:
Azariah.
9The sons born to Hezron[l] were:
Jerahmeel, Ram and Caleb.[w]

From Ram Son of Hezron

10Ram[m] was the father of
Amminadab[n], and Amminadab
the father of Nahshon,[o] the
leader of the people of Judah.
11Nahshon was the father of Sal-
mon,[x] Salmon the father of
Boaz, 12Boaz[p] the father of Obed
and Obed the father of Jesse.[q]
13Jesse[r] was the father of
Eliab[s] his firstborn; the second
son was Abinadab, the third
Shimea, 14the fourth Nethanel,
the fifth Raddai, 15the sixth
Ozem and the seventh David.
16Their sisters were Zeruiah[t]
and Abigail. Zeruiah's[u] three
sons were Abishai, Joab[v] and
Asahel. 17Abigail was the
mother of Amasa,[w] whose fa-
ther was Jether the Ishmaelite.

Caleb Son of Hezron

18Caleb son of Hezron had children
by his wife Azubah (and by
Jerioth). These were her sons:
Jesher, Shobab and Ardon.
19When Azubah died, Caleb[x]
married Ephrath, who bore him
Hur. 20Hur was the father of Uri,
and Uri the father of Bezalel.[y]
21Later, Hezron lay with the daugh-
ter of Makir the father of Gil-
ead[z] (he had married her when
he was sixty years old), and she
bore him Segub. 22Segub was
the father of Jair, who controlled
twenty-three towns in Gilead.
23(But Geshur and Aram cap-
tured Havvoth Jair,[y] [a] as well as
Kenath[b] with its surrounding
settlements—sixty towns.) All
these were descendants of
Makir the father of Gilead.

24After Hezron died in Caleb Ephra-
thah, Abijah the wife of Hezron
bore him Ashhur[c] the father[z] of
Tekoa.

Jerahmeel Son of Hezron

25The sons of Jerahmeel the firstborn
of Hezron:
Ram his firstborn, Bunah, Oren,
Ozem and[a] Ahijah. 26Jerahmeel
had another wife, whose name
was Atarah; she was the mother
of Onam.
27The sons of Ram the firstborn of
Jerahmeel:
Maaz, Jamin and Eker.
28The sons of Onam:
Shammai and Jada.
The sons of Shammai:
Nadab and Abishur.
29Abishur's wife was named Abi-
hail, who bore him Ahban and
Molid.
30The sons of Nadab:
Seled and Appaim. Seled died
without children.
31The son of Appaim:
Ishi, who was the father of She-
shan.
Sheshan was the father of Ahlai.
32The sons of Jada, Shammai's
brother:
Jether and Jonathan. Jether died
without children.
33The sons of Jonathan:
Peleth and Zaza.
These were the descendants of
Jerahmeel.
34Sheshan had no sons—only
daughters.

2:3 [a]S Ge 29:35; 38:2-10 [b]S Ge 38:5 [c]S Ge 38:2 [d]S Nu 26:19 **2:4** [e]Ge 38:11-30 [f]S Ge 11:31 [g]S Ge 38:29 **2:5** [h]S Ge 46:12 [i]Nu 26:21 **2:7** [j]S Jos 7:1 [k]S Jos 6:18 **2:9** [l]S Nu 26:21 **2:10** [m]Lk 3:32-33 [n]S Ex 6:23 [o]S Nu 1:7 **2:12** [p]S Ru 2:1 [q]S Ru 4:17 **2:13** [r]S Ru 4:17 [s]S 1Sa 16:6 **2:16** [t]1Sa 26:6 [u]2Sa 2:18 [v]S 2Sa 2:13 **2:17** [w]2Sa 17:25 **2:19** [x]ver 42,50 **2:20** [y]S Ex 31:2 **2:21** [z]S Nu 27:1 **2:23** [a]S Nu 32:41; Dt 3:14 [b]Nu 32:42 **2:24** [c]1Ch 4:5

[t]6 Many Hebrew manuscripts, some Septuagint manuscripts and Syriac (see also 1 Kings 4:31); most Hebrew manuscripts *Dara* [u]7 *Achar* means *trouble*; *Achar* is called *Achan* in Joshua. [v]7 The Hebrew term refers to the irrevocable giving over of things or persons to the LORD, often by totally destroying them. [w]9 Hebrew *Kelubai*, a variant of *Caleb* [x]11 Septuagint (see also Ruth 4:21); Hebrew *Salma* [y]23 Or *captured the settlements of Jair* [z]24 *Father* may mean *civic leader* or *military leader*; also in verses 42, 45, 49-52 and possibly elsewhere. [a]25 Or *Oren and Ozem, by*

He had an Egyptian servant named Jarha. 35Sheshan gave his daughter in marriage to his servant Jarha, and she bore him Attai.

36Attai was the father of Nathan,
Nathan the father of Zabad,[a]
37Zabad the father of Ephlal,
Ephlal the father of Obed,
38Obed the father of Jehu,
Jehu the father of Azariah,
39Azariah the father of Helez,
Helez the father of Eleasah,
40Eleasah the father of Sismai,
Sismai the father of Shallum,
41Shallum the father of Jekamiah,
and Jekamiah the father of Elishama.

The Clans of Caleb

42The sons of Caleb[b] the brother of Jerahmeel:
Mesha his firstborn, who was the father of Ziph, and his son Mareshah,[b] who was the father of Hebron.
43The sons of Hebron:
Korah, Tappuah, Rekem and Shema. 44Shema was the father of Raham, and Raham the father of Jorkeam. Rekem was the father of Shammai. 45The son of Shammai was Maon,[c] and Maon was the father of Beth Zur.[d]
46Caleb's concubine Ephah was the mother of Haran, Moza and Gazez. Haran was the father of Gazez.
47The sons of Jahdai:
Regem, Jotham, Geshan, Pelet, Ephah and Shaaph.
48Caleb's concubine Maacah was the mother of Sheber and Tirhanah.
49She also gave birth to Shaaph the father of Madmannah[e] and to Sheva the father of Macbenah and Gibea. Caleb's daughter was Acsah.[f] 50These were the descendants of Caleb.

The sons of Hur[g] the firstborn of Ephrathah:
Shobal the father of Kiriath Jearim,[h] 51Salma the father of Bethlehem, and Hareph the father of Beth Gader.
52The descendants of Shobal the father of Kiriath Jearim were:
Haroeh, half the Manahathites,
53and the clans of Kiriath Jearim:
the Ithrites,[i] Puthites, Shumathites and Mishraites. From these descended the Zorathites and Eshtaolites.
54The descendants of Salma:
Bethlehem, the Netophathites,[j] Atroth Beth Joab, half the Manahathites, the Zorites, 55and the clans of scribes[c] who lived at Jabez: the Tirathites, Shimeathites and Sucathites. These are the Kenites[k] who came from Hammath,[l] the father of the house of Recab.[d m]

The Sons of David

3:1-4pp — 2Sa 3:2-5
3:5-8pp — 2Sa 5:14-16; 1Ch 14:4-7

3 These were the sons of David[n] born to him in Hebron:
The firstborn was Amnon the son of Ahinoam[o] of Jezreel;[p]
the second, Daniel the son of Abigail[q] of Carmel;
2the third, Absalom the son of Maacah daughter of Talmai king of Geshur;
the fourth, Adonijah[r] the son of Haggith;
3the fifth, Shephatiah the son of Abital;
and the sixth, Ithream, by his wife Eglah.
4These six were born to David in Hebron,[s] where he reigned seven years and six months.[t]
David reigned in Jerusalem thirty-three years, 5and these were the children born to him there:
Shammua,[e] Shobab, Nathan and Solomon. These four were by Bathsheba[f u] daughter of Ammiel. 6There were also Ibhar, Elishua,[g] Eliphelet, 7Nogah, Nepheg, Japhia, 8Elishama, Eliada and Eliphelet—nine in all.
9All these were the sons of David, besides his sons by his concubines. And Tamar[v] was their sister.[w]

The Kings of Judah

10Solomon's son was Rehoboam,[x]
Abijah[y] his son,
Asa[z] his son,
Jehoshaphat[a] his son,

2:36 [a]1Ch 11:41 **2:42** [b]S ver 19 **2:45** [c]S Jos 15:55 [d]S Jos 15:58 **2:49** [e]Jos 15:31 [f]Jos 15:16 **2:50** [g]1Ch 4:4 [h]S ver 19 **2:53** [i]2Sa 23:38 **2:54** [j]Ezr 2:22; Ne 7:26; 12:28 **2:55** [k]S Ge 15:19; S Jdg 4:11 [l]Jos 19:35 [m]2Ki 10:15,23; Jer 35:2-19 **3:1** [n]1Ch 14:3; 28:5 [o]S 1Sa 25:43 [p]S Jos 15:56 [q]S 1Sa 25:42 **3:2** [r]1Ki 2:22 **3:4** [s]S 2Sa 5:4; 1Ch 29:27 [t]S 2Sa 5:5 **3:5** [u]2Sa 11:3 **3:9** [v]S 2Sa 13:1 [w]1Ch 14:4 **3:10** [x]1Ki 14:21-31; 2Ch 12:16 [y]1Ki 15:1-8; 2Ch 13:1 [z]1Ki 15:9-24 [a]2Ch 17:1-21:3

[b]42 The meaning of the Hebrew for this phrase is uncertain. [c]55 Or *of the Sopherites* [d]55 Or *father of Beth Recab* [e]5 Hebrew *Shimea,* a variant of *Shammua* [f]5 One Hebrew manuscript and Vulgate (see also Septuagint and 2 Samuel 11:3); most Hebrew manuscripts *Bathshua* [g]6 Two Hebrew manuscripts (see also 2 Samuel 5:15 and 1 Chron. 14:5); most Hebrew manuscripts *Elishama*

11 Jehoram[h][a] his son,
Ahaziah[b] his son,
Joash[c] his son,
12 Amaziah[d] his son,
Azariah[e] his son,
Jotham[f] his son,
13 Ahaz[g] his son,
Hezekiah[h] his son,
Manasseh[i] his son,
14 Amon[j] his son,
Josiah[k] his son.
15 The sons of Josiah:
Johanan the firstborn,
Jehoiakim[l] the second son,
Zedekiah[m] the third,
Shallum[n] the fourth.
16 The successors of Jehoiakim:
Jehoiachin[i][o] his son,
and Zedekiah.[p]

The Royal Line After the Exile

17 The descendants of Jehoiachin the captive:
Shealtiel[q] his son, 18 Malkiram,
Pedaiah, Shenazzar,[r] Jekamiah,
Hoshama and Nedabiah.[s]
19 The sons of Pedaiah:
Zerubbabel[t] and Shimei.
The sons of Zerubbabel:
Meshullam and Hananiah.
Shelomith was their sister.
20 There were also five others:
Hashubah, Ohel, Berekiah,
Hasadiah and Jushab-Hesed.
21 The descendants of Hananiah:
Pelatiah and Jeshaiah, and the sons of Rephaiah, of Arnan, of Obadiah and of Shecaniah.
22 The descendants of Shecaniah:
Shemaiah and his sons:
Hattush,[u] Igal, Bariah, Neariah and Shaphat—six in all.
23 The sons of Neariah:
Elioenai, Hizkiah and Azrikam—three in all.
24 The sons of Elioenai:
Hodaviah, Eliashib, Pelaiah, Akkub, Johanan, Delaiah and Anani—seven in all.

Other Clans of Judah

4 The descendants of Judah:[v]
Perez, Hezron,[w] Carmi, Hur and Shobal.
2 Reaiah son of Shobal was the father of Jahath, and Jahath the father of Ahumai and Lahad. These were the clans of the Zorathites.
3 These were the sons[j] of Etam:
Jezreel, Ishma and Idbash. Their sister was named Hazzelelponi.
4 Penuel was the father of Gedor, and Ezer the father of Hushah.
These were the descendants of Hur,[x] the firstborn of Ephrathah and father[k] of Bethlehem.[y]
5 Ashhur[z] the father of Tekoa had two wives, Helah and Naarah.
6 Naarah bore him Ahuzzam, Hepher, Temeni and Haahashtari.
These were the descendants of Naarah.
7 The sons of Helah:
Zereth, Zohar, Ethnan, 8 and Koz, who was the father of Anub and Hazzobebah and of the clans of Aharhel son of Harum.

9 Jabez was more honorable than his
brothers. His mother had named him
Jabez,[l] saying, "I gave birth to him in
pain." 10 Jabez cried out to the God of
Israel, "Oh, that you would bless me and enlarge my territory! Let your hand be with me, and keep me from harm so that I will be free from pain." And God granted his request.

11 Kelub, Shuhah's brother, was the father of Mehir, who was the father of Eshton. 12 Eshton was the father of Beth Rapha, Paseah and Tehinnah the father of Ir Nahash.[m] These were the men of Recah.
13 The sons of Kenaz:
Othniel[a] and Seraiah.
The sons of Othniel:
Hathath and Meonothai.[n]
14 Meonothai was the father of Ophrah.
Seraiah was the father of Joab, the father of Ge Harashim.[o] It was called this because its people were craftsmen.
15 The sons of Caleb son of Jephunneh:
Iru, Elah and Naam.
The son of Elah:
Kenaz.
16 The sons of Jehallelel:
Ziph, Ziphah, Tiria and Asarel.
17 The sons of Ezrah:
Jether, Mered, Epher and Jalon.

3:11 [a]2Ki 8:16-24; 2Ch 21:1 [b]2Ki 8:25-10:14; 2Ch 22:1-10 [c]2Ki 11:1-12:21; 2Ch 22:11-24:27 **3:12** [d]2Ki 14:1-22; 2Ch 25:1-28 [e]2Ki 15:1-7; 2Ch 26:1-23 [f]2Ki 15:32-38; 2Ch 27:1; Isa 1:1; Hos 1:1; Mic 1:1 **3:13** [g]2Ki 16:1-20; 2Ch 28:1; Isa 7:1 [h]2Ki 18:1-20:21; 2Ch 29:1; Isa 1:1; Jer 26:19; Hos 1:1; Mic 1:1 [i]2Ki 21:1-18; 2Ch 33:1 **3:14** [j]2Ki 21:19-26; 2Ch 33:21; Zep 1:1 [k]2Ki 22:1; 2Ch 34:1; Jer 1:2; 3:6; 25:3 **3:15** [l]S 2Ki 23:34 [m]Jer 37:1 [n]S 2Ki 23:31 **3:16** [o]S 2Ki 24:6,8 [p]S 2Ki 24:18 **3:17** [q]Ezr 3:2 **3:18** [r]Ezr 1:8; 5:14 [s]Jer 22:30 **3:19** [t]Ezr 2:2; 3:2; 5:2; Ne 7:7; 12:1; Hag 1:1; 2:2; Zec 4:6 **3:22** [u]Ezr 8:2-3 **4:1** [v]S Ge 29:35; S 1Ch 2:3 [w]Nu 26:21 **4:4** [x]1Ch 2:50 [y]Ru 1:19 **4:5** [z]1Ch 2:24 **4:13** [a]S Jos 15:17

[h]11 Hebrew *Joram,* a variant of *Jehoram*
[i]16 Hebrew *Jeconiah,* a variant of *Jehoiachin;* also in verse 17
[j]3 Some Septuagint manuscripts (see also Vulgate); Hebrew *father*
[k]4 *Father* may mean *civic leader* or *military leader;* also in verses 12, 14, 17, 18 and possibly elsewhere.
[l]9 *Jabez* sounds like the Hebrew for *pain.*
[m]12 Or *of the city of Nahash*
[n]13 Some Septuagint manuscripts and Vulgate; Hebrew does not have *and Meonothai.*
[o]14 *Ge Harashim* means *valley of craftsmen.*

One of Mered's wives gave birth
to Miriam,[x] Shammai and Ish-
bah the father of Eshtemoa.
[18](His Judean wife gave birth to
Jered the father of Gedor, Heber
the father of Soco, and Jekuthiel
the father of Zanoah.[y]) These
were the children of Pharaoh's
daughter Bithiah, whom Mered
had married.

[19]The sons of Hodiah's wife, the sis-
ter of Naham:
the father of Keilah[z] the Gar-
mite, and Eshtemoa the Maaca-
thite.[a]

[20]The sons of Shimon:
Amnon, Rinnah, Ben-Hanan
and Tilon.
The descendants of Ishi:
Zoheth and Ben-Zoheth.

[21]The sons of Shelah[b] son of Judah:
Er the father of Lecah, Laadah
the father of Mareshah and the
clans of the linen workers at
Beth Ashbea, [22]Jokim, the men
of Cozeba, and Joash and Sar-
aph, who ruled in Moab and Ja-
shubi Lehem. (These records are
from ancient times.) [23]They
were the potters who lived at
Netaim and Gederah; they
stayed there and worked for the
king.

Simeon

4:28-33pp — Jos 19:2-10

[24]The descendants of Simeon:[c]
Nemuel, Jamin, Jarib,[d] Zerah
and Shaul;
[25]Shallum was Shaul's son, Mib-
sam his son and Mishma his
son.
[26]The descendants of Mishma:
Hammuel his son, Zaccur his
son and Shimei his son.

[27]Shimei had sixteen sons and six
daughters, but his brothers did not
have many children; so their entire clan
did not become as numerous as the
people of Judah. [28]They lived in Beer-
sheba,[e] Moladah,[f] Hazar Shual, [29]Bil-
hah, Ezem,[g] Tolad, [30]Bethuel, Hor-
mah,[h] Ziklag,[i] [31]Beth Marcaboth, Ha-
zar Susim, Beth Biri and Shaaraim.[j]
These were their towns until the reign
of David. [32]Their surrounding villages
were Etam, Ain,[k] Rimmon, Token and
Ashan[l]—five towns— [33]and all the vil-
lages around these towns as far as
Baalath.[a] These were their settlements.
And they kept a genealogical rec-
ord.

4:17 [x]S Ex 15:20
4:18 [y]S Jos 15:34
4:19 [z]S Jos 15:44 [a]S Dt 3:14
4:21 [b]S Ge 38:5
4:24 [c]S Ge 29:33 [d]Nu 26:12
4:28 [e]S Ge 21:14 [f]S Jos 15:26
4:29 [g]S Jos 15:29
4:30 [h]S Nu 14:45 [i]S Jos 15:31
4:31 [j]S Jos 15:36
4:32 [k]S Nu 34:11 [l]S Jos 15:42
4:39 [m]S Jos 15:58
4:40 [n]Jdg 18:7-10
4:41 [o]2Ch 20:1; 26:7
4:42 [p]S Ge 14:6
4:43 [q]S Ge 14:7; Est 3:1; 9:16
5:1 [r]S Ge 29:32 [s]Ge 35:22; 49:4 [t]S Ge 48:16; S 49:26 [u]Ge 48:5 [v]1Ch 26:10
5:2 [w]S Ge 49:10; 12 [x]S 1Sa 9:16; S 12:12; S 2Sa 6:21; 1Ch 11:2; S 2Ch 7:18; Mt 2:6 [y]S Ge 25:31
5:3 [z]S Ge 29:32; 46:9; Ex 6:14; Nu 26:5-11 [a]S Nu 26:5 [b]S Nu 26:6
5:6 [c]ver 26; S 2Ki 15:19; 16:10; 2Ch 28:20

[34]Meshobab, Jamlech, Joshah son
of Amaziah, [35]Joel, Jehu son of
Joshibiah, the son of Seraiah, the
son of Asiel, [36]also Elioenai, Jaako-
bah, Jeshohaiah, Asaiah, Adiel,
Jesimiel, Benaiah, [37]and Ziza son of
Shiphi, the son of Allon, the son of
Jedaiah, the son of Shimri, the son
of Shemaiah.

[38]The men listed above by name were
leaders of their clans. Their families in-
creased greatly, [39]and they went to the
outskirts of Gedor[m] to the east of the
valley in search of pasture for their
flocks. [40]They found rich, good pas-
ture, and the land was spacious, peace-
ful and quiet.[n] Some Hamites had
lived there formerly.

[41]The men whose names were listed
came in the days of Hezekiah king of
Judah. They attacked the Hamites in
their dwellings and also the Meunites[o]
who were there and completely de-
stroyed[b] them, as is evident to this
day. Then they settled in their place,
because there was pasture for their
flocks. [42]And five hundred of these
Simeonites, led by Pelatiah, Neariah,
Rephaiah and Uzziel, the sons of Ishi,
invaded the hill country of Seir.[p]
[43]They killed the remaining Amalek-
ites[q] who had escaped, and they have
lived there to this day.

Reuben

5 The sons of Reuben[r] the firstborn
of Israel (he was the firstborn, but
when he defiled his father's marriage
bed,[s] his rights as firstborn were given
to the sons of Joseph[t] son of Israel;[u] so
he could not be listed in the genealogi-
cal record in accordance with his birth-
right,[v] [2]and though Judah[w] was the
strongest of his brothers and a ruler[x]
came from him, the rights of the first-
born[y] belonged to Joseph)— [3]the sons
of Reuben[z] the firstborn of Israel:
Hanoch, Pallu,[a] Hezron[b] and Car-
mi.
[4]The descendants of Joel:
Shemaiah his son, Gog his son,
Shimei his son, [5]Micah his son,
Reaiah his son, Baal his son,
[6]and Beerah his son, whom Ti-
glath-Pileser[c][c] king of Assyria

a33 Some Septuagint manuscripts (see also Joshua 19:8); Hebrew *Baal* b41 The Hebrew term refers to the irrevocable giving over of things or persons to the LORD, often by totally destroying them. c6 Hebrew *Tilgath-Pilneser*, a variant of *Tiglath-Pileser*; also in verse 26

took into exile. Beerah was a leader of the Reubenites.
7Their relatives by clans,[c] listed according to their genealogical records:
Jeiel the chief, Zechariah, 8and
Bela son of Azaz, the son of Shema, the son of Joel. They settled in the area from Aroer[d] to Nebo[e] and Baal Meon.[f] 9To the
east they occupied the land up to the edge of the desert that extends to the Euphrates[g] River, because their livestock had increased in Gilead.
10During Saul's reign they waged war against the Hagrites[h], who were defeated at their hands; they occupied the dwellings of the Hagrites throughout the entire region east of Gilead.

Gad

11The Gadites[i] lived next to them in Bashan, as far as Salecah:[j]
12Joel was the chief, Shapham the second, then Janai and Shaphat, in Bashan.
13Their relatives, by families, were: Michael, Meshullam, Sheba, Jorai, Jacan, Zia and Eber—seven in all.
14These were the sons of Abihail son of Huri, the son of Jaroah, the son of Gilead, the son of Michael, the son of Jeshishai, the son of Jahdo, the son of Buz.
15Ahi son of Abdiel, the son of Guni, was head of their family.
16The Gadites lived in Gilead, in Bashan and its outlying villages, and on all the pasturelands of Sharon as far as they extended.
17All these were entered in the genealogical records during the reigns of Jotham[k] king of Judah and Jeroboam[l] king of Israel.

18The Reubenites, the Gadites and the half-tribe of Manasseh had 44,760 men ready for military service—able-bodied men who could handle shield and sword, who could use a bow, and who were trained for
battle. 19They waged war against the Hagrites, Jetur,[m] Naphish and Nodab.
20They were helped[n] in fighting them, and God handed the Hagrites and all their allies over to them, because they cried[o] out to him during the battle. He answered their prayers, because they
trusted[p] in him. 21They seized the livestock of the Hagrites—fifty thousand camels, two hundred fifty thousand sheep and two thousand donkeys. They also took one hundred thousand people captive,
22and many others fell slain, because the battle[q] was God's. And they occupied the land until the exile.[r]

The Half-Tribe of Manasseh

23The people of the half-tribe of Manasseh[s] were numerous; they settled in the land from Bashan to Baal Hermon, that is, to Senir (Mount Hermon).[t]
24These were the heads of their families: Epher, Ishi, Eliel, Azriel, Jeremiah, Hodaviah and Jahdiel. They were brave warriors, famous men, and
heads of their families. 25But they were unfaithful[u] to the God of their fathers and prostituted[v] themselves to the gods of the peoples of the land, whom
God had destroyed before them. 26So
the God of Israel stirred up the spirit[w] of Pul[x] king of Assyria (that is, Tiglath-Pileser[y] king of Assyria), who took the Reubenites, the Gadites and the half-tribe of Manasseh into exile. He took them to Halah,[z] Habor, Hara and the river of Gozan, where they are to this day.

Levi

6 The sons of Levi:[a]
Gershon, Kohath and Merari.
2The sons of Kohath:
Amram, Izhar, Hebron and Uzziel.[b]
3The children of Amram:
Aaron, Moses and Miriam.[c]
The sons of Aaron:
Nadab, Abihu,[d] Eleazar[e] and Ithamar.[f]
4Eleazar was the father of Phinehas,[g]
Phinehas the father of Abishua,
5Abishua the father of Bukki,
Bukki the father of Uzzi,
6Uzzi the father of Zerahiah,
Zerahiah the father of Meraioth,
7Meraioth the father of Amariah,
Amariah the father of Ahitub,
8Ahitub the father of Zadok,[h]
Zadok the father of Ahimaaz,
9Ahimaaz the father of Azariah,
Azariah the father of Johanan,
10Johanan the father of Azariah[i]
(it was he who served as priest in the temple Solomon built in Jerusalem),
11Azariah the father of Amariah,

5:7 cS Jos 13:15-23 5:8 dS Nu 32:34; Jdg 11:26 eS Nu 32:3 fS Jos 13:17 5:9 gS Ge 2:14 S Nu 32:26 5:10 hver 22 1Ch 27:31 5:11 iS Ge 30:11 jS Nu 1:25; S Jos 13:24-28 S Dt 3:10 5:17 kS 2Ki 15:32 lS 2Ki 14:23 5:18 S Nu 1:3 5:19 mGe 25:15 5:20 nPs 37:40; 46:5; 54:4 oS 1Ch 4:44; 2Ch 6:34; 13:14; 14:11; Ps 20:7-8; 22:5; 107:6 pPs 26:1; Isa 26:3; Da 6:23
5:22 qS Dt 20:4; 2Ch 32:8 rS ver 10; S 2Ki 15:29 5:23 s1Ch 7:14 tS Dt 3:8,9; SS 4:8 5:25 uDt 32:15-18; 1Ch 9:1; 10:13; 2Ch 12:2; 26:16; 28:19; 29:6; 30:7; 36:14 vS Ex 34:15; S Lev 18:3 5:26 wIsa 37:7 xS 2Ki 15:19 yS ver 6; S 2Ki 15:29 z2Ki 17:6 6:1 aS Ge 29:34; S Nu 3:17 6:2 bS Ex 6:18 6:3 cS Ex 15:20 dS Lev 10:1; S 10:1-20:2 eLev 10:6 fS Ex 6:23 6:4 gEzr 7:5 6:8 hS 2Sa 8:17; S 1Ch 12:28; S Ezr 7:2 6:10 iS 1Ki 4:2

Amariah the father of Ahitub,
12Ahitub the father of Zadok,
Zadok the father of Shallum,
13Shallum the father of Hilkiah,[a]
Hilkiah the father of Azariah,
14Azariah the father of Seraiah,[b]
and Seraiah the father of Jehozadak.
15Jehozadak[c] was deported when the LORD sent Judah and Jerusalem into exile by the hand of Nebuchadnezzar.

16The sons of Levi:[d]
Gershon,[a] Kohath and Merari.[e]
17These are the names of the sons of Gershon:
Libni and Shimei.[f]
18The sons of Kohath:
Amram, Izhar, Hebron and Uzziel.[g]
19The sons of Merari:[h]
Mahli and Mushi.[i]
These are the clans of the Levites listed according to their fathers:
20Of Gershon:
Libni his son, Jehath his son,
Zimmah his son, 21Joah his son,
Iddo his son, Zerah his son
and Jeatherai his son.
22The descendants of Kohath:
Amminadab his son, Korah[j] his son,
Assir his son, 23Elkanah his son,
Ebiasaph his son, Assir his son,
24Tahath his son, Uriel[k] his son,
Uzziah his son and Shaul his son.
25The descendants of Elkanah:
Amasai, Ahimoth,
26Elkanah his son,[b] Zophai his son,
Nahath his son, 27Eliab his son,
Jeroham his son, Elkanah[l] his son
and Samuel[m] his son.[c]
28The sons of Samuel:
Joel[d][n] the firstborn
and Abijah the second son.
29The descendants of Merari:
Mahli, Libni his son,
Shimei his son, Uzzah his son,
30Shimea his son, Haggiah his son
and Asaiah his son.

The Temple Musicians

6:54-80pp — Jos 21:4-39

31These are the men[o] David put in charge of the music[p] in the house of the LORD after the ark came to rest there. 32They ministered with music before the tabernacle, the Tent of Meeting, until Solomon built the temple of the LORD in Jerusalem. They performed their duties according to the regulations laid down for them.
33Here are the men who served, together with their sons:
From the Kohathites:
Heman,[q] the musician,
the son of Joel,[r] the son of Samuel,
34the son of Elkanah,[s] the son of Jeroham,
the son of Eliel, the son of Toah,
35the son of Zuph, the son of Elkanah,
the son of Mahath, the son of Amasai,
36the son of Elkanah, the son of Joel,
the son of Azariah, the son of Zephaniah,
37the son of Tahath, the son of Assir,
the son of Ebiasaph, the son of Korah,[t]
38the son of Izhar,[u] the son of Kohath,
the son of Levi, the son of Israel;
39and Heman's associate Asaph,[v] who served at his right hand:
Asaph son of Berekiah, the son of Shimea,[w]
40the son of Michael, the son of Baaseiah,[e]
the son of Malkijah, 41the son of Ethni,
the son of Zerah, the son of Adaiah,
42the son of Ethan, the son of Zimmah,
the son of Shimei, 43the son of Jahath,
the son of Gershon, the son of Levi;
44and from their associates, the Merarites,[x] at his left hand:
Ethan son of Kishi, the son of Abdi,
the son of Malluch, 45the son of Hashabiah,
the son of Amaziah, the son of Hilkiah,

6:13 [a]2Ki 22:1-20; 2Ch 34:9; 35:8 **6:14** [b]S 2Ki 25:18; S Ezr 2:2 **6:15** [c]Ne 12:1; Hag 1:1,14; 2:2,4; Zec 6:11 **6:16** [d]S Ge 29:34; S Nu 3:17-20 [e]S Nu 26:57 **6:17** [f]S Ex 6:17 **6:18** [g]S Ex 6:18 **6:19** [h]S Ge 46:11; 1Ch 23:21; 24:26 [i]S Ex 6:19 **6:22** [j]S Ex 6:24 **6:24** [k]1Ch 15:5 **6:27** [l]S 1Sa 1:1 [m]S 1Sa 1:20 **6:28** [n]ver 33; 1Sa 8:2 **6:31** [o]1Ch 25:1; 2Ch 29:25-26; Ne 12:45 [p]1Ch 9:33; 15:19; Ezr 3:10; Ps 68:25 **6:33** [q]1Ki 4:31; 1Ch 15:17; 25:1 [r]S ver 28 **6:34** [s]S 1Sa 1:1 **6:37** [t]S Ex 6:24 **6:38** [u]Ex 6:21 **6:39** [v]1Ch 25:1,9; 2Ch 29:13; Ne 11:17 [w]1Ch 15:17 **6:44** [x]1Ch 15:17

[a]16 Hebrew *Gershom*, a variant of *Gershon*, also in verses 17, 20, 43, 62 and 71 [b]26 Some Hebrew manuscripts, Septuagint and Syriac; most Hebrew manuscripts *Ahimoth* [26]*and Elkanah. The sons of Elkanah:* [c]27 Some Septuagint manuscripts (see also 1 Samuel 1:19,20 and 1 Chron. 6:33,34); Hebrew does not have *and Samuel his son.* [d]28 Some Septuagint manuscripts and Syriac (see also 1 Samuel 8:2 and 1 Chron. 6:33); Hebrew does not have *Joel.* [e]40 Most Hebrew manuscripts; some Hebrew manuscripts, one Septuagint manuscript and Syriac *Maaseiah*

46the son of Amzi, the son of
Bani,
the son of Shemer, 47the son of
Mahli,
the son of Mushi, the son of Me-
rari,
the son of Levi.

48Their fellow Levites[e] were as-
signed to all the other duties of the tab-
ernacle, the house of God. 49But Aaron
and his descendants were the ones
who presented offerings on the altar[f]
of burnt offering and on the altar of in-
cense[g] in connection with all that was
done in the Most Holy Place, making
atonement for Israel, in accordance
with all that Moses the servant of God
had commanded.

50These were the descendants of
Aaron:
Eleazar his son, Phinehas his
son,
Abishua his son, 51Bukki his
son,
Uzzi his son, Zerahiah his son,
52Meraioth his son, Amariah his
son,
Ahitub his son, 53Zadok[h] his
son
and Ahimaaz his son.

54These were the locations of their
settlements[i] allotted as their territory
(they were assigned to the descendants
of Aaron who were from the Kohathite
clan, because the first lot was for
them):
55They were given Hebron in
Judah with its surrounding pas-
turelands. 56But the fields and vil-
lages around the city were given to
Caleb son of Jephunneh.[j]
57So the descendants of Aaron
were given Hebron (a city of ref-
uge), and Libnah,[a][k] Jattir,[l] Esh-
temoa, 58Hilen, Debir,[m] 59Ashan,[n]
Juttah[b] and Beth Shemesh, to-
gether with their pasturelands.
60And from the tribe of Benjamin
they were given Gibeon,[c] Geba,
Alemeth and Anathoth,[o] together
with their pasturelands.
These towns, which were distrib-
uted among the Kohathite clans,
were thirteen in all.
61The rest of Kohath's descendants
were allotted ten towns from the clans
of half the tribe of Manasseh.
62The descendants of Gershon, clan
by clan, were allotted thirteen towns
from the tribes of Issachar, Asher and
Naphtali, and from the part of the tribe
of Manasseh that is in Bashan.
63The descendants of Merari, clan by
clan, were allotted twelve towns from
the tribes of Reuben, Gad and Zebu-
lun.
64So the Israelites gave the Levites
these towns[l] and their pasturelands.
65From the tribes of Judah, Simeon and
Benjamin they allotted the previously
named towns.
66Some of the Kohathite clans were
given as their territory towns from the
tribe of Ephraim.
67In the hill country of Ephraim
they were given Shechem (a city of
refuge), and Gezer,[d][m] 68Jok-
meam,[n] Beth Horon,[o] 69Aijalon[p]
and Gath Rimmon,[q] together with
their pasturelands.
70And from half the tribe of Ma-
nasseh the Israelites gave Aner and
Bileam, together with their pas-
turelands, to the rest of the Ko-
hathite clans.

71The Gershonites[r] received the fol-
lowing:
From the clan of the half-tribe of
Manasseh
they received Golan in Bashan[s]
and also Ashtaroth, together
with their pasturelands;
72from the tribe of Issachar
they received Kedesh, Dab-
erath,[t] 73Ramoth and Anem, to-
gether with their pasturelands;
74from the tribe of Asher
they received Mashal, Abdon,[u]
75Hukok[v] and Rehob,[w] together
with their pasturelands;
76and from the tribe of Naphtali
they received Kedesh in Galilee,
Hammon[x] and Kiriathaim,[y] to-
gether with their pasturelands.

77The Merarites (the rest of the Le-
vites) received the following:
From the tribe of Zebulun
they received Jokneam, Kar-
tah,[e] Rimmono and Tabor, to-
gether with their pasturelands;
78from the tribe of Reuben across the
Jordan east of Jericho
they received Bezer[z] in the
desert, Jahzah, 79Kedemoth[a]

6:48 e1Ch 23:32
6:49 fEx 27:1-8 gS Ex 30:7; 2Ch 26:18
6:53 hS 2Sa 8:17
6:54 iS Nu 31:10
6:56 jS Jos 14:13; S 15:13
6:57 kS Nu 33:20 lS Jos 15:48
6:58 mS Jos 10:3
6:59 nS Jos 15:42
6:60 oJer 1:1
6:64 lNu 35:1-8
6:67 mS Jos 10:33
6:68 n1Ki 4:12 oS Jos 10:10
6:69 pS Jos 10:12 qS Jos 19:45
6:71 r1Ch 23:7 sS Jos 20:8
6:72 tS Jos 19:12
6:74 uS Jos 19:26
6:75 vJos 19:34 wS Nu 13:21
6:76 xJos 19:28 yS Nu 32:37
6:78 zS Jos 20:8
6:79 aS Dt 2:26

a57 See Joshua 21:13; Hebrew *given the cities of refuge: Hebron, Libnah.* b59 Syriac (see also Septuagint and Joshua 21:16); Hebrew does not have *Juttah.* c60 See Joshua 21:17; Hebrew does not have *Gibeon.* d67 See Joshua 21:21; Hebrew *given the cities of refuge: Shechem, Gezer.* e77 See Septuagint and Joshua 21:34; Hebrew does not have *Jokneam, Kartah.*

and Mephaath, together with their pasturelands;
80and from the tribe of Gad
they received Ramoth in Gilead,[a] Mahanaim,[b] 81Heshbon and Jazer,[c] together with their pasturelands.[d]

Issachar

7 The sons of Issachar:[e]
Tola, Puah,[f] Jashub and Shimron—four in all.
2The sons of Tola:
Uzzi, Rephaiah, Jeriel, Jahmai, Ibsam and Samuel—heads of their families. During the reign of David, the descendants of Tola listed as fighting men in their genealogy numbered 22,600.
3The son of Uzzi:
Izrahiah.
The sons of Izrahiah:
Michael, Obadiah, Joel and Isshiah. All five of them were chiefs.
4According to their family genealogy, they had 36,000 men ready for battle, for they had many wives and children.
5The relatives who were fighting men belonging to all the clans of Issachar, as listed in their genealogy, were 87,000 in all.

Benjamin

6Three sons of Benjamin:[g]
Bela, Beker and Jediael.
7The sons of Bela:
Ezbon, Uzzi, Uzziel, Jerimoth and Iri, heads of families—five in all. Their genealogical record listed 22,034 fighting men.
8The sons of Beker:
Zemirah, Joash, Eliezer, Elioenai, Omri, Jeremoth, Abijah, Anathoth and Alemeth. All these were the sons of Beker.
9Their genealogical record listed the heads of families and 20,200 fighting men.
10The son of Jediael:
Bilhan.
The sons of Bilhan:
Jeush, Benjamin, Ehud, Kenaanah, Zethan, Tarshish and Ahishahar.
11All these sons of Jediael were heads of families. There were 17,200 fighting men ready to go out to war.
12The Shuppites and Huppites were the descendants of Ir, and the Hushites the descendants of Aher.

Naphtali

13The sons of Naphtali:[h]
Jahziel, Guni, Jezer and Shillem[c]—the descendants of Bilhah.

Manasseh

14The descendants of Manasseh:[i]
Asriel was his descendant through his Aramean concubine. She gave birth to Makir the father of Gilead.[j]
15Makir took a wife from among the Huppites and Shuppites. His sister's name was Maacah.
Another descendant was named Zelophehad,[k] who had only daughters.
16Makir's wife Maacah gave birth to a son and named him Peresh. His brother was named Sheresh, and his sons were Ulam and Rakem.
17The son of Ulam:
Bedan.
These were the sons of Gilead[l] son of Makir, the son of Manasseh.
18His sister Hammoleketh gave birth to Ishhod, Abiezer[m] and Mahlah.
19The sons of Shemida[n] were:
Ahian, Shechem, Likhi and Aniam.

Ephraim

20The descendants of Ephraim:[o]
Shuthelah, Bered his son,
Tahath his son, Eleadah his son,
Tahath his son,
21Zabad his son and Shuthelah his son.
Ezer and Elead were killed by the native-born men of Gath, when they went down to seize their livestock.
22Their father Ephraim mourned for them many days, and his relatives came to comfort him.
23Then he lay with his wife again, and she became pregnant and gave birth to a son. He named him Beriah,[d] because there had been misfortune in his family.
24His daughter was Sheerah, who built Lower and Upper Beth Horon[p] as well as Uzzen Sheerah.

6:80 [a]Jos 20:8 [b]S Ge 32:2
6:81 [c]S Nu 21:32 [d]2Ch 11:14
7:1 [e]S Ge 30:18 [f]S Ge 46:13
7:6 [g]S Nu 26:38
7:13 [h]S Ge 30:8
7:14 [i]S Ge 41:51; S Jos 17:1; 1Ch 5:23 [j]S Nu 26:30
7:15 [k]S Nu 26:33; 36:1-12
7:17 [l]S Nu 26:30
7:18 [m]S Jos 17:2
7:19 [n]Jos 17:2
7:20 [o]S Ge 41:52; S Nu 1:33
7:24 [p]S Jos 10:10

[c]13 Some Hebrew and Septuagint manuscripts (see also Gen. 46:24 and Num. 26:49); most Hebrew manuscripts *Shallum* [d]23 *Beriah* sounds like the Hebrew for *misfortune*.

[25]Rephah was his son, Resheph his son,[a]
Telah his son, Tahan his son,
[26]Ladan his son, Ammihud his son,
Elishama his son, [27]Nun his son
and Joshua his son.

[28]Their lands and settlements included Bethel and its surrounding villages, Naaran to the east, Gezer[a] and its villages to the west, and Shechem and its villages all the way to Ayyah and its villages. [29]Along the borders of Manasseh were Beth Shan,[b] Taanach, Megiddo and Dor,[c] together with their villages. The descendants of Joseph son of Israel lived in these towns.

Asher

[30]The sons of Asher:[d]
Imnah, Ishvah, Ishvi and Beriah. Their sister was Serah.
[31]The sons of Beriah:
Heber and Malkiel, who was the father of Birzaith.
[32]Heber was the father of Japhlet, Shomer and Hotham and of their sister Shua.
[33]The sons of Japhlet:
Pasach, Bimhal and Ashvath.
These were Japhlet's sons.
[34]The sons of Shomer:
Ahi, Rohgah,[f] Hubbah and Aram.
[35]The sons of his brother Helem:
Zophah, Imna, Shelesh and Amal.
[36]The sons of Zophah:
Suah, Harnepher, Shual, Beri, Imrah, [37]Bezer, Hod, Shamma, Shilshah, Ithran[g] and Beera.
[38]The sons of Jether:
Jephunneh, Pispah and Ara.
[39]The sons of Ulla:
Arah, Hanniel and Rizia.

[40]All these were descendants of Asher—heads of families, choice men, brave warriors and outstanding leaders. The number of men ready for battle, as listed in their genealogy, was 26,000.

The Genealogy of Saul the Benjamite

8:29-38pp — 1Ch 9:35-44

8 Benjamin[e] was the father of Bela his firstborn,
Ashbel the second son, Aharah the third,
[2]Nohah the fourth and Rapha the fifth.
[3]The sons of Bela were:
Addar,[f] Gera, Abihud,[h]
[4]Abishua, Naaman, Ahoah,[g]
[5]Gera, Shephuphan and Huram.
[6]These were the descendants of Ehud,[h] who were heads of families of those living in Geba and were deported to Manahath:
[7]Naaman, Ahijah, and Gera, who deported them and who was the father of Uzza and Ahihud.
[8]Sons were born to Shaharaim in Moab after he had divorced his wives Hushim and Baara. [9]By his wife Hodesh he had Jobab, Zibia, Mesha, Malcam, [10]Jeuz, Sakia and Mirmah. These were his sons, heads of families. [11]By Hushim he had Abitub and Elpaal.
[12]The sons of Elpaal:
Eber, Misham, Shemed (who built Ono[i] and Lod with its surrounding villages), [13]and Beriah and Shema, who were heads of families of those living in Aijalon[j] and who drove out the inhabitants of Gath.[k]
[14]Ahio, Shashak, Jeremoth, [15]Zebadiah, Arad, Eder, [16]Michael, Ishpah and Joha were the sons of Beriah.
[17]Zebadiah, Meshullam, Hizki, Heber, [18]Ishmerai, Izliah and Jobab were the sons of Elpaal.
[19]Jakim, Zicri, Zabdi, [20]Elienai, Zillethai, Eliel, [21]Adaiah, Beraiah and Shimrath were the sons of Shimei.
[22]Ishpan, Eber, Eliel, [23]Abdon, Zicri, Hanan, [24]Hananiah, Elam, Anthothijah, [25]Iphdeiah and Penuel were the sons of Shashak.
[26]Shamsherai, Shehariah, Athaliah, [27]Jaareshiah, Elijah and Zicri were the sons of Jeroham.

[28]All these were heads of families, chiefs as listed in their genealogy, and they lived in Jerusalem.

[29]Jeiel[i] the father[j] of Gibeon lived in Gibeon.[l]
His wife's name was Maacah, [30]and his firstborn son was Abdon, followed by Zur, Kish,

7:28 [a] Jos 10:33
7:29 [b] S Jos 17:11 [c] S Jos 11:2
7:30 [d] S Nu 1:40
8:1 [e] S Ge 46:21
8:3 [f] S Ge 46:21
8:4 [g] 2Sa 23:9
8:6 [h] Jdg 3:12-30
8:12 [i] Ezr 2:33; Ne 6:2; 7:37; 11:35
8:13 [j] S Jos 10:12 [k] S Jos 11:22
8:29 [l] S Jos 9:3

[a]25 Some Septuagint manuscripts; Hebrew does not have *his son.* [f]34 Or *of his brother Shomer: Rohgah* [g]37 Possibly a variant of *Jether* [h]3 Or *Gera the father of Ehud* [i]29 Some Septuagint manuscripts (see also 1 Chron. 9:35); Hebrew does not have *Jeiel.* [j]29 *Father* may mean *civic leader* or *military leader.*

Baal, Ner,[k] Nadab, 31 Gedor,
Ahio, Zeker 32 and Mikloth, who
was the father of Shimeah. They
too lived near their relatives in
Jerusalem.
33 Ner[a] was the father of Kish,[b] Kish
the father of Saul[c], and Saul the
father of Jonathan, Malki-Shua,
Abinadab and Esh-Baal.[l] [d]
34 The son of Jonathan:[e]
Merib-Baal,[m] [f] who was the father of Micah.
35 The sons of Micah:
Pithon, Melech, Tarea and
Ahaz.
36 Ahaz was the father of Jehoaddah, Jehoaddah was the father
of Alemeth, Azmaveth and Zimri, and Zimri was the father of
Moza. 37 Moza was the father of
Binea; Raphah was his son,
Eleasah his son and Azel his
son.
38 Azel had six sons, and these were
their names:
Azrikam, Bokeru, Ishmael, Sheariah, Obadiah and Hanan. All
these were the sons of Azel.
39 The sons of his brother Eshek:
Ulam his firstborn, Jeush the
second son and Eliphelet the
third. 40 The sons of Ulam were
brave warriors who could handle the bow. They had many
sons and grandsons—150 in
all.
All these were the descendants of
Benjamin.[g]

9 All Israel[h] was listed in the genealogies recorded in the book of
the kings of Israel.

The People in Jerusalem

9:1-17pp — Ne 11:3-19

The people of Judah were taken captive to Babylon[i] because of their unfaithfulness.[j] 2 Now the first to resettle
on their own property in their own
towns[k] were some Israelites, priests,
Levites and temple servants.[l]
3 Those from Judah, from Benjamin,
and from Ephraim and Manasseh who
lived in Jerusalem were:
4 Uthai son of Ammihud, the son of
Omri, the son of Imri, the son of
Bani, a descendant of Perez son
of Judah.[m]
5 Of the Shilonites:
Asaiah the firstborn and his
sons.

8:33 [a]S 1Sa 28:19 [b]S 1Sa 9:1 [c]1Sa 14:49 [d]S 2Sa 2:8 **8:34** [e]S 2Sa 9:12 [f]S 2Sa 4:4; S 21:7-14 **8:40** [g]S Nu 26:38 **9:1** [h]1Ch 11:1, 10; 12:38; 14:8; 15:3,28; 18:14; 19:17; 21:5; 28:4, 8; 29:21,23; 2Ch 1:2; 5:3; 7:8; 10:3,16; 12:1; 13:4,15; 18:16; 24:5; 28:23; 29:24; 30:1 [i]S Dt 21:10 [j]S 1Ch 5:25 **9:2** [k]Jos 9:27; Ezr 2:70 [l]Ezr 2:43,58; 8:20; Ne 7:60 **9:4** [m]S Ge 38:29; 46:12

9:12 [n]Ezr 2:38; 10:22; Ne 10:3; Jer 21:1; 38:1 **9:15** [o]2Ch 20:14; Ne 11:22 **9:16** [p]Ne 12:28 **9:17** [q]ver 22; 1Ch 26:1; 2Ch 8:14; 31:14; Ezr 2:42; Ne 7:45 **9:18** [r]1Ch 26:14; Eze 43:1; 46:1 **9:19** [s]Jer 35:4

6 Of the Zerahites:
Jeuel.
The people from Judah numbered 690.
7 Of the Benjamites:
Sallu son of Meshullam, the son
of Hodaviah, the son of Hassenuah;
8 Ibneiah son of Jeroham; Elah
son of Uzzi, the son of Micri;
and Meshullam son of Shephatiah, the son of Reuel, the son of
Ibnijah.
9 The people from Benjamin, as
listed in their genealogy, numbered 956. All these men were
heads of their families.
10 Of the priests:
Jedaiah; Jehoiarib; Jakin;
11 Azariah son of Hilkiah, the son
of Meshullam, the son of Zadok,
the son of Meraioth, the son of
Ahitub, the official in charge of
the house of God;
12 Adaiah son of Jeroham, the son
of Pashhur,[n] the son of Malkijah; and Maasai son of Adiel,
the son of Jahzerah, the son of
Meshullam, the son of Meshillemith, the son of Immer.
13 The priests, who were heads of
families, numbered 1,760. They
were able men, responsible for
ministering in the house of
God.
14 Of the Levites:
Shemaiah son of Hasshub, the
son of Azrikam, the son of
Hashabiah, a Merarite; 15 Bakbakkar, Heresh, Galal and Mattaniah[o] son of Mica, the son of
Zicri, the son of Asaph; 16 Obadiah son of Shemaiah, the son of
Galal, the son of Jeduthun; and
Berekiah son of Asa, the son of
Elkanah, who lived in the villages of the Netophathites.[p]
17 The gatekeepers:[q]
Shallum, Akkub, Talmon, Ahiman and their brothers, Shallum
their chief 18 being stationed at
the King's Gate[r] on the east, up
to the present time. These were
the gatekeepers belonging to the
camp of the Levites. 19 Shallum[s]
son of Kore, the son of Ebiasaph, the son of Korah, and his

[k]30 Some Septuagint manuscripts (see also 1 Chron. 9:36); Hebrew does not have *Ner.* [l]33 Also known as *Ish-Bosheth* [m]34 Also known as *Mephibosheth*

fellow gatekeepers from his
family (the Korahites) were re-
sponsible for guarding the
thresholds of the Tent[a] just as
their fathers had been responsi-
ble for guarding the entrance to
the dwelling of the LORD. 20In
earlier times Phinehas[a] son of
Eleazar was in charge of the
gatekeepers, and the LORD was
with him. 21Zechariah[b] son of
Meshelemiah was the gatekeep-
er at the entrance to the Tent of
Meeting.
22Altogether, those chosen to be
gatekeepers[c] at the thresholds num-
bered 212. They were registered by ge-
nealogy in their villages. The gate-
keepers had been assigned to their po-
sitions of trust by David and Samuel
the seer.[d] 23They and their descend-
ants were in charge of guarding the
gates of the house of the LORD—the
house called the Tent. 24The gate-
keepers were on the four sides: east,
west, north and south. 25Their brothers
in their villages had to come from time
to time and share their duties for sev-
en-day[e] periods. 26But the four princi-
pal gatekeepers, who were Levites,
were entrusted with the responsibility
for the rooms and treasuries[f] in the
house of God. 27They would spend the
night stationed around the house of
God,[g] because they had to guard it;
and they had charge of the key[h] for
opening it each morning.
28Some of them were in charge of the
articles used in the temple service; they
counted them when they were brought
in and when they were taken out.
29Others were assigned to take care of
the furnishings and all the other arti-
cles of the sanctuary,[i] as well as the
flour and wine, and the oil, incense
and spices. 30But some[j] of the priests
took care of mixing the spices. 31A Le-
vite named Mattithiah, the firstborn
son of Shallum the Korahite, was en-
trusted with the responsibility for bak-
ing the offering bread. 32Some of their
Kohathite brothers were in charge of
preparing for every Sabbath the bread
set out on the table.[k]
33Those who were musicians,[l] heads
of Levite families, stayed in the rooms
of the temple and were exempt from
other duties because they were respon-
sible for the work day and night.[m]
34All these were heads of Levite fami-
lies, chiefs as listed in their genealogy,
and they lived in Jerusalem.

9:20 [a] Nu 25:11
9:21 [b] 1Ch 26:2, 14
9:22 [c] S ver 17 [d] S 1Sa 9:9
9:25 [e] 2Ki 11:5
9:26 [f] 1Ch 26:22
9:27 [g] S Nu 3:38 [h] Isa 22:22
9:29 [i] S Nu 3:28; 1Ch 23:29
9:30 [j] S Ex 30:25
9:32 [k] Lev 24:5-8; 1Ch 23:29; 2Ch 13:11
9:33 [l] S 1Ch 6:31; 25:1-31; S 2Ch 5:12 [m] Ps 134:1
9:35 [n] 1Ch 8:29
9:39 [o] S 1Ch 8:33 [p] S 1Sa 9:1 [q] 1Sa 13:22 [r] S 2Sa 2:8
9:40 [s] S 2Sa 4:4

The Genealogy of Saul

9:34-44pp — 1Ch 8:28-38

35Jeiel[n] the father[o] of Gibeon lived
in Gibeon.
His wife's name was Maacah,
36and his firstborn son was Ab-
don, followed by Zur, Kish,
Baal, Ner, Nadab, 37Gedor,
Ahio, Zechariah and Mikloth.
38Mikloth was the father of
Shimeam. They too lived near
their relatives in Jerusalem.
39Ner[o] was the father of Kish,[p] Kish
the father of Saul, and Saul the
father of Jonathan,[q] Malki-
Shua, Abinadab and Esh-
Baal.[p r]
40The son of Jonathan:
Merib-Baal,[q s] who was the fa-
ther of Micah.
41The sons of Micah:
Pithon, Melech, Tahrea and
Ahaz.[r]
42Ahaz was the father of Jadah,
Jadah[s] was the father of
Alemeth, Azmaveth and Zimri,
and Zimri was the father of
Moza. 43Moza was the father of
Binea; Rephaiah was his son,
Eleasah his son and Azel his
son.
44Azel had six sons, and these were
their names:
Azrikam, Bokeru, Ishmael, She-
ariah, Obadiah and Hanan.
These were the sons of Azel.

Saul Takes His Life

10:1-12pp — 1Sa 31:1-13; 2Sa 1:4-12

10 Now the Philistines fought
against Israel; the Israelites fled
before them, and many fell slain on
Mount Gilboa. 2The Philistines pressed
hard after Saul and his sons, and they
killed his sons Jonathan, Abinadab and
Malki-Shua. 3The fighting grew fierce
around Saul, and when the archers
overtook him, they wounded him.
4Saul said to his armor-bearer,
"Draw your sword and run me
through, or these uncircumcised fel-
lows will come and abuse me."
But his armor-bearer was terrified
and would not do it; so Saul took his

[a] 19 That is, the temple; also in verses 21 and 23
[o] 35 *Father* may mean *civic leader* or *military leader*.
[p] 39 Also known as *Ish-Bosheth*
[q] 40 Also known as *Mephibosheth*
[r] 41 Vulgate and Syriac (see also Septuagint and 1 Chron. 8:35); Hebrew does not have *and Ahaz*.
[s] 42 Some Hebrew manuscripts and Septuagint (see also 1 Chron. 8:36); most Hebrew manuscripts *Jarah, Jarah*

own sword and fell on it. 5When the
armor-bearer saw that Saul was dead,
he too fell on his sword and died. 6So
Saul and his three sons died, and all his
house died together.
7When all the Israelites in the valley
saw that the army had fled and that
Saul and his sons had died, they aban-
doned their towns and fled. And the
Philistines came and occupied them.
8The next day, when the Philistines
came to strip the dead, they found Saul
and his sons fallen on Mount Gilboa.
9They stripped him and took his head
and his armor, and sent messengers
throughout the land of the Philistines
to proclaim the news among their idols
and their people. 10They put his armor
in the temple of their gods and hung
up his head in the temple of Dagon.[a]
11When all the inhabitants of Jabesh
Gilead[b] heard of everything the Philis-
tines had done to Saul, 12all their val-
iant men went and took the bodies of
Saul and his sons and brought them to
Jabesh. Then they buried their bones
under the great tree in Jabesh, and they
fasted seven days.
13Saul died[c] because he was unfaith-
ful[d] to the LORD; he did not keep[e] the
word of the LORD and even consulted a
medium[f] for guidance, 14and did not
inquire of the LORD. So the LORD put
him to death and turned[g] the king-
dom[h] over to David son of Jesse.

David Becomes King Over Israel

11:1-3pp — 2Sa 5:1-3

11 All Israel[i] came together to Da-
vid at Hebron[j] and said, "We
are your own flesh and blood. 2In the
past, even while Saul was king, you
were the one who led Israel on their
military campaigns.[k] And the LORD
your God said to you, 'You will shep-
herd[l] my people Israel, and you will
become their ruler.[m]' "
3When all the elders of Israel had
come to King David at Hebron, he
made a compact with them at Hebron
before the LORD, and they anointed[n]
David king over Israel, as the LORD had
promised through Samuel.

David Conquers Jerusalem

11:4-9pp — 2Sa 4:6-10

4David and all the Israelites marched
to Jerusalem, that is, Jebus. The Jebu-
sites[o] who lived there 5said to David,
"You will not get in here." Neverthe-
less, David captured the fortress of
Zion, the City of David.

10:10 [a] S Jdg 16:23
10:11 [b] S Jdg 21:8
10:13 [c] S 2Sa 1:1 [d] S 1Ch 5:25 [e] S 1Sa 13:13 [f] S Lev 19:31; S 20:6; Dt 18:9-14
10:14 [g] 1Ch 12:23 [h] S 1Sa 13:14
11:1 [i] S 1Ch 9:1 [j] S Ge 13:18; S 23:19
11:2 [k] S 1Sa 18:5,16 [l] Ps 78:71; Mt 2:6 [m] S 1Ch 5:2
11:3 [n] 1Sa 16:1-13
11:4 [o] S Ge 10:16; S 15:18-21; S Jos 3:10; S 15:8
11:6 [p] S 2Sa 2:13
11:8 [q] S 2Sa 5:9; 2Ch 32:5
11:9 [r] Est 9:4
11:10 [s] ver 1 [t] 1Ch 12:23
11:11 [u] S 2Sa 17:10
11:14 [v] S Ex 14:30; S 1Sa 11:13
11:15 [w] 1Ch 14:9; Isa 17:5
11:16 [x] S 2Sa 5:17
11:18 [y] S Dt 12:16

6David had said, "Whoever leads the
attack on the Jebusites will become
commander-in-chief." Joab[p] son of
Zeruiah went up first, and so he re-
ceived the command.
7David then took up residence in the
fortress, and so it was called the City of
David. 8He built up the city around it,
from the supporting terraces[t][q] to the
surrounding wall, while Joab restored
the rest of the city. 9And David became
more and more powerful,[r] because the
LORD Almighty was with him.

David's Mighty Men

11:10-41pp — 2Sa 23:8-39

10These were the chiefs of David's
mighty men—they, together with all Is-
rael,[s] gave his kingship strong support
to extend it over the whole land, as the
LORD had promised[t]— 11this is the list
of David's mighty men:[u]
Jashobeam,[u] a Hacmonite, was chief
of the officers[v]; he raised his spear
against three hundred men, whom he
killed in one encounter.
12Next to him was Eleazar son of
Dodai the Ahohite, one of the three
mighty men. 13He was with David at
Pas Dammim when the Philistines
gathered there for battle. At a place
where there was a field full of barley,
the troops fled from the Philistines.
14But they took their stand in the mid-
dle of the field. They defended it and
struck the Philistines down, and the
LORD brought about a great victory.[v]
15Three of the thirty chiefs came
down to David to the rock at the cave
of Adullam, while a band of Philistines
was encamped in the Valley[w] of Reph-
aim. 16At that time David was in the
stronghold,[x] and the Philistine garri-
son was at Bethlehem. 17David longed
for water and said, "Oh, that someone
would get me a drink of water from the
well near the gate of Bethlehem!" 18So
the Three broke through the Philistine
lines, drew water from the well near
the gate of Bethlehem and carried it
back to David. But he refused to drink
it; instead, he poured[y] it out before the
LORD. 19"God forbid that I should do
this!" he said. "Should I drink the
blood of these men who went at the
risk of their lives?" Because they risked
their lives to bring it back, David would
not drink it.

[t]8 Or *the Millo* [u]11 Possibly a variant of *Jashob-Baal*
[v]11 Or *Thirty;* some Septuagint manuscripts *Three*
(see also 2 Samuel 23:8)

Such were the exploits of the three
mighty men.
20 Abishai the brother of Joab was
chief of the Three. He raised his spear
against three hundred men, whom he
killed, and so he became as famous as
the Three. 21 He was doubly honored
above the Three and became their com-
mander, even though he was not in-
cluded among them.
22 Benaiah son of Jehoiada was a val-
iant fighter from Kabzeel, who per-
formed great exploits. He struck down
two of Moab's best men. He also went
down into a pit on a snowy day and
killed a lion. 23 And he struck down an
Egyptian who was seven and a half
feet[c] tall. Although the Egyptian had a
spear like a weaver's rod in his hand,
Benaiah went against him with a club.
He snatched the spear from the Egyp-
tian's hand and killed him with his
own spear. 24 Such were the exploits of
Benaiah son of Jehoiada; he too was as
famous as the three mighty men. 25 He
was held in greater honor than any of
the Thirty, but he was not included
among the Three. And David put him
in charge of his bodyguard.

26 The mighty men were:
Asahel the brother of Joab,
Elhanan son of Dodo from Bethlehem,
27 Shammoth the Harorite,
Helez the Pelonite,
28 Ira son of Ikkesh from Tekoa,
Abiezer from Anathoth,
29 Sibbecai the Hushathite,
Ilai the Ahohite,
30 Maharai the Netophathite,
Heled son of Baanah the Netophathite,
31 Ithai son of Ribai from Gibeah in Benjamin,
Benaiah the Pirathonite,
32 Hurai from the ravines of Gaash,
Abiel the Arbathite,
33 Azmaveth the Baharumite,
Eliahba the Shaalbonite,
34 the sons of Hashem the Gizonite,
Jonathan son of Shagee the Hararite,
35 Ahiam son of Sacar the Hararite,
Eliphal son of Ur,
36 Hepher the Mekerathite,
Ahijah the Pelonite,
37 Hezro the Carmelite,
Naarai son of Ezbai,
38 Joel the brother of Nathan,
Mibhar son of Hagri,
39 Zelek the Ammonite,
Naharai the Berothite, the armor-bearer of Joab son of Zeruiah,
40 Ira the Ithrite,
Gareb the Ithrite,
41 Uriah the Hittite,
Zabad son of Ahlai,
42 Adina son of Shiza the Reubenite, who was chief of the Reubenites, and the thirty with him,
43 Hanan son of Maacah,
Joshaphat the Mithnite,
44 Uzzia the Ashterathite,
Shama and Jeiel the sons of Hotham the Aroerite,
45 Jediael son of Shimri,
his brother Joha the Tizite,
46 Eliel the Mahavite,
Jeribai and Joshaviah the sons of Elnaam,
Ithmah the Moabite,
47 Eliel, Obed and Jaasiel the Mezobaite.

Warriors Join David

12 These were the men who came
to David at Ziklag, while he
was banished from the presence of Saul
son of Kish (they were among the war-
riors who helped him in battle; 2 they
were armed with bows and were able
to shoot arrows or to sling stones right-
handed or left-handed; they were
kinsmen of Saul from the tribe of Ben-
jamin):

3 Ahiezer their chief and Joash the sons of Shemaah the Gibeathite;
Jeziel and Pelet the sons of Azmaveth; Beracah, Jehu the Anathothite,
4 and Ishmaiah the Gibeonite, a mighty man among the
Thirty, who was a leader of the
Thirty; Jeremiah, Jahaziel, Johanan,
Jozabad the Gederathite, 5 Eluzai,
Jerimoth, Bealiah, Shemariah and
Shephatiah the Haruphite; 6 Elkanah,
Isshiah, Azarel, Joezer and Jashobeam the Korahites;
7 and Joelah
and Zebadiah the sons of Jeroham
from Gedor.

8 Some Gadites defected to David at
his stronghold in the desert. They were
brave warriors, ready for battle and
able to handle the shield and spear.
Their faces were the faces of lions,
and they were as swift as gazelles in
the mountains.

c23 Hebrew five cubits (about 2.3 meters)

9Ezer was the chief,
Obadiah the second in command,
Eliab the third,
10Mishmannah the fourth, Jeremiah
the fifth,
11Attai the sixth, Eliel the seventh,
12Johanan the eighth, Elzabad the
ninth,
13Jeremiah the tenth and Macbannai
the eleventh.

14These Gadites were army commanders; the least was a match for a hundred,[a] and the greatest for a thousand.[b]
15It was they who crossed the Jordan in the first month when it was overflowing all its banks,[c] and they put to flight everyone living in the valleys, to the east and to the west.
16Other Benjamites[d] and some men from Judah also came to David in his stronghold.
17David went out to meet them and said to them, "If you have come to me in peace, to help me, I am ready to have you unite with me. But if you have come to betray me to my enemies when my hands are free from violence, may the God of our fathers see it and judge you."
18Then the Spirit[e] came upon Amasai,[f] chief of the Thirty, and he said:

"We are yours, O David!
We are with you, O son of Jesse!
Success,[g] success to you,
and success to those who help
you,
for your God will help you."

So David received them and made them leaders of his raiding bands.
19Some of the men of Manasseh defected to David when he went with the Philistines to fight against Saul. (He and his men did not help the Philistines because, after consultation, their rulers sent him away. They said, "It will cost us our heads if he deserts to his master Saul.")[h]
20When David went to Ziklag,[i] these were the men of Manasseh who defected to him: Adnah, Jozabad, Jediael, Michael, Jozabad, Elihu and Zillethai, leaders of units of a thousand in Manasseh.
21They helped David against raiding bands, for all of them were brave warriors, and they were commanders in his army.
22Day after day men came to help David, until he had a great army, like the army of God.[x]

Others Join David at Hebron

23These are the numbers of the men armed for battle who came to David at Hebron[j] to turn[k] Saul's kingdom over to him, as the LORD had said:[l]

24men of Judah, carrying shield and
spear—6,800 armed for battle;
25men of Simeon, warriors ready for
battle—7,100;
26men of Levi—4,600,
27including Jehoiada, leader of the family of
Aaron, with 3,700 men,
28and Zadok,[m] a brave young warrior,
with 22 officers from his family;
29men of Benjamin,[n] Saul's kinsmen—3,000, most[o] of whom
had remained loyal to Saul's
house until then;
30men of Ephraim, brave warriors,
famous in their own clans—
20,800;
31men of half the tribe of Manasseh,
designated by name to come
and make David king—18,000;
32men of Issachar, who understood
the times and knew what Israel
should do[p]—200 chiefs, with all
their relatives under their command;
33men of Zebulun, experienced soldiers prepared for battle with
every type of weapon, to help
David with undivided loyalty—
50,000;
34men of Naphtali—1,000 officers,
together with 37,000 men carrying shields and spears;
35men of Dan, ready for battle—
28,600;
36men of Asher, experienced soldiers prepared for battle—
40,000;
37and from east of the Jordan, men
of Reuben, Gad and the half-tribe of Manasseh, armed with
every type of weapon—120,000.

38All these were fighting men who volunteered to serve in the ranks. They came to Hebron fully determined to make David king over all Israel.[q] All the rest of the Israelites were also of one mind to make David king.
39The men spent three days there with David, eating and drinking,[r] for their families had supplied provisions for them.
40Also, their neighbors from as far away as Issachar, Zebulun and Naphtali came bringing food on donkeys, camels, mules and oxen. There were plentiful supplies[s] of flour, fig

12:14 [a]S Lev 26:8 [b]S Dt 32:30 **12:15** [c]S Jos 3:15 **12:16** [d]S 2Sa 3:19 **12:18** [e]S Jdg 3:10; 1Ch 28:12; 2Ch 15:1; 20:14; 24:20 [f]S 2Sa 17:25 [g]1Sa 25:5-6 **12:19** [h]1Sa 29:2-11 **12:20** [i]S 1Sa 27:6
12:23 [j]2Sa 2:3-4 [k]1Ch 10:14 [l]S 1Sa 16:1; 1Ch 11:10 **12:28** [m]1Ch 6:8; 15:11; 16:39; 27:17 **12:29** [n]S 2Sa 3:19 [o]2Sa 2:8-9 **12:32** [p]Est 1:13 **12:38** [q]S 1Ch 9:1 **12:39** [r]2Sa 3:20; Isa 25:6-8 **12:40** [s]S 2Sa 16:1; 17:29

[x]22 *Or a great and mighty army*

cakes, raisin cakes, wine, oil, cattle and sheep, for there was joy in Israel.

Bringing Back the Ark

13:1-14pp — 2Sa 6:1-11

13 David conferred with each of his officers, the commanders of thousands and commanders of hundreds. 2He then said to the whole assembly of Israel, "If it seems good to you and if it is the will of the LORD our God, let us send word far and wide to the rest of our brothers throughout the territories of Israel, and also to the priests and Levites who are with them in their towns and pasturelands, to come and join us. 3Let us bring the ark of our God back to us, for we did not inquire[a] of[b] it during the reign of Saul." 4The whole assembly agreed to do this, because it seemed right to all the people.

5So David assembled all the Israelites, from the Shihor River in Egypt to Lebo[c] Hamath, to bring the ark of God from Kiriath Jearim. 6David and all the Israelites with him went to Baalah of Judah (Kiriath Jearim) to bring up from there the ark of God the LORD, who is enthroned between the cherubim—the ark that is called by the Name.

7They moved the ark of God from Abinadab's house on a new cart, with Uzzah and Ahio guiding it. 8David and all the Israelites were celebrating with all their might before God, with songs and with harps, lyres, tambourines, cymbals and trumpets.

9When they came to the threshing floor of Kidon, Uzzah reached out his hand to steady the ark, because the oxen stumbled. 10The LORD's anger burned against Uzzah, and he struck him down because he had put his hand on the ark. So he died there before God.

11Then David was angry because the LORD's wrath had broken out against Uzzah, and to this day that place is called Perez Uzzah.[d]

12David was afraid of God that day and asked, "How can I ever bring the ark of God to me?" 13He did not take the ark to be with him in the City of David. Instead, he took it aside to the house of Obed-Edom the Gittite. 14The ark of God remained with the family of Obed-Edom in his house for three months, and the LORD blessed his household and everything he had.

David's House and Family

14:1-7pp — 2Sa 5:11-16; 1Ch 3:5-8

14 Now Hiram king of Tyre sent messengers to David, along with cedar logs, stonemasons and carpenters to build a palace for him. 2And David knew that the LORD had established him as king over Israel and that his kingdom had been highly exalted for the sake of his people Israel.

3In Jerusalem David took more wives and became the father of more sons and daughters. 4These are the names of the children born to him there: Shammua, Shobab, Nathan, Solomon, 5Ibhar, Elishua, Elpelet, 6Nogah, Nepheg, Japhia, 7Elishama, Beeliada[e] and Eliphelet.

David Defeats the Philistines

14:8-17pp — 2Sa 5:17-25

8When the Philistines heard that David had been anointed king over all Israel, they went up in full force to search for him, but David heard about it and went out to meet them. 9Now the Philistines had come and raided the Valley of Rephaim; 10so David inquired of God: "Shall I go and attack the Philistines? Will you hand them over to me?"

The LORD answered him, "Go, I will hand them over to you."

11So David and his men went up to Baal Perazim, and there he defeated them. He said, "As waters break out, God has broken out against my enemies by my hand." So that place was called Baal Perazim.[f] 12The Philistines had abandoned their gods there, and David gave orders to burn them in the fire.

13Once more the Philistines raided the valley; 14so David inquired of God again, and God answered him, "Do not go straight up, but circle around them and attack them in front of the balsam trees. 15As soon as you hear the sound of marching in the tops of the balsam trees, move out to battle, because that will mean God has gone out in front of you to strike the Philistine army." 16So David did as God commanded him, and they struck down the Philistine army, all the way from Gibeon to Gezer.

17So David's fame spread through

12:40 1Sa 25:18; 1Ch 29:22
13:3 1Sa 7:1-2; 2Ch 1:5
13:5 1Ch 11:1; 15:3; S Jos 13:3; S Nu 13:21; S 1Sa 7:2
13:6 S Jos 15:9; S Ex 25:22; 2Ki 19:15
13:7 S 1Sa 7:1
13:8 1Ch 15:16, 19, 24; 2Ch 5:12; Ps 92:3
13:10 1Ch 15:13; S Lev 10:2
13:11 1Ch 15:13; Ps 7:11
13:13 1Ch 15:18, 24; 16:38; 26:4-5, 15
13:14 S 2Sa 6:11
[illegible]

a3 Or *we neglected* b3 Or *him* c5 Or *to the entrance to* d11 *Perez Uzzah* means *outbreak against Uzzah.* e7 A variant of *Eliada* f11 *Baal Perazim* means *the lord who breaks out.*

out every land, and the LORD made all
the nations fear[a] him.

The Ark Brought to Jerusalem

15:25–16:3pp — 2Sa 6:12-19

15 After David had constructed
buildings for himself in the City
of David, he prepared[b] a place for the
ark of God and pitched[c] a tent for it.
2 Then David said, "No one but the Le-
vites[d] may carry[e] the ark of God, be-
cause the LORD chose them to carry the
ark of the LORD and to minister[f] before
him forever."
3 David assembled all Israel[g] in
Jerusalem to bring up the ark of the
LORD to the place he had prepared for
it. 4 He called together the descendants
of Aaron and the Levites:[h]

5 From the descendants of Kohath,
Uriel[i] the leader and 120 rela-
tives;
6 from the descendants of Merari,
Asaiah the leader and 220 rela-
tives;
7 from the descendants of Ger-
shon,[e]
Joel the leader and 130 relatives;
8 from the descendants of Eliza-
phan,[j]
Shemaiah the leader and 200
relatives;
9 from the descendants of Hebron,[k]
Eliel the leader and 80 relatives;
10 from the descendants of Uzziel,
Amminadab the leader and 112
relatives.

11 Then David summoned Zadok[l]
and Abiathar[m] the priests, and Uriel,
Asaiah, Joel, Shemaiah, Eliel and Am-
minadab the Levites. 12 He said to them,
"You are the heads of the Levitical
families; you and your fellow Levites
are to consecrate[n] yourselves and bring
up the ark of the LORD, the God of Is-
rael, to the place I have prepared for it.
13 It was because you, the Levites,[o] did
not bring it up the first time that the
LORD our God broke out in anger
against us.[p] We did not inquire of him
about how to do it in the prescribed
way.[q]" 14 So the priests and Levites
consecrated themselves in order to
bring up the ark of the LORD, the God of
Israel. 15 And the Levites carried the ark
of God with the poles on their shoul-
ders, as Moses had commanded[r] in
accordance with the word of the LORD.[s]
16 David[t] told the leaders of the Le-
vites[u] to appoint their brothers as sing-
ers[v] to sing joyful songs, accompanied
by musical instruments: lyres, harps
and cymbals.[w]
17 So the Levites appointed Heman[x]
son of Joel; from his brothers, Asaph[y]
son of Berekiah; and from their broth-
ers the Merarites,[z] Ethan son of Ku-
shaiah; 18 and with them their brothers
next in rank: Zechariah,[f] Jaaziel,
Shemiramoth, Jehiel, Unni, Eliab, Be-
naiah, Maaseiah, Mattithiah, Eliph-
elehu, Mikneiah, Obed-Edom[a] and Jei-
el,[g] the gatekeepers.
19 The musicians Heman,[b] Asaph
and Ethan were to sound the bronze
cymbals; 20 Zechariah, Aziel, Shemira-
moth, Jehiel, Unni, Eliab, Maaseiah
and Benaiah were to play the lyres ac-
cording to *alamoth*,[h] 21 and Mattithiah,
Eliphelehu, Mikneiah, Obed-Edom,
Jeiel and Azaziah were to play the
harps, directing according to *shemi-
nith*.[h] 22 Kenaniah the head Levite was
in charge of the singing; that was his
responsibility because he was skillful
at it.
23 Berekiah and Elkanah were to be
doorkeepers for the ark. 24 Shebaniah,
Joshaphat, Nethanel, Amasai, Zecha-
riah, Benaiah and Eliezer the priests
were to blow trumpets[c] before the ark
of God. Obed-Edom and Jehiah were
also to be doorkeepers for the ark.
25 So David and the elders of Israel
and the commanders of units of a thou-
sand went to bring up the ark[d] of the
covenant of the LORD from the house of
Obed-Edom, with rejoicing. 26 Because
God had helped the Levites who were
carrying the ark of the covenant of the
LORD, seven bulls and seven rams[e]
were sacrificed. 27 Now David was
clothed in a robe of fine linen, as were
all the Levites who were carrying the
ark, and as were the singers, and Kena-
niah, who was in charge of the singing
of the choirs. David also wore a linen
ephod.[f] 28 So all Israel[g] brought up the
ark of the covenant of the LORD with
shouts,[h] with the sounding of rams'
horns[i] and trumpets, and of cymbals,
and the playing of lyres and harps.
29 As the ark of the covenant of the
LORD was entering the City of David,
Michal daughter of Saul watched from
a window. And when she saw King

14:17 [a]Ex 15:14-16; S Dt 2:25; Ps 2:1-12
15:1 [b]Ps 132:1-18 [c]S 2Sa 6:17; 1Ch 16:1; 17:1
15:2 [d]S Nu 3:6; 4:15; Dt 10:8; 31:25; 2Ch 5:5 [e]S Dt 31:9 [f]1Ch 16:4; 23:13; 2Ch 29:11; 31:2; Ps 134:1; 135:2
15:3 [g]S 1Ch 13:5
15:4 [h]S Nu 3:17-20
15:5 [i]1Ch 6:24
15:8 [j]S Ex 6:22
15:9 [k]Ex 6:18
15:11 [l]S 1Ch 12:28 [m]S 1Sa 22:20
15:12 [n]S Ex 29:1; 30:19-21,30; 40:31-32; S Lev 11:44
15:13 [o]1Ki 8:4 [p]S 1Ch 13:11 [q]S Lev 5:10
15:15 [r]S Ex 25:14 [s]2Sa 6:7
15:16 [t]1Ch 6:31 [u]2Ch 7:6 [v]Ezr 2:41; Ne 11:23; Ps 68:25 [w]S 1Ch 13:8; 23:5; 2Ch 29:26; Ne 12:27,36; Job 21:12; Ps 150:5; Am 6:5
15:17 [x]S 1Ch 6:33 [y]1Ch 6:39 [z]1Ch 6:44
15:18 [a]S 2Sa 6:10; 1Ch 26:4-5
15:19 [b]1Ch 16:41; 25:6
15:24 [c]2Ch 5:12; 7:6; 29:26
15:25 [d]2Ch 1:4; 5:2; Jer 3:16
15:26 [e]Nu 23:1-4,29
15:27 [f]S 1Sa 2:18
15:28 [g]S 1Ch 9:1 [h]S 1Ki 1:39; Zec 4:7 [i]S Ex 19:13

[e]7 Hebrew *Gershom*, a variant of *Gershon*
[f]18 Three Hebrew manuscripts and most Septuagint manuscripts (see also verse 20 and 1 Chron. 16:5); most Hebrew manuscripts *Zechariah son and* or *Zechariah, Ben and*
[g]18 Hebrew; Septuagint (see also verse 21) *Jeiel and Azaziah*
[h]20,21 Probably a musical term

David dancing and celebrating, she de-
spised him in her heart.

16 They brought the ark of God and
set it inside the tent that David
had pitched for it, and they presented
burnt offerings and fellowship offer-
ings[i] before God. 2After David had fin-
ished sacrificing the burnt offerings
and fellowship offerings, he blessed
the people in the name of the LORD.
3Then he gave a loaf of bread, a cake of
dates and a cake of raisins to each Is-
raelite man and woman.
4He appointed some of the Levites to
minister before the ark of the LORD, to
make petition, to give thanks, and to
praise the LORD, the God of Israel:
5Asaph was the chief, Zechariah sec-
ond, then Jeiel, Shemiramoth, Jehiel,
Mattithiah, Eliab, Benaiah, Obed-Edom
and Jeiel. They were to play the lyres
and harps, Asaph was to sound the
cymbals, 6and Benaiah and Jahaziel the
priests were to blow the trumpets regu-
larly before the ark of the covenant of
God.

David's Psalm of Thanks

16:8-22pp — Ps 105:1-15
16:23-33pp — Ps 96:1-13
16:34-36pp — Ps 106:1,47-48

7That day David first committed to
Asaph and his associates this psalm of
thanks to the LORD:

8Give thanks to the LORD, call on his
name;
make known among the nations
what he has done.
9Sing to him, sing praise to him;
tell of all his wonderful acts.
10Glory in his holy name;
let the hearts of those who seek
the LORD rejoice.
11Look to the LORD and his strength;
seek his face always.
12Remember the wonders he has
done,
his miracles, and the judgments
he pronounced,
13O descendants of Israel his servant,
O sons of Jacob, his chosen ones.

14He is the LORD our God;
his judgments are in all the earth.
15He remembers[j] his covenant
forever,
the word he commanded, for a
thousand generations,
16the covenant he made with
Abraham,
the oath he swore to Isaac.
17He confirmed it to Jacob as a
decree,
to Israel as an everlasting
covenant:
18"To you I will give the land of
Canaan
as the portion you will inherit."[k]

19When they were but few in
number,
few indeed, and strangers in it,
20they wandered from nation to
nation,
from one kingdom to another.
21He allowed no man to oppress them;
for their sake he rebuked kings:
22"Do not touch my anointed ones;
do my prophets no harm."

23Sing to the LORD, all the earth;
proclaim his salvation day after
day.
24Declare his glory among the
nations,
his marvelous deeds among all
peoples.
25For great is the LORD and most
worthy of praise;
he is to be feared above all
gods.
26For all the gods of the nations are
idols,
but the LORD made the heavens.
27Splendor and majesty are before
him;
strength and joy in his dwelling
place.
28Ascribe to the LORD, O families of
nations,
ascribe to the LORD glory and
strength,
29 ascribe to the LORD the glory due
his name.
Bring an offering and come before
him;
worship the LORD in the splendor
of his[l] holiness.
30Tremble before him, all the earth!
The world is firmly established; it
cannot be moved.
31Let the heavens rejoice, let the earth
be glad;
let them say among the nations,
"The LORD reigns!"
32Let the sea resound, and all that is
in it;

16:1–16:16 [illegible]
16:17 Ge 35:9-12
16:18 Ge 13:14-17
16:19 Dt 7:7
16:20 S Ge 20:13
16:21 Ge 12:17; S 20:3; Ex 7:15-18; Ps 9:5
16:22 S Ge 20:7
16:24 Isa 42:12; 66:19
16:25 Ps 18:3; 48:1 Ps 76:7; 89:7 Ex 18:11; Dt 32:39; 2Ch 2:5; Ps 135:5; Isa 40:25
16:26 Ps 8:3; 102:25
16:28 Ps 29:1-2
16:29 Ps 8:1 2Ch 20:21; Ps 29:1-2
16:30 Ps 2:11; 33:8; 76:8; 99:1; 114:7 Ps 93:1
16:31 Isa 44:23; 49:13 Ps 9:7; 47:8; 93:1; 97:1; 99:1; 146:10; Isa 52:7; La 5:19
16:32 Ex 20:11; Isa 42:10

[i]1 Traditionally *peace offerings*; also in verse 2
[j]15 Some Septuagint manuscripts (see also Psalm 105:8); Hebrew *Remember*
[k]18-20 One Hebrew manuscript, Septuagint and Vulgate (see also Psalm 105:12); most Hebrew manuscripts *inherit, / 19though you are but few in number, / few indeed, and strangers in it." / 20They*
[l]29 Or LORD *with the splendor of*

let the fields be jubilant, and
everything in them!
33Then the trees[r] of the forest will
sing,
they will sing for joy before the
LORD,
for he comes to judge[s] the
earth.

34Give thanks[t] to the LORD, for he is
good;[u]
his love endures forever.[v]
35Cry out, "Save us, O God our
Savior;[w]
gather us and deliver us from the
nations,
that we may give thanks to your
holy name,
that we may glory in your
praise."
36Praise be to the LORD, the God of
Israel,[x]
from everlasting to everlasting.

Then all the people said "Amen" and
"Praise the LORD."

37David left Asaph and his associates
before the ark of the covenant of the
LORD to minister there regularly, ac-
cording to each day's requirements.[y]
38He also left Obed-Edom[z] and his
sixty-eight associates to minister
with them. Obed-Edom son of Jedu-
thun, and also Hosah,[a] were gatekeep-
ers.
39David left Zadok[b] the priest and
his fellow priests before the tabernacle
of the LORD at the high place in Gibe-
on[c] 40to present burnt offerings to the
LORD on the altar of burnt offering regu-
larly, morning and evening, in accor-
dance with everything written in the
Law[m] of the LORD, which he had given
Israel. 41With them were Heman[n] and
Jeduthun and the rest of those chosen
and designated by name to give thanks
to the LORD, "for his love endures for-
ever." 42Heman and Jeduthun were re-
sponsible for the sounding of the trum-
pets and cymbals and for the playing of
the other instruments for sacred song.[o]
The sons of Jeduthun[p] were stationed
at the gate.
43Then all the people left, each for his
own home, and David returned home
to bless his family.

God's Promise to David

17:1-15pp — 2Sa 7:1-17

17 After David was settled in his
palace, he said to Nathan the
prophet, "Here I am, living in a palace
of cedar, while the ark of the covenant
of the LORD is under a tent.[q]"
2Nathan replied to David, "Whatever
you have in mind,[r] do it, for God is
with you."
3That night the word of God came to
Nathan, saying:
4"Go and tell my servant David,
'This is what the LORD says: You[s]
are not the one to build me a house
to dwell in. 5I have not dwelt in a
house from the day I brought Israel
up out of Egypt to this day. I have
moved from one tent site to an-
other, from one dwelling place to
another. 6Wherever I have moved
with all the Israelites, did I ever say
to any of their leaders[m] whom I
commanded to shepherd my
people, "Why have you not built
me a house of cedar?[t]" '
7"Now then, tell my servant Da-
vid, 'This is what the LORD Al-
mighty says: I took you from the
pasture and from following the
flock, to be ruler[u] over my people
Israel. 8I have been with you
wherever you have gone, and I
have cut off all your enemies from
before you. Now I will make your
name like the names of the greatest
men of the earth. 9And I will pro-
vide a place for my people Israel
and will plant them so that they
can have a home of their own and
no longer be disturbed. Wicked
people will not oppress them any-
more, as they did at the beginning
10and have done ever since the time
I appointed leaders[v] over my
people Israel. I will also subdue all
your enemies.
" 'I declare to you that the LORD
will build a house for you: 11When
your days are over and you go to
be with your fathers, I will raise up
your offspring to succeed you, one
of your own sons, and I will estab-
lish his kingdom. 12He is the one
who will build[w] a house for me,
and I will establish his throne for-
ever.[x] 13I will be his father,[y] and
he will be my son.[z] I will never
take my love away from him, as I
took it away from your predeces-
sor. 14I will set him over my house
and my kingdom forever; his
throne[a] will be established for-
ever.[b]' "

16:33 [illegible]
16:34 [illegible]
16:35 [illegible]
16:36 [illegible]
16:37 [y]2Ch 8:14
16:38 [z]S 1Ch 13:13; 26:4-5 [a]1Ch 26:10
16:39 [illegible]
16:40 [m]S Ex 29:38; Nu 28:1-8
16:41 [n]S 1Ch 15:19
16:42 [o]2Ch 7:6 [p]1Ch 25:3
17:1 [q]S 1Ch 15:1
17:2 [r]1Ch 22:7; 28:2; 2Ch 6:7
17:4 [s]1Ch 22:10; 28:3
17:6 [t]S 1Ch 14:1
17:7 [u]S 2Sa 6:21
17:10 [v]S Jdg 2:16
17:12 [w]S 1Ki 5:5 [x]1Ch 22:10; 2Ch 7:18; 13:5
17:13 [y]2Co 6:18 [z]1Ch 28:6; Lk 1:32; Heb 1:5
17:14 [a]S 1Ki 2:12; 1Ch 28:5; 29:23; 2Ch 9:8 [b]Ps 132:11; Jer 33:17

[m]6 Traditionally *judges;* also in verse 10

[15]Nathan reported to David all the
words of this entire revelation.

David's Prayer

17:16-27pp — 2Sa 7:18-29

[16]Then King David went in and sat
before the LORD, and he said:

"Who am I, O LORD God, and
what is my family, that you have
brought me this far? [17]And as if this
were not enough in your sight, O
God, you have spoken about the
future of the house of your servant.
You have looked on me as though I
were the most exalted of men, O
LORD God.

[18]"What more can David say to
you for honoring your servant? For
you know your servant, [19]O LORD.
For the sake[a] of your servant and
according to your will, you have
done this great thing and made
known all these great promises.[b]

[20]"There is no one like you, O
LORD, and there is no God but
you,[c] as we have heard with our
own ears. [21]And who is like your
people Israel—the one nation on
earth whose God went out to re-
deem[d] a people for himself, and to
make a name for yourself, and to
perform great and awesome won-
ders by driving out nations from
before your people, whom you re-
deemed from Egypt? [22]You made
your people Israel your very own
forever,[e] and you, O LORD, have
become their God.

[23]"And now, LORD, let the prom-
ise[f] you have made concerning
your servant and his house be
established forever. Do as you
promised, [24]so that it will be estab-
lished and that your name will be
great forever. Then men will say,
'The LORD Almighty, the God over
Israel, is Israel's God!' And the
house of your servant David will be
established before you.

[25]"You, my God, have revealed
to your servant that you will build
a house for him. So your servant
has found courage to pray to you.
[26]O LORD, you are God! You have
promised these good things to your
servant. [27]Now you have been
pleased to bless the house of your
servant, that it may continue for-
ever in your sight;[g] for you, O
LORD, have blessed it, and it will be
blessed forever."

17:19 [illegible] 2Sa 7:16-17; 2Ki 20:6; Isa 9:7; 37:35; 55:3 [illegible]
17:20 [illegible] Ex 8:10; 9:14; 15:11; Isa 44:6; 46:9
17:21 [illegible] Ex 6:6
17:22 [illegible] Ex 19:5-6
17:23 [illegible] 1Ki 8:25
17:27 [g]Ps 16:11; 21:6
18:2 [h]S Nu 21:29
18:3 [i]1Ch 19:6 [j]S Ge 2:14
18:4 [k]S Ge 49:6
18:5 [l]2Ki 16:9
18:8 [m]S 1Ki 7:23; 2Ch 4:2-5
18:11 [n]S Nu 24:18 [o]Nu 24:20
18:12 [p]1Ki 11:15
18:14 [q]1Ch 29:26 [r]1Ch 11:1

David's Victories

18:1-13pp — 2Sa 8:1-14

18 In the course of time, David de-
feated the Philistines and sub-
dued them, and he took Gath and its
surrounding villages from the control
of the Philistines.

[2]David also defeated the Moabites,[h]
and they became subject to him and
brought tribute.

[3]Moreover, David fought Hadadezer
king of Zobah,[i] as far as Hamath,
when he went to establish his control
along the Euphrates River.[j] [4]David
captured a thousand of his chariots,
seven thousand charioteers and twenty
thousand foot soldiers. He hamstrung[k]
all but a hundred of the chariot horses.

[5]When the Arameans of Damascus[l]
came to help Hadadezer king of Zobah,
David struck down twenty-two thou-
sand of them. [6]He put garrisons in the
Aramean kingdom of Damascus, and
the Arameans became subject to him
and brought tribute. The LORD gave Da-
vid victory everywhere he went.

[7]David took the gold shields carried
by the officers of Hadadezer and
brought them to Jerusalem. [8]From
Tebah[a] and Cun, towns that belonged
to Hadadezer, David took a great quan-
tity of bronze, which Solomon used to
make the bronze Sea,[m] the pillars and
various bronze articles.

[9]When Tou king of Hamath heard
that David had defeated the entire
army of Hadadezer king of Zobah, [10]he
sent his son Hadoram to King David to
greet him and congratulate him on his
victory in battle over Hadadezer, who
had been at war with Tou. Hadoram
brought all kinds of articles of gold and
silver and bronze.

[11]King David dedicated these articles
to the LORD, as he had done with the
silver and gold he had taken from all
these nations: Edom[n] and Moab, the
Ammonites and the Philistines, and
Amalek.[o]

[12]Abishai son of Zeruiah struck down
eighteen thousand Edomites[p] in the
Valley of Salt. [13]He put garrisons in
Edom, and all the Edomites became
subject to David. The LORD gave David
victory everywhere he went.

David's Officials

18:14-17pp — 2Sa 8:15-18

[14]David reigned[q] over all Israel,[r] do-
ing what was just and right for all his

[a]8 Hebrew *Tibhath*, a variant of *Tebah*

people. 15Joab[z] son of Zeruiah was
over the army; Jehoshaphat son of Ahi-
lud was recorder; 16Zadok[a] son of Ahi-
tub and Ahimelech[b][o] son of Abiathar
were priests; Shavsha was secretary;
17Benaiah son of Jehoiada was over the
Kerethites and Pelethites;[c] and David's
sons were chief officials at the king's
side.

The Battle Against the Ammonites

19:1-19pp — 2Sa 10:1-19

19 In the course of time, Nahash
king of the Ammonites[d] died,
and his son succeeded him as king.
2David thought, "I will show kindness
to Hanun son of Nahash, because his
father showed kindness to me." So Da-
vid sent a delegation to express his
sympathy to Hanun concerning his fa-
ther.

When David's men came to Hanun
in the land of the Ammonites to
express sympathy to him, 3the Am-
monite nobles said to Hanun, "Do you
think David is honoring your father by
sending men to you to express sympa-
thy? Haven't his men come to you to
explore and spy out[f] the country and
overthrow it?" 4So Hanun seized Da-
vid's men, shaved them, cut off their
garments in the middle at the buttocks,
and sent them away.

5When someone came and told Da-
vid about the men, he sent messengers
to meet them, for they were greatly hu-
miliated. The king said, "Stay at Jericho
till your beards have grown, and then
come back."

6When the Ammonites realized that
they had become a stench[g] in David's
nostrils, Hanun and the Ammonites
sent a thousand talents[p] of silver to
hire chariots and charioteers from
Aram Naharaim,[q] Aram Maacah and
Zobah.[h] 7They hired thirty-two thou-
sand chariots and charioteers, as well
as the king of Maacah with his troops,
who came and camped near Medeba,[i]
while the Ammonites were mustered
from their towns and moved out for
battle.

8On hearing this, David sent Joab out
with the entire army of fighting men.
9The Ammonites came out and drew
up in battle formation at the entrance
to their city, while the kings who had
come were by themselves in the open
country.

10Joab saw that there were battle lines
in front of him and behind him; so he
selected some of the best troops in Is-
rael and deployed them against the
Arameans. 11He put the rest of the men
under the command of Abishai[j] his
brother, and they were deployed
against the Ammonites. 12Joab said, "If
the Arameans are too strong for me,
then you are to rescue me; but if the
Ammonites are too strong for you,
then I will rescue you. 13Be strong and
let us fight bravely for our people and
the cities of our God. The LORD will do
what is good in his sight."

14Then Joab and the troops with him
advanced to fight the Arameans, and
they fled before him. 15When the Am-
monites saw that the Arameans were
fleeing, they too fled before his brother
Abishai and went inside the city. So
Joab went back to Jerusalem.

16After the Arameans saw that they
had been routed by Israel, they sent
messengers and had Arameans
brought from beyond the River,[r] with
Shophach the commander of Hadade-
zer's army leading them.

17When David was told of this, he
gathered all Israel[k] and crossed the Jor-
dan; he advanced against them and
formed his battle lines opposite them.
David formed his lines to meet the Ara-
means in battle, and they fought
against him. 18But they fled before Is-
rael, and David killed seven thousand
of their charioteers and forty thousand
of their foot soldiers. He also killed
Shophach the commander of their
army.

19When the vassals of Hadadezer
saw that they had been defeated by Is-
rael, they made peace with David and
became subject to him.

So the Arameans were not willing to
help the Ammonites anymore.

The Capture of Rabbah

20:1-3pp — 2Sa 11:1; 12:29-31

20 In the spring, at the time when
kings go off to war, Joab led out
the armed forces. He laid waste the
land of the Ammonites and went to
Rabbah[l] and besieged it, but David re-
mained in Jerusalem. Joab attacked
Rabbah and left it in ruins.[m] 2David
took the crown from the head of their
king[s]—its weight was found to be a

[illegible]
19:11 jS 1Sa 26:6
19:17 kS 1Ch 9:1
20:1 lS Dt 3:11 mAm 1:13-15

o16 Some Hebrew manuscripts, Vulgate and Syriac (see also 2 Samuel 8:17); most Hebrew manuscripts *Abimelech* p6 That is, about 37 tons (about 34 metric tons) q6 That is, Northwest Mesopotamia r16 That is, the Euphrates s2 Or *of Milcom,* that is, Molech

talent of gold, and it was set with pre-
cious stones—and it was placed on Da-
vid's head. He took a great quantity of
plunder from the city ³and brought out
the people who were there, consigning
them to labor with saws and with iron
picks and axes. David did this to all
the Ammonite towns. Then David and
his entire army returned to Jerusalem.

War With the Philistines

20:4-8pp — 2Sa 21:15-22

⁴In the course of time, war broke out
with the Philistines, at Gezer. At that
time Sibbecai the Hushathite killed Sip-
pai, one of the descendants of the
Rephaites, and the Philistines were
subjugated.

⁵In another battle with the Philis-
tines, Elhanan son of Jair killed Lahmi
the brother of Goliath the Gittite, who
had a spear with a shaft like a weaver's
rod.

⁶In still another battle, which took
place at Gath, there was a huge man
with six fingers on each hand and six
toes on each foot—twenty-four in all.
He also was descended from Rapha.
⁷When he taunted Israel, Jonathan son
of Shimea, David's brother, killed him.

⁸These were descendants of Rapha in
Gath, and they fell at the hands of Da-
vid and his men.

David Numbers the Fighting Men

21:1-26pp — 2Sa 24:1-25

21 Satan rose up against Israel and
incited David to take a census
of Israel. ²So David said to Joab and the
commanders of the troops, "Go and
count the Israelites from Beersheba to
Dan. Then report back to me so that I
may know how many there are."

³But Joab replied, "May the LORD
multiply his troops a hundred times
over. My lord the king, are they not
all my lord's subjects? Why does my
lord want to do this? Why should he
bring guilt on Israel?"

⁴The king's word, however, over-
ruled Joab; so Joab left and went
throughout Israel and then came back
to Jerusalem. ⁵Joab reported the num-
ber of the fighting men to David: In all
Israel there were one million one hun-
dred thousand men who could handle
a sword, including four hundred and
seventy thousand in Judah.

⁶But Joab did not include Levi and
Benjamin in the numbering, because
the king's command was repulsive to
him. ⁷This command was also evil in
the sight of God; so he punished Israel.

⁸Then David said to God, "I have
sinned greatly by doing this. Now, I
beg you, take away the guilt of your
servant. I have done a very foolish
thing."

⁹The LORD said to Gad, David's
seer, ¹⁰"Go and tell David, 'This is
what the LORD says: I am giving you
three options. Choose one of them for
me to carry out against you.' "

¹¹So Gad went to David and said to
him, "This is what the LORD says: 'Take
your choice: ¹²three years of famine,
three months of being swept away be-
fore your enemies, with their swords
overtaking you, or three days of the
sword of the LORD—days of plague
in the land, with the angel of the LORD
ravaging every part of Israel.' Now
then, decide how I should answer the
one who sent me."

¹³David said to Gad, "I am in deep
distress. Let me fall into the hands of
the LORD, for his mercy is very great;
but do not let me fall into the hands of
men."

¹⁴So the LORD sent a plague on Israel,
and seventy thousand men of Israel fell
dead. ¹⁵And God sent an angel to
destroy Jerusalem. But as the angel
was doing so, the LORD saw it and was
grieved because of the calamity and
said to the angel who was destroying
the people, "Enough! Withdraw your
hand." The angel of the LORD was then
standing at the threshing floor of Arau-
nah the Jebusite.

¹⁶David looked up and saw the angel
of the LORD standing between heaven
and earth, with a drawn sword in his
hand extended over Jerusalem. Then
David and the elders, clothed in sack-
cloth, fell facedown.

¹⁷David said to God, "Was it not I
who ordered the fighting men to be
counted? I am the one who has sinned
and done wrong. These are but
sheep. What have they done? O LORD
my God, let your hand fall upon me
and my family, but do not let this
plague remain on your people."

¹⁸Then the angel of the LORD ordered
Gad to tell David to go up and build an
altar to the LORD on the threshing
floor of Araunah the Jebusite. ¹⁹So Da-
vid went up in obedience to the word

[a]2 That is, about 75 pounds (about 34 kilograms)
[b]12 Hebrew; Septuagint and Vulgate (see also 2 Samuel 24:13) of fleeing
[c]15 Hebrew Ornan, a variant of Araunah; also in verses 18-28

that Gad had spoken in the name of the
LORD.
[20]While Araunah was threshing
wheat,[e] he turned and saw the angel;
his four sons who were with him hid
themselves. [21]Then David approached,
and when Araunah looked and saw
him, he left the threshing floor and
bowed down before David with his
face to the ground.
[22]David said to him, "Let me have
the site of your threshing floor so I can
build an altar to the LORD, that the
plague on the people may be stopped.
Sell it to me at the full price."
[23]Araunah said to David, "Take it!
Let my lord the king do whatever
pleases him. Look, I will give the oxen
for the burnt offerings, the threshing
sledges for the wood, and the wheat
for the grain offering. I will give all
this."
[24]But King David replied to Araunah,
"No, I insist on paying the full price. I
will not take for the LORD what is yours,
or sacrifice a burnt offering that costs
me nothing."
[25]So David paid Araunah six hun-
dred shekels[w] of gold for the site. [26]Da-
vid built an altar to the LORD there and
sacrificed burnt offerings and fellow-
ship offerings.[x] He called on the LORD,
and the LORD answered him with fire[f]
from heaven on the altar of burnt offer-
ing.
[27]Then the LORD spoke to the angel,
and he put his sword back into its
sheath. [28]At that time, when David saw
that the LORD had answered him on the
threshing floor of Araunah the Jebu-
site, he offered sacrifices there. [29]The
tabernacle of the LORD, which Moses
had made in the desert, and the altar of
burnt offering were at that time on the
high place at Gibeon.[g] [30]But David
could not go before it to inquire of God,
because he was afraid of the sword of
the angel of the LORD.
22 Then David said, "The house of
the LORD God[h] is to be here, and
also the altar of burnt offering for Is-
rael."

Preparations for the Temple

[2]So David gave orders to assemble
the aliens[i] living in Israel, and from
among them he appointed stonecut-
ters[j] to prepare dressed stone for
building the house of God. [3]He pro-
vided a large amount of iron to make
nails for the doors of the gateways and
for the fittings, and more bronze than
could be weighed.[k] [4]He also provided
more cedar logs[l] than could be count-
ed, for the Sidonians and Tyrians had
brought large numbers of them to Da-
vid.
[5]David said, "My son Solomon is
young[m] and inexperienced, and the
house to be built for the LORD should be
of great magnificence and fame and
splendor[n] in the sight of all the na-
tions. Therefore I will make prepara-
tions for it." So David made extensive
preparations before his death.
[6]Then he called for his son Solomon
and charged him to build[o] a house for
the LORD, the God of Israel. [7]David said
to Solomon: "My son, I had it in my
heart[p] to build[q] a house for the Name[r]
of the LORD my God. [8]But this word of
the LORD came to me: 'You have shed
much blood and have fought many
wars.[s] You are not to build a house for
my Name,[t] because you have shed
much blood on the earth in my sight.
[9]But you will have a son who will be a
man of peace[u] and rest,[v] and I will
give him rest from all his enemies on
every side. His name will be Solo-
mon,[y][w] and I will grant Israel peace
and quiet[x] during his reign. [10]He is the
one who will build a house for my
Name.[y] He will be my son,[z] and I will
be his father. And I will establish[a] the
throne of his kingdom over Israel for-
ever.'[b]
[11]"Now, my son, the LORD be with[c]
you, and may you have success and
build the house of the LORD your God,
as he said you would. [12]May the LORD
give you discretion and understand-
ing[d] when he puts you in command
over Israel, so that you may keep the
law of the LORD your God. [13]Then you
will have success[e] if you are careful to
observe the decrees and laws[f] that the
LORD gave Moses for Israel. Be strong
and courageous.[g] Do not be afraid or
discouraged.
[14]"I have taken great pains to provide
for the temple of the LORD a hundred
thousand talents[z] of gold, a million tal-
ents[a] of silver, quantities of bronze and
iron too great to be weighed, and wood
and stone. And you may add to them.[h]
[15]You have many workmen: stonecut-
ters, masons and carpenters,[i] as well

21:20 eS Jdg 6:11
21:26 fS Ex 19:18; S Jdg 6:21
21:29 gS Jos 9:3
22:1 hS Ge 28:17
22:2 iS Ex 1:11; S Dt 20:11; 2Ch 8:7-10; S Isa 56:6 j1Ki 5:17-18; Ezr 3:7
22:3 kS 1Ki 7:47; 1Ch 29:2-5
22:4 lS 1Ki 5:6
22:5 mS 1Ki 3:7; 1Ch 29:1 n2Ch 2:5
22:6 oAc 7:47
22:7 pS 1Ch 17:2 qS 1Ki 8:17 rDt 12:5,11
22:8 sS 1Ki 5:3 t1Ch 28:3
22:9 uS Jos 14:15; S 1Ki 5:4 vver 18; 1Ch 23:25; 2Ch 14:6-7; 15:15; 20:30; 36:21 wS 2Sa 12:24; S 1Ch 23:1 x1Ki 4:20
22:10 yS 1Ch 17:12 zS 2Sa 7:13 a1Ki 9:5 bS 2Sa 7:14; S 1Ch 17:4; 2Ch 6:15
22:11 cS 1Sa 16:18; S 18:12
22:12 d1Ki 3:11
22:13 e1Ki 2:3 f1Ch 28:7 gS Dt 31:6
22:14 h1Ch 29:2-5,19
22:15 iEzr 3:7

w25 That is, about 15 pounds (about 7 kilograms)
x26 Traditionally peace offerings
y9 Solomon sounds like and may be derived from the Hebrew for peace.
z14 That is, about 3,750 tons (about 3,450 metric tons)
a14 That is, about 37,500 tons (about 34,500 metric tons)

are men skilled in every kind of work
[16]in gold and silver, bronze and iron—
craftsmen[l] beyond number. Now be-
gin the work, and the LORD be with
you."
[17]Then David ordered[m] all the lead-
ers of Israel to help his son Solomon.
[18]He said to them, "Is not the LORD
your God with you?[n] And has he not
granted you rest on every side?[o] For
he has handed the inhabitants of the
land over to me, and the land is subject
to the LORD and to his people. [19]Now
devote your heart and soul to seeking
the LORD your God.[p] Begin to build the
sanctuary of the LORD God, so that you
may bring the ark of the covenant of
the LORD and the sacred articles belong-
ing to God into the temple that will be
built for the Name of the LORD."

The Levites

23 [1]When David was old and full of
years, he made his son Solo-
mon[a] king over Israel.[b]
[2]He also gathered together all the
leaders of Israel, as well as the priests
and Levites. [3]The Levites thirty years
old or more[c] were counted,[d] and the
total number of men was thirty-eight
thousand. [4]David said, "Of these,
twenty-four thousand are to super-
vise[e] the work[f] of the temple of the
LORD and six thousand are to be offi-
cials and judges.[g] [5]Four thousand are
to be gatekeepers and four thousand
are to praise the LORD with the musical
instruments[h] I have provided for that
purpose."[i]
[6]David divided[j] the Levites into
groups corresponding to the sons of
Levi:[k] Gershon, Kohath and Merari.

Gershonites

[7]Belonging to the Gershonites:[l]
Ladan and Shimei.
[8]The sons of Ladan:
Jehiel the first, Zetham and
Joel—three in all.
[9]The sons of Shimei:
Shelomoth, Haziel and Haran—
three in all.
These were the heads of the
families of Ladan.
[10]And the sons of Shimei:
Jahath, Ziza,[b] Jeush and Beriah.
These were the sons of Shimei—
four in all.
[11]Jahath was the first and Ziza the
second, but Jeush and Beriah
did not have many sons; so they
were counted as one family with
one assignment.

Kohathites

[12]The sons of Kohath:[m]
Amram, Izhar, Hebron and Uz-
ziel—four in all.
[13]The sons of Amram:[n]
Aaron and Moses.
Aaron was set apart,[o] he and
his descendants forever, to con-
secrate the most holy things, to
offer sacrifices before the LORD,
to minister[p] before him and to
pronounce blessings[q] in his
name forever. [14]The sons of
Moses the man[r] of God were
counted as part of the tribe of
Levi.
[15]The sons of Moses:
Gershom and Eliezer.[s]
[16]The descendants of Gershom:[t]
Shubael was the first.
[17]The descendants of Eliezer:
Rehabiah[u] was the first.
Eliezer had no other sons, but
the sons of Rehabiah were very
numerous.
[18]The sons of Izhar:
Shelomith[v] was the first.
[19]The sons of Hebron:[w]
Jeriah the first, Amariah the sec-
ond, Jahaziel the third and Jeka-
meam the fourth.
[20]The sons of Uzziel:
Micah the first and Isshiah the
second.

Merarites

[21]The sons of Merari:[x]
Mahli and Mushi.[y]
The sons of Mahli:
Eleazar and Kish.
[22]Eleazar died without having
sons: he had only daughters.
Their cousins, the sons of Kish,
married them.[z]
[23]The sons of Mushi:
Mahli, Eder and Jerimoth—
three in all.

[24]These were the descendants of Levi
by their families—the heads of families
as they were registered under their
names and counted individually, that
is, the workers twenty years old or
more[a] who served in the temple of the
LORD. [25]For David had said, "Since the
LORD, the God of Israel, has granted
rest[b] to his people and has come to

b10 One Hebrew manuscript, Septuagint and Vulgate (see also verse 11); most Hebrew manuscripts Zina

dwell in Jerusalem forever, 26the Le-
vites no longer need to carry the taber-
nacle or any of the articles used in its
service."[a] 27According to the last in-
structions of David, the Levites were
counted from those twenty years old or
more.
28The duty of the Levites was to help
Aaron's descendants in the service of
the temple of the LORD: to be in charge
of the courtyards, the side rooms, the
purification[b] of all sacred things and
the performance of other duties at the
house of God. 29They were in charge of
the bread set out on the table,[c] the
flour for the grain offerings,[d] the un-
leavened wafers, the baking and the
mixing, and all measurements of quan-
tity and size.[e] 30They were also to
stand every morning to thank and
praise the LORD. They were to do the
same in the evening[f] 31and whenever
burnt offerings were presented to the
LORD on Sabbaths and at New Moon[g]
festivals and at appointed feasts.[h]
They were to serve before the LORD
regularly in the proper number and in
the way prescribed for them.
32And so the Levites[i] carried out
their responsibilities for the Tent of
Meeting,[j] for the Holy Place and, un-
der their brothers the descendants of
Aaron, for the service of the temple of
the LORD.[k]

The Divisions of Priests

24 These were the divisions[l] of the
sons of Aaron:[m]
The sons of Aaron were Nadab,
Abihu, Eleazar and Ithamar.[n] 2But
Nadab and Abihu died before their fa-
ther did,[o] and they had no sons; so
Eleazar and Ithamar served as the
priests. 3With the help of Zadok[p] a de-
scendant of Eleazar and Ahimelech a
descendant of Ithamar, David sepa-
rated them into divisions for their ap-
pointed order of ministering. 4A larger
number of leaders were found among
Eleazar's descendants than among
Ithamar's, and they were divided ac-
cordingly: sixteen heads of families
from Eleazar's descendants and eight
heads of families from Ithamar's de-
scendants. 5They divided them impar-
tially by drawing lots,[q] for there were
officials of the sanctuary and officials of
God among the descendants of both
Eleazar and Ithamar.
6The scribe Shemaiah son of Nethan-
el, a Levite, recorded their names in
the presence of the king and of the offi-
cials: Zadok the priest, Ahimelech[r] son
of Abiathar and the heads of families of
the priests and of the Levites—one
family being taken from Eleazar and
then one from Ithamar.

7The first lot fell to Jehoiarib,
the second to Jedaiah,[s]
8the third to Harim,[t]
the fourth to Seorim,
9the fifth to Malkijah,
the sixth to Mijamin,
10the seventh to Hakkoz,
the eighth to Abijah,[u]
11the ninth to Jeshua,
the tenth to Shecaniah,
12the eleventh to Eliashib,
the twelfth to Jakim,
13the thirteenth to Huppah,
the fourteenth to Jeshebeab,
14the fifteenth to Bilgah,
the sixteenth to Immer,[v]
15the seventeenth to Hezir,[w]
the eighteenth to Happizzez,
16the nineteenth to Pethahiah,
the twentieth to Jehezkel,
17the twenty-first to Jakin,
the twenty-second to Gamul,
18the twenty-third to Delaiah
and the twenty-fourth to Maaziah.

19This was their appointed order of
ministering when they entered the
temple of the LORD, according to the
regulations prescribed for them by
their forefather Aaron, as the LORD, the
God of Israel, had commanded him.

The Rest of the Levites

20As for the rest of the descendants of
Levi:[x]
from the sons of Amram: Shubael;
from the sons of Shubael: Jeh-
deiah.
21As for Rehabiah,[y] from his
sons:
Isshiah was the first.
22From the Izharites: Shelomoth;
from the sons of Shelomoth:
Jahath.
23The sons of Hebron:[z] Jeriah the
first,[c] Amariah the second,
Jahaziel the third and Jekameam
the fourth.
24The son of Uzziel: Micah;
from the sons of Micah: Shamir.
25The brother of Micah: Isshiah;
from the sons of Isshiah: Zecha-
riah.

23:26 [a] Nu 4:5, 15; 7:9; Dt 10:8
23:28 [b] 2Ch 29:15; Ne 13:9; Mal 3:3
23:29 [c] S Ex 25:30 [d] Lev 2:4-7; 6:20-23 [e] Lev 19:35-36; S 1Ch 9:29,32
23:30 [f] S 1Ch 9:33; Ps 134:1
23:31 [g] S 2Ki 4:23 [h] Nu 28:9-29:39; Isa 1:13-14; Col 2:16
23:32 [i] 1Ch 6:48 [j] Nu 3:6-8,38 [k] 2Ch 23:18; 31:2; Eze 44:14
24:1 [l] 1Ch 23:6; 28:13; 2Ch 5:11; 8:14; 23:8; 31:2; 35:4,5; Ezr 6:18 [m] Nu 3:2-4 [n] S Ex 6:23
24:2 [o] Lev 10:1-2
24:3 [p] S 2Sa 8:17
24:5 [q] ver 31; 1Ch 25:8; 26:13
24:6 [r] 1Ch 18:16
24:7 [s] Ezr 2:36; Ne 12:6
24:8 [t] Ezr 2:39; 10:21; Ne 10:5
24:10 [u] Ne 12:4, 17; Lk 1:5
24:14 [v] Ezr 2:37; 10:20; Jer 20:1
24:15 [w] Ne 10:20
24:20 [x] S 1Ch 23:6
24:21 [y] 1Ch 23:17
24:23 [z] S 1Ch 23:19

c23 Two Hebrew manuscripts and some Septuagint manuscripts (see also 1 Chron. 23:19); most Hebrew manuscripts *The sons of Jeriah:*

26The sons of Merari:[a] Mahli and
Mushi.
The son of Jaaziah: Beno.
27The sons of Merari:
from Jaaziah: Beno, Shoham,
Zaccur and Ibri.
28From Mahli: Eleazar, who had no
sons.
29From Kish: the son of Kish:
Jerahmeel.
30And the sons of Mushi: Mahli,
Eder and Jerimoth.

These were the Levites, according to
their families. 31They also cast lots,[b]
just as their brothers the descendants
of Aaron did, in the presence of King
David and of Zadok, Ahimelech, and
the heads of families of the priests and
of the Levites. The families of the old-
est brother were treated the same as
those of the youngest.

The Singers

25 David, together with the com-
manders of the army, set apart
some of the sons of Asaph,[c] Heman[d]
and Jeduthun[e] for the ministry of
prophesying,[f] accompanied by harps,
lyres and cymbals.[g] Here is the list of
the men[h] who performed this service:[i]

2From the sons of Asaph:
Zaccur, Joseph, Nethaniah and
Asarelah. The sons of Asaph were
under the supervision of Asaph,
who prophesied under the king's
supervision.
3As for Jeduthun, from his sons:[j]
Gedaliah, Zeri, Jeshaiah, Shimei,[a]
Hashabiah and Mattithiah, six in
all, under the supervision of their
father Jeduthun, who prophesied,
using the harp[k] in thanking and
praising the LORD.
4As for Heman, from his sons:
Bukkiah, Mattaniah, Uzziel,
Shubael and Jerimoth; Hananiah,
Hanani, Eliathah, Giddalti and
Romamti-Ezer; Joshbekashah, Mal-
lothi, Hothir and Mahazioth. 5All
these were sons of Heman the
king's seer. They were given him
through the promises of God to ex-
alt him.[b] God gave Heman four-
teen sons and three daughters.

6All these men were under the super-
vision of their fathers[l] for the music of
the temple of the LORD, with cymbals,
lyres and harps, for the ministry at the
house of God. Asaph, Jeduthun and
Heman[m] were under the supervision of
the king.[n] 7Along with their relatives—

24:26 [illegible]
24:31 [illegible]
25:1 [illegible]
25:3 [illegible]
25:6 [illegible]
25:8 [o]1Ch 26:13
25:9
[p]S 1Ch 6:39
25:31
[q]S 1Ch 9:33

all of them trained and skilled in music
for the LORD—they numbered 288.
8Young and old alike, teacher as well as
student, cast lots[o] for their duties.

9The first lot, which was for
Asaph,[p] fell to Joseph,
his sons and relatives,[c] 12[d]
the second to Gedaliah,
he and his relatives
and sons, 12
10the third to Zaccur,
his sons and relatives, 12
11the fourth to Izri,[e]
his sons and relatives, 12
12the fifth to Nethaniah,
his sons and relatives, 12
13the sixth to Bukkiah,
his sons and relatives, 12
14the seventh to Jesarelah,[f]
his sons and relatives, 12
15the eighth to Jeshaiah,
his sons and relatives, 12
16the ninth to Mattaniah,
his sons and relatives, 12
17the tenth to Shimei,
his sons and relatives, 12
18the eleventh to Azarel,[g]
his sons and relatives, 12
19the twelfth to Hashabiah,
his sons and relatives, 12
20the thirteenth to Shubael,
his sons and relatives, 12
21the fourteenth to Mattithiah,
his sons and relatives, 12
22the fifteenth to Jerimoth,
his sons and relatives, 12
23the sixteenth to Hananiah,
his sons and relatives, 12
24the seventeenth to Joshbekashah,
his sons and relatives, 12
25the eighteenth to Hanani,
his sons and relatives, 12
26the nineteenth to Mallothi,
his sons and relatives, 12
27the twentieth to Eliathah,
his sons and relatives, 12
28the twenty-first to Hothir,
his sons and relatives, 12
29the twenty-second to Giddalti,
his sons and relatives, 12
30the twenty-third to Mahazioth,
his sons and relatives, 12
31the twenty-fourth to
Romamti-Ezer,
his sons and relatives, 12[q]

[a]3 One Hebrew manuscript and some Septuagint manuscripts (see also verse 17); most Hebrew manuscripts do not have *Shimei.* [b]5 Hebrew *exalt the horn* [c]9 See Septuagint; Hebrew does not have *his sons and relatives.* [d]9 See the total in verse 7; Hebrew does not have *twelve.* [e]11 A variant of *Zeri* [f]14 A variant of *Asarelah* [g]18 A variant of *Uzziel*

The Gatekeepers

26 The divisions of the gatekeepers:[a]

From the Korahites: Meshelemiah
son of Kore, one of the sons of
Asaph.
2Meshelemiah had sons:
Zechariah[b] the firstborn,
Jediael the second,
Zebadiah the third,
Jathniel the fourth,
3Elam the fifth,
Jehohanan the sixth
and Eliehoenai the seventh.
4Obed-Edom also had sons:
Shemaiah the firstborn,
Jehozabad the second,
Joah the third,
Sacar the fourth,
Nethanel the fifth,
5Ammiel the sixth,
Issachar the seventh
and Peullethai the eighth.
(For God had blessed Obed-
Edom.[c])

6His son Shemaiah also had sons,
who were leaders in their fa-
ther's family because they were
very capable men. 7The sons of
Shemaiah: Othni, Rephael,
Obed and Elzabad; his relatives
Elihu and Semakiah were also
able men. 8All these were de-
scendants of Obed-Edom; they
and their sons and their rela-
tives were capable men with the
strength to do the work—
descendants of Obed-Edom, 62
in all.
9Meshelemiah had sons and rela-
tives, who were able men—18 in
all.

10Hosah the Merarite had sons:
Shimri the first (although he
was not the firstborn, his father
had appointed him the first),[d]
11Hilkiah the second, Tabaliah
the third and Zechariah the
fourth. The sons and relatives of
Hosah were 13 in all.

12These divisions of the gatekeepers,
through their chief men, had duties for
ministering[e] in the temple of the LORD,
just as their relatives had. 13Lots[f] were
cast for each gate, according to their
families, young and old alike.

14The lot for the East Gate[g] fell to
Shelemiah.[*] Then lots were cast for his
son Zechariah,[h] a wise counselor, and
the lot for the North Gate fell to him.

26:1 a 1Ch 9:17
26:2 b S 1Ch 9:21
26:5 c S 2Sa 6:10; S 1Ch 13:13; S 16:38
26:10 d Dt 21:16; 1Ch 5:1
26:12 e 1Ch 9:22
26:13 f S 1Ch 24:5
26:14 g S 1Ch 9:18 h S 1Ch 9:21
26:15 i S 1Ch 13:13; 2Ch 25:24
26:19 j 2Ch 35:15; Ne 7:1; Eze 44:11
26:20 k 2Sa 24:5 l 1Ch 28:12
26:21 m 1Ch 23:7; 29:8
26:22 n 1Ch 9:26
26:23 o S Nu 3:27
26:24 p 1Ch 23:16
26:25 q S 1Ch 23:18
26:26 r S 2Sa 8:11
26:28 s S 1Sa 9:9

15The lot for the South Gate fell to
Obed-Edom,[i] and the lot for the store-
house fell to his sons. 16The lots for the
West Gate and the Shalleketh Gate on
the upper road fell to Shuppim and
Hosah.

Guard was alongside of guard:
17There were six Levites a day on the
east, four a day on the north, four a
day on the south and two at a time at
the storehouse. 18As for the court to the
west, there were four at the road and
two at the court itself.

19These were the divisions of the
gatekeepers who were descendants of
Korah and Merari.[j]

The Treasurers and Other Officials

20Their fellow Levites[k] were[b] in
charge of the treasuries of the house of
God and the treasuries for the dedicat-
ed things.[l]

21The descendants of Ladan, who
were Gershonites through Ladan and
who were heads of families belonging
to Ladan the Gershonite,[m] were Jehieli,
22the sons of Jehieli, Zetham and his
brother Joel. They were in charge of the
treasuries[n] of the temple of the LORD.
23From the Amramites, the Izharites,
the Hebronites and the Uzzielites:[o]

24Shubael,[p] a descendant of Ger-
shom son of Moses, was the of-
ficer in charge of the treasuries.
25His relatives through Eliezer:
Rehabiah his son, Jeshaiah his
son, Joram his son, Zicri his son
and Shelomith[q] his son.
26Shelomith and his relatives
were in charge of all the treasur-
ies for the things dedicated[r] by
King David, by the heads of
families who were the com-
manders of thousands and com-
manders of hundreds, and by
the other army commanders.
27Some of the plunder taken in
battle they dedicated for the re-
pair of the temple of the LORD.
28And everything dedicated by
Samuel the seer[s] and by Saul
son of Kish, Abner son of Ner
and Joab son of Zeruiah, and all
the other dedicated things were
in the care of Shelomith and his
relatives.

29From the Izharites: Kenaniah and

[a]14 A variant of *Meshelemiah* [b]20 Septuagint; Hebrew *As for the Levites, Ahijah was*

his sons were assigned duties
away from the temple, as offi-
cials and judges[a] over Israel.
30From the Hebronites: Hashabiah[b]
and his relatives—seventeen
hundred able men—were re-
sponsible in Israel west of the
Jordan for all the work of the
LORD and for the king's service.
31As for the Hebronites,[c] Jeriah
was their chief according to the
genealogical records of their
families. In the fortieth[d] year of
David's reign a search was made
in the records, and capable men
among the Hebronites were
found at Jazer in Gilead. 32Jeriah
had twenty-seven hundred rela-
tives, who were able men and
heads of families, and King Da-
vid put them in charge of the
Reubenites, the Gadites and the
half-tribe of Manasseh for every
matter pertaining to God and for
the affairs of the king.

Army Divisions

27 This is the list of the Israelites—
heads of families, commanders
of thousands and commanders of hun-
dreds, and their officers, who served
the king in all that concerned the army
divisions that were on duty month by
month throughout the year. Each divi-
sion consisted of 24,000 men.

2In charge of the first division, for the
first month, was Jashobeam[e] son
of Zabdiel. There were 24,000
men in his division. 3He was a de-
scendant of Perez and chief of all
the army officers for the first
month.
4In charge of the division for the sec-
ond month was Dodai[f] the Aho-
hite; Mikloth was the leader of his
division. There were 24,000 men
in his division.
5The third army commander, for the
third month, was Benaiah[g] son of
Jehoiada the priest. He was chief
and there were 24,000 men in his
division. 6This was the Benaiah
who was a mighty man among
the Thirty and was over the
Thirty. His son Ammizabad was
in charge of his division.
7The fourth, for the fourth month, was
Asahel[h] the brother of Joab; his
son Zebadiah was his successor.
There were 24,000 men in his
division.

26:29 [a] Dt 17:8-13; 1Ch 23:4
26:30 [b] 1Ch 27:17
26:31 [c] S 1Ch 23:19; [d] S 2Sa 5:4
27:2 [e] 2Sa 23:8
27:4 [f] S 2Sa 23:9
27:5 [g] S 2Sa 23:20
27:7 [h] S 2Sa 2:18
27:8 [i] 1Ch 11:27
27:9 [j] 2Sa 23:26
27:10 [k] 2Sa 23:26
27:11 [l] S 2Sa 21:18
27:12 [m] 2Sa 23:27
27:13 [n] 2Sa 23:28
27:14 [o] S 1Ch 11:31
27:15 [p] 2Sa 23:29; [q] S Jos 15:17
27:17 [r] 1Ch 26:30; [s] S 2Sa 8:17; S 1Ch 12:28

8The fifth, for the fifth month, was the
commander Shamhuth[i] the Izra-
hite. There were 24,000 men in
his division.
9The sixth, for the sixth month, was
Ira[j] the son of Ikkesh the Tekoite.
There were 24,000 men in his
division.
10The seventh, for the seventh month,
was Helez[k] the Pelonite, an
Ephraimite. There were 24,000
men in his division.
11The eighth, for the eighth month,
was Sibbecai[l] the Hushathite, a
Zerahite. There were 24,000 men
in his division.
12The ninth, for the ninth month, was
Abiezer[m] the Anathothite, a Ben-
jamite. There were 24,000 men in
his division.
13The tenth, for the tenth month, was
Maharai[n] the Netophathite, a
Zerahite. There were 24,000 men
in his division.
14The eleventh, for the eleventh
month, was Benaiah[o] the
Pirathonite, an Ephraimite. There
were 24,000 men in his division.
15The twelfth, for the twelfth month,
was Heldai[p] the Netophathite,
from the family of Othniel.[q]
There were 24,000 men in his
division.

Officers of the Tribes

16The officers over the tribes of Is-
rael:

over the Reubenites: Eliezer son of
Zicri;
over the Simeonites: Shephatiah
son of Maacah;
17over Levi: Hashabiah[r] son of
Kemuel;
over Aaron: Zadok;[s]
18over Judah: Elihu, a brother of Da-
vid;
over Issachar: Omri son of Mi-
chael;
19over Zebulun: Ishmaiah son of
Obadiah;
over Naphtali: Jerimoth son of Az-
riel;
20over the Ephraimites: Hoshea son
of Azaziah;
over half the tribe of Manasseh:
Joel son of Pedaiah;
21over the half-tribe of Manasseh in
Gilead: Iddo son of Zechariah;
over Benjamin: Jaasiel son of Ab-
ner;
22over Dan: Azarel son of Jeroham.

These were the officers over the
tribes of Israel.

23David did not take the number of
the men twenty years old or less,[a] be-
cause the LORD had promised to make
Israel as numerous as the stars[b] in the
sky. 24Joab son of Zeruiah began to
count the men but did not finish.
Wrath came on Israel on account of this
numbering,[c] and the number was not
entered in the book[a] of the annals of
King David.

The King's Overseers

25Azmaveth son of Adiel was in
charge of the royal storehouses.
Jonathan son of Uzziah was in
charge of the storehouses in the outly-
ing districts, in the towns, the villages
and the watchtowers.
26Ezri son of Kelub was in charge of
the field workers who farmed the land.
27Shimei the Ramathite was in charge
of the vineyards.
Zabdi the Shiphmite was in charge of
the produce of the vineyards for the
wine vats.
28Baal-Hanan the Gederite was in
charge of the olive and sycamore-fig[d]
trees in the western foothills.
Joash was in charge of the supplies
of olive oil.
29Shitrai the Sharonite was in charge
of the herds grazing in Sharon.[e]
Shaphat son of Adlai was in charge
of the herds in the valleys.
30Obil the Ishmaelite was in charge of
the camels.
Jehdeiah the Meronothite was in
charge of the donkeys.
31Jaziz the Hagrite[f] was in charge of
the flocks.
All these were the officials in charge
of King David's property.

32Jonathan, David's uncle, was a
counselor, a man of insight and a
scribe. Jehiel son of Hacmoni took care
of the king's sons.
33Ahithophel[g] was the king's coun-
selor.
Hushai[h] the Arkite was the king's
friend. 34Ahithophel was succeeded by
Jehoiada son of Benaiah and by Abia-
thar.[i]
Joab[j] was the commander of the roy-
al army.

David's Plans for the Temple

28 David summoned[k] all the offi-
cials[l] of Israel to assemble at
Jerusalem: the officers over the tribes,
the commanders of the divisions in the
service of the king, the commanders of
thousands and commanders of hun-
dreds, and the officials in charge of all
the property and livestock belonging to
the king and his sons, together with
the palace officials, the mighty men
and all the brave warriors.

2King David rose to his feet and said:
"Listen to me, my brothers and my
people. I had it in my heart[m] to build a
house as a place of rest[n] for the ark of
the covenant of the LORD, for the foot-
stool[o] of our God, and I made plans to
build it.[p] 3But God said to me,[q] 'You
are not to build a house for my Name,[r]
because you are a warrior and have
shed blood.'[s]

4"Yet the LORD, the God of Israel,
chose me[t] from my whole family[u] to
be king over Israel forever. He chose
Judah[v] as leader, and from the house
of Judah he chose my family, and from
my father's sons he was pleased to
make me king over all Israel.[w] 5Of all
my sons—and the LORD has given me
many[x]—he has chosen my son Solo-
mon[y] to sit on the throne[z] of the king-
dom of the LORD over Israel. 6He said to
me: 'Solomon your son is the one who
will build[a] my house and my courts,
for I have chosen him to be my son,[b]
and I will be his father. 7I will establish
his kingdom forever if he is unswerv-
ing in carrying out my commands and
laws,[c] as is being done at this time.'[d]

8"So now I charge you in the sight of
all Israel[e] and of the assembly of the
LORD, and in the hearing of our God: Be
careful to follow all the commands[f] of
the LORD your God, that you may pos-
sess this good land and pass it on as an
inheritance to your descendants for-
ever.[g]

9"And you, my son Solomon, ac-
knowledge the God of your father, and
serve him with wholehearted devo-
tion[g] and with a willing mind, for the
LORD searches every heart[h] and under-
stands every motive behind the
thoughts. If you seek him,[i] he will be
found by you; but if you forsake[j] him,
he will reject[k] you forever. 10Consider
now, for the LORD has chosen you to
build a temple as a sanctuary. Be
strong and do the work."[l]

11Then David gave his son Solomon
the plans[m] for the portico of the tem-
ple, its buildings, its storerooms, its
upper parts, its inner rooms and the

27:23 a S 2Sa 24:1; 1Ch 21:2-5 b S Ge 12:2 **27:24** c S 2Sa 24:15; 1Ch 21:14 **27:28** d S 1Ki 10:27 **27:29** e S SS 2:1; Isa 33:9; 35:2; 65:10 **27:31** f S 1Ch 5:10 **27:33** g S 2Sa 15:12 h S 2Sa 15:37 **27:34** i S 1Sa 22:20 j S 2Sa 2:13 **28:1** k 1Ch 22:17 l 1Ch 27:1-31; 29:6 **28:2** m S 1Sa 10:7; S 1Ch 17:2 n 2Ch 6:41 o Ps 99:5; 132:7; Isa 60:13 p Ps 132:1-5 **28:3** q S 2Sa 7:5 r 1Ch 22:8 s S 1Ki 5:3; S 1Ch 17:4 **28:4** t 2Ch 6:6 u 1Sa 16:1-13 v S Ge 49:10; Nu 24:17-19 w 1Ch 11:1 **28:5** x S 1Ch 3:1 y S 2Sa 12:24; S 1Ch 23:1 z S 1Ch 17:14 **28:6** a 1Ki 8:20 b S 2Sa 7:13; S 1Ch 17:13 **28:7** c 1Ch 22:13 **28:8** d S 1Ch 9:1 e Dt 6:1 f Dt 4:1; S 17:14-20 **28:9** g S 1Ch 29:19 h S 1Sa 2:3; 2Ch 6:30; Ps 7:9 i S 1Ch 16:11; S Ps 40:16 j S Dt 4:31; S Jos 24:20; S 2Ch 7:19; 15:2 k 1Ki 9:7; Ps 44:23; 74:1; 77:7 **28:11** l S Ex 25:9; Ac 7:44; Heb 8:5

[a]24 Septuagint; Hebrew number

place of atonement. 12 He gave him the
plans of all that the Spirit[a] had put in
his mind for the courts of the temple of
the LORD and all the surrounding
rooms, for the treasuries of the temple
of God and for the treasuries for the
dedicated things.[b] 13 He gave him in-
structions for the divisions[c] of the
priests and Levites, and for all the
work of serving in the temple of the
LORD, as well as for all the articles to be
used in its service. 14 He designated the
weight of gold for all the gold articles to
be used in various kinds of service, and
the weight of silver for all the silver ar-
ticles to be used in various kinds of ser-
vice: 15 the weight of gold for the gold
lampstands[d] and their lamps, with the
weight for each lampstand and its
lamps; and the weight of silver for each
silver lampstand and its lamps, accord-
ing to the use of each lampstand; 16 the
weight of gold for each table[e] for con-
secrated bread; the weight of silver for
the silver tables; 17 the weight of pure
gold for the forks, sprinkling bowls[f]
and pitchers; the weight of gold for
each gold dish; the weight of silver for
each silver dish; 18 and the weight of the
refined gold for the altar of incense.[g]
He also gave him the plan for the char-
iot,[h] that is, the cherubim of gold that
spread their wings and shelter[i] the ark
of the covenant of the LORD.

19 "All this," David said, "I have in
writing from the hand of the LORD upon
me, and he gave me understanding in
all the details[j] of the plan.[k]"

20 David also said to Solomon his son,
"Be strong and courageous,[l] and do
the work. Do not be afraid or dis-
couraged, for the LORD God, my God, is
with you. He will not fail you or for-
sake[m] you until all the work for the ser-
vice of the temple of the LORD is fin-
ished.[n] 21 The divisions of the priests
and Levites are ready for all the work
on the temple of God, and every will-
ing man skilled[o] in any craft will help
you in all the work. The officials and all
the people will obey your every com-
mand."

Gifts for Building the Temple

29 Then King David said to the
whole assembly: "My son Solo-
mon, the one whom God has chosen,
is young and inexperienced.[p] The task
is great, because this palatial structure
is not for man but for the LORD God.
2 With all my resources I have provided
for the temple of my God—gold[q] for
the gold work, silver for the silver,
bronze for the bronze, iron for the iron
and wood for the wood, as well as
onyx for the settings, turquoise,[a][r]
stones of various colors, and all kinds
of fine stone and marble—all of these
in large quantities.[s] 3 Besides, in my de-
votion to the temple of my God I now
give my personal treasures of gold and
silver for the temple of my God, over
and above everything I have provided[t]
for this holy temple: 4 three thousand
talents[o] of gold (gold of Ophir)[u] and
seven thousand talents[p] of refined sil-
ver,[v] for the overlaying of the walls of
the buildings, 5 for the gold work and
the silver work, and for all the work to
be done by the craftsmen. Now, who is
willing to consecrate himself today to
the LORD?"

6 Then the leaders of families, the offi-
cers of the tribes of Israel, the com-
manders of thousands and command-
ers of hundreds, and the officials[w] in
charge of the king's work gave will-
ingly.[x] 7 They[y] gave toward the work
on the temple of God five thousand tal-
ents[q] and ten thousand darics[r] of
gold, ten thousand talents[s] of silver,
eighteen thousand talents[t] of bronze
and a hundred thousand talents[u] of
iron. 8 Any who had precious stones[z]
gave them to the treasury of the temple
of the LORD in the custody of Jehiel the
Gershonite.[a] 9 The people rejoiced at
the willing response of their leaders,
for they had given freely and whole-
heartedly[b] to the LORD. David the king
also rejoiced greatly.

David's Prayer

10 David praised the LORD in the pres-
ence of the whole assembly, saying,

"Praise be to you, O LORD,
God of our father Israel,
from everlasting to everlasting.
11 Yours, O LORD, is the greatness and
the power[c]
and the glory and the majesty and
the splendor,
for everything in heaven and earth
is yours.[d]
Yours, O LORD, is the kingdom;
you are exalted as head over all.[e]

28:12 [a]S 1Ch 12:18 [b]1Ch 26:20
28:13 [c]S 1Ch 24:1
28:15 [d]Ex 25:31
28:16 [e]S Ex 25:23
28:17 [f]S Ex 27:3
28:18 [g]Ex 30:1-10 [h]S Ex 25:22 [i]S Ex 25:20
28:19 [j]1Ki 6:38 [k]S Ex 25:9
28:20 [l]S Dt 31:6; 1Ch 22:13; 2Ch 19:11; Hag 2:4 [m]S Dt 4:31; S Jos 24:20 [n]S 1Ki 6:14; 2Ch 7:11
28:21 [o]Ex 35:25-36:5
29:1 [p]1Ki 3:7; 1Ch 22:5; 2Ch 13:7
29:2 [q]ver 7,14, 16; Ezr 1:4; 6:5; Hag 2:8 [r]Isa 54:11 [s]1Ch 22:2-5
29:3 [t]2Ch 24:10; 31:3; 35:8
29:4 [u]S Ge 10:29 [v]1Ch 22:14
29:6 [w]1Ch 27:1; S 28:1 [x]ver 9; Ex 25:1-8; 35:20-29; 36:2; 2Ch 24:10; Ezr 7:15
29:7 [y]S Ex 25:2; Ne 7:70-71
29:8 [z]Ex 35:27 [a]S 1Ch 26:21
29:9 [b]1Ki 8:61
29:11 [c]Ps 24:8; 59:17; 62:11 [d]Ps 89:11 [e]Rev 5:12-13

[a]2 The meaning of the Hebrew for this word is uncertain. [o]4 That is, about 110 tons (about 100 metric tons) [p]4 That is, about 260 tons (about 240 metric tons) [q]7 That is, about 190 tons (about 170 metric tons) [r]7 That is, about 185 pounds (about 84 kilograms) [s]7 That is, about 375 tons (about 345 metric tons) [t]7 That is, about 675 tons (about 610 metric tons) [u]7 That is, about 3,750 tons (about 3,450 metric tons)

12Wealth and honor[a] come from you;
you are the ruler[b] of all things.
In your hands are strength and
power
to exalt and give strength to all.
13Now, our God, we give you thanks,
and praise your glorious name.

14"But who am I, and who are my
people, that we should be able to give
as generously as this?[c] Everything
comes from you, and we have given
you only what comes from your
hand.[d] 15We are aliens and strangers[e]
in your sight, as were all our fore-
fathers. Our days on earth are like a
shadow,[f] without hope. 16O LORD our
God, as for all this abundance that we
have provided for building you a tem-
ple for your Holy Name, it comes from
your hand, and all of it belongs to you.
17I know, my God, that you test the
heart[g] and are pleased with integrity.
All these things have I given willingly
and with honest intent. And now I
have seen with joy how willingly your
people who are here have given to
you.[h] 18O LORD, God of our fathers
Abraham, Isaac and Israel, keep this
desire in the hearts of your people for-
ever, and keep their hearts loyal to
you. 19And give my son Solomon the
wholehearted devotion[i] to keep your
commands, requirements and decrees[j]
and to do everything to build the pala-
tial structure for which I have pro-
vided."[k]

20Then David said to the whole as-
sembly, "Praise the LORD your God."
So they all praised the LORD, the God of
their fathers; they bowed low and fell
prostrate before the LORD and the king.

Solomon Acknowledged as King

29:21-25pp — 1Ki 1:28-53

21The next day they made sacrifices
to the LORD and presented burnt offer-
ings to him:[l] a thousand bulls, a thou-
sand rams and a thousand male lambs,
together with their drink offerings, and
other sacrifices in abundance for all Is-
rael.[m] 22They ate and drank with great
joy[n] in the presence of the LORD that
day.

Then they acknowledged Solomon
son of David as king a second time,
anointing him before the LORD to be rul-
er and Zadok[o] to be priest. 23So Solo-
mon sat[p] on the throne[q] of the LORD as
king in place of his father David. He
prospered and all Israel obeyed him.
24All the officers and mighty men, as
well as all of King David's sons,[r]
pledged their submission to King Solo-
mon.

25The LORD highly exalted[s] Sol-
omon in the sight of all Israel and
bestowed on him royal splendor[t] such
as no king over Israel ever had be-
fore.[u]

The Death of David

29:26-28pp — 1Ki 2:10-12

26David son of Jesse was king[v] over
all Israel.[w] 27He ruled over Israel forty
years—seven in Hebron[x] and thirty-
three in Jerusalem.[y] 28He died[z] at a
good old age, having enjoyed long life,
wealth and honor. His son Solomon
succeeded him as king.[a]

29As for the events of King David's
reign, from beginning to end, they are
written in the records of Samuel the
seer,[b] the records of Nathan[c] the
prophet and the records of Gad[d] the
seer, 30together with the details of his
reign and power, and the circum-
stances that surrounded him and Israel
and the kingdoms of all the other
lands.

29:12 [a]2Ch 1:12; 32:27; Ezr 7:27; Ecc 5:19 [b]2Ch 20:6
29:14 [c]Ps 8:4; 144:3 [d]S ver 2
29:15 [e]S Ge 17:8; S 23:4; Ps 39:12; S Heb 11:13 [f]Job 7:6; 8:9; 14:2; 32:7; Ps 102:11; 144:4; Ecc 6:12
29:17 [g]Ps 139:23; Pr 15:11; 17:3; Jer 11:20; 17:10 [h]1Ch 28:9; Ps 15:1-5; Pr 11:20
29:19 [i]S 1Ki 8:61; 11:4; 1Ch 28:9; Isa 38:3 [j]Ps 72:1 [k]S 1Ch 22:14
29:21 [l]S 1Ki 8:62 [m]1Ch 11:1
29:22 [n]1Ch 12:40 [o]S 1Sa 2:35
29:23 [p]S Dt 17:18 [q]S 1Ki 2:12; S 1Ch 17:14
29:24 [r]1Ki 1:9
29:25 [s]S Jos 3:7 [t]1Ki 10:7; 2Ch 1:1,12 [u]Ecc 2:9
29:26 [v]1Ch 18:14 [w]1Ch 11:1
29:27 [x]S Ge 23:19 [y]2Sa 5:4-5; S 1Ch 3:4
29:28 [z]S Ge 15:15; Ac 13:36 [a]S 1Ch 23:1
29:29 [b]S 1Sa 9:9 [c]S 2Sa 7:2 [d]S 1Sa 22:5

2 Chronicles

Solomon Asks for Wisdom

1:2-13pp — 1Ki 3:4-15
1:14-17pp — 1Ki 10:26-29; 2Ch 9:25-28

1 Solomon son of David established[a]
himself firmly over his kingdom,
for the LORD his God was with[b] him
and made him exceedingly great.[c]
2Then Solomon spoke to all Is-
rael[d]—to the commanders of thou-
sands and commanders of hundreds,
to the judges and to all the leaders in
Israel, the heads of families— 3and
Solomon and the whole assembly went
to the high place at Gibeon,[e] for God's
Tent of Meeting[f] was there, which
Moses[g] the LORD's servant had made in
the desert. 4Now David had brought
up the ark[h] of God from Kiriath Jearim
to the place he had prepared for it, be-
cause he had pitched a tent[i] for it in
Jerusalem. 5But the bronze altar[j] that
Bezalel[k] son of Uri, the son of Hur,
had made was in Gibeon in front of the
tabernacle of the LORD; so Solomon and
the assembly inquired[l] of him there.
6Solomon went up to the bronze altar
before the LORD in the Tent of Meeting
and offered a thousand burnt offerings
on it.
7That night God appeared[m] to Solo-
mon and said to him, "Ask for what-
ever you want me to give you."
8Solomon answered God, "You have
shown great kindness to David my fa-
ther and have made me[n] king in his
place. 9Now, LORD God, let your prom-
ise[o] to my father David be confirmed,
for you have made me king over a
people who are as numerous as the
dust of the earth.[p] 10Give me wisdom
and knowledge, that I may lead[q] this
people, for who is able to govern this
great people of yours?"
11God said to Solomon, "Since this is
your heart's desire and you have not
asked for wealth,[r] riches or honor, nor
for the death of your enemies, and
since you have not asked for a long life
but for wisdom and knowledge to gov-
ern my people over whom I have made
you king, 12therefore wisdom and
knowledge will be given you. And I
will also give you wealth, riches and
honor,[s] such as no king who was be-
fore you ever had and none after you
will have.[t]"
13Then Solomon went to Jerusalem
from the high place at Gibeon, from be-
fore the Tent of Meeting. And he
reigned over Israel.
14Solomon accumulated chariots[u]
and horses; he had fourteen hundred
chariots and twelve thousand horses,[a]
which he kept in the chariot cities and
also with him in Jerusalem. 15The king
made silver and gold[v] as common in
Jerusalem as stones, and cedar as plen-
tiful as sycamore-fig trees in the foot-
hills. 16Solomon's horses were import-
ed from Egypt[b] and from Kue[c]—the
royal merchants purchased them from
Kue. 17They imported a chariot[w] from
Egypt for six hundred shekels[d] of sil-
ver, and a horse for a hundred and
fifty.[e] They also exported them to all
the kings of the Hittites and of the Ara-
means.

Preparations for Building the Temple

2:1-18pp — 1Ki 5:1-16

2 Solomon gave orders to build a
temple[x] for the Name of the LORD
and a royal palace for himself.[y] 2He
conscripted seventy thousand men as
carriers and eighty thousand as stone-
cutters in the hills and thirty-six hun-
dred as foremen over them.[z]
3Solomon sent this message to
Hiram[f][a] king of Tyre:

"Send me cedar logs[b] as you did
for my father David when you sent
him cedar to build a palace to live
in. 4Now I am about to build a tem-
ple[c] for the Name of the LORD my
God and to dedicate it to him for

1:1 aS 1Ki 2:12; S 2Ch 12:1; bS Ge 21:22; S 39:2; S Nu 14:43; cS 1Ch 29:25 **1:2** dS 1Ch 9:1 **1:3** eS Jos 9:3; fS Lev 17:4; gEx 40:18 **1:4** hS 1Ch 15:25; i2Sa 6:17 **1:5** jEx 38:2; kS Ex 31:2; lS 1Ch 13:3 **1:7** m2Ch 7:12 **1:8** nS 1Ch 23:1 **1:9** oS 2Sa 7:25; S 1Ki 8:25; pS Ge 12:2 **1:10** qNu 27:17; 2Sa 5:2; Pr 8:15-16 **1:11** rS Dt 17:17 **1:12** sS 1Ch 29:12; tS 1Ch 29:25; 2Ch 9:22; Ne 13:26 **1:14** uS 1Sa 8:11; S 1Ki 9:19 **1:15** vS 1Ki 9:28; Isa 60:5 **1:17** wSS 1:9 **2:1** xS Dt 12:5; yEcc 2:4 **2:2** z2Ch 10:4 **2:3** aS 2Sa 5:11; bS 1Ch 14:1 **2:4** cS Dt 12:5

a14 Or *charioteers* b16 Or possibly *Muzur*, a region in Cilicia; also in verse 17 c16 Probably Cilicia
d17 That is, about 15 pounds (about 7 kilograms)
e17 That is, about 3 3/4 pounds (about 1.7 kilograms)
f3 Hebrew *Huram*, a variant of *Hiram*; also in verses 11 and 12

burning fragrant incense[a] before
him, for setting out the consecrated
bread[b] regularly, and for making
burnt offerings[c] every morning
and evening and on Sabbaths[d] and
New Moons[e] and at the appointed
feasts of the LORD our God. This is a
lasting ordinance for Israel.
5"The temple I am going to build
will be great,[f] because our God is
greater than all other gods.[g] 6But
who is able to build a temple for
him, since the heavens, even the
highest heavens, cannot contain
him?[h] Who then am I[i] to build a
temple for him, except as a place to
burn sacrifices before him?
7"Send me, therefore, a man
skilled to work in gold and silver,
bronze and iron, and in purple,
crimson and blue yarn, and experi-
enced in the art of engraving, to
work in Judah and Jerusalem with
my skilled craftsmen,[j] whom my
father David provided.
8"Send me also cedar, pine and
algum[g] logs from Lebanon, for I
know that your men are skilled in
cutting timber there. My men will
work with yours 9to provide me
with plenty of lumber, because the
temple I build must be large and
magnificent. 10I will give your ser-
vants, the woodsmen who cut the
timber, twenty thousand cors[h] of
ground wheat, twenty thousand
cors of barley, twenty thousand
baths[i] of wine and twenty thou-
sand baths of olive oil.[k]"

11Hiram king of Tyre replied by letter
to Solomon:

"Because the LORD loves[l] his
people, he has made you their
king."

12And Hiram added:

"Praise be to the LORD, the God
of Israel, who made heaven and
earth![m] He has given King David a
wise son, endowed with intelli-
gence and discernment, who will
build a temple for the LORD and a
palace for himself.
13"I am sending you Huram-
Abi,[n] a man of great skill, 14whose
mother was from Dan[o] and whose
father was from Tyre. He is
trained[p] to work in gold and silver,
bronze and iron, stone and wood,
and with purple and blue[q] and
crimson yarn and fine linen. He is
experienced in all kinds of engrav-
ing and can execute any design giv-
en to him. He will work with your
craftsmen and with those of my
lord, David your father.
15"Now let my lord send his ser-
vants the wheat and barley and the
olive oil[r] and wine he promised,
16and we will cut all the logs from
Lebanon that you need and will
float them in rafts by sea down to
Joppa.[s] You can then take them up
to Jerusalem."

17Solomon took a census of all the
aliens[t] who were in Israel, after the
census[u] his father David had taken;
and they were found to be 153,600.
18He assigned[v] 70,000 of them to be
carriers and 80,000 to be stonecutters in
the hills, with 3,600 foremen over them
to keep the people working.

Solomon Builds the Temple

3:1-14pp — 1Ki 6:1-29

3 Then Solomon began to build[w] the
temple of the LORD[x] in Jerusalem
on Mount Moriah, where the LORD had
appeared to his father David. It was on
the threshing floor of Araunah[j][y] the
Jebusite, the place provided by David.
2He began building on the second day
of the second month in the fourth year
of his reign.[z]
3The foundation Solomon laid for
building the temple of God was sixty
cubits long and twenty cubits wide[k][a]
(using the cubit of the old standard).
4The portico at the front of the temple
was twenty cubits[l] long across the
width of the building and twenty cu-
bits[m] high.
He overlaid the inside with pure
gold. 5He paneled the main hall with
pine and covered it with fine gold and
decorated it with palm tree[b] and chain
designs. 6He adorned the temple with
precious stones. And the gold he used
was gold of Parvaim. 7He overlaid the
ceiling beams, doorframes, walls and
doors of the temple with gold, and he
carved cherubim[c] on the walls.
8He built the Most Holy Place,[d] its
length corresponding to the width of

2:4 [a]S Ex 30:7 [b]Ex 25:30 [c]Ex 29:42; 2Ch 13:11; 29:28 [d]S Lev 23:38 [e]S Nu 28:14
2:5 [f]1Ch 22:5 [g]S Ex 12:12; S 1Ch 16:25
2:6 [h]S 1Ki 8:27; Jer 23:24 [i]S Ex 3:11
2:7 [j]S Ex 35:31; 1Ch 22:16
2:10 [k]Ezr 3:7
2:11 [l]1Ki 10:9; 2Ch 9:8
2:12 [m]Ne 9:6; Ps 8:3; 33:6; 96:5; 102:25; 146:6
2:13 [n]S 1Ki 7:13
2:14 [o]S Ex 31:6 [p]S Ex 35:31 [q]Ex 35:35
2:15 [r]Ezr 3:7
2:16 [s]S Jos 19:46; Jnh 1:3
2:17 [t]1Ch 22:2 [u]S 2Sa 24:2
2:18 [v]1Ch 22:2; 2Ch 8:8
3:1 [w]Ac 7:47 [x]S Ge 28:17 [y]S 2Sa 24:18
3:2 [z]Ezr 5:11
3:3 [a]Eze 41:2
3:5 [b]Eze 40:16
3:7 [c]Ge 3:24; Eze 41:18
3:8 [d]S Ex 26:33

[g]8 Probably a variant of *almug;* possibly juniper [h]10 That is, probably about 125,000 bushels (about 4,400 kiloliters) [i]10 That is, probably about 115,000 gallons (about 440 kiloliters) [j]1 Hebrew *Ornan,* a variant of *Araunah* [k]3 That is, about 90 feet (about 27 meters) long and 30 feet (about 9 meters) wide [l]4 That is, about 30 feet (about 9 meters); also in verses 8, 11 and 13 [m]4 Some Septuagint and Syriac manuscripts; Hebrew *and a hundred and twenty*

the temple—twenty cubits long and
twenty cubits wide. He overlaid the in-
side with six hundred talents[n] of fine
gold. 9The gold nails[a] weighed fifty
shekels.[o] He also overlaid the upper
parts with gold.
10In the Most Holy Place he made a
pair[b] of sculptured cherubim and over-
laid them with gold. 11The total wing-
span of the cherubim was twenty cu-
bits. One wing of the first cherub was
five cubits[p] long and touched the tem-
ple wall, while its other wing, also five
cubits long, touched the wing of the
other cherub. 12Similarly one wing of
the second cherub was five cubits long
and touched the other temple wall, and
its other wing, also five cubits long,
touched the wing of the first cherub.
13The wings of these cherubim[c] ex-
tended twenty cubits. They stood on
their feet, facing the main hall.[q]
14He made the curtain[d] of blue, pur-
ple and crimson yarn and fine linen,
with cherubim[e] worked into it.
15In the front of the temple he made
two pillars,[f] which ⌞together⌟ were
thirty-five cubits[r] long, each with a
capital[g] on top measuring five cubits.
16He made interwoven chains[s][h] and
put them on top of the pillars. He also
made a hundred pomegranates[i] and
attached them to the chains. 17He erect-
ed the pillars in the front of the temple,
one to the south and one to the north.
The one to the south he named Jakin[t]
and the one to the north Boaz.[u]

The Temple's Furnishings

4:2-6,10–5:1pp — 1Ki 7:23-26,38-51

4 He made a bronze altar[j] twenty cu-
bits long, twenty cubits wide and
ten cubits high.[v] 2He made the Sea[k] of
cast metal, circular in shape, measuring
ten cubits from rim to rim and five cu-
bits[w] high. It took a line of thirty cu-
bits[x] to measure around it. 3Below the
rim, figures of bulls encircled it—ten to
a cubit.[y] The bulls were cast in two
rows in one piece with the Sea.
4The Sea stood on twelve bulls, three
facing north, three facing west, three
facing south and three facing east.[l]
The Sea rested on top of them, and
their hindquarters were toward the
center. 5It was a handbreadth[z] in thick-
ness, and its rim was like the rim of a
cup, like a lily blossom. It held three
thousand baths.[a]
6He then made ten basins[m] for wash-
ing and placed five on the south side

3:9 [a]Ex 26:32
3:10 [b]Ex 25:18
3:13 [c]S Ex 25:18
3:14 [d]S Ex 26:31,33 [e]Ge 3:24
3:15 [f]S 1Ki 7:15; Rev 3:12 [g]1Ki 7:22
3:16 [h]1Ki 7:17 [i]S 1Ki 7:20
4:1 [j]S Ex 20:24; S 40:6; S 1Ki 8:64
4:2 [k]Rev 4:6; 15:2
4:4 [l]Nu 2:3-25; Eze 48:30-34; Rev 21:13
4:6 [m]S Ex 30:18 [n]Ne 13:5,9; Eze 40:38
4:7 [o]S Ex 25:31 [p]Ex 25:40
4:8 [q]S Ex 25:23 [r]S Nu 4:14
4:9 [s]1Ki 6:36; 2Ch 33:5
4:11 [t]1Ki 7:14
4:14 [u]1Ki 7:27-30
4:16 [v]S 1Ki 7:13
4:17 [w]S Ge 33:17

and five on the north. In them the
things to be used for the burnt offer-
ings[n] were rinsed, but the Sea was to
be used by the priests for washing.
7He made ten gold lampstands[o] ac-
cording to the specifications[p] for them
and placed them in the temple, five on
the south side and five on the north.
8He made ten tables[q] and placed
them in the temple, five on the south
side and five on the north. He also
made a hundred gold sprinkling
bowls.[r]
9He made the courtyard[s] of the
priests, and the large court and the
doors for the court, and overlaid the
doors with bronze. 10He placed the Sea
on the south side, at the southeast cor-
ner.
11He also made the pots and shovels
and sprinkling bowls.
So Huram finished[t] the work he had
undertaken for King Solomon in the
temple of God:

12the two pillars;
the two bowl-shaped capitals on
top of the pillars;
the two sets of network decorating
the two bowl-shaped capitals on
top of the pillars;
13the four hundred pomegranates
for the two sets of network (two
rows of pomegranates for each
network, decorating the bowl-
shaped capitals on top of the pil-
lars);
14the stands[u] with their basins;
15the Sea and the twelve bulls under
it;
16the pots, shovels, meat forks and
all related articles.

All the objects that Huram-Abi[v]
made for King Solomon for the temple
of the LORD were of polished bronze.
17The king had them cast in clay molds
in the plain of the Jordan between Suc-
coth[w] and Zarethan.[b] 18All these things
that Solomon made amounted to so

[n]8 That is, about 23 tons (about 21 metric tons)
[o]9 That is, about 1 1/4 pounds (about 0.6 kilogram)
[p]11 That is, about 7 1/2 feet (about 2.3 meters); also in verse 15
[q]13 Or *facing inward*
[r]15 That is, about 52 feet (about 16 meters)
[s]16 Or possibly *made chains in the inner sanctuary*; the meaning of the Hebrew for this phrase is uncertain.
[t]17 *Jakin* probably means *he establishes*.
[u]17 *Boaz* probably means *in him is strength*.
[v]1 That is, about 30 feet (about 9 meters) long and wide, and about 15 feet (about 4.5 meters) high
[w]2 That is, about 7 1/2 feet (about 2.3 meters)
[x]2 That is, about 45 feet (about 13.5 meters)
[y]3 That is, about 1 1/2 feet (about 0.5 meter)
[z]5 That is, about 3 inches (about 8 centimeters)
[a]5 That is, about 17,500 gallons (about 66 kiloliters)
[b]17 Hebrew *Zeredatha*, a variant of *Zarethan*

much that the weight of the bronze[a]
was not determined.
19Solomon also made all the fur-
nishings that were in God's temple:

the golden altar;
the tables[b] on which was the
bread of the Presence;
20the lampstands[c] of pure gold with
their lamps, to burn in front of
the inner sanctuary as pre-
scribed;
21the gold floral work and lamps and
tongs (they were solid gold);
22the pure gold wick trimmers,
sprinkling bowls, dishes[d] and
censers;[e] and the gold doors of
the temple: the inner doors to
the Most Holy Place and the
doors of the main hall.

5 When all the work Solomon had
done for the temple of the LORD was
finished,[f] he brought in the things his
father David had dedicated[g]—the sil-
ver and gold and all the furnishings—
and he placed them in the treasuries of
God's temple.

The Ark Brought to the Temple

5:2–6:11pp — 1Ki 8:1-21

2Then Solomon summoned to Jerusa-
lem the elders of Israel, all the heads of
the tribes and the chiefs of the Israelite
families, to bring up the ark[h] of the
LORD's covenant from Zion, the City of
David. 3And all the men of Israel[i]
came together to the king at the time of
the festival in the seventh month.
4When all the elders of Israel had ar-
rived, the Levites took up the ark, 5and
they brought up the ark and the Tent of
Meeting and all the sacred furnishings
in it. The priests, who were Levites,[j]
carried them up; 6and King Solomon
and the entire assembly of Israel that
had gathered about him were before
the ark, sacrificing so many sheep and
cattle that they could not be recorded
or counted.
7The priests then brought the ark[k] of
the LORD's covenant to its place in the
inner sanctuary of the temple, the Most
Holy Place, and put it beneath the
wings of the cherubim. 8The cher-
ubim[l] spread their wings over the
place of the ark and covered the ark
and its carrying poles. 9These poles
were so long that their ends, extending
from the ark, could be seen from in
front of the inner sanctuary, but not
from outside the Holy Place; and they
are still there today. 10There was noth-
ing in the ark except[m] the two tablets[n]
that Moses had placed in it at Horeb,
where the LORD made a covenant with
the Israelites after they came out of
Egypt.
11The priests then withdrew from the
Holy Place. All the priests who were
there had consecrated themselves, re-
gardless of their divisions.[o] 12All the
Levites who were musicians[p]—Asaph,
Heman, Jeduthun and their sons and
relatives—stood on the east side of the
altar, dressed in fine linen and playing
cymbals, harps and lyres. They were
accompanied by 120 priests sounding
trumpets.[q] 13The trumpeters and sing-
ers joined in unison, as with one voice,
to give praise and thanks to the LORD.
Accompanied by trumpets, cymbals
and other instruments, they raised
their voices in praise to the LORD and
sang:

"He is good;
his love endures forever."[r]

Then the temple of the LORD was
filled with a cloud,[s] 14and the priests
could not perform[t] their service be-
cause of the cloud,[u] for the glory[v] of
the LORD filled the temple of God.

6 Then Solomon said, "The LORD has
said that he would dwell in a dark
cloud;[w] 2I have built a magnificent tem-
ple for you, a place for you to dwell
forever.[x]"
3While the whole assembly of Israel
was standing there, the king turned
around and blessed them. 4Then he
said:

"Praise be to the LORD, the God
of Israel, who with his hands has
fulfilled what he promised with his
mouth to my father David. For he
said, 5'Since the day I brought my
people out of Egypt, I have not
chosen a city in any tribe of Israel
to have a temple built for my Name
to be there, nor have I chosen any-
one to be the leader over my
people Israel. 6But now I have cho-
sen Jerusalem[y] for my Name[z] to
be there, and I have chosen David[a]
to rule my people Israel.'
7"My father David had it in his
heart[b] to build a temple for the
Name of the LORD, the God of Is-
rael. 8But the LORD said to my father
David, 'Because it was in your
heart to build a temple for my
Name, you did well to have this in
your heart. 9Nevertheless, you are

4:18 [a]S 1Ki 7:23
4:19 [b]S Ex 25:23
4:20 [c]Ex 25:31
4:22 [d]S Nu 7:14
[e]S Lev 10:1
5:1 [f]S 1Ki 6:14
[g]S 2Sa 8:11
5:2 [h]S Nu 3:31; S 1Ch 15:25
5:3 [i]S 1Ch 9:1
5:5 [j]S Nu 3:31; S 1Ch 15:2
5:7 [k]Rev 11:19
5:8 [l]S Ge 3:24
5:10 [m]Heb 9:4
[n]S Ex 16:34; S Dt 10:2
5:11 [o]S 1Ch 24:1
5:12 [p]1Ki 10:12; 1Ch 9:33; S 25:1; Ps 68:25
[q]S 1Ch 13:8
5:13 [r]S 1Ch 16:34; 2Ch 7:3; 20:21; Ezr 3:11; Ps 100:5; 106:1; 107:1; 118:1; 136:1; Jer 33:11
[s]S Ex 40:34
5:14 [t]Ex 40:35; Rev 15:8
[u]Ex 19:16
[v]S Ex 29:43; S 40:35
6:1 [w]S Ex 19:9
6:2 [x]Ezr 6:12; 7:15; Ps 135:21
6:6 [y]S Dt 12:5; S Isa 14:1
[z]S Ex 20:24
[a]S 1Ch 28:4
6:7 [b]S 1Sa 10:7; S 1Ch 17:2; Ac 7:46

not the one to build the temple, but
your son, who is your own flesh
and blood—he is the one who will
build the temple for my Name.'
10"The LORD has kept the promise
he made. I have succeeded David
my father and now I sit on the
throne of Israel, just as the LORD
promised, and I have built the tem-
ple for the Name of the LORD, the
God of Israel. 11There I have placed
the ark, in which is the covenant[a]
of the LORD that he made with the
people of Israel."

Solomon's Prayer of Dedication

6:12-40pp — 1Ki 8:22-53
6:41-42pp — Ps 132:8-10

12Then Solomon stood before the al-
tar of the LORD in front of the whole
assembly of Israel and spread out his
hands. 13Now he had made a bronze
platform,[b] five cubits[c] long, five cubits
wide and three cubits[d] high, and had
placed it in the center of the outer
court. He stood on the platform and
then knelt down[c] before the whole as-
sembly of Israel and spread out his
hands toward heaven. 14He said:

"O LORD, God of Israel, there is
no God like you[d] in heaven or on
earth—you who keep your cov-
enant of love[e] with your servants
who continue wholeheartedly in
your way. 15You have kept your
promise to your servant David my
father; with your mouth you have
promised[f] and with your hand
you have fulfilled it—as it is today.
16"Now LORD, God of Israel, keep
for your servant David my father
the promises you made to him
when you said, 'You shall never
fail[g] to have a man to sit before me
on the throne of Israel, if only your
sons are careful in all they do to
walk before me according to my
law,[h] as you have done.' 17And
now, O LORD, God of Israel, let
your word that you promised your
servant David come true.
18"But will God really dwell[i] on
earth with men? The heavens,[j]
even the highest heavens, cannot
contain you. How much less this
temple I have built! 19Yet give at-
tention to your servant's prayer
and his plea for mercy, O LORD my
God. Hear the cry and the prayer
that your servant is praying in your
presence. 20May your eyes[k] be
open toward this temple day and
night, this place of which you said
you would put your Name[l] there.
May you hear[m] the prayer your ser-
vant prays toward this place.
21Hear the supplications of your
servant and of your people Israel
when they pray toward this place.
Hear from heaven, your dwelling
place; and when you hear, for-
give.[n]
22"When a man wrongs his
neighbor and is required to take an
oath[o] and he comes and swears the
oath before your altar in this tem-
ple, 23then hear from heaven and
act. Judge between your servants,
repaying[p] the guilty by bringing
down on his own head what he has
done. Declare the innocent not
guilty and so establish his inno-
cence.
24"When your people Israel have
been defeated[q] by an enemy be-
cause they have sinned against you
and when they turn back and con-
fess your name, praying and mak-
ing supplication before you in this
temple, 25then hear from heaven
and forgive the sin of your people
Israel and bring them back to the
land you gave to them and their fa-
thers.
26"When the heavens are shut up
and there is no rain[r] because your
people have sinned against you,
and when they pray toward this
place and confess your name and
turn from their sin because you
have afflicted them, 27then hear
from heaven and forgive[s] the sin
of your servants, your people Is-
rael. Teach them the right way to
live, and send rain on the land you
gave your people for an inheri-
tance.
28"When famine[t] or plague
comes to the land, or blight or mil-
dew, locusts or grasshoppers, or
when enemies besiege them in any
of their cities, whatever disaster or
disease may come, 29and when a
prayer or plea is made by any of
your people Israel—each one
aware of his afflictions and pains,
and spreading out his hands
toward this temple— 30then hear
from heaven, your dwelling place.
Forgive,[u] and deal with each man

6:11 [a]S Dt 10:2; Ps 25:10; 50:5 **6:13** [b]Ne 8:4 [c]Ps 95:6 **6:14** [d]S Ex 8:10; 15:11 [e]S Dt 7:9 **6:15** [f]S 1Ch 22:10 **6:16** [g]S 2Sa 7:13,15; 2Ch 23:3 [h]Ps 132:12 **6:18** [i]S Rev 21:3 [j]Ps 11:4; Isa 40:22; 66:1 **6:20** [k]S Ex 3:16; Ps 34:15 [l]Dt 12:11 [m]2Ch 7:14; 30:20 **6:21** [n]Ps 51:1; Isa 33:24; 40:2; 43:25; 44:22; 55:7; Mic 7:18 **6:22** [o]S Ex 22:11 **6:23** [p]Isa 3:11; 65:6; S Mt 16:27 **6:24** [q]S Lev 26:17 **6:26** [r]Lev 26:19; S Dt 11:17; 28:24; S 2Sa 1:21 **6:27** [s]ver 30,39; 2Ch 7:14 **6:28** [t]2Ch 20:9 **6:30** [u]S ver 27

[c]13 That is, about 7 1/2 feet (about 2.3 meters)
[d]13 That is, about 4 1/2 feet (about 1.3 meters)

according to all he does, since you
know his heart (for you alone know
the hearts of men),[a] 31so that they
will fear you[b] and walk in your
ways all the time they live in the
land you gave our fathers.
32"As for the foreigner who does
not belong to your people Israel but
has come[c] from a distant land be-
cause of your great name and your
mighty hand[d] and your out-
stretched arm—when he comes
and prays toward this temple,
33then hear from heaven, your
dwelling place, and do whatever
the foreigner[e] asks of you, so that
all the peoples of the earth may
know your name and fear you, as
do your own people Israel, and
may know that this house I have
built bears your Name.
34"When your people go to war
against their enemies,[f] wherever
you send them, and when they
pray[g] to you toward this city you
have chosen and the temple I have
built for your Name, 35then hear
from heaven their prayer and their
plea, and uphold their cause.
36"When they sin against you—
for there is no one who does not
sin[h]—and you become angry with
them and give them over to the
enemy, who takes them captive[i] to
a land far away or near; 37and if
they have a change of heart[j] in the
land where they are held captive,
and repent and plead with you in
the land of their captivity and say,
'We have sinned, we have done
wrong and acted wickedly'; 38and if
they turn back to you with all their
heart and soul in the land of their
captivity where they were taken,
and pray toward the land you gave
their fathers, toward the city you
have chosen and toward the tem-
ple I have built for your Name;
39then from heaven, your dwelling
place, hear their prayer and their
pleas, and uphold their cause. And
forgive[k] your people, who have
sinned against you.
40"Now, my God, may your eyes
be open and your ears attentive[l] to
the prayers offered in this place.

41"Now arise,[m] O LORD God, and
come to your resting
place,[n]
you and the ark of your
might.
May your priests,[o] O LORD God,
be clothed with salvation,
may your saints rejoice in your
goodness.[p]
42O LORD God, do not reject your
anointed one.[q]
Remember the great love[r]
promised to David your
servant."

The Dedication of the Temple

7:1-10pp — 1Ki 8:62-66

7 When Solomon finished praying,
fire[s] came down from heaven and
consumed the burnt offering and the
sacrifices, and the glory of the LORD
filled[t] the temple.[u] 2The priests could
not enter[v] the temple of the LORD be-
cause the glory[w] of the LORD filled it.
3When all the Israelites saw the fire
coming down and the glory of the LORD
above the temple, they knelt on the
pavement with their faces to the
ground, and they worshiped and gave
thanks to the LORD, saying,

"He is good;
his love endures forever."[x]

4Then the king and all the people of-
fered sacrifices before the LORD. 5And
King Solomon offered a sacrifice of
twenty-two thousand head of cattle
and a hundred and twenty thousand
sheep and goats. So the king and all
the people dedicated the temple of
God. 6The priests took their positions,
as did the Levites[y] with the LORD's
musical instruments,[z] which King Da-
vid had made for praising the LORD and
which were used when he gave thanks,
saying, "His love endures forever."
Opposite the Levites, the priests blew
their trumpets, and all the Israelites
were standing.
7Solomon consecrated the middle
part of the courtyard in front of the
temple of the LORD, and there he of-
fered burnt offerings and the fat[a] of
the fellowship offerings,[e] because the
bronze altar he had made could not
hold the burnt offerings, the grain of-
ferings and the fat portions.
8So Solomon observed the festival[b]
at that time for seven days, and all Is-
rael[c] with him—a vast assembly,
people from Lebo[f] Hamath[d] to the
Wadi of Egypt.[e] 9On the eighth day
they held an assembly, for they had
celebrated[f] the dedication of the altar

6:30 [a]S 1Sa 2:3; Ps 7:9; 44:21; Pr 16:2; 17:3 **6:31** [b]S Dt 6:13; Ps 34:7,9; 103:11,13; Pr 8:13 **6:32** [c]2Ch 9:6 [d]S Ex 3:19,20 **6:33** [e]S Ex 12:43 **6:34** [f]Dt 28:7 [g]S 1Ch 5:20 **6:36** [h]S 1Ki 8:46; Job 11:12; 15:14; Ps 143:2; Ecc 7:20; Jer 9:5; 13:23; 17:9; S Ro 3:9; Eph 2:3 [i]S Lev 26:44 **6:37** [j]1Ki 8:48; 2Ch 7:14; 12:6, 12; 30:11; 33:12, 19,23; 34:27; 36:12; Isa 58:3; Jer 24:7; 29:13 **6:39** [k]S ver 27; 2Ch 30:9 **6:40** [l]S 1Ki 8:29, 52; 2Ch 7:15; Ne 1:6,11; Ps 17:6; 116:1; 130:2; Isa 37:17 **6:41** [m]Ps 3:7; 7:6; 59:4; Isa 33:10 [n]1Ch 28:2 [o]Ps 132:16 [p]Ps 13:6; 27:13; 116:12; 142:7 **6:42** [q]Ps 2:2 [r]Ps 89:24,28 **7:1** [s]S Ex 19:18; S Lev 9:24; S 1Ki 18:38 [t]S Ex 16:10 [u]Ps 26:8 **7:2** [v]S 1Ki 8:11 [w]S Ex 29:43; S 40:35 **7:3** [x]S 1Ch 16:34; 2Ch 5:13; Ezr 3:11 **7:6** [y]1Ch 15:16 [z]S 1Ch 15:24 **7:7** [a]S Ex 29:13 **7:8** [b]2Ch 30:26; Ne 8:17 [c]S 1Ch 9:1 [d]S Nu 13:21 [e]S Ge 15:18 **7:9** [f]2Ch 30:23

[e]7 Traditionally *peace offerings* [f]8 Or *from the entrance to*

for seven days and the festival[a] for
seven days more. 10On the twenty-
third day of the seventh month he sent
the people to their homes, joyful and
glad in heart for the good things the
LORD had done for David and Solomon
and for his people Israel.

The LORD Appears to Solomon

7:11-22pp — 1Ki 9:1-9

11When Solomon had finished[b] the
temple of the LORD and the royal pal-
ace, and had succeeded in carrying out
all he had in mind to do in the temple
of the LORD and in his own palace, 12the
LORD appeared[c] to him at night and
said:

"I have heard your prayer and
have chosen[d] this place for my-
self[e] as a temple for sacrifices.
13"When I shut up the heavens
so that there is no rain,[f] or com-
mand locusts to devour the land or
send a plague among my people,
14if my people, who are called by
my name,[g] will humble[h] them-
selves and pray and seek my face[i]
and turn[j] from their wicked ways,
then will I hear[k] from heaven and
will forgive[l] their sin and will
heal[m] their land. 15Now my eyes
will be open and my ears attentive
to the prayers offered in this
place.[n] 16I have chosen[o] and con-
secrated this temple so that my
Name may be there forever. My
eyes and my heart will always be
there.
17"As for you, if you walk before
me[p] as David your father did, and
do all I command, and observe my
decrees[q] and laws, 18I will establish
your royal throne, as I cov-
enanted[r] with David your father
when I said, 'You shall never fail to
have a man[s] to rule over Israel.'[t]
19"But if you[g] turn away[u] and
forsake[v] the decrees and com-
mands I have given you[g] and go
off to serve other gods and worship
them, 20then I will uproot[w] Israel
from my land,[x] which I have given
them, and will reject this temple I
have consecrated for my Name. I
will make it a byword and an object
of ridicule[y] among all peoples.
21And though this temple is now so
imposing, all who pass by will be
appalled[z] and say,[a] 'Why has the
LORD done such a thing to this land
and to this temple?' 22People will
answer, 'Because they have forsak-
en the LORD, the God of their fa-
thers, who brought them out of
Egypt, and have embraced other
gods, worshiping and serving
them[b]—that is why he brought all
this disaster on them.'"

Solomon's Other Activities

8:1-18pp — 1Ki 9:10-28

8 At the end of twenty years, during
which Solomon built the temple of
the LORD and his own palace,[c] 2Solo-
mon rebuilt the villages that Hiram[h]
had given him, and settled Israelites in
them. 3Solomon then went to Hamath
Zobah and captured it. 4He also built
up Tadmor in the desert and all the
store cities he had built in Hamath.[d]
5He rebuilt Upper Beth Horon[e] and
Lower Beth Horon as fortified cities,
with walls and with gates and bars, 6as
well as Baalath[f] and all his store cities,
and all the cities for his chariots and for
his horses[i]—whatever he desired to
build in Jerusalem, in Lebanon and
throughout all the territory he ruled.
7All the people left from the Hittites,
Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebu-
sites[g] (these peoples were not Israel-
ites), 8that is, their descendants re-
maining in the land, whom the Israel-
ites had not destroyed—these Solomon
conscripted[h] for his slave labor force,
as it is to this day. 9But Solomon did
not make slaves of the Israelites for his
work; they were his fighting men, com-
manders of his captains, and com-
manders of his chariots and chari-
oteers. 10They were also King Solo-
mon's chief officials—two hundred and
fifty officials supervising the men.
11Solomon brought Pharaoh's daugh-
ter[i] up from the City of David to the
palace he had built for her, for he said,
"My wife must not live in the palace of
David king of Israel, because the places
the ark of the LORD has entered are
holy."
12On the altar[j] of the LORD that he
had built in front of the portico, Solo-
mon sacrificed burnt offerings to the
LORD, 13according to the daily re-
quirement[k] for offerings commanded
by Moses for Sabbaths,[l] New Moons[m]
and the three[n] annual feasts—the Feast
of Unleavened Bread,[o] the Feast of
Weeks[p] and the Feast of Tabernacles.[q]
14In keeping with the ordinance of his

7:9 [a]S Lev 23:36
7:11 [b]S 1Ch 28:20
7:12 [c]2Ch 1:7 [d]Dt 12:11 [e]S Dt 12:5
7:13 [f]S Dt 11:17; Am 4:7
7:14 [g]S Nu 6:27 [h]S Ex 10:3; S Lev 26:41; S 2Ch 6:37 [i]S 1Ch 16:11 [j]S 2Ki 17:13; Isa 55:7; Eze 18:32; Zec 1:4 [k]S 2Ch 6:20 [l]S 2Ch 6:27 [m]S Ex 15:26; 2Ch 30:20; Ps 60:2; Isa 30:26; 53:5; 57:18; Jer 33:6; Mal 4:2
7:15 [n]S 1Ki 8:29; S 2Ch 6:40; Ne 1:6
7:16 [o]S Dt 12:5; 2Ch 33:7
7:17 [p]S 1Ki 9:4 [q]S Lev 19:37
7:18 [r]Isa 9:7; Jer 33:17,21 [s]S 1Ch 5:2; Isa 55:4; Mic 5:2 [t]S 2Sa 7:13; S 1Ch 17:12; 2Ch 13:5; 23:3
7:19 [u]S Dt 28:15 [v]S 1Ch 28:9; 2Ch 12:1; 24:18; Jer 9:13; 11:8
7:20 [w]S Dt 29:28 [x]1Ki 14:15; Jer 12:14; 16:13; 50:11 [y]S Dt 28:37
7:21 [z]Jer 19:8 [a]Dt 29:24
7:22 [b]Jer 16:11
8:1 [c]S 2Sa 7:2
8:4 [d]S 2Sa 8:9
8:5 [e]S Jos 10:10
8:6 [f]S Jos 19:44
8:7 [g]S Ge 10:16; S 15:18-21; Ezr 9:1
8:8 [h]S 2Ch 2:18
8:11 [i]S 1Ki 3:1
8:12 [j]S 1Ki 8:64; 2Ch 15:8
8:13 [k]S Ex 29:38 [l]Nu 28:9 [m]S Nu 10:10 [n]S Ex 23:14 [o]S Ex 12:17; Nu 28:16-25 [p]S Ex 23:16 [q]Nu 29:12-38; Ne 8:17

[g]19 The Hebrew is plural. [h]2 Hebrew *Huram*, a variant of *Hiram*; also in verse 18 [i]6 Or *charioteers*

father David, he appointed the divi-
sions[a] of the priests for their duties,
and the Levites[b] to lead the praise and
to assist the priests according to each
day's requirement. He also appointed
the gatekeepers[c] by divisions for the
various gates, because this was what
David the man of God[d] had ordered.[e]
15 They did not deviate from the king's
commands to the priests or to the Le-
vites in any matter, including that of
the treasuries.
16 All Solomon's work was carried
out, from the day the foundation of the
temple of the LORD was laid until its
completion. So the temple of the LORD
was finished.
17 Then Solomon went to Ezion Geber
and Elath on the coast of Edom. 18 And
Hiram sent him ships commanded by
his own officers, men who knew the
sea. These, with Solomon's men, sailed
to Ophir and brought back four hun-
dred and fifty talents[j] of gold,[f] which
they delivered to King Solomon.

The Queen of Sheba Visits Solomon

9:1-12pp — 1Ki 10:1-13

9 When the queen of Sheba[g] heard of
Solomon's fame, she came to
Jerusalem to test him with hard ques-
tions. Arriving with a very great cara-
van—with camels carrying spices, large
quantities of gold, and precious
stones—she came to Solomon and
talked with him about all she had on
her mind. 2 Solomon answered all her
questions; nothing was too hard for
him to explain to her. 3 When the queen
of Sheba saw the wisdom of Solomon,[h]
as well as the palace he had built, 4 the
food on his table, the seating of his offi-
cials, the attending servants in their
robes, the cupbearers in their robes and
the burnt offerings he made at[k] the
temple of the LORD, she was over-
whelmed.
5 She said to the king, "The report I
heard in my own country about your
achievements and your wisdom is true.
6 But I did not believe what they said
until I came[i] and saw with my own
eyes. Indeed, not even half the great-
ness of your wisdom was told me; you
have far exceeded the report I heard.
7 How happy your men must be! How
happy your officials, who continually
stand before you and hear your wis-
dom! 8 Praise be to the LORD your God,
who has delighted in you and placed
you on his throne[j] as king to rule for
the LORD your God. Because of the love
of your God for Israel and his desire to
uphold them forever, he has made you
king[k] over them, to maintain justice
and righteousness."
9 Then she gave the king 120 talents[l]
of gold,[l] large quantities of spices, and
precious stones. There had never been
such spices as those the queen of Sheba
gave to King Solomon.
10 (The men of Hiram and the men of
Solomon brought gold from Ophir;[m]
they also brought algumwood[m] and
precious stones. 11 The king used the al-
gumwood to make steps for the temple
of the LORD and for the royal palace,
and to make harps and lyres for the
musicians. Nothing like them had ever
been seen in Judah.)
12 King Solomon gave the queen of
Sheba all she desired and asked for; he
gave her more than she had brought to
him. Then she left and returned with
her retinue to her own country.

Solomon's Splendor

9:13-28pp — 1Ki 10:14-29; 2Ch 1:14-17

13 The weight of the gold that Solo-
mon received yearly was 666 talents,[n]
14 not including the revenues brought in
by merchants and traders. Also all the
kings of Arabia[n] and the governors of
the land brought gold and silver to
Solomon.
15 King Solomon made two hundred
large shields of hammered gold; six
hundred bekas[o] of hammered gold
went into each shield. 16 He also made
three hundred small shields[o] of ham-
mered gold, with three hundred
bekas[p] of gold in each shield. The king
put them in the Palace of the Forest of
Lebanon.[p]
17 Then the king made a great throne
inlaid with ivory[q] and overlaid with
pure gold. 18 The throne had six steps,
and a footstool of gold was attached to
it. On both sides of the seat were arm-
rests, with a lion standing beside each
of them. 19 Twelve lions stood on the six
steps, one at either end of each step.
Nothing like it had ever been made for
any other kingdom. 20 All King Solo-
mon's goblets were gold, and all the
household articles in the Palace of the
Forest of Lebanon were pure gold.

8:14 [a]S 1Ch 24:1 [b]S 1Ch 25:1 [c]S 1Ch 9:17 [d]Ne 12:24,36 [e]S 1Ch 23:6; Ne 12:45 **8:18** [f]2Ch 9:9 **9:1** [g]S Ge 10:7; Eze 23:42; Mt 12:42; Lk 11:31 **9:3** [h]1Ki 5:12 **9:6** [i]2Ch 6:32 **9:8** [j]S 1Ki 2:12; S 1Ch 17:14; 2Ch 13:8 [k]2Ch 2:11 **9:9** [l]2Ch 8:18 **9:10** [m]2Ch 8:18 **9:14** [n]2Ch 17:11; Isa 21:13; Jer 25:24; Eze 27:21; 30:5 **9:16** [o]2Ch 12:9 [p]S 1Ki 7:2 **9:17** [q]S 1Ki 22:39

[j]18 That is, about 17 tons (about 16 metric tons)
[k]4 Or *the ascent by which he went up to*
[l]9 That is, about 4 1/2 tons (about 4 metric tons)
[m]10 Probably a variant of *almugwood*
[n]13 That is, about 25 tons (about 23 metric tons)
[o]15 That is, about 7 1/2 pounds (about 3.5 kilograms)
[p]16 That is, about 3 3/4 pounds (about 1.7 kilograms)

Nothing was made of silver, because silver was considered of little value in Solomon's day. 21The king had a fleet of trading ships[q] manned by Hiram's[r] men. Once every three years it returned, carrying gold, silver and ivory, and apes and baboons.

22King Solomon was greater in riches and wisdom than all the other kings of the earth.[a] 23All the kings[b] of the earth sought audience with Solomon to hear the wisdom God had put in his heart. 24Year after year, everyone who came brought a gift[c]—articles of silver and gold, and robes, weapons and spices, and horses and mules.

25Solomon had four thousand stalls for horses and chariots,[d] and twelve thousand horses,[s] which he kept in the chariot cities and also with him in Jerusalem. 26He ruled[e] over all the kings from the River[t][f] to the land of the Philistines, as far as the border of Egypt.[g] 27The king made silver as common in Jerusalem as stones, and cedar as plentiful as sycamore-fig trees in the foothills. 28Solomon's horses were imported from Egypt[u] and from all other countries.

Solomon's Death

9:29-31pp — 1Ki 11:41-43

29As for the other events of Solomon's reign, from beginning to end, are they not written in the records of Nathan[h] the prophet, in the prophecy of Ahijah[i] the Shilonite and in the visions of Iddo the seer concerning Jeroboam[j] son of Nebat? 30Solomon reigned in Jerusalem over all Israel forty years. 31Then he rested with his fathers and was buried in the city of David[k] his father. And Rehoboam his son succeeded him as king.

Israel Rebels Against Rehoboam

10:1–11:4pp — 1Ki 12:1-24

10 Rehoboam went to Shechem, for all the Israelites had gone there to make him king. 2When Jeroboam[l] son of Nebat heard this (he was in Egypt, where he had fled[m] from King Solomon), he returned from Egypt. 3So they sent for Jeroboam, and he and all Israel[n] went to Rehoboam and said to him: 4"Your father put a heavy yoke on us,[o] but now lighten the harsh labor and the heavy yoke he put on us, and we will serve you."

5Rehoboam answered, "Come back to me in three days." So the people went away.

6Then King Rehoboam consulted the elders[p] who had served his father Solomon during his lifetime. "How would you advise me to answer these people?" he asked.

7They replied, "If you will be kind to these people and please them and give them a favorable answer,[q] they will always be your servants."

8But Rehoboam rejected[r] the advice the elders[s] gave him and consulted the young men who had grown up with him and were serving him. 9He asked them, "What is your advice? How should we answer these people who say to me, 'Lighten the yoke your father put on us'?"

10The young men who had grown up with him replied, "Tell the people who have said to you, 'Your father put a heavy yoke on us, but make our yoke lighter'—tell them, 'My little finger is thicker than my father's waist. 11My father laid on you a heavy yoke; I will make it even heavier. My father scourged you with whips; I will scourge you with scorpions.' "

12Three days later Jeroboam and all the people returned to Rehoboam, as the king had said, "Come back to me in three days." 13The king answered them harshly. Rejecting the advice of the elders, 14he followed the advice of the young men and said, "My father made your yoke heavy; I will make it even heavier. My father scourged you with whips; I will scourge you with scorpions." 15So the king did not listen to the people, for this turn of events was from God,[t] to fulfill the word the LORD had spoken to Jeroboam son of Nebat through Ahijah the Shilonite.[u]

16When all Israel[v] saw that the king refused to listen to them, they answered the king:

"What share do we have in David,[w]
 what part in Jesse's son?
To your tents, O Israel!
 Look after your own house,
 O David!"

So all the Israelites went home. 17But as for the Israelites who were living in the towns of Judah, Rehoboam still ruled over them.

18King Rehoboam sent out Adoni-

9:22 [a]S 1Ki 3:13; S 2Ch 1:12 **9:23** [b]1Ki 4:34 **9:24** [c]2Ch 32:23; Ps 45:12; 68:29; 72:10; Isa 18:7 **9:25** [d]S 1Sa 8:11 **9:26** [e]S 1Ki 4:21 [f]Ps 72:8-9 [g]Ge 15:18-21 **9:29** [h]S 2Sa 7:2 [i]S 1Ki 11:29 [j]2Ch 10:2 **9:31** [k]1Ki 2:10 **10:2** [l]S 2Ch 9:29 [m]S 1Ki 11:40 **10:3** [n]S 1Ch 9:1 **10:4** [o]2Ch 2:2

10:6 [p]Job 8:8-9; 12:12; 15:10; 32:7 **10:7** [q]Pr 15:1 **10:8** [r]S 2Sa 17:14 [s]Pr 13:20 **10:15** [t]2Ch 11:4; 25:16-20 [u]S 1Ki 11:29 **10:16** [v]S 1Ch 9:1 [w]S 2Sa 20:1

[q]21 Hebrew *of ships that could go to Tarshish*
[r]21 Hebrew *Huram*, a variant of *Hiram*
[s]25 Or *charioteers* [t]26 That is, the Euphrates
[u]28 Or possibly *Muzur*, a region in Cilicia

ram,[v][a] who was in charge of forced la-
bor, but the Israelites stoned him to
death. King Rehoboam, however,
managed to get into his chariot and es-
cape to Jerusalem. 19So Israel has been
in rebellion against the house of David
to this day.

11 When Rehoboam arrived in
Jerusalem,[b] he mustered the
house of Judah and Benjamin—a hun-
dred and eighty thousand fighting
men—to make war against Israel and to
regain the kingdom for Rehoboam.
2But this word of the LORD came to
Shemaiah[c] the man of God: 3"Say to
Rehoboam son of Solomon king of
Judah and to all the Israelites in Judah
and Benjamin, 4'This is what the LORD
says: Do not go up to fight against your
brothers.[d] Go home, every one of you,
for this is my doing.' " So they obeyed
the words of the LORD and turned back
from marching against Jeroboam.

Rehoboam Fortifies Judah

5Rehoboam lived in Jerusalem and
built up towns for defense in Judah:
6Bethlehem, Etam, Tekoa, 7Beth Zur,
Soco, Adullam, 8Gath, Mareshah,
Ziph, 9Adoraim, Lachish, Azekah,
10Zorah, Aijalon and Hebron. These
were fortified cities[e] in Judah and Ben-
jamin. 11He strengthened their de-
fenses and put commanders in them,
with supplies of food, olive oil and
wine. 12He put shields and spears in all
the cities, and made them very strong.
So Judah and Benjamin were his.
13The priests and Levites from all
their districts throughout Israel sided
with him. 14The Levites[f] even aban-
doned their pasturelands and prop-
erty,[g] and came to Judah and Jerusa-
lem because Jeroboam and his sons had
rejected them as priests of the LORD.
15And he appointed[h] his own priests[i]
for the high places and for the goat[j]
and calf[k] idols he had made. 16Those
from every tribe of Israel[l] who set their
hearts on seeking the LORD, the God of
Israel, followed the Levites to Jerusa-
lem to offer sacrifices to the LORD, the
God of their fathers. 17They strength-
ened[m] the kingdom of Judah and sup-
ported Rehoboam son of Solomon
three years, walking in the ways of Da-
vid and Solomon during this time.

Rehoboam's Family

18Rehoboam married Mahalath, who
was the daughter of David's son Jeri-
moth and of Abihail, the daughter of
Jesse's son Eliab. 19She bore him sons:
Jeush, Shemariah and Zaham. 20Then
he married Maacah[n] daughter of Absa-
lom, who bore him Abijah,[o] Attai, Ziza
and Shelomith. 21Rehoboam loved
Maacah daughter of Absalom more
than any of his other wives and concu-
bines. In all, he had eighteen wives[p]
and sixty concubines, twenty-eight
sons and sixty daughters.
22Rehoboam appointed Abijah[q] son
of Maacah to be the chief prince among
his brothers, in order to make him
king. 23He acted wisely, dispersing
some of his sons throughout the dis-
tricts of Judah and Benjamin, and to all
the fortified cities. He gave them abun-
dant provisions[r] and took many wives
for them.

Shishak Attacks Jerusalem

12:9-16pp — 1Ki 14:21, 25-31

12 After Rehoboam's position as
king was established[s] and he
had become strong,[t] he and all Is-
rael[w][u] with him abandoned[v] the law of
the LORD. 2Because they had been un-
faithful[w] to the LORD, Shishak[x] king of
Egypt attacked Jerusalem in the fifth
year of King Rehoboam. 3With twelve
hundred chariots and sixty thousand
horsemen and the innumerable troops
of Libyans,[y] Sukkites and Cushites[x][z]
that came with him from Egypt, 4he
captured the fortified cities[a] of Judah
and came as far as Jerusalem.
5Then the prophet Shemaiah[b] came
to Rehoboam and to the leaders of
Judah who had assembled in Jerusalem
for fear of Shishak, and he said to
them, "This is what the LORD says,
'You have abandoned me; therefore, I
now abandon[c] you to Shishak.' "
6The leaders of Israel and the king
humbled[d] themselves and said, "The
LORD is just."[e]
7When the LORD saw that they hum-
bled themselves, this word of the LORD
came to Shemaiah: "Since they have
humbled themselves, I will not destroy
them but will soon give them deliver-
ance.[f] My wrath[g] will not be poured
out on Jerusalem through Shishak.
8They will, however, become subject[h]
to him, so that they may learn the dif-
ference between serving me and serv-
ing the kings of other lands."
9When Shishak king of Egypt at-
tacked Jerusalem, he carried off the

10:18 [a]S 2Sa 20:24; S 1Ki 5:14
11:1 [b]S 1Ki 12:21
11:2 [c]S 1Ki 12:22; 2Ch 12:5-7,15
11:4 [d]2Ch 28:8-11
11:10 [e]S Jos 10:20; 2Ch 12:4; 17:2, 19; 21:3
11:14 [f]S Nu 35:2-5 [g]1Ch 6:81
11:15 [h]S 1Ki 13:33 [i]S 1Ki 12:31 [j]Lev 17:7 [k]1Ki 12:28; 2Ch 13:8
11:16 [l]2Ch 15:9
11:17 [m]2Ch 12:1
11:20 [n]S 1Ki 15:2 [o]2Ch 12:16; 13:2
11:21 [p]S Dt 17:17
11:22 [q]Dt 21:15-17
11:23 [r]2Ch 21:3
12:1 [s]ver 13; 2Ch 1:1 [t]2Ch 11:17 [u]S 1Ch 9:1 [v]S 2Ch 7:19
12:2 [w]1Ki 14:22-24; S 1Ch 5:25 [x]1Ki 11:40
12:3 [y]Da 11:43 [z]S Ge 10:6; 2Ch 14:9; 16:8; Isa 18:2; Am 9:7; Na 3:9
12:4 [a]S 2Ch 11:10
12:5 [b]2Ch 11:2 [c]S Dt 28:15
12:6 [d]S Lev 26:41; S 2Ch 6:37 [e]Ex 9:27; Ezr 9:15; Ps 11:7; 116:5; Da 9:14
12:7 [f]Ps 78:38 [g]Dt 9:19; Ps 69:24; Jer 7:20; 42:18; Eze 5:13
12:8 [h]Dt 28:48

[v]18 Hebrew *Hadoram*, a variant of *Adoniram*
[w]1 That is, Judah, as frequently in 2 Chronicles
[x]3 That is, people from the upper Nile region

treasures of the temple of the LORD and
the treasures of the royal palace. He
took everything, including the gold
shields[a] Solomon had made. [10]So King
Rehoboam made bronze shields to re-
place them and assigned these to the
commanders of the guard on duty at
the entrance to the royal palace.
[11]Whenever the king went to the LORD's
temple, the guards went with him,
bearing the shields, and afterward they
returned them to the guardroom.

[12]Because Rehoboam humbled[b] him-
self, the LORD's anger turned from him,
and he was not totally destroyed. In-
deed, there was some good[c] in Judah.

[13]King Rehoboam established[d] him-
self firmly in Jerusalem and continued
as king. He was forty-one years old
when he became king, and he reigned
seventeen years in Jerusalem, the city
the LORD had chosen out of all the tribes
of Israel in which to put his Name.[e]
His mother's name was Naamah; she
was an Ammonite. [14]He did evil be-
cause he had not set his heart on seek-
ing the LORD.

[15]As for the events of Rehoboam's
reign, from beginning to end, are they
not written in the records of Shema-
iah[f] the prophet and of Iddo the seer
that deal with genealogies? There was
continual warfare between Rehoboam
and Jeroboam. [16]Rehoboam[g] rested
with his fathers and was buried in the
City of David. And Abijah[h] his son
succeeded him as king.

Abijah King of Judah

13:1-2,22–14:1pp — 1Ki 15:1-2,6-8

13 In the eighteenth year of the
reign of Jeroboam, Abijah
became king of Judah, [2]and he reigned
in Jerusalem three years. His mother's
name was Maacah,[y][i] a daughter[z] of
Uriel of Gibeah.

There was war between Abijah[j] and
Jeroboam.[k] [3]Abijah went into battle
with a force of four hundred thousand
able fighting men, and Jeroboam drew
up a battle line against him with eight
hundred thousand able troops.

[4]Abijah stood on Mount Zemaraim,[l]
in the hill country of Ephraim, and
said, "Jeroboam and all Israel,[m] listen
to me! [5]Don't you know that the LORD,
the God of Israel, has given the king-
ship of Israel to David and his descend-
ants forever[n] by a covenant of salt?[o]
[6]Yet Jeroboam son of Nebat, an official
of Solomon son of David, rebelled[p]
against his master. [7]Some worthless
scoundrels[q] gathered around him and
opposed Rehoboam son of Solomon
when he was young and indecisive[r]
and not strong enough to resist them.

[8]"And now you plan to resist the
kingdom of the LORD, which is in the
hands of David's descendants.[s] You
are indeed a vast army and have with
you[t] the golden calves[u] that Jeroboam
made to be your gods. [9]But didn't you
drive out the priests[v] of the LORD,[w] the
sons of Aaron, and the Levites, and
make priests of your own as the peo-
ples of other lands do? Whoever comes
to consecrate himself with a young
bull[x] and seven rams[y] may become a
priest of what are not gods.[z]

[10]"As for us, the LORD is our God,
and we have not forsaken him. The
priests who serve the LORD are sons of
Aaron, and the Levites assist them.
[11]Every morning and evening[a] they
present burnt offerings and fragrant in-
cense[b] to the LORD. They set out the
bread on the ceremonially clean table[c]
and light the lamps[d] on the gold lamp-
stand every evening. We are observing
the requirements of the LORD our God.
But you have forsaken him. [12]God is
with us; he is our leader. His priests
with their trumpets will sound the bat-
tle cry against you.[e] Men of Israel, do
not fight against the LORD,[f] the God of
your fathers, for you will not suc-
ceed."[g]

[13]Now Jeroboam had sent troops
around to the rear, so that while he
was in front of Judah the ambush[h] was
behind them. [14]Judah turned and saw
that they were being attacked at both
front and rear. Then they cried out[i] to
the LORD. The priests blew their trum-
pets [15]and the men of Judah raised the
battle cry. At the sound of their battle
cry, God routed Jeroboam and all Is-
rael[j] before Abijah and Judah. [16]The Is-
raelites fled before Judah, and God de-
livered[k] them into their hands. [17]Abi-
jah and his men inflicted heavy losses
on them, so that there were five hun-
dred thousand casualties among Is-
rael's able men. [18]The men of Israel
were subdued on that occasion, and
the men of Judah were victorious be-
cause they relied[l] on the LORD, the
God of their fathers.

[19]Abijah pursued Jeroboam and took
from him the towns of Bethel, Jeshanah

12:9 [a]2Ch 9:16
12:12 [b]S 2Ch 6:37
[c]S 1Ki 14:13;
2Ch 19:3
12:13 [d]S ver 1;
S 1Ki 2:12
[e]S Ex 20:24;
Dt 12:5
12:15 [f]S 2Ch 11:2
12:16 [g]S 1Ch 3:10
[h]S 2Ch 11:20
13:2 [i]2Ch 15:16
[j]S 2Ch 11:20
[k]1Ki 15:6
13:4 [l]Jos 18:22
[m]1Ch 11:1
13:5 [n]S 2Sa 7:13;
S 1Ch 17:12
[o]S Lev 2:13
13:6 [p]1Ki 11:26
13:7 [q]S Jdg 9:4
[r]S 1Ch 29:1
13:8 [s]S 2Ch 9:8
[t]1Sa 4:3
[u]S Ex 32:4;
S 2Ch 11:15
13:9 [v]S 1Ki 12:31
[w]2Ch 11:14-15
[x]Ex 29:35-36
[y]S Ex 29:31
[z]Jer 2:11; Gal 4:8
13:11 [a]S Ex 29:39;
S 2Ch 2:4
[b]S Ex 25:6
[c]S 1Ch 9:32
[d]S Ex 25:37
13:12 [e]S Nu 10:8-9
[f]S Jdg 2:15;
Ac 5:39 [g]Job 9:4;
Pr 21:30; 29:1
13:13 [h]Jos 8:9;
2Ch 20:22
13:14 [i]S 1Ch 5:20;
2Ch 14:11; 18:31
13:15 [j]S 1Ch 9:1
13:16 [k]2Ch 16:8
13:18 [l]2Ch 14:11; 16:7;
Ps 22:5

y2 Most Septuagint manuscripts and Syriac (see also 2 Chron. 11:20 and 1 Kings 15:2); Hebrew *Micaiah*
z2 Or *granddaughter*

and Ephron, with their surrounding villages. 20Jeroboam did not regain power during the time of Abijah. And the LORD struck him down and he died.

21But Abijah grew in strength. He married fourteen wives and had twenty-two sons and sixteen daughters.

22The other events of Abijah's reign, what he did and what he said, are written in the annotations of the prophet Iddo.

14 And Abijah rested with his fathers and was buried in the City of David. Asa his son succeeded him as king, and in his days the country was at peace for ten years.

Asa King of Judah

14:2-3pp — 1Ki 15:11-12

2Asa did what was good and right in the eyes of the LORD his God.[a] 3He removed the foreign altars[b] and the high places, smashed the sacred stones[c] and cut down the Asherah poles.[a][d] 4He commanded Judah to seek the LORD,[e] the God of their fathers, and to obey his laws and commands. 5He removed the high places[f] and incense altars[g] in every town in Judah, and the kingdom was at peace under him. 6He built up the fortified cities of Judah, since the land was at peace. No one was at war with him during those years, for the LORD gave him rest.[h]

7"Let us build up these towns," he said to Judah, "and put walls around them, with towers, gates and bars. The land is still ours, because we have sought the LORD our God; we sought him and he has given us rest[i] on every side." So they built and prospered.

8Asa had an army of three hundred thousand[j] men from Judah, equipped with large shields and with spears, and two hundred and eighty thousand from Benjamin, armed with small shields and with bows. All these were brave fighting men.

9Zerah the Cushite[k] marched out against them with a vast army[b] and three hundred chariots, and came as far as Mareshah.[l] 10Asa went out to meet him, and they took up battle positions in the Valley of Zephathah near Mareshah.

11Then Asa called[m] to the LORD his God and said, "LORD, there is no one like you to help the powerless against the mighty. Help us,[n] O LORD our God, for we rely[o] on you, and in your name[p] we have come against this vast army. O LORD, you are our God; do not let man prevail[q] against you."

12The LORD struck down[r] the Cushites before Asa and Judah. The Cushites fled, 13and Asa and his army pursued them as far as Gerar.[s] Such a great number of Cushites fell that they could not recover; they were crushed[t] before the LORD and his forces. The men of Judah carried off a large amount of plunder.[u] 14They destroyed all the villages around Gerar, for the terror[v] of the LORD had fallen upon them. They plundered all these villages, since there was much booty there. 15They also attacked the camps of the herdsmen and carried off droves of sheep and goats and camels. Then they returned to Jerusalem.

Asa's Reform

15:16-19pp — 1Ki 15:13-16

15 The Spirit of God came upon[w] Azariah son of Oded. 2He went out to meet Asa and said to him, "Listen to me, Asa and all Judah and Benjamin. The LORD is with you[x] when you are with him.[y] If you seek[z] him, he will be found by you, but if you forsake him, he will forsake you.[a] 3For a long time Israel was without the true God, without a priest to teach[b] and without the law.[c] 4But in their distress they turned to the LORD, the God of Israel, and sought him,[d] and he was found by them. 5In those days it was not safe to travel about,[e] for all the inhabitants of the lands were in great turmoil. 6One nation was being crushed by another and one city by another,[f] because God was troubling them with every kind of distress. 7But as for you, be strong[g] and do not give up, for your work will be rewarded."[h]

8When Asa heard these words and the prophecy of Azariah son of[c] Oded the prophet, he took courage. He removed the detestable idols[i] from the whole land of Judah and Benjamin and from the towns he had captured[j] in the hills of Ephraim. He repaired the altar[k] of the LORD that was in front of the portico of the LORD's temple.

9Then he assembled all Judah and Benjamin and the people from

14:2 [a]2Ch 21:12
14:3 [b]S Jdg 2:2
[c]S Ex 23:24
[d]S Ex 34:13
14:4
[e]S 1Ch 16:11
14:5
[f]S 1Ki 15:14
[g]Isa 27:9; Eze 6:4
14:6
[h]S 1Ch 22:9
14:7 [i]S 1Ch 22:9
14:8 [j]S 1Ch 21:1
14:9
[k]S 2Ch 12:3
[l]S Ge 10:8-9; 2Ch 11:8; 24:24
14:11
[m]S 1Ki 8:44; S 2Ch 13:14; 25:8
[n]Ps 60:11-12; 79:9
[o]S 2Ch 13:18
[p]S 1Sa 17:45
[q]Ps 9:19
14:12 [r]1Ki 8:45
14:13 [s]Ge 10:19
[t]2Sa 22:38; Ne 9:24; Ps 44:2, 19; 135:10
[u]2Ch 15:11,18
14:14
[v]S Ge 35:5; S Dt 2:25; 11:25
15:1
[w]S Nu 11:25,26
15:2 [x]2Ch 20:17
[y]Jas 4:8
[z]2Ch 7:14; Ps 78:34; Isa 45:19; 55:6; Jer 29:13; Hos 3:5
[a]S Dt 31:17; S 1Ch 28:9
15:3
[b]S Lev 10:11
[c]La 2:9; Am 8:11
15:4 [d]S Dt 4:29
15:5 [e]S Jdg 5:6; 19:20; Zec 8:10
15:6 [f]Isa 19:2; Mt 24:7; Mk 13:8; Lk 21:10
15:7 [g]Jos 1:7,9
[h]1Sa 24:19; Ps 18:20; 58:11; Pr 14:14; Jer 31:16
15:8 [i]1Ki 15:12
[j]2Ch 17:2
[k]S 1Ki 8:64; S 2Ch 8:12

[a]3 That is, symbols of the goddess Asherah; here and elsewhere in 2 Chronicles [b]9 Hebrew *with an army of a thousand thousands* or *with an army of thousands upon thousands* [c]8 Vulgate and Syriac (see also Septuagint and verse 1); Hebrew does not have *Azariah son of*.

Ephraim, Manasseh and Simeon who
had settled among them, for large
numbers[s] had come over to him from
Israel when they saw that the LORD his
God was with him.
[10]They assembled at Jerusalem in the
third month[t] of the fifteenth year of
Asa's reign. [11]At that time they sacri-
ficed to the LORD seven hundred head
of cattle and seven thousand sheep and
goats from the plunder[u] they had
brought back. [12]They entered into a
covenant[v] to seek the LORD,[w] the God
of their fathers, with all their heart and
soul. [13]All who would not seek the
LORD, the God of Israel, were to be put
to death,[x] whether small or great, man
or woman. [14]They took an oath to the
LORD with loud acclamation, with
shouting and with trumpets and horns.
[15]All Judah rejoiced about the oath be-
cause they had sworn it wholehearted-
ly. They sought God[y] eagerly, and he
was found by them. So the LORD gave
them rest[z] on every side.
[16]King Asa also deposed his grand-
mother Maacah[a] from her position as
queen mother,[b] because she had made
a repulsive Asherah pole.[c] Asa cut the
pole down, broke it up and burned it in
the Kidron Valley.[d] [17]Although he did
not remove the high places from Israel,
Asa's heart was fully committed to the
LORD all his life. [18]He brought into the
temple of God the silver and gold and
the articles that he and his father had
dedicated.[e]
[19]There was no more war until the
thirty-fifth year of Asa's reign.

Asa's Last Years

16:1-6pp — 1Ki 15:17-22
16:11–17:1pp — 1Ki 15:23-24

16 In the thirty-sixth year of Asa's
reign Baasha[f] king of Israel
went up against Judah and fortified
Ramah to prevent anyone from leaving
or entering the territory of Asa king of
Judah.
[2]Asa then took the silver and gold
out of the treasuries of the LORD's tem-
ple and of his own palace and sent it to
Ben-Hadad king of Aram, who was rul-
ing in Damascus.[o] [3]"Let there be a
treaty[p] between me and you," he said,
"as there was between my father and
your father. See, I am sending you sil-
ver and gold. Now break your treaty
with Baasha king of Israel so he will
withdraw from me."
[4]Ben-Hadad agreed with King Asa
and sent the commanders of his forces

15:9 S 2Ch 11:16-17
15:10 Lev 23:15-21
15:11 S 2Ch 14:13
15:12 2Ki 11:17; 2Ch 16:11
15:13 Ex 22:20; Dt 13:9-10
15:15 S Dt 4:29; 1Ch 22:9
15:16 2Ch 13:2; 1Ki 2:19; Ex 34:13; 2Sa 15:23
15:18 S 2Ch 14:13
16:1 2Ki 9:9; Jer 41:9
16:2 2Ch 19:1-20:37; 22:1-9
16:3 2Ch 20:35; 25:7
16:4 [q]S 2Ki 15:29
16:6 [r]Jer 41:9
16:7 [s]1Ki 16:1; [t]S 2Ch 13:18
16:8 [u]S Ge 10:6, 8-9; S 2Ch 12:3; [v]2Ch 24:24; [w]2Ch 13:16
16:9 [x]Job 24:23; Ps 33:13-15; Pr 15:3; Jer 16:17; Zec 3:9; 4:10; [y]1Sa 13:13; [z]S 1Ki 15:6; 2Ch 19:2; 25:7; 28:16-21
16:10 [a]S 1Ki 22:27
16:12 [b]2Ch 21:18; 26:19; Ps 103:3; [c]2Ch 7:14; [d]Jer 17:5-6
16:14 [e]S Ge 50:5; [f]S Ge 50:2; [g]2Ch 21:19; Jer 34:5
17:1 [h]S 1Ki 2:12
17:2 [i]S 2Ch 11:10; [j]2Ch 15:8
17:3 [k]S 1Ki 22:43

against the towns of Israel. They con-
quered Ijon, Dan, Abel Maim[d][q] and all
the store cities of Naphtali.[r] [5]When Ba-
asha heard this, he stopped building
Ramah and abandoned his work.
[6]Then King Asa brought all the men of
Judah, and they carried away from
Ramah the stones and timber Baasha
had been using. With them he built up
Geba and Mizpah.[r]
[7]At that time Hanani[s] the seer came
to Asa king of Judah and said to him:
"Because you relied[t] on the king of
Aram and not on the LORD your God,
the army of the king of Aram has es-
caped from your hand. [8]Were not the
Cushites[e][u] and Libyans a mighty army
with great numbers[v] of chariots and
horsemen[f]? Yet when you relied on
the LORD, he delivered[w] them into your
hand. [9]For the eyes[x] of the LORD range
throughout the earth to strengthen
those whose hearts are fully committed
to him. You have done a foolish[y]
thing, and from now on you will be at
war."[z]
[10]Asa was angry with the seer be-
cause of this; he was so enraged that he
put him in prison.[a] At the same time
Asa brutally oppressed some of the
people.
[11]The events of Asa's reign, from be-
ginning to end, are written in the book
of the kings of Judah and Israel. [12]In
the thirty-ninth year of his reign Asa
was afflicted[b] with a disease in his feet.
Though his disease was severe, even in
his illness he did not seek[c] help from
the LORD,[d] but only from the physi-
cians. [13]Then in the forty-first year of
his reign Asa died and rested with his
fathers. [14]They buried him in the tomb
that he had cut out for himself[e] in the
City of David. They laid him on a bier
covered with spices and various blend-
ed perfumes,[f] and they made a huge
fire[g] in his honor.

Jehoshaphat King of Judah

17 Jehoshaphat his son succeeded
him as king and strengthened[h]
himself against Israel. [2]He stationed
troops in all the fortified cities[i] of
Judah and put garrisons in Judah and
in the towns of Ephraim that his father
Asa had captured.[j]
[3]The LORD was with Jehoshaphat be-
cause in his early years he walked in
the ways his father David[k] had fol-

[d]4 Also known as *Abel Beth Maacah* [e]8 That is, people from the upper Nile region [f]8 Or *charioteers*

lowed. He did not consult the Baals
4but sought[a] the God of his father and
followed his commands rather than the
practices of Israel. 5The LORD estab-
lished the kingdom under his control;
and all Judah brought gifts[b] to Jehosh-
aphat, so that he had great wealth and
honor.[c] 6His heart was devoted[d] to the
ways of the LORD; furthermore, he re-
moved the high places[e] and the
Asherah poles[f] from Judah.[g]
7In the third year of his reign he sent
his officials Ben-Hail, Obadiah, Zecha-
riah, Nethanel and Micaiah to teach[h] in
the towns of Judah. 8With them were
certain Levites[i]—Shemaiah, Netha-
niah, Zebadiah, Asahel, Shemiramoth,
Jehonathan, Adonijah, Tobijah and
Tob-Adonijah—and the priests Elisha-
ma and Jehoram. 9They taught
throughout Judah, taking with them
the Book of the Law[j] of the LORD; they
went around to all the towns of Judah
and taught the people.
10The fear[k] of the LORD fell on all the
kingdoms of the lands surrounding
Judah, so that they did not make war
with Jehoshaphat. 11Some Philistines
brought Jehoshaphat gifts and silver as
tribute, and the Arabs[l] brought him
flocks:[m] seven thousand seven hun-
dred rams and seven thousand seven
hundred goats.
12Jehoshaphat became more and
more powerful; he built forts and store
cities in Judah 13and had large supplies
in the towns of Judah. He also kept
experienced fighting men in Jerusalem.
14Their enrollment[n] by families was as
follows:

From Judah, commanders of units
of 1,000:
Adnah the commander, with
300,000 fighting men;
15next, Jehohanan the com-
mander, with 280,000;
16next, Amasiah son of Zicri, who
volunteered[o] himself for the
service of the LORD, with 200,-
000.
17From Benjamin:[p]
Eliada, a valiant soldier, with
200,000 men armed with bows
and shields;
18next, Jehozabad, with 180,000
men armed for battle.

19These were the men who served
the king, besides those he stationed
in the fortified cities[q] throughout Ju-
dah.[r]

17:4 [a]2Ch 22:9
17:5 [b]S 1Sa 10:27 [c]2Ch 18:1
17:6 [d]S 1Ki 8:61 [e]S 1Ki 15:14; 2Ch 19:3; 20:33 [f]S Ex 34:13 [g]2Ch 21:12
17:7 [h]S Lev 10:11; Dt 6:4-9; 2Ch 19:4-11; 35:3; Ne 8:7; Mal 2:7
17:8 [i]2Ch 19:8; Ne 8:7-8; Hos 4:6
17:9 [j]S Dt 28:61
17:10 [k]S Ge 35:5; S Dt 2:25
17:11 [l]S 2Ch 9:14 [m]2Ch 21:16
17:14 [n]S 2Sa 24:2
17:16 [o]S Jdg 5:9
17:17 [p]S Nu 1:36
17:19 [q]S 2Ch 11:10 [r]2Ch 25:5

Micaiah Prophesies Against Ahab

18:1-27pp — 1Ki 22:1-28

18 Now Jehoshaphat had great
wealth and honor,[s] and he
allied[t] himself with Ahab[u] by mar-
riage. 2Some years later he went down
to visit Ahab in Samaria. Ahab slaugh-
tered many sheep and cattle for him
and the people with him and urged
him to attack Ramoth Gilead. 3Ahab
king of Israel asked Jehoshaphat king
of Judah, "Will you go with me against
Ramoth Gilead?"
Jehoshaphat replied, "I am as you
are, and my people as your people; we
will join you in the war." 4But Jehosha-
phat also said to the king of Israel,
"First seek the counsel of the LORD."
5So the king of Israel brought to-
gether the prophets—four hundred
men—and asked them, "Shall we go to
war against Ramoth Gilead, or shall I
refrain?"
"Go," they answered, "for God will
give it into the king's hand."
6But Jehoshaphat asked, "Is there
not a prophet of the LORD here whom
we can inquire of?"
7The king of Israel answered Jehosh-
aphat, "There is still one man through
whom we can inquire of the LORD, but I
hate him because he never prophesies
anything good about me, but always
bad. He is Micaiah son of Imlah."
"The king should not say that," Je-
hoshaphat replied.
8So the king of Israel called one of his
officials and said, "Bring Micaiah son
of Imlah at once."
9Dressed in their royal robes, the
king of Israel and Jehoshaphat king of
Judah were sitting on their thrones at
the threshing floor by the entrance to
the gate of Samaria, with all the proph-
ets prophesying before them. 10Now
Zedekiah son of Kenaanah had made
iron horns, and he declared, "This is
what the LORD says: 'With these you
will gore the Arameans until they are
destroyed.'"
11All the other prophets were
prophesying the same thing. "Attack
Ramoth Gilead[v] and be victorious,"
they said, "for the LORD will give it into
the king's hand."
12The messenger who had gone to
summon Micaiah said to him, "Look,
as one man the other prophets are pre-
dicting success for the king. Let your
word agree with theirs, and speak
favorably."

18:1 [s]2Ch 17:5 [t]2Ch 19:1-3; 22:3 [u]2Ch 21:6
18:11 [v]2Ch 22:5

13But Micaiah said, "As surely as the
LORD lives, I can tell him only what my
God says."[a]
14When he arrived, the king asked
him, "Micaiah, shall we go to war
against Ramoth Gilead, or shall I re-
frain?"
"Attack and be victorious," he an-
swered, "for they will be given into
your hand."
15The king said to him, "How many
times must I make you swear to tell me
nothing but the truth in the name of
the LORD?"
16Then Micaiah answered, "I saw all
Israel[b] scattered on the hills like sheep
without a shepherd,[c] and the LORD
said, 'These people have no master. Let
each one go home in peace.' "
17The king of Israel said to Jehosha-
phat, "Didn't I tell you that he never
prophesies anything good about me,
but only bad?"
18Micaiah continued, "Therefore hear
the word of the LORD: I saw the LORD
sitting on his throne[d] with all the host
of heaven standing on his right and on
his left. 19And the LORD said, 'Who will
lure Ahab king of Israel into attacking
Ramoth Gilead and going to his death
there?'
"One suggested this, and another
that. 20Finally, a spirit came forward,
stood before the LORD and said, 'I will
lure him.'
" 'By what means?' the LORD asked.
21" 'I will go and be a lying spirit[e] in
the mouths of all his prophets,' he
said.
" 'You will succeed in luring him,'
said the LORD. 'Go and do it.'
22"So now the LORD has put a lying
spirit in the mouths of these prophets
of yours.[f] The LORD has decreed disas-
ter for you."
23Then Zedekiah son of Kenaanah
went up and slapped[g] Micaiah in the
face. "Which way did the spirit from[g]
the LORD go when he went from me to
speak to you?" he asked.
24Micaiah replied, "You will find out
on the day you go to hide in an inner
room."
25The king of Israel then ordered,
"Take Micaiah and send him back to
Amon the ruler of the city and to Joash
the king's son, 26and say, 'This is what
the king says: Put this fellow in prison[h]
and give him nothing but bread and
water until I return safely.' "
27Micaiah declared, "If you ever re-
turn safely, the LORD has not spoken
through me." Then he added, "Mark
my words, all you people!"

Ahab Killed at Ramoth Gilead

18:28-34pp — 1Ki 22:29-36

28So the king of Israel and Jehosha-
phat king of Judah went up to Ramoth
Gilead. 29The king of Israel said to Je-
hoshaphat, "I will enter the battle in
disguise, but you wear your royal
robes." So the king of Israel disguised[i]
himself and went into battle.
30Now the king of Aram had ordered
his chariot commanders, "Do not fight
with anyone, small or great, except the
king of Israel." 31When the chariot
commanders saw Jehoshaphat, they
thought, "This is the king of Israel." So
they turned to attack him, but Jehosha-
phat cried out,[j] and the LORD helped
him. God drew them away from him,
32for when the chariot commanders
saw that he was not the king of Israel,
they stopped pursuing him.
33But someone drew his bow at ran-
dom and hit the king of Israel between
the sections of his armor. The king told
the chariot driver, "Wheel around and
get me out of the fighting. I've been
wounded." 34All day long the battle
raged, and the king of Israel propped
himself up in his chariot facing the Ara-
means until evening. Then at sunset he
died.[k]

19 When Jehoshaphat king of Judah
returned safely to his palace in
Jerusalem, 2Jehu[l] the seer, the son of
Hanani, went out to meet him and said
to the king, "Should you help the
wicked[m] and love[h] those who hate the
LORD?[n] Because of this, the wrath[o] of
the LORD is upon you. 3There is, how-
ever, some good[p] in you, for you have
rid the land of the Asherah poles[q] and
have set your heart on seeking God.[r] "

Jehoshaphat Appoints Judges

4Jehoshaphat lived in Jerusalem, and
he went out again among the people
from Beersheba to the hill country of
Ephraim and turned them back to the
LORD, the God of their fathers. 5He ap-
pointed judges[s] in the land, in each of
the fortified cities of Judah. 6He told
them, "Consider carefully what you
do,[t] because you are not judging for
man[u] but for the LORD, who is with you
whenever you give a verdict. 7Now let
the fear of the LORD be upon you. Judge
carefully, for with the LORD our God

18:13 [a]Nu 22:18,20,35
18:16 [b]S 1Ch 9:1 [c]S Nu 27:17
18:18 [d]Da 7:9
18:21 [e]1Ch 21:1; Job 1:6; Zec 3:1; Jn 8:44
18:22 [f]Job 12:16; Eze 14:9
18:23 [g]Ac 23:2
18:26 [h]Heb 11:36
18:29 [i]S 1Sa 28:8
18:31 [j]S 2Ch 13:14
18:34 [k]2Ch 22:5
19:2 [l]S 1Ki 16:1 [m]S 2Ch 16:2-9 [n]Ps 139:21-22 [o]2Ch 24:18; 32:25; Ps 7:11
19:3 [p]S 1Ki 14:13 [q]S 2Ch 17:6 [r]S 2Ch 18:1; 20:35; 25:7
19:5 [s]S Ge 47:6; S Ex 18:26
19:6 [t]S Lev 19:15 [u]Dt 16:18-20; 17:8-13

[g]23 Or *Spirit of* [h]2 Or *and make alliances with*

there is no injustice[a] or partiality[b] or
bribery."
[8]In Jerusalem also, Jehoshaphat ap-
pointed some of the Levites,[c] priests[d]
and heads of Israelite families to ad-
minister[e] the law of the LORD and to
settle disputes. And they lived in
Jerusalem. [9]He gave them these orders:
"You must serve faithfully and whole-
heartedly in the fear of the LORD. [10]In
every case that comes before you from
your fellow countrymen who live in the
cities—whether bloodshed or other
concerns of the law, commands, de-
crees or ordinances—you are to warn
them not to sin against the LORD;[f] oth-
erwise his wrath will come on you and
your brothers. Do this, and you will
not sin.
[11]"Amariah the chief priest will be
over you in any matter concerning the
LORD, and Zebadiah son of Ishmael, the
leader of the tribe of Judah, will be over
you in any matter concerning the king,
and the Levites will serve as officials
before you. Act with courage,[g] and
may the LORD be with those who do
well."

Jehoshaphat Defeats Moab and Ammon

20 After this, the Moabites[h] and
Ammonites with some of the
Meunites[i1] came to make war on Je-
hoshaphat.
[2]Some men came and told Jehosha-
phat, "A vast army[i] is coming against
you from Edom,[j] from the other side
of the Sea.[k] It is already in Hazazon
Tamar[k2]" (that is, En Gedi).[l] [3]Alarmed,
Jehoshaphat resolved to inquire of the
LORD, and he proclaimed a fast[m] for all
Judah. [4]The people of Judah[n] came to-
gether to seek help from the LORD; in-
deed, they came from every town in
Judah to seek him.
[5]Then Jehoshaphat stood up in the
assembly of Judah and Jerusalem at the
temple of the LORD in the front of the
new courtyard [6]and said:

"O LORD, God of our fathers,[o]
are you not the God who is in
heaven?[p] You rule over all the
kingdoms[q] of the nations. Power
and might are in your hand, and
no one can withstand you.[r] [7]O our
God, did you not drive out the in-
habitants of this land[s] before your
people Israel and give it forever to
the descendants of Abraham your
friend?[t] [8]They have lived in it and
have built in it a sanctuary[u] for
your Name, saying, [9]'If calamity
comes upon us, whether the sword[v]
of judgment, or plague or famine,[w]
we will stand in your presence be-
fore this temple that bears your
Name and will cry out to you in our
distress, and you will hear us and
save us.'
[10]"But now here are men from
Ammon, Moab and Mount Seir,
whose territory you would not al-
low Israel to invade when they
came from Egypt;[w] so they turned
away from them and did not de-
stroy them. [11]See how they are
repaying us by coming to drive us
out of the possession[x] you gave us
as an inheritance. [12]O our God, will
you not judge them?[y] For we have
no power to face this vast army
that is attacking us. We do not
know what to do, but our eyes are
upon you.[z]"

[13]All the men of Judah, with their
wives and children and little ones,
stood there before the LORD.
[14]Then the Spirit[a] of the LORD came
upon Jahaziel son of Zechariah, the son
of Benaiah, the son of Jejel, the son of
Mattaniah,[b] a Levite and descendant
of Asaph, as he stood in the assembly.
[15]He said: "Listen, King Jehoshaphat
and all who live in Judah and Jerusa-
lem! This is what the LORD says to you:
'Do not be afraid or discouraged[c] be-
cause of this vast army. For the battle[d]
is not yours, but God's. [16]Tomorrow
march down against them. They will be
climbing up by the Pass of Ziz, and you
will find them at the end of the gorge in
the Desert of Jeruel. [17]You will not have
to fight this battle. Take up your posi-
tions; stand firm and see[e] the deliver-
ance the LORD will give you, O Judah
and Jerusalem. Do not be afraid; do not
be discouraged. Go out to face them to-
morrow, and the LORD will be with
you.' "
[18]Jehoshaphat bowed[f] with his face
to the ground, and all the people of
Judah and Jerusalem fell down in wor-
ship before the LORD. [19]Then some Le-
vites from the Kohathites and Korah-
ites stood up and praised the LORD, the
God of Israel, with very loud voice.
[20]Early in the morning they left for
the Desert of Tekoa. As they set out,

19:7 [a]S Ge 18:25; S Job 8:3 [b]S Ex 18:16; Dt 10:17; Job 13:10; 32:21; 34:19
19:8 [c]S 1Ch 23:4 [d]Eze 44:24 [e]2Ch 17:8-9
19:10 [f]Dt 17:8-13
19:11 [g]S 1Ch 28:20
20:1 [h]Ps 83:6 [i]S 1Ch 4:41
20:2 [i]2Ch 24:24 [j]S Ge 14:7 [k]S 1Sa 23:29; SS 1:14
20:3 [m]1Sa 7:6; Ezr 8:23; Ne 1:4; Est 4:16; Isa 58:6; Jer 36:9; Da 9:3; Joel 1:14; 2:15; Jnh 3:5,7
20:4 [n]Jer 36:6
20:6 [o]Mt 6:9 [p]Dt 4:39 [q]1Ch 29:11-12 [r]2Ch 25:8; Job 25:2; 41:10; 42:2; Isa 14:27; Jer 32:27; 49:19
20:7 [s]S Ge 12:7 [t]Isa 41:8; Jas 2:23
20:8 [u]2Ch 6:20
20:9 [v]S 2Ch 6:28
20:10 [w]Nu 20:14-21; Dt 2:4-6,9,18-19
20:11 [x]Ps 83:1-12
20:12 [y]Jdg 11:27 [z]Ps 25:15; Isa 30:15; 45:22; Mic 7:7
20:14 [a]S 1Ch 12:18 [b]S 1Ch 9:15
20:15 [c]2Ch 32:7 [d]S 1Sa 17:47; Ps 91:8
20:17 [e]S Ex 14:13
20:18 [f]S Ge 24:26; 2Ch 29:29

i1 Some Septuagint manuscripts; Hebrew *Ammonites*
i2 One Hebrew manuscript; most Hebrew manuscripts, Septuagint and Vulgate *Aram*
k2 That is, the Dead Sea

Jehoshaphat stood and said, "Listen to
me, Judah and people of Jerusalem!
Have faith[a] in the LORD your God and
you will be upheld; have faith in his
prophets and you will be successful.[b]"
21 After consulting the people, Jehosha-
phat appointed men to sing to the LORD
and to praise him for the splendor of
his[l] holiness[c] as they went out at the
head of the army, saying:

"Give thanks to the LORD,
for his love endures forever."[d]

22 As they began to sing and praise,
the LORD set ambushes[e] against the
men of Ammon and Moab and Mount
Seir who were invading Judah, and
they were defeated. 23 The men of Am-
mon[f] and Moab rose up against the
men from Mount Seir[g] to destroy and
annihilate them. After they finished
slaughtering the men from Seir, they
helped to destroy one another.[h]
24 When the men of Judah came to the
place that overlooks the desert and
looked toward the vast army, they saw
only dead bodies lying on the ground;
no one had escaped. 25 So Jehoshaphat
and his men went to carry off their
plunder, and they found among them a
great amount of equipment and cloth-
ing[m] and also articles of value—more
than they could take away. There was
so much plunder that it took three days
to collect it. 26 On the fourth day they
assembled in the Valley of Beracah,
where they praised the LORD. This is
why it is called the Valley of Beracah[n]
to this day.
27 Then, led by Jehoshaphat, all the
men of Judah and Jerusalem returned
joyfully to Jerusalem, for the LORD had
given them cause to rejoice over their
enemies. 28 They entered Jerusalem and
went to the temple of the LORD with
harps and lutes and trumpets.
29 The fear[i] of God came upon all the
kingdoms of the countries when they
heard how the LORD had fought[j]
against the enemies of Israel. 30 And the
kingdom of Jehoshaphat was at peace,
for his God had given him rest[k] on
every side.

The End of Jehoshaphat's Reign

20:31-21:1pp — 1Ki 22:41-50

31 So Jehoshaphat reigned over
Judah. He was thirty-five years old
when he became king of Judah, and he
reigned in Jerusalem twenty-five years.
His mother's name was Azubah
daughter of Shilhi. 32 He walked in the
ways of his father Asa and did not
stray from them; he did what was right
in the eyes of the LORD. 33 The high
places,[l] however, were not removed,
and the people still had not set their
hearts on the God of their fathers.
34 The other events of Jehoshaphat's
reign, from beginning to end, are writ-
ten in the annals of Jehu[m] son of Hana-
ni, which are recorded in the book of
the kings of Israel.
35 Later, Jehoshaphat king of Judah
made an alliance[n] with Ahaziah king of
Israel, who was guilty of wickedness.[o]
36 He agreed with him to construct a
fleet of trading ships.[o] After these
were built at Ezion Geber, 37 Eliezer son
of Dodavahu of Mareshah prophesied
against Jehoshaphat, saying, "Because
you have made an alliance with Aha-
ziah, the LORD will destroy what you
have made." The ships[p] were wrecked
and were not able to set sail to trade.[p]
21 Then Jehoshaphat rested with
his fathers and was buried with
them in the City of David. And Je-
horam[q] his son succeeded him as king.
2 Jehoram's brothers, the sons of Je-
hoshaphat, were Azariah, Jehiel, Zech-
ariah, Azariahu, Michael and Shepha-
tiah. All these were sons of Jehosha-
phat king of Israel.[q] 3 Their father had
given them many gifts[r] of silver and
gold and articles of value, as well as
fortified cities[s] in Judah, but he had
given the kingdom to Jehoram because
he was his firstborn son.

Jehoram King of Judah

21:5-10,20pp — 2Ki 8:16-24

4 When Jehoram established[t] himself
firmly over his father's kingdom, he
put all his brothers[u] to the sword along
with some of the princes of Israel. 5 Je-
horam was thirty-two years old when
he became king, and he reigned in
Jerusalem eight years. 6 He walked in
the ways of the kings of Israel,[v] as the
house of Ahab had done, for he mar-
ried a daughter of Ahab.[w] He did evil
in the eyes of the LORD. 7 Nevertheless,
because of the covenant the LORD had
made with David,[x] the LORD was not
willing to destroy the house of David.[y]
He had promised to maintain a lamp[z]

20:20 [a]Isa 7:9 [b]S Ge 39:3; Pr 16:3
20:21 [c]S 1Ch 16:29 [d]S 2Ch 5:13; Ps 136:1
20:22 [e]S 2Ch 13:13
20:23 [f]S Ge 19:38 [g]2Ch 21:8 [h]S Jdg 7:22; 1Sa 14:20; Eze 38:21
20:29 [i]S Ge 35:5; S Dt 2:25 [j]S Ex 14:14
20:30 [k]S 1Ch 22:9
20:33 [l]S 2Ch 17:6
20:34 [m]S 1Ki 16:1
20:35 [n]S 2Ch 16:3 [o]S 2Ch 19:1-3
20:37 [p]S 1Ki 9:26
21:1 [q]S 1Ch 3:11
21:3 [r]2Ch 11:23 [s]S 2Ch 11:10
21:4 [t]S 1Ki 2:12 [u]Jdg 9:5
21:6 [v]1Ki 12:28-30 [w]2Ch 18:1; 22:3
21:7 [x]S 2Sa 7:13 [y]S 2Sa 7:15; 2Ch 23:3 [z]S 2Sa 21:17

[l]21 Or *him with the splendor of* [m]25 Some Hebrew manuscripts and Vulgate; most Hebrew manuscripts *corpses* [n]26 *Beracah* means *praise.* [o]36 Hebrew *of ships that could go to Tarshish* [p]37 Hebrew *sail for Tarshish* [q]2 That is, Judah, as frequently in 2 Chronicles

for him and his descendants forever.
8In the time of Jehoram, Edom[a] re-
belled against Judah and set up its own
king. 9So Jehoram went there with his
officers and all his chariots. The Edom-
ites surrounded him and his chariot
commanders, but he rose up and broke
through by night. 10To this day Edom
has been in rebellion against Judah.
Libnah[b] revolted at the same time,
because Jehoram had forsaken the
LORD, the God of his fathers. 11He had
also built high places on the hills of
Judah and had caused the people of
Jerusalem to prostitute themselves and
had led Judah astray.
12Jehoram received a letter from Eli-
jah[c] the prophet, which said:

"This is what the LORD, the God of
your father[d] David, says: 'You
have not walked in the ways of
your father Jehoshaphat or of Asa[e]
king of Judah. 13But you have
walked in the ways of the kings of
Israel, and you have led Judah and
the people of Jerusalem to prosti-
tute themselves, just as the house
of Ahab did.[f] You have also mur-
dered your own brothers, members
of your father's house, men who
were better[g] than you. 14So now
the LORD is about to strike your
people, your sons, your wives and
everything that is yours, with a
heavy blow. 15You yourself will be
very ill with a lingering disease[h] of
the bowels, until the disease causes
your bowels to come out.' "

16The LORD aroused against Jehoram
the hostility of the Philistines and of
the Arabs[i] who lived near the Cush-
ites. 17They attacked Judah, invaded it
and carried off all the goods found in
the king's palace, together with his
sons and wives. Not a son was left
to him except Ahaziah,[r] the young-
est.[j]
18After all this, the LORD afflicted Je-
horam with an incurable disease of the
bowels. 19In the course of time, at the
end of the second year, his bowels
came out because of the disease, and
he died in great pain. His people made
no fire in his honor,[k] as they had for
his fathers.
20Jehoram was thirty-two years old
when he became king, and he reigned
in Jerusalem eight years. He passed
away, to no one's regret, and was bur-
ied[l] in the City of David, but not in the
tombs of the kings.

21:8 [a]2Ch 20:22-23
21:10 [b]S Nu 33:20
21:12 [c]2Ki 1:16-17 [d]2Ch 17:3-4 [e]2Ch 14:2
21:13 [f]1Ki 16:29-33 [g]1Ki 2:32
21:15 [h]S Nu 12:10
21:16 [i]2Ch 17:10-11; 22:1; 26:7
21:17 [j]2Ki 12:18; 2Ch 22:1; Joel 3:5
21:19 [k]S 2Ch 16:14
21:20 [l]2Ch 24:25; 28:27; 33:20

Ahaziah King of Judah

22:1-6pp — 2Ki 8:25-29
22:7-9pp — 2Ki 9:21-29

22 The people[m] of Jerusalem[n] made
Ahaziah, Jehoram's youngest
son, king in his place, since the raid-
ers,[o] who came with the Arabs into the
camp, had killed all the older sons. So
Ahaziah son of Jehoram king of Judah
began to reign.
2Ahaziah was twenty-two[s] years old
when he became king, and he reigned
in Jerusalem one year. His mother's
name was Athaliah, a granddaughter
of Omri.
3He too walked[p] in the ways of the
house of Ahab,[q] for his mother encour-
aged him in doing wrong. 4He did evil
in the eyes of the LORD, as the house of
Ahab had done, for after his father's
death they became his advisers, to his
undoing. 5He also followed their coun-
sel when he went with Joram[t] son of
Ahab king of Israel to war against
Hazael king of Aram at Ramoth Gil-
ead.[r] The Arameans wounded Joram;
6so he returned to Jezreel to recover
from the wounds they had inflicted on
him at Ramoth[u] in his battle with
Hazael[s] king of Aram.
Then Ahaziah[v] son of Jehoram king
of Judah went down to Jezreel to see
Joram son of Ahab because he had
been wounded.
7Through Ahaziah's[t] visit to Joram,
God brought about Ahaziah's down-
fall. When Ahaziah arrived, he went
out with Joram to meet Jehu son of
Nimshi, whom the LORD had anointed
to destroy the house of Ahab. 8While
Jehu was executing judgment on the
house of Ahab,[u] he found the princes
of Judah and the sons of Ahaziah's
relatives, who had been attending Aha-
ziah, and he killed them. 9He then
went in search of Ahaziah, and his
men captured him while he was hid-
ing[v] in Samaria. He was brought to
Jehu and put to death. They buried
him, for they said, "He was a son of
Jehoshaphat, who sought[w] the LORD
with all his heart." So there was no one
in the house of Ahaziah powerful
enough to retain the kingdom.

22:1 [m]2Ch 33:25; 36:1 [n]2Ch 23:20-21; 26:1 [o]S 2Ch 21:16-17
22:3 [p]S 2Ch 18:1 [q]S 2Ch 21:6
22:5 [r]2Ch 18:11,34
22:6 [s]1Ki 19:15; 2Ki 8:13-15
22:7 [t]2Ki 9:16
22:8 [u]S 2Ki 10:13
22:9 [v]S Jdg 9:5 [w]2Ch 17:4

[r]17 Hebrew *Jehoahaz*, a variant of *Ahaziah* [s]2 Some Septuagint manuscripts and Syriac (see also 2 Kings 8:26); Hebrew *forty-two* [t]5 Hebrew *Jehoram*, a variant of *Joram*; also in verses 6 and 7 [u]6 Hebrew *Ramah*, a variant of *Ramoth* [v]6 Some Hebrew manuscripts, Septuagint, Vulgate and Syriac (see also 2 Kings 8:29); most Hebrew manuscripts *Azariah*

Athaliah and Joash

22:10-23:21pp — 2Ki 11:1-21

[10]When Athaliah the mother of Aha-
ziah saw that her son was dead, she
proceeded to destroy the whole royal
family of the house of Judah. [11]But Je-
hosheba,[w] the daughter of King Je-
horam, took Joash son of Ahaziah and
stole him away from among the royal
princes who were about to be mur-
dered and put him and his nurse in a
bedroom. Because Jehosheba,[w] the
daughter of King Jehoram and wife of
the priest Jehoiada, was Ahaziah's sis-
ter, she hid the child from Athaliah so
she could not kill him. [12]He remained
hidden with them at the temple of God
for six years while Athaliah ruled the
land.

23 In the seventh year Jehoiada
showed his strength. He made a
covenant with the commanders of
units of a hundred: Azariah son of Jero-
ham, Ishmael son of Jehohanan, Aza-
riah son of Obed, Maaseiah son of
Adaiah, and Elishaphat son of Zicri.
[2]They went throughout Judah and
gathered the Levites[a] and the heads of
Israelite families from all the towns.
When they came to Jerusalem, [3]the
whole assembly made a covenant[b]
with the king at the temple of God.
Jehoiada said to them, "The king's
son shall reign, as the LORD promised
concerning the descendants of David.[c]
[4]Now this is what you are to do: A
third of you priests and Levites who
are going on duty on the Sabbath are to
keep watch at the doors, [5]a third of you
at the royal palace and a third at the
Foundation Gate, and all the other men
are to be in the courtyards of the tem-
ple of the LORD. [6]No one is to enter the
temple of the LORD except the priests
and Levites on duty; they may enter
because they are consecrated, but all
the other men are to guard[d] what the
LORD has assigned to them.[x] [7]The Le-
vites are to station themselves around
the king, each man with his weapons
in his hand. Anyone who enters the
temple must be put to death. Stay close
to the king wherever he goes."
[8]The Levites and all the men of Judah
did just as Jehoiada the priest or-
dered.[e] Each one took his men—those
who were going on duty on the Sab-
bath and those who were going off du-
ty—for Jehoiada the priest had not
released any of the divisions.[f] [9]Then
he gave the commanders of units of a
hundred the spears and the large and
small shields that had belonged to King
David and that were in the temple of
God. [10]He stationed all the men, each
with his weapon in his hand, around
the king—near the altar and the tem-
ple, from the south side to the north
side of the temple.
[11]Jehoiada and his sons brought out
the king's son and put the crown on
him; they presented him with a copy[g]
of the covenant and proclaimed him
king. They anointed him and shouted,
"Long live the king!"
[12]When Athaliah heard the noise of
the people running and cheering the
king, she went to them at the temple of
the LORD. [13]She looked, and there was
the king,[h] standing by his pillar[i] at the
entrance. The officers and the trumpet-
ers were beside the king, and all the
people of the land were rejoicing and
blowing trumpets, and singers with
musical instruments were leading the
praises. Then Athaliah tore her robes
and shouted, "Treason! Treason!"
[14]Jehoiada the priest sent out the
commanders of units of a hundred,
who were in charge of the troops, and
said to them: "Bring her out between
the ranks[y] and put to the sword any-
one who follows her." For the priest
had said, "Do not put her to death at
the temple of the LORD." [15]So they
seized her as she reached the entrance
of the Horse Gate[j] on the palace
grounds, and there they put her to
death.
[16]Jehoiada then made a covenant[k]
that he and the people and the king[z]
would be the LORD's people. [17]All the
people went to the temple of Baal and
tore it down. They smashed the altars
and idols and killed[l] Mattan the priest
of Baal in front of the altars.
[18]Then Jehoiada placed the oversight
of the temple of the LORD in the hands
of the priests, who were Levites,[m] to
whom David had made assignments in
the temple,[n] to present the burnt offer-
ings of the LORD as written in the Law
of Moses, with rejoicing and singing,
as David had ordered. [19]He also sta-
tioned doorkeepers[o] at the gates of the
LORD's temple so that no one who was
in any way unclean might enter.
[20]He took with him the commanders

23:2 [a]Nu 35:2-5
23:3 [b]S 2Ki 11:17
[c]S 2Sa 7:12;
S 1Ki 2:4;
S 2Ch 6:16;
S 7:18; S 21:7
23:6 [d]Zec 3:7
23:8 [e]2Ki 11:9
[f]S 1Ch 24:1
23:11 [g]Dt 17:18
23:13 [h]1Ki 1:41
[i]S 1Ki 7:15
23:15 [j]Jer 31:40
23:16
[k]2Ch 29:10;
34:31; Ne 9:38
23:17 [l]Dt 13:6-9
23:18
[m]S 1Ch 23:28-32
[n]S 1Ch 23:6;
S 25:6
23:19 [o]1Ch 9:22

[w]11 Hebrew *Jehoshabeath,* a variant of *Jehosheba*
[x]6 Or *to observe the LORD's command not to enter*
[y]14 Or *out from the precincts*
[z]16 Or *covenant between the LORD and the people and the king that they* (see 2 Kings 11:17)

of hundreds, the nobles, the rulers of
the people and all the people of the
land and brought the king down from
the temple of the LORD. They went into
the palace through the Upper Gate[a]
and seated the king on the royal
throne, 21 and all the people of the land
rejoiced. And the city was quiet, be-
cause Athaliah had been slain with the
sword.[b]

Joash Repairs the Temple

24:1-14pp — 2Ki 12:1-16
24:23-27pp — 2Ki 12:17-21

24 Joash was seven years old when
he became king, and he reigned
in Jerusalem forty years. His mother's
name was Zibiah; she was from Beer-
sheba. 2 Joash did what was right in the
eyes of the LORD[c] all the years of Jehoi-
ada the priest. 3 Jehoiada chose two
wives for him, and he had sons and
daughters.

4 Some time later Joash decided to re-
store the temple of the LORD. 5 He called
together the priests and Levites and
said to them, "Go to the towns of
Judah and collect the money[d] due an-
nually from all Israel,[e] to repair the
temple of your God. Do it now." But
the Levites[f] did not act at once.

6 Therefore the king summoned Je-
hoiada the chief priest and said to him,
"Why haven't you required the Levites
to bring in from Judah and Jerusalem
the tax imposed by Moses the servant
of the LORD and by the assembly of Is-
rael for the Tent of the Testimony?"[g]

7 Now the sons of that wicked woman
Athaliah had broken into the temple of
God and had used even its sacred ob-
jects for the Baals.

8 At the king's command, a chest was
made and placed outside, at the gate of
the temple of the LORD. 9 A proclama-
tion was then issued in Judah and
Jerusalem that they should bring to the
LORD the tax that Moses the servant of
God had required of Israel in the
desert. 10 All the officials and all the
people brought their contributions
gladly,[h] dropping them into the chest
until it was full. 11 Whenever the chest
was brought in by the Levites to the
king's officials and they saw that there
was a large amount of money, the royal
secretary and the officer of the chief
priest would come and empty the chest
and carry it back to its place. They did
this regularly and collected a great
amount of money. 12 The king and Je-
hoiada gave it to the men who carried
out the work required for the temple of
the LORD. They hired[i] masons and car-
penters to restore the LORD's temple,
and also workers in iron and bronze to
repair the temple.

13 The men in charge of the work
were diligent, and the repairs pro-
gressed under them. They rebuilt the
temple of God according to its original
design and reinforced it. 14 When they
had finished, they brought the rest of
the money to the king and Jehoiada,
and with it were made articles for the
LORD's temple: articles for the service
and for the burnt offerings, and also
dishes and other objects of gold and sil-
ver. As long as Jehoiada lived, burnt
offerings were presented continually in
the temple of the LORD.

15 Now Jehoiada was old and full of
years, and he died at the age of a hun-
dred and thirty. 16 He was buried with
the kings in the City of David, because
of the good he had done in Israel for
God and his temple.

The Wickedness of Joash

17 After the death of Jehoiada, the of-
ficials of Judah came and paid homage
to the king, and he listened to them.
18 They abandoned[j] the temple of the
LORD, the God of their fathers, and
worshiped Asherah poles and idols.[k]
Because of their guilt, God's anger[l]
came upon Judah and Jerusalem. 19 Al-
though the LORD sent prophets to the
people to bring them back to him, and
though they testified against them,
they would not listen.[m]

20 Then the Spirit[n] of God came upon
Zechariah[o] son of Jehoiada the priest.
He stood before the people and said,
"This is what God says: 'Why do you
disobey the LORD's commands? You
will not prosper.[p] Because you have
forsaken the LORD, he has forsaken[q]
you.' "

21 But they plotted against him, and
by order of the king they stoned[r] him
to death[s] in the courtyard of the LORD's
temple.[t] 22 King Joash did not remem-
ber the kindness Zechariah's father Je-
hoiada had shown him but killed his
son, who said as he lay dying, "May
the LORD see this and call you to ac-
count."[u]

23 At the turn of the year,[a] the army
of Aram marched against Joash; it in-
vaded Judah and Jerusalem and killed
all the leaders of the people.[v] They

[a]23 Probably in the spring

23:20 [a]S 2Ki 15:35
23:21 [b]S 2Ch 22:1
24:2 [c]2Ch 25:2; 26:5
24:5 [d]S Ex 30:16; Ne 10:32-33; Mt 17:24 [e]1Ch 11:1 [f]S 1Ch 26:20
24:6 [g]S Ex 38:21
24:10 [h]S Ex 25:2; S 1Ch 29:3,6,9
24:12 [i]2Ch 34:11
24:18 [j]S Jos 24:20; S 2Ch 7:19 [k]S Ex 34:13; 2Ch 33:3; Jer 17:2 [l]S 2Ch 19:2
24:19 [m]S Nu 11:29; Jer 7:25; Zec 1:4
24:20 [n]S Jdg 3:10; S 1Ch 12:18 [o]Mt 23:35; Lk 11:51 [p]Nu 14:41 [q]S Dt 31:17
24:21 [r]S Jos 7:25 [s]Jer 26:21 [t]Jer 20:2
24:22 [u]S Ge 9:5
24:23 [v]2Ki 12:17-18

sent all the plunder to their king in
Damascus. 24Although the Aramean
army had come with only a few men,[a]
the LORD delivered into their hands a
much larger army.[b] Because Judah had
forsaken the LORD, the God of their fa-
thers, judgment was executed on
Joash. 25When the Arameans with-
drew, they left Joash severely wound-
ed. His officials conspired against him
for murdering the son of Jehoiada the
priest, and they killed him in his bed.
So he died and was buried[c] in the City
of David, but not in the tombs of the
kings.
26Those who conspired against him
were Zabad,[b] son of Shimeath an Am-
monite woman, and Jehozabad, son of
Shimrith[c][d] a Moabite woman.[e] 27The
account of his sons, the many prophe-
cies about him, and the record of the
restoration of the temple of God are
written in the annotations on the book
of the kings. And Amaziah his son suc-
ceeded him as king.

Amaziah King of Judah

25:1-4pp — 2Ki 14:1-6
25:11-12pp — 2Ki 14:7
25:17-28pp — 2Ki 14:8-20

25 Amaziah was twenty-five years
old when he became king, and
he reigned in Jerusalem twenty-nine
years. His mother's name was Jehoad-
din[d]; she was from Jerusalem. 2He did
what was right in the eyes of the LORD,
but not wholeheartedly.[f] 3After the
kingdom was firmly in his control, he
executed the officials who had mur-
dered his father the king. 4Yet he did
not put their sons to death, but acted in
accordance with what is written in the
Law, in the Book of Moses,[g] where the
LORD commanded: "Fathers shall not be
put to death for their children, nor chil-
dren put to death for their fathers; each
is to die for his own sins."[e][h]
5Amaziah called the people of Judah
together and assigned them according
to their families to commanders of
thousands and commanders of hun-
dreds for all Judah and Benjamin. He
then mustered[i] those twenty years
old[j] or more and found that there
were three hundred thousand men
ready for military service,[k] able to han-
dle the spear and shield. 6He also hired
a hundred thousand fighting men from
Israel for a hundred talents[f] of silver.
7But a man of God came to him and
said, "O king, these troops from Is-
rael[l] must not march with you, for the
LORD is not with Israel—not with any of
the people of Ephraim. 8Even if you go
and fight courageously in battle, God
will overthrow you before the enemy,
for God has the power to help or to
overthrow."[m]
9Amaziah asked the man of God,
"But what about the hundred talents I
paid for these Israelite troops?"
The man of God replied, "The LORD
can give you much more than that."[n]
10So Amaziah dismissed the troops
who had come to him from Ephraim
and sent them home. They were furi-
ous with Judah and left for home in a
great rage.[o]
11Amaziah then marshaled his
strength and led his army to the Valley
of Salt, where he killed ten thousand
men of Seir. 12The army of Judah also
captured ten thousand men alive, took
them to the top of a cliff and threw
them down so that all were dashed to
pieces.[p]
13Meanwhile the troops that Ama-
ziah had sent back and had not allowed
to take part in the war raided Judean
towns from Samaria to Beth Horon.
They killed three thousand people and
carried off great quantities of plunder.
14When Amaziah returned from
slaughtering the Edomites, he brought
back the gods of the people of Seir. He
set them up as his own gods,[q] bowed
down to them and burned sacrifices to
them. 15The anger of the LORD burned
against Amaziah, and he sent a
prophet to him, who said, "Why do
you consult this people's gods, which
could not save[r] their own people from
your hand?"
16While he was still speaking, the
king said to him, "Have we appointed
you an adviser to the king? Stop! Why
be struck down?"
So the prophet stopped but said, "I
know that God has determined to de-
stroy you, because you have done this
and have not listened to my counsel."
17After Amaziah king of Judah con-
sulted his advisers, he sent this chal-
lenge to Jehoash[g] son of Jehoahaz, the
son of Jehu, king of Israel: "Come,
meet me face to face."
18But Jehoash king of Israel replied to
Amaziah king of Judah: "A thistle[s] in
Lebanon sent a message to a cedar in

24:24 [a]S 2Ch 14:9; 16:8; 20:2,12 [b]Lev 26:23-25; Dt 28:25
24:25 [c]S 2Ch 21:20
24:26 [d]2Ki 12:21 [e]S Ru 1:4
25:2 [f]S 1Ki 8:61; S 2Ch 24:2
25:4 [g]S Dt 28:61 [h]S Nu 26:11
25:5 [i]S 2Sa 24:2 [j]S Ex 30:14 [k]S 1Ch 21:1; 2Ch 17:14-19
25:7 [l]S 2Ch 16:2-9,3; S 19:1-3
25:8 [m]S 2Ch 14:11; S 20:6
25:9 [n]Dt 8:18; Pr 10:22
25:10 [o]ver 13
25:12 [p]Ps 141:6; Ob 1:3
25:14 [q]Ex 20:3; 2Ch 28:23; Isa 44:15
25:15 [r]Isa 36:20
25:18 [s]Jdg 9:8-15

[b]26 A variant of *Jozabad* [c]26 A variant of *Shomer*
[d]1 Hebrew *Jehoaddan*, a variant of *Jehoaddin*
[e]4 Deut. 24:16 [f]6 That is, about 3 3/4 tons (about 3.4 metric tons); also in verse 9 [g]17 Hebrew *Joash*, a variant of *Jehoash*; also in verses 18, 21, 23 and 25

Lebanon, 'Give your daughter to my son in marriage.' Then a wild beast in Lebanon came along and trampled the thistle underfoot. 19 You say to yourself that you have defeated Edom, and now you are arrogant and proud. But stay at home! Why ask for trouble and cause your own downfall and that of Judah also?"

20 Amaziah, however, would not listen, for God so worked that he might hand them over to Jehoash, because they sought the gods of Edom. 21 So Jehoash king of Israel attacked. He and Amaziah king of Judah faced each other at Beth Shemesh in Judah. 22 Judah was routed by Israel, and every man fled to his home. 23 Jehoash king of Israel captured Amaziah king of Judah, the son of Joash, the son of Ahaziah,[a] at Beth Shemesh. Then Jehoash brought him to Jerusalem and broke down the wall of Jerusalem from the Ephraim Gate to the Corner Gate—a section about six hundred feet[b] long. 24 He took all the gold and silver and all the articles found in the temple of God that had been in the care of Obed-Edom, together with the palace treasures and the hostages, and returned to Samaria.

25 Amaziah son of Joash king of Judah lived for fifteen years after the death of Jehoash son of Jehoahaz king of Israel. 26 As for the other events of Amaziah's reign, from beginning to end, are they not written in the book of the kings of Judah and Israel? 27 From the time that Amaziah turned away from following the LORD, they conspired against him in Jerusalem and he fled to Lachish, but they sent men after him to Lachish and killed him there. 28 He was brought back by horse and was buried with his fathers in the City of Judah.

Uzziah King of Judah

26:1-4pp — 2Ki 14:21-22; 15:1-3
26:21-23pp — 2Ki 15:5-7

26 Then all the people of Judah took Uzziah,[c] who was sixteen years old, and made him king in place of his father Amaziah. 2 He was the one who rebuilt Elath and restored it to Judah after Amaziah rested with his fathers.

3 Uzziah was sixteen years old when he became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem fifty-two years. His mother's name was Jecoliah; she was from Jerusalem. 4 He did what was right in the eyes of the LORD, just as his father Amaziah had done. 5 He sought God during the days of Zechariah, who instructed him in the fear[d] of God. As long as he sought the LORD, God gave him success.

6 He went to war against the Philistines and broke down the walls of Gath, Jabneh and Ashdod. He then rebuilt towns near Ashdod and elsewhere among the Philistines. 7 God helped him against the Philistines and against the Arabs who lived in Gur Baal and against the Meunites. 8 The Ammonites brought tribute to Uzziah, and his fame spread as far as the border of Egypt, because he had become very powerful.

9 Uzziah built towers in Jerusalem at the Corner Gate, at the Valley Gate and at the angle of the wall, and he fortified them. 10 He also built towers in the desert and dug many cisterns, because he had much livestock in the foothills and in the plain. He had people working his fields and vineyards in the hills and in the fertile lands, for he loved the soil.

11 Uzziah had a well-trained army, ready to go out by divisions according to their numbers as mustered by Jeiel the secretary and Maaseiah the officer under the direction of Hananiah, one of the royal officials. 12 The total number of family leaders over the fighting men was 2,600. 13 Under their command was an army of 307,500 men trained for war, a powerful force to support the king against his enemies. 14 Uzziah provided shields, spears, helmets, coats of armor, bows and slingstones for the entire army. 15 In Jerusalem he made machines designed by skillful men for use on the towers and on the corner defenses to shoot arrows and hurl large stones. His fame spread far and wide, for he was greatly helped until he became powerful.

16 But after Uzziah became powerful, his pride led to his downfall. He was unfaithful to the LORD his God, and entered the temple of the LORD to burn incense on the altar of incense. 17 Azariah the priest with eighty other courageous priests of the LORD followed him in. 18 They confronted him and said, "It is not right for you, Uzziah, to burn incense to the LORD. That is for the

[a] 23 Hebrew *Jehoahaz,* a variant of *Ahaziah*
[b] 23 Hebrew *four hundred cubits* (about 180 meters)
[c] 1 Also called *Azariah*
[d] 5 Many Hebrew manuscripts, Septuagint and Syriac; other Hebrew manuscripts *vision*

priests,[a] the descendants[b] of Aaron,[c]
who have been consecrated to burn in-
cense.[d] Leave the sanctuary, for you
have been unfaithful; and you will not
be honored by the LORD God."
19Uzziah, who had a censer in his
hand ready to burn incense, became
angry. While he was raging at the
priests in their presence before the in-
cense altar in the LORD's temple, lep-
rosy[l][e] broke out on his forehead.
20When Azariah the chief priest and all
the other priests looked at him, they
saw that he had leprosy on his fore-
head, so they hurried him out. Indeed,
he himself was eager to leave, because
the LORD had afflicted him.
21King Uzziah had leprosy until the
day he died. He lived in a separate
house[m][f] —leprous, and excluded from
the temple of the LORD. Jotham his son
had charge of the palace and governed
the people of the land.
22The other events of Uzziah's reign,
from beginning to end, are recorded by
the prophet Isaiah[g] son of Amoz. 23Uz-
ziah[h] rested with his fathers and was
buried near them in a field for burial
that belonged to the kings, for people
said, "He had leprosy." And Jotham
his son succeeded him as king.[i]

Jotham King of Judah

27:1-4,7-9pp — 2Ki 15:33-38

27 Jotham[j] was twenty-five years
old when he became king, and
he reigned in Jerusalem sixteen years.
His mother's name was Jerusha daugh-
ter of Zadok. 2He did what was right in
the eyes of the LORD, just as his father
Uzziah had done, but unlike him he
did not enter the temple of the LORD.
The people, however, continued their
corrupt practices. 3Jotham rebuilt the
Upper Gate of the temple of the LORD
and did extensive work on the wall at
the hill of Ophel.[k] 4He built towns in
the Judean hills and forts and towers in
the wooded areas.
5Jotham made war on the king of the
Ammonites[l] and conquered them.
That year the Ammonites paid him a
hundred talents[n] of silver, ten thou-
sand cors[o] of wheat and ten thousand
cors of barley. The Ammonites brought
him the same amount also in the sec-
ond and third years.
6Jotham grew powerful[m] because he
walked steadfastly before the LORD his
God.
7The other events in Jotham's reign,
including all his wars and the other
things he did, are written in the book
of the kings of Israel and Judah. 8He
was twenty-five years old when he
became king, and he reigned in Jerusa-
lem sixteen years. 9Jotham rested with
his fathers and was buried in the City
of David. And Ahaz his son succeeded
him as king.

Ahaz King of Judah

28:1-27pp — 2Ki 16:1-20

28 Ahaz[n] was twenty years old
when he became king, and he
reigned in Jerusalem sixteen years. Un-
like David his father, he did not do
what was right in the eyes of the LORD.
2He walked in the ways of the kings of
Israel and also made cast idols[o] for
worshiping the Baals. 3He burned sac-
rifices in the Valley of Ben Hinnom[p]
and sacrificed his sons[q] in the fire, fol-
lowing the detestable[r] ways of the na-
tions the LORD had driven out before
the Israelites. 4He offered sacrifices and
burned incense at the high places, on
the hilltops and under every spreading
tree.
5Therefore the LORD his God handed
him over to the king of Aram.[s] The
Arameans defeated him and took many
of his people as prisoners and brought
them to Damascus.
He was also given into the hands of
the king of Israel, who inflicted heavy
casualties on him. 6In one day Pekah[t]
son of Remaliah killed a hundred
and twenty thousand soldiers in Ju-
dah[u]—because Judah had forsaken
the LORD, the God of their fathers. 7Zicri,
an Ephraimite warrior, killed Maa-
seiah the king's son, Azrikam the offi-
cer in charge of the palace, and Elka-
nah, second to the king. 8The Israelites
took captive from their kinsmen[v] two
hundred thousand wives, sons and
daughters. They also took a great deal
of plunder, which they carried back to
Samaria.[w]
9But a prophet of the LORD named
Oded was there, and he went out to
meet the army when it returned to Sa-
maria. He said to them, "Because the
LORD, the God of your fathers, was an-
gry[x] with Judah, he gave them into

26:18 [a]Nu 16:39 [b]Nu 18:1-7 [c]S Ex 30:7 [d]S 1Ch 6:49 **26:19** [e]S Nu 12:10 **26:21** [f]S Ex 4:6; Lev 13:46; S 14:8; Nu 5:2; S 19:12 **26:22** [g]2Ki 15:1; Isa 1:1; 6:1 **26:23** [h]Isa 1:1; 6:1 [i]S 2Ki 14:21; Am 1:1 **27:1** [j]S 2Ki 15:5, 32; S 1Ch 3:12 **27:3** [k]2Ch 33:14; Ne 3:26 **27:5** [l]S Ge 19:38 **27:6** [m]2Ch 26:5

28:1 [n]S 1Ch 3:13; Isa 1:1 **28:2** [o]Ex 34:17 **28:3** [p]S Jos 15:8 [q]S Lev 18:21; S 2Ki 3:27; Eze 20:26 [r]S Dt 18:9; 2Ch 33:2 **28:5** [s]Isa 7:1 **28:6** [t]S 2Ki 15:25,27 [u]ver 8; Isa 9:21; 11:13 **28:8** [v]Dt 28:25-41 [w]2Ch 29:9 **28:9** [x]Isa 10:6; 47:6; Zec 1:15

l19 The Hebrew word was used for various diseases affecting the skin—not necessarily leprosy; also in verses 20, 21 and 23. m21 Or *in a house where he was relieved of responsibilities* n5 That is, about 3 3/4 tons (about 3.4 metric tons) o5 That is, probably about 62,000 bushels (about 2,200 kiloliters)

your hand. But you have slaughtered
them in a rage that reaches to heaven.[a]
10And now you intend to make the
men and women of Judah and Jerusa-
lem your slaves.[b] But aren't you also
guilty of sins against the LORD your
God? 11Now listen to me! Send back
your fellow countrymen you have tak-
en as prisoners, for the LORD's fierce an-
ger rests on you.[c]"

12Then some of the leaders in
Ephraim—Azariah son of Jehohanan,
Berekiah son of Meshillemoth, Jehiz-
kiah son of Shallum, and Amasa son of
Hadlai—confronted those who were
arriving from the war. 13"You must not
bring those prisoners here," they said,
"or we will be guilty before the LORD.
Do you intend to add to our sin and
guilt? For our guilt is already great, and
his fierce anger rests on Israel."

14So the soldiers gave up the prison-
ers and plunder in the presence of the
officials and all the assembly. 15The
men designated by name took the pris-
oners, and from the plunder they
clothed all who were naked. They pro-
vided them with clothes and sandals,
food and drink,[d] and healing balm. All
those who were weak they put on don-
keys. So they took them back to their
fellow countrymen at Jericho, the City
of Palms,[e] and returned to Samaria.[f]

16At that time King Ahaz sent to the
king[p] of Assyria[g] for help. 17The
Edomites[h] had again come and at-
tacked Judah and carried away prison-
ers,[i] 18while the Philistines[j] had raid-
ed towns in the foothills and in the
Negev of Judah. They captured and oc-
cupied Beth Shemesh, Aijalon[k] and
Gederoth,[l] as well as Soco,[m] Timnah[n]
and Gimzo, with their surrounding vil-
lages. 19The LORD had humbled Judah
because of Ahaz king of Israel,[q] for he
had promoted wickedness in Judah
and had been most unfaithful[o] to the
LORD. 20Tiglath-Pileser[r][p] king of As-
syria[q] came to him, but he gave him
trouble[r] instead of help.[s] 21Ahaz[t]
took some of the things from the tem-
ple of the LORD and from the royal pal-
ace and from the princes and presented
them to the king of Assyria, but that
did not help him.[u]

22In his time of trouble King Ahaz
became even more unfaithful[v] to the
LORD. 23He offered sacrifices to the
gods[w] of Damascus, who had defeated
him; for he thought, "Since the gods of
the kings of Aram have helped them, I
will sacrifice to them so they will help
me."[x] But they were his downfall and
the downfall of all Israel.[y]

24Ahaz gathered together the fur-
nishings[z] from the temple of God[a] and
took them away.[s] He shut the doors[b]
of the LORD's temple and set up altars[c]
at every street corner in Jerusalem. 25In
every town in Judah he built high
places to burn sacrifices to other gods
and provoked the LORD, the God of his
fathers, to anger.

26The other events of his reign and all
his ways, from beginning to end, are
written in the book of the kings of
Judah and Israel. 27Ahaz rested[d] with
his fathers and was buried[e] in the city
of Jerusalem, but he was not placed in
the tombs of the kings of Israel. And
Hezekiah his son succeeded him as
king.

Hezekiah Purifies the Temple

29:1-2pp — 2Ki 18:1-3

29 Hezekiah[f] was twenty-five
years old when he became king,
and he reigned in Jerusalem twenty-
nine years. His mother's name was
Abijah daughter of Zechariah. 2He did
what was right in the eyes of the LORD,
just as his father David[g] had done.

3In the first month of the first year of
his reign, he opened the doors of the
temple of the LORD and repaired[h]
them. 4He brought in the priests and
the Levites, assembled them in the
square on the east side 5and said: "Lis-
ten to me, Levites! Consecrate[i] your-
selves now and consecrate the temple
of the LORD, the God of your fathers.
Remove all defilement from the sanctu-
ary. 6Our fathers[j] were unfaithful;[k]
they did evil in the eyes of the LORD our
God and forsook him. They turned
their faces away from the LORD's dwell-
ing place and turned their backs on
him. 7They also shut the doors of the
portico and put out the lamps. They
did not burn incense[l] or present any
burnt offerings at the sanctuary to the
God of Israel. 8Therefore, the anger of
the LORD has fallen on Judah and
Jerusalem; he has made them an object
of dread and horror[m] and scorn,[n] as
you can see with your own eyes. 9This
is why our fathers have fallen by the
sword and why our sons and daugh-
ters and our wives are in captivity.[o]

28:9 [a]Ezr 9:6; Rev 18:5
28:10 [b]Lev 25:39-46
28:11 [c]2Ch 11:4
28:15 [d]2Ki 6:22; Pr 25:21-22 [e]S Dt 34:3; S Jdg 1:16 [f]Lk 10:25-37
28:16 [g]S 2Ki 16:7; Eze 23:12
28:17 [h]Ps 137:7; Isa 34:5; 63:1; Jer 25:21; Eze 16:57; 25:12; Am 1:11 [i]2Ch 29:9
28:18 [j]Isa 9:12; 11:14; Jer 25:20; Eze 16:27,57; 25:15 [k]S Jos 10:12 [l]Jos 15:41 [m]S 1Sa 17:1 [n]S Ge 38:12
28:19 [o]S 1Ch 5:25
28:20 [p]S 2Ki 15:29; S 1Ch 5:6 [q]Isa 7:17; 8:7; 10:5-6; 36:1 [r]Isa 10:20 [s]S 2Ki 16:7
28:21 [t]S 2Ch 16:2-9 [u]Jer 2:36
28:22 [v]Jer 5:3; 15:7; 17:23
28:23 [w]S 2Ch 25:14 [x]Isa 10:20; Jer 44:17-18 [y]1Ch 11:1; Jer 18:15
28:24 [z]2Ch 29:19 [a]S 2Ki 16:18 [b]Mal 1:10 [c]2Ch 30:14
28:27 [d]Isa 14:28-32 [e]S 2Ch 21:20
29:1 [f]S 1Ch 3:13
29:2 [g]2Ch 34:2
29:3 [h]2Ki 18:16
29:5 [i]S Lev 11:44; Ne 13:9
29:6 [j]Ezr 9:7; Ps 106:6-47; Jer 2:27; 18:17; Eze 23:35; Da 9:5-6 [k]S 1Ch 5:25
29:7 [l]S Ex 30:7
29:8 [m]S Dt 28:25 [n]S Lev 26:32; Jer 18:16; 19:8; 25:9,18
29:9 [o]2Ch 28:5-8,17

[p]16 One Hebrew manuscript, Septuagint and Vulgate (see also 2 Kings 16:7); most Hebrew manuscripts *kings* [q]19 That is, Judah, as frequently in 2 Chronicles [r]20 Hebrew *Tilgath-Pilneser*, a variant of *Tiglath-Pileser* [s]24 Or *and cut them up*

10Now I intend to make a covenant[a] with the LORD, the God of Israel, so that his fierce anger[b] will turn away from us.
11My sons, do not be negligent now, for the LORD has chosen you to stand before him and serve him,[c] to minister[d] before him and to burn incense."
12Then these Levites[e] set to work:

from the Kohathites,
Mahath son of Amasai and Joel son of Azariah;
from the Merarites,
Kish son of Abdi and Azariah son of Jehallelel;
from the Gershonites,
Joah son of Zimmah and Eden[f] son of Joah;
13from the descendants of Elizaphan,[g]
Shimri and Jeiel;
from the descendants of Asaph,[h]
Zechariah and Mattaniah;
14from the descendants of Heman,
Jehiel and Shimei;
from the descendants of Jeduthun,
Shemaiah and Uzziel.

15When they had assembled their brothers and consecrated themselves, they went in to purify[i] the temple of the LORD, as the king had ordered, following the word of the LORD.
16The priests went into the sanctuary of the LORD to purify it. They brought out to the courtyard of the LORD's temple everything unclean that they found in the temple of the LORD. The Levites took it and carried it out to the Kidron Valley.[j]
17They began the consecration on the first day of the first month, and by the eighth day of the month they reached the portico of the LORD. For eight more days they consecrated the temple of the LORD itself, finishing on the sixteenth day of the first month.
18Then they went in to King Hezekiah and reported: "We have purified the entire temple of the LORD, the altar of burnt offering with all its utensils, and the table for setting out the consecrated bread, with all its articles.
19We have prepared and consecrated all the articles[k] that King Ahaz removed in his unfaithfulness while he was king. They are now in front of the LORD's altar."
20Early the next morning King Hezekiah gathered the city officials together and went up to the temple of the LORD.
21They brought seven bulls, seven rams, seven male lambs and seven male goats[l] as a sin offering[m] for the kingdom, for the sanctuary and for Judah. The king commanded the priests, the descendants of Aaron, to offer these on the altar of the LORD.
22So they slaughtered the bulls, and the priests took the blood and sprinkled it on the altar; next they slaughtered the rams and sprinkled their blood on the altar; then they slaughtered the lambs and sprinkled their blood[n] on the altar.
23The goats[o] for the sin offering were brought before the king and the assembly, and they laid their hands[p] on them.
24The priests then slaughtered the goats and presented their blood on the altar for a sin offering to atone[q] for all Israel, because the king had ordered the burnt offering and the sin offering for all Israel.[r]
25He stationed the Levites in the temple of the LORD with cymbals, harps and lyres in the way prescribed by David[s] and Gad[t] the king's seer and Nathan the prophet; this was commanded by the LORD through his prophets.
26So the Levites stood ready with David's instruments,[u] and the priests with their trumpets.[v]
27Hezekiah gave the order to sacrifice the burnt offering on the altar. As the offering began, singing to the LORD began also, accompanied by trumpets and the instruments[w] of David king of Israel.
28The whole assembly bowed in worship, while the singers sang and the trumpeters played. All this continued until the sacrifice of the burnt offering[x] was completed.
29When the offerings were finished, the king and everyone present with him knelt down and worshiped.[y]
30King Hezekiah and his officials ordered the Levites to praise the LORD with the words of David and of Asaph the seer. So they sang praises with gladness and bowed their heads and worshiped.
31Then Hezekiah said, "You have now dedicated yourselves to the LORD. Come and bring sacrifices[z] and thank offerings to the temple of the LORD." So the assembly brought sacrifices and thank offerings, and all whose hearts were willing[a] brought burnt offerings.
32The number of burnt offerings[b] the assembly brought was seventy bulls, a hundred rams and two hundred male lambs—all of them for burnt offerings to the LORD.
33The animals consecrated as sacrifices amounted to six hundred bulls and three thousand sheep and goats.
34The priests, however, were too few to skin all the burnt offerings;[c] so

29:10 [illegible]
29:11 [illegible]
29:12 [illegible]
29:13 [illegible]
29:15 [illegible]
29:16 [illegible]
29:19 [illegible]
29:21 [illegible] mS Lev 4:13-14
29:22 nS Lev 4:18; Nu 18:17
29:23 oS Lev 16:5 pLev 4:15
29:24 qS Ex 29:36; Lev 4:26 r1Ch 11:1; Ezr 8:35
29:25 sS 1Ch 25:6; 28:19 tS 1Sa 22:5
29:26 uS 1Ch 15:16 vS 1Ch 15:24
29:27 wS 1Sa 16:16
29:28 xS 2Ch 2:4
29:29 yS 2Ch 20:18
29:31 zHeb 13:15-16 aS Ex 25:2; 35:22
29:32 bLev 1:1-17
29:34 cEze 44:11

their kinsmen the Levites helped them
until the task was finished and until
other priests had been consecrated,[a]
for the Levites had been more con-
scientious in consecrating themselves
than the priests had been. 35There were
burnt offerings in abundance, together
with the fat[b] of the fellowship offer-
ings[t][c] and the drink offerings[d] that
accompanied the burnt offerings.
So the service of the temple of the
LORD was reestablished. 36Hezekiah
and all the people rejoiced at what God
had brought about for his people, be-
cause it was done so quickly.[e]

Hezekiah Celebrates the Passover

30 Hezekiah sent word to all Israel[f]
and Judah and also wrote letters
to Ephraim and Manasseh,[g] inviting
them to come to the temple of the LORD
in Jerusalem and celebrate the Pass-
over[h] to the LORD, the God of Israel.
2The king and his officials and the
whole assembly in Jerusalem decided
to celebrate[i] the Passover in the sec-
ond month. 3They had not been able to
celebrate it at the regular time because
not enough priests had consecrated[j]
themselves and the people had not as-
sembled in Jerusalem. 4The plan
seemed right both to the king and to
the whole assembly. 5They decided to
send a proclamation throughout Israel,
from Beersheba to Dan,[k] calling the
people to come to Jerusalem and cele-
brate the Passover to the LORD, the God
of Israel. It had not been celebrated in
large numbers according to what was
written.
6At the king's command, couriers
went throughout Israel and Judah with
letters from the king and from his offi-
cials, which read:
"People of Israel, return to the
LORD, the God of Abraham, Isaac
and Israel, that he may return to
you who are left, who have es-
caped from the hand of the kings of
Assyria. 7Do not be like your fa-
thers[l] and brothers, who were un-
faithful[m] to the LORD, the God of
their fathers, so that he made them
an object of horror,[n] as you see.
8Do not be stiff-necked,[o] as your
fathers were; submit to the LORD.
Come to the sanctuary, which he
has consecrated forever. Serve the
LORD your God, so that his fierce
anger[p] will turn away from you. 9If
you return[q] to the LORD, then your
brothers and your children will be
shown compassion[r] by their cap-
tors and will come back to this
land, for the LORD your God is gra-
cious and compassionate.[s] He will
not turn his face from you if you
return to him."
10The couriers went from town to
town in Ephraim and Manasseh, as far
as Zebulun, but the people scorned
and ridiculed[t] them. 11Nevertheless,
some men of Asher, Manasseh and
Zebulun humbled[u] themselves and
went to Jerusalem.[v] 12Also in Judah the
hand of God was on the people to give
them unity[w] of mind to carry out what
the king and his officials had ordered,
following the word of the LORD.
13A very large crowd of people as-
sembled in Jerusalem to celebrate the
Feast of Unleavened Bread[x] in the sec-
ond month. 14They removed the altars[y]
in Jerusalem and cleared away the in-
cense altars and threw them into the
Kidron Valley.[z]
15They slaughtered the Passover
lamb on the fourteenth day of the sec-
ond month. The priests and the Levites
were ashamed and consecrated[a] them-
selves and brought burnt offerings to
the temple of the LORD. 16Then they
took up their regular positions[b] as pre-
scribed in the Law of Moses the man of
God. The priests sprinkled the blood
handed to them by the Levites. 17Since
many in the crowd had not consecrated
themselves, the Levites had to kill[c] the
Passover lambs for all those who were
not ceremonially clean and could not
consecrate ⌊their lambs⌋ to the LORD.
18Although most of the many people
who came from Ephraim, Manasseh,
Issachar and Zebulun had not purified
themselves,[d] yet they ate the Passover,
contrary to what was written. But
Hezekiah prayed for them, saying,
"May the LORD, who is good, pardon
everyone 19who sets his heart on seek-
ing God—the LORD, the God of his fa-
thers—even if he is not clean according
to the rules of the sanctuary." 20And
the LORD heard[e] Hezekiah and healed[f]
the people.
21The Israelites who were present in
Jerusalem celebrated the Feast of Un-
leavened Bread[h] for seven days with
great rejoicing, while the Levites and
priests sang to the LORD every day, ac-

29:34 [a]2Ch 30:3,15
29:35 [b]S Ge 4:4; S Ex 29:13 [c]Lev 7:11-21 [d]S Ge 35:14
29:36 [e]2Ch 35:8
30:1 [f]S 1Ch 9:1 [g]S Ge 41:52 [h]S Ex 12:11; S Nu 28:16
30:2 [i]Nu 9:10
30:3 [j]Nu 9:6-13; S 2Ch 29:34
30:5 [k]S Jdg 20:1
30:7 [l]Ps 78:8,57; 106:6; Jer 11:10; Eze 20:18 [m]S 1Ch 5:25 [n]S Dt 28:25
30:8 [o]S Ex 32:9 [p]S Nu 25:4; S 2Ch 29:10
30:9 [q]Dt 30:2-5; Isa 1:16; 55:7; Jer 25:5; Eze 33:11 [r]S Ex 3:21; S 1Ki 8:50 [s]S Ex 22:27; S Dt 4:31; S 2Ch 6:39; Mic 7:18
30:10 [t]2Ch 36:16
30:11 [u]S 2Ch 6:37 [v]ver 25
30:12 [w]Jer 32:39; Eze 11:19
30:13 [x]S Nu 28:16
30:14 [y]2Ch 28:24 [z]S 2Sa 15:23
30:15 [a]S 2Ch 29:34
30:16 [b]2Ch 35:10
30:17 [c]2Ch 35:11; Ezr 6:20
30:18 [d]Ex 12:43-49; Nu 9:6-10
30:20 [e]S 2Ch 6:20 [f]S 2Ch 7:14; Mal 4:2 [g]Jas 5:16
30:21 [h]Ex 12:15,17; 13:6

[t]35 Traditionally *peace offerings*

companied by the LORD's instruments
of praise.[u]
22Hezekiah spoke encouragingly to
all the Levites, who showed good
understanding of the service of the
LORD. For the seven days they ate their
assigned portion and offered fellow-
ship offerings[v] and praised the LORD,
the God of their fathers.
23The whole assembly then agreed to
celebrate[a] the festival seven more
days; so for another seven days they
celebrated joyfully. 24Hezekiah king of
Judah provided[b] a thousand bulls and
seven thousand sheep and goats for
the assembly, and the officials pro-
vided them with a thousand bulls and
ten thousand sheep and goats. A great
number of priests consecrated them-
selves. 25The entire assembly of Judah
rejoiced, along with the priests and Le-
vites and all who had assembled from
Israel[c], including the aliens who had
come from Israel and those who lived
in Judah. 26There was great joy in
Jerusalem, for since the days of Solo-
mon[d] son of David king of Israel there
had been nothing like this in Jerusa-
lem. 27The priests and the Levites stood
to bless[e] the people, and God heard
them, for their prayer reached heaven,
his holy dwelling place.

31 When all this had ended, the Is-
raelites who were there went out
to the towns of Judah, smashed the sa-
cred stones and cut down[f] the
Asherah poles. They destroyed the
high places and the altars throughout
Judah and Benjamin and in Ephraim
and Manasseh. After they had de-
stroyed all of them, the Israelites re-
turned to their own towns and to their
own property.

Contributions for Worship

31:20-21pp — 2Ki 18:5-7

2Hezekiah[g] assigned the priests and
Levites to divisions[h]—each of them ac-
cording to their duties as priests or Le-
vites—to offer burnt offerings and fel-
lowship offerings,[v] to minister,[i] to
give thanks and to sing praises[j] at the
gates of the LORD's dwelling.[k] 3The
king contributed[l] from his own
possessions for the morning and eve-
ning burnt offerings and for the burnt
offerings on the Sabbaths, New Moons
and appointed feasts as written in the
Law of the LORD.[m] 4He ordered the
people living in Jerusalem to give the
portion[n] due the priests and Levites so
they could devote themselves to the
Law of the LORD. 5As soon as the order
went out, the Israelites generously
gave the firstfruits[o] of their grain, new
wine,[p] oil and honey and all that the
fields produced. They brought a great
amount, a tithe of everything. 6The
men of Israel and Judah who lived in
the towns of Judah also brought a
tithe[q] of their herds and flocks and a
tithe of the holy things dedicated to the
LORD their God, and they piled them in
heaps.[r] 7They began doing this in the
third month and finished in the sev-
enth month.[s] 8When Hezekiah and his
officials came and saw the heaps, they
praised the LORD and blessed[t] his
people Israel.
9Hezekiah asked the priests and Le-
vites about the heaps; 10and Azariah
the chief priest, from the family of
Zadok,[u] answered, "Since the people
began to bring their contributions to
the temple of the LORD, we have had
enough to eat and plenty to spare, be-
cause the LORD has blessed his people,
and this great amount is left over."[v]
11Hezekiah gave orders to prepare
storerooms in the temple of the LORD,
and this was done. 12Then they faith-
fully brought in the contributions,
tithes and dedicated gifts. Conaniah,[w]
a Levite, was in charge of these things,
and his brother Shimei was next in
rank. 13Jehiel, Azaziah, Nahath, Asa-
hel, Jerimoth, Jozabad,[x] Eliel, Is-
makiah, Mahath and Benaiah were su-
pervisors under Conaniah and Shimei
his brother, by appointment of King
Hezekiah and Azariah the official in
charge of the temple of God.
14Kore son of Imnah the Levite, keep-
er of the East Gate, was in charge of the
freewill offerings given to God, dis-
tributing the contributions made to the
LORD and also the consecrated gifts.
15Eden,[y] Miniamin, Jeshua, Shemaiah,
Amariah and Shecaniah assisted him
faithfully in the towns[z] of the priests,
distributing to their fellow priests ac-
cording to their divisions, old and
young alike.
16In addition, they distributed to the
males three years old or more whose
names were in the genealogical
records[a]—all who would enter the
temple of the LORD to perform the daily
duties of their various tasks, according
to their responsibilities and their divi-

30:23 [a]2Ch 7:9
30:24 [b]1Ki 8:5; 2Ch 35:7; Ezr 6:17; 8:35
30:25 [c]ver 11
30:26 [d]S 2Ch 7:8
30:27 [e]S Ex 39:43
31:1 [f]S 2Ki 18:4; 2Ch 32:12; Isa 36:7
31:2 [g]S 2Ch 29:9 [h]S 1Ch 24:1 [i]S 1Ch 15:2 [j]Ps 7:17; 9:2; 47:6; 71:22 [k]S 1Ch 23:28-32
31:3 [l]S 1Ch 29:3; 2Ch 35:7; Eze 45:17 [m]Nu 28:1-29:40
31:4 [n]S Nu 18:8; S Dt 18:8; Ne 13:10
31:5 [o]S Nu 18:12,24; Ne 13:12; Eze 44:30 [p]Dt 12:17
31:6 [q]S Lev 27:30; Ne 13:10-12 [r]S Ru 3:7
31:7 [s]Ex 23:16
31:8 [t]Ps 144:13-15
31:10 [u]S 2Sa 8:17 [v]S Ex 36:5; Eze 44:30; Mal 3:10-12
31:12 [w]2Ch 35:9
31:13 [x]2Ch 35:9
31:15 [y]2Ch 29:12 [z]Jos 21:9-19
31:16 [a]1Ch 23:23

[u]21 Or *priests praised the LORD every day with resounding instruments belonging to the LORD* [v]22,2 Traditionally *peace offerings*

sions. 17And they distributed to the
priests enrolled by their families in the
genealogical records and likewise to
the Levites twenty years old or more,
according to their responsibilities and
their divisions. 18They included all the
little ones, the wives, and the sons and
daughters of the whole community list-
ed in these genealogical records. For
they were faithful in consecrating
themselves.
19As for the priests, the descendants
of Aaron, who lived on the farm lands
around their towns or in any other
towns,[a] men were designated by name
to distribute portions to every male
among them and to all who were
recorded in the genealogies of the Le-
vites.
20This is what Hezekiah did through-
out Judah, doing what was good and
right and faithful[b] before the LORD his
God. 21In everything that he undertook
in the service of God's temple and in
obedience to the law and the com-
mands, he sought his God and worked
wholeheartedly. And so he pros-
pered.[c]

Sennacherib Threatens Jerusalem

32:9-19pp — 2Ki 18:17-35; Isa 36:2-20
32:20-21pp — 2Ki 19:35-37; Isa 37:36-38

32 After all that Hezekiah had so
faithfully done, Sennacherib[d]
king of Assyria came and invaded
Judah. He laid siege to the fortified cit-
ies, thinking to conquer them for him-
self. 2When Hezekiah saw that Sen-
nacherib had come and that he intend-
ed to make war on Jerusalem,[e] 3he
consulted with his officials and military
staff about blocking off the water from
the springs outside the city, and they
helped him. 4A large force of men as-
sembled, and they blocked all the
springs[f] and the stream that flowed
through the land. "Why should the
kings[a] of Assyria come and find plenty
of water?" they said. 5Then he worked
hard repairing all the broken sections
of the walls[g] and building towers on it.
He built another wall outside that one
and reinforced the supporting ter-
races[b][h] of the City of David. He also
made large numbers of weapons[i] and
shields.
6He appointed military officers over
the people and assembled them before
him in the square at the city gate and
encouraged them with these words:
7"Be strong and courageous.[j] Do not
be afraid or discouraged[k] because of
the king of Assyria and the vast army
with him, for there is a greater power
with us than with him.[l] 8With him is
only the arm of flesh,[m] but with us[n] is
the LORD our God to help us and to
fight our battles."[o] And the people
gained confidence from what Hezekiah
the king of Judah said.
9Later, when Sennacherib king of As-
syria and all his forces were laying
siege to Lachish,[p] he sent his officers
to Jerusalem with this message for
Hezekiah king of Judah and for all the
people of Judah who were there:

10"This is what Sennacherib king
of Assyria says: On what are you
basing your confidence,[q] that you
remain in Jerusalem under siege?
11When Hezekiah says, 'The LORD
our God will save us from the hand
of the king of Assyria,' he is mis-
leading[r] you, to let you die of hun-
ger and thirst. 12Did not Hezekiah
himself remove this god's high
places and altars, saying to Judah
and Jerusalem, 'You must worship
before one altar[s] and burn sacri-
fices on it'?
13"Do you not know what I and
my fathers have done to all the
peoples of the other lands? Were
the gods of those nations ever able
to deliver their land from my
hand?[t] 14Who of all the gods of
these nations that my fathers de-
stroyed has been able to save his
people from me? How then can
your god deliver you from my
hand? 15Now do not let Hezekiah
deceive[u] you and mislead you like
this. Do not believe him, for no god
of any nation or kingdom has been
able to deliver[v] his people from my
hand or the hand of my fathers.[w]
How much less will your god de-
liver you from my hand!"

16Sennacherib's officers spoke further
against the LORD God and against his
servant Hezekiah. 17The king also
wrote letters[x] insulting[y] the LORD, the
God of Israel, and saying this against
him: "Just as the gods[z] of the peoples
of the other lands did not rescue their
people from my hand, so the god of
Hezekiah will not rescue his people
from my hand." 18Then they called out
in Hebrew to the people of Jerusalem
who were on the wall, to terrify them
and make them afraid in order to cap-

31:19 [a]S Nu 35:2-5
31:20 [b]S 2Ki 20:3
31:21 [c]S Dt 29:9
32:1 [d]Isa 36:1; 37:9,17,37
32:2 [e]Isa 22:7; Jer 1:15
32:4 [f]S 2Ki 18:17; Isa 22:9,11; Na 3:14
32:5 [g]Isa 22:10 [h]S 1Ch 11:8 [i]Isa 22:8
32:7 [j]S Dt 31:6 [k]2Ch 20:15 [l]S Nu 14:9; 2Ki 6:16
32:8 [m]Job 40:9; Isa 52:10; Jer 17:5; 32:21 [n]S Dt 3:22; S 1Sa 17:45 [o]S 1Ch 5:22; Ps 20:7; Isa 28:6
32:9 [p]S Jos 10:3, 31
32:10 [q]Eze 29:16
32:11 [r]Isa 37:10
32:12 [s]S 2Ch 31:1
32:13 [t]ver 15
32:15 [u]Isa 37:10 [v]Da 3:15 [w]Ex 5:2
32:17 [x]Isa 37:14 [y]Ps 74:22; Isa 37:4,17 [z]S 2Ki 19:12

[a]4 Hebrew; Septuagint and Syriac *king* [b]5 Or *the Millo*

ture the city. 19They spoke about the God of Jerusalem as they did about the gods of the other peoples of the world—the work of men's hands.[a]

20King Hezekiah and the prophet Isaiah son of Amoz cried out in prayer[b] to heaven about this. 21And the LORD sent an angel,[c] who annihilated all the fighting men and the leaders and officers in the camp of the Assyrian king. So he withdrew to his own land in disgrace. And when he went into the temple of his god, some of his sons cut him down with the sword.[d]

22So the LORD saved Hezekiah and the people of Jerusalem from the hand of Sennacherib king of Assyria and from the hand of all others. He took care of them[y] on every side. 23Many brought offerings to Jerusalem for the LORD and valuable gifts[e] for Hezekiah king of Judah. From then on he was highly regarded by all the nations.

Hezekiah's Pride, Success and Death

32:24-33pp — 2Ki 20:1-21; Isa 37:21-38; 38:1-8

24In those days Hezekiah became ill and was at the point of death. He prayed to the LORD, who answered him and gave him a miraculous sign.[f] 25But Hezekiah's heart was proud[g] and he did not respond to the kindness shown him; therefore the LORD's wrath[h] was on him and on Judah and Jerusalem. 26Then Hezekiah repented[i] of the pride of his heart, as did the people of Jerusalem; therefore the LORD's wrath did not come upon them during the days of Hezekiah.[j]

27Hezekiah had very great riches and honor,[k] and he made treasuries for his silver and gold and for his precious stones, spices, shields and all kinds of valuables. 28He also made buildings to store the harvest of grain, new wine and oil; and he made stalls for various kinds of cattle, and pens for the flocks. 29He built villages and acquired great numbers of flocks and herds, for God had given him very great riches.[l]

30It was Hezekiah who blocked[m] the upper outlet of the Gihon[n] spring and channeled[o] the water down to the west side of the City of David. He succeeded in everything he undertook. 31But when envoys were sent by the rulers of Babylon[p] to ask him about the miraculous sign[q] that had occurred in the land, God left him to test[r] him and to know everything that was in his heart.

32The other events of Hezekiah's reign and his acts of devotion are written in the vision of the prophet Isaiah son of Amoz in the book of the kings of Judah and Israel. 33Hezekiah rested with his fathers and was buried on the hill where the tombs of David's descendants are. All Judah and the people of Jerusalem honored him when he died. And Manasseh his son succeeded him as king.

Manasseh King of Judah

33:1-10pp — 2Ki 21:1-10
33:18-20pp — 2Ki 21:17-18

33 Manasseh[s] was twelve years old when he became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem fifty-five years. 2He did evil in the eyes of the LORD,[t] following the detestable[u] practices of the nations the LORD had driven out before the Israelites. 3He rebuilt the high places his father Hezekiah had demolished; he also erected altars to the Baals and made Asherah poles.[v] He bowed down[w] to all the starry hosts and worshiped them. 4He built altars in the temple of the LORD, of which the LORD had said, "My Name[x] will remain in Jerusalem forever." 5In both courts of the temple of the LORD,[y] he built altars to all the starry hosts. 6He sacrificed his sons[z] in[z] the fire in the Valley of Ben Hinnom, practiced sorcery, divination and witchcraft, and consulted mediums[a] and spiritists.[b] He did much evil in the eyes of the LORD, provoking him to anger.

7He took the carved image he had made and put it in God's temple,[c] of which God had said to David and to his son Solomon, "In this temple and in Jerusalem, which I have chosen out of all the tribes of Israel, I will put my Name forever. 8I will not again make the feet of the Israelites leave the land[d] I assigned to your forefathers, if only they will be careful to do everything I commanded them concerning all the laws, decrees and ordinances given through Moses." 9But Manasseh led Judah and the people of Jerusalem astray, so that they did more evil than the nations the LORD had destroyed before the Israelites.[e]

10The LORD spoke to Manasseh and his people, but they paid no attention. 11So the LORD brought against them the army commanders of the king of Assyria, who took Manasseh prisoner,[f] put a hook[g] in his nose, bound him

32:19 [a]Ps 115:4-8; Isa 2:8; 17:8; 37:19; Jer 1:16 **32:20** [b]Isa 1:15; 37:15 **32:21** [c]S Ge 19:13 [d]S 2Ki 19:7; Isa 37:7,38; Jer 41:2 **32:23** [e]S 1Sa 10:27; S 2Ch 9:24; Ps 68:18,29; 76:11; Isa 16:1; 18:7; 45:14; Zep 3:10; Zec 14:16-17 **32:24** [f]ver 31 **32:25** [g]S 2Ki 14:10 [h]S 2Ch 19:2 **32:26** [i]Jer 26:18-19 [j]2Ch 34:27,28; Isa 39:8 **32:27** [k]S 1Ch 29:12; S 2Ch 9:24 **32:29** [l]Isa 39:2 **32:30** [m]S 2Ki 18:17 [n]S 1Ki 1:33 [o]S 2Sa 5:8 **32:31** [p]Isa 13:1; 39:1 [q]S ver 24; Isa 38:7 [r]S Ge 22:1; Dt 8:16

33:1 [s]S 1Ch 3:13 **33:2** [t]Jer 15:4 [u]S Dt 18:9 **33:3** [v]Dt 16:21-22; S 2Ch 24:18 [w]Dt 17:3 **33:4** [x]2Ch 7:16 **33:5** [y]S 2Ch 4:9 **33:6** [z]S Lev 18:21; S Dt 18:10 [a]S Ex 22:18; S Lev 19:31 [b]S 1Sa 28:13 **33:7** [c]S 2Ch 7:16 **33:8** [d]S 2Sa 7:10 **33:9** [e]Jer 15:4; Eze 5:7 **33:11** [f]S Dt 28:36 [g]S 2Ki 19:28; Isa 37:29; Eze 29:4; 38:4; Am 4:2

y22 Hebrew; Septuagint and Vulgate *He gave them rest*
z6 Or *He made his sons pass through*

with bronze shackles[a] and took him to
Babylon. [12]In his distress he sought the
favor of the LORD his God and hum-
bled[b] himself greatly before the God of
his fathers. [13]And when he prayed to
him, the LORD was moved by his en-
treaty and listened to his plea; so he
brought him back to Jerusalem and to
his kingdom. Then Manasseh knew
that the LORD is God.
[14]Afterward he rebuilt the outer wall
of the City of David, west of the Gi-
hon[c] spring in the valley, as far as the
entrance of the Fish Gate[d] and encir-
cling the hill of Ophel;[e] he also made it
much higher. He stationed military
commanders in all the fortified cities in
Judah.
[15]He got rid of the foreign gods and
removed[f] the image from the temple
of the LORD, as well as all the altars he
had built on the temple hill and in
Jerusalem; and he threw them out of
the city. [16]Then he restored the altar of
the LORD and sacrificed fellowship of-
ferings[a] and thank offerings[g] on it,
and told Judah to serve the LORD, the
God of Israel. [17]The people, however,
continued to sacrifice at the high
places, but only to the LORD their God.
[18]The other events of Manasseh's
reign, including his prayer to his God
and the words the seers spoke to him
in the name of the LORD, the God of
Israel, are written in the annals of the
kings of Israel.[b] [19]His prayer and how
God was moved by his entreaty, as
well as all his sins and unfaithfulness,
and the sites where he built high places
and set up Asherah poles and idols be-
fore he humbled[h] himself—all are writ-
ten in the records of the seers.[c] [20]Ma-
nasseh rested with his fathers and was
buried[i] in his palace. And Amon his
son succeeded him as king.

Amon King of Judah

33:21-25pp — 2Ki 21:19-24

[21]Amon[k] was twenty-two years old
when he became king, and he reigned
in Jerusalem two years. [22]He did evil in
the eyes of the LORD, as his father Ma-
nasseh had done. Amon worshiped
and offered sacrifices to all the idols
Manasseh had made. [23]But unlike his
father Manasseh, he did not humble[l]
himself before the LORD; Amon in-
creased his guilt.
[24]Amon's officials conspired against
him and assassinated him in his palace.
[25]Then the people[m] of the land killed all
who had plotted against King Amon,
and they made Josiah his son king in
his place.

Josiah's Reforms

34:1-2pp — 2Ki 22:1-2
34:3-7Ref — 2Ki 23:4-20
34:8-13pp — 2Ki 22:3-7

34 Josiah[n] was eight years old
when he became king,[o] and he
reigned in Jerusalem thirty-one years.
[2]He did what was right in the eyes of
the LORD and walked in the ways of his
father David,[p] not turning aside to the
right or to the left.
[3]In the eighth year of his reign, while
he was still young, he began to seek
the God[q] of his father David. In his
twelfth year he began to purge Judah
and Jerusalem of high places, Asherah
poles, carved idols and cast images.
[4]Under his direction the altars of the
Baals were torn down; he cut to pieces
the incense altars that were above
them, and smashed the Asherah
poles,[r] the idols and the images. These
he broke to pieces and scattered over
the graves of those who had sacrificed
to them.[s] [5]He burned[t] the bones of
the priests on their altars, and so he
purged Judah and Jerusalem. [6]In the
towns of Manasseh, Ephraim and Sim-
eon, as far as Naphtali, and in the ruins
around them, [7]he tore down the altars
and the Asherah poles and crushed the
idols to powder[u] and cut to pieces all
the incense altars throughout Israel.
Then he went back to Jerusalem.
[8]In the eighteenth year of Josiah's
reign, to purify the land and the tem-
ple, he sent Shaphan son of Azaliah
and Maaseiah the ruler of the city, with
Joah son of Joahaz, the recorder, to re-
pair the temple of the LORD his God.
[9]They went to Hilkiah[v] the high
priest and gave him the money that
had been brought into the temple of
God, which the Levites who were the
doorkeepers had collected from the
people of Manasseh, Ephraim and the
entire remnant of Israel and from all
the people of Judah and Benjamin and
the inhabitants of Jerusalem. [10]Then
they entrusted it to the men appointed
to supervise the work on the LORD's
temple. These men paid the workers
who repaired and restored the temple.
[11]They also gave money[w] to the carpen-

33:11 [a]Ps 149:8
33:12 [b]S 2Ch 6:37
33:14 [c]S 1Ki 1:33 [d]Ne 3:3; 12:39; Zep 1:10 [e]2Ch 27:3; Ne 3:26
33:15 [f]2Ki 23:12
33:16 [g]Lev 7:11-18
33:19 [h]S 2Ch 6:37 [i]2Ki 21:17
33:20 [j]2Ki 21:18; S 2Ch 21:20
33:21 [k]S 1Ch 3:14
33:23 [l]S Ex 10:3; 2Ch 7:14; Ps 18:27; 147:6; Pr 3:34
33:25 [m]S 2Ch 22:1
34:1 [n]S 1Ch 3:14 [o]Zep 1:1
34:2 [p]2Ch 29:2
34:3 [q]S 1Ch 16:11
34:4 [r]S Ex 34:13 [s]Ex 32:20; S Lev 26:30; 2Ki 23:11; Mic 1:5
34:5 [t]S 1Ki 13:2
34:7 [u]S Ex 32:20
34:9 [v]S 1Ch 6:13
34:11 [w]2Ch 24:12

[a]16 Traditionally *peace offerings* [b]18 That is, Judah, as frequently in 2 Chron [c]19 One Hebrew manuscript and Septuagint; most Hebrew manuscripts *of Hozai*

ters and builders to purchase dressed
stone, and timber for joists and beams
for the buildings that the kings of
Judah had allowed to fall into ruin.
12The men did the work faithfully.
Over them to direct them were Jahath
and Obadiah, Levites descended from
Merari, and Zechariah and Meshullam,
descended from Kohath. The Levites—
all who were skilled in playing musical
instruments— 13had charge of the la-
borers and supervised all the workers
from job to job. Some of the Levites
were secretaries, scribes and doorkeep-
ers.

The Book of the Law Found

34:14-28pp—2Ki 22:8-20
34:29-32pp—2Ki 23:1-3

14While they were bringing out the
money that had been taken into the
temple of the LORD, Hilkiah the priest
found the Book of the Law of the LORD
that had been given through Moses.
15Hilkiah said to Shaphan the secretary,
"I have found the Book of the Law in
the temple of the LORD." He gave it to
Shaphan.

16Then Shaphan took the book to the
king and reported to him: "Your offi-
cials are doing everything that has been
committed to them. 17They have paid
out the money that was in the temple
of the LORD and have entrusted it to the
supervisors and workers." 18Then Sha-
phan the secretary informed the king,
"Hilkiah the priest has given me a
book." And Shaphan read from it in
the presence of the king.

19When the king heard the words of
the Law, he tore his robes. 20He gave
these orders to Hilkiah, Ahikam son of
Shaphan, Abdon son of Micah,[a] Sha-
phan the secretary and Asaiah the
king's attendant: 21"Go and inquire of
the LORD for me and for the remnant in
Israel and Judah about what is written
in this book that has been found. Great
is the LORD's anger that is poured out
on us because our fathers have not
kept the word of the LORD; they have
not acted in accordance with all that is
written in this book."

22Hilkiah and those the king had sent
with him[b] went to speak to the proph-
etess Huldah, who was the wife of
Shallum son of Tokhath,[c] the son of
Hasrah,[d] keeper of the wardrobe. She
lived in Jerusalem, in the Second Dis-
trict.

23She said to them, "This is what the
LORD, the God of Israel, says: Tell the
man who sent you to me, 24'This is
what the LORD says: I am going to bring
disaster on this place and its
people—all the curses written in the
book that has been read in the presence
of the king of Judah. 25Because they
have forsaken me and burned incense
to other gods and provoked me to an-
ger by all that their hands have made,[e]
my anger will be poured out on this
place and will not be quenched.' 26Tell
the king of Judah, who sent you to in-
quire of the LORD, 'This is what the
LORD, the God of Israel, says concern-
ing the words you heard: 27Because
your heart was responsive and you
humbled yourself before God when
you heard what he spoke against this
place and its people, and because you
humbled yourself before me and tore
your robes and wept in my presence, I
have heard you, declares the LORD.
28Now I will gather you to your fa-
thers, and you will be buried in
peace. Your eyes will not see all the
disaster I am going to bring on this
place and on those who live here.'"

So they took her answer back to the
king.

29Then the king called together all the
elders of Judah and Jerusalem. 30He
went up to the temple of the LORD
with the men of Judah, the people of
Jerusalem, the priests and the Le-
vites—all the people from the least to
the greatest. He read in their hearing
all the words of the Book of the Cov-
enant, which had been found in the
temple of the LORD. 31The king stood by
his pillar and renewed the covenant
in the presence of the LORD—to follow
the LORD and keep his commands,
regulations and decrees with all his
heart and all his soul, and to obey the
words of the covenant written in this
book.

32Then he had everyone in Jerusalem
and Benjamin pledge themselves to it;
the people of Jerusalem did this in
accordance with the covenant of God,
the God of their fathers.

33Josiah removed all the detestable
idols from all the territory belonging to
the Israelites, and he had all who were
present in Israel serve the LORD their
God. As long as he lived, they did not

[a]20 Also called *Acbor son of Micaiah* [b]22 One Hebrew manuscript, Vulgate and Syriac; most Hebrew manuscripts do not have *had sent with him.* [c]22 Also called *Tikvah* [d]22 Also called *Harhas* [e]25 Or *by everything they have done*

fail to follow the LORD, the God of their fathers.

Josiah Celebrates the Passover

35:1,18-19pp — 2Ki 23:21-23

35 Josiah celebrated the Passover[a] to the LORD in Jerusalem, and the Passover lamb was slaughtered on the fourteenth day of the first month. 2He appointed the priests to their duties and encouraged them in the service of the LORD's temple. 3He said to the Levites, who instructed[b] all Israel and who had been consecrated to the LORD: "Put the sacred ark in the temple that Solomon son of David king of Israel built. It is not to be carried about on your shoulders. Now serve the LORD your God and his people Israel. 4Prepare yourselves by families in your divisions,[c] according to the directions written by David king of Israel and by his son Solomon.

5"Stand in the holy place with a group of Levites for each subdivision of the families of your fellow countrymen, the lay people. 6Slaughter the Passover lambs, consecrate yourselves[d] and prepare ⌞the lambs⌟ for your fellow countrymen, doing what the LORD commanded through Moses."

7Josiah provided for all the lay people who were there a total of thirty thousand sheep and goats for the Passover offerings,[e] and also three thousand cattle—all from the king's own possessions.[f]

8His officials also contributed[g] voluntarily to the people and the priests and Levites. Hilkiah,[h] Zechariah and Jehiel, the administrators of God's temple, gave the priests twenty-six hundred Passover offerings and three hundred cattle. 9Also Conaniah[i] along with Shemaiah and Nethanel, his brothers, and Hashabiah, Jeiel and Jozabad,[j] the leaders of the Levites, provided five thousand Passover offerings and five hundred head of cattle for the Levites.

10The service was arranged and the priests stood in their places with the Levites in their divisions[k] as the king had ordered.[l] 11The Passover lambs were slaughtered,[m] and the priests sprinkled the blood handed to them, while the Levites skinned the animals. 12They set aside the burnt offerings to give them to the subdivisions of the families of the people to offer to the LORD, as is written in the Book of Moses. They did the same with the cattle. 13They roasted the Passover animals over the fire as prescribed,[n] and boiled the holy offerings in pots, caldrons and pans and served them quickly to all the people. 14After this, they made preparations for themselves and for the priests, because the priests, the descendants of Aaron, were sacrificing the burnt offerings and the fat portions[o] until nightfall. So the Levites made preparations for themselves and for the Aaronic priests.

15The musicians,[p] the descendants of Asaph, were in the places prescribed by David, Asaph, Heman and Jeduthun the king's seer. The gatekeepers at each gate did not need to leave their posts, because their fellow Levites made the preparations for them.

16So at that time the entire service of the LORD was carried out for the celebration of the Passover and the offering of burnt offerings on the altar of the LORD, as King Josiah had ordered. 17The Israelites who were present celebrated the Passover at that time and observed the Feast of Unleavened Bread for seven days. 18The Passover had not been observed like this in Israel since the days of the prophet Samuel; and none of the kings of Israel had ever celebrated such a Passover as did Josiah, with the priests, the Levites and all Judah and Israel who were there with the people of Jerusalem. 19This Passover was celebrated in the eighteenth year of Josiah's reign.

The Death of Josiah

35:20-36:1pp — 2Ki 23:28-30

20After all this, when Josiah had set the temple in order, Neco king of Egypt went up to fight at Carchemish[q] on the Euphrates,[r] and Josiah marched out to meet him in battle. 21But Neco sent messengers to him, saying, "What quarrel is there between you and me, O king of Judah? It is not you I am attacking at this time, but the house with which I am at war. God has told[s] me to hurry; so stop opposing God, who is with me, or he will destroy you."

22Josiah, however, would not turn away from him, but disguised[t] himself to engage him in battle. He would not listen to what Neco had said at God's command but went to fight him on the plain of Megiddo.

23Archers[u] shot King Josiah, and he told his officers, "Take me away; I am

35:1 [a]Ex 12:1-30; Nu 28:16
35:3 [b]S 2Ch 17:7
35:4 [c]ver 10; S 1Ch 24:1; Ezr 6:18
35:6 [d]S Lev 11:44
35:7 [e]S 2Ch 30:24; [f]S 2Ch 31:3
35:8 [g]S 1Ch 29:3; 2Ch 29:31-36; [h]S 1Ch 6:13
35:9 [i]2Ch 31:12; [j]2Ch 31:13
35:10 [k]S ver 4; [l]2Ch 30:16
35:11 [m]S 2Ch 30:17
35:13 [n]Ex 12:2-11
35:14 [o]S Ex 29:13
35:15 [p]S 1Ch 25:1; S 26:12-19; 2Ch 29:30; Ne 12:46; Ps 68:25
35:20 [q]Isa 10:9; Jer 46:2; [r]S Ge 2:14
35:21 [s]S 1Ki 13:18; S 2Ki 18:25
35:22 [t]S 1Sa 28:8
35:23 [u]S 1Ki 22:34

badly wounded." [24]So they took him out of his chariot, put him in the other chariot he had and brought him to Jerusalem, where he died. He was buried in the tombs of his fathers, and all Judah and Jerusalem mourned for him.

[25]Jeremiah composed laments for Josiah, and to this day all the men and women singers commemorate Josiah in the laments.[a] These became a tradition in Israel and are written in the Laments.[b]

[26]The other events of Josiah's reign and his acts of devotion, according to what is written in the Law of the LORD— [27]all the events, from beginning to end, are written in the book of the kings of Israel and Judah.

36 [1]And the people[c] of the land took Jehoahaz son of Josiah and made him king in Jerusalem in place of his father.

Jehoahaz King of Judah

36:2-4pp — 2Ki 23:31-34

[2]Jehoahaz[i] was twenty-three years old when he became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem three months. [3]The king of Egypt dethroned him in Jerusalem and imposed on Judah a levy of a hundred talents[j] of silver and a talent[k] of gold. [4]The king of Egypt made Eliakim, a brother of Jehoahaz, king over Judah and Jerusalem and changed Eliakim's name to Jehoiakim. But Neco[d] took Eliakim's brother Jehoahaz and carried him off to Egypt.[e]

Jehoiakim King of Judah

36:5-8pp — 2Ki 23:36-24:6

[5]Jehoiakim[f] was twenty-five years old when he became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem eleven years. He did evil in the eyes of the LORD his God. [6]Nebuchadnezzar[g] king of Babylon attacked him and bound him with bronze shackles to take him to Babylon.[h] [7]Nebuchadnezzar also took to Babylon articles from the temple of the LORD and put them in his temple[l] there.[i]

[8]The other events of Jehoiakim's reign, the detestable things he did and all that was found against him, are written in the book of the kings of Israel and Judah. And Jehoiachin his son succeeded him as king.

Jehoiachin King of Judah

36:9-10pp — 2Ki 24:8-17

[9]Jehoiachin[j] was eighteen[m] years old when he became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem three months and ten days. He did evil in the eyes of the LORD. [10]In the spring, King Nebuchadnezzar sent for him and brought him to Babylon,[k] together with articles of value from the temple of the LORD, and he made Jehoiachin's uncle,[n] Zedekiah, king over Judah and Jerusalem.

Zedekiah King of Judah

36:11-16pp — 2Ki 24:18-20; Jer 52:1-3

[11]Zedekiah[l] was twenty-one years old when he became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem eleven years. [12]He did evil in the eyes of the LORD[m] his God and did not humble[n] himself before Jeremiah the prophet, who spoke the word of the LORD. [13]He also rebelled against King Nebuchadnezzar, who had made him take an oath[o] in God's name. He became stiff-necked[p] and hardened his heart and would not turn to the LORD, the God of Israel. [14]Furthermore, all the leaders of the priests and the people became more and more unfaithful,[q] following all the detestable practices of the nations and defiling the temple of the LORD, which he had consecrated in Jerusalem.

The Fall of Jerusalem

36:17-20pp — 2Ki 25:1-21; Jer 52:4-27
36:22-23pp — Ezr 1:1-3

[15]The LORD, the God of their fathers, sent word to them through his messengers[r] again and again,[s] because he had pity on his people and on his dwelling place. [16]But they mocked God's messengers, despised his words and scoffed[t] at his prophets until the wrath[u] of the LORD was aroused against his people and there was no remedy.[v] [17]He brought up against them the king of the Babylonians,[o] [w] who killed their young men with the sword in the sanctuary, and spared neither young man[x] nor young woman, old man or aged.[y] God handed all of them over to Nebuchadnezzar.[z] [18]He carried to Babylon all the articles[a] from the temple of God, both large and small, and the treasures of the LORD's temple and the treasures of the king and his officials. [19]They set

35:25 [a]S Ge 50:10; Jer 22:10,15-16 [b]2Ch 34:28
36:1 [c]S 2Ch 22:1
36:4 [d]Jer 22:10-12 [e]Eze 19:4
36:5 [f]Jer 22:18; 25:1; 26:1; 35:1; 36:1; 45:1; 46:2
36:6 [g]Jer 25:9; 27:6; Eze 29:18 [h]Eze 19:9; Da 1:1
36:7 [i]ver 18; Ezr 1:7; Jer 27:16; Da 1:2
36:9 [j]Jer 22:24-28; 24:1; 27:20; 29:21; 52:31
36:10 [k]ver 18; S 2Ki 20:17; Ezr 1:7; Isa 52:11; Jer 14:18; 21:7; 22:25; 24:1; 27:16,20,22; 29:1; 34:21; 40:1; Eze 17:12; Da 5:2
36:11 [l]S 2Ki 24:17; Jer 27:1; 28:1; 34:2; 37:1; 39:1
36:12 [m]Jer 37:1-39:18 [n]S Dt 8:3; 2Ch 7:14; Jer 44:10
36:13 [o]Eze 17:13 [p]S Ex 32:9; S Dt 9:27
36:14 [q]S 1Ch 5:25
36:15 [r]Isa 5:4; 44:26; Jer 7:25; Hag 1:13; Zec 1:4; Mal 2:7; 3:1; S Mt 5:12 [s]Jer 7:13,25; 11:7; 25:3-4; 35:14,15; 44:4-6
36:16 [t]S 2Ki 2:23; Job 8:2; Isa 28:14,22; 29:20; 57:4; Jer 5:13; 43:2; Mic 2:11 [u]Ezr 5:12; Pr 1:30-31; Jer 44:3 [v]Ne 9:30; Pr 29:1; Jer 7:26; 20:8; 25:4; 30:12; Da 9:6; Zec 1:2
36:17 [w]S Ge 10:10 [x]Jer 6:11; 9:21; 18:21; 44:7 [y]S Dt 32:25; Jer 51:22 [z]Ezr 5:12; Jer 32:28; La 2:21; Eze 9:6; 23:47
36:18 [a]S ver 7, S 10; Jer 27:20

[i]2 Hebrew *Joahaz,* a variant of *Jehoahaz;* also in verse 4
[j]3 That is, about 3 3/4 tons (about 3.4 metric tons)
[k]3 That is, about 75 pounds (about 34 kilograms)
[l]7 Or *palace*
[m]9 One Hebrew manuscript, some Septuagint manuscripts and Syriac (see also 2 Kings 24:8); most Hebrew manuscripts *eight*
[n]10 Hebrew *brother,* that is, relative (see 2 Kings 24:17)
[o]17 Or *Chaldeans*

fire[a] to God's temple[b] and broke down
the wall[c] of Jerusalem; they burned all
the palaces and destroyed[d] everything
of value there.[e]
20He carried into exile[f] to Babylon
the remnant, who escaped from the
sword, and they became servants[g] to
him and his sons until the kingdom of
Persia came to power. 21The land en-
joyed its sabbath rests;[h] all the time of
its desolation it rested,[i] until the sev-
enty years[j] were completed in fulfill-
ment of the word of the LORD spoken
by Jeremiah.
22In the first year of Cyrus[k] king of
Persia, in order to fulfill the word of the
LORD spoken by Jeremiah, the LORD
moved the heart of Cyrus king of
Persia to make a proclamation through-
out his realm and to put it in writing:
23"This is what Cyrus king of Persia
says:
"'The LORD, the God of heaven,
has given me all the kingdoms of
the earth and he has appointed[l]
me to build a temple for him at
Jerusalem in Judah. Anyone of his
people among you—may the LORD
his God be with him, and let him
go up.'"

36:19 [a]Jer 11:16; 17:27; 21:10,14; 22:7; 32:29; 39:8; La 4:11; Eze 20:47; Am 2:5; Zec 11:1 [b]1Ki 9:8-9 [c]S 2Ki 14:13 [d]La 2:6 [e]Ps 79:1-3 **36:20** [f]S Lev 26:44; S 2Ki 24:14; Ezr 2:1; Ne 7:6 [g]Jer 27:7 **36:21** [h]S Lev 25:4 [i]S 1Ch 22:9 [j]Jer 1:1; 25:11; 27:22; 29:10; 40:1; Da 9:2; Zec 1:12; 7:5 **36:22** [k]Isa 44:28; 45:1, 13; Da 1:21; 6:28; 10:1 **36:23** [l]S Jdg 4:10

Ezra

Cyrus Helps the Exiles to Return

1:1-3pp — 2Ch 36:22-23

1 In the first year of Cyrus king of
Persia, in order to fulfill the word of
the LORD spoken by Jeremiah,[a] the
LORD moved the heart[b] of Cyrus king
of Persia to make a proclamation
throughout his realm and to put it in
writing:

[2]"This is what Cyrus king of Persia
says:

"'The LORD, the God of heaven,
has given me all the kingdoms of
the earth and he has appointed[c]
me to build[d] a temple for him at
Jerusalem in Judah. [3]Anyone of his
people among you—may his God
be with him, and let him go up to
Jerusalem in Judah and build the
temple of the LORD, the God of Is-
rael, the God who is in Jerusalem.
[4]And the people of any place where
survivors[e] may now be living are
to provide him with silver and
gold,[f] with goods and livestock,
and with freewill offerings[g] for the
temple of God[h] in Jerusalem.'"[i]

[5]Then the family heads of Judah and
Benjamin,[j] and the priests and Le-
vites—everyone whose heart God had
moved[k]—prepared to go up and build
the house[l] of the LORD in Jerusalem.
[6]All their neighbors assisted them with
articles of silver and gold,[m] with goods
and livestock, and with valuable gifts,
in addition to all the freewill offerings.
[7]Moreover, King Cyrus brought out the
articles belonging to the temple of the
LORD, which Nebuchadnezzar had car-
ried away from Jerusalem and had
placed in the temple of his god.[a][n]
[8]Cyrus king of Persia had them brought
by Mithredath the treasurer, who
counted them out to Sheshbazzar[o] the
prince of Judah.

[9]This was the inventory:

gold dishes	30
silver dishes	1,000
silver pans[b]	29
[10]gold bowls	30
matching silver bowls	410
other articles	1,000

[11]In all, there were 5,400 articles of
gold and of silver. Sheshbazzar
brought all these along when the exiles
came up from Babylon to Jerusalem.

The List of the Exiles Who Returned

2:1-70pp — Ne 7:6-73

2 Now these are the people of the
province who came up from the
captivity of the exiles,[p] whom Nebu-
chadnezzar king of Babylon[q] had taken
captive to Babylon (they returned to
Jerusalem and Judah, each to his own
town,[r] [2]in company with Zerubbabel,[s]
Jeshua,[t] Nehemiah, Seraiah,[u] Reel-
aiah, Mordecai, Bilshan, Mispar, Big-
vai, Rehum and Baanah):

The list of the men of the people of
Israel:

[3]the descendants of Parosh[v]	2,172
[4]of Shephatiah	372
[5]of Arah	775
[6]of Pahath-Moab (through the line of Jeshua and Joab)	2,812
[7]of Elam	1,254
[8]of Zattu	945
[9]of Zaccai	760
[10]of Bani	642
[11]of Bebai	623
[12]of Azgad	1,222
[13]of Adonikam[w]	666
[14]of Bigvai	2,056
[15]of Adin	454
[16]of Ater (through Hezekiah)	98
[17]of Bezai	323
[18]of Jorah	112
[19]of Hashum	223
[20]of Gibbar	95
[21]the men of Bethlehem[x]	123
[22]of Netophah	56
[23]of Anathoth	128
[24]of Azmaveth	42
[25]of Kiriath Jearim,[c] Kephirah	

1:1 [a]Jer 25:11-12; 29:10-14; Zec 1:12-16 [b]Ezr 6:22; 7:27 **1:2** [c]S Jdg 4:10; Ps 72:11; Isa 41:2,25; 44:28; 45:1,13; 46:11; 49:7,23; 60:3,10 [d]Hag 1:2 **1:4** [e]Isa 10:20-22 [f]S Ex 3:22 [g]Nu 15:3; Ps 50:14; 54:6; 116:17 [h]Ps 72:8-11; Rev 21:24 [i]Ezr 3:7; 4:3; 5:13; 6:3,14 **1:5** [j]2Ch 11:1,3,10,12,23; 15:2,8-9; 25:5; 31:1; 34:9; Ezr 4:1; 10:9; Ne 11:4; 12:34 [k]ver 1; Ex 35:20-22; 2Ch 36:22; Hag 1:14; S Php 2:13 [l]Ps 127:1 **1:6** [m]S Ex 3:22 **1:7** [n]S 2Ki 24:13; S 2Ch 36:7,10; Ezr 5:14; 6:5; Jer 52:17-19 **1:8** [o]S 1Ch 3:18
2:1 [p]S 2Ch 36:20 [q]S 2Ki 24:16; 25:12 [r]ver 70; 1Ch 9:2; Ne 7:73; 11:3 **2:2** [s]S 1Ch 3:19; Mt 1:12; Lk 3:27 [t]Ezr 3:2; 5:2; 10:18; Ne 12:1,8; Hag 1:1,12; 2:4; Zec 3:1-10; 6:9-15 [u]1Ch 6:14; Ne 10:2; 11:11; 12:1 **2:3** [v]Ezr 8:3; 10:25; Ne 3:25 **2:13** [w]Ezr 8:13 **2:21** [x]Mic 5:2

[a]7 Or *gods* [b]9 The meaning of the Hebrew for this word is uncertain. [c]25 See Septuagint (see also Neh. 7:29); Hebrew *Kiriath Arim*.

and Beeroth 743
26 of Ramah[a] and Geba 621
27 of Micmash 122
28 of Bethel and Ai[b] 223
29 of Nebo 52
30 of Magbish 156
31 of the other Elam 1,254
32 of Harim 320
33 of Lod, Hadid and Ono 725
34 of Jericho[c] 345
35 of Senaah 3,630

36 The priests:

the descendants of Jedaiah[d]
(through the family
of Jeshua) 973
37 of Immer[e] 1,052
38 of Pashhur[f] 1,247
39 of Harim[g] 1,017

40 The Levites:[h]

the descendants of Jeshua[i] and
Kadmiel (through the line of
Hodaviah) 74

41 The singers:[j]

the descendants of Asaph 128

42 The gatekeepers[k] of the temple:

the descendants of
Shallum, Ater, Talmon,
Akkub, Hatita and Shobai 139

43 The temple servants:[l]

the descendants of
Ziha, Hasupha, Tabbaoth,
44 Keros, Siaha, Padon,
45 Lebanah, Hagabah, Akkub,
46 Hagab, Shalmai, Hanan,
47 Giddel, Gahar, Reaiah,
48 Rezin, Nekoda, Gazzam,
49 Uzza, Paseah, Besai,
50 Asnah, Meunim, Nephussim,
51 Bakbuk, Hakupha, Harhur,
52 Bazluth, Mehida, Harsha,
53 Barkos, Sisera, Temah,
54 Neziah and Hatipha

55 The descendants of the servants
of Solomon:

the descendants of
Sotai, Hassophereth, Peruda,
56 Jaala, Darkon, Giddel,
57 Shephatiah, Hattil,
Pokereth-Hazzebaim and Ami

58 The temple servants[m] and the
descendants of the servants of
Solomon 392

59 The following came up from
the towns of Tel Melah, Tel Har-
sha, Kerub, Addon and Immer, but
they could not show that their
families were descended[n] from Is-
rael:

60 The descendants of
Delaiah, Tobiah and
Nekoda 652

61 And from among the priests:

The descendants of
Hobaiah, Hakkoz and Barzillai
(a man who had married a
daughter of Barzillai the
Gileadite[o] and was called by
that name).

62 These searched for their family
records, but they could not find
them and so were excluded from
the priesthood[p] as unclean. 63 The
governor ordered them not to eat
any of the most sacred food[q] until
there was a priest ministering with
the Urim and Thummim.[r]

64 The whole company numbered
42,360, 65 besides their 7,337 men-
servants and maidservants; and
they also had 200 men and women
singers.[s] 66 They had 736 horses,[t]
245 mules, 67 435 camels and 6,720
donkeys.

68 When they arrived at the house of
the LORD in Jerusalem, some of the
heads of the families[u] gave freewill of-
ferings toward the rebuilding of the
house of God on its site. 69 According to
their ability they gave to the treasury
for this work 61,000 drachmas[d] of gold,
5,000 minas[e] of silver and 100 priestly
garments.

70 The priests, the Levites, the sing-
ers, the gatekeepers and the temple
servants settled in their own towns,
along with some of the other people,
and the rest of the Israelites settled in
their towns.[v]

Rebuilding the Altar

3 When the seventh month came and
the Israelites had settled in their
towns,[w] the people assembled[x] as one
man in Jerusalem. 2 Then Jeshua[y] son
of Jozadak[z] and his fellow priests and
Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel[a] and his
associates began to build the altar of
the God of Israel to sacrifice burnt of-
ferings on it, in accordance with what
is written in the Law of Moses[b] the
man of God. 3 Despite their fear[c] of the
peoples around them, they built the al-
tar on its foundation and sacrificed

2:26 [a]S Jos 18:25
2:28 [b]S Ge 12:8
2:34 [c]1Ki 16:34; 2Ch 28:15
2:36 [d]S 1Ch 24:7
2:37 [e]S 1Ch 24:14
2:38 [f]S 1Ch 9:12
2:39 [g]S 1Ch 24:8
2:40 [h]S Ge 29:34; Nu 3:9; Dt 18:6-7; 1Ch 16:4; Ezr 7:7; 8:15; Ne 12:24 [i]Ezr 3:9
2:41 [j]S 1Ch 15:16
2:42 [k]1Sa 3:15; S 1Ch 9:17
2:43 [l]S 1Ch 9:2; Ne 11:21
2:58 [m]S 1Ch 9:2
2:59 [n]S Nu 1:18
2:61 [o]S 2Sa 17:27
2:62 [p]Nu 3:10; 16:39-40
2:63 [q]Lev 2:3,10 [r]S Ex 28:30
2:65 [s]S 2Sa 19:35
2:66 [t]Isa 66:20
2:68 [u]S Ex 25:2
2:70 [v]S ver 1; S 1Ch 9:2; Ne 11:3-4
3:1 [w]Ne 7:73 [x]S Lev 23:24
3:2 [y]S Ezr 2:2 [z]Hag 1:1; Zec 6:11 [a]1Ch 3:17 [b]S Ex 20:24; Dt 12:5-6
3:3 [c]Ezr 4:4; Da 9:25

[d]69 That is, about 1,100 pounds (about 500 kilograms) [e]69 That is, about 3 tons (about 2.9 metric tons)

burnt offerings on it to the LORD, both the morning and evening sacrifices.[a] 4Then in accordance with what is written, they celebrated the Feast of Tabernacles[b] with the required number of burnt offerings prescribed for each day. 5After that, they presented the regular burnt offerings, the New Moon[c] sacrifices and the sacrifices for all the appointed sacred feasts of the LORD,[d] as well as those brought as freewill offerings to the LORD. 6On the first day of the seventh month they began to offer burnt offerings to the LORD, though the foundation of the LORD's temple had not yet been laid.

Rebuilding the Temple

7Then they gave money to the masons and carpenters,[e] and gave food and drink and oil to the people of Sidon and Tyre, so that they would bring cedar logs[f] by sea from Lebanon[g] to Joppa, as authorized by Cyrus[h] king of Persia.

8In the second month[i] of the second year after their arrival at the house of God in Jerusalem, Zerubbabel[j] son of Shealtiel, Jeshua son of Jozadak and the rest of their brothers (the priests and the Levites and all who had returned from the captivity to Jerusalem) began the work, appointing Levites twenty[k] years of age and older to supervise the building of the house of the LORD. 9Jeshua[l] and his sons and brothers and Kadmiel and his sons (descendants of Hodaviah[f]) and the sons of Henadad and their sons and brothers—all Levites—joined together in supervising those working on the house of God.

10When the builders laid[m] the foundation of the temple of the LORD, the priests in their vestments and with trumpets,[n] and the Levites (the sons of Asaph) with cymbals, took their places to praise[o] the LORD, as prescribed by David[p] king of Israel.[q] 11With praise and thanksgiving they sang to the LORD:

"He is good;
his love to Israel endures
forever."[r]

And all the people gave a great shout[s] of praise to the LORD, because the foundation[t] of the house of the LORD was laid. 12But many of the older priests and Levites and family heads, who had seen the former temple,[u] wept[v] aloud when they saw the foundation of this temple being laid, while many others shouted for joy. 13No one could distinguish the sound of the shouts of joy[w] from the sound of weeping, because the people made so much noise. And the sound was heard far away.

Opposition to the Rebuilding

4 When the enemies of Judah and Benjamin heard that the exiles were building[x] a temple for the LORD, the God of Israel, 2they came to Zerubbabel and to the heads of the families and said, "Let us help you build because, like you, we seek your God and have been sacrificing to him since the time of Esarhaddon[y] king of Assyria, who brought us here."[z]

3But Zerubbabel, Jeshua and the rest of the heads of the families of Israel answered, "You have no part with us in building a temple to our God. We alone will build it for the LORD, the God of Israel, as King Cyrus, the king of Persia, commanded us."[a]

4Then the peoples around them set out to discourage the people of Judah and make them afraid to go on building.[g][b] 5They hired counselors to work against them and frustrate their plans during the entire reign of Cyrus king of Persia and down to the reign of Darius king of Persia.

Later Opposition Under Xerxes and Artaxerxes

6At the beginning of the reign of Xerxes,[h][c] they lodged an accusation against the people of Judah and Jerusalem.[d]

7And in the days of Artaxerxes[e] king of Persia, Bishlam, Mithredath, Tabeel and the rest of his associates wrote a letter to Artaxerxes. The letter was written in Aramaic script and in the Aramaic[f] language.[i,j]

8Rehum the commanding officer and Shimshai the secretary wrote a letter against Jerusalem to Artaxerxes the king as follows:

9Rehum the commanding officer and Shimshai the secretary, together with the rest of their associates[g]—the judges and officials over the men from Tripolis, Persia,[k] Erech[h] and Babylon, the

3:3 [a] S Ex 29:39; Nu 28:1-8 3:4 [b] S Ex 23:16; Nu 29:12-38; Ne 8:14-18; Zec 14:16-19 3:5 [c] S Nu 28:14; Col 2:16 [d] Lev 23:1-44; S Nu 29:39 3:7 [e] 1Ch 22:15 [f] S 1Ch 14:1 [g] Isa 35:2; 60:13 [h] S Ezr 1:2-4 3:8 [i] 1Ki 6:1 [j] Zec 4:9 [k] S Nu 4:3 3:9 [l] Ezr 2:40 3:10 [m] Ezr 5:16; 6:3; Hag 2:15 [n] S Nu 10:2; S 2Sa 6:5; 1Ch 16:6; 2Ch 5:13; Ne 12:35 [o] S 1Ch 25:1 [p] S 1Ch 6:31 [q] Zec 6:12 3:11 [r] 1Ch 16:34,41; S 2Ch 7:3; Ps 30:5; 107:1; 118:1; 138:8 [s] S Jos 6:5,10 [t] Hag 2:18; Zec 4:9; 8:9 3:12 [u] Hag 2:3,9 [v] Jer 31:9; 50:4

3:13 [w] Job 8:21; 33:26; Ps 27:6; 42:4; Isa 16:9; Jer 48:33 4:1 [x] Ne 2:20 4:2 [y] S 2Ki 17:24 [z] S 2Ki 17:41 4:3 [a] Ezr 1:1-4 4:4 [b] S Ezr 3:3 4:6 [c] Est 1:1; Da 9:1 [d] Est 3:13; 9:5 4:7 [e] Ezr 7:1; Ne 2:1 [f] 2Ki 18:26; Isa 36:11; Da 1:4; 2:4 4:9 [g] ver 23; Ezr 5:6; 6:6,13 [h] Ge 10:10

f9 Hebrew *Yehudah*, probably a variant of *Hodaviah* g4 Or *and troubled them as they built* h6 Hebrew *Ahasuerus*, a variant of Xerxes' name i7 Or *written in Aramaic and translated* j7 The text of Ezra 4:8—6:18 is in Aramaic. k9 Or *officials, magistrates and governors over the men from*

Elamites of Susa,[a] 10 and the other
people whom the great and honor-
able Ashurbanipal[l][b] deported and
settled in the city of Samaria and
elsewhere in Trans-Euphrates.[c]

11 (This is a copy of the letter they
sent him.)

To King Artaxerxes,

From your servants, the men of
Trans-Euphrates:

12 The king should know that the
Jews who came up to us from you
have gone to Jerusalem and are re-
building that rebellious and wicked
city. They are restoring the walls
and repairing the foundations.[d]
13 Furthermore, the king should
know that if this city is built and its
walls are restored, no more taxes,
tribute or duty[e] will be paid, and
the royal revenues will suffer.
14 Now since we are under obliga-
tion to the palace and it is not
proper for us to see the king dis-
honored, we are sending this mes-
sage to inform the king, 15 so that a
search may be made in the
archives[f] of your predecessors. In
these records you will find that this
city is a rebellious city, troublesome
to kings and provinces, a place of
rebellion from ancient times. That
is why this city was destroyed.[g]
16 We inform the king that if this
city is built and its walls are re-
stored, you will be left with noth-
ing in Trans-Euphrates.

17 The king sent this reply:

To Rehum the commanding officer,
Shimshai the secretary and the rest
of their associates living in Sa-
maria and elsewhere in Trans-
Euphrates:[h]

Greetings.

18 The letter you sent us has been
read and translated in my pres-
ence. 19 I issued an order and a
search was made, and it was found
that this city has a long history of
revolt[i] against kings and has been
a place of rebellion and sedition.
20 Jerusalem has had powerful kings
ruling over the whole of Trans-
Euphrates,[j] and taxes, tribute and
duty were paid to them. 21 Now is-
sue an order to these men to stop
work, so that this city will not be
rebuilt until I so order. 22 Be careful

4:9 [a]Ne 1:1; Est 1:2; Da 8:2
4:10 [b]S 2Ki 17:24 [c]ver 17; Ne 4:2
4:12 [d]Ezr 5:3,9
4:13 [e]Ezr 7:24; Ne 5:4
4:15 [f]Ezr 5:17; 6:1 [g]Est 3:8
4:17 [h]S ver 10
4:19 [i]S 2Ki 18:7
4:20 [j]Ge 15:18-21; S Ex 23:31; S Jos 1:4; S 1Ki 4:21; 1Ch 18:3; Ps 72:8-11

4:22 [k]Da 6:2
4:23 [l]S ver 9
4:24 [m]Ne 2:1-8; Da 9:25; Hag 1:1,15; Zec 1:1
5:1 [n]Ezr 6:14; Hag 1:1,3,12; 2:1,10,20 [o]Zec 1:1; 7:1 [p]Hag 1:14-2:9; Zec 4:9-10; 8:9
5:2 [q]S 1Ch 3:19; Hag 1:14; 2:21; Zec 4:6-10 [r]S Ezr 2:2 [s]ver 8; Hag 2:2-5
5:3 [t]Ezr 6:6 [u]Ezr 6:6 [v]S Ezr 4:12
5:5 [w]S 2Ki 25:28; Ezr 7:6,9,28; 8:18,22,31; Ne 2:8,18; Ps 33:18; Isa 66:14
5:8 [x]S ver 2

not to neglect this matter. Why let
this threat grow, to the detriment
of the royal interests?[k]

23 As soon as the copy of the letter of
King Artaxerxes was read to Rehum
and Shimshai the secretary and their
associates,[l] they went immediately to
the Jews in Jerusalem and compelled
them by force to stop.

24 Thus the work on the house of God
in Jerusalem came to a standstill until
the second year of the reign of Darius[m]
king of Persia.

Tattenai's Letter to Darius

5 Now Haggai[n] the prophet and
Zechariah[o] the prophet, a descend-
ant of Iddo, prophesied[p] to the Jews in
Judah and Jerusalem in the name of the
God of Israel, who was over them.
2 Then Zerubbabel[q] son of Shealtiel and
Jeshua[r] son of Jozadak set to work[s] to
rebuild the house of God in Jerusalem.
And the prophets of God were with
them, helping them.
3 At that time Tattenai,[t] governor
of Trans-Euphrates, and Shethar-
Bozenai[u] and their associates went to
them and asked, "Who authorized you
to rebuild this temple and restore this
structure?"[v] 4 They also asked, "What
are the names of the men constructing
this building?"[m] 5 But the eye of their
God[w] was watching over the elders of
the Jews, and they were not stopped
until a report could go to Darius and
his written reply be received.
6 This is a copy of the letter that Tat-
tenai, governor of Trans-Euphrates,
and Shethar-Bozenai and their asso-
ciates, the officials of Trans-Euphrates,
sent to King Darius. 7 The report they
sent him read as follows:

To King Darius:

Cordial greetings.

8 The king should know that we
went to the district of Judah, to the
temple of the great God. The
people are building it with large
stones and placing the timbers in
the walls. The work[x] is being car-
ried on with diligence and is mak-
ing rapid progress under their di-
rection.
9 We questioned the elders and
asked them, "Who authorized you

l10 Aramaic *Osnappar,* a variant of *Ashurbanipal*
m4 See Septuagint; Aramaic [4]*We told them the names of the men constructing this building.*

to rebuild this temple and restore
this structure?"[a] 10We also asked
them their names, so that we could
write down the names of their lead-
ers for your information.
11This is the answer they gave us:

"We are the servants of the God
of heaven and earth, and we are
rebuilding the temple[b] that was
built many years ago, one that a
great king of Israel built and fin-
ished. 12But because our fathers an-
gered[c] the God of heaven, he
handed them over to Nebu-
chadnezzar the Chaldean, king of
Babylon, who destroyed this tem-
ple and deported the people to
Babylon.[d]
13"However, in the first year of
Cyrus king of Babylon, King Cyrus
issued a decree[e] to rebuild this
house of God. 14He even removed
from the temple[n] of Babylon the
gold and silver articles of the house
of God, which Nebuchadnezzar
had taken from the temple in
Jerusalem and brought to the tem-
ple[n] in Babylon.[f]
"Then King Cyrus gave them to
a man named Sheshbazzar,[g]
whom he had appointed governor,
15and he told him, 'Take these arti-
cles and go and deposit them in the
temple in Jerusalem. And rebuild
the house of God on its site.' 16So
this Sheshbazzar came and laid the
foundations of the house of God[h]
in Jerusalem. From that day to the
present it has been under construc-
tion but is not yet finished."

17Now if it pleases the king, let a
search be made in the royal
archives[i] of Babylon to see if King
Cyrus did in fact issue a decree to
rebuild this house of God in Jerusa-
lem. Then let the king send us his
decision in this matter.

The Decree of Darius

6 King Darius then issued an order,
and they searched in the archives[j]
stored in the treasury at Babylon. 2A
scroll was found in the citadel of Ec-
batana in the province of Media, and
this was written on it:

Memorandum:

3In the first year of King Cyrus,
the king issued a decree concerning
the temple of God in Jerusalem:

Let the temple be rebuilt as a
place to present sacrifices, and let
its foundations be laid.[k] It is to be
ninety feet[o] high and ninety feet
wide, 4with three courses[l] of large
stones and one of timbers. The
costs are to be paid by the royal
treasury.[m] 5Also, the gold[n] and sil-
ver articles of the house of God,
which Nebuchadnezzar took from
the temple in Jerusalem and
brought to Babylon, are to be re-
turned to their places in the temple
in Jerusalem; they are to be depos-
ited in the house of God.[o]

6Now then, Tattenai,[p] governor
of Trans-Euphrates, and Shethar-
Bozenai[q] and you, their fellow offi-
cials of that province, stay away
from there. 7Do not interfere with
the work on this temple of God.
Let the governor of the Jews and
the Jewish elders rebuild this house
of God on its site.

8Moreover, I hereby decree what
you are to do for these elders of the
Jews in the construction of this
house of God:

The expenses of these men are to
be fully paid out of the royal trea-
sury,[r] from the revenues[s] of
Trans-Euphrates, so that the work
will not stop. 9Whatever is need-
ed—young bulls, rams, male lambs
for burnt offerings[t] to the God of
heaven, and wheat, salt, wine and
oil, as requested by the priests in
Jerusalem—must be given them
daily without fail, 10so that they
may offer sacrifices pleasing to the
God of heaven and pray for the
well-being of the king and his
sons.[u]

11Furthermore, I decree that if
anyone changes this edict, a beam
is to be pulled from his house and
he is to be lifted up and impaled[v]
on it. And for this crime his house
is to be made a pile of rubble.[w]
12May God, who has caused his
Name to dwell there,[x] overthrow
any king or people who lifts a hand
to change this decree or to destroy
this temple in Jerusalem.

I Darius[y] have decreed it. Let it
be carried out with diligence.

5:9 [a]S Ezr 4:12 **5:11** [b]1Ki 6:1; 2Ch 3:1-2 **5:12** [c]S 2Ch 36:16 [d]S Dt 21:10; S 28:36; S 2Ki 24:1; S Jer 1:3 **5:13** [e]S Ezr 1:2-4 **5:14** [f]Ezr 1:7 [g]S 1Ch 3:18 **5:16** [h]S Ezr 3:10 **5:17** [i]S Ezr 4:15 **6:1** [j]S Ezr 4:15

6:3 [k]S Ezr 3:10; Hag 2:3 **6:4** [l]S 1Ki 6:36 [m]ver 8; Ezr 7:20 **6:5** [n]S 1Ch 29:2 [o]S Ezr 1:7 **6:6** [p]Ezr 5:3 [q]Ezr 5:3 **6:8** [r]S ver 4 [s]S 1Sa 9:20 **6:9** [t]Lev 1:3,10 **6:10** [u]Ezr 7:23; 1Ti 2:1-2 **6:11** [v]S Dt 21:22-23; Est 2:23; 5:14; 9:14 [w]Ezr 7:26; Da 2:5; 3:29 **6:12** [x]S Ex 20:24; S Dt 12:5; S 2Ch 6:2 [y]ver 14

[n]14 Or *palace* [o]3 Aramaic *sixty cubits* (about 27 meters)

Completion and Dedication of the Temple

13Then, because of the decree King
Darius had sent, Tattenai, governor of
Trans-Euphrates, and Shethar-Bozenai
and their associates[a] carried it out with
diligence. 14So the elders of the Jews
continued to build and prosper under
the preaching[b] of Haggai the prophet
and Zechariah, a descendant of Iddo.
They finished building the temple ac-
cording to the command of the God of
Israel and the decrees of Cyrus,[c] Dari-
us[d] and Artaxerxes,[e] kings of Persia.
15The temple was completed on the
third day of the month Adar, in the
sixth year of the reign of King Darius.[f]
16Then the people of Israel—the
priests, the Levites and the rest of the
exiles—celebrated the dedication[g] of
the house of God with joy. 17For the
dedication of this house of God they
offered[h] a hundred bulls, two hundred
rams, four hundred male lambs and, as
a sin offering for all Israel, twelve male
goats, one for each of the tribes of Is-
rael. 18And they installed the priests in
their divisions[i] and the Levites in their
groups[j] for the service of God at
Jerusalem, according to what is written
in the Book of Moses.[k]

The Passover

19On the fourteenth day of the first
month, the exiles celebrated the Pass-
over.[l] 20The priests and Levites had
purified themselves and were all cere-
monially clean. The Levites slaugh-
tered[m] the Passover lamb for all the ex-
iles, for their brothers the priests and
for themselves. 21So the Israelites who
had returned from the exile ate it, to-
gether with all who had separated
themselves[n] from the unclean prac-
tices[o] of their Gentile neighbors in or-
der to seek the LORD,[p] the God of Is-
rael. 22For seven days they celebrated
with joy the Feast of Unleavened
Bread,[q] because the LORD had filled
them with joy by changing the atti-
tude[r] of the king of Assyria, so that he
assisted them in the work on the house
of God, the God of Israel.

Ezra Comes to Jerusalem

7 After these things, during the reign
of Artaxerxes[s] king of Persia, Ezra
son of Seraiah,[t] the son of Azariah, the
son of Hilkiah,[u] 2the son of Shallum,
the son of Zadok,[v] the son of Ahitub,[w]
3the son of Amariah, the son of Aza-
riah, the son of Meraioth, 4the son of
Zerahiah, the son of Uzzi, the son of
Bukki, 5the son of Abishua, the son of
Phinehas,[x] the son of Eleazar, the son
of Aaron the chief priest— 6this Ezra[y]
came up from Babylon. He was a
teacher well versed in the Law of
Moses, which the LORD, the God of Is-
rael, had given. The king had granted[z]
him everything he asked, for the hand
of the LORD his God was on him.[a]
7Some of the Israelites, including
priests, Levites, singers, gatekeepers
and temple servants, also came up to
Jerusalem in the seventh year of King
Artaxerxes.[b]
8Ezra arrived in Jerusalem in the fifth
month of the seventh year of the king.
9He had begun his journey from Bab-
ylon on the first day of the first month,
and he arrived in Jerusalem on the first
day of the fifth month, for the gracious
hand of his God was on him.[c] 10For
Ezra had devoted himself to the study
and observance of the Law of the LORD,
and to teaching[d] its decrees and laws
in Israel.

King Artaxerxes' Letter to Ezra

11This is a copy of the letter King Ar-
taxerxes had given to Ezra the priest
and teacher, a man learned in matters
concerning the commands and decrees
of the LORD for Israel:

12[p]Artaxerxes, king of kings,[e]

To Ezra the priest, a teacher of the
Law of the God of heaven:

Greetings.

13Now I decree that any of the Is-
raelites in my kingdom, including
priests and Levites, who wish to go
to Jerusalem with you, may go.
14You are sent by the king and his
seven advisers[f] to inquire about
Judah and Jerusalem with regard to
the Law of your God, which is in
your hand. 15Moreover, you are to
take with you the silver and gold
that the king and his advisers have
freely given[g] to the God of Israel,
whose dwelling[h] is in Jerusalem,
16together with all the silver and
gold[i] you may obtain from the
province of Babylon, as well as the
freewill offerings of the people and
priests for the temple of their God
in Jerusalem.[j] 17With this money
be sure to buy bulls, rams and male

6:13 aS Ezr 4:9
6:14 bS Ezr 5:1 cS Ezr 1:2-4 dver 12 eEzr 7:1; Ne 2:1
6:15 fZec 1:1; 4:9
6:16 gS 1Ki 8:63
6:17 hS 2Sa 6:13; S 2Ch 29:21; S 30:24
6:18 iS 2Ch 35:4; Lk 1:5 jS 1Ch 24:1 kNu 3:6-9; 8:9-11; 18:1-32
6:19 lS Ex 12:11; S Nu 28:16
6:20 mS 2Ch 30:17
6:21 nEzr 9:1; Ne 9:2 oS Dt 18:9; Eze 36:25 p1Ch 22:19; Ps 14:2
6:22 qS Ex 12:17 rS Ezr 1:1
7:1 sS Ezr 4:7; S 6:14 tS 2Ki 25:18 u2Ki 22:4
7:2 v1Ki 1:8; 2:35; 1Ch 6:8; Eze 40:46; 43:19; 44:15 wNe 11:11
7:5 x1Ch 6:4
7:6 yNe 12:36 zS 2Ki 25:28 aS Ezr 5:5; S Isa 41:20
7:7 bEzr 8:1
7:9 cver 6
7:10 dS Dt 33:10
7:12 eEze 26:7; Da 2:37
7:14 fEst 1:14
7:15 gS 1Ch 29:6 hS Dt 12:5; S 2Ch 6:2
7:16 iS Ex 3:22 jZec 6:10

p12 The text of Ezra 7:12-26 is in Aramaic.

lambs,[a] together with their grain
offerings and drink offerings,[b] and
sacrifice[c] them on the altar of the
temple of your God in Jerusalem.
18You and your brother Jews may
then do whatever seems best with
the rest of the silver and gold, in
accordance with the will of your
God. 19Deliver[d] to the God of
Jerusalem all the articles entrusted
to you for worship in the temple of
your God. 20And anything else
needed for the temple of your God
that you may have occasion to sup-
ply, you may provide from the roy-
al treasury.[e]
21Now I, King Artaxerxes, order
all the treasurers of Trans-Euph-
rates to provide with diligence
whatever Ezra the priest, a teacher
of the Law of the God of heaven,
may ask of you— 22up to a hundred
talents[q] of silver, a hundred cors[r]
of wheat, a hundred baths[s] of
wine, a hundred baths[s] of olive oil,
and salt without limit. 23Whatever
the God of heaven has prescribed,
let it be done with diligence for the
temple of the God of heaven. Why
should there be wrath against the
realm of the king and of his sons?[f]
24You are also to know that you
have no authority to impose taxes,
tribute or duty[g] on any of the
priests, Levites, singers, gate-
keepers, temple servants or other
workers at this house of God.[h]
25And you, Ezra, in accordance
with the wisdom of your God,
which you possess, appoint[i] mag-
istrates and judges to administer
justice to all the people of Trans-
Euphrates—all who know the laws
of your God. And you are to teach[j]
any who do not know them.
26Whoever does not obey the law of
your God and the law of the king
must surely be punished by death,
banishment, confiscation of prop-
erty, or imprisonment.[k]

27Praise be to the LORD, the God of
our fathers, who has put it into the
king's heart[l] to bring honor[m] to the
house of the LORD in Jerusalem in this
way 28and who has extended his good
favor[n] to me before the king and his
advisers and all the king's powerful of-
ficials. Because the hand of the LORD
my God was on me,[o] I took courage
and gathered leading men from Israel
to go up with me.

List of the Family Heads Returning With Ezra

8 These are the family heads and
those registered with them who
came up with me from Babylon during
the reign of King Artaxerxes:[p]

2of the descendants of Phinehas, Gershom;
of the descendants of Ithamar, Daniel;
of the descendants of David, Hattush 3of the descendants of Shecaniah;[q]
of the descendants of Parosh,[r] Zechariah, and with him were registered 150 men;
4of the descendants of Pahath-Moab,[s] Eliehoenai son of Zerahiah, and with him 200 men;
5of the descendants of Zattu,[t] Shecaniah son of Jahaziel, and with him 300 men;
6of the descendants of Adin,[t] Ebed son of Jonathan, and with him 50 men;
7of the descendants of Elam, Jeshaiah son of Athaliah, and with him 70 men;
8of the descendants of Shephatiah, Zebadiah son of Michael, and with him 80 men;
9of the descendants of Joab, Obadiah son of Jehiel, and with him 218 men;
10of the descendants of Bani,[u] Shelomith son of Josiphiah, and with him 160 men;
11of the descendants of Bebai, Zechariah son of Bebai, and with him 28 men;
12of the descendants of Azgad, Johanan son of Hakkatan, and with him 110 men;
13of the descendants of Adonikam,[u] the last ones, whose names were Eliphelet, Jeuel and Shemaiah, and with them 60 men;
14of the descendants of Bigvai, Uthai and Zaccur, and with them 70 men.

The Return to Jerusalem

15I assembled them at the canal that
flows toward Ahava,[v] and we camped

7:17 [a]S 2Ki 3:4 [b]Nu 15:5-12 [c]Dt 12:5-11 **7:19** [d]Ezr 5:14; Jer 27:22 **7:20** [e]S Ezr 6:4 **7:23** [f]S Ezr 6:10 **7:24** [g]S Ezr 4:13 [h]Ezr 8:36 **7:25** [i]S Ex 18:21,26 [j]S Lev 10:11 **7:26** [k]S Ezr 6:11 **7:27** [l]S Ezr 1:1 [m]S 1Ch 29:12 **7:28** [n]S 2Ki 25:28 [o]S Ezr 5:5

8:1 [p]Ezr 7:7 **8:3** [q]1Ch 3:22 [r]S Ezr 2:3 **8:4** [s]Ezr 2:6 **8:6** [t]Ezr 2:15; Ne 7:20; 10:16 **8:13** [u]Ezr 2:13 **8:15** [v]ver 21,31

[q]22 That is, about 3 3/4 tons (about 3.4 metric tons) [r]22 That is, probably about 600 bushels (about 22 kiloliters) [s]22 That is, probably about 600 gallons (about 2.2 kiloliters) [t]5 Some Septuagint manuscripts (also 1 Esdras 8:32); Hebrew does not have *Zattu.* [u]10 Some Septuagint manuscripts (also 1 Esdras 8:36); Hebrew does not have *Bani.*

there three days. When I checked among the people and the priests, I found no Levites[a] there. 16So I summoned Eliezer, Ariel, Shemaiah, Elnathan, Jarib, Elnathan, Nathan, Zechariah and Meshullam, who were leaders, and Joiarib and Elnathan, who were men of learning, 17and I sent them to Iddo, the leader in Casiphia. I told them what to say to Iddo and his kinsmen, the temple servants[b] in Casiphia, so that they might bring attendants to us for the house of our God. 18Because the gracious hand of our God was on us,[c] they brought us Sherebiah,[d] a capable man, from the descendants of Mahli son of Levi, the son of Israel, and Sherebiah's sons and brothers, 18 men; 19and Hashabiah, together with Jeshaiah from the descendants of Merari, and his brothers and nephews, 20 men. 20They also brought 220 of the temple servants[e]—a body that David and the officials had established to assist the Levites. All were registered by name.

21There, by the Ahava Canal,[f] I proclaimed a fast, so that we might humble ourselves before our God and ask him for a safe journey[g] for us and our children, with all our possessions. 22I was ashamed to ask the king for soldiers[h] and horsemen to protect us from enemies on the road, because we had told the king, "The gracious hand of our God is on everyone[i] who looks to him, but his great anger is against all who forsake him.[j]" 23So we fasted[k] and petitioned our God about this, and he answered our prayer.

24Then I set apart twelve of the leading priests, together with Sherebiah,[l] Hashabiah and ten of their brothers, 25and I weighed out[m] to them the offering of silver and gold and the articles that the king, his advisers, his officials and all Israel present there had donated for the house of our God. 26I weighed out to them 650 talents[v] of silver, silver articles weighing 100 talents,[w] 100 talents[w] of gold, 2720 bowls of gold valued at 1,000 darics,[x] and two fine articles of polished bronze, as precious as gold.

28I said to them, "You as well as these articles are consecrated to the LORD.[n] The silver and gold are a freewill offering to the LORD, the God of your fathers. 29Guard them carefully until you weigh them out in the chambers of the house of the LORD in Jerusalem before the leading priests and the Levites and the family heads of Israel." 30Then the priests and Levites received the silver and gold and sacred articles that had been weighed out to be taken to the house of our God in Jerusalem.

31On the twelfth day of the first month we set out from the Ahava Canal[o] to go to Jerusalem. The hand of our God was on us,[p] and he protected us from enemies and bandits along the way. 32So we arrived in Jerusalem, where we rested three days.[q]

33On the fourth day, in the house of our God, we weighed out[r] the silver and gold and the sacred articles into the hands of Meremoth[s] son of Uriah, the priest. Eleazar son of Phinehas was with him, and so were the Levites Jozabad[t] son of Jeshua and Noadiah son of Binnui.[u] 34Everything was accounted for by number and weight, and the entire weight was recorded at that time.

35Then the exiles who had returned from captivity sacrificed burnt offerings to the God of Israel: twelve bulls[v] for all Israel,[w] ninety-six rams, seventy-seven male lambs and, as a sin offering, twelve male goats.[x] All this was a burnt offering to the LORD. 36They also delivered the king's orders[y] to the royal satraps and to the governors of Trans-Euphrates,[z] who then gave assistance to the people and to the house of God.[a]

Ezra's Prayer About Intermarriage

9 After these things had been done, the leaders came to me and said, "The people of Israel, including the priests and the Levites, have not kept themselves separate[b] from the neighboring peoples with their detestable practices, like those of the Canaanites, Hittites, Perizzites, Jebusites,[c] Ammonites,[d] Moabites,[e] Egyptians and Amorites.[f] 2They have taken some of their daughters[g] as wives for themselves and their sons, and have mingled[h] the holy race[i] with the peoples around them. And the leaders and officials have led the way in this unfaithfulness."[j]

3When I heard this, I tore[k] my tunic and cloak, pulled hair from my head and beard and sat down appalled.[l] 4Then everyone who trembled[m] at the words of the God of Israel gathered around me because of this unfaithful-

8:15 [a]S Ezr 2:40 **8:17** [b]Ezr 2:43 **8:18** [c]S Ezr 5:5 [d]ver 24 **8:20** [e]S 1Ch 9:2 **8:21** [f]S ver 15 [g]Ps 5:8; 27:11; 107:7 **8:22** [h]Ne 2:9; Jer 41:16 [i]S Ezr 5:5 [j]S Dt 31:17 **8:23** [k]S 2Ch 20:3; Ac 14:23 **8:24** [l]ver 18 **8:25** [m]ver 33 **8:28** [n]S Lev 21:6; 22:2-3 **8:31** [o]S ver 15 [p]S Ezr 5:5 **8:32** [q]S Ge 40:13 **8:33** [r]ver 25 [s]Ne 3:4,21 [t]Ne 11:16 [u]Ne 3:24 **8:35** [v]S Lev 1:3 [w]S 2Ch 29:24 [x]S 2Ch 29:21; S 30:24 **8:36** [y]Ezr 7:21-24 [z]Ne 2:7 [a]Est 9:3 **9:1** [b]S Ezr 6:21 [c]S Ge 10:16; S Jos 15:8 [d]Ge 19:38 [e]S Ge 19:37 [f]Ex 13:5; 23:28; Dt 20:17; S Jos 3:10; S Jdg 3:5; 1Ki 9:20; S 2Ch 8:7; Ne 9:8 **9:2** [g]S Ex 34:16; S Ru 1:4 [h]Ps 106:35 [i]S Ex 22:31; S Lev 27:30; S Dt 14:2 [j]Ezr 10:2 **9:3** [k]S Nu 14:6 [l]S Ex 32:19; S 33:4 **9:4** [m]Ezr 10:3; Ps 119:120; Isa 66:2,5

[v]26 That is, about 25 tons (about 22 metric tons)
[w]26 That is, about 3 3/4 tons (about 3.4 metric tons)
[x]27 That is, about 19 pounds (about 8.5 kilograms)

ness of the exiles. And I sat there appalled[a] until the evening sacrifice.

5Then, at the evening sacrifice,[b] I rose from my self-abasement, with my tunic and cloak torn, and fell on my knees with my hands[c] spread out to the LORD my God 6and prayed:

"O my God, I am too ashamed[d] and disgraced to lift up my face to you, my God, because our sins are higher than our heads and our guilt has reached to the heavens.[e] 7From the days of our forefathers[f] until now, our guilt has been great. Because of our sins, we and our kings and our priests have been subjected to the sword[g] and captivity,[h] to pillage and humiliation[i] at the hand of foreign kings, as it is today.

8"But now, for a brief moment, the LORD our God has been gracious[j] in leaving us a remnant[k] and giving us a firm place[l] in his sanctuary, and so our God gives light to our eyes[m] and a little relief in our bondage. 9Though we are slaves,[n] our God has not deserted us in our bondage. He has shown us kindness[o] in the sight of the kings of Persia: He has granted us new life to rebuild the house of our God and repair its ruins,[p] and he has given us a wall of protection in Judah and Jerusalem.

10"But now, O our God, what can we say after this? For we have disregarded the commands[q] 11you gave through your servants the prophets when you said: 'The land you are entering[r] to possess is a land polluted[s] by the corruption of its peoples. By their detestable practices[t] they have filled it with their impurity from one end to the other. 12Therefore, do not give your daughters in marriage to their sons or take their daughters for your sons. Do not seek a treaty of friendship with them[u] at any time, that you may be strong[v] and eat the good things[w] of the land and leave it to your children as an everlasting inheritance.'[x]

13"What has happened to us is a result of our evil[y] deeds and our great guilt, and yet, our God, you have punished us less than our sins have deserved[z] and have given us a remnant like this. 14Shall we again break your commands and intermarry[a] with the peoples who commit such detestable practices? Would you not be angry enough with us to destroy us,[b] leaving us no remnant[c] or survivor? 15O LORD, God of Israel, you are righteous![d] We are left this day as a remnant. Here we are before you in our guilt, though because of it not one of us can stand[e] in your presence.[f]"

The People's Confession of Sin

10 While Ezra was praying and confessing,[g] weeping[h] and throwing himself down before the house of God, a large crowd of Israelites—men, women and children—gathered around him. They too wept bitterly. 2Then Shecaniah son of Jehiel, one of the descendants of Elam,[i] said to Ezra, "We have been unfaithful[j] to our God by marrying foreign women from the peoples around us. But in spite of this, there is still hope for Israel.[k] 3Now let us make a covenant[l] before our God to send away[m] all these women and their children, in accordance with the counsel of my lord and of those who fear the commands of our God. Let it be done according to the Law. 4Rise up; this matter is in your hands. We will support you, so take courage and do it."

5So Ezra rose up and put the leading priests and Levites and all Israel under oath[n] to do what had been suggested. And they took the oath. 6Then Ezra withdrew from before the house of God and went to the room of Jehohanan son of Eliashib. While he was there, he ate no food and drank no water,[o] because he continued to mourn over the unfaithfulness of the exiles.

7A proclamation was then issued throughout Judah and Jerusalem for all the exiles to assemble in Jerusalem. 8Anyone who failed to appear within three days would forfeit all his property, in accordance with the decision of the officials and elders, and would himself be expelled from the assembly of the exiles.

9Within the three days, all the men of Judah and Benjamin[p] had gathered in Jerusalem. And on the twentieth day of the ninth month, all the people were sitting in the square before the house of God, greatly distressed by the occasion and because of the rain. 10Then Ezra[q] the priest stood up and said to them,

9:4 [a]Ne 1:4; Ps 119:136; Da 10:2
9:5 [b]S Ex 29:41 [c]Ne 8:6; Ps 28:2; 134:2
9:6 [d]Jer 31:19 [e]S 2Ch 28:9; Job 42:6; Ps 38:4; Isa 59:12; Jer 3:25; 14:20; Rev 18:5
9:7 [f]S 2Ch 29:6 [g]Eze 21:1-32 [h]S Dt 28:64 [i]S Dt 28:37
9:8 [j]Ps 25:16; 67:1; 119:58; Isa 33:2 [k]S Ge 45:7 [l]Ecc 12:11; Isa 22:23 [m]Ps 13:3; 19:8
9:9 [n]S Ex 1:14; Ne 9:36 [o]S 2Ki 25:28; Ps 106:46 [p]Ps 69:35; Isa 43:1; 44:26; 48:20; 52:9; 63:9; Jer 32:44; Zec 1:16-17
9:10 [q]Dt 11:8; Isa 1:19-20
9:11 [r]Dt 4:5 [s]S Lev 18:25-28 [t]S Dt 9:4; S 18:9; S 1Ki 14:24
9:12 [u]S Ex 34:15 [v]Dt 11:8 [w]S Ge 45:18 [x]Ps 103:17; Eze 37:25; Joel 3:20
9:13 [y]S Ex 32:22 [z]Job 11:6; 15:5; 22:5; 33:27; Ps 103:10
9:14 [a]Ne 13:27 [b]S Dt 9:8 [c]Dt 9:14
9:15 [d]S Ge 18:25; S 2Ch 12:6; Ne 9:8; Ps 51:4; 129:4; 145:17; Isa 24:16; Jer 12:1; 23:6; 33:16; La 1:18; Da 9:7; Zep 3:5 [e]Ps 76:7; 130:3; Mal 3:2 [f]S 1Ki 8:47
10:1 [g]2Ch 20:9; Da 9:20 [h]S Nu 25:6
10:2 [i]ver 26 [j]S Ezr 9:2 [k]Dt 30:8-10
10:3 [l]S 2Ki 11:17 [m]S Ex 34:16
10:5 [n]Ne 5:12; 13:25
10:6 [o]S Ex 34:28; Dt 9:18; Ps 102:4; Jnh 3:7
10:9 [p]S Ezr 1:5
10:10 [q]Ezr 7:21

"You have been unfaithful; you have
married foreign women, adding to Is-
rael's guilt.[a] 11Now make confession to
the LORD, the God of your fathers, and
do his will. Separate yourselves from
the peoples around you and from your
foreign wives."[b]
12The whole assembly responded
with a loud voice:[c] "You are right! We
must do as you say. 13But there are
many people here and it is the rainy
season; so we cannot stand outside. Be-
sides, this matter cannot be taken care
of in a day or two, because we have
sinned greatly in this thing. 14Let our
officials act for the whole assembly.
Then let everyone in our towns who
has married a foreign woman come at a
set time, along with the elders and
judges[d] of each town, until the fierce
anger[e] of our God in this matter is
turned away from us." 15Only Jonathan
son of Asahel and Jahzeiah son of Tik-
vah, supported by Meshullam and
Shabbethai[f] the Levite, opposed this.
16So the exiles did as was proposed.
Ezra the priest selected men who were
family heads, one from each family
division, and all of them designated by
name. On the first day of the tenth
month they sat down to investigate the
cases, 17and by the first day of the first
month they finished dealing with all
the men who had married foreign
women.

Those Guilty of Intermarriage

18Among the descendants of the
priests, the following had mar-
ried foreign women:[g]

From the descendants of Jeshua[h]
son of Jozadak, and his broth-
ers: Maaseiah, Eliezer, Jarib and
Gedaliah. 19(They all gave their
hands[i] in pledge to put away
their wives, and for their guilt
they each presented a ram from
the flock as a guilt offering.)[j]

20From the descendants of Immer:[k]
Hanani and Zebadiah.

21From the descendants of Harim:[l]
Maaseiah, Elijah, Shemaiah,
Jehiel and Uzziah.

22From the descendants of Pash-
hur:[m]
Elioenai, Maaseiah, Ishmael,
Nethanel, Jozabad and Elasah.

23Among the Levites:[n]
Jozabad, Shimei, Kelaiah (that is
Kelita), Pethahiah, Judah and
Eliezer.

24From the singers:
Eliashib.[o]

From the gatekeepers:
Shallum, Telem and Uri.

25And among the other Israelites:

From the descendants of Parosh:[p]
Ramiah, Izziah, Malkijah, Mija-
min, Eleazar, Malkijah and Be-
naiah.

26From the descendants of Elam:[q]
Mattaniah, Zechariah, Jehiel,
Abdi, Jeremoth and Elijah.

27From the descendants of Zattu:
Elioenai, Eliashib, Mattaniah,
Jeremoth, Zabad and Aziza.

28From the descendants of Bebai:
Jehohanan, Hananiah, Zabbai
and Athlai.

29From the descendants of Bani:
Meshullam, Malluch, Adaiah,
Jashub, Sheal and Jeremoth.

30From the descendants of Pahath-
Moab:
Adna, Kelal, Benaiah, Maa-
seiah, Mattaniah, Bezalel, Bin-
nui and Manasseh.

31From the descendants of Harim:
Eliezer, Ishijah, Malkijah, She-
maiah, Shimeon, 32Benjamin,
Malluch and Shemariah.

33From the descendants of Hashum:
Mattenai, Mattattah, Zabad,
Eliphelet, Jeremai, Manasseh
and Shimei.

34From the descendants of Bani:
Maadai, Amram, Uel, 35Benaiah,
Bedeiah, Keluhi, 36Vaniah,
Meremoth, Eliashib, 37Mat-
taniah, Mattenai and Jaasu.

38From the descendants of Binnui:[y]
Shimei, 39Shelemiah, Nathan,
Adaiah, 40Macnadebai, Shashai,
Sharai, 41Azarel, Shelemiah,
Shemariah, 42Shallum, Amariah
and Joseph.

43From the descendants of Nebo:
Jeiel, Mattithiah, Zabad, Zebina,
Jaddai, Joel and Benaiah.

44All these had married foreign
women, and some of them had chil-
dren by these wives.[z]

10:10 [a]2Ch 28:13 **10:11** [b]S Dt 24:1; Ne 9:2; Mal 2:10-16 **10:12** [c]S Jos 6:5 **10:14** [d]Dt 16:18 [e]S Nu 25:4; S 2Ch 29:10 **10:15** [f]Ne 11:16 **10:18** [g]S Jdg 3:6 [h]S Ezr 2:2 **10:19** [i]S 2Ki 10:15 [j]S Lev 5:15; 6:6 **10:20** [k]S 1Ch 24:14 **10:21** [l]S 1Ch 24:8 **10:22** [m]S 1Ch 9:12 **10:23** [n]Ne 8:7; 9:4 **10:24** [o]Ne 3:1; 12:10; 13:7,28 **10:25** [p]S Ezr 2:3 **10:26** [q]S ver 2

[y]37,38 See Septuagint (also 1 Esdras 9:34); Hebrew *Jaasu* 38*and Bani and Binnui,* [z]44 Or *and they sent them away with their children*

Nehemiah

Nehemiah's Prayer

1 The words of Nehemiah son of
Hacaliah:

In the month of Kislev[a] in the twen-
tieth year, while I was in the citadel of
Susa,[b] 2Hanani,[c] one of my brothers,
came from Judah with some other men,
and I questioned them about the
Jewish remnant[d] that survived the ex-
ile, and also about Jerusalem.

3They said to me, "Those who sur-
vived the exile and are back in the
province are in great trouble and dis-
grace. The wall of Jerusalem is broken
down, and its gates have been burned
with fire.[e]"

4When I heard these things, I sat
down and wept.[f] For some days I
mourned and fasted[g] and prayed be-
fore the God of heaven. 5Then I said:

"O LORD, God of heaven, the
great and awesome God,[h] who
keeps his covenant of love[i] with
those who love him and obey his
commands, 6let your ear be atten-
tive and your eyes open to hear[j]
the prayer[k] your servant is praying
before you day and night for your
servants, the people of Israel. I con-
fess[l] the sins we Israelites, includ-
ing myself and my father's house,
have committed against you. 7We
have acted very wickedly[m] toward
you. We have not obeyed the com-
mands, decrees and laws you gave
your servant Moses.

8"Remember[n] the instruction
you gave your servant Moses, say-
ing, 'If you are unfaithful, I will
scatter[o] you among the nations,
9but if you return to me and obey
my commands, then even if your
exiled people are at the farthest
horizon, I will gather[p] them from
there and bring them to the place I
have chosen as a dwelling for my
Name.'[q]

10"They are your servants and
your people, whom you redeemed
by your great strength and your
mighty hand.[r] 11O Lord, let your
ear be attentive[s] to the prayer of
this your servant and to the prayer
of your servants who delight in
revering your name. Give your ser-
vant success today by granting him
favor[t] in the presence of this
man."

I was cupbearer[u] to the king.

Artaxerxes Sends Nehemiah to Jerusalem

2 In the month of Nisan in the twen-
tieth year of King Artaxerxes,[v]
when wine was brought for him, I took
the wine and gave it to the king. I had
not been sad in his presence before; 2so
the king asked me, "Why does your
face look so sad when you are not ill?
This can be nothing but sadness of
heart."

I was very much afraid, 3but I said to
the king, "May the king live forever![w]
Why should my face not look sad when
the city[x] where my fathers are buried
lies in ruins, and its gates have been
destroyed by fire?[y]"

4The king said to me, "What is it you
want?"

Then I prayed to the God of heaven,
5and I answered the king, "If it pleases
the king and if your servant has found
favor in his sight, let him send me to
the city in Judah where my fathers are
buried so that I can rebuild it."

6Then the king[z], with the queen sit-
ting beside him, asked me, "How long
will your journey take, and when will
you get back?" It pleased the king to
send me; so I set a time.

7I also said to him, "If it pleases the
king, may I have letters to the gover-
nors of Trans-Euphrates,[a] so that they
will provide me safe-conduct until I ar-
rive in Judah? 8And may I have a letter
to Asaph, keeper of the king's forest,
so he will give me timber to make
beams for the gates of the citadel[b] by
the temple and for the city wall and for

1:1 [a]Zec 7:1 [b]S Ezr 4:9; S Est 2:8
1:2 [c]Ne 7:2 [d]S 2Ki 21:14; Ne 7:6; Jer 52:28
1:3 [e]S Lev 26:31; 2Ki 25:10; Ne 2:3,13,17; Isa 22:9; Jer 39:8; 52:14; La 2:9
1:4 [f]Ps 137:1 [g]S 2Ch 20:3; S Ezr 9:4; Da 9:3
1:5 [h]S Dt 7:21; Ne 4:14 [i]S Dt 7:9; S 1Ki 8:23; Da 9:4
1:6 [j]S 1Ki 8:29; S 2Ch 7:15 [k]S 1Ki 8:30 [l]S 1Ki 8:47
1:7 [m]Ps 106:6
1:8 [n]S Ge 8:1; S 2Ki 20:3; Ne 4:14; 5:19; 6:14; 13:22,29,31 [o]S Lev 26:33
1:9 [p]S Dt 30:4; Ps 106:47; 107:3; Isa 11:12; 56:8; Jer 42:12; Eze 11:17 [q]S 1Ki 8:48; Jer 29:14; Eze 11:17; 20:34-38; 36:24-38; Mic 2:12
1:10 [r]S Ex 32:11; Isa 51:9-11
1:11 [s]S 2Ch 6:40 [t]S Ex 3:21 [u]S Ge 40:1
2:1 [v]S Ezr 4:7; S 6:14
2:3 [w]1Ki 1:31; Da 2:4; 3:9; 5:10; 6:6,21 [x]Ps 137:6 [y]S Ne 1:3
2:6 [z]Ne 5:14; 13:6
2:7 [a]S Ezr 8:36
2:8 [b]Ne 7:2

the residence I will occupy?" And because the gracious hand of my God was upon me,[a] the king granted my requests.[b] [9]So I went to the governors of Trans-Euphrates and gave them the king's letters. The king had also sent army officers and cavalry[c] with me.

[10]When Sanballat[d] the Horonite and Tobiah[e] the Ammonite official heard about this, they were very much disturbed that someone had come to promote the welfare of the Israelites.[f]

Nehemiah Inspects Jerusalem's Walls

[11]I went to Jerusalem, and after staying there three days[g] [12]I set out during the night with a few men. I had not told anyone what my God had put in my heart to do for Jerusalem. There were no mounts with me except the one I was riding on.

[13]By night I went out through the Valley Gate[h] toward the Jackal[a] Well and the Dung Gate,[i] examining the walls[j] of Jerusalem, which had been broken down, and its gates, which had been destroyed by fire. [14]Then I moved on toward the Fountain Gate[k] and the King's Pool,[l] but there was not enough room for my mount to get through; [15]so I went up the valley by night, examining the wall. Finally, I turned back and reentered through the Valley Gate. [16]The officials did not know where I had gone or what I was doing, because as yet I had said nothing to the Jews or the priests or nobles or officials or any others who would be doing the work.

[17]Then I said to them, "You see the trouble we are in: Jerusalem lies in ruins, and its gates have been burned with fire.[m] Come, let us rebuild the wall[n] of Jerusalem, and we will no longer be in disgrace.[o]" [18]I also told them about the gracious hand of my God upon me[p] and what the king had said to me.

They replied, "Let us start rebuilding." So they began this good work.

[19]But when Sanballat[q] the Horonite, Tobiah the Ammonite official and Geshem[r] the Arab heard about it, they mocked and ridiculed us.[s] "What is this you are doing?" they asked. "Are you rebelling against the king?"

[20]I answered them by saying, "The God of heaven will give us success. We his servants will start rebuilding,[t] but as for you, you have no share[u] in Jerusalem or any claim or historic right to it."

2:8 [a]S Ezr 5:5 [b]S Ezr 4:24
2:9 [c]S Ezr 8:22
2:10 [d]ver 19; Ne 4:1,7; 6:1-2,5,12,14; 13:28 [e]Ne 4:3; 13:4-7 [f]Est 10:3
2:11 [g]S Ge 40:13
2:13 [h]S 2Ch 26:9 [i]Ne 3:13; 12:31 [j]S Ne 1:3
2:14 [k]Ne 3:15; 12:37 [l]S 2Ki 18:17
2:17 [m]S Ne 1:3 [n]Ps 102:16; Isa 30:13; 58:12 [o]Eze 5:14
2:18 [p]S Ezr 5:5
2:19 [q]S ver 10 [r]Ne 6:1,2,6 [s]Ps 44:13-16
2:20 [t]Ezr 4:1 [u]Ezr 4:3; Ac 8:21

Builders of the Wall

3 Eliashib[v] the high priest and his fellow priests went to work and rebuilt[w] the Sheep Gate.[x] They dedicated it and set its doors in place, building as far as the Tower of the Hundred, which they dedicated, and as far as the Tower of Hananel.[y] [2]The men of Jericho[z] built the adjoining section, and Zaccur son of Imri built next to them.

[3]The Fish Gate[a] was rebuilt by the sons of Hassenaah. They laid its beams and put its doors and bolts and bars in place. [4]Meremoth[b] son of Uriah, the son of Hakkoz, repaired the next section. Next to him Meshullam son of Berekiah, the son of Meshezabel, made repairs, and next to him Zadok son of Baana also made repairs. [5]The next section was repaired by the men of Tekoa,[c] but their nobles would not put their shoulders to the work under their supervisors.[b]

[6]The Jeshanah[c] Gate[d] was repaired by Joiada son of Paseah and Meshullam son of Besodeiah. They laid its beams and put its doors and bolts and bars in place. [7]Next to them, repairs were made by men from Gibeon[e] and Mizpah—Melatiah of Gibeon and Jadon of Meronoth—places under the authority of the governor of Trans-Euphrates. [8]Uzziel son of Harhaiah, one of the goldsmiths, repaired the next section; and Hananiah, one of the perfume-makers, made repairs next to that. They restored[d] Jerusalem as far as the Broad Wall.[f] [9]Rephaiah son of Hur, ruler of a half-district of Jerusalem, repaired the next section. [10]Adjoining this, Jedaiah son of Harumaph made repairs opposite his house, and Hattush son of Hashabneiah made repairs next to him. [11]Malkijah son of Harim and Hasshub son of Pahath-Moab repaired another section and the Tower of the Ovens.[g] [12]Shallum son of Hallohesh, ruler of a half-district of Jerusalem, repaired the next section with the help of his daughters.

[13]The Valley Gate[h] was repaired by Hanun and the residents of Zanoah.[i] They rebuilt it and put its doors and bolts and bars in place. They also repaired five hundred yards[e] of the wall as far as the Dung Gate.[j]

[14]The Dung Gate was repaired by

3:1 [v]S Ezr 10:24 [w]Isa 58:12 [x]ver 32; Ne 12:39; Jn 5:2 [y]Ne 12:39; Ps 48:12; Jer 31:38; Zec 14:10
3:2 [z]Ne 7:36
3:3 [a]S 2Ch 33:14
3:4 [b]S Ezr 8:33
3:5 [c]ver 27; S 2Sa 14:2
3:6 [d]Ne 12:39
3:7 [e]S Jos 9:3
3:8 [f]Ne 12:38
3:11 [g]Ne 12:38
3:13 [h]S 2Ch 26:9 [i]S Jos 15:34 [j]S Ne 2:13

[a]13 Or *Serpent* or *Fig* [b]5 Or *their Lord* or *the governor* [c]6 Or *Old* [d]8 Or *They left out part of*
[e]13 Hebrew *a thousand cubits* (about 450 meters)

Malkijah son of Recab, ruler of the dis-
trict of Beth Hakkerem.[a] He rebuilt it
and put its doors and bolts and bars in
place.
15The Fountain Gate was repaired by
Shallun son of Col-Hozeh, ruler of the
district of Mizpah. He rebuilt it, roofing
it over and putting its doors and bolts
and bars in place. He also repaired the
wall of the Pool of Siloam,[f][b] by the
King's Garden, as far as the steps going
down from the City of David. 16Beyond
him, Nehemiah son of Azbuk, ruler of
a half-district of Beth Zur,[c] made re-
pairs up to a point opposite the
tombs[g][d] of David, as far as the artificial
pool and the House of the Heroes.
17Next to him, the repairs were made
by the Levites under Rehum son of
Bani. Beside him, Hashabiah, ruler of
half the district of Keilah,[e] carried out
repairs for his district. 18Next to him,
the repairs were made by their country-
men under Binnui[h] son of Henadad,
ruler of the other half-district of Keilah.
19Next to him, Ezer son of Jeshua, ruler
of Mizpah, repaired another section,
from a point facing the ascent to the
armory as far as the angle. 20Next to
him, Baruch son of Zabbai zealously re-
paired another section, from the angle
to the entrance of the house of Eliashib
the high priest. 21Next to him, Mere-
moth[f] son of Uriah, the son of Hak-
koz, repaired another section, from the
entrance of Eliashib's house to the end
of it.
22The repairs next to him were made
by the priests from the surrounding re-
gion. 23Beyond them, Benjamin and
Hasshub made repairs in front of their
house; and next to them, Azariah son
of Maaseiah, the son of Ananiah, made
repairs beside his house. 24Next to him,
Binnui[g] son of Henadad repaired an-
other section, from Azariah's house to
the angle and the corner, 25and Palal
son of Uzai worked opposite the angle
and the tower projecting from the up-
per palace near the court of the guard.[h]
Next to him, Pedaiah son of Parosh[i]
26and the temple servants[j] living on
the hill of Ophel[k] made repairs up to a
point opposite the Water Gate[l] toward
the east and the projecting tower.
27Next to them, the men of Tekoa[m] re-
paired another section, from the great
projecting tower[n] to the wall of Ophel.
28Above the Horse Gate,[o] the priests
made repairs, each in front of his own
house. 29Next to them, Zadok son of
Immer made repairs opposite his
house. Next to him, Shemaiah son of
Shecaniah, the guard at the East Gate,
made repairs. 30Next to him, Hananiah
son of Shelemiah, and Hanun, the
sixth son of Zalaph, repaired another
section. Next to them, Meshullam son
of Berekiah made repairs opposite his
living quarters. 31Next to him, Mal-
kijah, one of the goldsmiths, made re-
pairs as far as the house of the temple
servants and the merchants, opposite
the Inspection Gate, and as far as the
room above the corner; 32and between
the room above the corner and the
Sheep Gate[p] the goldsmiths and mer-
chants made repairs.

Opposition to the Rebuilding

4 When Sanballat[q] heard that we
were rebuilding the wall, he
became angry and was greatly in-
censed. He ridiculed the Jews, 2and in
the presence of his associates[r] and the
army of Samaria, he said, "What are
those feeble Jews doing? Will they re-
store their wall? Will they offer sacri-
fices? Will they finish in a day? Can
they bring the stones back to life from
those heaps of rubble[s]—burned as
they are?"
3Tobiah[t] the Ammonite, who was at
his side, said, "What they are build-
ing—if even a fox climbed up on it, he
would break down their wall of
stones!"[u]
4Hear us, O our God, for we are de-
spised.[v] Turn their insults back on
their own heads. Give them over as
plunder in a land of captivity. 5Do not
cover up their guilt[w] or blot out their
sins from your sight,[x] for they have
thrown insults in the face of[i] the build-
ers.
6So we rebuilt the wall till all of it
reached half its height, for the people
worked with all their heart.
7But when Sanballat, Tobiah,[y] the
Arabs, the Ammonites and the men of
Ashdod heard that the repairs to
Jerusalem's walls had gone ahead and
that the gaps were being closed, they
were very angry. 8They all plotted to-
gether[z] to come and fight against
Jerusalem and stir up trouble against it.
9But we prayed to our God and posted

3:14 [a] Jer 6:1
3:15 [b] Isa 8:6; Jn 9:7
3:16 [c] S Jos 15:58 [d] Ac 2:29
3:17 [e] S Jos 15:44
3:21 [f] S Ezr 8:33
3:24 [g] S Ezr 8:33
3:25 [h] Jer 32:2; 37:21; 39:14 [i] S Ezr 2:3
3:26 [j] Ne 7:46; 11:21 [k] S 2Ch 33:14 [l] Ne 8:1,3,16; 12:37
3:27 [m] S ver 5 [n] Ps 48:12
3:28 [o] S 2Ki 11:16
3:32 [p] S ver 1; Jn 5:2
4:1 [q] S Ne 2:10
4:2 [r] S Ezr 4:9-10 [s] Ps 79:1; Jer 26:18
4:3 [t] S Ne 2:10 [u] Job 13:12; 15:3
4:4 [v] Ps 44:13; 123:3-4; Jer 33:24
4:5 [w] Isa 2:9; La 1:22 [x] 2Ki 14:27; Ps 51:1; 69:27-28; 109:14; Jer 18:23
4:7 [y] S Ne 2:10
4:8 [z] Ps 2:2; 83:1-18

[f]15 Hebrew *Shelah*, a variant of *Shiloah*, that is, Siloam [g]16 Hebrew; Septuagint, some Vulgate manuscripts and Syriac *tomb* [h]18 Two Hebrew manuscripts and Syriac (see also Septuagint and verse 24); most Hebrew manuscripts *Bavvai* [i]5 Or *have provoked you to anger before*

a guard day and night to meet this
threat.
10 Meanwhile, the people in Judah
said, "The strength of the laborers[a] is
giving out, and there is so much rubble
that we cannot rebuild the wall."
11 Also our enemies said, "Before
they know it or see us, we will be right
there among them and will kill them
and put an end to the work."
12 Then the Jews who lived near them
came and told us ten times over,
"Wherever you turn, they will attack
us."
13 Therefore I stationed some of the
people behind the lowest points of the
wall at the exposed places, posting
them by families, with their swords,
spears and bows. 14 After I looked
things over, I stood up and said to the
nobles, the officials and the rest of the
people, "Don't be afraid[b] of them.
Remember[c] the Lord, who is great and
awesome,[d] and fight[e] for your broth-
ers, your sons and your daughters,
your wives and your homes."
15 When our enemies heard that we
were aware of their plot and that God
had frustrated it,[f] we all returned to
the wall, each to his own work.
16 From that day on, half of my men
did the work, while the other half were
equipped with spears, shields, bows
and armor. The officers posted them-
selves behind all the people of Judah
17 who were building the wall. Those
who carried materials did their work
with one hand and held a weapon[g] in
the other, 18 and each of the builders
wore his sword at his side as he
worked. But the man who sounded the
trumpet[h] stayed with me.
19 Then I said to the nobles, the offi-
cials and the rest of the people, "The
work is extensive and spread out, and
we are widely separated from each
other along the wall. 20 Wherever
you hear the sound of the trumpet,[i]
join us there. Our God will fight[j] for
us!"
21 So we continued the work with half
the men holding spears, from the first
light of dawn till the stars came out.
22 At that time I also said to the people,
"Have every man and his helper stay
inside Jerusalem at night, so they can
serve us as guards by night and work-
men by day." 23 Neither I nor my broth-
ers nor my men nor the guards with
me took off our clothes; each had his
weapon, even when he went for
water.[1]

4:10 [a] S 1Ch 23:4
4:14 [b] S Ge 28:15; S Dt 1:29 [c] S Ne 1:8 [d] S Ne 1:5 [e] S 2Sa 10:12
4:15 [f] S 2Sa 17:14; Job 5:12
4:17 [g] Ps 149:6
4:18 [h] S Nu 10:2
4:20 [i] Eze 33:3 [j] S Ex 14:14; S Dt 20:4; Jos 10:14

Nehemiah Helps the Poor

5 Now the men and their wives
raised a great outcry against their
Jewish brothers. 2 Some were saying,
"We and our sons and daughters are
numerous; in order for us to eat and
stay alive, we must get grain."
3 Others were saying, "We are mort-
gaging our fields,[k] our vineyards and
our homes to get grain during the fam-
ine."[l]
4 Still others were saying, "We have
had to borrow money to pay the king's
tax[m] on our fields and vineyards. 5 Al-
though we are of the same flesh and
blood[n] as our countrymen and though
our sons are as good as theirs, yet we
have to subject our sons and daughters
to slavery.[o] Some of our daughters
have already been enslaved, but we are
powerless, because our fields and our
vineyards belong to others."[p]
6 When I heard their outcry and these
charges, I was very angry. 7 I pondered
them in my mind and then accused the
nobles and officials. I told them, "You
are exacting usury[q] from your own
countrymen!" So I called together a
large meeting to deal with them 8 and
said: "As far as possible, we have
bought[r] back our Jewish brothers who
were sold to the Gentiles. Now you are
selling your brothers, only for them to
be sold back to us!" They kept quiet,
because they could find nothing to
say.[s]
9 So I continued, "What you are do-
ing is not right. Shouldn't you walk in
the fear of our God to avoid the re-
proach[t] of our Gentile enemies? 10 I and
my brothers and my men are also lend-
ing the people money and grain. But
let the exacting of usury stop![u] 11 Give
back to them immediately their fields,
vineyards, olive groves and houses,
and also the usury[v] you are charging
them—the hundredth part of the
money, grain, new wine and oil."
12 "We will give it back," they said.
"And we will not demand anything
more from them. We will do as you
say."
Then I summoned the priests and
made the nobles and officials take an
oath[w] to do what they had promised.
13 I also shook[x] out the folds of my robe
and said, "In this way may God shake
out of his house and possessions every
man who does not keep this promise.

5:3 [k] Ps 109:11 [l] Ge 47:23
5:4 [m] S Ezr 4:13
5:5 [n] S Ge 29:14 [o] Lev 25:39-43, 47; S 2Ki 4:1; Isa 50:1 [p] Dt 15:7-11; S 2Ki 4:1
5:7 [q] Ex 22:25-27; S Lev 25:35-37; Dt 23:19-20; 24:10-13
5:8 [r] Lev 25:47 [s] Jer 34:8
5:9 [t] Isa 52:5
5:10 [u] S Ex 22:25
5:11 [v] Isa 58:6
5:12 [w] S Ezr 10:5
5:13 [x] S Mt 10:14

[1] 23 The meaning of the Hebrew for this clause is uncertain.

So may such a man be shaken out and
emptied!"
At this the whole assembly said,
"Amen,"[a] and praised the LORD. And
the people did as they had promised.
14 Moreover, from the twentieth year
of King Artaxerxes,[b] when I was ap-
pointed to be their governor[c] in the
land of Judah, until his thirty-second
year—twelve years—neither I nor my
brothers ate the food allotted to the
governor. 15 But the earlier governors—
those preceding me—placed a heavy
burden on the people and took forty
shekels[k] of silver from them in addi-
tion to food and wine. Their assistants
also lorded it over the people. But out
of reverence for God[d] I did not act like
that. 16 Instead,[e] I devoted myself to
the work on this wall. All my men were
assembled there for the work; we[l] did
not acquire any land.
17 Furthermore, a hundred and fifty
Jews and officials ate at my table, as
well as those who came to us from the
surrounding nations. 18 Each day one
ox, six choice sheep and some poultry[f]
were prepared for me, and every ten
days an abundant supply of wine of all
kinds. In spite of all this, I never de-
manded the food allotted to the gover-
nor, because the demands were heavy
on these people.
19 Remember[g] me with favor, O my
God, for all I have done for these
people.

Further Opposition to the Rebuilding

6 When word came to Sanballat, To-
biah,[h] Geshem[i] the Arab and the
rest of our enemies that I had rebuilt
the wall and not a gap was left in it—
though up to that time I had not set the
doors in the gates— 2 Sanballat and Ge-
shem sent me this message: "Come, let
us meet together in one of the villages[m]
on the plain of Ono.[j]"
But they were scheming to harm me;
3 so I sent messengers to them with this
reply: "I am carrying on a great project
and cannot go down. Why should the
work stop while I leave it and go down
to you?" 4 Four times they sent me the
same message, and each time I gave
them the same answer.
5 Then, the fifth time, Sanballat[k] sent
his aide to me with the same message,
and in his hand was an unsealed letter
6 in which was written:
"It is reported among the na-
tions—and Geshem[n][l] says it is
true—that you and the Jews are
plotting to revolt, and therefore
you are building the wall. More-
over, according to these reports
you are about to become their king
7 and have even appointed proph-
ets to make this proclamation about
you in Jerusalem: 'There is a king
in Judah!' Now this report will get
back to the king; so come, let us
confer together."
8 I sent him this reply: "Nothing like
what you are saying is happening; you
are just making it up out of your
head."
9 They were all trying to frighten us,
thinking, "Their hands will get too
weak for the work, and it will not be
completed."
But I prayed, "Now strengthen my
hands."
10 One day I went to the house of
Shemaiah son of Delaiah, the son of
Mehetabel, who was shut in at his
home. He said, "Let us meet in the
house of God, inside the temple[m], and
let us close the temple doors, because
men are coming to kill you—by night
they are coming to kill you."
11 But I said, "Should a man like me
run away? Or should one like me go
into the temple to save his life? I will
not go!" 12 I realized that God had not
sent him, but that he had prophesied
against me[n] because Tobiah and San-
ballat[o] had hired him. 13 He had been
hired to intimidate me so that I would
commit a sin by doing this, and then
they would give me a bad name to dis-
credit me.[p]
14 Remember[q] Tobiah and Sanballat,[r]
O my God, because of what they have
done; remember also the prophetess[s]
Noadiah and the rest of the prophets[t]
who have been trying to intimidate me.

The Completion of the Wall

15 So the wall was completed on the
twenty-fifth of Elul, in fifty-two days.
16 When all our enemies heard about
this, all the surrounding nations were
afraid and lost their self-confidence, be-
cause they realized that this work had
been done with the help of our God.
17 Also, in those days the nobles of
Judah were sending many letters to To-

5:13 [a]Dt 27:15-26
5:14 [b]S Ne 2:6 [c]Ge 42:6; Ezr 6:7; Jer 40:7; Hag 1:1
5:15 [d]S Ge 20:11
5:16 [e]2Th 3:7-10
5:18 [f]1Ki 4:23
5:19 [g]S Ge 8:1; S 2Ki 20:3; S Ne 1:8
6:1 [h]Ne 2:10 [i]S Ne 2:19
6:2 [j]S 1Ch 8:12
6:5 [k]S Ne 2:10
6:6 [l]S Ne 2:19
6:10 [m]Nu 18:7
6:12 [n]Eze 13:22-23 [o]S Ne 2:10
6:13 [p]Jer 20:10
6:14 [q]S Ne 1:8 [r]S Ne 2:10 [s]S Ex 15:20; Eze 13:17-23; S Ac 21:9; Rev 2:20 [t]Jer 23:9-40; Zec 13:2-3

[k]*15* That is, about 1 pound (about 0.5 kilogram)
[l]*16* Most Hebrew manuscripts; some Hebrew manuscripts, Septuagint, Vulgate and Syriac *I*
[m]*2* Or *in Kephirim*
[n]*6* Hebrew *Gashmu*, a variant of *Geshem*

biah, and replies from Tobiah kept
coming to them. 18For many in Judah
were under oath to him, since he was
son-in-law to Shecaniah son of Arah,
and his son Jehohanan had married the
daughter of Meshullam son of Bere-
kiah. 19Moreover, they kept reporting
to me his good deeds and then telling
him what I said. And Tobiah sent let-
ters to intimidate me.

7 After the wall had been rebuilt and
I had set the doors in place, the
gatekeepers[a] and the singers[b] and the
Levites[c] were appointed. 2I put in
charge of Jerusalem my brother Hana-
ni,[d] along with[o] Hananiah[e] the com-
mander of the citadel,[f] because he was
a man of integrity and feared[g] God
more than most men do. 3I said to
them, "The gates of Jerusalem are not
to be opened until the sun is hot. While
the gatekeepers are still on duty, have
them shut the doors and bar them.
Also appoint residents of Jerusalem as
guards, some at their posts and some
near their own houses."

The List of the Exiles Who Returned

7:6-73pp — Ezr 2:1-70

4Now the city was large and spa-
cious, but there were few people in it,[h]
and the houses had not yet been re-
built. 5So my God put it into my heart
to assemble the nobles, the officials and
the common people for registration by
families. I found the genealogical
record of those who had been the first
to return. This is what I found written
there:

6These are the people of the
province who came up from the
captivity of the exiles[i] whom
Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon
had taken captive (they returned to
Jerusalem and Judah, each to his
own town, 7in company with
Zerubbabel,[j] Jeshua, Nehemiah,
Azariah, Raamiah, Nahamani,
Mordecai, Bilshan, Mispereth, Big-
vai, Nehum and Baanah):

The list of the men of Israel:

8the descendants of Parosh 2,172
9of Shephatiah 372
10of Arah 652
11of Pahath-Moab (through the
line of Jeshua and Joab) 2,818
12of Elam 1,254
13of Zattu 845
14of Zaccai 760
15of Binnui 648
16of Bebai 628
17of Azgad 2,322
18of Adonikam 667
19of Bigvai 2,067
20of Adin[k] 655
21of Ater (through Hezekiah) 98
22of Hashum 328
23of Bezai 324
24of Hariph 112
25of Gibeon 95

26the men of Bethlehem and
Netophah[l] 188
27of Anathoth[m] 128
28of Beth Azmaveth 42
29of Kiriath Jearim, Kephirah[n]
and Beeroth[o] 743
30of Ramah and Geba 621
31of Micmash 122
32of Bethel and Ai[p] 123
33of the other Nebo 52
34of the other Elam 1,254
35of Harim 320
36of Jericho[q] 345
37of Lod, Hadid and Ono[r] 721
38of Senaah 3,930

39The priests:

the descendants of Jedaiah
(through the family of
Jeshua) 973
40of Immer 1,052
41of Pashhur 1,247
42of Harim 1,017

43The Levites:

the descendants of Jeshua
(through Kadmiel through the
line of Hodaviah) 74

44The singers:[s]

the descendants of Asaph 148

45The gatekeepers:[t]

the descendants of
Shallum, Ater, Talmon,
Akkub, Hatita and Shobai 138

46The temple servants:[u]

the descendants of
Ziha, Hasupha, Tabbaoth,
47Keros, Sia, Padon,
48Lebana, Hagaba, Shalmai,
49Hanan, Giddel, Gahar,
50Reaiah, Rezin, Nekoda,
51Gazzam, Uzza, Paseah,
52Besai, Meunim, Nephussim,
53Bakbuk, Hakupha, Harhur,
54Bazluth, Mehida, Harsha,
55Barkos, Sisera, Temah,
56Neziah and Hatipha

7:1 [a]1Ch 9:27; S 26:12-19 [b]Ps 68:25 [c]Ne 8:9 **7:2** [d]Ne 1:2 [e]Ne 10:23 [f]Ne 2:8 [g]1Ki 18:3 **7:4** [h]Ne 11:1 **7:6** [i]S 2Ch 36:20; S Ne 1:2 **7:7** [j]S 1Ch 3:19 **7:20** [k]S Ezr 8:6 **7:26** [l]S 2Sa 23:28; S 1Ch 2:54 **7:27** [m]S Jos 21:18 **7:29** [n]S Jos 18:26 [o]S Jos 18:25 **7:32** [p]S Ge 12:8 **7:36** [q]Ne 3:2 **7:37** [r]S 1Ch 8:12 **7:44** [s]Ne 11:23 **7:45** [t]S 1Ch 9:17 **7:46** [u]S Ne 3:26

[o]2 *Or Hanani, that is,*

[57]The descendants of the servants of Solomon:

the descendants of
Sotai, Sophereth, Perida,
[58]Jaala, Darkon, Giddel,
[59]Shephatiah, Hattil,
Pokereth-Hazzebaim and Amon

[60]The temple servants and the descendants of the servants of Solomon[a] 392

[61]The following came up from
the towns of Tel Melah, Tel Harsha, Kerub, Addon and Immer, but
they could not show that their
families were descended from Israel:

[62]the descendants of
Delaiah, Tobiah and Nekoda 642

[63]And from among the priests:

the descendants of
Hobaiah, Hakkoz and Barzillai
(a man who had married a
daughter of Barzillai the Gileadite and was called by that
name).

[64]These searched for their family
records, but they could not find
them and so were excluded from
the priesthood as unclean. [65]The
governor, therefore, ordered them
not to eat any of the most sacred
food until there should be a priest
ministering with the Urim and
Thummim.[b]

[66]The whole company numbered
42,360, [67]besides their 7,337 menservants and maidservants; and
they also had 245 men and women
singers. [68]There were 736 horses,
245 mules,[p] [69]435 camels and 6,720
donkeys.

[70]Some of the heads of the families contributed to the work. The
governor gave to the treasury 1,000
drachmas[q] of gold, 50 bowls and
530 garments for priests. [71]Some of
the heads of the families[c] gave to
the treasury for the work 20,000
drachmas[r] of gold and 2,200
minas[s] of silver. [72]The total given
by the rest of the people was 20,000
drachmas of gold, 2,000 minas[t] of
silver and 67 garments for priests.[d]

[73]The priests, the Levites, the
gatekeepers, the singers and the
temple servants,[e] along with certain of the people and the rest of
the Israelites, settled in their own
towns.[f]

Ezra Reads the Law

When the seventh month came and
the Israelites had settled in their
8 towns,[g] [1]all the people assembled
as one man in the square before the
Water Gate.[h] They told Ezra the scribe
to bring out the Book of the Law of
Moses,[i] which the LORD had commanded for Israel.

[2]So on the first day of the seventh
month[j] Ezra the priest brought the
Law[k] before the assembly, which was
made up of men and women and all
who were able to understand. [3]He read
it aloud from daybreak till noon as he
faced the square before the Water
Gate[l] in the presence of the men,
women and others who could understand. And all the people listened attentively to the Book of the Law.

[4]Ezra the scribe stood on a high
wooden platform[m] built for the occasion. Beside him on his right stood
Mattithiah, Shema, Anaiah, Uriah, Hilkiah and Maaseiah; and on his left
were Pedaiah, Mishael, Malkijah, Hashum, Hashbaddanah, Zechariah and
Meshullam.

[5]Ezra opened the book. All the
people could see him because he was
standing[n] above them; and as he
opened it, the people all stood up.
[6]Ezra praised the LORD, the great God;
and all the people lifted their hands[o]
and responded, "Amen! Amen!" Then
they bowed down and worshiped the
LORD with their faces to the ground.

[7]The Levites[p]—Jeshua, Bani, Sherebiah, Jamin, Akkub, Shabbethai, Hodiah, Maaseiah, Kelita, Azariah, Jozabad, Hanan and Pelaiah—instructed[q]
the people in the Law while the people
were standing there. [8]They read from
the Book of the Law of God, making it
clear[u] and giving the meaning so that
the people could understand what was
being read.

[9]Then Nehemiah the governor, Ezra
the priest and scribe, and the Levites[r]
who were instructing the people said to
them all, "This day is sacred to the

7:60 [a]1Ch 9:2
7:65 [b]S Ex 28:30
7:71 [c]1Ch 29:7
7:72 [d]S Ezr 2:69
7:73 [e]Ne 1:10; Ps 34:22; 103:21; 113:1; 135:1
[f]S Ezr 3:1; Ne 11:1 [g]Ezr 3:1
8:1 [h]S Ne 3:26 [i]S Dt 28:61; S 2Ch 34:15
8:2 [j]Lev 23:23-25; Nu 29:1-6 [k]S Dt 31:11
8:3 [l]S Ne 3:26
8:4 [m]2Ch 6:13
8:5 [n]Jdg 3:20
8:6 [o]S Ezr 9:5; 1Ti 2:8
8:7 [p]S Ezr 10:23 [q]S Lev 10:11; S 2Ch 17:7
8:9 [r]Ne 7:1

[p]68 Some Hebrew manuscripts (see also Ezra 2:66); most Hebrew manuscripts do not have this verse. [q]70 That is, about 19 pounds (about 8.5 kilograms) [r]71 That is, about 375 pounds (about 170 kilograms); also in verse 72 [s]71 That is, about 1 1/3 tons (about 1.2 metric tons) [t]72 That is, about 1 1/4 tons (about 1.1 metric tons) [u]8 Or God, *translating it*

LORD your God. Do not mourn or
weep."[a] For all the people had been
weeping as they listened to the words
of the Law.
10 Nehemiah said, "Go and enjoy
choice food and sweet drinks, and send
some to those who have nothing[b] pre-
pared. This day is sacred to our Lord.
Do not grieve, for the joy[c] of the LORD
is your strength."
11 The Levites calmed all the people,
saying, "Be still, for this is a sacred
day. Do not grieve."
12 Then all the people went away to
eat and drink, to send portions of food
and to celebrate with great joy,[d] be-
cause they now understood the words
that had been made known to them.
13 On the second day of the month,
the heads of all the families, along with
the priests and the Levites, gathered
around Ezra the scribe to give attention
to the words of the Law. 14 They found
written in the Law, which the LORD had
commanded through Moses, that the
Israelites were to live in booths[e] during
the feast of the seventh month 15 and
that they should proclaim this word
and spread it throughout their towns
and in Jerusalem: "Go out into the hill
country and bring back branches from
olive and wild olive trees, and from
myrtles, palms and shade trees, to
make booths"—as it is written.[v]
16 So the people went out and
brought back branches and built them-
selves booths on their own roofs, in
their courtyards, in the courts of the
house of God and in the square by the
Water Gate[f] and the one by the Gate of
Ephraim.[g] 17 The whole company that
had returned from exile built booths
and lived in them.[h] From the days of
Joshua son of Nun until that day, the
Israelites had not celebrated[i] it like
this. And their joy was very great.
18 Day after day, from the first day to
the last, Ezra read[j] from the Book of
the Law[k] of God. They celebrated the
feast for seven days, and on the eighth
day, in accordance with the regula-
tion,[l] there was an assembly.[m]

The Israelites Confess Their Sins

9 On the twenty-fourth day of the
same month, the Israelites gathered
together, fasting and wearing sackcloth
and having dust on their heads.[n]
2 Those of Israelite descent had sepa-
rated themselves from all foreigners.[o]
They stood in their places and con-
fessed their sins and the wickedness of
their fathers.[p] 3 They stood where they
were and read from the Book of the
Law of the LORD their God for a quarter
of the day, and spent another quarter
in confession and in worshiping the
LORD their God. 4 Standing on the stairs
were the Levites[q]—Jeshua, Bani, Kad-
miel, Shebaniah, Bunni, Sherebiah,
Bani and Kenani—who called with
loud voices to the LORD their God. 5 And
the Levites—Jeshua, Kadmiel, Bani,
Hashabneiah, Sherebiah, Hodiah,
Shebaniah and Pethahiah—said:
"Stand up and praise the LORD your
God,[r] who is from everlasting to ever-
lasting.[w]"

"Blessed be your glorious
name,[s] and may it be exalted
above all blessing and praise. 6 You
alone are the LORD.[t] You made the
heavens,[u] even the highest heav-
ens, and all their starry host,[v] the
earth[w] and all that is on it, the
seas[x] and all that is in them.[y] You
give life to everything, and the
multitudes of heaven[z] worship
you.
7 "You are the LORD God, who
chose Abram[a] and brought him
out of Ur of the Chaldeans[b] and
named him Abraham.[c] 8 You found
his heart faithful to you, and you
made a covenant with him to give
to his descendants the land of the
Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites,
Perizzites, Jebusites and Girga-
shites.[d] You have kept your prom-
ise[e] because you are righteous.[f]
9 "You saw the suffering of our
forefathers in Egypt;[g] you heard
their cry at the Red Sea.[x][h] 10 You
sent miraculous signs[i] and won-
ders[j] against Pharaoh, against all
his officials and all the people of his
land, for you knew how arrogantly
the Egyptians treated them. You
made a name[k] for yourself,[l] which
remains to this day. 11 You divided
the sea before them,[m] so that they
passed through it on dry ground,
but you hurled their pursuers into
the depths,[n] like a stone into
mighty waters.[o] 12 By day[p] you
led[q] them with a pillar of cloud,[r]
and by night with a pillar of fire to
give them light on the way they
were to take.
13 "You came down on Mount
Sinai;[s] you spoke[t] to them from

8:9 [a]Dt 12:7,12; 16:14-15 **8:10** [b]1Sa 25:8; S 2Sa 6:19; Est 9:22; Lk 14:12-14 [c]S Lev 23:40; S Dt 12:18; 16:11,14-15 **8:12** [d]Est 9:22 **8:14** [e]S Ex 23:16 **8:16** [f]S Ne 3:26 [g]S 2Ch 25:23 **8:17** [h]Hos 12:9 [i]S 1Ki 8:2; S 2Ch 7:8; S 8:13 **8:18** [j]Dt 31:11; S 33:10 [k]S Dt 28:61 [l]S Lev 23:40; S Ezr 3:4 [m]S Lev 23:36 **9:1** [n]Lev 26:40-45; S Jos 7:6; 2Ch 7:14-16 **9:2** [o]S Ezr 6:21; Ne 10:28; 13:3, 30
[p]S Lev 26:40; S Ezr 10:11; Ps 106:6 **9:4** [q]S Ezr 10:23 **9:5** [r]Ps 78:4 [s]S 2Sa 7:26 **9:6** [t]S Dt 6:4 [u]S Ex 8:19 [v]Isa 40:26; 45:12 [w]S Ge 1:1; Isa 37:16 [x]Ps 95:5; 146:6; Jnh 1:9 [y]Dt 10:14; Ac 4:24; Rev 10:6 [z]Ps 103:20; 148:2 **9:7** [a]S Ge 16:11 [b]S Ge 11:28 [c]S Ge 17:5 **9:8** [d]S Ge 15:18-21; S Ezr 9:1 [e]S Jos 21:45 [f]Ge 15:6; S Ezr 9:15 **9:9** [g]Ex 2:23-25; 3:7 [h]Ex 14:10-30 **9:10** [i]S Ex 10:1; Ps 74:9 [j]S Ex 3:20; S 6:6 [k]Jer 32:20; Da 9:15 [l]S Nu 6:27 **9:11** [m]Ps 78:13 [n]S Ex 14:28 [o]Ex 15:4-5,10; Heb 11:29 **9:12** [p]S Dt 1:33 [q]S Ex 15:13 [r]S Ex 13:21 **9:13** [s]S Ex 19:11 [t]S Ex 19:19

[v]15 See Lev. 23:37-40. [w]5 Or *God for ever and ever*
[x]9 Hebrew *Yam Suph;* that is, Sea of Reeds

heaven.[a] You gave them regula-
tions and laws that are just[b] and
right, and decrees and commands
that are good.[c] [14]You made known
to them your holy Sabbath[d] and
gave them commands, decrees and
laws through your servant Moses.
[15]In their hunger you gave them
bread from heaven[e] and in their
thirst you brought them water from
the rock;[f] you told them to go in
and take possession of the land you
had sworn with uplifted hand[g] to
give them.[h]
[16]"But they, our forefathers,
became arrogant and stiff-necked,[i]
and did not obey your com-
mands.[j] [17]They refused to listen
and failed to remember[k] the mira-
cles[l] you performed among them.
They became stiff-necked[m] and in
their rebellion appointed a leader
in order to return to their slavery.[n]
But you are a forgiving God,[o] gra-
cious and compassionate,[p] slow to
anger[q] and abounding in love.[r]
Therefore you did not desert
them,[s] [18]even when they cast for
themselves an image of a calf[t] and
said, 'This is your god, who
brought you up out of Egypt,' or
when they committed awful blas-
phemies.[u]
[19]"Because of your great compas-
sion you did not abandon[v] them in
the desert. By day the pillar of
cloud[w] did not cease to guide them
on their path, nor the pillar of fire
by night to shine on the way they
were to take. [20]You gave your good
Spirit[x] to instruct[y] them. You did
not withhold your manna[z] from
their mouths, and you gave them
water[a] for their thirst. [21]For forty
years[b] you sustained them in the
desert; they lacked nothing,[c] their
clothes did not wear out nor did
their feet become swollen.[d]
[22]"You gave them kingdoms and
nations, allotting to them even the
remotest frontiers. They took over
the country of Sihon[y][e] king of
Heshbon and the country of Og
king of Bashan.[f] [23]You made their
sons as numerous as the stars in
the sky,[g] and you brought them
into the land that you told their fa-
thers to enter and possess. [24]Their
sons went in and took possession
of the land.[h] You subdued[i] before
them the Canaanites, who lived in
the land; you handed the Canaan-

9:13 [a]S Ex 20:22 [b]Ps 119:137 [c]S Ex 20:1; Dt 4:7-8
9:14 [d]S Ge 2:3; Ex 20:8-11
9:15 [e]S Ex 16:4; Ps 78:24-25; Jn 6:31 [f]Ex 17:6; Nu 20:7-13 [g]S Ge 14:22 [h]Dt 1:8,21
9:16 [i]S Ex 32:9; Jer 7:26; 17:23; 19:15 [j]Dt 1:26-33; 31:29
9:17 [k]Jdg 8:34; Ps 78:42 [l]Ps 77:11; 78:12; 105:5; 106:7 [m]Jer 7:26; 19:15 [n]Nu 14:1-4 [o]Ps 130:4; Da 9:9 [p]S Dt 4:31 [q]S Ex 34:6; Ps 103:8; Na 1:3 [r]S Ex 22:27; Nu 14:17-19; Ps 86:15 [s]Ps 78:11; Eze 5:6
9:18 [t]S Ex 32:4 [u]S Ex 20:23
9:19 [v]Ex 13:22 [w]S Ex 13:21
9:20 [x]Nu 9:17; 11:17; Isa 63:11, 14; Hag 2:5; Zec 4:6 [y]Ps 23:3; 143:10 [z]S Ex 16:15 [a]Ex 17:6
9:21 [b]S Ex 16:35 [c]S Dt 2:7 [d]S Dt 8:4
9:22 [e]S Nu 21:21 [f]S Nu 21:33; Dt 2:26-3:11
9:23 [g]S Ge 12:2; S Lev 26:9; S Nu 10:36
9:24 [h]S Jos 11:23 [i]S Jdg 4:23; S 2Ch 14:13
9:25 [j]S Dt 11:11 [k]S Ex 18:9 [l]Dt 6:10-12 [m]Dt 8:8-11; 32:12-15; Ps 23:6; 25:7; 69:16
9:26 [n]S 1Ki 14:9; Jer 44:10 [o]S Jos 7:25 [p]Jer 2:30; 26:8; Mt 21:35-36; 23:29-36; Ac 7:52 [q]S Jdg 2:12-13
9:27 [r]S Nu 25:17; S Jdg 2:14 [s]Ps 51:1; 103:8; 106:45; 119:156 [t]S Jdg 3:9
9:28 [u]S Ex 32:22; S Jdg 2:17 [v]S 2Sa 24:14 [w]Ps 22:4; 106:43; 136:24
9:29 [x]S Jdg 6:8 [y]ver 16-17; Ps 5:5; Isa 2:11; Jer 43:2 [z]S Dt 30:16 [a]S 1Sa 8:3 [b]Jer 19:15 [c]Zec 7:11-12
9:30 [d]2Ki 17:13-18; S 2Ch 36:16 [e]Jer 16:11; Zec 7:12

ites over to them, along with their
kings and the peoples of the land,
to deal with them as they pleased.
[25]They captured fortified cities and
fertile land;[j] they took possession
of houses filled with all kinds of
good things,[k] wells already dug,
vineyards, olive groves and fruit
trees in abundance. They ate to the
full and were well-nourished;[l]
they reveled in your great good-
ness.[m]
[26]"But they were disobedient and
rebelled against you; they put your
law behind their backs.[n] They
killed[o] your prophets,[p] who had
admonished them in order to turn
them back to you; they committed
awful blasphemies.[q] [27]So you
handed them over to their ene-
mies,[r] who oppressed them. But
when they were oppressed they
cried out to you. From heaven you
heard them, and in your great com-
passion[s] you gave them deliver-
ers,[t] who rescued them from the
hand of their enemies.
[28]"But as soon as they were at
rest, they again did what was evil
in your sight.[u] Then you aban-
doned them to the hand of their
enemies so that they ruled over
them. And when they cried out to
you again, you heard from heaven,
and in your compassion[v] you de-
livered them[w] time after time.
[29]"You warned[x] them to return
to your law, but they became arro-
gant[y] and disobeyed your com-
mands. They sinned against your
ordinances, by which a man will
live if he obeys them.[z] Stubbornly
they turned their backs[a] on you,
became stiff-necked[b] and refused
to listen.[c] [30]For many years you
were patient with them. By your
Spirit you admonished them
through your prophets.[d] Yet they
paid no attention, so you handed
them over to the neighboring peo-
ples.[e] [31]But in your great mercy
you did not put an end[f] to them or
abandon them, for you are a gra-
cious and merciful[g] God.
[32]"Now therefore, O our God,
the great, mighty[h] and awesome
God,[i] who keeps his covenant of
love,[j] do not let all this hardship

9:31 [f]Isa 48:9; 65:9 [g]S Dt 4:31 9:32 [h]Job 9:19; Ps 24:8; 89:8; 93:4 [i]S Dt 7:21 [j]S Dt 7:9; S 1Ki 8:23; Da 9:4

[y]22 One Hebrew manuscript and Septuagint; most Hebrew manuscripts *Sihon, that is, the country of the*

seem trifling in your eyes—the
hardship[a] that has come upon us,
upon our kings and leaders, upon
our priests and prophets, upon our
fathers and all your people, from
the days of the kings of Assyria un-
til today. 33In all that has happened
to us, you have been just;[b] you
have acted faithfully, while we did
wrong.[c] 34Our kings,[d] our leaders,
our priests and our fathers[e] did not
follow your law; they did not pay
attention to your commands or the
warnings you gave them. 35Even
while they were in their kingdom,
enjoying your great goodness[f] to
them in the spacious and fertile
land you gave them, they did not
serve you[g] or turn from their evil
ways.
36"But see, we are slaves[h] today,
slaves in the land you gave our
forefathers so they could eat its
fruit and the other good things it
produces. 37Because of our sins, its
abundant harvest goes to the kings
you have placed over us. They rule
over our bodies and our cattle as
they please. We are in great dis-
tress.[i]

The Agreement of the People

38"In view of all this, we are making
a binding agreement,[j] putting it in
writing,[k] and our leaders, our Levites
and our priests are affixing their seals
to it."

10 Those who sealed it were:
Nehemiah the governor, the son
of Hacaliah.

Zedekiah, 2Seraiah,[l] Azariah,
Jeremiah,
3Pashhur,[m] Amariah, Malkijah,
4Hattush, Shebaniah, Malluch,
5Harim,[n] Meremoth, Obadiah,
6Daniel, Ginnethon, Baruch,
7Meshullam, Abijah, Mijamin,
8Maaziah, Bilgai and Shemaiah.
These were the priests.[o]

9The Levites:[p]

Jeshua son of Azaniah, Binnui of
the sons of Henadad, Kadmiel,
10and their associates: Shebaniah,
Hodiah, Kelita, Pelaiah, Hanan,
11Mica, Rehob, Hashabiah,
12Zaccur, Sherebiah, Shebaniah,
13Hodiah, Bani and Beninu.

14The leaders of the people:

Parosh, Pahath-Moab, Elam, Zattu, Bani,
15Bunni, Azgad, Bebai,
16Adonijah, Bigvai, Adin,[q]
17Ater, Hezekiah, Azzur,
18Hodiah, Hashum, Bezai,
19Hariph, Anathoth, Nebai,
20Magpiash, Meshullam, Hezir,[r]
21Meshezabel, Zadok, Jaddua,
22Pelatiah, Hanan, Anaiah,
23Hoshea, Hananiah,[s] Hasshub,
24Hallohesh, Pilha, Shobek,
25Rehum, Hashabnah, Maaseiah,
26Ahiah, Hanan, Anan,
27Malluch, Harim and Baanah.

28"The rest of the people—
priests, Levites, gatekeepers, sing-
ers, temple servants[t] and all who
separated themselves from the
neighboring peoples[u] for the sake
of the Law of God, together with
their wives and all their sons and
daughters who are able to under-
stand— 29all these now join their
brothers the nobles, and bind
themselves with a curse and an
oath[v] to follow the Law of God giv-
en through Moses the servant of
God and to obey carefully all the
commands, regulations and de-
crees of the LORD our Lord.
30"We promise not to give our
daughters in marriage to the peo-
ples around us or take their daugh-
ters for our sons.[w]
31"When the neighboring peo-
ples bring merchandise or grain to
sell on the Sabbath,[x] we will not
buy from them on the Sabbath or
on any holy day. Every seventh
year we will forgo working the
land[y] and will cancel all debts.[z]
32"We assume the responsibility
for carrying out the commands to
give a third of a shekel[z] each year
for the service of the house of our
God: 33for the bread set out on the
table;[a] for the regular grain offer-
ings and burnt offerings; for the of-
ferings on the Sabbaths, New
Moon[b] festivals and appointed
feasts; for the holy offerings; for sin
offerings to make atonement for Is-
rael; and for all the duties of the
house of our God.[c]
34"We—the priests, the Levites
and the people—have cast lots[d] to
determine when each of our fami-
lies is to bring to the house of our

9:32 [a]S Ex 18:8 **9:33** [b]S Ge 18:25 [c]Jer 44:3; Da 9:7-8,14 **9:34** [d]S 2Ki 23:11 [e]Jer 44:17 **9:35** [f]Isa 63:7 [g]Dt 28:45-48 **9:36** [h]S Ezr 9:9 **9:37** [i]Dt 28:33; La 5:5 **9:38** [j]S 2Ch 23:16 [k]Isa 44:5 **10:2** [l]S Ezr 2:2 **10:3** [m]S 1Ch 9:12 **10:5** [n]S 1Ch 24:8 **10:8** [o]Ne 12:1 **10:9** [p]Ne 12:1

10:16 [q]S Ezr 8:6 **10:20** [r]1Ch 24:15 **10:23** [s]S Ne 7:2 **10:28** [t]Ps 135:1 [u]2Ch 6:26; S Ne 9:2 **10:29** [v]S Nu 5:21; Ps 119:106 **10:30** [w]S Ex 34:16; Ne 13:23 **10:31** [x]Ne 13:16,18; Jer 17:27; Eze 23:38; Am 8:5 [y]S Ex 23:11; Lev 25:1-7 [z]S Dt 15:1 **10:33** [a]Lev 24:6 [b]Nu 10:10; Ps 81:3; Isa 1:14 [c]S 2Ch 24:5 **10:34** [d]S Lev 16:8

[z]32 That is, about 1/8 ounce (about 4 grams)

God at set times each year a contri-
bution of wood to burn on the al-
tar of the LORD our God, as it is
written in the Law.
35 "We also assume responsibility
for bringing to the house of the
LORD each year the firstfruits of
our crops and of every fruit tree.
36 "As it is also written in the
Law, we will bring the firstborn of
our sons and of our cattle, of our
herds and of our flocks to the
house of our God, to the priests
ministering there.
37 "Moreover, we will bring to the
storerooms of the house of our
God, to the priests, the first of our
ground meal, of our grain offer-
ings, of the fruit of all our trees and
of our new wine and oil. And we
will bring a tithe of our crops to
the Levites, for it is the Levites
who collect the tithes in all the
towns where we work. 38 A priest
descended from Aaron is to accom-
pany the Levites when they receive
the tithes, and the Levites are to
bring a tenth of the tithes up to
the house of our God, to the store-
rooms of the treasury. 39 The people
of Israel, including the Levites, are
to bring their contributions of
grain, new wine and oil to the
storerooms where the articles for
the sanctuary are kept and where
the ministering priests, the gate-
keepers and the singers stay.
"We will not neglect the house of
our God."

The New Residents of Jerusalem

11:3-19pp — 1Ch 9:1-17

11 Now the leaders of the people
settled in Jerusalem, and the rest
of the people cast lots to bring one out
of every ten to live in Jerusalem, the
holy city, while the remaining nine
were to stay in their own towns. 2 The
people commended all the men who
volunteered to live in Jerusalem.
3 These are the provincial leaders who
settled in Jerusalem (now some Israel-
ites, priests, Levites, temple servants
and descendants of Solomon's servants
lived in the towns of Judah, each on his
own property in the various towns,
4 while other people from both Judah
and Benjamin lived in Jerusalem):

From the descendants of Judah:

Athaiah son of Uzziah, the son of
Zechariah, the son of Amariah, the
son of Shephatiah, the son of
Mahalalel, a descendant of Perez;
5 and Maaseiah son of Baruch, the
son of Col-Hozeh, the son of Ha-
zaiah, the son of Adaiah, the son of
Joiarib, the son of Zechariah, a de-
scendant of Shelah. 6 The descend-
ants of Perez who lived in Jerusa-
lem totaled 468 able men.

7 From the descendants of Benjamin:

Sallu son of Meshullam, the son of
Joed, the son of Pedaiah, the son of
Kolaiah, the son of Maaseiah, the
son of Ithiel, the son of Jeshaiah,
8 and his followers, Gabbai and Sal-
lai—928 men. 9 Joel son of Zicri was
their chief officer, and Judah son of
Hassenuah was over the Second
District of the city.

10 From the priests:

Jedaiah; the son of Joiarib; Jakin;
11 Seraiah son of Hilkiah, the son
of Meshullam, the son of Zadok,
the son of Meraioth, the son of
Ahitub, supervisor in the house
of God, 12 and their associates, who
carried on work for the temple—
822 men; Adaiah son of Jeroham,
the son of Pelaliah, the son of
Amzi, the son of Zechariah, the
son of Pashhur, the son of Mal-
kijah, 13 and his associates, who
were heads of families—242 men;
Amashsai son of Azarel, the son of
Ahzai, the son of Meshillemoth,
the son of Immer, 14 and his[a] asso-
ciates, who were able men—128.
Their chief officer was Zabdiel son
of Haggedolim.

15 From the Levites:

Shemaiah son of Hasshub, the son
of Azrikam, the son of Hashabiah,
the son of Bunni; 16 Shabbethai
and Jozabad, two of the heads of
the Levites, who had charge of the
outside work of the house of God;
17 Mattaniah son of Mica, the son
of Zabdi, the son of Asaph, the
director who led in thanksgiving
and prayer; Bakbukiah, second
among his associates; and Abda
son of Shammua, the son of Galal,
the son of Jeduthun. 18 The Levites
in the holy city totaled 284.

19 The gatekeepers:

Akkub, Talmon and their asso-

10:34 Ne 13:31
10:35 S Ex 22:29; S Nu 18:12; Dt 26:1-11
10:36 S Ex 13:2; S Nu 18:14-16; Ne 13:31
10:37 S Nu 18:12; S Lev 27:30; S Nu 18:21; Dt 14:22-29; Eze 44:30
10:38 Nu 18:26
10:39 Ne 13:11,12
11:1 Ne 7:4; Isa 48:2; 52:1; 64:10; Zec 14:20-21; S Ne 7:73
11:3 S Ezr 2:1
11:4 S Ezr 1:5; S Ezr 2:70
11:11 S 2Ki 25:18; S Ezr 2:2; S Ezr 7:2
11:16 Ezr 10:15; S Ezr 8:33
11:17 S 1Ch 9:15; Ne 12:8; 2Ch 5:12; S 1Ch 25:1
11:18 S Rev 21:2

[a] 14 Most Septuagint manuscripts; Hebrew *their*

cates, who kept watch at the
gates—172 men.
20 The rest of the Israelites, with the
priests and Levites, were in all the
towns of Judah, each on his ancestral
property.
21 The temple servants lived on the
hill of Ophel, and Ziha and Gishpa
were in charge of them.
22 The chief officer of the Levites in
Jerusalem was Uzzi son of Bani, the
son of Hashabiah, the son of Mat-
taniah, the son of Mica. Uzzi was one
of Asaph's descendants, who were the
singers responsible for the service of
the house of God. 23 The singers were
under the king's orders, which regulat-
ed their daily activity.
24 Pethahiah son of Meshezabel, one
of the descendants of Zerah son of
Judah, was the king's agent in all af-
fairs relating to the people.
25 As for the villages with their fields,
some of the people of Judah lived in
Kiriath Arba and its surrounding set-
tlements, in Dibon and its settle-
ments, in Jekabzeel and its villages, 26 in
Jeshua, in Moladah, in Beth Pelet,
27 in Hazar Shual, in Beersheba and
its settlements, 28 in Ziklag, in Meco-
nah and its settlements, 29 in En Rim-
mon, in Zorah, in Jarmuth, 30 Za-
noah, Adullam and their villages, in
Lachish and its fields, and in Azekah
and its settlements. So they were living
all the way from Beersheba to the Val-
ley of Hinnom.
31 The descendants of the Benjamites
from Geba lived in Micmash, Aija,
Bethel and its settlements, 32 in Ana-
thoth, Nob and Ananiah, 33 in Ha-
zor, Ramah and Gittaim, 34 in Ha-
did, Zeboim and Neballat, 35 in Lod
and Ono, and in the Valley of the
Craftsmen.
36 Some of the divisions of the Levites
of Judah settled in Benjamin.

Priests and Levites

12 These were the priests and Le-
vites who returned with Zerub-
babel son of Shealtiel and with
Jeshua:

Seraiah, Jeremiah, Ezra,
2 Amariah, Malluch, Hattush,
3 Shecaniah, Rehum, Meremoth,
4 Iddo, Ginnethon,[b] Abijah,
5 Mijamin,[c] Moadiah, Bilgah,
6 Shemaiah, Joiarib, Jedaiah,
7 Sallu, Amok, Hilkiah and Jedaiah.

These were the leaders of the priests
and their associates in the days of
Jeshua.
8 The Levites were Jeshua, Binnui,
Kadmiel, Sherebiah, Judah, and also
Mattaniah, who, together with his
associates, was in charge of the songs
of thanksgiving. 9 Bakbukiah and Unni,
their associates, stood opposite them in
the services.
10 Jeshua was the father of Joiakim,
Joiakim the father of Eliashib, Eliashib
the father of Joiada, 11 Joiada the father
of Jonathan, and Jonathan the father of
Jaddua.
12 In the days of Joiakim, these were
the heads of the priestly families:

of Seraiah's family, Meraiah;
of Jeremiah's, Hananiah;
13 of Ezra's, Meshullam;
of Amariah's, Jehohanan;
14 of Malluch's, Jonathan;
of Shecaniah's,[d] Joseph;
15 of Harim's, Adna;
of Meremoth's,[e] Helkai;
16 of Iddo's, Zechariah;
of Ginnethon's, Meshullam;
17 of Abijah's, Zicri;
of Miniamin's and of Moadiah's,
Piltai;
18 of Bilgah's, Shammua;
of Shemaiah's, Jehonathan;
19 of Joiarib's, Mattenai;
of Jedaiah's, Uzzi;
20 of Sallu's, Kallai;
of Amok's, Eber;
21 of Hilkiah's, Hashabiah;
of Jedaiah's, Nethanel.

22 The family heads of the Levites in
the days of Eliashib, Joiada, Johanan
and Jaddua, as well as those of the
priests, were recorded in the reign of
Darius the Persian. 23 The family heads
among the descendants of Levi up to
the time of Johanan son of Eliashib
were recorded in the book of the an-
nals. 24 And the leaders of the Levites
were Hashabiah, Sherebiah, Jeshua
son of Kadmiel, and their associates,
who stood opposite them to give praise
and thanksgiving, one section re-
sponding to the other, as prescribed by
David the man of God.
25 Mattaniah, Bakbukiah, Obadiah,
Meshullam, Talmon and Akkub were
gatekeepers who guarded the store-

11:21 S Ezr 2:43 S Ne 3:26
11:22 S 1Ch 9:15
11:23 S 1Ch 15:16; Ne 7:44
11:24 S Ge 38:30
11:25 S Ge 35:27 S Nu 21:30
11:26 Jos 15:26 Jos 15:27
11:27 Jos 15:28 S Ge 21:14
11:28 S 1Sa 27:6
11:29 Jos 15:32 S Jos 10:3; S 15:33
11:30 Jos 15:34 Jos 15:35 S Jos 10:3; 15:39 S Jos 10:10 Jos 15:28
11:31 Jos 21:17; Isa 10:29 S 1Sa 13:2 S Jos 12:9
11:32 Jos 21:18; Isa 10:30; Jer 1:1 S 1Sa 21:1
11:33 S Jos 11:1 S Jos 18:25 2Sa 4:3
11:34 1Sa 13:18
11:35 S 1Ch 8:12
12:1 Ne 10:1-8 Ne 10:9 S 1Ch 3:19; Ezr 3:2; Zec 4:6-10 Ezr 3:2 S Ezr 2:2 S Ezr 2:2
12:4 ver 16; Zec 1:1 S 1Ch 24:10; Lk 1:5
12:6 S 1Ch 24:7
12:8 S Ezr 2:2 S Ne 11:17
12:10 S Ezr 10:24; Ne 3:20
12:16 S ver 4
12:17 S 1Ch 24:10
12:24 S Ezr 2:40 S 2Ch 8:14

b4 Many Hebrew manuscripts and Vulgate (see also Neh. 12:16); most Hebrew manuscripts *Ginnethoi*
c5 A variant of *Miniamin*
d14 Very many Hebrew manuscripts, some Septuagint manuscripts and Syriac (see also Neh. 12:3); most Hebrew manuscripts *Shebaniah's*
e15 Some Septuagint manuscripts (see also Neh. 12:3); Hebrew *Meraioth's*

rooms at the gates. 26They served in the days of Joiakim son of Jeshua, the son of Jozadak, and in the days of Nehemiah the governor and of Ezra the priest and scribe.

Dedication of the Wall of Jerusalem

27At the dedication[a] of the wall of Jerusalem, the Levites were sought out from where they lived and were brought to Jerusalem to celebrate joyfully the dedication with songs of thanksgiving and with the music of cymbals,[b] harps and lyres.[c] 28The singers also were brought together from the region around Jerusalem—from the villages of the Netophathites,[d] 29from Beth Gilgal, and from the area of Geba and Azmaveth, for the singers had built villages for themselves around Jerusalem. 30When the priests and Levites had purified themselves ceremonially, they purified the people,[e] the gates and the wall.

31I had the leaders of Judah go up on top[f] of the wall. I also assigned two large choirs to give thanks. One was to proceed on top[g] of the wall to the right, toward the Dung Gate.[f] 32Hoshaiah and half the leaders of Judah followed them, 33along with Azariah, Ezra, Meshullam, 34Judah, Benjamin,[g] Shemaiah, Jeremiah, 35as well as some priests with trumpets,[h] and also Zechariah son of Jonathan, the son of Shemaiah, the son of Mattaniah, the son of Micaiah, the son of Zaccur, the son of Asaph, 36and his associates—Shemaiah, Azarel, Milalai, Gilalai, Maai, Nethanel, Judah and Hanani—with musical instruments[i] ⌊prescribed by⌋ David the man of God.[j] Ezra[k] the scribe led the procession. 37At the Fountain Gate[l] they continued directly up the steps of the City of David on the ascent to the wall and passed above the house of David to the Water Gate[m] on the east.

38The second choir proceeded in the opposite direction. I followed them on top[h] of the wall, together with half the people—past the Tower of the Ovens[n] to the Broad Wall,[o] 39over the Gate of Ephraim,[p] the Jeshanah[i] Gate,[q] the Fish Gate,[r] the Tower of Hananel[s] and the Tower of the Hundred,[t] as far as the Sheep Gate.[u] At the Gate of the Guard they stopped.

40The two choirs that gave thanks then took their places in the house of God; so did I, together with half the officials, 41as well as the priests—Eliakim, Maaseiah, Miniamin, Micaiah, Elioenai, Zechariah and Hananiah with their trumpets— 42and also Maaseiah, Shemaiah, Eleazar, Uzzi, Jehohanan, Malkijah, Elam and Ezer. The choirs sang under the direction of Jezrahiah. 43And on that day they offered great sacrifices, rejoicing because God had given them great joy. The women and children also rejoiced. The sound of rejoicing in Jerusalem could be heard far away.

44At that time men were appointed to be in charge of the storerooms[v] for the contributions, firstfruits and tithes.[w] From the fields around the towns they were to bring into the storerooms the portions required by the Law for the priests and the Levites, for Judah was pleased with the ministering priests and Levites.[x] 45They performed the service of their God and the service of purification, as did also the singers and gatekeepers, according to the commands of David[y] and his son Solomon.[z] 46For long ago, in the days of David and Asaph,[a] there had been directors for the singers and for the songs of praise[b] and thanksgiving to God. 47So in the days of Zerubbabel and of Nehemiah, all Israel contributed the daily portions for the singers and gatekeepers. They also set aside the portion for the other Levites, and the Levites set aside the portion for the descendants of Aaron.[c]

Nehemiah's Final Reforms

13 On that day the Book of Moses was read aloud in the hearing of the people and there it was found written that no Ammonite or Moabite should ever be admitted into the assembly of God,[d] 2because they had not met the Israelites with food and water but had hired Balaam[e] to call a curse down on them.[f] (Our God, however, turned the curse into a blessing.)[g] 3When the people heard this law, they excluded from Israel all who were of foreign descent.[h]

4Before this, Eliashib the priest had been put in charge of the storerooms[i] of the house of our God. He was closely associated with Tobiah,[j] 5and he had provided him with a large room formerly used to store the grain offer-

12:27 [a]Dt 20:5 [b]S 2Sa 6:5 [c]S 1Ch 15:16,28; 25:6; Ps 92:3
12:28 [d]S 1Ch 2:54; 9:16
12:30 [e]Ex 19:10; Job 1:5
12:31 [f]Ne 2:13
12:34 [g]S Ezr 1:5
12:35 [h]S Ezr 3:10
12:36 [i]S 1Ch 15:16 [j]S 2Ch 8:14 [k]Ezr 7:6
12:37 [l]S Ne 2:14 [m]S Ne 3:26
12:38 [n]Ne 3:11 [o]Ne 3:8
12:39 [p]S 2Ki 14:13 [q]Ne 3:6 [r]S 2Ch 33:14 [s]S Ne 3:1 [t]Ne 3:1 [u]S Ne 3:1
12:44 [v]Ne 13:4,13 [w]S Lev 27:30 [x]S Dt 18:8
12:45 [y]S 2Ch 8:14 [z]S 1Ch 6:31; 23:5
12:46 [a]S 2Ch 35:15 [b]2Ch 29:27; Ps 137:4
12:47 [c]S Dt 18:8
13:1 [d]ver 23; Dt 23:3
13:2 [e]Nu 22:3-11 [f]S Nu 23:7; S Dt 23:3 [g]S Nu 23:11; Dt 23:4-5
13:3 [h]ver 23; S Ne 9:2
13:4 [i]S Ne 12:44 [j]Ne 2:10

[f]31 *Or go alongside* [g]31 *Or proceed alongside* [h]38 *Or them alongside* [i]39 *Or Old*

ings and incense and temple articles,
and also the tithes[a] of grain, new wine
and oil prescribed for the Levites, sing-
ers and gatekeepers, as well as the con-
tributions for the priests.
6 But while all this was going on, I
was not in Jerusalem, for in the thirty-
second year of Artaxerxes[b] king of Bab-
ylon I had returned to the king. Some
time later I asked his permission 7 and
came back to Jerusalem. Here I learned
about the evil thing Eliashib[c] had done
in providing Tobiah[d] a room in the
courts of the house of God. 8 I was
greatly displeased and threw all To-
biah's household goods out of the
room.[e] 9 I gave orders to purify the
rooms,[f] and then I put back into them
the equipment of the house of God,
with the grain offerings and the in-
cense.[g]
10 I also learned that the portions as-
signed to the Levites had not been giv-
en to them,[h] and that all the Levites
and singers responsible for the service
had gone back to their own fields.[i]
11 So I rebuked the officials and asked
them, "Why is the house of God ne-
glected?"[j] Then I called them together
and stationed them at their posts.
12 All Judah brought the tithes[k] of
grain, new wine and oil into the store-
rooms.[l] 13 I put Shelemiah the priest,
Zadok the scribe, and a Levite named
Pedaiah in charge of the storerooms
and made Hanan son of Zaccur, the
son of Mattaniah, their assistant, be-
cause these men were considered trust-
worthy. They were made responsible
for distributing the supplies to their
brothers.[m]

14 Remember[n] me for this, O my
God, and do not blot out what I have
so faithfully done for the house of my
God and its services.

15 In those days I saw men in Judah
treading winepresses on the Sabbath
and bringing in grain and loading it on
donkeys, together with wine, grapes,
figs and all other kinds of loads. And
they were bringing all this into Jerusa-
lem on the Sabbath.[o] Therefore I
warned them against selling food on
that day. 16 Men from Tyre who lived in
Jerusalem were bringing in fish and all
kinds of merchandise and selling them
in Jerusalem on the Sabbath[p] to the
people of Judah. 17 I rebuked the nobles
of Judah and said to them, "What is
this wicked thing you are doing—dese-
crating the Sabbath day? 18 Didn't your
forefathers do the same things, so that
our God brought all this calamity upon
us and upon this city?[q] Now you are
stirring up more wrath against Israel by
desecrating the Sabbath."[r]
19 When evening shadows fell on the
gates of Jerusalem before the Sabbath,[s]
I ordered the doors to be shut and not
opened until the Sabbath was over. I
stationed some of my own men at the
gates so that no load could be brought
in on the Sabbath day. 20 Once or twice
the merchants and sellers of all kinds of
goods spent the night outside Jerusa-
lem. 21 But I warned them and said,
"Why do you spend the night by the
wall? If you do this again, I will lay
hands on you." From that time on they
no longer came on the Sabbath. 22 Then
I commanded the Levites to purify
themselves and go and guard the gates
in order to keep the Sabbath day holy.

Remember[t] me for this also, O my
God, and show mercy to me according
to your great love.

23 Moreover, in those days I saw men
of Judah who had married[u] women
from Ashdod, Ammon and Moab.[v]
24 Half of their children spoke the lan-
guage of Ashdod or the language of
one of the other peoples, and did not
know how to speak the language[w] of
Judah. 25 I rebuked them and called
curses down on them. I beat some of
the men and pulled out their hair. I
made them take an oath[x] in God's
name and said: "You are not to give
your daughters in marriage to their
sons, nor are you to take their daugh-
ters in marriage for your sons or for
yourselves.[y] 26 Was it not because of
marriages like these that Solomon king
of Israel sinned? Among the many na-
tions there was no king like him.[z] He
was loved by his God,[a] and God made
him king over all Israel, but even he
was led into sin by foreign women.[b]
27 Must we hear now that you too are
doing all this terrible wickedness and
are being unfaithful to our God by mar-
rying[c] foreign women?"

28 One of the sons of Joiada son of Eli-
ashib[d] the high priest was son-in-law
to Sanballat[e] the Horonite. And I
drove him away from me.

29 Remember[f] them, O my God, be-
cause they defiled the priestly office
and the covenant of the priesthood and
of the Levites.[g]

13:5 [a]S Lev 27:30; S Nu 18:21
13:6 [b]S Ne 2:6
13:7 [c]S Ezr 10:24 [d]S Ne 2:10
13:8 [e]Mt 21:12-13; Mk 11:15-17; Lk 19:45-46; Jn 2:13-16
13:9 [f]S 1Ch 23:28; S 2Ch 29:5 [g]S Lev 2:1
13:10 [h]S Dt 12:19 [i]S 2Ch 31:4
13:11 [j]S Ne 10:37-39; Hag 1:1-9; Mal 3:8-9
13:12 [k]S 2Sa 31:6 [l]S Dt 18:8; 1Ki 7:51; S 2Ch 31:5; S Ne 10:37-39; Mal 3:10
13:13 [m]S Ne 12:44; Ac 6:1-5
13:14 [n]S Ge 8:1; S 2Ki 20:3
13:15 [o]Ex 20:8-11; S 34:21; Dt 5:12-15
13:16 [p]S Ne 10:31
13:18 [q]Jer 44:23 [r]S Ne 10:31
13:19 [s]Lev 23:32
13:22 [t]S Ge 8:1; S Ne 1:8
13:23 [u]Ezr 9:1-2; Mal 2:11 [v]S ver 1; S 3; Ex 34:16; S Ru 1:4; S Ne 10:30
13:24 [w]Est 1:22; 3:12; 8:9
13:25 [x]S Ezr 10:5 [y]S Ex 34:16
13:26 [z]S 1Ki 3:13; S 2Ch 1:12 [a]2Sa 12:25 [b]S Ex 34:16; S 1Ki 11:3
13:27 [c]Ezr 9:14
13:28 [d]S Ezr 10:24 [e]S Ne 2:10
13:29 [f]S Ne 1:8 [g]S N 3:12

30So I purified the priests and the Levites of everything foreign,[a] and assigned them duties, each to his own task. 31I also made provision for contributions of wood[b] at designated times, and for the firstfruits.[c]

Remember[d] me with favor, O my God.

13:30 [a]S Ne 9:2
13:31 [b]Ne 10:34 [c]Ne 10:35-36 [d]S Ge 8:1; S Ne 1:8

Esther

Queen Vashti Deposed

1 This is what happened during the
time of Xerxes,[a][a] the Xerxes who
ruled over 127 provinces[b] stretching
from India to Cush[b]:[c] 2At that time
King Xerxes reigned from his royal
throne in the citadel of Susa,[d] 3and in
the third year of his reign he gave a
banquet[e] for all his nobles and offi-
cials. The military leaders of Persia and
Media, the princes, and the nobles of
the provinces were present.

4For a full 180 days he displayed the
vast wealth of his kingdom and the
splendor and glory of his majesty.
5When these days were over, the king
gave a banquet, lasting seven days,[f] in
the enclosed garden[g] of the king's pal-
ace, for all the people from the least to
the greatest, who were in the citadel of
Susa. 6The garden had hangings of
white and blue linen, fastened with
cords of white linen and purple ma-
terial to silver rings on marble pillars.
There were couches[h] of gold and silver
on a mosaic pavement of porphyry,
marble, mother-of-pearl and other cost-
ly stones. 7Wine was served in goblets
of gold, each one different from the
other, and the royal wine was abun-
dant, in keeping with the king's liberal-
ity.[i] 8By the king's command each
guest was allowed to drink in his own
way, for the king instructed all the
wine stewards to serve each man what
he wished.

9Queen Vashti also gave a banquet[j]
for the women in the royal palace of
King Xerxes.

10On the seventh day, when King
Xerxes was in high spirits[k] from
wine,[l] he commanded the seven eu-
nuchs who served him—Mehuman,
Biztha, Harbona,[m] Bigtha, Abagtha,
Zethar and Carcas— 11to bring[n] before
him Queen Vashti, wearing her royal
crown, in order to display her beauty[o]
to the people and nobles, for she was
lovely to look at. 12But when the atten-
dants delivered the king's command,
Queen Vashti refused to come. Then
the king became furious and burned
with anger.[p]

13Since it was customary for the king
to consult experts in matters of law and
justice, he spoke with the wise men
who understood the times[q] 14and were
closest to the king—Carshena, Shethar,
Admatha, Tarshish, Meres, Marsena
and Memucan, the seven nobles[r] of
Persia and Media who had special ac-
cess to the king and were highest in the
kingdom.

15"According to law, what must be
done to Queen Vashti?" he asked.
"She has not obeyed the command of
King Xerxes that the eunuchs have tak-
en to her."

16Then Memucan replied in the pres-
ence of the king and the nobles,
"Queen Vashti has done wrong, not
only against the king but also against
all the nobles and the peoples of all the
provinces of King Xerxes. 17For the
queen's conduct will become known to
all the women, and so they will despise
their husbands and say, 'King Xerxes
commanded Queen Vashti to be
brought before him, but she would not
come.' 18This very day the Persian and
Median women of the nobility who
have heard about the queen's conduct
will respond to all the king's nobles in
the same way. There will be no end of
disrespect and discord.[s]

19"Therefore, if it pleases the king,[t]
let him issue a royal decree and let it be
written in the laws of Persia and
Media, which cannot be repealed,[u]
that Vashti is never again to enter the
presence of King Xerxes. Also let the
king give her royal position to someone
else who is better than she. 20Then
when the king's edict is proclaimed
throughout all his vast realm, all the
women will respect their husbands,
from the least to the greatest."

1:1 [a]S Ezr 4:6 [b]Est 9:30; Da 3:2; 6:1 [c]Est 8:9
1:2 [d]S Ezr 4:9; S Est 2:8
1:3 [e]S 1Ki 3:15
1:5 [f]Jdg 14:17 [g]S 2Ki 21:18
1:6 [h]Est 7:8; Eze 23:41; Am 3:12; 6:4
1:7 [i]Est 2:18; Da 5:2
1:9 [j]S 1Ki 3:15
1:10 [k]S Jdg 16:25; S Ru 3:7 [l]S Ge 14:18; Est 3:15; 5:6; 7:2; Pr 31:4-7; Da 5:1-4 [m]Est 7:9
1:11 [n]SS 2:4 [o]Ps 45:11; Eze 16:14
1:12 [p]Ge 39:19; Est 2:21; 7:7; Pr 19:12
1:13 [q]1Ch 12:32
1:14 [r]Ezr 7:14
1:18 [s]Pr 19:13; 27:15
1:19 [t]Ecc 8:4 [u]Est 8:8; Da 6:8, 12

[a]1 Hebrew *Ahasuerus,* a variant of Xerxes' name; here and throughout Esther [b]1 That is, the upper Nile region

21 The king and his nobles were pleased with this advice, so the king did as Memucan proposed. 22 He sent dispatches to all parts of the kingdom, to each province in its own script and to each people in its own language,[a] proclaiming in each people's tongue that every man should be ruler over his own household.

Esther Made Queen

2 Later when the anger of King Xerxes had subsided,[b] he remembered Vashti and what she had done and what he had decreed about her. 2 Then the king's personal attendants proposed, "Let a search be made for beautiful young virgins for the king. 3 Let the king appoint commissioners in every province of his realm to bring all these beautiful girls into the harem at the citadel of Susa. Let them be placed under the care of Hegai, the king's eunuch, who is in charge of the women; and let beauty treatments be given to them. 4 Then let the girl who pleases the king be queen instead of Vashti." This advice appealed to the king, and he followed it.

5 Now there was in the citadel of Susa a Jew of the tribe of Benjamin, named Mordecai son of Jair, the son of Shimei, the son of Kish,[c] 6 who had been carried into exile from Jerusalem by Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, among those taken captive with Jehoiachin[c][d] king of Judah.[e] 7 Mordecai had a cousin named Hadassah, whom he had brought up because she had neither father nor mother. This girl, who was also known as Esther,[f] was lovely[g] in form and features, and Mordecai had taken her as his own daughter when her father and mother died.

8 When the king's order and edict had been proclaimed, many girls were brought to the citadel of Susa[h] and put under the care of Hegai. Esther also was taken to the king's palace and entrusted to Hegai, who had charge of the harem. 9 The girl pleased him and won his favor.[i] Immediately he provided her with her beauty treatments and special food.[j] He assigned to her seven maids selected from the king's palace and moved her and her maids into the best place in the harem.

10 Esther had not revealed her nationality and family background, because Mordecai had forbidden her to do so.[k] 11 Every day he walked back and forth near the courtyard of the harem to find out how Esther was and what was happening to her.

12 Before a girl's turn came to go in to King Xerxes, she had to complete twelve months of beauty treatments prescribed for the women, six months with oil of myrrh and six with perfumes[l] and cosmetics. 13 And this is how she would go to the king: Anything she wanted was given her to take with her from the harem to the king's palace. 14 In the evening she would go there and in the morning return to another part of the harem to the care of Shaashgaz, the king's eunuch who was in charge of the concubines.[m] She would not return to the king unless he was pleased with her and summoned her by name.[n]

15 When the turn came for Esther (the girl Mordecai had adopted, the daughter of his uncle Abihail[o]) to go to the king,[p] she asked for nothing other than what Hegai, the king's eunuch who was in charge of the harem, suggested. And Esther won the favor[q] of everyone who saw her. 16 She was taken to King Xerxes in the royal residence in the tenth month, the month of Tebeth, in the seventh year of his reign.

17 Now the king was attracted to Esther more than to any of the other women, and she won his favor and approval more than any of the other virgins. So he set a royal crown on her head and made her queen[r] instead of Vashti. 18 And the king gave a great banquet,[s] Esther's banquet, for all his nobles and officials.[t] He proclaimed a holiday throughout the provinces and distributed gifts with royal liberality.[u]

Mordecai Uncovers a Conspiracy

19 When the virgins were assembled a second time, Mordecai was sitting at the king's gate.[v] 20 But Esther had kept secret her family background and nationality just as Mordecai had told her to do, for she continued to follow Mordecai's instructions as she had done when he was bringing her up.[w]

21 During the time Mordecai was sitting at the king's gate, Bigthana[d] and Teresh, two of the king's officers[x] who guarded the doorway, became angry[y] and conspired to assassinate King Xerxes. 22 But Mordecai found out about the plot and told Queen Esther, who in

1:22 [a]S Ne 13:24
2:1 [b]Est 7:10
2:5 [c]S 1Sa 9:1
2:6 [d]S 2Ki 24:15 [e]Da 1:1-5; 5:13
2:7 [f]Ge 41:45 [g]S Ge 39:6
2:8 [h]Ne 1:1; Est 1:2; Da 8:2
2:9 [i]S Ge 39:21 [j]S Ge 37:3; 1Sa 9:22-24; S 2Ki 25:30; Est 9:19; Eze 16:9-13; Da 1:5
2:10 [k]ver 20
2:12 [l]Pr 27:9; SS 1:3; Isa 3:24
2:14 [m]1Ki 11:3; SS 6:8; Da 5:2 [n]Est 4:11
2:15 [o]Est 9:29 [p]Ps 45:14 [q]S Ge 18:3; S 30:27; Est 5:8; 7:3; 8:5
2:17 [r]Eze 16:9-13
2:18 [s]S 1Ki 3:15 [t]S Ge 40:20 [u]S Est 1:7
2:19 [v]Est 4:2; 5:13
2:20 [w]ver 10
2:21 [x]S Ge 40:2 [y]S Est 1:12; 3:5; 5:9; 7:7

[c]6 Hebrew *Jeconiah,* a variant of *Jehoiachin*
[d]21 Hebrew *Bigthan,* a variant of *Bigthana*

turn reported it to the king, giving credit to Mordecai. 23 And when the report was investigated and found to be true, the two officials were hanged[a] on a gallows.[e] All this was recorded in the book of the annals[b] in the presence of the king.[c]

Haman's Plot to Destroy the Jews

3 After these events, King Xerxes honored Haman son of Hammedatha, the Agagite,[d] elevating him and giving him a seat of honor higher than that of all the other nobles. 2 All the royal officials at the king's gate knelt down and paid honor to Haman, for the king had commanded this concerning him. But Mordecai would not kneel down or pay him honor.

3 Then the royal officials at the king's gate asked Mordecai, "Why do you disobey the king's command?"[e] 4 Day after day they spoke to him but he refused to comply.[f] Therefore they told Haman about it to see whether Mordecai's behavior would be tolerated, for he had told them he was a Jew.

5 When Haman saw that Mordecai would not kneel down or pay him honor, he was enraged.[g] 6 Yet having learned who Mordecai's people were, he scorned the idea of killing only Mordecai. Instead Haman looked for a way[h] to destroy[i] all Mordecai's people, the Jews,[j] throughout the whole kingdom of Xerxes.

7 In the twelfth year of King Xerxes, in the first month, the month of Nisan, they cast the *pur*[k] (that is, the lot[l]) in the presence of Haman to select a day and month. And the lot fell on[f] the twelfth month, the month of Adar.[m]

8 Then Haman said to King Xerxes, "There is a certain people dispersed and scattered among the peoples in all the provinces of your kingdom whose customs[n] are different from those of all other people and who do not obey[o] the king's laws; it is not in the king's best interest to tolerate them.[p] 9 If it pleases the king, let a decree be issued to destroy them, and I will put ten thousand talents[g] of silver into the royal treasury for the men who carry out this business."[q]

10 So the king took his signet ring[r] from his finger and gave it to Haman son of Hammedatha, the Agagite, the enemy of the Jews. 11 "Keep the money," the king said to Haman, "and do with the people as you please."

2:23 [a] S Ge 40:19; S Dt 21:22-23; Ps 7:14-16; Pr 26:27; Ecc 10:8 [b] Est 6:1; 10:2 [c] Est 6:2
3:1 [d] S Ex 17:8-16; S Nu 24:7; Dt 25:17-19; 1Sa 14:48
3:3 [e] Est 5:9; Da 3:12
3:4 [f] Ge 39:10
3:5 [g] S Est 2:21
3:6 [h] Pr 16:25 [i] Ps 74:8; 83:4 [j] Est 9:24
3:7 [k] Est 9:24,26 [l] S Lev 16:8; S 1Sa 10:21 [m] ver 13; Est 9:19
3:8 [n] Ac 16:20-21 [o] Jer 29:7; Da 6:13 [p] Ezr 4:15
3:9 [q] Est 7:4
3:10 [r] S Ge 41:42
3:12 [s] S Ne 13:24 [t] S Ge 38:18
3:13 [u] S 1Sa 15:3; S Ezr 4:6 [v] S ver 7 [w] Est 8:11; 9:10
3:14 [x] Est 8:8; 9:1
3:15 [y] Est 8:14 [z] S Est 1:10 [a] Est 8:15
4:1 [b] S Nu 14:6 [c] S 2Sa 13:19; Eze 27:30-31 [d] S Ex 11:6; Ps 30:11
4:2 [e] S Est 2:19

12 Then on the thirteenth day of the first month the royal secretaries were summoned. They wrote out in the script of each province and in the language[s] of each people all Haman's orders to the king's satraps, the governors of the various provinces and the nobles of the various peoples. These were written in the name of King Xerxes himself and sealed[t] with his own ring. 13 Dispatches were sent by couriers to all the king's provinces with the order to destroy, kill and annihilate all the Jews[u]—young and old, women and little children—on a single day, the thirteenth day of the twelfth month, the month of Adar,[v] and to plunder[w] their goods. 14 A copy of the text of the edict was to be issued as law in every province and made known to the people of every nationality so they would be ready for that day.[x]

15 Spurred on by the king's command, the couriers went out, and the edict was issued in the citadel of Susa.[y] The king and Haman sat down to drink,[z] but the city of Susa was bewildered.[a]

Mordecai Persuades Esther to Help

4 When Mordecai learned of all that had been done, he tore his clothes,[b] put on sackcloth and ashes,[c] and went out into the city, wailing[d] loudly and bitterly. 2 But he went only as far as the king's gate,[e] because no one clothed in sackcloth was allowed to enter it. 3 In every province to which the edict and order of the king came, there was great mourning among the Jews, with fasting, weeping and wailing. Many lay in sackcloth and ashes.

4 When Esther's maids and eunuchs came and told her about Mordecai, she was in great distress. She sent clothes for him to put on instead of his sackcloth, but he would not accept them. 5 Then Esther summoned Hathach, one of the king's eunuchs assigned to attend her, and ordered him to find out what was troubling Mordecai and why.

6 So Hathach went out to Mordecai in the open square of the city in front of the king's gate. 7 Mordecai told him everything that had happened to him, including the exact amount of money Haman had promised to pay into the royal treasury for the destruction of the

[e] 23 Or *were hung* (or *impaled*) *on poles*; similarly elsewhere in Esther [f] 7 Septuagint; Hebrew does not have *And the lot fell on* [g] 9 That is, about 375 tons (about 345 metric tons)

Jews.[a] 8He also gave him a copy of the
text of the edict for their annihilation,
which had been published in Susa, to
show to Esther and explain it to her,
and he told him to urge her to go into
the king's presence to beg for mercy
and plead with him for her people.
9Hathach went back and reported to
Esther what Mordecai had said. 10Then
she instructed him to say to Mordecai,
11"All the king's officials and the
people of the royal provinces know
that for any man or woman who ap-
proaches the king in the inner court
without being summoned[b] the king
has but one law:[c] that he be put to
death. The only exception to this is for
the king to extend the gold scepter[d] to
him and spare his life. But thirty days
have passed since I was called to go to
the king."
12When Esther's words were re-
ported to Mordecai, 13he sent back this
answer: "Do not think that because
you are in the king's house you alone
of all the Jews will escape. 14For if you
remain silent[e] at this time, relief[f] and
deliverance[g] for the Jews will arise
from another place, but you and your
father's family will perish. And who
knows but that you have come to royal
position for such a time as this?"[h]
15Then Esther sent this reply to Mor-
decai: 16"Go, gather together all the
Jews who are in Susa, and fast[i] for me.
Do not eat or drink for three days,
night or day. I and my maids will fast
as you do. When this is done, I will go
to the king, even though it is against
the law. And if I perish, I perish."[j]
17So Mordecai went away and carried
out all of Esther's instructions.

Esther's Request to the King

5 On the third day Esther put on her
royal robes[k] and stood in the inner
court of the palace, in front of the
king's[l] hall. The king was sitting on
his royal throne in the hall, facing the
entrance. 2When he saw Queen Esther
standing in the court, he was pleased
with her and held out to her the gold
scepter that was in his hand. So Esther
approached and touched the tip of the
scepter.[m]
3Then the king asked, "What is it,
Queen Esther? What is your request?
Even up to half the kingdom,[n] it will
be given you."
4"If it pleases the king," replied Es-
ther, "let the king, together with Ha-
man, come today to a banquet I have
prepared for him."
5"Bring Haman at once," the king
said, "so that we may do what Esther
asks."
So the king and Haman went to the
banquet Esther had prepared. 6As they
were drinking wine,[o] the king again
asked Esther, "Now what is your peti-
tion? It will be given you. And what is
your request? Even up to half the king-
dom,[p] it will be granted."[q]
7Esther replied, "My petition and my
request is this: 8If the king regards me
with favor[r] and if it pleases the king to
grant my petition and fulfill my re-
quest, let the king and Haman come
tomorrow to the banquet[s] I will pre-
pare for them. Then I will answer the
king's question."

Haman's Rage Against Mordecai

9Haman went out that day happy
and in high spirits. But when he saw
Mordecai at the king's gate and ob-
served that he neither rose nor showed
fear in his presence, he was filled with
rage[t] against Mordecai.[u] 10Neverthe-
less, Haman restrained himself and
went home.
Calling together his friends and Ze-
resh,[v] his wife, 11Haman boasted[w] to
them about his vast wealth, his many
sons,[x] and all the ways the king had
honored him and how he had elevated
him above the other nobles and offi-
cials. 12"And that's not all," Haman
added. "I'm the only person[y] Queen
Esther invited to accompany the king
to the banquet she gave. And she has
invited me along with the king tomor-
row. 13But all this gives me no satisfac-
tion as long as I see that Jew Mordecai
sitting at the king's gate."[z]
14His wife Zeresh and all his friends
said to him, "Have a gallows built, sev-
enty-five feet[h] high,[a] and ask the king
in the morning to have Mordecai
hanged[b] on it. Then go with the king
to the dinner and be happy." This
suggestion delighted Haman, and he
had the gallows built.

Mordecai Honored

6 That night the king could not
sleep;[c] so he ordered the book of
the chronicles,[d] the record of his reign,
to be brought in and read to him. 2It
was found recorded there that Mor-

4:7 [a]Est 7:4
4:11 [b]Est 2:14 [c]Da 2:9 [d]Est 5:2; 8:4; Ps 125:3
4:14 [e]Job 34:29; Ps 28:1; 35:22; Ecc 3:7; Isa 42:14; 57:11; 62:1; 64:12; Am 5:13 [f]Est 9:16,22 [g]S Ge 45:7; S Dt 28:29 [h]S Ge 50:20
4:16 [i]S 2Ch 20:3; Est 9:31 [j]S Ge 43:14
5:1 [k]Eze 16:13 [l]Pr 21:1
5:2 [m]S Est 4:11
5:3 [n]Est 7:2; Da 5:16; Mk 6:23
5:6 [o]S Est 1:10 [p]Da 5:16; Mk 6:23 [q]Est 9:12
5:8 [r]S Est 2:15 [s]S 1Ki 3:15
5:9 [t]S Est 2:21; Pr 14:17 [u]S Est 3:3
5:10 [v]Est 6:13
5:11 [w]Pr 13:16 [x]Est 9:10,13
5:12 [y]Job 22:29; Pr 16:18; 29:23
5:13 [z]S Est 2:19
5:14 [a]Est 7:9 [b]S Ezr 6:11
6:1 [c]Da 2:1; 6:18 [d]S Est 2:23

[h]14 Hebrew *fifty cubits* (about 23 meters)

decai had exposed Bigthana and Teresh, two of the king's officers who guarded the doorway, who had conspired to assassinate King Xerxes.[a]

3"What honor and recognition has Mordecai received for this?" the king asked.

"Nothing has been done for him,"[b] his attendants answered.

4The king said, "Who is in the court?" Now Haman had just entered the outer court of the palace to speak to the king about hanging Mordecai on the gallows he had erected for him.

5His attendants answered, "Haman is standing in the court."

"Bring him in," the king ordered.

6When Haman entered, the king asked him, "What should be done for the man the king delights to honor?"

Now Haman thought to himself, "Who is there that the king would rather honor than me?" 7So he answered the king, "For the man the king delights to honor, 8have them bring a royal robe[c] the king has worn and a horse[d] the king has ridden, one with a royal crest placed on its head. 9Then let the robe and horse be entrusted to one of the king's most noble princes. Let them robe the man the king delights to honor, and lead him on the horse through the city streets, proclaiming before him, 'This is what is done for the man the king delights to honor!'[e]"

10"Go at once," the king commanded Haman. "Get the robe and the horse and do just as you have suggested for Mordecai the Jew, who sits at the king's gate. Do not neglect anything you have recommended."

11So Haman got[f] the robe and the horse. He robed Mordecai, and led him on horseback through the city streets, proclaiming before him, "This is what is done for the man the king delights to honor!"

12Afterward Mordecai returned to the king's gate. But Haman rushed home, with his head covered[g] in grief, 13and told Zeresh[h] his wife and all his friends everything that had happened to him.

His advisers and his wife Zeresh said to him, "Since Mordecai, before whom your downfall[i] has started, is of Jewish origin, you cannot stand against him—you will surely come to ruin!"[j] 14While they were still talking with him, the king's eunuchs arrived and hurried Haman away to the banquet[k] Esther had prepared.

6:2 [a]Est 2:21-23 **6:3** [b]Ecc 9:13-16 **6:8** [c]S Ge 41:42; S Isa 52:1 [d]1Ki 1:33 **6:9** [e]Ge 41:43 **6:11** [f]S Ge 41:42 **6:12** [g]2Sa 15:30; Est 7:8; Jer 14:3-4; Mic 3:7 **6:13** [h]Est 5:10 [i]Ps 57:6; Pr 26:27; 28:18 [j]Est 7:7 **6:14** [k]S 1Ki 3:15

7:1 [l]Ge 40:20-22; Mt 22:1-14 **7:2** [m]S Est 1:10 [n]S Est 5:3 [o]Est 9:12 **7:3** [p]S Est 2:15 **7:4** [q]Est 3:9; S 4:7 **7:7** [r]S Ge 34:7; S Est 1:12; Pr 19:12; 20:1-2 [s]S 2Ki 21:18 [t]Est 6:13 **7:8** [u]S Est 1:6 [v]Ge 39:14; Jn 13:23 [w]S Ge 34:7 [x]S Est 6:12 **7:9** [y]Est 1:10 [z]Est 5:14 [a]S Dt 21:22-23; Ps 7:14-16; 9:16; Pr 11:5-6; S 26:27; S Mt 7:2 **7:10** [b]Ge 40:22 [c]Pr 10:28 [d]Est 9:25 [e]Da 6:24 [f]Est 2:1 **8:1** [g]Pr 22:22-23

Haman Hanged

7 So the king and Haman went to dine[l] with Queen Esther, 2and as they were drinking wine[m] on that second day, the king again asked, "Queen Esther, what is your petition? It will be given you. What is your request? Even up to half the kingdom,[n] it will be granted.[o]"

3Then Queen Esther answered, "If I have found favor[p] with you, O king, and if it pleases your majesty, grant me my life—this is my petition. And spare my people—this is my request. 4For I and my people have been sold for destruction and slaughter and annihilation.[q] If we had merely been sold as male and female slaves, I would have kept quiet, because no such distress would justify disturbing the king.[i]"

5King Xerxes asked Queen Esther, "Who is he? Where is the man who has dared to do such a thing?"

6Esther said, "The adversary and enemy is this vile Haman."

Then Haman was terrified before the king and queen. 7The king got up in a rage,[r] left his wine and went out into the palace garden.[s] But Haman, realizing that the king had already decided his fate,[t] stayed behind to beg Queen Esther for his life.

8Just as the king returned from the palace garden to the banquet hall, Haman was falling on the couch[u] where Esther was reclining.[v]

The king exclaimed, "Will he even molest the queen while she is with me in the house?"[w]

As soon as the word left the king's mouth, they covered Haman's face.[x] 9Then Harbona,[y] one of the eunuchs attending the king, said, "A gallows seventy-five feet[j] high[z] stands by Haman's house. He had it made for Mordecai, who spoke up to help the king."

The king said, "Hang him on it!"[a] 10So they hanged[b] Haman[c] on the gallows[d] he had prepared for Mordecai.[e] Then the king's fury subsided.[f]

The King's Edict in Behalf of the Jews

8 That same day King Xerxes gave Queen Esther the estate of Haman,[g] the enemy of the Jews. And Mordecai came into the presence of the king, for Esther had told how he was related to her. 2The king took off his

4 Or *quiet, but the compensation our adversary offers cannot be compared with the loss the king would suffer*
9 Hebrew *fifty cubits* (about 23 meters)

signet ring,[a] which he had reclaimed
from Haman, and presented it to Mor-
decai. And Esther appointed him over
Haman's estate.[b]
3 Esther again pleaded with the king,
falling at his feet and weeping. She
begged him to put an end to the evil
plan of Haman the Agagite,[c] which he
had devised against the Jews. 4 Then
the king extended the gold scepter[d] to
Esther and she arose and stood before
him.
5 "If it pleases the king," she said,
"and if he regards me with favor[e] and
thinks it the right thing to do, and if he
is pleased with me, let an order be writ-
ten overruling the dispatches that Ha-
man son of Hammedatha, the Agagite,
devised and wrote to destroy the Jews
in all the king's provinces. 6 For how
can I bear to see disaster fall on my
people? How can I bear to see the de-
struction of my family?"[f]
7 King Xerxes replied to Queen Esther
and to Mordecai the Jew, "Because Ha-
man attacked the Jews, I have given his
estate to Esther, and they have
hanged[g] him on the gallows. 8 Now
write another decree[h] in the king's
name in behalf of the Jews as seems
best to you, and seal[i] it with the king's
signet ring[j]—for no document written
in the king's name and sealed with his
ring can be revoked."[k]
9 At once the royal secretaries were
summoned—on the twenty-third day
of the third month, the month of Sivan.
They wrote out all Mordecai's orders to
the Jews, and to the satraps, governors
and nobles of the 127 provinces stretch-
ing from India to Cush.[k][l] These orders
were written in the script of each prov-
ince and the language of each people
and also to the Jews in their own script
and language.[m] 10 Mordecai wrote in
the name of King Xerxes, sealed the
dispatches with the king's signet ring,
and sent them by mounted couriers,
who rode fast horses especially bred for
the king.
11 The king's edict granted the Jews in
every city the right to assemble and
protect themselves; to destroy, kill and
annihilate any armed force of any na-
tionality or province that might attack
them and their women and children;
and to plunder[n] the property of their
enemies. 12 The day appointed for the
Jews to do this in all the provinces of
King Xerxes was the thirteenth day of
the twelfth month, the month of
Adar.[o] 13 A copy of the text of the edict

8:2 [a]S Ge 24:22; S 41:42 [b]S Ge 41:41; Pr 13:22; 14:35; Da 2:48
8:3 [c]S Ex 17:8-16
8:4 [d]S Est 4:11
8:5 [e]S Est 2:15
8:6 [f]Ge 44:34
8:7 [g]S Dt 21:22-23
8:8 [h]S Est 3:12-14 [i]S Ge 38:18 [j]S Ge 41:42 [k]S Est 1:19; Da 6:15
8:9 [l]Est 1:1 [m]S Ne 13:24
8:11 [n]S Ge 14:23; S Est 3:13; 9:15, 16
8:12 [o]Est 3:13; 9:1
8:13 [p]Est 3:14
8:14 [q]Est 3:15
8:15 [r]Est 9:4; 10:2 [s]S 2Sa 12:30 [t]S Ge 41:42 [u]Est 3:15
8:16 [v]Ps 97:10-12 [w]Est 4:1-3; Ps 112:4; Jer 29:4-7
8:17 [x]Ps 35:27; 45:15; 51:8; Pr 11:10 [y]S Ex 15:14,16; Dt 11:25; Da 6:26 [z]Est 9:3
9:1 [a]S Est 8:12 [b]Jer 29:4-7 [c]S Est 3:12-14; Pr 22:22-23
9:2 [d]S Ge 22:17 [e]Ps 35:26; 40:14; 70:2; 71:13,24
9:3 [f]S Ezr 8:36 [g]Est 8:17
9:4 [h]S Est 8:15 [i]S Ex 11:3 [j]S 2Sa 3:1; 1Ch 11:9
9:5 [k]Dt 25:17-19; S 1Sa 15:3; S Ezr 4:6
9:10 [l]S Est 5:11; Ps 127:3-5 [m]S 1Sa 15:33 [n]S Ge 14:23; S 1Sa 14:32; S Est 3:13

was to be issued as law in every prov-
ince and made known to the people of
every nationality so that the Jews
would be ready on that day[p] to avenge
themselves on their enemies.
14 The couriers, riding the royal
horses, raced out, spurred on by the
king's command. And the edict was
also issued in the citadel of Susa.[q]
15 Mordecai[r] left the king's presence
wearing royal garments of blue and
white, a large crown of gold[s] and a
purple robe of fine linen.[t] And the city
of Susa held a joyous celebration.[u]
16 For the Jews it was a time of happi-
ness and joy,[v] gladness and honor.[w]
17 In every province and in every city,
wherever the edict of the king went,
there was joy[x] and gladness among the
Jews, with feasting and celebrating.
And many people of other nationalities
became Jews because fear[y] of the Jews
had seized them.[z]

Triumph of the Jews

9 On the thirteenth day of the twelfth
month, the month of Adar,[a] the
edict commanded by the king was to be
carried out. On this day the enemies of
the Jews had hoped to overpower
them, but now the tables were turned
and the Jews got the upper hand[b] over
those who hated them.[c] 2 The Jews as-
sembled in their cities[d] in all the prov-
inces of King Xerxes to attack those
seeking their destruction. No one could
stand against them,[e] because the
people of all the other nationalities
were afraid of them. 3 And all the no-
bles of the provinces, the satraps, the
governors and the king's administra-
tors helped the Jews,[f] because fear of
Mordecai had seized them.[g] 4 Mor-
decai[h] was prominent[i] in the palace;
his reputation spread throughout the
provinces, and he became more and
more powerful.[j]
5 The Jews struck down all their ene-
mies with the sword, killing and de-
stroying them,[k] and they did what
they pleased to those who hated them.
6 In the citadel of Susa, the Jews killed
and destroyed five hundred men.
7 They also killed Parshandatha, Dal-
phon, Aspatha, 8 Poratha, Adalia,
Aridatha, 9 Parmashta, Arisai, Aridai
and Vaizatha, 10 the ten sons[l] of Ha-
man son of Hammedatha, the enemy
of the Jews.[m] But they did not lay their
hands on the plunder.[n]

[k]9 That is, the upper Nile region

[11]The number of those slain in the
citadel of Susa was reported to the king
that same day. [12]The king said to
Queen Esther, "The Jews have killed
and destroyed five hundred men and
the ten sons of Haman in the citadel of
Susa. What have they done in the rest
of the king's provinces? Now what is
your petition? It will be given you.
What is your request? It will also be
granted."[a]

[13]"If it pleases the king," Esther an-
swered, "give the Jews in Susa permis-
sion to carry out this day's edict tomor-
row also, and let Haman's ten sons[b] be
hanged[c] on gallows."

[14]So the king commanded that this be
done. An edict was issued in Susa, and
they hanged[d] the ten sons of Haman.
[15]The Jews in Susa came together on
the fourteenth day of the month of
Adar, and they put to death in Susa
three hundred men, but they did not
lay their hands on the plunder.[e]

[16]Meanwhile, the remainder of the
Jews who were in the king's provinces
also assembled to protect themselves
and get relief[f] from their enemies.[g]
They killed seventy-five thousand of
them[h] but did not lay their hands on
the plunder.[i] [17]This happened on the
thirteenth day of the month of Adar,
and on the fourteenth they rested
and made it a day of feasting[j] and
joy.

Purim Celebrated

[18]The Jews in Susa, however, had as-
sembled on the thirteenth and four-
teenth, and then on the fifteenth they
rested and made it a day of feasting
and joy.

[19]That is why rural Jews—those liv-
ing in villages—observe the fourteenth
of the month of Adar[k] as a day of joy
and feasting, a day for giving presents
to each other.[l]

[20]Mordecai recorded these events,
and he sent letters to all the Jews
throughout the provinces of King
Xerxes, near and far, [21]to have them
celebrate annually the fourteenth and
fifteenth days of the month of Adar [22]as
the time when the Jews got relief[m] from
their enemies, and as the month when
their sorrow was turned into joy and
their mourning into a day of celebra-
tion.[n] He wrote them to observe the
days as days of feasting and joy and
giving presents of food[o] to one another
and gifts to the poor.[p]

[23]So the Jews agreed to continue the
celebration they had begun, doing
what Mordecai had written to them.
[24]For Haman son of Hammedatha, the
Agagite,[q] the enemy of all the Jews,
had plotted against the Jews to destroy
them and had cast the *pur*[r] (that is, the
lot[s]) for their ruin and destruction.[t]
[25]But when the plot came to the king's
attention,[1] he issued written orders
that the evil scheme Haman had de-
vised against the Jews should come
back onto his own head,[u] and that he
and his sons should be hanged[v] on the
gallows.[w] [26](Therefore these days were
called Purim, from the word *pur*.[x]) Be-
cause of everything written in this let-
ter and because of what they had seen
and what had happened to them, [27]the
Jews took it upon themselves to estab-
lish the custom that they and their de-
scendants and all who join them
should without fail observe these two
days every year, in the way prescribed
and at the time appointed. [28]These
days should be remembered and ob-
served in every generation by every
family, and in every province and in
every city. And these days of Purim
should never cease to be celebrated by
the Jews, nor should the memory of
them die out among their descen-
dants.

[29]So Queen Esther, daughter of Abi-
hail,[y] along with Mordecai the Jew,
wrote with full authority to confirm
this second letter concerning Purim.
[30]And Mordecai sent letters to all the
Jews in the 127 provinces[z] of the king-
dom of Xerxes—words of goodwill and
assurance— [31]to establish these days of
Purim at their designated times, as
Mordecai the Jew and Queen Esther
had decreed for them, and as they had
established for themselves and their
descendants in regard to their times of
fasting[a] and lamentation.[b] [32]Esther's
decree confirmed these regulations
about Purim, and it was written down
in the records.

The Greatness of Mordecai

10 King Xerxes imposed tribute
throughout the empire, to its
distant shores.[c] [2]And all his acts of
power and might, together with a full
account of the greatness of Mordecai[d]
to which the king had raised him,[e] are
they not written in the book of the an-

9:12 [a]Est 5:6; 7:2
9:13 [b]S Est 5:11 [c]S Dt 21:22-23
9:14 [d]S Ezr 6:11
9:15 [e]S Ge 14:23; S Est 8:11
9:16 [f]S Est 4:14 [g]Dt 25:19 [h]S 1Ch 4:43 [i]S Est 8:11
9:17 [j]S 1Ki 3:15
9:19 [k]S Est 3:7 [l]S Est 2:9; Rev 11:10
9:22 [m]S Est 4:14 [n]Ne 8:12; Ps 30:11-12 [o]S 2Ki 25:30 [p]S Ne 8:10
9:24 [q]S Ex 17:8-16 [r]S Est 3:7 [s]S Lev 16:8 [t]Est 3:6
9:25 [u]Ps 7:16 [v]S Dt 21:22-23 [w]Est 7:10
9:26 [x]S Est 3:7
9:29 [y]Est 2:15
9:30 [z]S Est 1:1
9:31 [a]S Est 4:16 [b]Est 4:1-3
10:1 [c]Ps 72:10; 97:1
10:2 [d]S Est 8:15 [e]S Ge 41:44

[1]25 Or *when Esther came before the king*

nals[a] of the kings of Media and Persia?
3 Mordecai the Jew was second[b] in
rank[c] to King Xerxes,[d] preeminent
among the Jews, and held in high es-
teem by his many fellow Jews, because
he worked for the good of his people
and spoke up for the welfare of all the
Jews.[e]

10:2 aS Est 2:23
10:3 bDa 5:7
cGe 41:43
dGe 41:40
eNe 2:10;
Jer 29:4-7; Da 6:3

Job

Prologue

1 In the land of Uz[a] there lived a
man whose name was Job.[b] This
man was blameless[c] and upright;[d] he
feared God[e] and shunned evil.[f] 2He
had seven sons[g] and three daughters,[h]
3and he owned seven thousand sheep,
three thousand camels, five hundred
yoke of oxen and five hundred don-
keys,[i] and had a large number of ser-
vants.[j] He was the greatest man[k]
among all the people of the East.[l]
4His sons used to take turns holding
feasts[m] in their homes, and they would
invite their three sisters to eat and
drink with them. 5When a period of
feasting had run its course, Job would
send and have them purified.[n] Early in
the morning he would sacrifice a burnt
offering[o] for each of them, thinking,
"Perhaps my children have sinned[p]
and cursed God[q] in their hearts." This
was Job's regular custom.

Job's First Test

6One day the angels[a][r] came to
present themselves before the LORD,
and Satan[b][s] also came with them.[t]
7The LORD said to Satan, "Where have
you come from?"
Satan answered the LORD, "From
roaming through the earth and going
back and forth in it."[u]
8Then the LORD said to Satan, "Have
you considered my servant Job?[v] There
is no one on earth like him; he is blame-
less and upright, a man who fears
God[w] and shuns evil."[x]
9"Does Job fear God for nothing?"[y]
Satan replied. 10"Have you not put a
hedge[z] around him and his household
and everything he has?[a] You have
blessed the work of his hands, so that
his flocks and herds are spread
throughout the land.[b] 11But stretch out
your hand and strike everything he
has,[c] and he will surely curse you to
your face."[d]
12The LORD said to Satan, "Very well,
then, everything he has[e] is in your
hands, but on the man himself do not
lay a finger."[f]
Then Satan went out from the pres-
ence of the LORD.
13One day when Job's sons and
daughters[g] were feasting[h] and drink-
ing wine at the oldest brother's house,
14a messenger came to Job and said,
"The oxen were plowing and the don-
keys were grazing[i] nearby, 15and the
Sabeans[j] attacked and carried them
off. They put the servants to the
sword, and I am the only one who has
escaped to tell you!"
16While he was still speaking, an-
other messenger came and said, "The
fire of God fell from the sky[k] and
burned up the sheep and the ser-
vants,[l] and I am the only one who has
escaped to tell you!"
17While he was still speaking, an-
other messenger came and said, "The
Chaldeans[m] formed three raiding
parties and swept down on your cam-
els and carried them off. They put the
servants to the sword, and I am the
only one who has escaped to tell you!"
18While he was still speaking, yet an-
other messenger came and said, "Your
sons and daughters[n] were feasting[o]
and drinking wine at the oldest broth-
er's house, 19when suddenly a mighty
wind[p] swept in from the desert and
struck the four corners of the house. It
collapsed on them and they are dead,[q]
and I am the only one who has escaped
to tell you!"[r]
20At this, Job got up and tore his
robe[s] and shaved his head.[t] Then he
fell to the ground in worship[u] 21and
said:

"Naked I came from my mother's
womb,
and naked I will depart.[c][v]

1:1 [a]S Ge 10:23 [b]Eze 14:14,20; Jas 5:11 [c]S Ge 6:9; S Job 23:10 [d]Job 23:7; Ps 11:7; 107:42; Pr 21:29; Mic 7:2 [e]S Ge 22:12 [f]ver 8; S Dt 4:6; Job 2:3; 1Th 5:22 **1:2** [g]S Ru 4:15 [h]ver 13,18; Job 42:13; Ps 127:3; 144:12 **1:3** [i]S Ge 13:2 [j]S Ge 12:16 [k]ver 8; Job 29:25 [l]S Ge 25:6; Job 42:10; Ps 103:10 **1:4** [m]ver 13,18 **1:5** [n]S Ne 12:30 [o]S Ge 8:20 [p]Job 8:4 [q]1Ki 21:10,13; Ps 10:3; 74:10 **1:6** [r]S 1Ki 22:19; fn Ge 6:2 [s]S 2Sa 24:1; S 2Ch 18:21; S Ps 109:6; Lk 22:31 [t]Job 2:1 **1:7** [u]S Ge 3:1; 1Pe 5:8 **1:8** [v]S Jos 1:7 [w]Ps 25:12; 112:1; 128:4 [x]S ver 1; S Ex 20:20 **1:9** [y]1Ti 6:5 **1:10** [z]S 1Sa 25:16 [a]ver 12; Job 2:4; Ps 34:7 [b]ver 3; Job 8:7; 29:6; 42:12,17 **1:11** [c]Job 19:21; Lk 22:31 [d]Lev 24:11; Job 2:5; Isa 3:8; 65:3; Rev 12:9-10 **1:12** [e]S ver 10 [f]Job 2:6; 1Co 10:13 **1:13** [g]S ver 2 [h]S ver 4 **1:14** [i]Ge 36:24 **1:15** [j]S Ge 10:7; S Job 9:24 **1:16** [k]S 1Ki 18:38; 2Ki 1:12; Job 20:26 [l]S Ge 18:17; S Lev 10:2; S Nu 11:1-3 **1:17** [m]S Ge 11:28; S Job 9:24 **1:18** [n]S ver 2 [o]S ver 4 **1:19** [p]Ps 11:6; Isa 5:28; 21:1; Jer 4:11; 13:24; 18:17; Eze 17:10; Hos 13:15; Mt 7:25 [q]Job 16:7; 19:13-15 [r]Eze 24:26 **1:20** [s]S Ge 37:29; S Mk 14:63 [t]Isa 3:24; 15:2; 22:12; Jer 7:29; 16:6; Eze 27:31; 29:18; Mic 1:16 [u]1Pe 5:6 **1:21** [v]Ecc 5:15; 1Ti 6:7

[a]6 Hebrew *the sons of God* [b]6 *Satan* means *accuser.* [c]21 Or *will return there*

The LORD gave and the LORD has
taken away;[a]
may the name of the LORD be
praised."[b]

22In all this, Job did not sin by charg-
ing God with wrongdoing.[c]

Job's Second Test

2 On another day the angels[d d] came
to present themselves before the
LORD, and Satan also came with them[e]
to present himself before him. 2And the
LORD said to Satan, "Where have you
come from?"

Satan answered the LORD, "From
roaming through the earth and going
back and forth in it."[f]

3Then the LORD said to Satan, "Have
you considered my servant Job? There
is no one on earth like him; he is blame-
less and upright, a man who fears God
and shuns evil.[g] And he still maintains
his integrity,[h] though you incited me
against him to ruin him without any
reason."[i]

4"Skin for skin!" Satan replied. "A
man will give all he has[j] for his own
life. 5But stretch out your hand and
strike his flesh and bones,[k] and he will
surely curse you to your face."[l]

6The LORD said to Satan, "Very well,
then, he is in your hands;[m] but you
must spare his life."[n]

7So Satan went out from the presence
of the LORD and afflicted Job with pain-
ful sores from the soles of his feet to the
top of his head.[o] 8Then Job took a piece
of broken pottery and scraped himself
with it as he sat among the ashes.[p]

9His wife said to him, "Are you still
holding on to your integrity?[q] Curse
God and die!"[r]

10He replied, "You are talking like a
foolish[e] woman. Shall we accept good
from God, and not trouble?"[s]

In all this, Job did not sin in what he
said.[t]

Job's Three Friends

11When Job's three friends, Eliphaz
the Temanite,[u] Bildad the Shuhite[v]
and Zophar the Naamathite,[w] heard
about all the troubles that had come
upon him, they set out from their
homes and met together by agreement
to go and sympathize with him and
comfort him.[x] 12When they saw him
from a distance, they could hardly
recognize him;[y] they began to weep
aloud,[z] and they tore their robes[a] and
sprinkled dust on their heads.[b] 13Then
they sat on the ground[c] with him for
seven days and seven nights.[d] No one
said a word to him,[e] because they saw
how great his suffering was.

Job Speaks

3 After this, Job opened his mouth
and cursed the day of his birth.[f]
2He said:

3"May the day of my birth perish,
and the night it was said, 'A boy is
born!'[g]
4That day—may it turn to darkness;
may God above not care about it;
may no light shine upon it.
5May darkness and deep shadow[f h]
claim it once more;
may a cloud settle over it;
may blackness overwhelm its
light.
6That night—may thick darkness[i]
seize it;
may it not be included among the
days of the year
nor be entered in any of the
months.
7May that night be barren;
may no shout of joy[j] be heard
in it.
8May those who curse days[g] curse
that day,[k]
those who are ready to rouse
Leviathan.[l]
9May its morning stars become dark;
may it wait for daylight in vain
and not see the first rays of
dawn,[m]
10for it did not shut the doors of the
womb on me
to hide trouble from my eyes.

11"Why did I not perish at birth,
and die as I came from the
womb?[n]
12Why were there knees to receive
me[o]
and breasts that I might be
nursed?
13For now I would be lying down[p] in
peace;
I would be asleep and at rest[q]
14with kings and counselors of the
earth,[r]
who built for themselves places
now lying in ruins,[s]

1:21 [a]Ru 1:21; 1Sa 2:7 [b]S Jdg 10:15; Job 2:10; Ecc 7:14; Jer 40:2; S Eph 5:20; 1Th 5:18; Jas 5:11 **1:22** [c]Job 2:10; Ps 39:1; Pr 10:19; 13:3; Isa 53:7; Ro 9:20 **2:1** [d]fn Ge 6:2 [e]S Job 1:6 **2:2** [f]S Ge 3:1 **2:3** [g]S Ex 20:20; S Job 1:1 [h]Job 6:29; 13:18; 27:6; 31:6; 32:1; 40:8 [i]Job 9:17; Ps 44:17 **2:4** [j]S Job 1:10 **2:5** [k]Job 16:8; 19:20; 33:21; Ps 102:5; La 4:8 [l]S Ex 20:7; S Job 1:11 **2:6** [m]2Co 12:7 [n]S Job 1:12 **2:7** [o]S Dt 28:35; S Job 16:16 **2:8** [p]Ge 18:27; Est 4:3; Job 16:15; 19:9; 30:19; 42:6; Ps 7:5; Isa 58:5; 61:3; Jer 6:26; La 3:29; Eze 26:16; Jnh 3:5-8,6; Mt 11:21 **2:9** [q]Job 6:29; 13:15; 27:5; 33:9; 35:2; 1Th 5:8 [r]S Ex 20:7; S 2Ki 6:33 **2:10** [s]S Job 1:21; S Ecc 2:24; La 3:38 [t]S Job 1:22; S 6:24; Jas 1:12; 5:11 **2:11** [u]S Ge 36:11 [v]S Ge 25:2 [w]Job 11:1; 20:1 [x]S Ge 37:35; S Job 6:10; Jn 11:19 **2:12** [y]Job 17:7; Isa 52:14 [z]S 2Sa 15:23 [a]S Ge 37:29; S Mk 14:63 [b]S Jos 7:6; S 2Sa 1:2 **2:13** [c]Isa 3:26; 47:1; Jer 48:18; La 2:10; Eze 26:16; Jnh 3:6; Hag 2:22 [d]S Ge 50:10 [e]Pr 17:28; Isa 23:2; 47:5 **3:1** [f]Jer 15:10; 20:14 **3:3** [g]ver 11,16; Job 10:18-19; Ecc 4:2; 6:3; Jer 20:14-18; Mt 26:24 **3:5** [h]Job 10:21, 22; 34:22; 38:17; Ps 23:4; 44:19; 88:12; Jer 2:6; 13:16 **3:6** [i]Job 23:17; 30:26 **3:7** [j]Ps 20:5; 33:3; 65:13; Isa 26:19; Jer 51:48 **3:8** [k]Job 10:18; Jer 20:14 [l]S Ge 1:21; Job 41:1,8,10,25; Ps 74:14; 104:26 **3:9** [m]Job 41:18; Hab 3:4 **3:11** [n]S ver 3 **3:12** [o]S Ge 48:12; Isa 66:12 **3:13** [p]Job 17:13; 30:23 [q]ver 17; Job 7:8-10,21; 10:22; 13:19; 14:10-12; 19:27; 21:13,23; 27:19; Ps 139:11; Isa 8:22 **3:14** [r]Job 9:24; 12:17; Isa 14:9; Eze 32:28-32 [s]Job 15:28; Jer 51:37; Na 3:7

[d]1 Hebrew *the sons of God* [e]10 The Hebrew word rendered *foolish* denotes moral deficiency. [f]5 Or *and the shadow of death* [g]8 Or *the sea*

15with rulers[a] who had gold,
who filled their houses with silver.[b]
16Or why was I not hidden in the ground like a stillborn child,[c]
like an infant who never saw the light of day?[d]
17There the wicked cease from turmoil,[e]
and there the weary are at rest.[f]
18Captives[g] also enjoy their ease;
they no longer hear the slave driver's[h] shout.[i]
19The small and the great are there,[j]
and the slave is freed from his master.

20"Why is light given to those in misery,
and life to the bitter of soul,[k]
21to those who long for death that does not come,[l]
who search for it more than for hidden treasure,[m]
22who are filled with gladness
and rejoice when they reach the grave?[n]
23Why is life given to a man
whose way is hidden,[o]
whom God has hedged in?[p]
24For sighing[q] comes to me instead of food;[r]
my groans[s] pour out like water.[t]
25What I feared has come upon me;
what I dreaded[u] has happened to me.[v]
26I have no peace,[w] no quietness;
I have no rest,[x] but only turmoil."[y]

Eliphaz

4 Then Eliphaz the Temanite[z] replied:

2"If someone ventures a word with you, will you be impatient?
But who can keep from speaking?[a]
3Think how you have instructed many,[b]
how you have strengthened feeble hands.[c]
4Your words have supported those who stumbled;[d]
you have strengthened faltering knees.[e]
5But now trouble comes to you, and you are discouraged;[f]
it strikes[g] you, and you are dismayed.[h]
6Should not your piety be your confidence[i]
and your blameless[j] ways your hope?

7"Consider now: Who, being innocent, has ever perished?[k]
Where were the upright ever destroyed?[l]
8As I have observed,[m] those who plow evil[n]
and those who sow trouble reap it.[o]
9At the breath of God[p] they are destroyed;
at the blast of his anger they perish.[q]
10The lions may roar[r] and growl,
yet the teeth of the great lions[s] are broken.[t]
11The lion perishes for lack of prey,[u]
and the cubs of the lioness are scattered.[v]

12"A word[w] was secretly brought to me,
my ears caught a whisper[x] of it.[y]
13Amid disquieting dreams in the night,
when deep sleep falls on men,[z]
14fear and trembling[a] seized me
and made all my bones shake.[b]
15A spirit glided past my face,
and the hair on my body stood on end.[c]
16It stopped,
but I could not tell what it was.
A form stood before my eyes,
and I heard a hushed voice:[d]
17'Can a mortal be more righteous than God?[e]
Can a man be more pure than his Maker?[f]
18If God places no trust in his servants,[g]
if he charges his angels with error,[h]
19how much more those who live in houses of clay,[i]
whose foundations[j] are in the dust,[k]
who are crushed[l] more readily than a moth![m]

3:15 [a]Job 12:21; Isa 45:1 [b]Job 15:29; 20:10; 27:17; Ps 49:16-17; Pr 13:22; 28:8; Ecc 2:26; Isa 2:7; Zep 1:11 **3:16** [c]Ps 58:8; Ecc 4:3; 6:3 [d]S ver 3; Ps 71:6 **3:17** [e]ver 26; Job 30:26; Ecc 4:2; Isa 14:3 [f]S ver 13 **3:18** [g]Isa 51:14 [h]S Ge 15:13 [i]Job 39:7 **3:19** [j]Job 9:22; 17:16; 21:33; 24:24; 30:23; Ecc 12:5 **3:20** [k]S 1Sa 1:10; Eze 27:30-31 **3:21** [l]Rev 9:6 [m]Ps 119:127; Pr 2:4 **3:22** [n]Job 7:16; Ecc 4:3; Jer 8:3 **3:23** [o]Pr 4:19; Isa 59:10; Jer 13:16; 23:12 [p]Job 6:4; 16:13; 19:12; Ps 88:8; La 2:4; 3:7; Hos 2:6 **3:24** [q]Ps 5:1; 38:9; Isa 35:10 [r]Job 6:7; 33:20; Ps 107:18 [s]Ps 22:1; 32:3; 38:8 [t]1Sa 1:15; Job 30:16; Ps 6:6; 22:14; 42:3,4; 80:5; Isa 53:12; La 2:12 **3:25** [u]Job 7:9; 9:28; 30:15; Hos 13:3 [v]S Ge 42:36 **3:26** [w]Isa 48:22; Jn 14:27 [x]Job 7:4,14; Ps 6:6; Da 4:5; Mt 11:28 [y]S ver 17; S Job 10:18; S 19:8 **4:1** [z]S Ge 36:11; Job 15:1; 22:1 **4:2** [a]Job 32:20; Jer 4:19; 20:9 **4:3** [b]Dt 32:2; Job 29:23; Hos 6:3 [c]Job 26:2; Ps 71:9; Isa 13:7; 35:3; Zep 3:16; Heb 12:12 **4:4** [d]Job 16:5; 29:16,25; Isa 1:17 [e]Job 29:11,15; Isa 35:3; Jer 31:8; Heb 12:12 **4:5** [f]S Jos 1:9 [g]Ru 1:13; Job 1:11; 19:21; 30:21; Ps 38:2; Isa 53:4 [h]Job 6:14; Pr 24:10 **4:6** [i]2Ki 18:19; Ps 27:3; 71:5; Pr 3:26 [j]S Ge 6:9 **4:7** [k]Job 5:11; 36:7; Ps 41:12; 2Pe 2:9 [l]Job 8:20; Ps 37:25; 91:9-10; Pr 12:21; 19:23 **4:8** [m]Job 5:3; 15:17 [n]Jdg 14:18; Job 5:6; 15:35; Ps 7:14; Isa 59:4 [o]Ps 7:15; 9:15; Pr 11:18; 22:8; Isa 17:11; Hos 8:7; 10:13; Gal 6:7-8 **4:9** [p]S Ex 15:10; S Job 41:21; 2Th 2:8 [q]S Lev 26:38; Job 40:13; Isa 25:7 **4:10** [r]Ps 22:13 [s]Ps 17:12; 22:21; Pr 28:15 [t]Job 5:15; 29:17; 36:6; 38:15; Ps 35:10; 58:6 **4:11** [u]Dt 28:41; Job 27:14; 29:17; Ps 34:10; 58:6; Pr 30:14 [v]Job 5:4 **4:12** [w]ver 17-21; Job 32:13; Jer 9:23 [x]Job 26:14 [y]Job 33:14 **4:13** [z]Job 33:15 **4:14** [a]Job 21:6; Ps 48:6; 55:5; 119:120,161; Jer 5:22; Hab 3:16; S 2Co 7:15 [b]Jer 23:9; Da 10:8; Hab 3:16 **4:15** [c]Da 5:6; 7:15,28; 10:8; Mt 14:26 **4:16** [d]S 1Ki 19:12 **4:17** [e]Job 9:2; 13:18; Ps 143:2 [f]Job 8:3; 10:3; 14:4; 15:14; 21:14; 25:4; 31:15; 32:22; 35:10; 36:3,13; 37:23; 40:19; Ps 18:26; 51:5; 119:73; Pr 20:9; Ecc 7:20; Isa 51:13; Mal 2:10; Ac 17:24 **4:18** [g]Heb 1:14 [h]Job 15:15; 21:22; 25:5 **4:19** [i]Job 10:9; 33:6; Isa 64:8; Ro 9:21; 2Co 4:7; 5:1 [j]Job 22:16 [k]S Ge 2:7 [l]Job 5:4 [m]Job 7:17; 15:16; 17:14; 25:6; Ps 22:6; Isa 41:14

[20]Between dawn and dusk they are
broken to pieces;
unnoticed, they perish forever.[g]
[21]Are not the cords of their tent
pulled up,[h]
so that they die[i] without
wisdom?'[h] [d]

5

[1]"Call if you will, but who will
answer you?[e]
To which of the holy ones[f] will
you turn?
[2]Resentment[g] kills a fool,
and envy slays the simple.[h]
[3]I myself have seen[i] a fool taking
root,[j]
but suddenly[k] his house was
cursed.[l]
[4]His children[m] are far from safety,[n]
crushed in court[o] without a
defender.[p]
[5]The hungry consume his harvest,[q]
taking it even from among
thorns,
and the thirsty pant after his
wealth.
[6]For hardship does not spring from
the soil,
nor does trouble sprout from the
ground.[r]
[7]Yet man is born to trouble[s]
as surely as sparks fly upward.
[8]"But if it were I, I would appeal to
God;
I would lay my cause before
him.[t]
[9]He performs wonders[u] that cannot
be fathomed,[v]
miracles that cannot be counted.[w]
[10]He bestows rain on the earth;[x]
he sends water upon the
countryside.[y]
[11]The lowly he sets on high,[z]
and those who mourn[a] are lifted[b]
to safety.
[12]He thwarts the plans[c] of the crafty,
so that their hands achieve no
success.[d]
[13]He catches the wise[e] in their
craftiness,[f]
and the schemes of the wily are
swept away.[g]
[14]Darkness[h] comes upon them in the
daytime;
at noon they grope as in the
night.[i]
[15]He saves the needy[j] from the sword
in their mouth;
he saves them from the clutches of
the powerful.[k]
[16]So the poor[l] have hope,
and injustice shuts its mouth.[m]

[17]"Blessed is the man whom God
corrects;[n]
so do not despise the discipline[o]
of the Almighty.[i] [p]
[18]For he wounds, but he also binds
up;[q]
he injures, but his hands also
heal.[r]
[19]From six calamities he will rescue[s]
you;
in seven no harm will befall you.[t]
[20]In famine[u] he will ransom you from
death,
and in battle from the stroke of the
sword.[v]
[21]You will be protected from the lash
of the tongue,[w]
and need not fear[x] when
destruction comes.[y]
[22]You will laugh[z] at destruction and
famine,[a]
and need not fear the beasts of the
earth.[b]
[23]For you will have a covenant[c] with
the stones[d] of the field,
and the wild animals will be at
peace with you.[e]
[24]You will know that your tent is
secure;[f]
you will take stock of your
property and find nothing
missing.[g]
[25]You will know that your children
will be many,[h]
and your descendants like the
grass of the earth.[i]
[26]You will come to the grave in full
vigor,[j]
like sheaves gathered in season.[k]
[27]"We have examined this, and it is
true.
So hear it[l] and apply it to
yourself."[m]

Job

6

[1]Then Job replied:
[2]"If only my anguish could be
weighed

4:20 [g]Job 14:2, 20; 15:33; 20:7; 24:24; Ps 89:47; 90:5-6; Jas 4:14 **4:21** [h]Job 8:22; Isa 38:12 [i]Jn 8:24 [j]Job 18:21; 36:12; Pr 5:23; Jer 9:3 **5:1** [e]Hab 1:2 [f]Job 15:15; Ps 89:5,7 **5:2** [g]Job 21:15; 36:13 [h]Pr 12:16; Gal 5:26 **5:3** [i]S Job 4:8 [j]Ps 37:35; Isa 40:24; Jer 12:2; Eze 17:6 [k]Pr 6:15 [l]Job 24:18; Ps 37:22,35-36; 109:9-10; Pr 3:33 **5:4** [m]Job 20:10; 27:14 [n]S Job 4:11 [o]Job 4:19; Am 5:12 [p]Ps 109:12; Isa 9:17; 1Jn 2:1 **5:5** [q]Lev 26:16; S Jdg 2:15; Job 20:18; 31:8; Mic 6:15 **5:6** [r]S Job 4:8 **5:7** [s]S Ge 3:17; Job 10:17; 15:35; Ps 51:5; 58:3; 90:10; Pr 22:8 **5:8** [t]Job 8:5; 11:13; 13:3,15; 23:4; 40:1; Ps 35:23; 50:15; Jer 12:1; 1Co 4:4 **5:9** [u]Ps 78:4; 111:2 [v]Dt 29:29; Job 9:4,10; 11:7; 25:2; 26:14; 33:12; 36:5,22, 26; 37:5,14,16, 23; 42:3; Ps 40:5; 71:17; 72:18; 86:10; 131:1; 139:6,17; 145:3; Isa 40:28; Ro 11:33 [w]Ps 71:15 **5:10** [x]Mt 5:45 [y]S Lev 26:4; Job 36:28; 37:6, 13; 38:28,34; Ps 135:7; Jer 14:22 **5:11** [z]S 1Sa 2:7-8; S Job 4:7; Ps 75:7; 113:7-8 [a]Isa 61:2; Mt 5:4; Ro 12:15 [b]S Mt 23:12; Jas 4:10 **5:12** [c]Ne 4:15; Ps 33:10; Isa 8:10; 19:3; Jer 19:7 [d]Job 12:23; Ps 78:59; 140:8 **5:13** [e]Job 37:24; Isa 29:14; 44:25; Jer 8:8; 18:18; 51:57 [f]Job 15:5; Ps 36:3; Lk 20:23; 1Co 3:19*; 2Co 11:3; Eph 4:14 [g]Job 9:4; 18:7; Pr 21:30; 29:6; Jer 8:9 **5:14** [h]Job 15:22, 30; 18:6,18; 20:26; 22:11; 27:20; Isa 8:22; Jn 12:35 [i]S Dt 28:29; S Job 18:5; Am 8:9 **5:15** [j]S Ex 22:23; Job 8:6; 22:27; 33:26; 36:15 [k]S Job 4:10; S 31:22 **5:16** [l]Job 20:19; 31:16; Pr 17:5; 22:22; Isa 11:4; 41:17; 61:1 [m]Ps 63:11; 107:42; Ro 3:19 **5:17** [n]Dt 8:5; Job 33:19; 36:10; Zep 3:7; Jas 1:12 [o]Ps 94:12; Pr 3:11; Jer 31:18 [p]S Ge 17:1; S Job 15:11; Heb 12:5-11 **5:18** [q]Ps 147:3; Isa 57:15; 61:1; Hos 6:1 [r]S Dt 32:39 **5:19** [s]Da 3:17; 6:16 [t]Ps 34:19; 91:10; Pr 3:25-26; 24:15-16 **5:20** [u]ver 22; Ps 33:19; 37:19 [v]Ps 22:20; 91:7; 140:7; 144:10; Jer 39:18 **5:21** [w]Ps 12:2-4; 31:20 [x]Ps 23:4; 27:1; 91:5 [y]ver 15 **5:22** [z]Job 8:21; 39:7,18,22; 41:29 [a]S ver 20 [b]S Lev 25:18; Ps 91:13; Hos 2:18; Mk 1:13 **5:23** [c]Isa 28:15; Hos 2:18 [d]2Ki 3:19,25; Ps 91:12; Mt 13:8 [e]Job 40:20; Isa 11:6-9; 65:25; Eze 34:25 **5:24** [f]Job 12:6; 21:9 [g]Job 8:6; 22:23 **5:25** [h]Dt 28:4; Ps 112:2 [i]Ps 72:16; Isa 44:3-4; 48:19 **5:26** [j]S Ge 15:15; S Dt 11:21; S Ecc 8:13 [k]Pr 3:21-26 **5:27** [l]Job 32:10,17 [m]Job 8:5; 11:13; 22:27

[h]21 Some interpreters end the quotation after verse 17. [i]17 Hebrew *Shaddai*; here and throughout Job

and all my misery be placed on the scales![a]
3It would surely outweigh the sand[b] of the seas—
no wonder my words have been impetuous.[c]
4The arrows[d] of the Almighty[e] are in me,[f]
my spirit drinks[g] in their poison;[h]
God's terrors[i] are marshaled against me.[j]
5Does a wild donkey[k] bray[l] when it has grass,
or an ox bellow when it has fodder?[m]
6Is tasteless food eaten without salt,
or is there flavor in the white of an egg[i]?[n]
7I refuse to touch it;
such food makes me ill.[o]

8"Oh, that I might have my request,
that God would grant what I hope for,[p]
9that God would be willing to crush[q] me,
to let loose his hand and cut me off![r]
10Then I would still have this consolation[s]—
my joy in unrelenting pain[t]—
that I had not denied the words[u] of the Holy One.[v]

11"What strength do I have, that I should still hope?
What prospects, that I should be patient?[w]
12Do I have the strength of stone?
Is my flesh bronze?[x]
13Do I have any power to help myself,[y]
now that success has been driven from me?

14"A despairing man[z] should have the devotion[a] of his friends,[b]
even though he forsakes the fear of the Almighty.[c]
15But my brothers are as undependable as intermittent streams,[d]
as the streams that overflow
16when darkened by thawing ice
and swollen with melting snow,[e]
17but that cease to flow in the dry season,
and in the heat[f] vanish from their channels.
18Caravans turn aside from their routes;
they go up into the wasteland and perish.
19The caravans of Tema[g] look for water,
the traveling merchants of Sheba[h] look in hope.
20They are distressed, because they had been confident;
they arrive there, only to be disappointed.[i]
21Now you too have proved to be of no help;
you see something dreadful and are afraid.[j]
22Have I ever said, 'Give something on my behalf,
pay a ransom[k] for me from your wealth,[l]
23deliver me from the hand of the enemy,
ransom me from the clutches of the ruthless'?[m]

24"Teach me, and I will be quiet;[n]
show me where I have been wrong.[o]
25How painful are honest words![p]
But what do your arguments prove?
26Do you mean to correct what I say,
and treat the words of a despairing man as wind?[q]
27You would even cast lots[r] for the fatherless[s]
and barter away your friend.

28"But now be so kind as to look at me.
Would I lie to your face?[t]
29Relent, do not be unjust;[u]
reconsider, for my integrity[v] is at stake.[k] [w]
30Is there any wickedness on my lips?[x]
Can my mouth not discern[y] malice?

7 "Does not man have hard service[z] on earth?[a]
Are not his days like those of a hired man?[b]
2Like a slave longing for the evening shadows,[c]
or a hired man waiting eagerly for his wages,[d]
3so I have been allotted months of futility,
and nights of misery have been assigned to me.[e]

6:2 [a]Job 31:6; Pr 11:1; Da 5:27 **6:3** [b]1Ki 4:29; Pr 27:3 [c]ver 11, 26; Job 7:11; 16:6; 21:4; 23:2 **6:4** [d]S Dt 32:23; Ps 38:2 [e]S Ge 17:1 [f]Job 7:20; 16:12, 13; 19:12; La 3:12 [g]Job 21:20 [h]S Dt 32:32; Job 30:21; 34:6; Jer 15:18; 30:12 [i]Job 9:34; 13:21; 18:11; 23:6; 27:20; 30:15; 33:16 [j]S Job 3:23; Ps 88:15-18 **6:5** [k]S Ge 16:12 [l]Job 30:7 [m]Job 24:6; Isa 30:24 **6:6** [n]Job 33:20; Ps 107:18 **6:7** [o]S Job 3:24 **6:8** [p]Job 14:13 **6:9** [q]Job 19:2 [r]S Nu 11:15; S Ps 31:22 **6:10** [s]S Job 2:11; 15:11; Ps 94:19 [t]Ps 38:17; Jer 4:19; 45:3 [u]Job 22:22; 23:12; Ps 119:102; Mk 8:38 [v]S Lev 11:44; S 2Ki 19:22; S Isa 31:1 **6:11** [w]S ver 3 **6:12** [x]Job 26:2 **6:13** [y]Job 26:2 **6:14** [z]S Job 4:5 [a]1Sa 20:42; Job 15:4 [b]Job 12:4; 17:2,6; 19:19,21; 21:3; 30:1,10; Ps 38:11; 69:20; 1Jn 3:17 [c]S Ge 17:1 **6:15** [d]Job 13:4; 16:2; 21:34; Ps 22:1; 38:11; Jer 15:18 **6:16** [e]Ps 147:18 **6:17** [f]Job 24:19 **6:19** [g]S Ge 25:15 [h]S Ge 10:7,28 **6:20** [i]Jer 14:3; Joel 1:11 **6:21** [j]Ps 38:11 **6:22** [k]S Nu 35:31; Job 33:24; Ps 49:7 [l]Jer 15:10 **6:23** [m]S 2Ki 19:19 **6:24** [n]S Job 2:10; 33:33; Ps 39:1; 141:3; Pr 10:19; 11:12; 17:27; Ecc 5:2 [o]Job 19:4 **6:25** [p]Ecc 12:11; Isa 22:23 **6:26** [q]S ver 3; S Ge 41:6; Job 8:2; 15:3; 16:3; Jer 5:13 **6:27** [r]Eze 24:6; Joel 3:3; Ob 1:11; Na 3:10 [s]S Ex 22:22,24; Job 31:17,21; Isa 10:2 **6:28** [t]Job 9:15; 24:25; 27:4; 32:10; 33:1,3; 34:6; 36:3,4 **6:29** [u]Job 19:6; 27:2; 40:8; Isa 40:27 [v]S Job 2:3 [w]Job 9:21; 10:7; 11:2; 12:4; 23:7,10; 33:9, 32; 34:5,36; 35:2; 42:6; Ps 66:10; Zec 13:9 **6:30** [x]Job 27:4 [y]Job 12:11 **7:1** [z]Job 14:14; Isa 40:2 [a]S Job 5:7 [b]S Lev 25:50 **7:2** [c]Job 14:1; Ecc 2:23 [d]S Lev 19:13; S Job 14:6 **7:3** [e]Job 16:7; Ps 6:6; 42:3; 56:8; Ecc 4:1; Isa 16:9; Jer 9:1; La 1:2, 16

[i]6 The meaning of the Hebrew for this phrase is uncertain. [k]29 Or *my righteousness still stands*

[4]When I lie down I think, 'How long
before I get up?'[a]
The night drags on, and I toss till
dawn.[b]
[5]My body is clothed with worms[c]
and scabs,
my skin is broken and festering.[d]

[6]"My days are swifter than a weaver's
shuttle,[e]
and they come to an end without
hope.[f]
[7]Remember, O God, that my life is
but a breath;[g]
my eyes will never see happiness
again.[h]
[8]The eye that now sees me will see
me no longer;
you will look for me, but I will be
no more.[i]
[9]As a cloud vanishes[j] and is gone,
so he who goes down to the
grave[l9] does not return.[k]
[10]He will never come to his house
again;
his place[m] will know him no
more.[n]

[11]"Therefore I will not keep silent;[o]
I will speak out in the anguish[p] of
my spirit,
I will complain[q] in the bitterness
of my soul.[r]
[12]Am I the sea,[s] or the monster of the
deep,[t]
that you put me under guard?[u]
[13]When I think my bed will comfort
me
and my couch will ease my
complaint,[v]
[14]even then you frighten me with
dreams
and terrify[w] me with visions,[x]
[15]so that I prefer strangling and
death,[y]
rather than this body of mine.[z]
[16]I despise my life;[a] I would not live
forever.[b]
Let me alone;[c] my days have no
meaning.[d]

[17]"What is man that you make so
much of him,
that you give him so much
attention,[e]
[18]that you examine him every
morning[f]
and test him[g] every moment?[h]
[19]Will you never look away from me,[i]
or let me alone even for an
instant?[j]
[20]If I have sinned, what have I done to
you,[k]
O watcher of men?
Why have you made me your
target?[l]
Have I become a burden to you?[m20]
[21]Why do you not pardon my offenses
and forgive my sins?[n]
For I will soon lie down in the dust;[o]
you will search for me, but I will
be no more."[p]

Bildad

8 Then Bildad the Shuhite[q] replied:

[2]"How long will you say such
things?[r]
Your words are a blustering
wind.[s]
[3]Does God pervert justice?[t]
Does the Almighty pervert what is
right?[u]
[4]When your children sinned against
him,
he gave them over to the penalty
of their sin.[v]
[5]But if you will look to God
and plead[w] with the Almighty,[x]
[6]if you are pure and upright,
even now he will rouse himself on
your behalf[y]
and restore you to your rightful
place.[z]
[7]Your beginnings will seem humble,
so prosperous[a] will your future
be.[b]

[8]"Ask the former generations[c]
and find out what their fathers
learned,
[9]for we were born only yesterday and
know nothing,[d]
and our days on earth are but a
shadow.[e]
[10]Will they not instruct[f] you and tell
you?
Will they not bring forth words
from their understanding?[g]
[11]Can papyrus grow tall where there is
no marsh?[h]
Can reeds[i] thrive without water?
[12]While still growing and uncut,
they wither more quickly than
grass.[j]

7:4 [a]Dt 28:67 [b]ver 13-14 **7:5** [c]Job 17:14; 21:26; 24:20; 25:6; Isa 14:11 [d]S Dt 28:35 **7:6** [e]Job 9:25; Ps 90:6; Isa 38:12 [f]Job 13:15; 14:19; 17:11,15; 19:10; Ps 37:4; 52:9 **7:7** [g]ver 16; Ge 27:46; Ps 39:4,5,11; 62:9; 78:39; 89:47; 144:4; Ecc 7:15; S Jas 4:14 [h]Job 10:20 **7:8** [i]S Job 3:13; 8:18; 15:29; 20:7,9,21; 27:19; Ps 37:36; 103:16; Isa 41:12; Jn 16:16; Ac 20:25 **7:9** [j]S Job 3:25 [k]S Job 3:13; 11:8; 14:13; 17:16; 26:6; 38:17; Am 9:2; 2Sa 12:23 **7:10** [m]Job 18:21; 21:18; 27:21,23; Ps 58:9; Jer 18:17; 19:8 [n]S ver 8; Ps 37:10; 104:35 **7:11** [o]Job 9:35; 13:13; Ps 22:2; 40:9 [p]Job 10:1; Ps 6:3; Isa 38:15,17 [q]ver 13; Job 9:27; 21:4; 23:2 [r]S 1Sa 1:10; S Job 6:3 **7:12** [s]Job 38:8-11 [t]S Ge 1:21 [u]ver 20; Isa 1:14 **7:13** [v]S ver 11 **7:14** [w]Job 9:34 [x]S Ge 41:8; S Job 3:26 **7:15** [y]1Ki 19:4; Jnh 4:3 [z]Job 6:9; Rev 9:6 **7:16** [a]S 1Ki 19:4; Job 9:21 [b]S Job 3:22 [c]ver 19; Job 10:20; Ps 39:13 [d]S ver 7 **7:17** [e]S Job 4:19; 22:2; Ps 8:4; 144:3; Heb 2:6 **7:18** [f]Ps 73:14 [g]Job 23:10; Ps 139:23 [h]Job 14:3; Ps 17:3; 26:2; 66:10; 139:1-6; 143:2 **7:19** [i]S ver 16 [j]Job 9:18; 13:26; 14:6; 27:2; Ps 139:7 **7:20** [k]Job 35:6; Jer 7:19 [l]S Job 6:4 [m]S ver 12 **7:21** [n]Job 9:28; 10:14; 16:6; Ps 119:120; Isa 43:25; Jer 31:34; Heb 1:3 [o]S Ge 3:19; Job 10:9; 34:15; Ps 7:5; 22:15; 90:3; 104:29 [p]S ver 8; S Job 3:13 **8:1** [q]S Ge 25:2; Job 18:1; 25:1 **8:2** [r]Job 11:2; 18:2 [s]S 2Ch 36:16; S Job 6:26 **8:3** [t]S Job 4:17; 34:12; Isa 29:15; Ro 3:5 [u]S Ge 18:25; S Jer 12:1 **8:4** [v]Job 1:19 **8:5** [w]Job 9:15 [x]S Job 5:8,27 **8:6** [y]S Job 5:15; 22:27; 33:26; 34:28; Isa 58:9; 65:24 [z]S Job 5:24 **8:7** [a]Job 21:13; 22:21; 36:11; Ps 25:13 [b]S Job 1:10; Jer 29:11; 31:17 **8:8** [c]S Dt 32:7; S Ps 71:18 **8:9** [d]S Ge 47:9 [e]S 1Ch 29:15; S 2Ch 10:6; S Ps 39:6 **8:10** [f]Pr 1:8 [g]Pr 2:1-2; 4:1 **8:11** [h]Job 40:21 [i]S Ex 2:3; Isa 19:6; 35:7 **8:12** [j]ver 19; S 2Ki 19:26; Job 18:16; 20:5; Ps 90:5-6; 102:11; Isa 34:4; 40:7,24

[l]9 Hebrew *Sheol* [m]20 A few manuscripts of the Masoretic Text, an ancient Hebrew scribal tradition and Septuagint; most manuscripts of the Masoretic Text *I have become a burden to myself*.

13 Such is the destiny[a] of all who forget God;[b]
so perishes the hope of the godless.[c]
14 What he trusts in is fragile[n];
what he relies on is a spider's web.[d]
15 He leans on his web,[e] but it gives way;
he clings to it, but it does not hold.[f]
16 He is like a well-watered plant in the sunshine,
spreading its shoots[g] over the garden;[h]
17 it entwines its roots around a pile of rocks
and looks for a place among the stones.
18 But when it is torn from its spot,
that place disowns[i] it and says, 'I never saw you.'[j]
19 Surely its life withers[k] away,
and[o] from the soil other plants grow.[l]

20 "Surely God does not reject a blameless[m] man
or strengthen the hands of evildoers.[n]
21 He will yet fill your mouth with laughter[o]
and your lips with shouts of joy.[p]
22 Your enemies will be clothed in shame,[q]
and the tents[r] of the wicked will be no more."[s]

Job

9 Then Job replied:

2 "Indeed, I know that this is true.
But how can a mortal be righteous before God?[t]
3 Though one wished to dispute with him,[u]
he could not answer him one time out of a thousand.[v]
4 His wisdom[w] is profound, his power is vast.[x]
Who has resisted[y] him and come out unscathed?[z]
5 He moves mountains[a] without their knowing it
and overturns them in his anger.[b]
6 He shakes the earth[c] from its place
and makes its pillars tremble.[d]
7 He speaks to the sun and it does not shine;[e]
he seals off the light of the stars.[f]
8 He alone stretches out the heavens[g]
and treads on the waves of the sea.[h]
9 He is the Maker[i] of the Bear and Orion,
the Pleiades and the constellations of the south.[j]
10 He performs wonders[k] that cannot be fathomed,
miracles that cannot be counted.[l]
11 When he passes me, I cannot see him;
when he goes by, I cannot perceive him.[m]
12 If he snatches away, who can stop him?[n]
Who can say to him, 'What are you doing?'[o]
13 God does not restrain his anger;[p]
even the cohorts of Rahab[q] cowered at his feet.

14 "How then can I dispute with him?
How can I find words to argue with him?[r]
15 Though I were innocent, I could not answer him;[s]
I could only plead[t] with my Judge[u] for mercy.[v]
16 Even if I summoned him and he responded,
I do not believe he would give me a hearing.[w]
17 He would crush me[x] with a storm[y]
and multiply[z] my wounds for no reason.[a]
18 He would not let me regain my breath
but would overwhelm me with misery.[b]
19 If it is a matter of strength, he is mighty![c]
And if it is a matter of justice, who will summon him[p]?[d]
20 Even if I were innocent, my mouth would condemn me;
if I were blameless, it would pronounce me guilty.[e]

21 "Although I am blameless,[f]
I have no concern for myself;[g]
I despise my own life.[h]
22 It is all the same; that is why I say,

8:13 [a]Ps 37:38; 73:17 [b]Ps 9:17; 50:22; Isa 51:13; Jer 17:6 [c]Job 6:9; 11:20; 13:16; 15:34; 20:5; 27:8; 34:30; Ps 37:1-2; 112:10; Pr 10:28; 11:7; Jer 15:9 **8:14** [d]ver 15; Job 27:18; Isa 59:5 **8:15** [e]S ver 14 [f]Ps 49:11; Mt 7:26-27 **8:16** [g]Ps 80:11; Isa 16:8 [h]Ps 37:35; Jer 11:16 **8:18** [i]Job 20:9; Ps 103:16 [j]S Job 7:8; S 14:20 **8:19** [k]S ver 12; S Job 15:30 [l]Ps 119:90; Ecc 1:4 **8:20** [m]Job 1:1 [n]S Ge 18:25 **8:21** [o]S Job 5:22 [p]S Ezr 3:13; Job 35:10; Ps 47:5; 107:22; 118:15; 126:2; 132:16; Isa 35:6 **8:22** [q]Job 27:7; Ps 6:10; 35:26; 44:7; 53:5; 71:13; 86:17; 109:29; 132:18; Eze 7:27; 26:16 [r]S Job 4:21 [s]S 1Sa 8:3; Job 18:6,14,21; 21:28; 27:8,18; 34:26; 36:6; 38:13; Ps 52:5; Pr 14:11 **9:2** [t]S Job 4:17; Ro 3:20 **9:3** [u]ver 32; Job 40:5 [v]ver 12, 14,29,32; Job 10:2; 12:14; 13:9,14; 22:4; 23:7,13; 37:19; 40:2; Ps 44:21; Isa 14:24 **9:4** [w]Job 11:6; 28:12,20,23; 38:36; Ps 51:6; Pr 2:6; Ecc 2:26 [x]ver 19; S Job 5:9; 12:13,16; 23:6; 24:22; 26:12; 30:18; Ps 93:4; 95:3; Pr 8:14; Isa 40:26; 63:1; Da 2:20; 4:35 [y]Jer 50:24 [z]S 2Ch 13:12; S Job 5:13 **9:5** [a]Mt 17:20 [b]Ps 18:7; 46:2-3; Isa 13:13; Mic 1:4 **9:6** [c]S Ex 19:18; Isa 2:21; 13:13; 24:18-20; Am 8:8; Heb 12:26 [d]S 2Sa 22:8; Job 26:14; 36:29; 37:4-5; Ps 75:3; Hab 3:4 **9:7** [e]Isa 34:4; Jer 4:28; Joel 2:2, 10,31; 3:15; Zep 1:15; Zec 14:6 [f]Isa 13:10; Jer 4:23; Eze 32:8 **9:8** [g]S Ge 1:1,8; S Isa 48:13 [h]Job 38:16; Ps 77:19; Pr 8:28; Hab 3:15; Mt 14:25; Mk 6:48; Jn 6:19 **9:9** [i]Job 32:22; 40:15,19 [j]S Ge 1:16 **9:10** [k]Dt 6:22; Ps 72:18; 136:4; Jer 32:20 [l]S Job 5:9 **9:11** [m]Job 23:8-9; 35:14 **9:12** [n]Nu 23:20; Job 11:10; Isa 14:27; 43:13 [o]S ver 3; S Dt 32:39; Isa 29:16; 45:9; Da 2:21; 4:32; Ro 9:20 **9:13** [p]Nu 14:18; Job 10:15; Ps 78:38; Isa 3:11; 6:5; 48:9 [q]Job 26:12; Ps 87:4; 89:10; Isa 30:7; 51:9 **9:14** [r]S ver 3 **9:15** [s]Job 10:15; 13:19; 34:5-6; 40:5; 42:7 [t]Job 8:5 [u]S Ge 18:25; 1Sa 24:12; Ps 50:6; 96:13 [v]ver 20,29; Job 15:6; 23:4; 40:2 **9:16** [w]Job 13:22; Ro 9:20-21 **9:17** [x]Job 16:12; 30:16; Ps 10:10; Isa 38:13 [y]Job 30:22; Ps 83:15; Jnh 1:4 [z]Job 16:14 [a]S Job 2:3 **9:18** [b]S Job 7:19; S 10:1 **9:19** [c]S ver 4; S Ne 9:32 [d]ver 33; Jer 49:19 **9:20** [e]S ver 15 **9:21** [f]S Ge 6:9; Job 34:6,7 [g]ver 14; S Job 6:29; 10:1; 13:13 [h]S Nu 11:15; S Job 7:16

[n]14 The meaning of the Hebrew for this word is uncertain. [o]19 Or *Surely all the joy it has / is that* [p]19 See Septuagint; Hebrew *me*.

'He destroys both the blameless
and the wicked.'[a]
23When a scourge[b] brings sudden
death,
he mocks the despair of the
innocent.[c]
24When a land falls into the hands of
the wicked,[d]
he blindfolds its judges.[e]
If it is not he, then who is it?[f]

25"My days are swifter than a runner;[g]
they fly away without a glimpse of
joy.[h]
26They skim past[i] like boats of
papyrus,[j]
like eagles swooping down on
their prey.[k]
27If I say, 'I will forget my complaint,[l]
I will change my expression, and
smile,'
28I still dread[m] all my sufferings,
for I know you will not hold me
innocent.[n]
29Since I am already found guilty,
why should I struggle in vain?[o]
30Even if I washed myself with soap[q] [p]
and my hands[q] with washing
soda,[r]
31you would plunge me into a slime
pit[s]
so that even my clothes would
detest me.[t]

32"He is not a man[u] like me that I
might answer him,[v]
that we might confront each other
in court.[w]
33If only there were someone to
arbitrate between us,[x]
to lay his hand upon us both,[y]
34someone to remove God's rod
from me,[z]
so that his terror would frighten
me no more.[a]
35Then I would speak up without fear
of him,[b]
but as it now stands with me, I
cannot.[c]

10 "I loathe my very life;[d]
therefore I will give free rein to
my complaint
and speak out in the bitterness of
my soul.[e]
2I will say to God:[f] Do not condemn
me,
but tell me what charges[g] you
have against me.[h]
3Does it please you to oppress me,[i]
to spurn the work of your hands,[j]
while you smile on the schemes of
the wicked?[k]
4Do you have eyes of flesh?
Do you see as a mortal sees?[l]
5Are your days like those of a mortal
or your years like those of a man,[m]
6that you must search out my faults
and probe after my sin[n]—
7though you know that I am not
guilty[o]
and that no one can rescue me
from your hand?[p]

8"Your hands shaped[q] me and
made me.
Will you now turn and destroy
me?[r]
9Remember that you molded me like
clay.[s]
Will you now turn me to dust
again?[t]
10Did you not pour me out like milk
and curdle me like cheese,
11clothe me with skin and flesh
and knit me together[u] with bones
and sinews?
12You gave me life[v] and showed me
kindness,[w]
and in your providence[x] watched
over[y] my spirit.

13"But this is what you concealed in
your heart,
and I know that this was in your
mind:[z]
14If I sinned, you would be watching
me[a]
and would not let my offense go
unpunished.[b]
15If I am guilty[c]—woe to me![d]
Even if I am innocent, I cannot lift
my head,[e]
for I am full of shame
and drowned in[r] my affliction.[f]
16If I hold my head high, you stalk me
like a lion[g]
and again display your awesome
power against me.[h]
17You bring new witnesses against
me[i]
and increase your anger toward
me;[j]
your forces come against me wave
upon wave.[k]

18"Why then did you bring me out of
the womb?[l]

9:22 [a]S Job 3:19; 10:8; Ecc 9:2,3; Eze 21:3 **9:23** [b]Heb 11:36 [c]Job 24:1,12; Ps 64:4; Hab 1:3; 1Pe 1:7 **9:24** [d]Job 1:15,17; 10:3; 16:11; 21:16; 22:18; 27:2; 40:8; Ps 73:3 [e]S Job 3:14; 12:6; 19:7; 21:7; 24:23; 31:35; 35:15; Ps 73:12; Ecc 8:11; Jer 12:1; La 3:9 [f]Job 12:9; 13:1; 24:12; Isa 41:20 **9:25** [g]S Job 7:6 [h]Job 7:7; 10:20 **9:26** [i]Job 24:18; Ps 46:3 [j]Isa 18:2 [k]Job 39:29; Hab 1:8 **9:27** [l]S Job 7:11 **9:28** [m]S Job 3:25 [n]S Ex 34:7; S Job 7:21 **9:29** [o]S ver 3, S 15; Ps 37:33 **9:30** [p]Mal 3:2 [q]Job 17:9; 31:7; Isa 1:15 [r]Job 14:4,17; 33:9; Isa 1:18; Jer 2:22; Hos 13:12 **9:31** [s]Ps 35:7; 40:2; 51:9; Jer 2:22; Na 3:6; Mal 2:3 [t]S Job 7:20; 34:9; 35:3; Ps 73:13 **9:32** [u]S Nu 23:19 [v]S ver 3; Ro 9:20 [w]Ps 143:2; Ecc 6:10 **9:33** [x]S 1Sa 2:25 [y]S ver 19 **9:34** [z]Job 21:9; Ps 39:10; 73:5 [a]S Job 6:4; 7:14; 33:7; Ps 32:4 **9:35** [b]S Job 7:11 [c]Job 7:15; 13:21 **10:1** [d]S Nu 11:15; S 1Ki 19:4 [e]S 1Sa 1:10; S Job 7:11; 9:18, 21 **10:2** [f]Job 13:3; 40:1 [g]Isa 3:13; Hos 4:1; 5:1; 12:2; Mic 6:2; Ro 8:33 [h]S Job 9:3 **10:3** [i]S Job 9:22; 16:9,14; 19:6,21; 22:10; 30:13,21; 31:23; 34:6 [j]ver 8; Ge 1:26; S Job 4:17; 14:15; 34:19; Ps 8:6; 95:6; 100:3; 138:8; 149:2; Isa 60:21; 64:8 [k]S Job 9:24 **10:4** [l]1Sa 16:7; Job 11:11; 14:16; 24:23; 28:24; 31:4; 34:21; 41:11; Ps 11:4; 33:15; 119:168; 139:12; Pr 5:21; 15:3; Jer 11:20-23; 16:17 **10:5** [m]Job 36:26; Ps 39:5; 90:2,4; 102:24; 2Pe 3:8 **10:6** [n]Job 14:16 **10:7** [o]ver 15; S Job 6:29; 11:4; 16:17; 27:5,6; 31:6; 32:1 [p]S Dt 32:39 **10:8** [q]Ge 2:7 [r]S ver 3; S 2Sa 14:14; S Job 30:15 **10:9** [s]S Job 4:19; Isa 29:16 [t]S Ge 2:7; S Job 7:21 **10:11** [u]Ps 139:13,15 **10:12** [v]S Ge 2:7 [w]S Ge 24:12 [x]S Ge 45:5 [y]1Pe 2:25 **10:13** [z]Job 23:13; Ps 115:3 **10:14** [a]Job 13:27 [b]S Ex 34:7; S Job 7:21 **10:15** [c]S ver 7 [d]S Job 9:13 [e]S Job 9:15 [f]Ps 25:16 **10:16** [g]S 1Sa 17:34; Ps 7:2; Isa 38:13; Jer 5:6; 25:38; La 3:10; Hos 5:14; 13:7 [h]Job 5:9; Isa 28:21; 29:14; 65:7 **10:17** [i]1Ki 21:10; Job 16:8 [j]Ru 1:21 [k]S Job 5:7 **10:18** [l]S Job 3:8; S Ps 22:9

[q]30 Or *snow* [r]15 Or *and aware of*

I wish I had died before any eye
saw me.
[19]If only I had never come into being,
or had been carried straight from
the womb to the grave!
[20]Are not my few days almost over?
Turn away from me so I can have
a moment's joy
[21]before I go to the place of no
return,
to the land of gloom and deep
shadow,[a]
[22]to the land of deepest night,
of deep shadow and disorder,
where even the light is like
darkness."

Zophar

11 Then Zophar the Naamathite
replied:
[2]"Are all these words to go
unanswered?
Is this talker to be vindicated?
[3]Will your idle talk reduce men to
silence?
Will no one rebuke you when you
mock?
[4]You say to God, 'My beliefs are
flawless
and I am pure in your sight.'
[5]Oh, how I wish that God would
speak,
that he would open his lips against
you
[6]and disclose to you the secrets of
wisdom,
for true wisdom has two sides.
Know this: God has even forgotten
some of your sin.
[7]"Can you fathom the mysteries of
God?
Can you probe the limits of the
Almighty?
[8]They are higher than the heavens
—what can you do?
They are deeper than the depths
of the grave[b]—what can
you know?
[9]Their measure is longer than the
earth
and wider than the sea.
[10]"If he comes along and confines you
in prison
and convenes a court, who can
oppose him?
[11]Surely he recognizes deceitful men;
and when he sees evil, does he
not take note?
[12]But a witless man can no more
become wise
than a wild donkey's colt can be
born a man.[c]
[13]"Yet if you devote your heart to
him
and stretch out your hands to
him,
[14]if you put away the sin that is in
your hand
and allow no evil to dwell in
your tent,
[15]then you will lift up your face
without shame;
you will stand firm and without
fear.
[16]You will surely forget your trouble,
recalling it only as waters gone
by.
[17]Life will be brighter than noonday,
and darkness will become like
morning.
[18]You will be secure, because there is
hope;
you will look about you and take
your rest in safety.
[19]You will lie down, with no one to
make you afraid,
and many will court your favor.
[20]But the eyes of the wicked will fail,
and escape will elude them;
their hope will become a dying
gasp."

Job

12 Then Job replied:
[2]"Doubtless you are the people,
and wisdom will die with you!
[3]But I have a mind as well as you;
I am not inferior to you.
Who does not know all these
things?
[4]"I have become a laughingstock to
my friends,
though I called upon God and he
answered—
a mere laughingstock, though
righteous and blameless!
[5]Men at ease have contempt for
misfortune
as the fate of those whose feet are
slipping.
[6]The tents of marauders are
undisturbed,

a21 Or *and the shadow of death*; also in verse 22 b8 Hebrew *than Sheol* c12 Or *wild donkey can be born tame*

and those who provoke God are
secure[a]—
those who carry their god in their
hands.[v]

7"But ask the animals, and they will
teach you,[b]
or the birds of the air,[c] and they
will tell you;[d]
8or speak to the earth, and it will
teach you,
or let the fish of the sea inform
you.
9Which of all these does not
know[e]
that the hand of the LORD has done
this?[f]
10In his hand is the life[g] of every
creature
and the breath of all mankind.[h]
11Does not the ear test words
as the tongue tastes food?[i]
12Is not wisdom found among the
aged?[j]
Does not long life bring
understanding?[k]

13"To God belong wisdom[l] and
power;[m]
counsel and understanding are
his.[n]
14What he tears down[o] cannot be
rebuilt;[p]
the man he imprisons cannot be
released.[q]
15If he holds back the waters,[r] there is
drought;[s]
if he lets them loose, they
devastate the land.[t]
16To him belong strength and victory;[u]
both deceived and deceiver are
his.[v]
17He leads counselors away stripped[w]
and makes fools of judges.[x]
18He takes off the shackles[y] put on by
kings
and ties a loincloth[w] around their
waist.[z]
19He leads priests away stripped[a]
and overthrows men long
established.[b]
20He silences the lips of trusted
advisers
and takes away the discernment of
elders.[c]
21He pours contempt on nobles[d]
and disarms the mighty.[e]
22He reveals the deep things of
darkness[f]
and brings deep shadows[g] into
the light.[h]
23He makes nations great, and
destroys them;[i]
he enlarges nations,[j] and
disperses them.[k]
24He deprives the leaders of the earth
of their reason;[l]
he sends them wandering through
a trackless waste.[m]
25They grope in darkness with no
light;[n]
he makes them stagger like
drunkards.[o]

13 "My eyes have seen all this,[p]
my ears have heard and
understood it.
2What you know, I also know;
I am not inferior to you.[q]
3But I desire to speak to the
Almighty[r]
and to argue my case with God.[s]
4You, however, smear me with lies;[t]
you are worthless physicians,[u] all
of you![v]
5If only you would be altogether
silent![w]
For you, that would be wisdom.[x]
6Hear now my argument;
listen to the plea of my lips.[y]
7Will you speak wickedly on God's
behalf?
Will you speak deceitfully for
him?[z]
8Will you show him partiality?[a]
Will you argue the case for God?
9Would it turn out well if he
examined you?[b]
Could you deceive him as you
might deceive men?[c]
10He would surely rebuke you
if you secretly showed partiality.[d]
11Would not his splendor[e] terrify you?
Would not the dread of him fall on
you?[f]
12Your maxims are proverbs of ashes;
your defenses are defenses of
clay.[g]

13"Keep silent[h] and let me speak;[i]
then let come to me what may.[j]
14Why do I put myself in jeopardy
and take my life in my hands?[k]
15Though he slay me, yet will I hope[l]
in him;[m]
I will surely[x] defend my ways to
his face.[n]

12:6 [a]S Job 9:24 **12:7** [b]Job 35:11 [c]Mt 6:26 [d]Job 18:3; Ro 1:20 **12:9** [e]Isa 1:3 [f]S Job 9:24 **12:10** [g]Da 5:23 [h]S Ge 2:7; S Nu 16:22; S Job 11:20; Ac 17:28 **12:11** [i]Job 34:3 **12:12** [j]S 1Ki 4:2; Job 15:10 [k]ver 20; Job 17:4; 32:7,9; 34:4,10 **12:13** [l]Pr 21:30; Isa 45:9 [m]S Job 9:4; S Jer 32:19; 1Co 1:24 [n]S Nu 23:19; 1Ki 3:12; Job 32:8; 38:36; Pr 2:6; Isa 40:13-14; Da 1:17 **12:14** [o]Job 16:9; 19:10 [p]Dt 13:16; Ps 127:1; Isa 24:20; 25:2; Eze 26:14 [q]S Job 9:3; Isa 22:22; Rev 3:7 **12:15** [r]Job 28:25; Isa 40:12 [s]S Dt 28:22; S 1Ki 17:1 [t]S Ge 7:24 **12:16** [u]S Job 9:4 [v]2Ch 18:22; Job 13:7,9; 27:4; Ro 2:11 **12:17** [w]ver 19; Job 19:9; Isa 20:4 [x]S Job 3:14; 1Co 1:20 **12:18** [y]Ps 107:14; 116:16; Na 1:13 [z]ver 21; Job 34:18; Ps 107:40; Isa 5:27; 40:23 **12:19** [a]S ver 17 [b]S Dt 24:15; S Job 9:24; 14:20; 22:8; 24:12,22; 34:20,28; 35:9; Isa 2:22; 31:8; 40:17,23; Jer 25:18; Da 2:21,34; Lk 1:52 **12:20** [c]S ver 12, 24; Da 4:33-34 **12:21** [d]S ver 18; S Isa 34:12 [e]S Job 3:15 **12:22** [f]1Co 4:5 [g]Job 3:5 [h]Ps 139:12; Da 2:22 **12:23** [i]Ps 2:1; 46:6; Isa 13:4; Jer 25:9 [j]S Ex 34:24; Ps 107:38; Isa 9:3; 26:15; 54:3 [k]S Job 5:12; Ac 17:26 **12:24** [l]S ver 20 [m]Ps 107:40 **12:25** [n]S Dt 28:29; Job 18:6; 21:17; 29:3 [o]Ps 107:27; Isa 24:20 **13:1** [p]S Job 9:24 **13:2** [q]S Job 12:3 **13:3** [r]Job 5:17; 40:2 [s]S Job 5:8; 9:14-20; S 10:2

13:4 [t]Ps 119:69; Isa 9:15; Jer 23:32 [u]Jer 8:22 [v]S Job 6:15 **13:5** [w]ver 13; S Jdg 18:19 [x]Pr 17:28 **13:6** [y]Job 33:1; 36:4 **13:7** [z]S Job 12:16; S 16:17 **13:8** [a]S Lev 19:15 **13:9** [b]S Job 9:3 [c]S Job 12:16; Gal 6:7 **13:10** [d]S Lev 19:15; S 2Ch 19:7 **13:11** [e]Job 31:23 [f]S Ex 3:6 **13:12** [g]S Ne 4:2-3 **13:13** [h]S ver 5 [i]S Job 7:11 [j]S Job 9:21 **13:14** [k]S Jdg 9:17 **13:15** [l]S Job 7:6 [m]Ps 23:4; 27:1; Pr 14:32; Isa 12:2; Da 3:28 [n]S Job 5:8; 27:5

[v]6 Or *secure / in what God's hand brings them*
[w]18 Or *shackles of kings / and ties a belt*
[x]15 Or *He will surely slay me; I have no hope — / yet I will*

16Indeed, this will turn out for my
deliverance,[a]
for no godless[b] man would dare
come before him![c]
17Listen carefully to my words;[d]
let your ears take in what I say.
18Now that I have prepared my case,[e]
I know I will be vindicated.[f]
19Can anyone bring charges against
me?[g]
If so, I will be silent[h] and die.[i]

20"Only grant me these two things,
O God,
and then I will not hide from you:
21Withdraw your hand[j] far from me,
and stop frightening me with your
terrors.[k]
22Then summon me and I will
answer,[l]
or let me speak, and you reply.[m]
23How many wrongs and sins have I
committed?[n]
Show me my offense and my sin.[o]
24Why do you hide your face[p]
and consider me your enemy?[q]
25Will you torment[r] a windblown
leaf?[s]
Will you chase[t] after dry chaff?[u]
26For you write down bitter things
against me
and make me inherit the sins of
my youth.[v]
27You fasten my feet in shackles;[w]
you keep close watch on all my
paths[x]
by putting marks on the soles of
my feet.

28"So man wastes away like something
rotten,
like a garment[y] eaten by moths.[z]

14

"Man born of woman[a]
is of few days[b] and full of
trouble.[c]
2He springs up like a flower[d] and
withers away;[e]
like a fleeting shadow,[f] he does
not endure.[g]
3Do you fix your eye on such a one?[h]
Will you bring him[y] before you for
judgment?[i]
4Who can bring what is pure[j] from
the impure?[k]
No one![l]
5Man's days are determined;[m]
you have decreed the number of
his months[n]
and have set limits he cannot
exceed.[o]
6So look away from him and let him
alone,[p]
till he has put in his time like a
hired man.[q]

7"At least there is hope for a tree:[r]
If it is cut down, it will sprout
again,
and its new shoots[s] will not fail.[t]
8Its roots may grow old in the ground
and its stump[u] die in the soil,
9yet at the scent of water[v] it will bud
and put forth shoots like a plant.[w]
10But man dies and is laid low;[x]
he breathes his last and is no
more.[y]
11As water disappears from the sea
or a riverbed becomes parched and
dry,[z]
12so man lies down and does not
rise;[a]
till the heavens are no more,[b] men
will not awake
or be roused from their sleep.[c]

13"If only you would hide me in the
grave[z] [d]
and conceal me till your anger has
passed![e]
If only you would set me a time
and then remember[f] me![g]
14If a man dies, will he live again?
All the days of my hard service[h]
I will wait for my renewal[a] [i] to
come.
15You will call and I will answer you;[j]
you will long for the creature your
hands have made.[k]
16Surely then you will count my
steps[l]
but not keep track of my sin.[m]
17My offenses will be sealed[n] up in a
bag;[o]
you will cover over my sin.[p]
18"But as a mountain erodes and
crumbles[q]
and as a rock is moved from its
place,[r]
19as water wears away stones
and torrents[s] wash away the
soil,[t]
so you destroy man's hope.[u]
20You overpower him once for all, and
he is gone;[v]
you change his countenance and
send him away.[w]

13:16 [a]Ps 30:5; Isa 12:1; 54:7-8; Hos 14:4; Php 1:19 [b]S Job 8:13 [c]S Ge 3:8 **13:17** [d]Job 21:2 **13:18** [e]S ver 3; Job 23:4; 37:19 [f]S Job 2:3; S 9:21 **13:19** [g]Job 40:4; Isa 50:8; Ro 8:33 [h]S Job 9:15 [i]S Job 3:13; 10:8 **13:21** [j]S Ex 9:3; Heb 10:31 [k]S Job 6:4 **13:22** [l]Job 9:35; 14:15 [m]S Job 9:16 **13:23** [n]S 1Sa 26:18 [o]Job 7:21; 9:21; 14:17; 33:9 **13:24** [p]S Dt 32:20 [q]Job 16:9; 19:11; 33:10; Ps 88:14-15; Jer 30:14; La 2:5 **13:25** [r]Job 19:2 [s]Lev 26:36 [t]Job 19:22,28 [u]Job 21:18; Ps 1:4; 35:5; 83:13; Isa 17:13; 42:3; 43:17; Hos 13:3 **13:26** [v]Job 18:7; 20:11; 21:23; Ps 25:7 **13:27** [w]S Ge 40:15; Job 33:11; Jer 20:2; Ac 16:24 [x]Job 10:14 **13:28** [y]Ps 102:26; Mk 2:21 [z]S Dt 28:35; Ps 39:11; Isa 50:9; 51:8; Hos 5:12; Jas 5:2 **14:1** [a]Job 15:14; Mt 11:11 [b]S Job 10:20 [c]S Ge 3:17; S Job 7:2 **14:2** [d]Ps 103:15; S Jas 1:10 [e]Ps 37:2; 90:5-6; Isa 40:6-8 [f]Job 8:9; Ps 39:4; 102:11; 109:23; 144:4; Ecc 6:12 [g]S Job 4:20; Ps 49:12 **14:3** [h]Ps 8:4; 144:3 [i]S Job 7:18 **14:4** [j]Ps 51:10 [k]S Job 4:17; Eph 2:1-3 [l]S Job 9:30; Jn 3:6; Ro 5:12; 7:14 **14:5** [m]Job 24:1; Ps 31:15; 139:16 [n]Job 21:21; Ps 39:4; 90:12 [o]Ac 17:26 **14:6** [p]S Job 7:19 [q]Job 7:1,2; Ps 39:13; Isa 16:14; 21:16 **14:7** [r]Job 19:10; 24:20; Ps 52:5 [s]Isa 11:1; 53:2; 60:21 [t]Isa 6:13 **14:8** [u]Isa 6:13; 11:1; 53:2 **14:9** [v]Job 29:19; Ps 1:3; Jer 17:8; Eze 31:7 [w]Lev 26:4; Eze 34:27; Zec 10:1

14:10 [x]ver 12 [y]S Job 10:21; 13:19 **14:11** [z]S 2Sa 14:14 **14:12** [a]ver 10 [b]Ps 102:26; Rev 20:11; 21:1 [c]Ac 3:21 **14:13** [d]S Job 7:9 [e]Ps 30:5; Isa 26:20; 54:7 [f]S Ge 8:1 [g]Job 6:8 **14:14** [h]S Job 7:1 [i]S 2Ki 6:33 **14:15** [j]S Job 13:22 [k]S Job 10:3 **14:16** [l]S Job 10:4; Ps 139:1-3; Pr 5:21; Jer 16:17; 32:19 [m]Job 10:6; 1Co 13:5 **14:17** [n]Jer 32:10 [o]S Dt 32:34 [p]S Job 9:30; S 13:23 **14:18** [q]Eze 38:20 [r]Job 18:4 **14:19** [s]Eze 13:13 [t]S Ge 7:23 [u]S Job 7:6 **14:20** [v]S Job 4:20 [w]S Job 7:10; 8:18; S 12:19; 27:19; Jas 1:10

[y]3 Septuagint, Vulgate and Syriac; Hebrew *me*
[z]13 Hebrew *Sheol*
[a]14 Or *release*

[21]If his sons are honored, he does not
know it;
if they are brought low, he does
not see it.[a]
[22]He feels but the pain of his own
body[b]
and mourns only for himself.[c]"

Eliphaz

15 Then Eliphaz the Temanite[d] replied:

[2]"Would a wise man answer with
empty notions
or fill his belly with the hot east
wind?[e]
[3]Would he argue with useless words,
with speeches that have no
value?[f]
[4]But you even undermine piety
and hinder devotion to God.[g]
[5]Your sin[h] prompts your mouth;[i]
you adopt the tongue of the
crafty.[j]
[6]Your own mouth condemns you, not
mine;
your own lips testify against you.[k]

[7]"Are you the first man ever born?[l]
Were you brought forth before the
hills?[m]
[8]Do you listen in on God's council?[n]
Do you limit wisdom to yourself?[o]
[9]What do you know that we do not
know?
What insights do you have that we
do not have?[p]
[10]The gray-haired and the aged[q] are
on our side,
men even older than your father.[r]
[11]Are God's consolations[s] not enough
for you,
words[t] spoken gently to you?[u]
[12]Why has your heart[v] carried you
away,
and why do your eyes flash,
[13]so that you vent your rage[w] against
God
and pour out such words[x] from
your mouth?[y]

[14]"What is man, that he could be
pure,
or one born of woman,[z] that he
could be righteous?[a]
[15]If God places no trust in his holy
ones,[b]
if even the heavens are not pure in
his eyes,[c]
[16]how much less man, who is vile and
corrupt,[d]
who drinks up evil[e] like water![f]

14:21 [a]Job 21:21; Ecc 9:5; Isa 63:16 **14:22** [b]Ps 38:7; Isa 21:3; Jer 4:19 [c]Job 21:21 **15:1** [d]S Job 4:1 **15:2** [e]S Ge 41:6 **15:3** [f]S Ne 4:2-3; S Job 6:26 **15:4** [g]Job 25:6 **15:5** [h]Job 11:6; 22:5 [i]Pr 16:23 [j]S Job 5:13 **15:6** [k]S Job 9:15; 18:7; Ps 10:2; S Mt 12:37; Lk 19:22 **15:7** [l]Job 38:21 [m]S 1Sa 2:8; Ps 90:2; Pr 8:25 **15:8** [n]Job 29:4; Isa 9:6; 40:13; 41:28; Jer 23:18; Ro 11:34; 1Co 2:11 [o]S Job 12:2 **15:9** [p]S Job 12:3 **15:10** [q]S Job 12:12 [r]S 2Ch 10:6 **15:11** [s]S Ge 37:35; S Job 6:10; 2Co 1:3-4 [t]Zec 1:13 [u]S Dt 8:3; S 32:39; S Job 5:17; 22:22; 23:12; 36:16; Ps 119:11,72; Jer 15:16 **15:12** [v]Job 11:13; 36:13 **15:13** [w]Pr 29:11; Da 11:30 [x]Ps 94:4 [y]S Job 11:8; 22:5; 32:3 **15:14** [z]S Job 14:1 [a]S 2Ch 6:36; S Job 4:17 **15:15** [b]S Job 5:1 [c]S Job 4:18 **15:16** [d]S Lev 5:2; S Job 4:19; Ps 14:1 [e]Job 20:12 [f]Job 12:4; 34:7; Pr 19:28

15:17 [g]S Job 4:8 **15:18** [h]S Dt 32:7 **15:19** [i]Ge 12:1; Job 22:8 **15:20** [j]ver 24; Isa 8:22; 50:11; 66:24 [k]Job 24:1; 27:13-23; Isa 2:12; Jer 46:10; Ob 1:15; Zep 1:7 **15:21** [l]ver 24; S 1Sa 3:11; Job 18:11; 20:25; Jer 6:25; 20:3 [m]Job 22:10; 27:20; Isa 13:3; Jer 51:25,53,56; 1Th 5:3 **15:22** [n]ver 23; S Job 5:14; 24:17; 38:15; Ps 91:5; SS 3:8 [o]Job 16:13; 18:19; 19:29; 20:24; 27:14; 33:18; 36:12; Pr 7:23; Isa 1:20; Jer 44:27; Hos 9:13; Am 5:19

[17]"Listen to me and I will explain to
you;
let me tell you what I have seen,[g]
[18]what wise men have declared,
hiding nothing received from their
fathers[h]
[19](to whom alone the land[i] was given
when no alien passed among
them):
[20]All his days the wicked man suffers
torment,[j]
the ruthless through all the years
stored up for him.[k]
[21]Terrifying sounds fill his ears;[l]
when all seems well, marauders
attack him.[m]
[22]He despairs of escaping the
darkness;[n]
he is marked for the sword.[o]
[23]He wanders about[p]—food for
vultures[b];[q]
he knows the day of darkness[r] is
at hand.[s]
[24]Distress and anguish[t] fill him with
terror;[u]
they overwhelm him, like a king[v]
poised to attack,
[25]because he shakes his fist[w] at God
and vaunts himself against the
Almighty,[x]
[26]defiantly charging against him
with a thick, strong shield.[y]

[27]"Though his face is covered with fat
and his waist bulges with flesh,[z]
[28]he will inhabit ruined towns
and houses where no one lives,[a]
houses crumbling to rubble.[b]
[29]He will no longer be rich and his
wealth will not endure,[c]
nor will his possessions spread
over the land.[d]
[30]He will not escape the darkness;[e]
a flame[f] will wither his shoots,[g]
and the breath of God's mouth[h]
will carry him away.[i]
[31]Let him not deceive[j] himself by
trusting what is worthless,[k]
for he will get nothing in return.[l]
[32]Before his time[m] he will be paid in
full,[n]

15:23 [p]Ps 109:10 [q]Pr 30:17; Eze 39:17; Mt 24:28; Lk 17:37 [r]S ver 22 [s]Job 18:12 **15:24** [t]Isa 8:22; 9:1 [u]S ver 20 [v]Job 18:14 **15:25** [w]Ps 44:16; Isa 10:32; 37:23 [x]S Job 11:8; 35:12; 36:9; 40:8; Ps 2:2-3; 73:9; 75:5; Pr 21:30; Isa 3:16; 45:9 **15:26** [y]Jer 44:16 **15:27** [z]S Jdg 3:17 **15:28** [a]Isa 5:9 [b]S Job 3:14 **15:29** [c]S Job 3:15; S 7:8 [d]Isa 5:8 **15:30** [e]S Job 5:14 [f]ver 34; Job 16:7; 20:26; 22:20; 31:12 [g]ver 32; Job 8:19; 18:16; 29:19; Hos 9:1-16; Mal 4:1 [h]S Ex 15:10 [i]Isa 40:23-24 **15:31** [j]Job 31:5; Pr 1:16; 6:18; Isa 44:20; 59:7; Mic 2:11; S Mk 13:5; Jas 1:16 [k]Isa 30:12; 47:10; 59:4; Jer 7:4,8; S Mt 6:19 [l]Job 20:7; 22:13; 27:9; 35:13; Pr 15:29; Isa 1:15; Jer 11:11; Mic 3:4 **15:32** [m]Ecc 7:17 [n]Job 22:16; 36:14; Ps 55:23; 109:8; Pr 10:27

[b]23 Or *about, looking for food*

and his branches will not
flourish.[a]
[33]He will be like a vine stripped of its
unripe grapes,[b]
like an olive tree shedding its
blossoms.[c]
[34]For the company of the godless[d] will
be barren,
and fire will consume[e] the tents of
those who love bribes.[f]
[35]They conceive trouble[g] and give
birth to evil;[h]
their womb fashions deceit."

Job

16

Then Job replied:

[2]"I have heard many things like
these;
miserable comforters[i] are you
all![j]
[3]Will your long-winded speeches
never end?[k]
What ails you that you keep on
arguing?[l]
[4]I also could speak like you,
if you were in my place;
I could make fine speeches against
you
and shake my head[m] at you.
[5]But my mouth would encourage
you;
comfort[n] from my lips would
bring you relief.[o]

[6]"Yet if I speak, my pain is not
relieved;
and if I refrain, it does not go
away.[p]
[7]Surely, O God, you have worn me
out;[q]
you have devastated my entire
household.[r]
[8]You have bound me—and it has
become a witness;
my gauntness[s] rises up and
testifies against me.[t]
[9]God assails me and tears[u] me in his
anger[v]
and gnashes his teeth at me;[w]
my opponent fastens on me his
piercing eyes.[x]
[10]Men open their mouths[y] to jeer
at me;[z]
they strike my cheek[a] in scorn
and unite together against me.[b]
[11]God has turned me over to evil men
and thrown me into the clutches of
the wicked.[c]
[12]All was well with me, but he
shattered me;
he seized me by the neck and
crushed me.[d]
He has made me his target;[e]
13 his archers surround me.[f]
Without pity, he pierces[g] my
kidneys
and spills my gall on the ground.
[14]Again and again[h] he bursts upon
me;
he rushes at me like a warrior.[i]

[15]"I have sewed sackcloth[j] over my
skin
and buried my brow in the dust.[k]
[16]My face is red with weeping,[l]
deep shadows ring my eyes;[m]
[17]yet my hands have been free of
violence[n]
and my prayer is pure.[o]

[18]"O earth, do not cover my blood;[p]
may my cry[q] never be laid to
rest![r]
[19]Even now my witness[s] is in
heaven;[t]
my advocate is on high.[u]
[20]My intercessor[v] is my friend[c] [w]
as my eyes pour out[x] tears[y] to
God;
[21]on behalf of a man he pleads[z] with
God
as a man pleads for his friend.

[22]"Only a few years will pass
before I go on the journey of no
return.[a]

17

[1]My spirit[b] is broken,
my days are cut short,[c]
the grave awaits me.[d]
[2]Surely mockers[e] surround me;[f]
my eyes must dwell on their
hostility.

[3]"Give me, O God, the pledge you
demand.[g]
Who else will put up security[h]
for me?[i]
[4]You have closed their minds to
understanding;[j]
therefore you will not let them
triumph.
[5]If a man denounces his friends for
reward,[k]
the eyes of his children will fail.[l]

[6]"God has made me a byword[m] to
everyone,[n]
a man in whose face people spit.[o]

15:32 [a]S ver 30 **15:33** [b]Hab 3:17 [c]S Job 4:20 **15:34** [d]S Job 8:13 [e]S ver 30; Heb 10:27 [f]S Ex 23:8; S 1Sa 8:3 **15:35** [g]S Job 5:7 [h]S Job 4:8; S Isa 29:20; Gal 6:7; Jas 1:15 **16:2** [i]Ps 69:20 [j]S Job 6:15 **16:3** [k]Job 11:2; 18:2 [l]S Job 6:26 **16:4** [m]S 2Ki 19:21; Ps 22:7; Isa 37:22; Jer 48:27; La 2:15; Zep 2:15; S Mt 27:39 **16:5** [n]Job 29:25 [o]S Ge 37:35 **16:6** [p]S Job 6:3; S 7:21 **16:7** [q]S Jdg 8:5; S Job 7:3 [r]S Job 1:19 **16:8** [s]Job 17:7; 19:20; 33:21; Ps 6:7; 22:17; 88:9; 102:5; 109:24; La 5:17 [t]S Job 10:17 **16:9** [u]S Job 12:14; Hos 6:1 [v]S Job 9:5; 18:4; 19:11 [w]Job 30:21; Ps 35:16; 37:12; 112:10; La 2:16; Ac 7:54 [x]S Job 13:24 **16:10** [y]Ps 22:13; 35:21 [z]Job 12:4; 19:18; 21:3; 30:1, 9; Ps 22:13; 69:12; 119:51 [a]Isa 50:6; La 3:30; Mic 5:1; Ac 23:2 [b]ver 7; S Job 11:3; 19:12; 30:12; Ps 27:3; 35:15; Ac 7:57 **16:11** [c]S Job 9:24 **16:12** [d]S Job 9:17 [e]S Job 6:4; La 3:12 **16:13** [f]S Job 3:23 [g]Job 20:24; Pr 7:23; La 3:13 **16:14** [h]Job 9:17 [i]S Job 10:3; Joel 2:7 **16:15** [j]S Ge 37:34 [k]S Job 2:8 **16:16** [l]ver 20; Ps 6:6 [m]Job 2:7; 17:7; 30:17,30; 33:19; Isa 52:14 **16:17** [n]Isa 55:7; 59:6; Jer 18:11; Jnh 3:8 [o]S Job 6:28; S 10:7; 13:7; Isa 53:9; Zep 3:13 **16:18** [p]S Ge 4:10; Isa 26:21 [q]Ps 5:2; 18:6; 102:1; 119:169 [r]Job 19:24; Ps 66:18-19; Heb 11:4 **16:19** [s]S Ge 31:50; S Ro 1:9; 1Th 2:5 [t]Job 22:12; 42:2 [u]Job 19:27; 21:17; 25:2; 27:13; 31:2; Ps 113:5; Isa 33:5; 57:15; 58:4; 66:1; Mk 11:10 **16:20** [v]S Ro 8:34 [w]Jn 15:15 [x]La 2:19 [y]S ver 16 **16:21** [z]1Ki 8:45; Ps 9:4; 140:12 **16:22** [a]S Job 10:21 **17:1** [b]Ps 143:4 [c]Isa 38:12 [d]Ps 88:3-4; Ecc 12:1-7 **17:2** [e]S Job 11:3 [f]S Job 6:14; Ps 22:7; 119:51; Jer 20:7; La 3:14 **17:3** [g]Ps 35:27; 119:122 [h]Pr 6:1 [i]Ps 35:2; 40:17; Isa 38:14 **17:4** [j]S Job 12:12 **17:5** [k]S Ex 22:15 [l]S Job 11:20 **17:6** [m]S 1Ki 9:7; Job 30:9; Jer 15:4 [n]S ver 2 [o]S Nu 12:14

[c]20 Or *My friends treat me with scorn*

7My eyes have grown dim with
grief;[a]
my whole frame is but a shadow.[b]
8Upright men are appalled at this;
the innocent are aroused[c] against
the ungodly.
9Nevertheless, the righteous[d] will
hold to their ways,
and those with clean hands[e] will
grow stronger.[f]

10"But come on, all of you, try again!
I will not find a wise man among
you.[g]
11My days have passed,[h] my plans are
shattered,
and so are the desires of my
heart.[i]
12These men turn night into day;[j]
in the face of darkness they say,
'Light is near.'[k]
13If the only home I hope for is the
grave,[d][l]
if I spread out my bed[m] in
darkness,[n]
14if I say to corruption,[o] 'You are my
father,'
and to the worm,[p] 'My mother' or
'My sister,'
15where then is my hope?[q]
Who can see any hope for me?[r]
16Will it go down to the gates of
death[d]?[s]
Will we descend together into the
dust?"[t]

Bildad

18 Then Bildad the Shuhite[u] replied:

2"When will you end these
speeches?[v]
Be sensible, and then we can talk.
3Why are we regarded as cattle[w]
and considered stupid in your
sight?[x]
4You who tear yourself[y] to pieces in
your anger,[z]
is the earth to be abandoned for
your sake?
Or must the rocks be moved from
their place?[a]

5"The lamp of the wicked is snuffed
out;[b]
the flame of his fire stops
burning.[c]
6The light in his tent[d] becomes dark;[e]
the lamp beside him goes out.[f]
7The vigor[g] of his step is weakened;[h]
his own schemes[i] throw him
down.[j]
8His feet thrust him into a net[k]

17:7 [a]S Job 16:8 [b]S Job 2:12; S 16:16 **17:8** [c]S Ex 4:14 **17:9** [d]Pr 4:18 [e]S 2Sa 22:21; S Job 9:30 [f]S 1Sa 2:4; Ps 84:7 **17:10** [g]S Job 12:2 **17:11** [h]ver 15; Isa 38:10 [i]S Job 7:6 **17:12** [j]Isa 50:11 [k]Job 5:17-26; S 11:17 **17:13** [l]S 2Sa 14:14; S Job 3:13 [m]Ps 139:8 [n]Ps 88:18 **17:14** [o]Job 13:28; 30:28,30; Ps 16:10; 49:9 [p]S Job 4:19; S 7:5 **17:15** [q]S Job 7:6 [r]Ps 31:22; La 3:18; Eze 37:11 **17:16** [s]S Job 7:9; 33:28; Ps 9:13; 30:3; 107:18; Isa 38:10, 17; Jnh 2:6 [t]S Ge 2:7; S Job 3:19; 20:11; 21:26 **18:1** [u]S Job 8:1 **18:2** [v]S Job 8:2; S 16:3 **18:3** [w]S Job 12:7 [x]Ps 73:22 **18:4** [y]Job 13:14 [z]S Job 16:9 [a]Job 14:18 **18:5** [b]Job 21:17; 35:15; Pr 13:9; 20:20; 24:20; Jer 25:10; Mt 25:8; Jn 8:12 [c]S Job 5:14; 12:25; 24:17; 38:15 **18:6** [d]S Job 8:22 [e]S Job 5:14 [f]S Job 11:17; S 12:25 **18:7** [g]S Job 13:26 [h]Ps 18:36; Pr 4:12 [i]S Job 5:13 [j]S Job 15:6 **18:8** [k]Job 19:6; Ps 9:15; 10:9; 35:7; 57:6; 66:11; 140:5; La 1:13; Mic 7:2; Hab 1:15

18:9 [l]Job 22:10; 30:12; Isa 24:18; Jer 48:44; Am 5:19 [m]Pr 5:22 **18:10** [n]Pr 7:22; Isa 51:20 [o]S 1Sa 28:9 [p]Ps 140:5 **18:11** [q]ver 14; S Job 6:4; 20:25; 24:17; Ps 55:4; 88:15; Isa 28:19; Jer 15:8; La 2:22 [r]S Job 15:21; Ps 31:13 [s]ver 18; Job 20:8; Isa 22:18 **18:12** [t]Job 21:17 [u]Isa 8:21; 9:20; 65:13 [v]Job 31:3 [w]Job 15:23 **18:13** [x]Nu 12:12 [y]Zec 14:12

and he wanders into its mesh.
9A trap seizes him by the heel;
a snare[l] holds him fast.[m]
10A noose[n] is hidden for him on the
ground;
a trap[o] lies in his path.[p]
11Terrors[q] startle him on every side[r]
and dog[s] his every step.
12Calamity[t] is hungry[u] for him;
disaster[v] is ready for him when he
falls.[w]
13It eats away parts of his skin;[x]
death's firstborn devours his
limbs.[y]
14He is torn from the security of his
tent[z]
and marched off to the king[a] of
terrors.[b]
15Fire resides[e] in his tent;[c]
burning sulfur[d] is scattered over
his dwelling.
16His roots dry up below[e]
and his branches wither above.[f]
17The memory of him perishes from
the earth;[g]
he has no name[h] in the land.[i]
18He is driven from light into
darkness[j]
and is banished[k] from the world.[l]
19He has no offspring[m] or descendants[n] among his people,
no survivor[o] where once he
lived.[p]
20Men of the west are appalled[q] at his
fate;[r]
men of the east are seized with
horror.
21Surely such is the dwelling[s] of an
evil man;[t]
such is the place[u] of one who
knows not God."[v]

Job

19 Then Job replied:

2"How long will you torment[w]
me
and crush[x] me with words?
3Ten times[y] now you have
reproached[z] me;
shamelessly you attack me.

18:14 [z]S Job 8:22 [a]Job 15:24 [b]S ver 11 **18:15** [c]ver 18; Job 20:26 [d]S Ge 19:24 **18:16** [e]Isa 5:24; Hos 5:12; Am 2:9 [f]S Ge 27:28; S Job 8:12; S 15:30 **18:17** [g]S Dt 32:26 [h]Dt 9:14; Ps 9:5; 69:28; Pr 10:7; Isa 14:22 [i]Job 24:20; Ps 34:16; Pr 2:22; 10:7; Isa 49:15 **18:18** [j]S Job 5:14 [k]S ver 11 [l]S Job 11:20; 30:8 **18:19** [m]Ps 37:28; Isa 1:4; 14:20; Jer 22:30 [n]Ps 21:10; 109:13; Isa 14:22 [o]S 2Ki 10:11; S Eze 17:8 [p]Job 27:14-15 **18:20** [q]Ps 22:6-7; Isa 52:14; 53:2-3; Eze 27:35 [r]Ps 37:13; Jer 46:21; 50:27,31; Eze 7:7 **18:21** [s]Job 21:28 [t]Isa 57:20 [u]S Job 7:10 [v]S Job 4:21; 1Th 4:5 **19:2** [w]Job 13:25 [x]Job 6:9 **19:3** [y]S Ge 31:7 [z]Job 20:3

[d]13,16 Hebrew *Sheol* [e]15 Or *Nothing he had remains*

4If it is true that I have gone astray,
my error[a] remains my concern alone.
5If indeed you would exalt yourselves above me[b]
and use my humiliation against me,
6then know that God has wronged me[c]
and drawn his net[d] around me.[e]

7"Though I cry, 'I've been wronged!' I get no response;[f]
though I call for help,[g] there is no justice.[h]
8He has blocked my way so I cannot pass;[i]
he has shrouded my paths in darkness.[j]
9He has stripped[k] me of my honor[l]
and removed the crown from my head.[m]
10He tears me down[n] on every side till I am gone;
he uproots my hope[o] like a tree.[p]
11His anger[q] burns against me;
he counts me among his enemies.[r]
12His troops advance in force;[s]
they build a siege ramp[t] against me
and encamp around my tent.[u]

13"He has alienated my brothers[v] from me;
my acquaintances are completely estranged from me.[w]
14My kinsmen have gone away;
my friends[x] have forgotten me.
15My guests[y] and my maidservants[z] count me a stranger;
they look upon me as an alien.
16I summon my servant, but he does not answer,
though I beg him with my own mouth.
17My breath is offensive to my wife;
I am loathsome[a] to my own brothers.
18Even the little boys[b] scorn me;
when I appear, they ridicule me.[c]
19All my intimate friends[d] detest me;[e]
those I love have turned against me.[f]
20I am nothing but skin and bones;[g]
I have escaped with only the skin of my teeth.[f]

21"Have pity on me, my friends,[h] have pity,
for the hand of God has struck[i] me.
22Why do you pursue[j] me as God does?[k]
Will you never get enough of my flesh?[l]

23"Oh, that my words were recorded,
that they were written on a scroll,[m]
24that they were inscribed with an iron tool[n] on[g] lead,
or engraved in rock forever![o]
25I know that my Redeemer[h][p] lives,[q]
and that in the end he will stand upon the earth.[i]
26And after my skin has been destroyed,
yet[j] in[k] my flesh I will see God;[r]
27I myself will see him
with my own eyes[s]—I, and not another.
How my heart yearns[t] within me!

28"If you say, 'How we will hound[u] him,
since the root of the trouble lies in him,'[l]
29you should fear the sword yourselves;
for wrath will bring punishment by the sword,[v]
and then you will know that there is judgment."[m][w]

Zophar

20

Then Zophar the Naamathite[x] replied:

2"My troubled thoughts prompt me to answer
because I am greatly disturbed.[y]
3I hear a rebuke[z] that dishonors me,
and my understanding inspires me to reply.

4"Surely you know how it has been from of old,[a]
ever since man[n] was placed on the earth,
5that the mirth of the wicked[b] is brief,
the joy of the godless[c] lasts but a moment.[d]
6Though his pride[e] reaches to the heavens[f]

19:4 [a]Job 6:24 **19:5** [b]Ps 35:26; 38:16; 55:12 **19:6** [c]S Job 6:29 [d]S Job 18:8 [e]S Job 10:3 **19:7** [f]Job 30:20; Ps 22:2 [g]Job 30:24,28; 31:35; Ps 5:2 [h]S Job 9:24; Hab 1:2-4 **19:8** [i]La 3:7; Hos 2:6 [j]Job 3:26; 23:17; 30:26; Ecc 6:4; Isa 59:9; Jer 8:15; 14:19; La 3:2 **19:9** [k]S Job 12:17 [l]Ge 43:28; Ex 12:42; Ps 15:4; 50:23; Pr 14:31 [m]S Job 2:8; 29:14; Ps 89:39,44; La 5:16 **19:10** [n]S Job 12:14 [o]S Job 7:6 [p]S Job 14:7 **19:11** [q]Job 16:9 [r]S Job 13:24 **19:12** [s]S Job 16:13 [t]S Job 16:10 [u]S Job 3:23 **19:13** [v]Ps 69:8 [w]ver 19; Job 16:7; 42:11; Ps 31:11; 38:11; 88:8 **19:14** [x]ver 19; S 2Sa 15:12; Job 12:4; 16:20; Ps 88:18; Jer 20:10; 38:22 **19:15** [y]Ge 14:14 [z]Ecc 2:7 **19:17** [a]Ps 38:5 **19:18** [b]S 2Ki 2:23 [c]S Job 16:10 **19:19** [d]S ver 14; S Job 6:14; Ps 55:12-13 [e]Job 30:10 [f]S ver 13; Jn 13:18 **19:20** [g]S Job 2:5 **19:21** [h]S Job 6:14 [i]S Jdg 2:15; S Job 4:5; S 10:3; La 3:1 **19:22** [j]S Job 13:25 [k]ver 6 [l]S 2Ch 28:9; Ps 14:4; 27:2; 69:26; Pr 30:14; Isa 53:4 **19:23** [m]S Ex 17:14; S Ps 40:7; S Isa 8:1 **19:24** [n]Jer 17:1 [o]S Job 16:18 **19:25** [p]S Ex 6:6; S Lev 25:25; Ps 68:5; 78:35; Pr 23:11; Isa 41:14; 43:14; 44:6,24; 47:4; 48:17; 49:26; 54:5; 59:20; 60:16 [q]S 1Sa 14:39; Job 16:19 **19:26** [r]S Nu 12:8; S Mt 5:8; 1Co 13:12; 1Jn 3:2 **19:27** [s]Lk 2:30 [t]Ps 42:1; 63:1; 84:2 **19:28** [u]S Job 13:25 **19:29** [v]Job 15:22 [w]Job 27:13-23; Ps 1:5; 9:7; 58:11; Ecc 3:17; 11:9; 12:14 **20:1** [x]S Job 2:11 **20:2** [y]Ps 42:5; La 1:20 **20:3** [z]Job 19:3 **20:4** [a]Dt 4:32; S 32:7 **20:5** [b]Ps 94:3 [c]S Job 8:13 [d]S Job 8:12; Ps 37:35-36; 73:19 **20:6** [e]Job 33:17; Isa 16:6 [f]S Ge 11:4

[f]20 Or *only my gums* [g]24 Or *and* [h]25 Or *defender* [i]25 Or *upon my grave* [j]26 Or *And after I awake, / though this body has been destroyed, / then* [k]26 Or / *apart from* [l]28 Many Hebrew manuscripts, Septuagint and Vulgate; most Hebrew manuscripts *me* [m]29 Or / *that you may come to know the Almighty* [n]4 Or *Adam*

and his head touches the clouds,[a]
7he will perish forever,[b] like his own
dung;
those who have seen him will say,
'Where is he?'[c]
8Like a dream[d] he flies away,[e] no
more to be found,
banished[f] like a vision of the
night.[g]
9The eye that saw him will not see
him again;
his place will look on him no
more.[h]
10His children[i] must make amends to
the poor;
his own hands must give back his
wealth.[j]
11The youthful vigor[k] that fills his
bones[l]
will lie with him in the dust.[m]

12"Though evil[n] is sweet in his mouth
and he hides it under his tongue,[o]
13though he cannot bear to let it go
and keeps it in his mouth,[p]
14yet his food will turn sour in his
stomach;[q]
it will become the venom of
serpents[r] within him.
15He will spit out the riches[s] he
swallowed;
God will make his stomach vomit[t]
them up.
16He will suck the poison[u] of serpents;
the fangs of an adder will kill
him.[v]
17He will not enjoy the streams,
the rivers[w] flowing with honey[x]
and cream.[y]
18What he toiled for he must give back
uneaten;[z]
he will not enjoy the profit from
his trading.[a]
19For he has oppressed the poor[b] and
left them destitute;[c]
he has seized houses[d] he did not
build.

20"Surely he will have no respite from
his craving;[e]
he cannot save himself by his
treasure.[f]
21Nothing is left for him to devour;
his prosperity will not endure.[g]
22In the midst of his plenty, distress
will overtake him;[h]
the full force of misery will come
upon him.[i]
23When he has filled his belly,[j]
God will vent his burning anger[k]
against him
and rain down his blows upon
him.[l]
24Though he flees[m] from an iron
weapon,
a bronze-tipped arrow pierces
him.[n]
25He pulls it out of his back,
the gleaming point out of his liver.
Terrors[o] will come over him;[p]
26 total darkness[q] lies in wait for his
treasures.
A fire[r] unfanned will consume him[s]
and devour what is left in his
tent.[t]
27The heavens will expose his guilt;
the earth will rise up against him.[u]
28A flood will carry off his house,[a][v]
rushing waters[a] on the day of
God's wrath.[w]
29Such is the fate God allots the
wicked,
the heritage appointed for them by
God."[x]

Job

21 Then Job replied:

2"Listen carefully to my words;[y]
let this be the consolation you
give me.[z]
3Bear with me while I speak,
and after I have spoken,
mock on.[a]

4"Is my complaint[b] directed to man?
Why should I not be impatient?[c]
5Look at me and be astonished;
clap your hand over your mouth.[d]
6When I think about this, I am
terrified;[e]
trembling seizes my body.[f]
7Why do the wicked live on,
growing old and increasing in
power?[g]
8They see their children established
around them,
their offspring before their eyes.[h]
9Their homes are safe and free from
fear;[i]
the rod of God is not upon them.[j]
10Their bulls never fail to breed;
their cows calve and do not
miscarry.[k]
11They send forth their children as a
flock;[l]
their little ones dance about.

20:6 [a]Isa 14:13-14; Ob 1:3-4 **20:7** [b]S Job 4:20 [c]S Job 7:8; S 14:20 **20:8** [d]Ps 73:20; Ecc 5:3 [e]Ps 90:10; Ecc 6:12; 12:7 [f]S Job 18:11 [g]Job 27:20; 34:20; Ps 90:5; Isa 17:14; 29:7 **20:9** [h]S Job 7:8 **20:10** [i]S Job 5:4 [j]ver 15,18,20; S Job 3:15; 31:8 **20:11** [k]S Job 13:26 [l]Job 21:24 [m]S Job 17:16 **20:12** [n]S Job 15:16 [o]Ps 10:7; 140:3 **20:13** [p]S Nu 11:18-20 **20:14** [q]Pr 20:17; Jer 2:19; 4:18; Rev 10:9 [r]S Nu 21:6 **20:15** [s]S ver 10 [t]S Lev 18:25 **20:16** [u]S Dt 32:32 [v]Dt 32:24 **20:17** [w]Ps 36:8 [x]Dt 32:13 [y]Dt 32:14; Job 29:6 **20:18** [z]S ver 10; S Job 5:5 [a]Ps 109:11 **20:19** [b]S Job 5:16; Ps 10:2; 94:6; 109:16 [c]S Dt 15:11; 24:14; Job 24:4,14; 35:9; Pr 14:31; 28:28; Am 8:4 [d]Isa 5:8 **20:20** [e]Ecc 5:12 [f]S ver 10; Pr 11:4; Zep 1:18; Lk 12:15 **20:21** [g]S Job 7:8 **20:22** [h]S Jdg 2:15; Lk 12:16-20 [i]ver 29; Job 21:17,30; 31:2-3 **20:23** [j]S Nu 11:18-20 [k]La 4:11; Eze 5:13; 6:12 [l]ver 14; Ps 78:30-31 **20:24** [m]Isa 24:18; Jer 46:21; 48:44 [n]S Job 15:22 **20:25** [o]S Job 18:11 [p]S Job 15:21; Ps 88:15-16 **20:26** [q]S Job 5:14 [r]S Job 1:16 [s]Job 15:34; 26:6; 28:22; 31:12; Ps 21:9 [t]S Job 18:15 **20:27** [u]S Dt 31:28 **20:28** [v]Dt 28:31; Mt 7:26-27 [w]ver 29; Nu 14:28-32; Job 21:17,20,30; 40:11; Ps 60:3; 75:8; Pr 16:4; Isa 24:18; 51:17; Am 5:18; Jn 3:36; Ro 1:18; Eph 5:6 **20:29** [x]S ver 22; S Job 15:20; 22:5; 31:2; 36:17; Jer 13:25; Rev 21:8 **21:2** [y]S Job 13:17 [z]ver 34 **21:3** [a]S Job 6:14; S 11:3; S 16:10 **21:4** [b]S Job 7:11 [c]S Job 6:3 **21:5** [d]S Jdg 18:19 **21:6** [e]S Ge 45:3 [f]S Job 4:14 **21:7** [g]ver 13; S Job 9:24; 12:19; Ps 37:1; 73:3; Ecc 7:15; 8:14; Hab 1:13; Mal 3:15 **21:8** [h]Ps 17:14; Mal 3:15 **21:9** [i]S Job 5:24 [j]S Job 9:34 **21:10** [k]Ex 23:26 **21:11** [l]Ps 78:52; 107:41

[a]28 Or *The possessions in his house will be carried off, / washed away*

12They sing to the music of
tambourine and harp;[a]
they make merry to the sound of
the flute.[b]
13They spend their years in
prosperity[c]
and go down to the grave[p][d] in
peace.[q][e]
14Yet they say to God, 'Leave us
alone![f]
We have no desire to know your
ways.[g]
15Who is the Almighty, that we should
serve him?
What would we gain by praying to
him?'[h]
16But their prosperity is not in their
own hands,
so I stand aloof from the counsel
of the wicked.[i]

17"Yet how often is the lamp of the
wicked snuffed out?[j]
How often does calamity[k] come
upon them,
the fate God allots in his anger?[l]
18How often are they like straw before
the wind,
like chaff[m] swept away[n][o] by a
gale?[p]
19It is said, 'God stores up a man's
punishment for his sons.'[q]
Let him repay the man himself, so
that he will know it![r]
20Let his own eyes see his
destruction;[s]
let him drink[t] of the wrath of the
Almighty.[r][u]
21For what does he care about the
family he leaves behind[v]
when his allotted months[w] come
to an end?[x]

22"Can anyone teach knowledge to
God,[y]
since he judges even the highest?[z]
23One man dies in full vigor,[a]
completely secure and at ease,[b]
24his body[s] well nourished,[c]
his bones[d] rich with marrow.[e]
25Another man dies in bitterness of
soul,[f]
never having enjoyed anything
good.
26Side by side they lie in the dust,[g]
and worms[h] cover them both.[i]

27"I know full well what you are
thinking,
the schemes by which you would
wrong me.
28You say, 'Where now is the great
man's[j] house,
the tents where wicked men
lived?'[k]
29Have you never questioned those
who travel?
Have you paid no regard to their
accounts—
30that the evil man is spared from the
day of calamity,[l]
that he is delivered from[t] the day
of wrath?[m]
31Who denounces his conduct to his
face?
Who repays him for what he has
done?[n]
32He is carried to the grave,
and watch is kept over his tomb.[o]
33The soil in the valley is sweet to
him;[p]
all men follow after him,
and a countless throng goes[u]
before him.[q]
34"So how can you console me[r] with
your nonsense?
Nothing is left of your answers but
falsehood!"[s]

Eliphaz

22 Then Eliphaz the Temanite[t] replied:

2"Can a man be of benefit to God?[u]
Can even a wise man benefit
him?[v]
3What pleasure[w] would it give the
Almighty if you were
righteous?[x]
What would he gain if your ways
were blameless?[y]

4"Is it for your piety that he rebukes
you
and brings charges against you?[z]
5Is not your wickedness great?
Are not your sins[a] endless?[b]
6You demanded security[c] from your
brothers for no reason;[d]
you stripped men of their clothing,
leaving them naked.[e]
7You gave no water[f] to the weary
and you withheld food from the
hungry,[g]

21:12 [a]Ps 33:2 [b]S Ge 4:21; S 1Ch 15:16; Ps 71:22; 81:2; 108:2; Isa 5:12; Mt 11:17 **21:13** [c]S ver 7; S Job 8:7; Ps 10:1-12; 94:3 [d]Job 24:19; Ps 49:14; Isa 14:15 [e]S Job 3:13 **21:14** [f]S Job 4:17; 22:17; Isa 30:11 [g]S Dt 32:15; S 1Sa 15:11; Ps 95:10; Pr 1:29; Jer 2:20,31 **21:15** [h]S Job 5:2; 34:9; 35:3; Ps 73:13; 139:20; Isa 48:5; Jer 9:6; 44:17 **21:16** [i]Job 22:18; Ps 1:1; 26:5; 36:1 **21:17** [j]S Job 18:5 [k]Job 18:12 [l]S Job 20:22,28 **21:18** [m]S Job 13:25 [n]S Ge 19:15 [o]S Job 7:10; Pr 10:25 [p]S Ge 7:23 **21:19** [q]Ex 20:5; Jer 31:29; Eze 18:2; Jn 9:2 [r]Jer 25:14; 50:29; 51:6,24,56 **21:20** [s]S Ex 32:33; Nu 16:22; S 2Ki 14:6; Jer 42:16 [t]Job 6:4 [u]S Job 20:28; Jer 25:15; Rev 14:10 **21:21** [v]Job 14:22 [w]S Job 14:5 [x]S Job 14:21; Ecc 9:5-6 **21:22** [y]Job 35:11; 36:22; 39:17; Ps 94:12; Isa 40:13-14; Jer 32:33; Ro 11:34 [z]S Job 4:18; Ps 82:1; 86:8; 135:5 **21:23** [a]S Ge 15:15; S Job 13:26 [b]S Job 3:13 **21:24** [c]Ps 73:4 [d]Job 20:11 [e]Pr 3:8 **21:25** [f]S Job 10:1 **21:26** [g]S Job 17:16 [h]S Job 7:5 [i]Job 24:20; Ecc 9:2-3; Isa 14:11 **21:28** [j]Job 1:3; 12:21; 29:25; 31:37 [k]S Job 8:22 **21:30** [l]Job 31:3 [m]S Job 20:22,28; S Isa 5:30; Ro 2:5; 2Pe 2:9 **21:31** [n]Job 34:11; Ps 62:12; Pr 24:11-12; Isa 59:18 **21:32** [o]Isa 14:18 **21:33** [p]Job 3:22 [q]S Job 3:19

21:34 [r]ver 2 [s]S Job 6:15; 8:20 **22:1** [t]S Job 4:1 **22:2** [u]Lk 17:10 [v]S Job 7:17 **22:3** [w]Isa 1:11; Hag 1:8 [x]Ps 143:2 [y]Job 35:7; Pr 9:12 **22:4** [z]S Job 9:3; 19:29; Ps 143:2; Isa 3:14; Eze 20:35 **22:5** [a]S Ezr 9:13; S Job 15:5 [b]S Job 15:13; S 20:29; 29:17 **22:6** [c]S Ex 22:26 [d]S 2Ki 4:1 [e]S Ex 22:27; Dt 24:12-13 **22:7** [f]Mt 10:42 [g]ver 9; Job 29:12; 31:17,21,31; Isa 58:7,10; Eze 18:7; Mt 25:42

[p]13 Hebrew *Sheol* [q]13 Or *in an instant*
[r]17-20 Verses 17 and 18 may be taken as exclamations and 19 and 20 as declarations. [s]24 The meaning of the Hebrew for this word is uncertain. [t]30 Or *man is reserved for the day of calamity, / that he is brought forth to* [u]33 Or */ as a countless throng went*

8though you were a powerful man,
owning land[a] —
an honored man,[b] living on it.[c]
9And you sent widows[d] away
empty-handed[e]
and broke the strength of the
fatherless.[f]
10That is why snares[g] are all around
you,[h]
why sudden peril terrifies you,[i]
11why it is so dark[j] you cannot see,
and why a flood of water covers
you.[k]

12"Is not God in the heights of
heaven?[l]
And see how lofty are the highest
stars!
13Yet you say, 'What does God
know?[m]
Does he judge through such
darkness?[n]
14Thick clouds[o] veil him, so he does
not see us[p]
as he goes about in the vaulted
heavens.'[q]
15Will you keep to the old path
that evil men[r] have trod?[s]
16They were carried off before their
time,[t]
their foundations[u] washed away
by a flood.[v]
17They said to God, 'Leave us alone!
What can the Almighty do to us?'[w]
18Yet it was he who filled their houses
with good things,[x]
so I stand aloof from the counsel
of the wicked.[y]

19"The righteous see their ruin and
rejoice;[z]
the innocent mock[a] them, saying,
20'Surely our foes are destroyed,[b]
and fire[c] devours their wealth.'

21"Submit to God and be at peace[d]
with him;[e]
in this way prosperity will come to
you.[f]
22Accept instruction from his mouth[g]
and lay up his words[h] in your
heart.[i]
23If you return[j] to the Almighty, you
will be restored:[k]
If you remove wickedness far from
your tent[l]
24and assign your nuggets[m] to the
dust,
your gold[n] of Ophir[o] to the rocks
in the ravines,[p]
25then the Almighty will be your
gold,[q]
the choicest silver for you.[r]

22:8 [a]S Job 15:19 [b]Isa 3:3; 5:13; 9:15 [c]S Job 12:19 **22:9** [d]Job 29:13; 31:16; Ps 146:9 [e]Job 24:3,21; Isa 10:2; Lk 1:53 [f]S ver 7; S Job 6:27; S Isa 1:17 **22:10** [g]S Job 18:9 [h]S Job 10:3 [i]S Job 15:21 **22:11** [j]S Job 5:14 [k]S Ge 7:23; Job 36:28; 38:34, 37; Ps 69:1-2; 124:4-5; Isa 58:10-11; La 3:54 **22:12** [l]S Job 11:8; S 16:19 **22:13** [m]ver 14; Ps 10:11; 59:7; 64:5; 73:11; 94:7; Isa 29:15; Eze 9:9; Zep 1:12 [n]Ps 139:11; Eze 8:12; Eph 6:12 **22:14** [o]Job 26:9; Ps 97:2; 105:39 [p]S ver 13; S 2Ki 21:16 [q]Job 37:18; Ps 18:11; Pr 8:27; Isa 40:22; Jer 23:23-24 **22:15** [r]Job 23:10; 34:36 [s]Job 34:8; Ps 1:1; 50:18 **22:16** [t]S Job 15:32 [u]S Job 4:19 [v]S Ge 7:23; Mt 7:26-27 **22:17** [w]Job 21:15 **22:18** [x]S Job 12:6 [y]S Job 21:16 **22:19** [z]Ps 5:11; 9:2; 32:11; 58:10; 64:10; 97:12; 107:42 [a]Job 21:3; Ps 52:6 **22:20** [b]Ps 18:39 [c]S Job 15:30 **22:21** [d]Isa 26:3, 12; 27:5; Ro 5:1 [e]S Ge 17:1; Jer 9:24 [f]S Job 8:7; Ps 34:8-10; Pr 3:10; 1Pe 5:6 **22:22** [g]S Dt 8:3 [h]S Job 6:10 [i]S Job 15:11; 28:23; Ps 37:31; 40:8; Pr 2:6; Eze 3:10 **22:23** [j]Isa 31:6; 44:22; 55:7; 59:20; Jer 3:14, 22; Eze 18:32; Zec 1:3; Mal 3:7 [k]S Job 5:24; Isa 19:22; Ac 20:32 [l]Job 11:14 **22:24** [m]Job 28:6 [n]Ps 19:10 [o]S Ge 10:29 [p]S Job 1:10; 31:25; Isa 2:20; 30:22; 31:7; 40:19-20; Mt 6:19 **22:25** [q]Job 31:24; Ps 49:6; 52:7; Pr 11:28 [r]2Ki 18:7; Isa 33:6;

26Surely then you will find delight in
the Almighty[s]
and will lift up your face[t] to
God.[u]
27You will pray to him,[v] and he will
hear you,[w]
and you will fulfill your vows.[x]
28What you decide on will be done,[y]
and light[z] will shine on your
ways.[a]
29When men are brought low[b] and
you say, 'Lift them up!'
then he will save the downcast.[c]
30He will deliver even one who is not
innocent,[d]
who will be delivered through the
cleanness of your hands."[e]

Job

23

Then Job replied:
2"Even today my complaint[f] is
bitter;[g]
his hand[v] is heavy in spite of[w] my
groaning.[h]
3If only I knew where to find him;
if only I could go to his dwelling![i]
4I would state my case[j] before him
and fill my mouth with
arguments.[k]
5I would find out what he would
answer me,[l]
and consider what he would say.
6Would he oppose me with great
power?[m]
No, he would not press charges
against me.[n]
7There an upright man[o] could
present his case before him,[p]
and I would be delivered forever
from my judge.[q]

8"But if I go to the east, he is not
there;
if I go to the west, I do not find
him.
9When he is at work in the north, I
do not see him;
when he turns to the south, I
catch no glimpse of him.[r]
10But he knows the way that I take;[s]

Mt 6:20-21 **22:26** [s]Job 27:10; Ps 2:8; 16:6; 37:4; Isa 58:14; 61:10 [t]Job 11:15 [u]Job 11:17; 33:26; Ps 27:6; 100:1 **22:27** [v]S Job 5:27 [w]S Job 5:15; S Ps 86:7; S Isa 30:19 [x]S Nu 30:2 **22:28** [y]Ps 103:11; 145:19 [z]Job 33:28; Ps 97:11; Pr 4:18 [a]S Job 11:17 **22:29** [b]S Est 5:12 [c]Ps 18:27; S Mt 23:12 **22:30** [d]Isa 1:18; Ro 4:5 [e]S 2Sa 22:21 **23:2** [f]S Job 7:11 [g]S 1Sa 1:10; S Job 6:3 [h]Ps 6:6; 32:4; Jer 45:3; Eze 21:7 **23:3** [i]Dt 4:29 **23:4** [j]S Job 13:18 [k]S Job 9:15 **23:5** [l]S Job 11:5 **23:6** [m]S Job 9:4 [n]S Job 6:4 **23:7** [o]S Job 1:1 [p]S Ge 3:8; S Job 9:3; 13:3 [q]S Job 6:29 **23:9** [r]S Job 9:11 **23:10** [s]Job 1:1; 27:6; 31:6; 36:7; Ps 7:9; 11:5; 34:15; 37:18; 94:11; 119:168; 146:8

[v]2 Septuagint and Syriac; Hebrew / *the hand on me*
[w]2 Or *heavy on me in*

when he has tested me,[a] I will
come forth as gold.[b]
11 My feet have closely followed his
steps;[c]
I have kept to his way without
turning aside.[d]
12 I have not departed from the
commands of his lips;[e]
I have treasured the words of his
mouth more than my daily
bread.[f]

13 "But he stands alone, and who can
oppose him?[g]
He does whatever he pleases.[h]
14 He carries out his decree against
me,
and many such plans he still has
in store.[i]
15 That is why I am terrified before
him;[j]
when I think of all this, I fear
him.[k]
16 God has made my heart faint;[l]
the Almighty[m] has terrified me.[n]
17 Yet I am not silenced by the
darkness,[o]
by the thick darkness that covers
my face.

24 "Why does the Almighty not set
times[p] for judgment?[q]
Why must those who know him
look in vain for such days?[r]
2 Men move boundary stones;[s]
they pasture flocks they have
stolen.[t]
3 They drive away the orphan's
donkey
and take the widow's ox in
pledge.[u]
4 They thrust the needy[v] from the
path
and force all the poor[w] of the land
into hiding.[x]
5 Like wild donkeys[y] in the desert,
the poor go about their labor[z] of
foraging food;
the wasteland[a] provides food for
their children.
6 They gather fodder[b] in the fields
and glean in the vineyards[c] of the
wicked.[d]
7 Lacking clothes, they spend the
night naked;
they have nothing to cover
themselves in the cold.[e]
8 They are drenched[f] by mountain
rains
and hug[g] the rocks for lack of
shelter.[h]
9 The fatherless[i] child is snatched[j]
from the breast;
the infant of the poor is seized[k]
for a debt.[l]
10 Lacking clothes, they go about
naked;[m]
they carry the sheaves,[n] but still
go hungry.
11 They crush olives among the
terraces[x];
they tread the winepresses,[o] yet
suffer thirst.[p]
12 The groans of the dying rise from
the city,
and the souls of the wounded cry
out for help.[q]
But God charges no one with
wrongdoing.[r]

13 "There are those who rebel against
the light,[s]
who do not know its ways
or stay in its paths.[t]
14 When daylight is gone, the murderer
rises up
and kills[u] the poor and needy;[v]
in the night he steals forth like a
thief.[w]
15 The eye of the adulterer[x] watches
for dusk;[y]
he thinks, 'No eye will see me,'[z]
and he keeps his face concealed.
16 In the dark, men break into houses,[a]
but by day they shut themselves
in;
they want nothing to do with the
light.[b]
17 For all of them, deep darkness is
their morning[y];
they make friends with the
terrors[c] of darkness.[z] [d]

18 "Yet they are foam[e] on the surface
of the water;[f]
their portion of the land is
cursed,[g]
so that no one goes to the
vineyards.[h]
19 As heat and drought snatch away
the melted snow,[i]
so the grave[a] [j] snatches away
those who have sinned.
20 The womb forgets them,
the worm[k] feasts on them;[l]
evil men are no longer remembered[m]
but are broken like a tree.[n]

23:10 [a]S Job 7:18; Ps 139:1-3 [b]S Job 6:29; S 22:15; S Ps 12:6; 1Pe 1:7 **23:11** [c]Ps 17:5 [d]Job 31:7; Ps 40:4; 44:18; 119:51,59,157; 125:5; Jer 11:20 **23:12** [e]S Job 6:10 [f]S Job 15:11; Mt 4:4; Jn 4:32, 34 **23:13** [g]S Job 9:3 [h]S Job 10:13; Isa 55:11 **23:14** [i]1Th 3:3; 1Pe 4:12 **23:15** [j]S Ge 45:3 [k]S Jos 24:14; Ps 34:9; 36:1; 111:10; Pr 1:7; Ecc 3:14; 12:13; 2Co 5:11 **23:16** [l]S Dt 20:3 [m]Job 27:2 [n]S Ex 3:6; Rev 6:16 **23:17** [o]S Job 3:6; S 19:8 **24:1** [p]S Job 14:5 [q]S Job 9:23; 2Pe 3:7 [r]S Job 15:20; Ac 1:7 **24:2** [s]S Dt 19:14 [t]Ex 20:15; Dt 28:31 **24:3** [u]S Job 6:27; S 22:9 **24:4** [v]Job 29:16; 31:19 [w]Job 29:12; 30:25; Ps 12:5; 41:1; 82:3,4; Isa 11:4 [x]S Job 20:19; S Pr 28:12 **24:5** [y]S Ge 16:12 [z]Ps 104:23 [a]Job 30:3 **24:6** [b]S Job 6:5 [c]ver 18 [d]Ru 2:22; S 1Ki 21:19 **24:7** [e]S Ex 22:27 **24:8** [f]Da 4:25,33 [g]La 4:5 [h]S Jdg 6:2 **24:9** [i]S Dt 24:17 [j]Job 29:17 [k]Ps 14:4; Pr 30:14; Isa 3:14; 10:1-2; Eze 18:12 [l]S Lev 25:47; S 2Ki 4:1 **24:10** [m]Dt 24:12-13 [n]S Lev 19:9 **24:11** [o]Isa 5:2; 16:10; Hag 2:16 [p]Mic 6:15 **24:12** [q]S Job 12:19; 30:28; Ps 5:2; 22:24; 39:12; 119:147; Isa 30:19; Jer 50:46; 51:52, 54; Eze 26:15; Rev 6:10 [r]S Job 9:23 **24:13** [s]ver 16; Job 38:15; Jn 3:19-20; 1Th 5:4-5 [t]Job 17:12; 38:20; Ps 18:28; Isa 5:20; Eph 5:8-14

24:14 [u]Isa 3:15; Mic 3:3 [v]S Job 20:19; Ps 37:32 [w]Ps 10:9 **24:15** [x]Job 31:9,27; Pr 1:10 [y]Pr 7:8-9 [z]Ps 10:11 **24:16** [a]S Ex 22:2; Mt 6:19 [b]S ver 13 **24:17** [c]S Job 18:11 [d]S Job 15:22; S 18:5 **24:18** [e]S Job 9:26; Jude 1:13 [f]Job 22:16; Isa 57:20 [g]S Job 5:3 [h]ver 6 **24:19** [i]Job 6:17 [j]S Job 21:13 **24:20** [k]S Job 7:5 [l]S Job 21:26 [m]S Job 18:17 [n]S Job 14:7; Ps 31:12; Da 4:14

[x]11 Or *olives between the millstones;* the meaning of the Hebrew for this word is uncertain. [y]17 Or *them, their morning is like the shadow of death* [z]17 Or *of the shadow of death* [a]19 Hebrew *Sheol*

21 They prey on the barren and
childless woman,
and to the widow show no
kindness.[a]
22 But God drags away the mighty by
his power;[b]
though they become established,[c]
they have no assurance of
life.[d]
23 He may let them rest in a feeling of
security,[e]
but his eyes[f] are on their ways.[g]
24 For a little while they are exalted,
and then they are gone;[h]
they are brought low and gathered
up like all others;[i]
they are cut off like heads of
grain.[j]
25 "If this is not so, who can prove me
false
and reduce my words to
nothing?"[k]

Bildad

25 Then Bildad the Shuhite[l] replied:

2 "Dominion and awe belong to God;[m]
he establishes order in the heights
of heaven.[n]
3 Can his forces be numbered?
Upon whom does his light not
rise?[o]
4 How then can a man be righteous
before God?
How can one born of woman be
pure?[p]
5 If even the moon[q] is not bright
and the stars are not pure in his
eyes,[r]
6 how much less man, who is but a
maggot—
a son of man,[s] who is only a
worm!"[t]

Job

26 Then Job replied:

2 "How you have helped the
powerless![u]
How you have saved the arm that
is feeble![v]
3 What advice you have offered to one
without wisdom!
And what great insight[w] you have
displayed!
4 Who has helped you utter these
words?
And whose spirit spoke from your
mouth?[x]
5 "The dead are in deep anguish,[y]
those beneath the waters and all
that live in them.
6 Death[b][z] is naked before God;
Destruction[c][a] lies uncovered.[b]
7 He spreads out the northern skies[c]
over empty space;
he suspends the earth over
nothing.[d]
8 He wraps up the waters[e] in his
clouds,[f]
yet the clouds do not burst under
their weight.
9 He covers the face of the full moon,
spreading his clouds[g] over it.
10 He marks out the horizon on the
face of the waters[h]
for a boundary between light and
darkness.[i]
11 The pillars of the heavens quake,[j]
aghast at his rebuke.
12 By his power he churned up the
sea;[k]
by his wisdom[l] he cut Rahab[m] to
pieces.
13 By his breath the skies[n] became fair;
his hand pierced the gliding
serpent.[o]
14 And these are but the outer fringe of
his works;
how faint the whisper[p] we hear of
him![q]
Who then can understand the
thunder of his power?"[r]

27 And Job continued his discourse:[s]

2 "As surely as God lives, who has
denied me justice,[t]
the Almighty,[u] who has made me
taste bitterness of soul,[v]
3 as long as I have life within me,
the breath of God[w] in my nostrils,
4 my lips will not speak wickedness,
and my tongue will utter no
deceit.[x]
5 I will never admit you are in the
right;
till I die, I will not deny my
integrity.[y]
6 I will maintain my righteousness[z]
and never let go of it;
my conscience[a] will not reproach
me as long as I live.[b]
7 "May my enemies be like the
wicked,[c]
my adversaries[d] like the unjust!
8 For what hope has the godless[e]
when he is cut off,

24:21 [a]S Job 22:9 **24:22** [b]S Job 9:4 [c]S Job 12:19 [d]Dt 28:66; Mt 6:27; Jas 4:14 **24:23** [e]S Job 9:24; Am 6:1 [f]S 2Ch 16:9 [g]S Job 10:4 **24:24** [h]S 2Ki 19:35; S Job 4:20; Ps 37:10; 83:13; Isa 5:24; 17:13; 40:24; 41:2,15 [i]S Job 3:19 [j]Isa 17:5 **24:25** [k]S Job 6:28; S 16:17 **25:1** [l]S Job 8:1 **25:2** [m]S Job 9:4; Ps 47:9; 89:18; Zec 9:7; Rev 1:6 [n]S 2Ch 20:6; S Job 11:8; S 16:19 **25:3** [o]Mt 5:45; Jas 1:17 **25:4** [p]S Job 4:17 **25:5** [q]Job 31:26 [r]S Job 4:18 **25:6** [s]Ps 80:17; 144:3; Eze 2:1 [t]S Job 4:19; S 7:5 **26:2** [u]Job 6:12 [v]S Job 4:3 **26:3** [w]Job 34:35 **26:4** [x]1Ki 22:24 **26:5** [y]Ps 88:10; Isa 14:9; 26:14 **26:6** [z]Ps 139:8 [a]S Job 20:26; S Rev 9:11 [b]Job 10:22; 11:8; 38:17; 41:11; Ps 139:11-12; Pr 15:11; S Heb 4:13 **26:7** [c]Job 9:8 [d]Job 38:6; Ps 104:5; Pr 3:19-20; 8:27; Isa 40:22 **26:8** [e]Pr 30:4 [f]S Ge 1:2; Job 36:27; 37:11; Ps 147:8 **26:9** [g]S 2Sa 22:10; S Job 22:14 **26:10** [h]Pr 8:27; Isa 40:22 [i]S Ge 1:4; S Job 28:3; 38:8-11 **26:11** [j]S 2Sa 22:8 **26:12** [k]S Ex 14:21 [l]Job 12:13 [m]S Job 9:13 **26:13** [n]Job 9:8 [o]Isa 27:1 **26:14** [p]Job 4:12 [q]Job 42:5; Hab 3:2; 1Co 13:12 [r]S Job 9:6 **27:1** [s]Job 29:1 **27:2** [t]S Job 6:29; S 9:24; Isa 45:9; 49:4,14 [u]Job 23:16 [v]S 1Sa 1:10; S Job 7:19; S 10:1 **27:3** [w]S Ge 2:7; Job 32:8; 33:4; 34:14; S Ps 144:4 **27:4** [x]S Job 6:28; S 12:16; S 16:17 **27:5** [y]S Job 2:9; S 10:7; S 32:2 **27:6** [z]Job 29:14; Ps 119:121; 132:9; Isa 59:17; 61:10 [a]S Ac 23:1; Ro 2:15 [b]S Job 2:3; S 10:7; S 23:10; S 34:17 **27:7** [c]S Job 8:22 [d]Job 31:35 **27:8** [e]S Job 8:13

[b]6 Hebrew *Sheol* [c]6 Hebrew *Abaddon*

when God takes away his life?[a]
9Does God listen to his cry
when distress comes upon him?[b]
10Will he find delight in the Almighty?[c]
Will he call upon God at all times?

11"I will teach you about the power of God;
the ways[d] of the Almighty I will not conceal.[e]
12You have all seen this yourselves.
Why then this meaningless talk?

13"Here is the fate God allots to the wicked,
the heritage a ruthless man receives from the Almighty:[f]
14However many his children,[g] their fate is the sword;[h]
his offspring will never have enough to eat.[i]
15The plague will bury those who survive him,
and their widows will not weep for them.[j]
16Though he heaps up silver like dust[k]
and clothes like piles of clay,[l]
17what he lays up[m] the righteous will wear,[n]
and the innocent will divide his silver.[o]
18The house[p] he builds is like a moth's cocoon,[q]
like a hut[r] made by a watchman.
19He lies down wealthy, but will do so no more;[s]
when he opens his eyes, all is gone.[t]
20Terrors[u] overtake him like a flood;[v]
a tempest snatches him away in the night.[w]
21The east wind[x] carries him off, and he is gone;[y]
it sweeps him out of his place.[z]
22It hurls itself against him without mercy[a]
as he flees headlong[b] from its power.[c]
23It claps its hands[d] in derision
and hisses him out of his place.[e]

28

"There is a mine for silver
and a place where gold is refined.[f]
2Iron is taken from the earth,
and copper is smelted from ore.[g]
3Man puts an end to the darkness;[h]
he searches the farthest recesses
for ore in the blackest darkness.[i]
4Far from where people dwell he cuts a shaft,[j]

27:8 [a]S Nu 16:22; S Job 8:22; S 11:20; Lk 12:20 **27:9** [b]S Dt 1:45; S 1Sa 8:18; S Job 15:31 **27:10** [c]S Job 22:26 **27:11** [d]Job 36:23 [e]ver 13 **27:13** [f]S Job 16:19; S 20:29 **27:14** [g]S Job 5:4 [h]S Job 15:22; S La 2:22 [i]S Job 4:11 **27:15** [j]Ps 78:64 **27:16** [k]S 1Ki 10:27 [l]Zec 9:3 **27:17** [m]Ps 39:6; 49:10; Ecc 2:26 [n]S Job 7:8; Pr 13:22; 28:8; Ecc 2:26 [o]Ex 3:22; S Job 3:15 **27:18** [p]S Job 8:22 [q]S Job 8:14 [r]Isa 1:8; 24:20 **27:19** [s]S Job 3:13; S 7:8 [t]S Job 14:20 **27:20** [u]S Job 6:4 [v]S Job 15:21 [w]S Job 20:8 **27:21** [x]Job 38:24; Jer 13:24; 22:22 [y]Job 30:22 [z]S Job 7:10 **27:22** [a]Jer 13:14; Eze 5:11; 24:14 [b]2Ki 7:15 [c]S Job 11:20 **27:23** [d]S Nu 24:10; Na 3:19 [e]S Job 7:10 **28:1** [f]Ps 12:6; 66:10; Jer 9:7; Da 11:35; Mal 3:3 **28:2** [g]Dt 8:9 **28:3** [h]Ecc 1:13; 7:25; 8:17 [i]S Job 26:10; 38:19 **28:4** [j]ver 10; 2Sa 5:8 **28:5** [k]Ge 1:29; Ps 104:14; 145:15 **28:6** [l]ver 16; SS 5:14; Isa 54:11 [m]S Job 22:24 **28:7** [n]ver 21 **28:8** [o]Job 41:34 [p]Isa 35:9 **28:9** [q]S Dt 8:15 [r]Jnh 2:6 **28:10** [s]S ver 4 [t]Pr 2:4 **28:11** [u]S Ge 7:11 [v]Isa 48:6; Jer 33:3 **28:12** [w]ver 28; Pr 1:20; 3:13-20; 8:1; 9:1-3; Ecc 7:24 [x]ver 20, 23 **28:13** [y]Pr 3:15; Mt 13:44-46 [z]Dt 29:29; Ps 27:13; 52:5; 116:9; 142:5; Isa 38:11; Jer 11:19; Eze 26:20; 32:24 **28:14** [a]Ps 42:7; Ro 10:7 [b]Dt 30:13

in places forgotten by the foot of man;
far from men he dangles and sways.
5The earth, from which food comes,[k]
is transformed below as by fire;
6sapphires[d][l] come from its rocks,
and its dust contains nuggets of gold.[m]
7No bird of prey knows that hidden path,
no falcon's eye has seen it.[n]
8Proud beasts[o] do not set foot on it,
and no lion prowls there.[p]
9Man's hand assaults the flinty rock[q]
and lays bare the roots of the mountains.[r]
10He tunnels through the rock;[s]
his eyes see all its treasures.[t]
11He searches[e] the sources of the rivers[u]
and brings hidden things[v] to light.

12"But where can wisdom be found?[w]
Where does understanding dwell?[x]
13Man does not comprehend its worth;[y]
it cannot be found in the land of the living.[z]
14The deep[a] says, 'It is not in me';
the sea[b] says, 'It is not with me.'
15It cannot be bought with the finest gold,
nor can its price be weighed in silver.[c]
16It cannot be bought with the gold of Ophir,[d]
with precious onyx or sapphires.[e]
17Neither gold nor crystal can compare with it,[f]
nor can it be had for jewels of gold.[g]
18Coral[h] and jasper[i] are not worthy of mention;
the price of wisdom is beyond rubies.[j]
19The topaz[k] of Cush[l] cannot compare with it;
it cannot be bought with pure gold.[m]

20"Where then does wisdom come from?
Where does understanding dwell?[n]

28:15 [c]ver 17; Pr 3:13-14; 8:10-11; 16:16; Ac 8:20 **28:16** [d]S Ge 10:29 [e]S ver 6; S Ex 24:10 **28:17** [f]Ps 119:72; Pr 8:10 [g]S ver 15 **28:18** [h]Eze 27:16 [i]Rev 21:11 [j]Pr 3:15; 8:11 **28:19** [k]Ex 28:17 [l]Isa 11:11 [m]Pr 3:14-15; 8:10-11,19 **28:20** [n]S Job 9:4

[d]6 Or *lapis lazuli;* also in verse 16 [e]11 Septuagint, Aquila and Vulgate; Hebrew *He dams up*

21It is hidden from the eyes of every living thing,
concealed even from the birds of the air.
22Destruction[a] and Death say,
'Only a rumor of it has reached our ears.'
23God understands the way to it
and he alone knows where it dwells,
24for he views the ends of the earth
and sees everything under the heavens.
25When he established the force of the wind
and measured out the waters,
26when he made a decree for the rain
and a path for the thunderstorm,
27then he looked at wisdom and appraised it;
he confirmed it and tested it.
28And he said to man,
'The fear of the Lord—that is wisdom,
and to shun evil is understanding.'"

29 Job continued his discourse:
2"How I long for the months gone by,
for the days when God watched over me,
3when his lamp shone upon my head
and by his light I walked through darkness!
4Oh, for the days when I was in my prime,
when God's intimate friendship blessed my house,
5when the Almighty was still with me
and my children were around me,
6when my path was drenched with cream
and the rock poured out for me streams of olive oil.
7"When I went to the gate of the city
and took my seat in the public square,
8the young men saw me and stepped aside
and the old men rose to their feet;
9the chief men refrained from speaking
and covered their mouths with their hands;
10the voices of the nobles were hushed,
and their tongues stuck to the roof of their mouths.
11Whoever heard me spoke well of me,
and those who saw me commended me,
12because I rescued the poor who cried for help,
and the fatherless who had none to assist him.
13The man who was dying blessed me;
I made the widow's heart sing.
14I put on righteousness as my clothing;
justice was my robe and my turban.
15I was eyes to the blind
and feet to the lame.
16I was a father to the needy;
I took up the case of the stranger.
17I broke the fangs of the wicked
and snatched the victims from their teeth.
18"I thought, 'I will die in my own house,
my days as numerous as the grains of sand.
19My roots will reach to the water,
and the dew will lie all night on my branches.
20My glory will remain fresh in me,
the bow ever new in my hand.'
21"Men listened to me expectantly,
waiting in silence for my counsel.
22After I had spoken, they spoke no more;
my words fell gently on their ears.
23They waited for me as for showers
and drank in my words as the spring rain.
24When I smiled at them, they scarcely believed it;
the light of my face was precious to them.[b]
25I chose the way for them and sat as their chief;
I dwelt as a king among his troops;
I was like one who comforts mourners.

[illegible] 29:5 Ps 127:3-5; 128:3 Ru 4:1 29:6 S Job 20:17 Ps 81:16 Ge 49:20; S Dt 32:13 29:7 ver 21; Job 5:4; 31:21; Jer 20:2; 38:7 29:8 1Ti 5:1 S Lev 19:32 29:9 ver 21; Job 31:21 S Jdg 18:19; Job 40:4; Pr 30:32 29:10 ver 22 Ps 137:6 29:11 S Job 4:4; Heb 11:4 29:12 S Job 24:4 S Dt 24:17; Job 31:17,21 Ps 72:12; Pr 21:13 29:13 Job 31:20 S Dt 10:18; S Job 22:9 29:14 S 2Sa 8:15; S Job 27:6; Eph 4:24; 6:14 S Job 19:9 29:15 Nu 10:31 S Job 4:4 29:16 S Job 24:4 Ex 18:26 S Job 4:4; Pr 22:22-23 29:17 Job 24:9 S Job 4:10,11; S Ps 3:7 29:18 Ps 1:1-3; 15:5; 16:8; 30:6; 62:2; 139:18; Pr 3:1-2

29:19 S Nu 24:6; S Job 14:9 S Ge 27:28; S Job 15:30; S Ps 133:3 29:20 Ps 92:14 Job 30:11; Ps 18:34; Isa 38:12 Ge 49:24 29:21 S ver 7,5,9 29:22 ver 10 Dt 32:2 29:23 S Job 4:3 29:24 S Nu 6:25 Pr 16:14,15 29:25 S Job 21:28 S Job 1:3 S Job 4:4

a22 Hebrew *Abaddon*   b24 The meaning of the Hebrew for this clause is uncertain.

30 "But now they mock me,[a]
men younger than I,
whose fathers I would have
disdained
to put with my sheep dogs.[b]
2Of what use was the strength of
their hands to me,
since their vigor had gone from
them?
3Haggard from want and hunger,
they roamed[h] the parched land[c]
in desolate wastelands[d] at night.[e]
4In the brush they gathered salt
herbs,[f]
and their food[i] was the root of the
broom tree.[g]
5They were banished from their
fellow men,
shouted at as if they were
thieves.
6They were forced to live in the dry
stream beds,
among the rocks and in holes in
the ground.[h]
7They brayed[i] among the bushes
and huddled in the undergrowth.[j]
8A base and nameless brood,[k]
they were driven out of the land.[l]

9"And now their sons mock me[m] in
song;[n]
I have become a byword[o] among
them.
10They detest me[p] and keep their
distance;
they do not hesitate to spit in my
face.[q]
11Now that God has unstrung my
bow[r] and afflicted me,[s]
they throw off restraint[t] in my
presence.
12On my right[u] the tribe[j] attacks;
they lay snares[v] for my feet,[w]
they build their siege ramps
against me.[x]
13They break up my road;[y]
they succeed in destroying me[z] —
without anyone's helping them.[k]
14They advance as through a gaping
breach;[a]
amid the ruins they come rolling
in.
15Terrors[b] overwhelm me;[c]
my dignity is driven away as by
the wind,
my safety vanishes like a cloud.[d]

16"And now my life ebbs away;[e]
days of suffering grip me.[f]
17Night pierces my bones;
my gnawing pains never rest.[g]
18In his great power[h] ⌞God⌟ becomes
like clothing to me[l];
he binds me like the neck of my
garment.
19He throws me into the mud,[i]
and I am reduced to dust and
ashes.[j]

20"I cry out to you,[k] O God, but you
do not answer;[l]
I stand up, but you merely look
at me.
21You turn on me ruthlessly;[m]
with the might of your hand[n] you
attack me.[o]
22You snatch me up and drive me
before the wind;[p]
you toss me about in the storm.[q]
23I know you will bring me down to
death,[r]
to the place appointed for all the
living.[s]

24"Surely no one lays a hand on a
broken man[t]
when he cries for help in his
distress.[u]
25Have I not wept for those in
trouble?[v]
Has not my soul grieved for the
poor?[w]
26Yet when I hoped for good, evil
came;
when I looked for light, then came
darkness.[x]
27The churning inside me never
stops;[y]
days of suffering confront me.[z]
28I go about blackened,[a] but not by
the sun;
I stand up in the assembly and cry
for help.[b]
29I have become a brother of jackals,[c]
a companion of owls.[d]
30My skin grows black[e] and peels;[f]
my body burns with fever.[g]
31My harp is tuned to mourning,[h]
and my flute[i] to the sound of
wailing.

31 "I made a covenant with my
eyes[j]
not to look lustfully at a girl.[k]
2For what is man's lot[l] from God
above,
his heritage from the Almighty on
high?[m]

30:1 [a]S Job 6:14; S 11:3; S Ps 119:21 [b]Isa 56:10 **30:3** [c]Isa 8:21 [d]Job 24:5 [e]Jer 17:6 **30:4** [f]Job 39:6 [g]S 1Ki 19:4 **30:6** [h]Isa 2:19; Hos 10:8 **30:7** [i]Job 6:5 [j]Job 39:5-6 **30:8** [k]S Jdg 9:4 [l]S Job 18:18 **30:9** [m]S Job 16:10; Ps 69:11 [n]Job 12:4; La 3:14,63 [o]S Job 17:6 **30:10** [p]Job 19:19 [q]S Dt 25:9; Mt 26:67 **30:11** [r]S Job 29:20 [s]S Ge 12:17; S Ru 1:21 [t]Job 41:13; Ps 32:9 **30:12** [u]Ps 109:6; Zec 3:1 [v]S Job 18:9 [w]Ps 140:4-5 [x]S Job 16:10 **30:13** [y]Isa 3:12 [z]S Job 10:3 **30:14** [a]S 2Ki 25:4 **30:15** [b]S Job 6:4 [c]S Ex 3:6; Job 10:8; 31:2-3, 23; Ps 55:4-5 [d]S Job 3:25 **30:16** [e]S Job 3:24 [f]ver 27; S Job 9:17 **30:17** [g]S Dt 28:35; S Job 16:16 **30:18** [h]S Job 9:4 **30:19** [i]Ps 40:2; 69:2,14; 130:1; Jer 38:6,22 [j]S Ge 3:19; S Job 2:8 **30:20** [k]S 1Ki 8:52; Ps 34:17; Pr 2:3; Mic 4:9 [l]S Job 19:7; La 3:8 **30:21** [m]Jer 6:23; 30:14; 50:42 [n]Isa 9:12; 14:26; 31:3; Eze 6:14 [o]S Job 4:5; S 6:4; S 10:3 **30:22** [p]Job 27:21; Jude 1:12 [q]S Job 9:17 **30:23** [r]S 2Sa 14:14; S Job 3:13; S 10:3 [s]S Job 3:19 **30:24** [t]Ps 145:14; Isa 42:3; 57:15 [u]S Job 19:7 **30:25** [v]Lk 19:41; Php 3:18 [w]S Job 24:4; Ps 35:13-14; Ro 12:15 **30:26** [x]S Job 3:6,17; S 19:8; S Ps 82:5; S Jer 4:23 **30:27** [y]Ps 38:8; La 2:11 [z]S ver 16 **30:28** [a]S Job 17:14; La 4:8 [b]S Job 19:7; S 24:12 **30:29** [c]Ps 44:19; Isa 34:13; Jer 9:11 [d]Ps 102:6; Mic 1:8 **30:30** [e]S Job 17:14 [f]La 3:4; 4:8 [g]S Dt 28:35; S Job 16:16; Ps 102:3; La 1:13; 5:10 **30:31** [h]S Ge 8:8; Ps 137:2; Isa 16:11; 24:8; Eze 26:13 [i]S Ge 4:21 **31:1** [j]Pr 4:25; 17:24; 2Pe 2:14 [k]Ex 20:14,17; Dt 5:18; Mt 5:28 **31:2** [l]Nu 26:55; Ps 11:6; 16:5; 50:18; Ecc 3:22; 5:19; 9:9 [m]S Job 16:19; S 20:29

[h]3 Or *gnawed* [i]4 Or *fuel* [j]12 The meaning of the Hebrew for this word is uncertain. [k]13 Or *me. / 'No one can help him,' ⌞they say⌟.* [l]18 Hebrew; Septuagint *⌞God⌟ grasps my clothing*

3Is it not ruin[a] for the wicked,
disaster[b] for those who do
wrong?[c]
4Does he not see my ways[d]
and count my every step?[e]

5"If I have walked in falsehood
or my foot has hurried after
deceit[f]—
6let God weigh me[g] in honest
scales[h]
and he will know that I am
blameless[i]—
7if my steps have turned from the
path,[j]
if my heart has been led by my
eyes,
or if my hands[k] have been
defiled,[l]
8then may others eat what I have
sown,[m]
and may my crops be uprooted.[n]

9"If my heart has been enticed[o] by a
woman,[p]
or if I have lurked at my
neighbor's door,
10then may my wife grind[q] another
man's grain,
and may other men sleep with
her.[r]
11For that would have been
shameful,[s]
a sin to be judged.[t]
12It is a fire[u] that burns to
Destruction[m];[v]
it would have uprooted my
harvest.[w]

13"If I have denied justice to my
menservants and
maidservants[x]
when they had a grievance
against me,[y]
14what will I do when God confronts
me?[z]
What will I answer when called to
account?[a]
15Did not he who made me in the
womb make them?[b]
Did not the same one form us both
within our mothers?[c]

16"If I have denied the desires of the
poor[d]
or let the eyes of the widow[e] grow
weary,[f]
17if I have kept my bread to myself,
not sharing it with the
fatherless[g]—
18but from my youth I reared him as
would a father,
and from my birth I guided the
widow[h]—
19if I have seen anyone perishing for
lack of clothing,[i]
or a needy[j] man without a
garment,
20and his heart did not bless me[k]
for warming him with the fleece[l]
from my sheep,
21if I have raised my hand against the
fatherless,[m]
knowing that I had influence in
court,[n]
22then let my arm fall from the
shoulder,
let it be broken off at the joint.[o]
23For I dreaded destruction from
God,[p]
and for fear of his splendor[q] I
could not do such things.[r]

24"If I have put my trust in gold[s]
or said to pure gold, 'You are my
security,'[t]
25if I have rejoiced over my great
wealth,[u]
the fortune my hands had
gained,[v]
26if I have regarded the sun[w] in its
radiance
or the moon[x] moving in splendor,
27so that my heart was secretly
enticed[y]
and my hand offered them a kiss
of homage,[z]
28then these also would be sins to be
judged,[a]
for I would have been unfaithful to
God on high.[b]

29"If I have rejoiced at my enemy's
misfortune[c]
or gloated over the trouble that
came to him[d]—
30I have not allowed my mouth to sin
by invoking a curse against his
life[e]—
31if the men of my household have
never said,
'Who has not had his fill of Job's
meat?'[f]—
32but no stranger had to spend the
night in the street,
for my door was always open to
the traveler[g]—
33if I have concealed[h] my sin as
men do,[n]
by hiding[i] my guilt in my heart
34because I so feared the crowd[j]

31:3 [a]S Job 21:30 [b]Job 18:12 [c]Job 34:22; Ro 2:9 **31:4** [d]2Ch 16:9; Ps 139:3; Da 4:37; 5:23 [e]S ver 14; S Job 10:4 **31:5** [f]S Job 15:31 **31:6** [g]Ps 139:23 [h]S Lev 19:36; S Job 6:2 [i]S Ge 6:9; S Job 2:3; S 23:10 **31:7** [j]S Job 23:11 [k]S Job 9:30 [l]Ps 7:3 **31:8** [m]S Job 5:5; S 20:10; Jn 4:37 [n]ver 12; Mic 6:15 **31:9** [o]S Dt 11:16; S Job 24:15; Jas 1:14 [p]Pr 5:3; 7:5 **31:10** [q]S Jdg 16:21 [r]Dt 28:30 **31:11** [s]Pr 6:32-33 [t]S Ge 38:24; S Ex 21:12; Jn 8:4-5 **31:12** [u]S Job 15:30 [v]S Job 26:6 [w]S ver 8 **31:13** [x]S Dt 5:14 [y]Ex 21:2-11; Lev 25:39-46; Dt 24:14-15 **31:14** [z]Job 33:5 [a]ver 4,37; Ps 10:13,15; 94:7; Isa 10:3; Jer 5:31; Hos 9:7; Mic 7:4; Col 4:1 **31:15** [b]S Job 4:17; Pr 22:2 [c]S Job 10:3; Eph 6:9 **31:16** [d]S Lev 25:17; S Job 5:16 [e]S Job 22:9; Jas 1:27 [f]Job 22:7 **31:17** [g]S Job 6:27; S 22:7 **31:18** [h]Isa 51:18 **31:19** [i]Job 22:6; Isa 58:7 [j]S Job 24:4 **31:20** [k]Job 29:13 [l]Jdg 6:37 **31:21** [m]S Job 22:7; Jas 1:27 [n]S Job 29:7,9 **31:22** [o]Nu 15:30; Job 5:15; 38:15; Ps 10:15; 37:17; 137:5 **31:23** [p]S Job 10:3; S 30:15 [q]Job 13:11 [r]S Ge 20:11 **31:24** [s]S Job 22:25 [t]Mt 6:24; Lk 12:15 **31:25** [u]S Ge 12:16; Ps 49:6; 52:7; 62:10; Isa 10:14 [v]S Job 22:24; Eze 28:5; Lk 12:20-21

31:26 [w]S Ge 1:16 [x]Job 25:5 **31:27** [y]S Dt 11:16; S Job 24:15; Jas 1:14 [z]Jer 8:2; 16:11 **31:28** [a]S Ge 38:24; Dt 17:2-7 [b]S Nu 11:20; Eze 5:16 **31:29** [c]S Nu 14:1; Ps 35:15; Ob 1:12; Mt 5:44 [d]Pr 17:5; 24:17-18 **31:30** [e]Job 5:3; Ro 12:14 **31:31** [f]S Job 22:7 **31:32** [g]Ge 19:2-3; Jdg 19:20; Mt 25:35; S Ro 12:13 **31:33** [h]Ps 32:5; Pr 28:13 [i]S Ge 3:8 **31:34** [j]Ex 23:2

[m]12 Hebrew *Abaddon* [n]33 Or *as Adam did*

and so dreaded the contempt of
the clans
that I kept silent[a] and would not
go outside—

35("Oh, that I had someone to hear
me![b]
I sign now my defense—let the
Almighty answer me;
let my accuser[c] put his indictment
in writing.
36Surely I would wear it on my
shoulder,[d]
I would put it on like a crown.[e]
37I would give him an account of my
every step;[f]
like a prince[g] I would approach
him.)—

38"if my land cries out against me[h]
and all its furrows are wet[i] with
tears,
39if I have devoured its yield without
payment[j]
or broken the spirit of its tenants,[k]
40then let briers[l] come up instead of
wheat
and weeds[m] instead of barley."[n]

The words of Job are ended.[o]

Elihu

32 So these three men stopped an-
swering Job,[o] because he was
righteous in his own eyes.[p] 2But Elihu
son of Barakel the Buzite,[q] of the
family of Ram, became very angry with
Job for justifying himself[r] rather than
God.[s] 3He was also angry with the
three friends,[t] because they had found
no way to refute Job,[u] and yet had con-
demned him.[a][v] 4Now Elihu had wait-
ed before speaking to Job because they
were older than he.[w] 5But when he saw
that the three men had nothing more to
say, his anger was aroused.
6So Elihu son of Barakel the Buzite
said:

"I am young in years,
and you are old;[x]
that is why I was fearful,
not daring to tell you what I
know.
7I thought, 'Age should speak;
advanced years should teach
wisdom.'[y]
8But it is the spirit[b][z] in a man,
the breath of the Almighty,[a] that
gives him understanding.[b]
9It is not only the old[c] who are
wise,[c]
not only the aged[d] who
understand what is right.[e]

31:34 [a]Ps 32:3; 39:2
31:35 [b]S Job 9:24; 30:28 [c]Job 27:7
31:36 [d]S Ex 28:12 [e]Job 29:14
31:37 [f]S ver 14; S Job 11:11 [g]S Job 21:28
31:38 [h]S Ge 4:10 [i]Ps 65:10
31:39 [j]S 1Ki 21:19 [k]S Lev 19:13; Jas 5:4
31:40 [l]S Ge 3:18; Mt 13:7 [m]Zep 2:9; Mt 13:26 [n]Ps 72:20; Jer 51:64
32:1 [o]ver 15 [p]S Job 2:3; S 10:7
32:2 [q]S Ge 22:21 [r]ver 1 [s]S Job 13:19; 27:5; 30:21; 35:2
32:3 [t]Job 42:7 [u]ver 12-13 [v]S Job 15:13
32:4 [w]S Lev 19:32
32:6 [x]Job 15:10
32:7 [y]S 1Ch 29:15; S 2Ch 10:6
32:8 [z]ver 18 [a]S Job 27:3 [b]S Job 12:13; S Ps 119:34; Jas 1:5
32:9 [c]1Co 1:26 [d]Ps 119:100 [e]S Job 12:12,20; Lk 2:47; 1Ti 4:12
32:10 [f]Job 33:1,31,33; 34:2,16; 37:2,14; Ps 34:11 [g]S Job 5:27
32:12 [h]ver 3
32:13 [i]S Job 4:12; S Ecc 9:11 [j]S Job 11:5
32:14 [k]Job 23:4
32:15 [l]ver 1
32:17 [m]S Job 5:27; 33:3; 36:4
32:18 [n]ver 8 [o]Ac 4:20; 1Co 9:16; 2Co 5:14
32:19 [p]Jer 20:9; Am 3:8; Mt 9:17
32:20 [q]S Job 4:2; S Jer 6:11
32:21 [r]S Lev 19:15; S 2Ch 19:7; S Job 13:10 [s]Mt 22:16 [t]Pr 29:5; 1Th 2:5
32:22 [u]S Job 4:17; S 9:9 [v]Ps 12:2-4
33:1 [w]Job 32:10 [x]S Job 6:28; S 13:6
33:3 [y]1Ki 3:6; Ps 7:10; 11:2; 64:10 [z]S Job 6:28
33:4 [a]S Ge 1:2 [b]Job 10:3 [c]S Job 27:3 [d]S Nu 16:22; S Job 12:10
33:5 [e]ver 32 [f]Job 13:18 [g]S Job 31:14

10"Therefore I say: Listen to me;[f]
I too will tell you what I know.[g]
11I waited while you spoke,
I listened to your reasoning;
while you were searching for words,
12 I gave you my full attention.
But not one of you has proved Job
wrong;
none of you has answered his
arguments.[h]
13Do not say, 'We have found
wisdom;[i]
let God refute[j] him, not man.'
14But Job has not marshaled his words
against me,[k]
and I will not answer him with
your arguments.

15"They are dismayed and have no
more to say;
words have failed them.[l]
16Must I wait, now that they are silent,
now that they stand there with no
reply?
17I too will have my say;
I too will tell what I know.[m]
18For I am full of words,
and the spirit[n] within me
compels me;[o]
19inside I am like bottled-up wine,
like new wineskins ready to
burst.[p]
20I must speak and find relief;
I must open my lips and reply.[q]
21I will show partiality[r] to no one,[s]
nor will I flatter any man;[t]
22for if I were skilled in flattery,
my Maker[u] would soon take me
away.[v]

33 "But now, Job, listen[w] to my
words;
pay attention to everything I say.[x]
2I am about to open my mouth;
my words are on the tip of my
tongue.
3My words come from an upright
heart;[y]
my lips sincerely speak what I
know.[z]
4The Spirit[a] of God has made me;[b]
the breath of the Almighty[c] gives
me life.[d]
5Answer me[e] then, if you can;
prepare[f] yourself and confront
me.[g]
6I am just like you before God;[h]
I too have been taken from clay.[i]
7No fear of me should alarm you,

33:6 [h]Ac 14:15; Jas 5:17 [i]S Job 4:19

[a]3 Masoretic Text; an ancient Hebrew scribal tradition *Job, and so had condemned God* [b]8 Or *Spirit;* also in verse 18 [c]9 Or *many;* or *great*

nor should my hand be heavy
upon you.[a]

8 "But you have said in my hearing—
I heard the very words—
9 'I am pure[b] and without sin;[c]
I am clean and free from guilt.[d]
10 Yet God has found fault with me;
he considers me his enemy.[e]
11 He fastens my feet in shackles;[f]
he keeps close watch on all my
paths.'[g]

12 "But I tell you, in this you are not
right,
for God is greater than man.[h]
13 Why do you complain to him[i]
that he answers none of man's
words[r]?[j]
14 For God does speak[k]—now one
way, now another[l]—
though man may not perceive it.[m]
15 In a dream,[n] in a vision[o] of the
night,[p]
when deep sleep[q] falls on men
as they slumber in their beds,
16 he may speak[r] in their ears
and terrify them[s] with warnings,[t]
17 to turn man from wrongdoing
and keep him from pride,[u]
18 to preserve his soul from the pit,[s v]
his life from perishing by the
sword.[t w]
19 Or a man may be chastened[x] on a
bed of pain[y]
with constant distress in his
bones,[z]
20 so that his very being finds food[a]
repulsive
and his soul loathes the choicest
meal.[b]
21 His flesh wastes away to nothing,
and his bones,[c] once hidden, now
stick out.[d]
22 His soul draws near to the pit,[u e]
and his life to the messengers of
death.[v f]

23 "Yet if there is an angel on his side
as a mediator,[g] one out of a
thousand,
to tell a man what is right for
him,[h]
24 to be gracious to him and say,
'Spare him from going down to
the pit[w];[i]
I have found a ransom for him'[j]—
25 then his flesh is renewed[k] like a
child's;
it is restored as in the days of his
youth.[l]
26 He prays to God and finds favor
with him,[m]

33:7 [a]S Job 9:34; 2Co 2:4 **33:9** [b]S Job 10:7 [c]S Job 9:30; S 13:23 [d]S Job 2:9 **33:10** [e]S Job 13:24 **33:11** [f]S Job 13:27 [g]Job 14:16; Pr 3:6; Isa 30:21 **33:12** [h]S Job 5:9; Ps 8:4; 50:21; Ecc 7:20; Isa 55:8-9 **33:13** [i]Job 40:2; Isa 45:9 [j]S Job 11:8 **33:14** [k]Ps 62:11 [l]ver 29 [m]Job 4:12 **33:15** [n]S Ge 20:3; Job 4:13; S Mt 27:19 [o]Ac 16:9 [p]S Ge 15:1; Da 2:19 [q]S Ge 2:21 **33:16** [r]Job 36:10,15 [s]S Job 6:4 [t]Ps 88:15-16 **33:17** [u]S Job 20:6 **33:18** [v]ver 22, 24,28,30; Ps 28:1; 30:9; 69:15; 88:6; 103:4; Pr 1:12; Isa 14:15; 38:17; Jnh 2:6; Zec 9:11 [w]S Job 15:22; Mt 26:52 **33:19** [x]S Job 5:17 [y]S Ge 17:1; S Dt 8:5; 2Co 12:7-10; Jas 1:3 [z]S Job 16:16; Ps 6:2; 38:3; Isa 38:13 **33:20** [a]Ps 102:4; 107:18 [b]S Job 3:24; S 6:6 **33:21** [c]S Job 2:5 [d]S Job 16:8 **33:22** [e]S ver 18 [f]Job 38:17; Ps 9:13; 88:3; 107:18; 116:3 **33:23** [g]Gal 3:19; Heb 8:6; 9:15 [h]Job 36:9-10; Mic 6:8 **33:24** [i]S ver 18 [j]S Job 6:22 **33:25** [k]Ps 103:5 [l]2Ki 5:14 **33:26** [m]S Job 5:15; Pr 8:35; 12:2; 18:22; Lk 2:52

[n]S Ezr 3:13; S Job 22:26 [o]Ps 13:5; 50:15; 51:12; 1Jn 1:9 **33:27** [p]S Nu 22:34 [q]Lk 15:21 [r]S Ezr 9:13; Ps 22:27; 51:13; Ro 6:21; Jas 2:13 **33:28** [s]S Ex 15:13; Ps 34:22; 107:20 [t]S ver 18; S Job 17:16 [u]S Job 22:28 **33:29** [v]Ps 139:16; Pr 16:9; 20:24; Jer 10:23; 1Co 12:6;

he sees God's face and shouts for
joy;[n]
he is restored by God to his
righteous state.[o]
27 Then he comes to men and says,
'I sinned,[p] and perverted what
was right,[q]
but I did not get what I deserved.[r]
28 He redeemed[s] my soul from going
down to the pit,[x t]
and I will live to enjoy the light.'[u]

29 "God does all these things to a
man[v]—
twice, even three times[w]—
30 to turn back[x] his soul from the
pit,[y y]
that the light of life[z] may shine on
him.[a]

31 "Pay attention, Job, and listen[b] to
me;[c]
be silent,[d] and I will speak.
32 If you have anything to say, answer
me;[e]
speak up, for I want you to be
cleared.[f]
33 But if not, then listen to me;[g]
be silent,[h] and I will teach you
wisdom.[i]"

34

34 Then Elihu said:

2 "Hear my words, you wise
men;
listen to me,[j] you men of
learning.
3 For the ear tests words
as the tongue tastes food.[k]
4 Let us discern for ourselves what is
right;[l]
let us learn together what is
good.[m]

5 "Job says, 'I am innocent,[n]
but God denies me justice.[o]
6 Although I am right,
I am considered a liar;[p]
although I am guiltless,[q]
his arrow inflicts an incurable
wound.'[r]
7 What man is like Job,
who drinks scorn like water?[s]

Eph 1:11; Php 2:13 [w]ver 14 **33:30** [x]Jas 5:19 [y]S ver 18 [z]Ps 49:19; 56:13; 116:9; Isa 53:11 [a]Isa 60:1; Eph 5:14 **33:31** [b]Jer 23:18 [c]S Job 32:10 [d]ver 33 **33:32** [e]ver 5 [f]S Job 6:29; 35:2 **33:33** [g]S Job 32:10 [h]ver 31 [i]S Job 6:24; Pr 10:8,10,19 **34:2** [j]S Job 32:10 **34:3** [k]Job 12:11 **34:4** [l]S Job 12:12; Heb 5:14 [m]1Th 5:21 **34:5** [n]S Job 10:7 [o]S Job 6:29 **34:6** [p]S Job 6:28 [q]S Job 9:21 [r]S Job 6:4; S 10:3; S Jer 10:19 **34:7** [s]S Job 9:21; S 15:16

[r]13 *Or that he does not answer for any of his actions* [s]18 *Or preserve him from the grave* [t]18 *Or from crossing the River* [u]22 *Or He draws near to the grave* [v]22 *Or to the dead* [w]24 *Or grave* [x]28 *Or redeemed me from going down to the grave* [y]30 *Or turn him back from the grave*

8 He keeps company with evildoers;
he associates with wicked men.[a]
9 For he says, 'It profits a man nothing
when he tries to please God.'[b]

10 "So listen to me,[c] you men of understanding.[d]
Far be it from God to do evil,[e]
from the Almighty to do wrong.[f]
11 He repays a man for what he has done;[g]
he brings upon him what his conduct deserves.[h]
12 It is unthinkable that God would do wrong,[i]
that the Almighty would pervert justice.[j]
13 Who appointed[k] him over the earth?
Who put him in charge of the whole world?[l]
14 If it were his intention
and he withdrew his spirit[z][m] and breath,[n]
15 all mankind would perish[o] together
and man would return to the dust.[p]

16 "If you have understanding,[q] hear this;
listen to what I say.[r]
17 Can he who hates justice govern?[s]
Will you condemn the just and mighty One?[t]
18 Is he not the One who says to kings,
'You are worthless,'
and to nobles,[u] 'You are wicked,'[v]
19 who shows no partiality[w] to princes
and does not favor the rich over the poor,[x]
for they are all the work of his hands?[y]
20 They die in an instant, in the middle of the night;[z]
the people are shaken and they pass away;
the mighty are removed without human hand.[a]

21 "His eyes are on the ways of men;[b]
he sees their every step.[c]
22 There is no dark place,[d] no deep shadow,[e]
where evildoers can hide.[f]
23 God has no need to examine men further,[g]
that they should come before him for judgment.[h]
24 Without inquiry he shatters[i] the mighty[j]
and sets up others in their place.[k]
25 Because he takes note of their deeds,[l]
he overthrows them in the night[m]
and they are crushed.[n]
26 He punishes them for their wickedness[o]
where everyone can see them,
27 because they turned from following him[p]
and had no regard for any of his ways.[q]
28 They caused the cry of the poor to come before him,
so that he heard the cry of the needy.[r]
29 But if he remains silent,[s] who can condemn him?[t]
If he hides his face,[u] who can see him?
Yet he is over man and nation alike,[v]
30 to keep a godless[w] man from ruling,[x]
from laying snares for the people.[y]

31 "Suppose a man says to God,
'I am guilty[z] but will offend no more.
32 Teach me what I cannot see;[a]
if I have done wrong, I will not do so again.'[b]
33 Should God then reward you on your terms,
when you refuse to repent?[c]
You must decide, not I;
so tell me what you know.

34 "Men of understanding declare,
wise men who hear me say to me,
35 'Job speaks without knowledge;[d]
his words lack insight.'[e]
36 Oh, that Job might be tested to the utmost
for answering like a wicked man![f]
37 To his sin he adds rebellion;
scornfully he claps his hands[g] among us
and multiplies his words[h] against God."[i]

35 Then Elihu said:
2 "Do you think this is just?
You say, 'I will be cleared[j] by God.'[a][k]
3 Yet you ask him, 'What profit is it to me,[b]

34:8 [a]S Job 22:15
34:9 [b]S Job 9:29-31; S 21:15
34:10 [c]Job 32:10 [d]ver 16; S Job 12:12 [e]S Ge 18:25 [f]ver 12; Dt 32:4; Job 8:3; 36:23; Ps 92:15; Ro 3:5; 9:14
34:11 [g]S Job 21:31; S Mt 16:27 [h]Jer 17:10; 32:19; Eze 33:20
34:12 [i]S ver 10; Tit 1:2; Heb 6:18 [j]S Job 8:3; Ps 9:16; Col 3:25; 2Th 1:6
34:13 [k]Heb 1:2 [l]Job 36:23; 38:4,6; Isa 40:14
34:14 [m]S Ge 6:3 [n]S Nu 16:22; S Job 27:3
34:15 [o]S Ge 6:13; La 3:22; Mal 3:6; Jn 3:16 [p]S Ge 2:7; S Job 7:21; 9:22; Ps 90:10
34:16 [q]S ver 10 [r]S Job 32:10
34:17 [s]ver 30; 2Sa 23:3-4; Pr 20:8,26; 24:23-25; 28:28 [t]ver 29; S Job 10:7; 40:8; Ro 3:5-6
34:18 [u]S Job 12:18 [v]Ex 22:28; Isa 40:24
34:19 [w]S Job 13:10; S Ac 10:34 [x]S Lev 19:15; Jas 2:5 [y]S Job 10:3
34:20 [z]ver 25; S Ex 11:4; S Job 20:8 [a]S Job 12:19
34:21 [b]Jer 32:19 [c]S Job 14:16; Pr 15:3; S Heb 4:13
34:22 [d]Ps 74:20 [e]S Job 3:5 [f]S Ge 3:8; S Job 11:20
34:23 [g]Ps 11:4 [h]Job 11:11
34:24 [i]Isa 8:9; 9:4; Jer 51:20; Da 2:34 [j]Job 12:19 [k]Da 2:21
34:25 [l]S Job 11:11 [m]S ver 20 [n]Pr 5:21-23
34:26 [o]S Ge 6:5; S Job 8:22; S 28:24; Ps 9:5; Jer 44:5
34:27 [p]Ps 14:3 [q]S 1Sa 15:11
34:28 [r]S Ex 22:23; S Job 5:15; S 12:19
34:29 [s]Ps 28:1; 83:1; 109:1 [t]S ver 17; Ro 8:34 [u]Ps 13:1 [v]Ps 83:18; 97:9
34:30 [w]S Job 8:13 [x]S ver 17 [y]Ps 25:15; 31:4; 91:3; 124:7; 140:5; Pr 29:2-12
34:31 [z]Ps 51:5; Lk 15:21; Ro 7:24; 1Jn 1:8,10
34:32 [a]Ex 33:13; Job 35:11; 38:36; Ps 15:2; 25:4; 27:11; 51:6; 86:11; 139:23-24; 143:8 [b]Job 33:27; S Lk 19:8
34:33 [c]S 2Ki 17:13; Job 33:23; 36:10,15,18,21; 41:11; 42:6; Pr 17:23; Jnh 3:8
34:35 [d]Job 35:16; 38:2; 42:3 [e]Job 26:3
34:36 [f]S Job 6:29; S 22:15
34:37 [g]S Job 27:23 [h]Job 35:16 [i]Job 23:2
35:2 [j]S Job 33:32 [k]S Job 2:9; S 32:2

[z]14 Or *Spirit* [a]2 Or *My righteousness is more than God's* [b]3 Or *you*

and what do I gain by not
sinning?'[a]

4"I would like to reply to you
and to your friends with you.
5Look up at the heavens[b] and see;
gaze at the clouds so high above
you.[c]
6If you sin, how does that affect him?
If your sins are many, what does
that do to him?[d]
7If you are righteous, what do you
give to him,[e]
or what does he receive[f] from
your hand?[g]
8Your wickedness affects only a man
like yourself,[h]
and your righteousness only the
sons of men.[i]

9"Men cry out[j] under a load of
oppression;[k]
they plead for relief from the arm
of the powerful.[l]
10But no one says, 'Where is God my
Maker,[m]
who gives songs[n] in the night,[o]
11who teaches[p] more to[q] us than to[c]
the beasts of the earth
and makes us wiser than[d] the
birds of the air?'
12He does not answer[r] when men cry
out
because of the arrogance[s] of the
wicked.[t]
13Indeed, God does not listen to their
empty plea;
the Almighty pays no attention
to it.[u]
14How much less, then, will he listen
when you say that you do not see
him,[v]
that your case[w] is before him
and you must wait for him,[x]
15and further, that his anger never
punishes[y]
and he does not take the least
notice of wickedness.[e][z]
16So Job opens his mouth with empty
talk;[a]
without knowledge he multiplies
words."[b]

36

Elihu continued:
2"Bear with me a little longer
and I will show you
that there is more to be said in
God's behalf.
3I get my knowledge from afar;[c]
I will ascribe justice to my
Maker.[d]
4Be assured that my words are not
false;[e]
one perfect in knowledge[f] is with
you.[g]

5"God is mighty,[h] but does not
despise men;[i]
he is mighty, and firm in his
purpose.[j]
6He does not keep the wicked alive[k]
but gives the afflicted their
rights.[l]
7He does not take his eyes off the
righteous;[m]
he enthrones them with kings[n]
and exalts them forever.[o]
8But if men are bound in chains,[p]
held fast by cords of affliction,[q]
9he tells them what they have done—
that they have sinned arrogantly.[r]
10He makes them listen[s] to
correction[t]
and commands them to repent of
their evil.[u]
11If they obey and serve him,[v]
they will spend the rest of their
days in prosperity[w]
and their years in contentment.[x]
12But if they do not listen,
they will perish by the sword[f][y]
and die without knowledge.[z]

13"The godless in heart[a] harbor
resentment;[b]
even when he fetters them, they
do not cry for help.[c]
14They die in their youth,[d]
among male prostitutes of the
shrines.[e]
15But those who suffer[f] he delivers in
their suffering;[g]
he speaks[h] to them in their
affliction.[i]

16"He is wooing[j] you from the jaws of
distress
to a spacious place[k] free from
restriction,[l]
to the comfort of your table[m] laden
with choice food.[n]
17But now you are laden with the
judgment due the wicked;[o]
judgment and justice have taken
hold of you.[p]
18Be careful that no one entices you by
riches;

35:3 [a]S Job 9:29-31; S 21:15 **35:5** [b]S Ge 15:5; S Dt 10:14 [c]S Job 11:7-9; Ps 19:1-4 **35:6** [d]S Job 7:20 **35:7** [e]Ro 11:35 [f]1Co 4:7 [g]S Job 22:2-3; Lk 17:10 **35:8** [h]Eze 18:24 [i]Eze 18:5-9; Zec 7:9-10 **35:9** [j]Ex 2:23 [k]S Job 20:19 [l]S Job 5:15; S 12:19 **35:10** [m]S Job 4:17 [n]S Job 8:21 [o]Ps 42:8; 77:6; 119:62; 149:5; Ac 16:25 **35:11** [p]S Job 21:22; Lk 12:24 [q]Job 12:7 **35:12** [r]S 1Sa 8:18 [s]S Job 15:25 [t]Ps 66:18 **35:13** [u]S Dt 1:45; S 1Sa 8:18; S Job 15:31; S Pr 15:8 **35:14** [v]S Job 9:11 [w]Ps 37:6 [x]Job 31:35 **35:15** [y]S Job 9:24 [z]S Job 18:5; Ps 10:11; Hos 7:2; Am 8:7 **35:16** [a]Tit 1:10 [b]S Job 34:35,37; 1Co 4:20; Jude 1:10 **36:3** [c]S Job 6:28 [d]S Job 4:17 **36:4** [e]S Job 6:28; S 13:6 [f]Job 37:5,16,23 [g]S Job 32:17 **36:5** [h]S Job 9:4 [i]Ps 5:2; 22:24; 31:22; 69:33; 102:17; 103:10 [j]S Nu 23:19; Ro 11:29 **36:6** [k]S Job 34:26 [l]S Job 4:10 **36:7** [m]S Job 11:11; Ps 11:5; 33:18; 34:15; Mt 6:18 [n]Ps 113:8; Isa 22:23 [o]S 1Sa 2:7-8; S Job 4:7 **36:8** [p]S 2Sa 3:34; 2Ki 23:33; Ps 107:10,14 [q]ver 10,15,21; Ps 119:67,71 **36:9** [r]S Job 15:25 **36:10** [s]S Job 33:16 [t]S Job 5:17 [u]S ver 8; S Jdg 6:8; S Job 34:33; 1Th 5:22 **36:11** [v]S Lev 26:33; Dt 28:1; Isa 1:19; Hag 1:12 [w]S Dt 30:15; S Job 8:7 [x]S Ex 8:22; S Dt 8:1; Jn 14:21; 1Ti 4:8 **36:12** [y]S Lev 26:38; S Job 15:22 [z]S Job 4:21; Eph 4:18 **36:13** [a]S Job 15:12; Ro 2:5 [b]S Job 5:2 [c]S Job 4:17; Am 4:11 **36:14** [d]S Job 15:32 [e]S Dt 23:17 **36:15** [f]S Job 5:15 [g]2Co 12:10 [h]S Job 33:16 [i]S ver 8; S Job 34:33 **36:16** [j]Hos 2:14 [k]S 2Sa 22:20; Ps 18:19 [l]Ps 118:5 [m]Ps 23:5; 78:19 [n]S Ge 17:1; S Job 15:11 **36:17** [o]S Job 20:29 [p]Job 22:11

[c]11 Or *teaches us by* [d]11 Or *us wise by*
[e]15 Symmachus, Theodotion and Vulgate; the meaning of the Hebrew for this word is uncertain.
[f]12 Or *will cross the River*

do not let a large bribe[a] turn you
aside.[b]
19Would your wealth[c]
or even all your mighty efforts
sustain you so you would not be
in distress?
20Do not long for the night,[d]
to drag people away from their
homes.[g]
21Beware of turning to evil,[e]
which you seem to prefer to
affliction.[f]

22"God is exalted in his power.[g]
Who is a teacher like him?[h]
23Who has prescribed his ways[i] for
him,[j]
or said to him, 'You have done
wrong'?[k]
24Remember to extol his work,[l]
which men have praised in song.[m]
25All mankind has seen it;[n]
men gaze on it from afar.
26How great is God—beyond our
understanding![o]
The number of his years is past
finding out.[p]

27"He draws up the drops of water,[q]
which distill as rain to the
streams[h];[r]
28the clouds pour down their moisture
and abundant showers[s] fall on
mankind.[t]
29Who can understand how he
spreads out the clouds,
how he thunders[u] from his
pavilion?[v]
30See how he scatters his lightning[w]
about him,
bathing the depths of the sea.[x]
31This is the way he governs[i] the
nations[y]
and provides food[z] in
abundance.[a]
32He fills his hands with lightning
and commands it to strike its
mark.[b]
33His thunder announces the coming
storm;[c]
even the cattle make known its
approach.[j] [d]

37

"At this my heart pounds[e]
and leaps from its place.
2Listen![f] Listen to the roar of his
voice,[g]
to the rumbling that comes from
his mouth.[h]
3He unleashes his lightning[i] beneath
the whole heaven
and sends it to the ends of the
earth.[j]
4After that comes the sound of his
roar;
he thunders[k] with his majestic
voice.[l]
When his voice resounds,
he holds nothing back.
5God's voice thunders[m] in marvelous
ways;[n]
he does great things beyond our
understanding.[o]
6He says to the snow,[p] 'Fall on the
earth,'
and to the rain shower, 'Be a
mighty downpour.'[q]
7So that all men he has made may
know his work,[r]
he stops every man from his
labor.[k] [s]
8The animals take cover;[t]
they remain in their dens.[u]
9The tempest comes out from its
chamber,[v]
the cold from the driving winds.[w]
10The breath of God produces ice,
and the broad waters become
frozen.[x]
11He loads the clouds with moisture;[y]
he scatters his lightning[z] through
them.[a]
12At his direction they swirl around
over the face of the whole earth
to do whatever he commands
them.[b]
13He brings the clouds to punish
men,[c]
or to water his earth[l] and show
his love.[d]

14"Listen[e] to this, Job;
stop and consider God's
wonders.[f]
15Do you know how God controls the
clouds
and makes his lightning[g] flash?[h]
16Do you know how the clouds hang
poised,[i]
those wonders of him who is
perfect in knowledge?[j]
17You who swelter in your clothes
when the land lies hushed under
the south wind,[k]

36:18 [a]S Ex 23:8; Am 5:12 [b]S Job 34:33 **36:19** [c]Ps 49:6; Jer 9:23 **36:20** [d]Job 34:20,25 **36:21** [e]S Job 34:33; Ps 66:18 [f]S ver 8; Heb 11:25 **36:22** [g]S Job 5:9; S 9:4 [h]S Job 21:22; S Ro 11:34 **36:23** [i]Job 27:11 [j]S Job 34:13; Ro 11:33 [k]S Ge 18:25; S Job 34:10 **36:24** [l]1Ch 16:24; Ps 35:27; 92:5; 111:2; 138:5; 145:10 [m]S Ex 15:1; Rev 15:3 **36:25** [n]Ro 1:20 **36:26** [o]S Job 5:9; 1Co 13:12 [p]S Ge 21:33; S Job 10:5; Heb 1:12 **36:27** [q]S Job 26:8 [r]S 2Sa 1:21; Job 28:26; 38:28; Isa 55:10 **36:28** [s]Ps 65:10; 72:6; Joel 2:23 [t]S Job 5:10; S 22:11; S 28:26; Mt 5:45 **36:29** [u]Ps 29:3; Jer 10:13 [v]S Job 9:6; 37:16; Ps 18:7-15; 19:4, 5; 104:2; Pr 8:28; Isa 40:22 **36:30** [w]Ex 19:16; Job 37:11,15; Ps 18:12,14; 97:4; Jer 10:13; Hab 3:11 [x]Ps 68:22; Isa 51:10 **36:31** [y]Dt 28:23-24; 1Ki 17:1; Job 37:13; Am 4:7-8 [z]Ps 145:15 [a]Ps 104:14-15, 27-28; Isa 30:23; Ac 14:17 **36:32** [b]S Job 28:24; 37:12,15; Ps 18:14; 29:7-9 **36:33** [c]Job 37:5; 40:9 [d]S Job 28:26 **37:1** [e]Ps 38:10; Isa 15:5; Jer 4:19; Hab 3:16 **37:2** [f]S Job 32:10 [g]ver 5 [h]Ps 18:13; 29:3-9 **37:3** [i]S 2Sa 22:13; Ps 18:14 [j]S Job 36:32; Mt 24:27; Lk 17:24 **37:4** [k]S 1Sa 2:10 [l]S Ex 20:19 **37:5** [m]S 1Sa 2:10; Jn 12:29 [n]S Job 36:33 [o]S Job 5:9; S 11:7-9; S 36:4 **37:6** [p]Dt 28:12; Job 38:22 [q]S Ge 7:4; S Job 5:10; S 28:26 **37:7** [r]Ps 109:27 [s]Ps 104:19-23; 111:2 **37:8** [t]S Job 28:26 [u]Job 38:40; Ps 104:22 **37:9** [v]Ps 50:3 [w]Ps 147:17 **37:10** [x]Job 38:29-30; Ps 147:17 **37:11** [y]S Job 26:8 [z]S Job 36:30 [a]S Job 28:26 **37:12** [b]S ver 3; Ps 147:16; 148:8 **37:13** [c]S Ge 7:4; Ex 9:22-23; S 1Sa 12:17 [d]S 1Ki 18:45; S Job 5:10; S 36:31; 38:27 **37:14** [e]S Job 32:10 [f]S Job 5:9 **37:15** [g]S Job 36:30 [h]S Job 36:32 **37:16** [i]S Job 36:29 [j]S Job 5:9; S 36:4 **37:17** [k]Ac 27:13

[g]20 The meaning of the Hebrew for verses 18-20 is uncertain. [h]27 Or *distill from the mist as rain* [i]31 Or *nourishes* [j]33 Or *announces his coming— / the One zealous against evil* [k]7 Or / *he fills all men with fear by his power* [l]13 Or *to favor them*

18 can you join him in spreading out
the skies,[a]
hard as a mirror of cast bronze?[b]

19 "Tell us what we should say to
him;[c]
we cannot draw up our case[d]
because of our darkness.[e]
20 Should he be told that I want to
speak?
Would any man ask to be
swallowed up?
21 Now no one can look at the sun,[f]
bright as it is in the skies
after the wind has swept them
clean.
22 Out of the north he comes in golden
splendor;[g]
God comes in awesome majesty.[h]
23 The Almighty is beyond our reach
and exalted in power;[i]
in his justice[j] and great
righteousness, he does not
oppress.[k]
24 Therefore, men revere him,[l]
for does he not have regard for all
the wise[m] in heart?[m]"

The LORD Speaks

38 Then the LORD answered Job[n]
out of the storm.[o] He said:

2 "Who is this that darkens my
counsel[p]
with words without knowledge?[q]
3 Brace yourself like a man;
I will question you,
and you shall answer me.[r]

4 "Where were you when I laid the
earth's foundation?[s]
Tell me, if you understand.[t]
5 Who marked off its dimensions?[u]
Surely you know!
Who stretched a measuring line[v]
across it?
6 On what were its footings set,[w]
or who laid its cornerstone[x]—
7 while the morning stars[y] sang
together[z]
and all the angels[n][a] shouted for
joy?[b]

8 "Who shut up the sea behind doors[c]
when it burst forth from the
womb,[d]
9 when I made the clouds its garment
and wrapped it in thick darkness,[e]
10 when I fixed limits for it[f]
and set its doors and bars in
place,[g]
11 when I said, 'This far you may come
and no farther;[h]
here is where your proud waves
halt'?[i]

12 "Have you ever given orders to the
morning,[j]
or shown the dawn its place,[k]
13 that it might take the earth by the
edges
and shake the wicked[l] out of it?[m]
14 The earth takes shape like clay under
a seal;[n]
its features stand out like those of
a garment.
15 The wicked are denied their light,[o]
and their upraised arm is broken.[p]

16 "Have you journeyed to the springs
of the sea
or walked in the recesses of the
deep?[q]
17 Have the gates of death[r] been
shown to you?
Have you seen the gates of the
shadow of death[o]?[s]
18 Have you comprehended the vast
expanses of the earth?[t]
Tell me, if you know all this.[u]

19 "What is the way to the abode of
light?
And where does darkness reside?[v]
20 Can you take them to their places?
Do you know the paths[w] to their
dwellings?
21 Surely you know, for you were
already born![x]
You have lived so many years!

22 "Have you entered the storehouses
of the snow[y]
or seen the storehouses[z] of the
hail,[a]
23 which I reserve for times of trouble,[b]
for days of war and battle?[c]
24 What is the way to the place where
the lightning is dispersed,[d]
or the place where the east winds[e]
are scattered over the earth?[f]
25 Who cuts a channel for the torrents
of rain,
and a path for the thunderstorm,[g]
26 to water[h] a land where no man
lives,
a desert with no one in it,[i]
27 to satisfy a desolate wasteland
and make it sprout with grass?[j]

37:18 [a]S Ge 1:1, 8; S Job 22:14 [b]Dt 28:23 **37:19** [c]Ro 8:26 [d]S Job 13:18 [e]S Job 9:3 **37:21** [f]S Jdg 5:31; Ac 22:11; 26:13 **37:22** [g]Ps 19:5 [h]Ex 24:17 **37:23** [i]S Job 5:9; S 36:4; Ro 11:33; 1Ti 6:16 [j]S Job 8:3 [k]S Job 4:17; Ps 44:1; Isa 63:9; Jer 25:5; La 3:33; Eze 18:23,32 **37:24** [l]S Ge 22:12; Job 28:28; Ecc 12:13; Mic 6:8; Mt 10:28 [m]S Job 5:13; Eph 5:15 **38:1** [n]S Job 11:5 [o]S Ex 14:21; S 1Sa 2:10; Job 40:6; Isa 21:1; Eze 1:4 **38:2** [p]S 1Ki 22:5; Isa 40:13 [q]S Job 34:35; Mk 10:38; 1Ti 1:7 **38:3** [r]Job 40:7; 42:4; Mk 11:29 **38:4** [s]S ver 5; S Ge 1:1; S 1Sa 2:8 [t]ver 18; S Job 34:13; Pr 30:4 **38:5** [u]ver 4; Ps 102:25; Pr 8:29; Isa 40:12; 48:13; Jer 31:37 [v]Jer 31:39; Zec 1:16; 4:9-10 **38:6** [w]Pr 8:25 [x]S Job 26:7 **38:7** [y]S Ge 1:16 [z]Ps 19:1-4; 148:2-3 [a]S 1Ki 22:19 [b]S Dt 16:15 **38:8** [c]ver 11; Ps 33:7; Pr 8:29; Jer 5:22 [d]S Ge 1:9-10 **38:9** [e]S Ge 1:2 **38:10** [f]S Job 28:25; Ps 33:7; 104:9; Isa 40:12 [g]Ne 3:3; Job 7:12; 26:10 **38:11** [h]S ver 8 [i]Ps 65:7; 89:9; 104:6-9 **38:12** [j]Ps 57:8 [k]Ps 74:16; Am 5:8 **38:13** [l]Ps 104:35 [m]S Job 8:22 **38:14** [n]Ex 28:11 **38:15** [o]S Dt 28:29; S Job 15:22; S 18:5 [p]S Ge 17:14; S Job 4:10; S 31:22 **38:16** [q]S Ge 1:7; S Job 9:8 **38:17** [r]S Job 33:22; Mt 16:18; Rev 1:18 [s]S Job 7:9 **38:18** [t]S Job 28:24; Isa 40:12 [u]S ver 4

38:19 [v]S Ge 1:4; S Job 28:3; Ps 139:11-12 **38:20** [w]S Job 24:13 **38:21** [x]Job 15:7 **38:22** [y]S Job 37:6 [z]S Dt 28:12 [a]Ps 105:32; 147:17 **38:23** [b]Ps 27:5; Isa 28:17; 30:30; Eze 13:11 [c]Ex 9:26; Jos 10:11; Eze 13:13; Rev 16:21 **38:24** [d]S Job 28:24 [e]S Job 27:21 [f]Jer 10:13; 51:16 **38:25** [g]Job 28:26 **38:26** [h]Job 36:27 [i]Ps 84:6; 107:35; Isa 41:18 **38:27** [j]S Job 28:26; S 37:13; S Ps 104:14

[m]24 Or *for he does not have regard for any who think they are wise.* [n]7 Hebrew *the sons of God* [o]17 Or *gates of deep shadows*

28Does the rain have a father?[a]
Who fathers the drops of dew?
29From whose womb comes the ice?
Who gives birth to the frost from the heavens[b]
30when the waters become hard as stone,
when the surface of the deep is frozen?[c]

31"Can you bind the beautiful[p] Pleiades?
Can you loose the cords of Orion?[d]
32Can you bring forth the constellations[e] in their seasons[q]
or lead out the Bear[r] with its cubs?[f]
33Do you know the laws[g] of the heavens?[h]
Can you set up ⌞God's[s]⌟ dominion over the earth?

34"Can you raise your voice to the clouds
and cover yourself with a flood of water?[i]
35Do you send the lightning bolts on their way?[j]
Do they report to you, 'Here we are'?
36Who endowed the heart[t] with wisdom[k]
or gave understanding[l] to the mind[t]?
37Who has the wisdom to count the clouds?
Who can tip over the water jars[m] of the heavens[n]
38when the dust becomes hard[o]
and the clods of earth stick together?[p]

39"Do you hunt the prey for the lioness
and satisfy the hunger of the lions[q]
40when they crouch in their dens[r]
or lie in wait in a thicket?[s]
41Who provides food[t] for the raven[u]
when its young cry out to God
and wander about for lack of food?[v]

39 "Do you know when the mountain goats[w] give birth?
Do you watch when the doe bears her fawn?[x]
2Do you count the months till they bear?
Do you know the time they give birth?[y]
3They crouch down and bring forth their young;
their labor pains are ended.
4Their young thrive and grow strong in the wilds;
they leave and do not return.

5"Who let the wild donkey[z] go free?
Who untied his ropes?
6I gave him the wasteland[a] as his home,
the salt flats[b] as his habitat.[c]
7He laughs[d] at the commotion in the town;
he does not hear a driver's shout.[e]
8He ranges the hills[f] for his pasture
and searches for any green thing.

9"Will the wild ox[g] consent to serve you?[h]
Will he stay by your manger[i] at night?
10Can you hold him to the furrow with a harness?[j]
Will he till the valleys behind you?
11Will you rely on him for his great strength?[k]
Will you leave your heavy work to him?
12Can you trust him to bring in your grain
and gather it to your threshing floor?

13"The wings of the ostrich flap joyfully,
but they cannot compare with the pinions and feathers of the stork.[l]
14She lays her eggs on the ground
and lets them warm in the sand,
15unmindful that a foot may crush them,
that some wild animal may trample them.[m]
16She treats her young harshly,[n] as if they were not hers;
she cares not that her labor was in vain,
17for God did not endow her with wisdom
or give her a share of good sense.[o]
18Yet when she spreads her feathers to run,
she laughs[p] at horse and rider.

19"Do you give the horse his strength[q]
or clothe his neck with a flowing mane?
20Do you make him leap like a locust,[r]

38:28 [a]S 2Sa 1:21; S Job 5:10 **38:29** [b]Ps 147:16-17 **38:30** [c]Job 37:10 **38:31** [d]Job 9:9; Am 5:8 **38:32** [e]2Ki 23:5; Isa 13:10; 40:26; 45:12; Jer 19:13 [f]S Ge 1:16 **38:33** [g]Ps 148:6; Jer 31:36 [h]S Ge 1:16 **38:34** [i]S Job 5:10; S 22:11 **38:35** [j]S Job 36:32 **38:36** [k]S Job 9:4; S 34:32; Jas 1:5 [l]S Job 12:13 **38:37** [m]S Jos 3:16 [n]S Job 22:11 **38:38** [o]S Lev 26:19 [p]1Ki 18:45 **38:39** [q]S Ge 49:9 **38:40** [r]S Job 37:8 [s]S Ge 49:9 **38:41** [t]S Ge 1:30 [u]S Ge 8:7; Lk 12:24 [v]Ps 147:9; S Mt 6:26 **39:1** [w]S Dt 14:5 [x]Ge 49:21 **39:2** [y]S Ge 31:7-9

39:5 [z]S Ge 16:12 **39:6** [a]Job 24:5; Ps 107:34; Jer 2:24 [b]Job 30:4 [c]Job 30:7; Jer 14:6; 17:6 **39:7** [d]S Job 5:22 [e]Job 3:18 **39:8** [f]Isa 32:20 **39:9** [g]S Nu 23:22 [h]S Ex 21:6 [i]S Ge 42:27 **39:10** [j]Job 41:13; Ps 32:9 **39:11** [k]ver 19; Job 40:16; 41:12, 22; Ps 147:10 **39:13** [l]Zec 5:9 **39:15** [m]2Ki 14:9 **39:16** [n]ver 17; La 4:3 **39:17** [o]S ver 16; S Job 21:22 **39:18** [p]S Job 5:22 **39:19** [q]S ver 11 **39:20** [r]Joel 2:4-5; Rev 9:7

[p]31 Or *the twinkling;* or *the chains of the* [q]32 Or *the morning star in its season* [r]32 Or *out Leo* [s]33 Or *his;* or *their* [t]36 The meaning of the Hebrew for this word is uncertain.

striking terror[a] with his proud
snorting?[b]
21He paws fiercely, rejoicing in his
strength,[c]
and charges into the fray.[d]
22He laughs[e] at fear, afraid of nothing;
he does not shy away from the
sword.
23The quiver[f] rattles against his side,
along with the flashing spear[g] and
lance.
24In frenzied excitement he eats up the
ground;
he cannot stand still when the
trumpet sounds.[h]
25At the blast of the trumpet[i] he
snorts, 'Aha!'
He catches the scent of battle from
afar,
the shout of commanders and the
battle cry.[j]

26"Does the hawk take flight by your
wisdom
and spread his wings toward the
south?[k]
27Does the eagle soar at your
command
and build his nest on high?[l]
28He dwells on a cliff and stays there
at night;
a rocky crag[m] is his stronghold.
29From there he seeks out his food;[n]
his eyes detect it from afar.
30His young ones feast on blood,
and where the slain are, there
is he."[o]

40 The LORD said to Job:[p]

2"Will the one who contends
with the Almighty[q] correct
him?[r]
Let him who accuses God answer
him!"[s]

3Then Job answered the LORD:

4"I am unworthy[t]—how can I reply
to you?
I put my hand over my mouth.[u]
5I spoke once, but I have no
answer[v]—
twice, but I will say no more."[w]

6Then the LORD spoke to Job out of
the storm:[x]

7"Brace yourself like a man;
I will question you,
and you shall answer me.[y]

8"Would you discredit my justice?[z]
Would you condemn me to justify
yourself?[a]
9Do you have an arm like God's,[b]
and can your voice[c] thunder like
his?[d]
10Then adorn yourself with glory and
splendor,
and clothe yourself in honor and
majesty.[e]
11Unleash the fury of your wrath,[f]
look at every proud man and bring
him low,[g]
12look at every proud[h] man and
humble him,[i]
crush[j] the wicked where they
stand.
13Bury them all in the dust together;[k]
shroud their faces in the grave.[l]
14Then I myself will admit to you
that your own right hand can save
you.[m]

15"Look at the behemoth,[u]
which I made[n] along with you
and which feeds on grass like
an ox.[o]
16What strength[p] he has in his loins,
what power in the muscles of his
belly![q]
17His tail[v] sways like a cedar;
the sinews of his thighs are
close-knit.[r]
18His bones are tubes of bronze,
his limbs[s] like rods of iron.[t]
19He ranks first among the works of
God,[u]
yet his Maker[v] can approach him
with his sword.[w]
20The hills bring him their produce,[x]
and all the wild animals play[y]
nearby.[z]
21Under the lotus plants he lies,
hidden among the reeds[a] in the
marsh.[b]
22The lotuses conceal him in their
shadow;
the poplars by the stream[c]
surround him.
23When the river rages,[d] he is not
alarmed;
he is secure, though the Jordan[e]
should surge against his
mouth.
24Can anyone capture him by the
eyes,[w]
or trap him and pierce his nose?[f]

39:20 [a]Job 41:25 [b]Jer 8:16
39:21 [c]ver 11 [d]Jer 8:6
39:22 [e]S Job 5:22
39:23 [f]Isa 5:28; Jer 5:16 [g]Na 3:3
39:24 [h]Nu 10:9; Jer 4:5,19; Eze 7:14; Am 3:6
39:25 [i]Jos 6:5 [j]Jer 8:6; Am 1:14; 2:2
39:26 [k]Jer 8:7
39:27 [l]Jer 49:16; Ob 1:4; Hab 2:9
39:28 [m]Jer 49:16; Ob 1:3
39:29 [n]S Job 9:26
39:30 [o]Mt 24:28; Lk 17:37
40:1 [p]S Job 5:8; S 10:2
40:2 [q]S Job 13:3 [r]S Job 9:15; S 11:8; S 33:13; Ro 9:20 [s]S Job 9:3
40:4 [t]Job 42:6 [u]S Jdg 18:19; S Job 29:9
40:5 [v]S Job 9:3 [w]S Job 9:15
40:6 [x]S Ex 14:21; S Job 38:1
40:7 [y]S Job 38:3
40:8 [z]S Job 15:25; S 27:2; Ro 3:3 [a]S Job 2:3; S 34:17
40:9 [b]S 2Ch 32:8; S Ps 98:1 [c]Isa 6:8; Eze 10:5 [d]S Ex 20:19; S Job 36:33
40:10 [e]Ps 29:1-2; 45:3; 93:1; 96:6; 104:1; 145:5
40:11 [f]S Job 20:28; Ps 7:11; Isa 5:25; 9:12,19; 10:5; 13:3,5; 30:27; 42:25; 51:20; Jer 7:20; Na 1:6; Zep 1:18 [g]Ps 18:27; Isa 2:11,12,17; 23:9; 24:10; 25:12; 26:5; 32:19
40:12 [h]Ps 10:4; Isa 25:11; Jer 48:29; 49:16; Zep 2:10 [i]S 1Sa 2:7; S Ps 52:5; 1Pe 5:5 [j]Ps 60:12; Isa 22:5; 28:3; 63:2-3,6; Da 5:20; Mic 5:8; 7:10; Zec 10:5; Mal 4:3
40:13 [k]Nu 16:31-34 [l]S Job 4:9
40:14 [m]Ex 15:6, 12; Ps 18:35; 20:6; 48:10; 60:5; 108:6; Isa 41:10; 63:5
40:15 [n]S Job 9:9 [o]Isa 11:7; 65:25
40:16 [p]S Job 39:11 [q]Job 41:9
40:17 [r]Job 41:15
40:18 [s]Job 41:12 [t]Isa 11:4; 49:2
40:19 [u]Job 41:33; Ps 40:5; 139:14; Isa 27:1 [v]S Job 4:17; S 9:9 [w]S Ge 3:24 **40:20** [x]Ps 104:14 [y]Ps 104:26 [z]S Job 5:23 **40:21** [a]S Ge 41:2; Ps 68:30; Isa 35:7 [b]Job 8:11 **40:22** [c]Ps 1:3; Isa 44:4 **40:23** [d]Isa 8:7; 11:15 [e]S Jos 3:1 **40:24** [f]2Ki 19:28; Job 41:2,7,26; Isa 37:29

[u]*15* Possibly the hippopotamus or the elephant
[v]*17* Possibly trunk [w]*24* Or *by a water hole*

41 [1]"Can you pull in the
leviathan[x][a] with a fishhook[b]
or tie down his tongue with a
rope?
[2]Can you put a cord through his
nose[c]
or pierce his jaw with a hook?[d]
[3]Will he keep begging you for
mercy?[e]
Will he speak to you with gentle
words?
[4]Will he make an agreement with you
for you to take him as your slave
for life?[f]
[5]Can you make a pet of him like a
bird
or put him on a leash for your
girls?
[6]Will traders barter for him?
Will they divide him up among the
merchants?
[7]Can you fill his hide with harpoons
or his head with fishing spears?[g]
[8]If you lay a hand on him,
you will remember the struggle
and never do it again![h]
[9]Any hope of subduing him is false;
the mere sight of him is
overpowering.[i]
[10]No one is fierce enough to rouse
him.[j]
Who then is able to stand
against me?[k]
[11]Who has a claim against me that I
must pay?[l]
Everything under heaven belongs
to me.[m]

[12]"I will not fail to speak of his limbs,[n]
his strength[o] and his graceful
form.
[13]Who can strip off his outer coat?
Who would approach him with a
bridle?[p]
[14]Who dares open the doors of his
mouth,[q]
ringed about with his fearsome
teeth?
[15]His back has[y] rows of shields
tightly sealed together;[r]
[16]each is so close to the next
that no air can pass between.
[17]They are joined fast to one another;
they cling together and cannot be
parted.
[18]His snorting throws out flashes of
light;
his eyes are like the rays of
dawn.[s]
[19]Firebrands[t] stream from his mouth;
sparks of fire shoot out.
[20]Smoke pours from his nostrils[u]
as from a boiling pot over a fire of
reeds.
[21]His breath[v] sets coals ablaze,
and flames dart from his mouth.[w]
[22]Strength[x] resides in his neck;
dismay goes before him.
[23]The folds of his flesh are tightly
joined;
they are firm and immovable.
[24]His chest is hard as rock,
hard as a lower millstone.[y]
[25]When he rises up, the mighty are
terrified;[z]
they retreat before his thrashing.[a]
[26]The sword that reaches him has no
effect,
nor does the spear or the dart or
the javelin.[b][c]
[27]Iron he treats like straw[d]
and bronze like rotten wood.
[28]Arrows do not make him flee;[e]
slingstones are like chaff to him.
[29]A club seems to him but a piece of
straw;[f]
he laughs[g] at the rattling of the
lance.
[30]His undersides are jagged potsherds,
leaving a trail in the mud like a
threshing sledge.[h]
[31]He makes the depths churn like a
boiling caldron[i]
and stirs up the sea like a pot of
ointment.[j]
[32]Behind him he leaves a glistening
wake;
one would think the deep had
white hair.
[33]Nothing on earth is his equal[k]—
a creature without fear.
[34]He looks down on all that are
haughty;[l]
he is king over all that are
proud.[m]"

Job

42 Then Job replied to the LORD:
[2]"I know that you can do all
things;[n]
no plan of yours can be
thwarted.[o]
[3]You asked, 'Who is this that
obscures my counsel without
knowledge?'[p]
Surely I spoke of things I did not
understand,
things too wonderful for me to
know.[q]
[4]"You said, 'Listen now, and I will
speak;

41:1 [a]S Job 3:8 [b]Am 4:2 **41:2** [c]S Job 40:24 [d]Eze 19:4 **41:3** [e]1Ki 20:31 **41:4** [f]S Ex 21:6 **41:7** [g]S Job 40:24 **41:8** [h]S Job 3:8 **41:9** [i]Job 40:16 **41:10** [j]S Job 3:8 [k]S 2Ch 20:6; S Isa 46:5; Jer 50:44; Rev 6:17 **41:11** [l]S Job 34:33; Ro 11:35 [m]S Jos 3:11; S Job 10:4; Ac 4:24; 1Co 10:26 **41:12** [n]Job 40:18 [o]S Job 39:11 **41:13** [p]S Job 30:11; S 39:10 **41:14** [q]Ps 22:13 **41:15** [r]Job 40:17 **41:18** [s]S Job 3:9 **41:19** [t]Da 10:6 **41:20** [u]Ps 18:8 **41:21** [v]S Job 4:9; Isa 11:4; 40:7 [w]Ps 18:8; Isa 10:17; 30:27; 33:14; 66:14-16; Jer 4:4 **41:22** [x]S Job 39:11 **41:24** [y]Mt 18:6 **41:25** [z]Job 39:20 [a]S Job 3:8 **41:26** [b]S Jos 8:18 [c]S Job 40:24 **41:27** [d]ver 29 **41:28** [e]Ps 91:5 **41:29** [f]ver 27 [g]S Job 5:22 **41:30** [h]Isa 28:27; 41:15; Am 1:3 **41:31** [i]1Sa 2:14 [j]Eze 32:2 **41:33** [k]S Job 40:19 **41:34** [l]Ps 18:27; 101:5; 131:1; Pr 6:17; 21:4; 30:13 [m]Job 28:8 **42:2** [n]S Ge 18:14; S Mt 19:26 [o]S 2Ch 20:6; S Job 16:19; Ac 4:28; Eph 1:11 **42:3** [p]S Job 34:35 [q]S Job 5:9

[x]1 Possibly the crocodile [y]15 Or *His pride is his*

I will question you,
and you shall answer me.'[a]
5My ears had heard of you[b]
but now my eyes have seen you.[c]
6Therefore I despise myself[d]
and repent[e] in dust and ashes."[f]

Epilogue

7After the LORD had said these things
to Job[g], he said to Eliphaz the Teman-
ite, "I am angry with you and your two
friends,[h] because you have not spoken
of me what is right, as my servant Job
has.[i] 8So now take seven bulls and
seven rams[j] and go to my servant Job[k]
and sacrifice a burnt offering[l] for your-
selves. My servant Job will pray for
you, and I will accept his prayer[m] and
not deal with you according to your fol-
ly.[n] You have not spoken of me what is
right, as my servant Job has."[o] 9So Eli-
phaz the Temanite, Bildad the Shuhite
and Zophar the Naamathite[p] did what
the LORD told them; and the LORD ac-
cepted Job's prayer.[q]
10After Job had prayed for his
friends, the LORD made him prosperous
again[r] and gave him twice as much as
he had before.[s] 11All his brothers and
sisters and everyone who had known
him before[t] came and ate with him in
his house. They comforted and con-
soled him over all the trouble the LORD
had brought upon him,[u] and each one
gave him a piece of silver[x] and a gold
ring.
12The LORD blessed the latter part of
Job's life more than the first. He had
fourteen thousand sheep, six thousand
camels, a thousand yoke of oxen and a
thousand donkeys. 13And he also had
seven sons and three daughters. 14The
first daughter he named Jemimah, the
second Keziah and the third Keren-
Happuch. 15Nowhere in all the land
were there found women as beautiful
as Job's daughters, and their father
granted them an inheritance along with
their brothers.
16After this, Job lived a hundred and
forty years; he saw his children and
their children to the fourth generation.
17And so he died, old and full of
years.[v]

42:4 [a]S Job 38:3 **42:5** [b]S Job 26:14; Ro 10:17 [c]Jdg 13:22; Isa 6:5; S Mt 5:8; Lk 2:30; Eph 1:17-18 **42:6** [d]Job 40:4; Eze 6:9; Ro 12:3 [e]S Job 34:33 [f]S Ex 10:3; S Ezr 9:6; S Job 2:8; S 6:29 **42:7** [g]S Jos 1:7 [h]Job 32:3 [i]ver 8; S Job 9:15 **42:8** [j]Nu 23:1, 29; Eze 45:23 [k]Job 1:8 [l]S Ge 8:20 [m]Jas 5:15-16; 1Jn 5:16 [n]Ge 20:7; Job 22:30 [o]S ver 7 **42:9** [p]Job 2:11 [q]S Ge 19:21; S 20:17; Eze 14:14 **42:10** [r]Dt 30:3; Ps 14:7 [s]S Job 1:3; Ps 85:1-3; 126:5-6; Php 2:8-9; Jas 5:11 **42:11** [t]S Job 19:13 [u]S Ge 37:35 **42:17** [v]S Ge 15:15

[x]11 Hebrew *him a kesitah;* a kesitah was a unit of money of unknown weight and value.

Psalms

BOOK I

Psalms 1-41

Psalm 1

1Blessed is the man[a]
who does not walk[b] in the counsel
of the wicked[c]
or stand in the way[d] of sinners[e]
or sit[f] in the seat of mockers.[g]
2But his delight[h] is in the law of the
LORD,[i]
and on his law he meditates[j] day
and night.
3He is like a tree[k] planted by
streams[l] of water,[m]
which yields its fruit[n] in season
and whose leaf[o] does not wither.
Whatever he does prospers.[p]

4Not so the wicked!
They are like chaff[q]
that the wind blows away.
5Therefore the wicked will not stand[r]
in the judgment,[s]
nor sinners in the assembly[t] of
the righteous.

6For the LORD watches over[u] the way
of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked will
perish.[v]

Psalm 2

1Why do the nations conspire[a]
and the peoples plot[w] in vain?
2The kings[x] of the earth take their
stand
and the rulers gather together
against the LORD
and against his Anointed[y] One.[b][z]
3"Let us break their chains,[a]" they
say,
"and throw off their fetters."[b]

4The One enthroned[c] in heaven
laughs;[d]
the Lord scoffs at them.
5Then he rebukes them in his anger[e]
and terrifies them in his wrath,[f]
saying,
6"I have installed my King[c][g]
on Zion,[h] my holy hill.[i]"

7I will proclaim the decree of the
LORD:
He said to me, "You are my Son[d];[j]
today I have become your
Father.[e][k]
8Ask of me,
and I will make the nations[l] your
inheritance,[m]
the ends of the earth[n] your
possession.
9You will rule them with an iron
scepter[f];[o]
you will dash them to pieces[p] like
pottery.[q]"

10Therefore, you kings, be wise;[r]
be warned, you rulers[s] of the
earth.
11Serve the LORD with fear[t]
and rejoice[u] with trembling.[v]
12Kiss the Son,[w] lest he be angry
and you be destroyed in your way,
for his wrath[x] can flare up in a
moment.
Blessed[y] are all who take refuge[z]
in him.

Psalm 3

A psalm of David. When he fled from
his son Absalom.[a]

1O LORD, how many are my foes!
How many rise up against me!
2Many are saying of me,
"God will not deliver him."[b]
Selah[g]

1:1 [a] S Dt 33:29; Ps 40:4; 128:4 [b] Ps 89:15 [c] S Job 21:16; Ps 10:2-11 [d] S Ge 49:6 [e] Ps 26:9; 37:38; 51:13; 104:35 [f] Ps 26:4 [g] S Job 11:3; Pr 1:22; Isa 28:14; Hos 7:5 **1:2** [h] Ps 112:1; 119:16,35; Ro 7:22 [i] Ps 19:7; 119:1; Eze 11:20; 18:17 [j] S Ge 24:63 **1:3** [k] Ps 52:8; 92:12; 128:3; Jer 11:16; Zec 4:3 [l] Ps 46:4; 65:9; Isa 33:21; Jer 31:9 [m] S Nu 24:6; S Job 14:9; S Eze 17:5 [n] Ps 92:14; Eze 47:12 [o] Isa 1:30; 64:6 [p] S Ge 39:3 **1:4** [q] S Job 13:25; Isa 40:24; Jer 13:24 **1:5** [r] Ps 5:5 [s] S Job 19:29 [t] Ps 26:12; 35:18; 82:1; 89:5; 107:32; 111:1; 149:1 **1:6** [u] Ps 37:18; 121:5; 145:20; Na 1:7 [v] S Lev 26:38; Ps 9:6 **2:1** [w] Ps 21:11; 83:5; Pr 24:2 **2:2** [x] Ps 48:4 [y] S 1Sa 9:16; Jn 1:41 [z] Ac 4:25-26* **2:3** [a] S Job 36:8 [b] S 2Sa 3:34 **2:4** [c] Isa 37:16; 40:22; 66:1 [d] Ps 37:13; Pr 1:26 **2:5** [e] Ps 6:1; 27:9; 38:1 [f] Ps 21:9; 79:6; 90:7; 110:5 **2:6** [g] Ps 10:16; 24:10 [h] 2Ki 19:31; Ps 9:11; 48:2,11; 78:68; 110:2; 133:3 [i] S Ex 15:17 **2:7** [j] S Mt 3:17; S 4:3 [k] S 2Sa 7:14; Ac 13:33*; Heb 1:5*; 6:5 **2:8** [l] Rev 2:26 [m] S Job 22:26; Mt 21:38 [n] Ps 22:27; 67:7 **2:9** [o] S Ge 49:10; Rev 12:5 [p] S Ex 15:6 [q] Isa 30:14; Jer 19:10; Rev 2:27*; 19:15 **2:10** [r] Pr 27:11 [s] Ps 141:6; Pr 8:15; Am 2:3 **2:11** [t] Ps 103:11 [u] Ps 9:2; 35:9; 104:34; Isa 61:10 [v] S 1Ch 16:30 **2:12** [w] ver 7 [x] S Dt 9:8; Rev 6:16 [y] Ps 84:12 [z] Ps 5:11; 34:8; 64:10 **3 Title** [a] 2Sa 15:14 **3:2** [b] Ps 22:8; 71:11; Isa 36:15; 37:20

[a]1 Hebrew; Septuagint *rage* [b]2 Or *anointed one* [c]6 Or *king* [d]7 Or *son*; also in verse 12 [e]7 Or *have begotten you* [f]9 Or *will break them with a rod of iron* [g]2 A word of uncertain meaning, occurring frequently in the Psalms; possibly a musical term

3But you are a shield[a] around me,
O LORD;
you bestow glory on me and lift[h] up my head.[b]
4To the LORD I cry aloud,[c]
and he answers me from his holy hill.[d] *Selah*

5I lie down and sleep;[e]
I wake again,[f] because the LORD sustains me.
6I will not fear[g] the tens of thousands
drawn up against me on every side.[h]

7Arise,[i] O LORD!
Deliver me,[j] O my God!
Strike[k] all my enemies on the jaw;
break the teeth[l] of the wicked.

8From the LORD comes deliverance.[m]
May your blessing[n] be on your people. *Selah*

Psalm 4

For the director of music. With stringed instruments.
A psalm of David.

1Answer me[o] when I call to you,
O my righteous God.
Give me relief from my distress;[p]
be merciful[q] to me and hear my prayer.[r]

2How long, O men, will you turn my glory[s] into shame[i] ?[t]
How long will you love delusions
and seek false gods[j] ?[u] *Selah*
3Know that the LORD has set apart the godly[v] for himself;
the LORD will hear[w] when I call to him.

4In your anger do not sin;[x]
when you are on your beds,[y]
search your hearts and be silent. *Selah*
5Offer right sacrifices
and trust in the LORD.[z]

6Many are asking, "Who can show us any good?"
Let the light of your face shine
upon us,[a] O LORD.
7You have filled my heart[b] with greater joy[c]
than when their grain and new wine[d] abound.
8I will lie down and sleep[e] in peace,[f]
for you alone, O LORD,
make me dwell in safety.[g]

3:3 aS Ge 15:1 bPs 27:6 3:4 cS Job 30:20 dPs 2:6 3:5 eS Lev 26:6 fPs 17:15; 139:18 3:6 gJob 11:19; Ps 23:4; 27:3 hPs 118:11 3:7 iS 2Ch 6:41 jPs 6:4; 7:1; 59:1; 109:21; 119:153; Isa 25:9; 33:22; 35:4; 38:18; 37:20; Jer 42:11; Mt 6:13 kJob 16:10 lJob 29:17; Ps 57:4; Pr 30:14; La 3:16 3:8 mPs 27:1; 37:39; 62:1; Isa 43:3,11; 44:6,8; 45:21; Hos 13:4; Jnh 2:9; Rev 7:10 nNu 6:23; Ps 29:11; 129:8 4:1 oPs 13:3; 27:7; 69:16; 86:7; 102:2 pS Ge 32:7; S Jdg 2:15 qPs 30:10 rPs 17:6; 54:2; 84:8; 88:2 4:2 sEx 16:7; 1Sa 4:21 t2Ki 19:26; Job 8:22; Ps 35:26 uJdg 2:17; Ps 31:6; 40:4; Jer 13:25; 16:19; Am 2:4 4:3 vPs 12:1; 30:4; 31:23; 79:2; Mic 7:2; 1Ti 4:7; 2Pe 3:11 wPs 6:8; Mic 7:7 4:4 xEph 4:26* yPs 63:6; Da 2:28 4:5 zPs 31:6; 115:9; Pr 3:5; 28:26; Isa 26:4; Jn 14:1 4:6 aNu 6:25 4:7 bAc 14:17 cIsa 9:3; 35:10; 65:14,18 dS Ge 27:28; S Dt 28:51 4:8 eS Lev 26:6 fS Nu 6:26; S Job 11:18 gS Dt 33:28; S Jer 32:37

5:1 hS 1Ki 8:29; Ps 17:1; 40:1; 116:2; Da 9:18 iPs 38:9; Isa 35:10; 51:11 5:2 jS Job 19:7; S 24:12; S 36:5 kPs 44:4; 68:24; 84:3 5:3 lIsa 28:19; 50:4; Jer 21:12; Eze 46:13; Zep 3:5 mPs 62:1; 119:81; 130:5; Hab 2:1; Ro 8:19 5:4 nPs 1:5; 11:5; 104:35; Pr 2:22 5:5 o2Ki 19:32; Ps 73:3; 75:4; Isa 33:19; 37:33 pPs 1:5 qPs 45:7; 101:3; 119:104; Pr 8:13 5:6 rPr 19:22; S Jn 8:44; Ac 5:3; Rev 21:8 5:7 sDt 13:4; Jer 44:10; Da 6:26

Psalm 5

For the director of music. For flutes.
A psalm of David.

1Give ear[h] to my words, O LORD,
consider my sighing.[i]
2Listen to my cry for help,[j]
my King and my God,[k]
for to you I pray.
3In the morning,[l] O LORD, you hear my voice;
in the morning I lay my requests before you
and wait in expectation.[m]

4You are not a God who takes pleasure in evil;
with you the wicked[n] cannot dwell.
5The arrogant[o] cannot stand[p] in your presence;
you hate[q] all who do wrong.
6You destroy those who tell lies;[r]
bloodthirsty and deceitful men
the LORD abhors.

7But I, by your great mercy,
will come into your house;
in reverence[s] will I bow down[t]
toward your holy temple.[u]
8Lead me, O LORD, in your righteousness[v]
because of my enemies—
make straight your way[w] before me.

9Not a word from their mouth can be trusted;
their heart is filled with destruction.
Their throat is an open grave;[x]
with their tongue they speak deceit.[y]
10Declare them guilty, O God!
Let their intrigues be their downfall.
Banish them for their many sins,[z]
for they have rebelled[a] against you.

11But let all who take refuge in you be glad;
let them ever sing for joy.[b]
Spread your protection over them,
that those who love your name[c]
may rejoice in you.[d]

tS 2Sa 12:16; Ps 138:2 uS 1Ki 8:48 5:8 vPs 23:3; 31:1; 71:2; 85:13; 89:16; Pr 8:20 wS 1Ki 8:36; Jn 1:23 5:9 xJer 5:16; Lk 11:44 yPs 12:2; 28:3; 36:3; Pr 15:4; Jer 9:8; Ro 3:13* 5:10 zLa 1:5 aPs 78:40; 106:7; 107:11; La 3:42 5:11 bPs 33:1; 81:1; 90:14; 92:4; 95:1; 145:7 cPs 69:36; 119:132 dS Job 22:19

h3 Or *LORD, / my Glorious One, who lifts* i2 Or *you dishonor my Glorious One* j2 Or *seek lies*

12For surely, O LORD, you bless the righteous;[a]
you surround them[b] with your favor as with a shield.[c]

Psalm 6

For the director of music. With stringed instruments. According to *sheminith*.[k] A psalm of David.

1O LORD, do not rebuke me in your anger[d]
or discipline me in your wrath.
2Be merciful to me,[e] LORD, for I am faint;[f]
O LORD, heal me,[g] for my bones are in agony.[h]
3My soul is in anguish.[i]
How long,[j] O LORD, how long?

4Turn,[k] O LORD, and deliver me;
save me because of your unfailing love.[l]
5No one remembers you when he is dead.
Who praises you from the grave[l]?[m]

6I am worn out[n] from groaning;[o]
all night long I flood my bed with weeping[p]
and drench my couch with tears.[q]
7My eyes grow weak[r] with sorrow;
they fail because of all my foes.

8Away from me,[s] all you who do evil,[t]
for the LORD has heard my weeping.
9The LORD has heard my cry for mercy;[u]
the LORD accepts my prayer.
10All my enemies will be ashamed and dismayed;[v]
they will turn back in sudden disgrace.[w]

Psalm 7

A *shiggaion*[m][x] of David, which he sang to the LORD concerning Cush, a Benjamite.

1O LORD my God, I take refuge[y] in you;
save and deliver me[z] from all who pursue me,[a]
2or they will tear me like a lion[b]
and rip me to pieces with no one to rescue[c] me.

3O LORD my God, if I have done this
and there is guilt on my hands[d]—
4if I have done evil to him who is at peace with me
or without cause[e] have robbed my foe—
5then let my enemy pursue and overtake[f] me;
let him trample my life to the ground[g]
and make me sleep in the dust.[h]
Selah

6Arise,[i] O LORD, in your anger;
rise up against the rage of my enemies.[j]
Awake,[k] my God; decree justice.
7Let the assembled peoples gather around you.
Rule over them from on high;[l]
8 let the LORD judge[m] the peoples.
Judge me, O LORD, according to my righteousness,[n]
according to my integrity,[o]
O Most High.[p]
9O righteous God,[q]
who searches minds and hearts,[r]
bring to an end the violence of the wicked
and make the righteous secure.[s]

10My shield[n][t] is God Most High,
who saves the upright in heart.[u]
11God is a righteous judge,[v]
a God who expresses his wrath[w] every day.
12If he does not relent,[x]
he[o] will sharpen his sword;[y]
he will bend and string his bow.[z]
13He has prepared his deadly weapons;
he makes ready his flaming arrows.[a]
14He who is pregnant with evil
and conceives trouble gives birth[b] to disillusionment.
15He who digs a hole and scoops it out
falls into the pit[c] he has made.[d]
16The trouble he causes recoils on himself;
his violence comes down on his own head.

17I will give thanks to the LORD
because of his righteousness[e]
and will sing praise[f] to the name
of the LORD Most High.[g]

5:12 [a]Ps 112:2 [b]Ps 32:7 [c]S Ge 15:1 **6:1** [d]S Ps 2:5 **6:2** [e]Ps 4:1; 26:11; Jer 3:12; 12:15; 31:20 [f]Ps 61:2; 77:3; 142:3; Isa 40:31; Jer 8:18; Eze 21:7 [g]S Nu 12:13 [h]Ps 22:14; 31:10; 32:3; 38:3; 42:10; 102:3 **6:3** [i]S Job 7:11; Ps 31:7; 38:8; 55:4; S Jn 12:27; Ro 9:2; 2Co 2:4 [j]1Sa 1:14; 1Ki 18:21; Ps 4:2; 89:46; Isa 6:11; Jer 4:14; Hab 1:2; Zec 1:12 **6:4** [k]Ps 25:16; 31:2; 69:16; 71:2; 86:16; 88:2; 102:2; 119:132 [l]Ps 13:5; 31:16; 77:8; 85:7; 119:41; Isa 54:8, 10 **6:5** [m]Ps 30:9; 88:10-12; 115:17; Ecc 9:10; Isa 38:18 **6:6** [n]S Jdg 8:5 [o]S Job 3:24; S 23:2; Ps 12:5; 77:3; 102:5; La 1:8,11,21,22 [p]S Job 16:16 [q]S Job 7:3; Lk 7:38; Ac 20:19 **6:7** [r]S Job 16:8; Ps 31:9; 69:3; 119:82; Isa 38:14 **6:8** [s]Ps 119:115; 139:19 [t]Ps 5:5; S Mt 7:23 **6:9** [u]Ps 28:6; 116:1 **6:10** [v]S 2Ki 19:26 [w]Ps 40:14 **7 Title** [x]Hab 3:1 **7:1** [y]Ps 2:12; 11:1; 31:1 [z]S Ps 3:7 [a]Ps 31:15; 119:86,157,161 **7:2** [b]S Ge 49:9; Rev 4:7 [c]Ps 3:2; 71:11 **7:3** [d]Isa 59:3 **7:4** [e]Ps 35:7,19; Pr 24:28 **7:5** [f]S Ex 15:9 [g]S 2Sa 22:43; 2Ki 9:33; Isa 10:6; La 3:16 [h]S Job 7:21 **7:6** [i]S 2Ch 6:41 [j]Ps 138:7 [k]Ps 35:23; 44:23 **7:7** [l]Ps 68:18 **7:8** [m]S 1Ch 16:33 [n]S 1Sa 26:23; Ps 18:20 [o]S Ge 20:5 [p]S Ge 3:5; S Nu 24:16; S Mk 5:7 **7:9** [q]Jer 11:20 [r]S 1Ch 28:9; Ps 26:2; Rev 2:23 [s]Ps 37:23; 40:2 **7:10** [t]Ps 3:3 [u]S Job 33:3 **7:11** [v]S Ge 18:25; Ps 9:8; 67:4; 75:2; 96:13; 98:9; Isa 11:4; Jer 11:20 [w]S Dt 9:8

7:12 [x]Eze 3:19; 33:9 [y]S Dt 32:41 [z]S 2Sa 22:35; Ps 21:12; Isa 5:28; 13:18 **7:13** [a]Ps 11:2; 18:14; 64:3 **7:14** [b]Isa 59:4; Jas 1:15 **7:15** [c]Ps 35:7,8; 40:2; 94:13; Pr 26:27 [d]S Job 4:8 **7:17** [e]Ps 5:8 [f]S 2Ch 31:2; Ro 15:11; Heb 2:12 [g]S Ge 14:18

[k]Title: Probably a musical term [l]5 Hebrew *Sheol* [m]Title: Probably a literary or musical term [n]10 Or *sovereign* [o]12 Or *If a man does not repent, / God*

Psalm 8

For the director of music. According to *gittith*.[p] A psalm of David.

1 O LORD, our Lord,
how majestic is your name[a] in all the earth!

You have set your glory[b]
above the heavens.[c]
2 From the lips of children and infants
you have ordained praise[q] [d]
because of your enemies,
to silence the foe[e] and the avenger.
3 When I consider your heavens,[f]
the work of your fingers,[g]
the moon and the stars,[h]
which you have set in place,
4 what is man that you are mindful of him,
the son of man that you care for him?[i]
5 You made him a little lower than the heavenly beings[r] [j]
and crowned him with glory and honor.[k]

6 You made him ruler[l] over the works of your hands;[m]
you put everything under his feet:[n] [o]
7 all flocks and herds,[p]
and the beasts of the field,[q]
8 the birds of the air,
and the fish of the sea,[r]
all that swim the paths of the seas.

9 O LORD, our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth![s]

Psalm 9[s]

For the director of music. To ⌊the tune of⌋ "The Death of the Son." A psalm of David.

1 I will praise you, O LORD, with all my heart;[t]
I will tell of all your wonders.[u]
2 I will be glad and rejoice[v] in you;
I will sing praise[w] to your name,[x]
O Most High.

3 My enemies turn back;
they stumble and perish before you.
4 For you have upheld my right[y] and my cause;[z]
you have sat on your throne,[a]
judging righteously.[b]
5 You have rebuked the nations[c] and destroyed the wicked;
you have blotted out their name[d]
for ever and ever.
6 Endless ruin has overtaken the enemy,
you have uprooted their cities;[e]
even the memory of them[f] has perished.

7 The LORD reigns forever;[g]
he has established his throne[h] for judgment.
8 He will judge the world in righteousness;[i]
he will govern the peoples with justice.[j]
9 The LORD is a refuge[k] for the oppressed,[l]
a stronghold in times of trouble.[m]
10 Those who know your name[n] will trust in you,
for you, LORD, have never forsaken[o] those who seek you.[p]

11 Sing praises[q] to the LORD, enthroned in Zion;[r]
proclaim among the nations[s] what he has done.[t]
12 For he who avenges blood[u] remembers;
he does not ignore the cry of the afflicted.[v]

13 O LORD, see how my enemies[w] persecute me!
Have mercy[x] and lift me up from the gates of death,[y]
14 that I may declare your praises[z]
in the gates of the Daughter of Zion[a]
and there rejoice in your salvation.[b]
15 The nations have fallen into the pit they have dug;[c]
their feet are caught in the net they have hidden.[d]
16 The LORD is known by his justice;
the wicked are ensnared by the work of their hands.[e]
Higgaion.[t] *Selah*
17 The wicked return to the grave,[u] [f]

8:1 [a]S 1Ch 16:10 [b]S Ex 15:11; Lk 2:9 [c]Ps 57:5; 108:5; 113:4; 148:13; Hab 3:3 **8:2** [d]Mt 21:16* [e]Ps 143:12 **8:3** [f]S Ge 15:5; S Dt 10:14 [g]S Ex 8:19; S 1Ch 16:26; S 2Ch 2:12; Ps 102:25 [h]S Ge 1:16; 1Co 15:41 **8:4** [i]S 1Ch 29:14 **8:5** [j]S Ge 1:26 [k]Ps 21:5; 103:4 **8:6** [l]S Ge 1:28 [m]S Job 10:3; Ps 19:1; 102:25; 145:10; Isa 26:12; 29:23; 45:11; Heb 1:10 [n]Heb 2:6-8* [o]S 1Ki 5:3; 1Co 15:25,27; Eph 1:22 **8:7** [p]Ge 13:5; 26:14 [q]S Ge 2:19 **8:8** [r]Ge 1:26 **8:9** [s]ver 1 **9:1** [t]Ps 86:12; 111:1; 119:2,10, 145; 138:1 [u]S Dt 4:34 **9:2** [v]S Job 22:19; Ps 14:7; 31:7; 70:4; 97:8; 126:3; Pr 23:15; Isa 25:9; Jer 30:19; Joel 2:21; Zep 3:14; S Mt 5:12; Rev 19:7 [w]S 2Ch 31:2 [x]Ps 92:1 **9:4** [y]S 1Ki 8:45 [z]S Job 16:21 [a]Ps 11:4; 47:8; Isa 6:1 [b]Ps 7:11; 67:4; 98:9; 1Pe 2:23 **9:5** [c]Ge 20:7; S 37:10; S 1Ch 16:21; Ps 59:5; 105:14; Isa 26:14; 66:15 [d]S Job 18:17 **9:6** [e]S Dt 29:28; Jer 2:3; 46:1-51:58; Zep 2:8-10 [f]Ps 34:16; 109:15; Ecc 9:5; Isa 14:22; 26:14 **9:7** [g]S 1Ch 16:31; Rev 19:6 [h]Ps 11:4; 47:8; 93:2; Isa 6:1; 66:1 **9:8** [i]S ver 4; Ps 7:11 [j]Ps 11:7; 45:6; 72:2 **9:9** [k]S Dt 33:27; S 2Sa 22:3 [l]Ps 10:18; 74:21 [m]Ps 32:7; 121:7 **9:10** [n]Ps 91:14 [o]S Ge 28:15; S Dt 4:31; Ps 22:1; 37:25; 71:11; Isa 49:14; Jer 15:18; Heb 13:5 [p]Ps 70:4 **9:11** [q]Ps 7:17 [r]S Ps 2:6 [s]Ps 18:49; 44:11; 57:9; 106:27; Isa 24:13; Eze 20:23; 1Ti 3:16 [t]Ps 105:1 **9:12** [u]S 2Sa 4:11 [v]ver 18; Ps 10:17; 22:24; 72:4; Isa 49:13 **9:13** [w]Nu 10:9; Ps 3:7; 18:3 [x]Ps 6:2; 41:4; 51:1; 86:3,16; 119:132 [y]S Job 17:16; Mt 16:18 **9:14** [z]Ps 51:15; 1Pe 2:9 [a]2Ki 19:21; Isa 1:8; 10:32; 37:22; 62:11; Jer 4:31; 6:2; La 1:6; Mic 1:13; Zep 3:14; Zec 2:10; Mt 21:5; Jn 12:15 [b]Ps 13:5; 35:9; 50:23; 51:12 **9:15** [c]S Job 4:8; Ps 35:7 [d]Ps 35:8; 57:6 **9:16** [e]Pr 5:22 **9:17** [f]S Nu 16:30; Pr 5:5

[p]Title: Probably a musical term [q]2 Or *strength* [r]5 Or *than God* [s]Psalms 9 and 10 may have been originally a single acrostic poem, the stanzas of which begin with the successive letters of the Hebrew alphabet. In the Septuagint they constitute one psalm. [t]16 Or *Meditation;* possibly a musical notation [u]17 Hebrew *Sheol*

all the nations that forget God.[a]
18But the needy will not always be
forgotten,
nor the hope[b] of the afflicted[c]
ever perish.

19Arise,[d] O LORD, let not man
triumph;[e]
let the nations be judged[f] in your
presence.
20Strike them with terror,[g] O LORD;
let the nations know they are but
men.[h] *Selah*

Psalm 10[v]

1Why, O LORD, do you stand far
off?[i]
Why do you hide yourself[j] in
times of trouble?

2In his arrogance the wicked man
hunts down the weak,[k]
who are caught in the schemes he
devises.
3He boasts[l] of the cravings of his
heart;
he blesses the greedy and reviles
the LORD.[m]
4In his pride the wicked does not
seek him;
in all his thoughts there is no
room for God.[n]
5His ways are always prosperous;
he is haughty[o] and your laws are
far from him;
he sneers at all his enemies.
6He says to himself, "Nothing will
shake me;
I'll always be happy[p] and never
have trouble."
7His mouth is full of curses[q] and lies
and threats;[r]
trouble and evil are under his
tongue.[s]
8He lies in wait[t] near the villages;
from ambush he murders the
innocent,[u]
watching in secret for his victims.
9He lies in wait like a lion in
cover;
he lies in wait to catch the
helpless;[v]
he catches the helpless and drags
them off in his net.[w]
10His victims are crushed,[x] they
collapse;
they fall under his strength.
11He says to himself, "God has
forgotten;[y]
he covers his face and never
sees."[z]

12Arise,[a] LORD! Lift up your hand,[b]
O God.
Do not forget the helpless.[c]
13Why does the wicked man revile
God?[d]
Why does he say to himself,
"He won't call me to account"?[e]
14But you, O God, do see trouble[f] and
grief;
you consider it to take it in hand.
The victim commits himself to you;[g]
you are the helper[h] of the
fatherless.
15Break the arm of the wicked and evil
man;[i]
call him to account for his
wickedness
that would not be found out.

16The LORD is King for ever and ever;[j]
the nations[k] will perish from his
land.
17You hear, O LORD, the desire of the
afflicted;[l]
you encourage them, and you
listen to their cry,[m]
18defending the fatherless[n] and the
oppressed,[o]
in order that man, who is of the
earth, may terrify no more.

Psalm 11

For the director of music. Of David.

1In the LORD I take refuge.[p]
How then can you say to me:
"Flee[q] like a bird to your
mountain.[r]
2For look, the wicked bend their
bows;[s]
they set their arrows[t] against the
strings
to shoot from the shadows[u]
at the upright in heart.[v]
3When the foundations[w] are being
destroyed,
what can the righteous do[w]?"

4The LORD is in his holy temple;[x]
the LORD is on his heavenly
throne.[y]
He observes the sons of men;[z]
his eyes examine[a] them.
5The LORD examines the righteous,[b]
but the wicked[x] and those who
love violence
his soul hates.[c]

9:17 [a]S Job 8:13
9:18 [b]Ps 25:3; 39:7; 71:5; Pr 23:18; Jer 14:8 [c]ver 12; Ps 74:19
9:19 [d]Ps 3:7 [e]2Ch 14:11 [f]Ps 110:6; Isa 2:4; Joel 3:12
9:20 [g]S Ge 35:5; Ps 31:13; Isa 13:8; Lk 21:26 [h]Ps 62:9; Isa 31:3; Eze 28:2
10:1 [i]Ps 22:1,11; 35:22; 38:21; 71:12 [j]Ps 13:1
10:2 [k]ver 9; S Job 20:19
10:3 [l]Ps 49:6; 94:4; Jer 48:30 [m]S Job 1:5
10:4 [n]Ps 36:1
10:5 [o]Ps 18:27; 101:5; Pr 6:17; Isa 13:11; Jer 48:29
10:6 [p]Rev 18:7
10:7 [q]Ro 3:14* [r]Ps 73:8; 119:134; Ecc 4:1; Isa 30:12 [s]S Job 20:12
10:8 [t]Ps 37:32; 59:3; 71:10; Pr 1:11; Jer 5:26; Mic 7:2 [u]Hos 6:9
10:9 [v]S ver 2 [w]S Job 18:8
10:10 [x]S Job 9:17
10:11 [y]Job 22:13; Ps 42:9; 77:9 [z]S Job 22:14
10:12 [a]Ps 3:7 [b]Ps 17:7; 20:6; 106:26; Isa 26:11; Mic 5:9 [c]Ps 9:12
10:13 [d]ver 3 [e]S Job 31:14
10:14 [f]ver 7; Ps 22:11 [g]Ps 37:5 [h]S Dt 33:29
10:15 [i]S Job 31:22
10:16 [j]S Ex 15:18 [k]S Dt 8:20
10:17 [l]S Ps 9:12 [m]S Ex 22:23
10:18 [n]S Dt 24:17; Ps 146:9 [o]S Ps 9:9
11:1 [p]S Ps 7:1 [q]S Ge 14:10 [r]Ps 50:11
11:2 [s]S 2Sa 22:35 [t]S Ps 7:13; S 58:7 [u]Ps 10:8 [v]S Job 33:3; Ps 7:10
11:3 [w]Ps 18:15; 82:5; Isa 24:18
11:4 [x]S 1Ki 8:48; Ps 18:6; 27:4; Jnh 2:7; Mic 1:2; Hab 2:20 [y]S 2Ch 6:18; S Ps 9:7; Mt 5:34; 23:22; S Rev 4:2 [z]Pr 15:3 [a]Ps 33:18; 66:7
11:5 [b]S Dt 7:13; S Job 23:10 [c]S Job 28:28; Ps 5:5; 45:7; Isa 1:14

[v]Psalms 9 and 10 may have been originally a single acrostic poem, the stanzas of which begin with the successive letters of the Hebrew alphabet. In the Septuagint they constitute one psalm. [w]3 Or *what is the Righteous One doing* [x]5 Or *The LORD, the Righteous One, examines the wicked,*

6On the wicked he will rain
fiery coals and burning sulfur;[a]
a scorching wind[b] will be their lot.
7For the LORD is righteous,[c]
he loves justice;[d]
upright men[e] will see his face.[f]

Psalm 12

For the director of music. According to *sheminith*.[y] A psalm of David.

1Help, LORD, for the godly are no
more;[g]
the faithful have vanished from
among men.
2Everyone lies[h] to his neighbor;
their flattering lips speak with
deception.[i]
3May the LORD cut off all flattering
lips[j]
and every boastful tongue[k]
4that says, "We will triumph with our
tongues;[l]
we own our lips[z]—who is our
master?"
5"Because of the oppression[m] of the
weak
and the groaning[n] of the needy,
I will now arise,[o]" says the LORD.
"I will protect them[p] from those
who malign them."
6And the words of the LORD are
flawless,[q]
like silver refined[r] in a furnace[s] of
clay,
purified seven times.
7O LORD, you will keep us safe[t]
and protect us from such people
forever.[u]
8The wicked freely strut[v] about
when what is vile is honored
among men.

Psalm 13

For the director of music.
A psalm of David.

1How long,[w] O LORD? Will you forget
me[x] forever?
How long will you hide your face[y]
from me?
2How long must I wrestle with my
thoughts[z]
and every day have sorrow in my
heart?
How long will my enemy triumph
over me?[a]
3Look on me[b] and answer,[c] O LORD
my God.
Give light to my eyes,[d] or I will
sleep in death;[e]
4my enemy will say, "I have
overcome him,[f]"
and my foes will rejoice when I
fall.[g]
5But I trust in your unfailing
love;[h]
my heart rejoices in your
salvation.[i]
6I will sing[j] to the LORD,
for he has been good to me.

Psalm 14

14:1-7pp — Ps 53:1-6

For the director of music. Of David.

1The fool[a] says in his heart,
"There is no God."[k]
They are corrupt, their deeds are
vile;
there is no one who does good.
2The LORD looks down from
heaven[l]
on the sons of men
to see if there are any who
understand,[m]
any who seek God.[n]
3All have turned aside,[o]
they have together become
corrupt;[p]
there is no one who does good,[q]
not even one.[r]
4Will evildoers never learn—[s]
those who devour my people[t] as
men eat bread
and who do not call on the
LORD?[u]
5There they are, overwhelmed with
dread,
for God is present in the company
of the righteous.
6You evildoers frustrate the plans of
the poor,
but the LORD is their refuge.[v]
7Oh, that salvation for Israel would
come out of Zion![w]
When the LORD restores the
fortunes[x] of his people,
let Jacob rejoice and Israel be glad!

11:6 [a]S Ge 19:24; S Rev 9:17 [b]S Ge 41:6; S Job 1:19 **11:7** [c]S 2Ch 12:6; S Ezr 9:15; 2Ti 4:8 [d]S Ps 9:8; 33:5; 99:4; Isa 28:17; 30:18; 56:1; 61:8; Jer 9:24 [e]S Job 1:1; Lk 23:50 [f]Ps 17:15; 140:13 **12:1** [g]Isa 57:1; Mic 7:2 **12:2** [h]Ps 5:6; 34:13; 141:3; Pr 6:19; 12:17; 13:3; Isa 32:7 [i]S Ps 5:9; Ro 16:18 **12:3** [j]Pr 26:28; 28:23 [k]Ps 73:9; Da 7:8; Jas 3:5; Rev 13:5 **12:4** [l]Pr 18:21; Jas 3:6 **12:5** [m]Ps 44:24; 62:10; 72:14; 73:8; Ecc 4:1; 5:8; Isa 3:15; 5:7; 30:12; 59:13; Ac 7:34 [n]S Ps 6:6 [o]Ps 3:7 [p]Ps 34:6; 35:10 **12:6** [q]S 2Sa 22:31; Ps 18:30 [r]S Job 23:10; S 28:1; Isa 48:10; Zec 13:9 [s]Ps 119:140 **12:7** [t]Ps 16:1; 27:5 [u]Ps 37:28; Jn 17:12 **12:8** [v]Ps 55:10-11 **13:1** [w]Ps 6:3 [x]Ps 42:9; La 5:20 [y]S Dt 31:17; S Ps 22:24; S Isa 8:17; S 54:9 **13:2** [z]Ps 42:4; 55:2; 139:23; Isa 33:18; Da 7:28 [a]Ps 94:3 **13:3** [b]Ps 9:12; 25:18; 31:7; 35:23; 59:4; 80:14; 107:41; 119:50,153 [c]S Ps 4:1 [d]S Ezr 9:8 [e]Ps 76:5; 90:5; Jer 51:39 **13:4** [f]S 1Ki 19:2; Ps 25:2 [g]Ps 38:16; 118:13 **13:5** [h]S Ps 6:4 [i]S Job 33:26; Ps 9:14; Isa 25:9; 33:2 **13:6** [j]S Ex 15:1; Ps 7:17 **14:1** [k]Ps 10:4 **14:2** [l]Job 41:34; Ps 85:11; 102:19; La 3:50 [m]Ps 92:6 [n]S Ezr 6:21 **14:3** [o]S 1Sa 8:3; 1Ti 5:15 [p]2Pe 2:7 [q]1Ki 8:46; Ps 143:2; Ecc 7:20 [r]Ro 3:10-12* **14:4** [s]Ps 82:5; Jer 4:22 [t]Ps 27:2; Mic 3:3 [u]Ps 79:6; Isa 64:7; 65:1; Jer 10:25; Hos 7:7 **14:6** [v]S 2Sa 22:3 **14:7** [w]Ps 2:6 [x]S Dt 30:3; S Jer 48:47

[y]Title: Probably a musical term [z]4 Or / *our lips are our plowshares* [a]1 The Hebrew words rendered *fool* in Psalms denote one who is morally deficient.

Psalm 15

A psalm of David.

1 LORD, who may dwell[a] in your
sanctuary?[b]
Who may live on your holy hill?[c]

2 He whose walk is blameless[d]
and who does what is righteous,
who speaks the truth[e] from his heart
3 and has no slander[f] on his
tongue,
who does his neighbor no wrong
and casts no slur on his fellow
man,
4 who despises a vile man
but honors[g] those who fear the
LORD,
who keeps his oath[h]
even when it hurts,
5 who lends his money without
usury[i]
and does not accept a bribe[j]
against the innocent.

He who does these things
will never be shaken.[k]

Psalm 16

A *miktam*[b] of David.

1 Keep me safe,[l] O God,
for in you I take refuge.[m]

2 I said to the LORD, "You are my
Lord;[n]
apart from you I have no good
thing."[o]
3 As for the saints[p] who are in the
land,[q]
they are the glorious ones in
whom is all my delight.[c]
4 The sorrows[r] of those will increase
who run after other gods.[s]
I will not pour out their libations of
blood
or take up their names[t] on my
lips.

5 LORD, you have assigned me my
portion[u] and my cup;[v]
you have made my lot[w] secure.
6 The boundary lines[x] have fallen for
me in pleasant places;
surely I have a delightful
inheritance.[y]
7 I will praise the LORD, who counsels
me;[z]
even at night[a] my heart instructs
me.
8 I have set the LORD always before
me.
Because he is at my right hand,[b]
I will not be shaken.[c]

9 Therefore my heart is glad[d] and my
tongue rejoices;
my body also will rest secure,[e]
10 because you will not abandon me to
the grave,[d][f]
nor will you let your Holy One[e][g]
see decay.[h]
11 You have made[f] known to me the
path of life;[i]
you will fill me with joy in your
presence,[j]
with eternal pleasures[k] at your
right hand.[l]

Psalm 17

A prayer of David.

1 Hear,[m] O LORD, my righteous plea;
listen to my cry.[n]
Give ear[o] to my prayer—
it does not rise from deceitful
lips.[p]
2 May my vindication[q] come from
you;
may your eyes see what is right.[r]
3 Though you probe my heart[s] and
examine me at night,
though you test me,[t] you will find
nothing;[u]
I have resolved that my mouth will
not sin.[v]
4 As for the deeds of men—
by the word of your lips
I have kept myself
from the ways of the violent.
5 My steps have held to your paths;[w]
my feet have not slipped.[x]

6 I call on you, O God, for you will
answer me;[y]
give ear to me[z] and hear my
prayer.[a]
7 Show the wonder of your great
love,[b]
you who save by your right hand[c]
those who take refuge[d] in you
from their foes.
8 Keep me[e] as the apple of your eye;[f]
hide me[g] in the shadow of your
wings[h]
9 from the wicked who assail me,

15:1 [a]Ex 29:46; Ps 23:6; 27:4; 61:4 [b]Ex 25:8; 1Ch 22:19; Ps 20:2; 78:69; 150:1 [c]S Ex 15:17 **15:2** [d]S Ge 6:9; S Ps 18:32; Eph 1:4; S 1Th 3:13; Tit 1:6 [e]Pr 16:13; Isa 45:19; Jer 7:28; 9:5; Zec 8:3,16; Ro 9:1; S Eph 4:25 **15:3** [f]S Lev 19:16 **15:4** [g]S Job 19:9; Ac 28:10 [h]S Dt 23:21; S Jos 9:18; Mt 5:33 **15:5** [i]S Ex 22:25 [j]S Ex 18:21; S 1Sa 8:3; Ac 24:26 [k]S Job 29:18; Ps 21:7; 112:6; Ac 2:25; Heb 12:28; 2Pe 1:10 **16:1** [l]S Ps 12:7 [m]Ps 2:12 **16:2** [n]Ps 31:14; 118:28; 140:6 [o]Ps 73:25 **16:3** [p]Dt 33:3; Ps 30:4; 85:8; Da 7:18; Ac 9:13; Ro 1:7 [q]Ps 101:6 **16:4** [r]Ps 32:10; Pr 23:29 [s]Ex 18:11; 20:3; S Dt 8:19; S 31:20 [t]S Ex 23:13 **16:5** [u]S Lev 2:2 [v]Ps 23:5; 75:8; 116:13; Isa 51:17; La 4:21; Eze 23:32-34; Hab 2:16 [w]S Job 31:2 **16:6** [x]S Dt 19:14; Ps 104:9; Pr 8:29; Jer 5:22 [y]S Job 22:26 **16:7** [z]Ps 73:24; Pr 15:22; Isa 11:2 [a]Job 35:10; Ps 42:8; 77:6 **16:8** [b]1Ki 2:19; 1Ch 6:39; Ps 73:23 [c]Ps 15:5 **16:9** [d]Ps 4:7; 13:5; 28:7; 30:11 [e]S Dt 33:28 **16:10** [f]S Nu 16:30; Ps 30:3; 31:17; 86:13; Hos 13:14 [g]S 2Ki 19:22 [h]S Job 17:14; Ac 2:31; 13:35* **16:11** [i]Ps 139:24; Mt 7:14 [j]Ac 2:25-28* [k]Ps 21:6 [l]Ps 80:17 **17:1** [m]Ps 30:10; 64:1; 80:1; 140:6 [n]Ps 5:2; 39:12; 142:6; 143:1 [o]S Ps 5:1 [p]Isa 29:13 **17:2** [q]Ps 24:5; 26:1; Isa 46:13; 50:8-9; 54:17 [r]Ps 99:4 **17:3** [s]Ps 139:1; Jer 12:3 [t]S Job 7:18 [u]Job 23:10; Jer 50:20 [v]Ps 39:1 **17:5** [w]Job 23:11; Ps 44:18; 119:133 [x]Dt 32:35; Ps 73:2; 121:3 **17:6** [y]Ps 86:7 [z]Ps 116:2 [a]S Ps 4:1 **17:7** [b]Ps 31:21; 69:13; 106:45; 107:43; 117:2 [c]S Ps 10:12 [d]Ps 2:12 **17:8** [e]S Nu 6:24 [f]S Dt 32:10; Pr 7:2 [g]Ps 27:5; 31:20; 32:7 [h]Ru 2:12; Ps 36:7; 63:7; Isa 34:15

[b]Title: Probably a literary or musical term [c]3 Or *As for the pagan priests who are in the land / and the nobles in whom all delight, I said:* [d]10 Hebrew *Sheol* [e]10 Or *your faithful one* [f]11 Or *You will make*

from my mortal enemies who surround me.[a]

10 They close up their callous hearts,[b]
and their mouths speak with arrogance.[c]

11 They have tracked me down, they now surround me,[d]
with eyes alert, to throw me to the ground.

12 They are like a lion[e] hungry for prey,[f]
like a great lion crouching in cover.

13 Rise up,[g] O LORD, confront them, bring them down;[h]
rescue me from the wicked by your sword.

14 O LORD, by your hand save me from such men,
from men of this world[i] whose reward is in this life.[j]

You still the hunger of those you cherish;
their sons have plenty,
and they store up wealth[k] for their children.

15 And I—in righteousness I will see your face;
when I awake,[l] I will be satisfied with seeing your likeness.[m]

Psalm 18

18:Title–50pp — 2Sa 22:1-51

For the director of music. Of David the servant of the LORD. He sang to the LORD the words of this song when the LORD delivered him from the hand of all his enemies and from the hand of Saul. He said:

1 I love you, O LORD, my strength.[n]

2 The LORD is my rock,[o] my fortress[p] and my deliverer;[q]
my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge.[r]
He is my shield[s] and the horn[g] of my salvation,[t] my stronghold.

3 I call to the LORD, who is worthy of praise,[u]
and I am saved from my enemies.[v]

4 The cords of death[w] entangled me;
the torrents[x] of destruction overwhelmed me.

5 The cords of the grave[h] coiled around me;
the snares of death[y] confronted me.

6 In my distress[z] I called to the LORD;[a]
I cried to my God for help.
From his temple he heard my voice;[b]
my cry came[c] before him, into his ears.

7 The earth trembled[d] and quaked,[e]
and the foundations of the mountains shook;[f]
they trembled because he was angry.[g]

8 Smoke rose from his nostrils;[h]
consuming fire[i] came from his mouth,
burning coals[j] blazed out of it.

9 He parted the heavens and came down;[k]
dark clouds[l] were under his feet.

10 He mounted the cherubim[m] and flew;
he soared[n] on the wings of the wind.[o]

11 He made darkness his covering,[p] his canopy[q] around him—
the dark rain clouds of the sky.

12 Out of the brightness of his presence[r] clouds advanced,
with hailstones[s] and bolts of lightning.[t]

13 The LORD thundered[u] from heaven;
the voice of the Most High resounded.[i]

14 He shot his arrows[v] and scattered the enemies,
great bolts of lightning[w] and routed them.[x]

15 The valleys of the sea were exposed
and the foundations[y] of the earth laid bare
at your rebuke,[z] O LORD,
at the blast of breath from your nostrils.[a]

16 He reached down from on high and took hold of me;
he drew me out of deep waters.[b]

17 He rescued me from my powerful enemy,[c]
from my foes, who were too strong for me.[d]

18 They confronted me in the day of my disaster,[e]
but the LORD was my support.[f]

19 He brought me out into a spacious place;[g]

17:9 [a]Ps 109:3 **17:10** [b]Ps 73:7; 119:70; Isa 6:10 [c]S 1Sa 2:3 **17:11** [d]Ps 88:17 **17:12** [e]Ps 7:2; Jer 5:6; 12:8; La 3:10 [f]S Ge 49:9 **17:13** [g]S Nu 10:35 [h]Ps 35:8; 55:23; 73:18 **17:14** [i]Lk 16:8 [j]Ps 49:17; Lk 16:25 [k]Isa 2:7; 57:17 **17:15** [l]S Ps 3:5 [m]S Nu 12:8; S Mt 5:8; 1Jn 3:2 **18:1** [n]S Ex 15:2; S Dt 33:29; S 1Sa 2:10; Ps 22:19; 28:7; 59:9; 81:1; Isa 12:2; 49:5; Jer 16:19 **18:2** [o]S Ex 33:22 [p]Ps 28:8; 31:2,3; Isa 17:10; Jer 16:19 [q]Ps 40:17 [r]Ps 2:12; 9:9; 94:22 [s]S Ge 15:1; Ps 28:7; 84:9; 119:114; 144:2 [t]S 1Sa 2:1; S Lk 1:69 **18:3** [u]S 1Ch 16:25 [v]S Ps 9:13 **18:4** [w]Ps 116:3 [x]Ps 93:4; 124:4; Isa 5:30; 17:12; Jer 6:23; 51:42, 55; Eze 43:2 **18:5** [y]Pr 13:14 **18:6** [z]S Dt 4:30 [a]Ps 30:2; 99:6; 102:2; 120:1 [b]Ps 66:19; 116:1 [c]S Job 16:18 **18:7** [d]Ps 97:4; Isa 5:25; 64:3 [e]S Jdg 5:4 [f]S Jdg 5:5 [g]S Job 9:5; Jer 10:10 **18:8** [h]S Job 41:20 [i]S Ex 15:7; S 19:18; S Job 41:21; Ps 50:3; 97:3; Da 7:10 [j]Pr 25:22; Ro 12:20 **18:9** [k]S Ge 11:5; S Ps 57:3 [l]S Ex 20:21; S Dt 33:26; S Ps 104:3 **18:10** [m]S Ge 3:24; Eze 10:18 [n]S Dt 33:26 [o]Ps 104:3 **18:11** [p]S Ex 19:9; S Dt 4:11 [q]S Job 22:14; Isa 4:5; Jer 43:10 **18:12** [r]Ps 104:2 [s]S Jos 10:11 [t]S Job 36:30 **18:13** [u]S Ex 9:23; S 1Sa 2:10 **18:14** [v]S Dt 32:23 [w]S Job 36:30; Rev 4:5 [x]S Jdg 4:15 **18:15** [y]S Ps 11:3 [z]Ps 76:6; 104:7; 106:9; Isa 50:2 [a]S Ex 15:8

18:16 [b]Ex 15:5; Ps 69:2; Pr 18:4; 20:5 **18:17** [c]ver 48; Ps 38:19; 59:1; 143:9 [d]S Jdg 18:26 **18:18** [e]Pr 1:27; 16:4; Jer 17:17; 40:2; Ob 1:13 [f]Ps 20:2; Isa 3:1 **18:19** [g]Ps 31:8

[g]2 *Horn* here symbolizes strength. [h]5 Hebrew *Sheol* [i]13 Some Hebrew manuscripts and Septuagint (see also 2 Samuel 22:14); most Hebrew manuscripts *resounded, / amid hailstones and bolts of lightning*

he rescued me because he
delighted in me.[a]

20The Lord has dealt with me
according to my
righteousness;[b]
according to the cleanness of my
hands[c] he has rewarded
me.[d]
21For I have kept the ways of the
Lord;[e]
I have not done evil by turning[f]
from my God.
22All his laws are before me;[g]
I have not turned away from his
decrees.
23I have been blameless[h] before him
and have kept myself from sin.
24The Lord has rewarded me according
to my righteousness,[i]
according to the cleanness of my
hands in his sight.

25To the faithful[j] you show yourself
faithful,[k]
to the blameless you show
yourself blameless,
26to the pure[l] you show yourself
pure,
but to the crooked you show
yourself shrewd.[m]
27You save the humble[n]
but bring low those whose eyes
are haughty.[o]
28You, O Lord, keep my lamp[p]
burning;
my God turns my darkness into
light.[q]
29With your help[r] I can advance
against a troop[i];
with my God I can scale a wall.

30As for God, his way is perfect;[s]
the word of the Lord is flawless.[t]
He is a shield[u]
for all who take refuge[v] in him.
31For who is God besides the Lord?[w]
And who is the Rock[x] except our
God?
32It is God who arms me with
strength[y]
and makes my way perfect.[z]
33He makes my feet like the feet of a
deer;[a]
he enables me to stand on the
heights.[b]
34He trains my hands for battle;[c]
my arms can bend a bow of
bronze.
35You give me your shield of victory,
and your right hand sustains[d] me;
you stoop down to make me great.
36You broaden the path[e] beneath me,
so that my ankles do not turn.[f]
37I pursued my enemies[g] and
overtook them;
I did not turn back till they were
destroyed.
38I crushed them[h] so that they could
not rise;[i]
they fell beneath my feet.[j]
39You armed me with strength[k] for
battle;
you made my adversaries bow[l] at
my feet.
40You made my enemies turn their
backs[m] in flight,
and I destroyed[n] my foes.
41They cried for help, but there was no
one to save them[o]—
to the Lord, but he did not
answer.[p]
42I beat them as fine as dust[q] borne on
the wind;
I poured them out like mud in the
streets.

43You have delivered me from the
attacks of the people;
you have made me the head of
nations;[r]
people I did not know[s] are subject
to me.
44As soon as they hear me, they obey
me;
foreigners[t] cringe before me.
45They all lose heart;[u]
they come trembling[v] from their
strongholds.[w]

46The Lord lives![x] Praise be to my
Rock![y]
Exalted be God[z] my Savior![a]
47He is the God who avenges[b] me,
who subdues nations[c] under me,
48 who saves[d] me from my
enemies.[e]
You exalted me above my foes;
from violent men[f] you rescued
me.
49Therefore I will praise you among
the nations,[g] O Lord;
I will sing[h] praises to your name.[i]
50He gives his king great victories;
he shows unfailing kindness to his
anointed,[j]
to David[k] and his descendants
forever.[l]

18:19 [a]S Nu 14:8 **18:20** [b]S 1Sa 26:23 [c]Job 22:30; Ps 24:4 [d]S Ru 2:12; S 2Ch 15:7; 1Co 3:8 **18:21** [e]2Ch 34:33; Ps 37:34; 119:2; Pr 8:32; 23:26 [f]Ps 119:102 **18:22** [g]Ps 119:30 **18:23** [h]S Ge 6:9 **18:24** [i]S 1Sa 26:23 **18:25** [j]Ps 31:23; 37:28; 50:5; Pr 2:8 [k]Ps 25:10; 40:11; 89:24; 146:6 **18:26** [l]Pr 15:26; Mt 5:8; Php 1:10; 1Ti 5:22; Tit 1:15; 1Jn 3:3 [m]Pr 3:34; Mt 10:16; Lk 16:8 **18:27** [n]S 2Ch 33:23; S Mt 23:12 [o]S Job 41:34; S Ps 10:5; Pr 3:33-34 **18:28** [p]1Ki 11:36; Ps 132:17 [q]Job 29:3; Ps 97:11; 112:4; Jn 1:5; S Ac 26:18; 2Co 4:6; 2Pe 1:19 **18:29** [r]ver 32, 39; Isa 45:5; Heb 11:34 **18:30** [s]S Dt 32:4 [t]S Ps 12:6; Pr 30:5 [u]Ps 3:3 [v]Ps 2:12 **18:31** [w]S Dt 4:35; 32:39; Ps 35:10; 86:8; 89:6; Isa 44:6,8; 45:5, 6,14,18,21; 46:9 [x]S Ge 49:24 **18:32** [y]S ver 29; 1Pe 5:10 [z]S Ps 15:2; 19:13; Heb 10:14; Jas 3:2 **18:33** [a]Ps 42:1; Pr 5:19; Isa 35:6; Hab 3:19 [b]S Dt 32:13 **18:34** [c]Ps 144:1 **18:35** [d]Ps 3:5; 37:5,17; 41:3; 51:12; 54:4; 55:22; 119:116; Isa 41:4,10,13; 43:2; 46:4 **18:36** [e]Ps 31:8 [f]S Job 18:7; Ps 66:9 **18:37** [g]S Lev 26:7 **18:38** [h]Ps 68:21; 110:6 [i]Ps 36:12; 140:10; Isa 26:14 [j]Ps 47:3 **18:39** [k]ver 32; Isa 45:5,24 [l]ver 47; Ps 47:3; 144:2 **18:40** [m]S Jos 7:12 [n]ver 37 **18:41** [o]S 2Ki 14:26; Ps 50:22 [p]S 1Sa 8:18; S 14:37; Jer 11:11 **18:42** [q]S Dt 9:21; S Isa 2:22

18:43 [r]2Sa 8:1-14 [s]Isa 55:5 **18:44** [t]Ps 54:3; 144:7,11; Isa 25:5 **18:45** [u]S 1Sa 17:32; 2Co 4:1; Heb 12:3 [v]Isa 66:2; Hos 3:5; 11:10 [w]Ps 9:9; Mic 7:17 **18:46** [x]S Jos 3:10; S 1Sa 14:39; 2Co 13:4 [y]ver 31; Ex 33:22 [z]Ps 21:13; 35:27; 40:16; 108:5 [a]S 1Ch 16:35; S Lk 1:47 **18:47** [b]S Ge 4:24 [c]S ver 39; S Jdg 4:23 **18:48** [d]Ps 7:10; 37:40; Da 3:17 [e]S ver 17 [f]Ps 140:1 **18:49** [g]S Ps 9:11 [h]Ps 7:17; 9:2; 101:1; 108:1; 146:2 [i]Ro 15:9* **18:50** [j]S 2Sa 23:1 [k]Ps 144:10 [l]Ps 89:4

i29 Or *can run through a barricade*

Psalm 19

For the director of music.
A psalm of David.

1 The heavens[a] declare[b] the glory of God;[c]
the skies[d] proclaim the work of his hands.[e]
2 Day after day they pour forth speech;
night after night they display knowledge.[f]
3 There is no speech or language
where their voice is not heard.[k]
4 Their voice[l] goes out into all the earth,
their words to the ends of the world.[g]

In the heavens he has pitched a tent[h] for the sun,[i]
5 which is like a bridegroom[j]
coming forth from his pavilion,[k]
like a champion[l] rejoicing to run his course.
6 It rises at one end of the heavens[m]
and makes its circuit to the other;[n]
nothing is hidden from its heat.

7 The law of the LORD[o] is perfect,[p]
reviving the soul.[q]
The statutes of the LORD are trustworthy,[r]
making wise the simple.[s]
8 The precepts of the LORD are right,[t]
giving joy[u] to the heart.
The commands of the LORD are radiant,
giving light to the eyes.[v]
9 The fear of the LORD[w] is pure,
enduring forever.
The ordinances of the LORD are sure
and altogether righteous.[x]
10 They are more precious than gold,[y]
than much pure gold;
they are sweeter than honey,[z]
than honey from the comb.[a]
11 By them is your servant warned;
in keeping them there is great reward.

12 Who can discern his errors?
Forgive my hidden faults.[b]
13 Keep your servant also from willful sins;[c]
may they not rule over me.[d]
Then will I be blameless,[e]
innocent of great transgression.

14 May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
be pleasing[f] in your sight,
O LORD, my Rock[g] and my Redeemer.[h]

19:1 [a]Ps 89:5; Isa 40:22 [b]Ps 50:6; 148:3; Ro 1:19 [c]Ps 4:2; 8:1; 97:6; Isa 6:3 [d]S Ge 1:8 [e]S Ps 8:6; S 103:22 **19:2** [f]Ps 74:16 **19:4** [g]Ro 10:18* [h]S Job 36:29; Ps 104:2 [i]S Jdg 5:31 **19:5** [j]Joel 2:16 [k]S Job 36:29 [l]1Sa 17:4 **19:6** [m]Dt 30:4 [n]Ps 113:3; Ecc 1:5 **19:7** [o]S Ps 1:2 [p]Ps 119:142; Jas 1:25 [q]Ps 23:3 [r]Ps 93:5; 111:7; 119:138,144 [s]S Dt 4:6; Ps 119:130 **19:8** [t]Ps 33:4; 119:128 [u]Ps 119:14 [v]S Ezr 9:8; Ps 38:10 **19:9** [w]Ps 34:11; 111:10; Pr 1:7; Ecc 12:13; Isa 33:6 [x]Ps 119:138 **19:10** [y]S Job 22:24; Ps 119:72; Pr 8:10 [z]Ps 119:103; SS 4:11; Eze 3:3 [a]S 1Sa 14:27 **19:12** [b]Ps 51:2; 90:8; Ecc 12:14 **19:13** [c]S Nu 15:30 [d]Ps 119:133 [e]S Ge 6:9; S Ps 18:32 **19:14** [f]Ps 104:34 [g]Ps 18:31 [h]S Ex 6:6; S Job 19:25 **20:1** [i]Ps 4:1 [j]Ex 3:6; Ps 46:7, 11 [k]Ps 59:1; 69:29; 91:14 **20:2** [l]Ps 30:10; 33:20; 37:40; 40:17; 54:4; 118:7 [m]S Nu 3:28 [n]S Ps 18:18 [o]Ps 2:6; 128:5; 134:3; 135:21 **20:3** [p]Ac 10:4 [q]S Dt 33:11 **20:4** [r]Ps 21:2; 37:4; 145:16,19; Isa 26:8; Eze 24:25; Ro 10:1 [s]Ps 140:8; Pr 16:3; Da 11:17 **20:5** [t]S Job 3:7 [u]S Nu 1:52; Ps 60:4; Isa 5:26; 11:10,12; 13:2; 30:17; 49:22; 62:10; Jer 50:2; 51:12,27 [v]1Sa 1:17 **20:6** [w]S 2Sa 23:1; Ps 28:8 [x]S Job 40:14; Hab 3:13 **20:7** [y]S 2Ki 19:23 [z]S Dt 17:16; Ps 33:17; 147:10; Pr 21:31; Isa 31:1; 36:8,9 [a]S 2Ch 32:8 **20:8** [b]Ps 27:2; Isa 40:30; Jer 46:6; 50:32

Psalm 20

For the director of music.
A psalm of David.

1 May the LORD answer you when you are in distress;[i]
may the name of the God of Jacob[j] protect you.[k]
2 May he send you help[l] from the sanctuary[m]
and grant you support[n] from Zion.[o]
3 May he remember[p] all your sacrifices
and accept your burnt offerings.[q] *Selah*
4 May he give you the desire of your heart[r]
and make all your plans succeed.[s]
5 We will shout for joy[t] when you are victorious
and will lift up our banners[u] in the name of our God.
May the LORD grant all your requests.[v]

6 Now I know that the LORD saves his anointed;[w]
he answers him from his holy heaven
with the saving power of his right hand.[x]
7 Some trust in chariots[y] and some in horses,[z]
but we trust in the name of the LORD our God.[a]
8 They are brought to their knees and fall,[b]
but we rise up[c] and stand firm.[d]
9 O LORD, save the king!
Answer[m] us[e] when we call!

Psalm 21

For the director of music.
A psalm of David.

1 O LORD, the king rejoices in your strength.[f]
How great is his joy in the victories you give![g]
2 You have granted him the desire of his heart[h]

[c]Mic 7:8 [d]S Job 11:15; Ps 37:23; Pr 10:25; Isa 7:9 **20:9** [e]Ps 17:6 **21:1** [f]S 1Sa 2:10 [g]S 2Sa 22:51 **21:2** [h]S Ps 20:4

[k]3 Or *They have no speech, there are no words; / no sound is heard from them* [l]4 Septuagint, Jerome and Syriac; Hebrew *line* [m]9 Or *save! / O King, answer*

and have not withheld the request
of his lips. *Selah*
3You welcomed him with rich
blessings
and placed a crown of pure gold[a]
on his head.[b]
4He asked you for life, and you gave
it to him—
length of days, for ever and ever.[c]
5Through the victories[d] you gave, his
glory is great;
you have bestowed on him
splendor and majesty.[e]
6Surely you have granted him eternal
blessings
and made him glad with the joy[f]
of your presence.[g]
7For the king trusts in the LORD;[h]
through the unfailing love[i] of the
Most High[j]
he will not be shaken.[k]

8Your hand will lay hold[l] on all your
enemies;
your right hand will seize your
foes.
9At the time of your appearing
you will make them like a fiery
furnace.
In his wrath the LORD will swallow
them up,
and his fire will consume them.[m]
10You will destroy their descendants
from the earth,
their posterity from mankind.[n]
11Though they plot evil[o] against you
and devise wicked schemes,[p] they
cannot succeed;
12for you will make them turn their
backs[q]
when you aim at them with drawn
bow.

13Be exalted,[r] O LORD, in your
strength;[s]
we will sing and praise your
might.

Psalm 22

For the director of music. To ⌞the tune of⌟ "The Doe of the Morning."
A psalm of David.

1My God, my God, why have you
forsaken me?[t]
Why are you so far[u] from saving
me,
so far from the words of my
groaning?[v]
2O my God, I cry out by day, but you
do not answer,[w]
by night,[x] and am not silent.

3Yet you are enthroned as the Holy
One;[y]
you are the praise[z] of Israel.[n]
4In you our fathers put their trust;
they trusted and you delivered
them.[a]
5They cried to you[b] and were saved;
in you they trusted[c] and were not
disappointed.[d]

6But I am a worm[e] and not a man,
scorned by men[f] and despised[g]
by the people.
7All who see me mock me;[h]
they hurl insults,[i] shaking their
heads:[j]
8"He trusts in the LORD;
let the LORD rescue him.[k]
Let him deliver him,[l]
since he delights[m] in him."

9Yet you brought me out of the
womb;[n]
you made me trust[o] in you
even at my mother's breast.
10From birth[p] I was cast upon you;
from my mother's womb you have
been my God.
11Do not be far from me,[q]
for trouble is near[r]
and there is no one to help.[s]

12Many bulls[t] surround me;[u]
strong bulls of Bashan[v]
encircle me.
13Roaring lions[w] tearing their prey[x]
open their mouths wide[y]
against me.
14I am poured out like water,
and all my bones are out of joint.[z]
My heart has turned to wax;[a]
it has melted away[b] within me.
15My strength is dried up like a
potsherd,[c]
and my tongue sticks to the roof of
my mouth;[d]
you lay me[o] in the dust[e] of death.
16Dogs[f] have surrounded me;
a band of evil men has
encircled me,
they have pierced[p][g] my hands
and my feet.
17I can count all my bones;
people stare[h] and gloat over me.[i]

21:3 [a]S 2Sa 12:30; Rev 14:14 [b]Zec 6:11 **21:4** [c]Ps 10:16; 45:17; 48:14; 133:3 **21:5** [d]ver 1; Ps 18:50; 44:4 [e]S Ps 8:5; 45:3; 93:1; 96:6; 104:1 **21:6** [f]Ps 43:4; 126:3 [g]S 1Ch 17:27 **21:7** [h]S 2Ki 18:5 [i]Ps 6:4 [j]Ge 14:18 [k]S Ps 15:5; S 55:22 **21:8** [l]Isa 10:10 **21:9** [m]S Dt 32:22; Ps 50:3; Jer 15:14 **21:10** [n]Dt 28:18 **21:11** [o]Ps 2:1 [p]Job 10:3; Ps 10:2; 26:10; 37:7 **21:12** [q]S Ex 23:27 **21:13** [r]S Ps 18:46 [s]Ps 18:1 **22:1** [t]S Job 6:15; S Ps 9:10; Mt 27:46*; Mk 15:34* [u]Ps 10:1 [v]S Job 3:24 **22:2** [w]S Job 19:7 [x]Ps 42:3; 88:1 **22:3** [y]S 2Ki 19:22; Ps 71:22; S Mk 1:24 [z]S Ex 15:2; Ps 148:14 **22:4** [a]Ps 78:53; 107:6 **22:5** [b]S 1Ch 5:20 [c]Isa 8:17; 25:9; 26:3; 30:18 [d]S 2Ch 13:18; Ps 25:3; 31:17; 71:1; Isa 49:23; Ro 9:33 **22:6** [e]S Job 4:19 [f]S 2Sa 12:14; Ps 31:11; 64:8; 69:19; 109:25 [g]Ps 119:141; Isa 49:7; 53:3; 60:14; Mal 2:9; Mt 16:21 **22:7** [h]S Job 17:2; Ps 35:16; 69:12; 74:18; Mt 27:41; Mk 15:31; Lk 23:36 [i]Mt 27:39,44; Mk 15:32; Lk 23:39 [j]Mk 15:29 **22:8** [k]Ps 91:14 [l]S Ps 3:2 [m]S 2Sa 22:20; S Mt 3:17; 27:43 **22:9** [n]Job 10:18; Ps 71:6 [o]Ps 78:7; Na 1:7 **22:10** [p]Ps 71:6; Isa 46:3; 49:1 **22:11** [q]ver 19; S Ps 10:1 [r]S Ps 10:14 [s]S 2Ki 14:26; S Isa 41:28 **22:12** [t]Ps 68:30 [u]Ps 17:9; 27:6; 49:5; 109:3; 140:9 [v]Dt 32:14; Isa 2:13; Eze 27:6; 39:18; Am 4:1 **22:13** [w]ver 21; Eze 22:25; Zep 3:3 [x]S Ge 49:9 [y]La 3:46 **22:14** [z]S Ps 6:2 [a]Job 23:16; Ps 68:2; 97:5; Mic 1:4 [b]Jos 7:5; Ps 107:26; Da 5:6 **22:15** [c]Isa 45:9 [d]Ps 137:6; La 4:4; Eze 3:26; Jn 19:28 [e]S Job 7:21; Ps 104:29 **22:16** [f]Php 3:2 [g]Isa 51:9; 53:5; Zec 12:10; Jn 20:25 **22:17** [h]Lk 23:35 [i]Ps 25:2; 30:1; 35:19; 38:16; La 2:17; Mic 7:8

[n]3 Or *Yet you are holy, / enthroned on the praises of Israel* [o]15 Or */ I am laid* [p]16 Some Hebrew manuscripts, Septuagint and Syriac; most Hebrew manuscripts */ like the lion,*

18They divide my garments among them
and cast lots[a] for my clothing.[b]

19But you, O LORD, be not far off;[c]
O my Strength,[d] come quickly[e] to help me.[f]
20Deliver my life from the sword,[g]
my precious life[h] from the power of the dogs.[i]
21Rescue me from the mouth of the lions;[j]
save[q] me from the horns of the wild oxen.[k]

22I will declare your name to my brothers;
in the congregation[l] I will praise you.[m]
23You who fear the LORD, praise him![n]
All you descendants of Jacob, honor him![o]
Revere him,[p] all you descendants of Israel!
24For he has not despised[q] or disdained
the suffering of the afflicted one;[r]
he has not hidden his face[s] from him
but has listened to his cry for help.[t]

25From you comes the theme of my praise in the great assembly;[u]
before those who fear you[r] will I fulfill my vows.[v]
26The poor will eat[w] and be satisfied;
they who seek the LORD will praise him—[x]
may your hearts live forever!
27All the ends of the earth[y]
will remember and turn to the LORD,
and all the families of the nations
will bow down before him,[z]
28for dominion belongs to the LORD[a]
and he rules over the nations.

29All the rich[b] of the earth will feast and worship;[c]
all who go down to the dust[d] will kneel before him—
those who cannot keep themselves alive.[e]
30Posterity[f] will serve him;
future generations[g] will be told about the Lord.
31They will proclaim his righteousness[h]
to a people yet unborn[i] —
for he has done it.[j]

Psalm 23

A psalm of David.

1The LORD is my shepherd,[k] I shall not be in want.[l]
2 He makes me lie down in green pastures,
he leads me beside quiet waters,[m]
3 he restores my soul.[n]
He guides me[o] in paths of righteousness[p]
for his name's sake.[q]
4Even though I walk
through the valley of the shadow of death,[s r]
I will fear no evil,[s]
for you are with me;[t]
your rod and your staff,
they comfort me.

5You prepare a table[u] before me
in the presence of my enemies.
You anoint my head with oil;[v]
my cup[w] overflows.
6Surely goodness and love[x] will follow me
all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD
forever.

Psalm 24

Of David. A psalm.

1The earth is the LORD's,[y] and everything in it,
the world, and all who live in it;[z]
2for he founded it upon the seas
and established it upon the waters.[a]

3Who may ascend the hill[b] of the LORD?
Who may stand in his holy place?[c]
4He who has clean hands[d] and a pure heart,[e]
who does not lift up his soul to an idol[f]
or swear by what is false.[t]
5He will receive blessing[g] from the LORD
and vindication[h] from God his Savior.
6Such is the generation of those who seek him,

22:18 [a]S Lev 16:8; Mt 27:35*; Mk 15:24; Lk 23:34; Jn 19:24* [b]Mk 9:12 **22:19** [c]S ver 11 [d]S Ps 18:1 [e]Ps 38:22; 70:5; 141:1 [f]Ps 40:13 **22:20** [g]S Job 5:20; Ps 37:14 [h]Ps 35:17 [i]Php 3:2 **22:21** [j]S ver 13; S Job 4:10 [k]ver 12; S Nu 23:22 **22:22** [l]Ps 26:12; 40:9,10; 68:26 [m]Ps 35:18; Heb 2:12* **22:23** [n]Ps 33:2; 66:8; 86:12; 103:1; 106:1; 113:1; 117:1; 135:19 [o]Ps 50:15; Isa 24:15; 25:3; 49:23; 60:9; Jer 3:17 [p]S Dt 14:23; Ps 33:8 **22:24** [q]Ps 102:17 [r]S Ps 9:12 [s]Ps 13:1; 27:9; 69:17; 102:2; 143:7 [t]S Job 24:12; S 36:5; Heb 5:7 **22:25** [u]Ps 26:12; 35:18; 40:9; 82:1 [v]S Nu 30:2 **22:26** [w]Ps 107:9 [x]Ps 40:16 **22:27** [y]S Ps 2:8 [z]Ps 86:9; 102:22; Da 7:27; Mic 4:1 **22:28** [a]Ps 47:7; Zec 14:9 **22:29** [b]Ps 45:12 [c]Ps 95:6; 96:9; 99:5; Isa 27:13; 49:7; 66:23; Zec 14:16 [d]Isa 26:19 [e]Ps 89:48 **22:30** [f]Isa 53:10; 54:3; 61:9; 66:22 [g]Ps 102:18 **22:31** [h]S Ps 5:8; 40:9 [i]Ps 71:18; 78:6; 102:18 [j]Lk 18:31; 24:44

23:1 [k]S Ge 48:15; S Ps 28:9; S Jn 10:11 [l]Ps 34:9,10; 84:11; 107:9; Php 4:19 **23:2** [m]Ps 36:8; 46:4; Rev 7:17 **23:3** [n]S Ps 19:7 [o]Ps 25:9; 73:24; Isa 42:16 [p]S Ps 5:8 [q]Ps 25:11; 31:3; 79:9; 106:8; 109:21; 143:11 **23:4** [r]S Job 3:5; Ps 107:14 [s]Ps 3:6; 27:1 [t]Ps 16:8; Isa 43:2 **23:5** [u]S Job 36:16 [v]Ps 45:7; 92:10; Lk 7:46 [w]S Ps 16:5 **23:6** [x]S Ne 9:25 **24:1** [y]S Ex 9:29; Job 41:11 [z]1Co 10:26* **24:2** [a]S Ge 1:6; Ps 104:3; 2Pe 3:5

24:3 [b]Ps 2:6 [c]Ps 15:1; 65:4 **24:4** [d]S 2Sa 22:21 [e]Ps 51:10; 73:1; Mt 5:8 [f]Eze 18:15 **24:5** [g]Dt 11:26 [h]Ps 17:2

[q]21 Or / *you have heard* [r]25 Hebrew *him* [s]4 Or *through the darkest valley* [t]4 Or *swear falsely*

who seek your face,[a] O God of
Jacob.[u] *Selah*

7Lift up your heads, O you gates;[b]
be lifted up, you ancient doors,
that the King[c] of glory[d] may
come in.[e]
8Who is this King of glory?
The LORD strong and mighty,[f]
the LORD mighty in battle.[g]
9Lift up your heads, O you gates;
lift them up, you ancient doors,
that the King of glory may
come in.
10Who is he, this King of glory?
The LORD Almighty[h]—
he is the King of glory. *Selah*

Psalm 25[v]

Of David.

1To you, O LORD, I lift up my
soul;[i]
2 in you I trust,[j] O my God.
Do not let me be put to shame,
nor let my enemies triumph
over me.
3No one whose hope is in you
will ever be put to shame,[k]
but they will be put to shame
who are treacherous[l] without
excuse.

4Show me your ways, O LORD,
teach me your paths;[m]
5guide me in your truth[n] and
teach me,
for you are God my Savior,[o]
and my hope is in you[p] all day
long.
6Remember, O LORD, your great
mercy and love,[q]
for they are from of old.
7Remember not the sins of my youth[r]
and my rebellious ways;[s]
according to your love[t] remember
me,
for you are good,[u] O LORD.

8Good and upright[v] is the LORD;
therefore he instructs[w] sinners in
his ways.
9He guides[x] the humble in what is
right
and teaches them[y] his way.
10All the ways of the LORD are loving
and faithful[z]
for those who keep the demands
of his covenant.[a]
11For the sake of your name,[b] O LORD,
forgive[c] my iniquity,[d] though it is
great.

24:6 [a]Ps 27:8; 105:4; 119:58; Hos 5:15
24:7 [b]Ps 118:19, 20; Isa 26:2; 60:11,18; 62:10 [c]Ps 44:4; 74:12 [d]Ps 29:3; Ac 7:2; 1Co 2:8 [e]Zec 9:9; Mt 21:5
24:8 [f]S 1Ch 29:11; Ps 89:13; Jer 50:34; Eph 6:10 [g]Ex 15:3,6; Dt 4:34
24:10 [h]S 1Sa 1:11
25:1 [i]Ps 86:4; 143:8
25:2 [j]Ps 31:6; 143:8
25:3 [k]S Ps 22:5; S Isa 29:22 [l]Isa 24:16; Hab 1:13; Zep 3:4; 2Ti 3:4
25:4 [m]S Job 34:32
25:5 [n]Ps 31:3; 43:3; Jn 16:13 [o]Ps 24:5 [p]ver 3; Ps 33:20; 39:7; 42:5; 71:5; 130:7; 131:3
25:6 [q]Ps 5:7; 98:3; Isa 63:7,15; Jer 31:20; Hos 11:8
25:7 [r]Job 13:26; Isa 54:4; Jer 3:25; 31:19; 32:30; Eze 16:22,60; 23:3; 2Ti 2:22 [s]S Ex 23:21; Ps 107:17 [t]Ps 6:4; 51:1; 69:16; 109:26; 119:124 [u]S 1Ch 16:34; Ps 34:8; 73:1
25:8 [v]Ps 92:15; Isa 26:7 [w]Ps 32:8; Isa 28:26
25:9 [x]S Ps 23:3 [y]ver 4; Ps 27:11
25:10 [z]S Ps 18:25 [a]Ps 103:18; 132:12
25:11 [b]S Ex 9:16; Ps 31:3; 79:9; Jer 14:7 [c]S Ex 34:9 [d]S Ex 32:30; S Ps 78:38
25:12 [e]S Job 1:8 [f]ver 8
25:13 [g]S Dt 30:15; S 1Ki 3:14; S Job 8:7 [h]S Nu 14:24; Mt 5:5
25:14 [i]Pr 3:32 [j]Ge 17:2; Jn 7:17
25:15 [k]S 2Ch 20:12; Ps 123:2; Heb 12:2 [l]S Job 34:30; S Ps 119:110
25:16 [m]S Ps 6:4 [n]S Nu 6:25 [o]Ps 68:6
25:17 [p]1Ki 1:29; Ps 34:6,17; 40:12; 54:7; 116:3 [q]Ps 6:3; 39:2
25:18 [r]S Ps 13:3; Ro 12:12 [s]S 2Sa 16:12 [t]Ps 103:3

12Who, then, is the man that fears the
LORD?[e]
He will instruct him in the way[f]
chosen for him.
13He will spend his days in
prosperity,[g]
and his descendants will inherit
the land.[h]
14The LORD confides[i] in those who
fear him;
he makes his covenant known[j] to
them.
15My eyes are ever on the LORD,[k]
for only he will release my feet
from the snare.[l]

16Turn to me[m] and be gracious to me,[n]
for I am lonely[o] and afflicted.
17The troubles[p] of my heart have
multiplied;
free me from my anguish.[q]
18Look upon my affliction[r] and my
distress[s]
and take away all my sins.[t]
19See how my enemies[u] have
increased
and how fiercely they hate me![v]
20Guard my life[w] and rescue me;[x]
let me not be put to shame,[y]
for I take refuge[z] in you.
21May integrity[a] and uprightness[b]
protect me,
because my hope is in you.[c]

22Redeem Israel,[d] O God,
from all their troubles!

Psalm 26

Of David.

1Vindicate me,[e] O LORD,
for I have led a blameless life;[f]
I have trusted[g] in the LORD
without wavering.[h]
2Test me,[i] O LORD, and try me,
examine my heart and my mind;[j]
3for your love[k] is ever before me,
and I walk continually[l] in your
truth.[m]
4I do not sit[n] with deceitful men,
nor do I consort with hypocrites;[o]

25:19 [u]Ps 3:1; 9:13 [v]Ps 35:19; 38:19; 69:4 **25:20** [w]Ps 86:2 [x]Ps 17:13; 22:21; 43:1; 71:2; 116:4; 140:1; 142:6; 144:11 [y]ver 3 [z]Ps 2:12 **25:21** [a]S Ge 20:5; Pr 10:9 [b]1Ki 9:4; Ps 85:10; 111:8; Isa 60:17; Mal 2:6 [c]ver 3 **25:22** [d]Ps 130:8; Lk 24:21 **26:1** [e]S 1Sa 24:15 [f]Ps 15:2; Pr 20:7 [g]Ps 22:4; 40:4; Isa 12:2; 25:9; Jer 17:7; Da 3:28 [h]2Ki 20:3; Heb 10:23 **26:2** [i]Ps 66:10 [j]S Dt 6:6; S Ps 7:9; Jer 11:20; 20:12; Eze 11:5 **26:3** [k]Ps 6:4 [l]S 1Ki 2:4 [m]Ps 40:11; 43:3; 86:11; 119:30 **26:4** [n]Ps 1:1 [o]Ps 28:3; Mt 6:2

[u]6 Two Hebrew manuscripts and Syriac (see also Septuagint); most Hebrew manuscripts *face, Jacob*
[v]This psalm is an acrostic poem, the verses of which begin with the successive letters of the Hebrew alphabet.

5I abhor[a] the assembly of evildoers
and refuse to sit with the wicked.
6I wash my hands in innocence,[b]
and go about your altar, O LORD,
7proclaiming aloud your praise[c]
and telling of all your wonderful
deeds.[d]
8I love[e] the house where you live,
O LORD,
the place where your glory
dwells.[f]

9Do not take away my soul along
with sinners,
my life with bloodthirsty men,[g]
10in whose hands are wicked
schemes,[h]
whose right hands are full of
bribes.[i]
11But I lead a blameless life;
redeem me[j] and be merciful
to me.

12My feet stand on level ground;[k]
in the great assembly[l] I will praise
the LORD.

Psalm 27

Of David.

1The LORD is my light[m] and my
salvation[n]—
whom shall I fear?
The LORD is the stronghold[o] of my
life—
of whom shall I be afraid?[p]
2When evil men advance against me
to devour my flesh,[w]
when my enemies and my foes
attack me,
they will stumble and fall.[q]
3Though an army besiege me,
my heart will not fear;[r]
though war break out against me,
even then will I be confident.[s]

4One thing[t] I ask of the LORD,
this is what I seek:
that I may dwell in the house of the
LORD
all the days of my life,[u]
to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD
and to seek him in his temple.
5For in the day of trouble[v]
he will keep me safe[w] in his
dwelling;
he will hide me[x] in the shelter of his
tabernacle
and set me high upon a rock.[y]
6Then my head will be exalted[z]
above the enemies who
surround me;[a]

26:5 [a]Ps 139:21
26:6 [b]Ps 73:13; Mt 27:24
26:7 [c]Isa 42:12; 60:6 [d]S Jos 3:5; Ps 9:1
26:8 [e]Ps 122:6; Isa 66:10 [f]S Ex 29:43; 2Ch 7:1; Ps 96:6
26:9 [g]Ps 5:6; 28:3; 55:23; 139:19; Pr 29:10
26:10 [h]S Ps 21:11 [i]S Job 36:18; S Isa 1:23; S Eze 22:12
26:11 [j]Ps 31:5; 69:18; 119:134; Tit 2:14
26:12 [k]Ps 27:11; 40:2; 143:10; Isa 26:7; 40:3-4; 45:13; Zec 4:7; Lk 6:17 [l]S Ps 22:25
27:1 [m]S 2Sa 22:29 [n]S Ex 15:2; S Ps 3:8 [o]Ps 9:9 [p]S Job 13:15; Ps 56:4,11; 118:6
27:2 [q]Ps 9:3; S 20:8; 37:24; Da 11:19; Ro 11:11
27:3 [r]S Ge 4:7; S Ps 3:6 [s]S Job 4:6
27:4 [t]Lk 10:42 [u]Ps 23:6; 61:4
27:5 [v]S Job 38:23 [w]S Ps 12:7 [x]S Ps 17:8 [y]Ps 40:2
27:6 [z]2Sa 22:49; Ps 3:3; 18:48 [a]S Ps 22:12 [b]Ps 50:14; 54:6; 107:22; 116:17 [c]S Ezr 3:13; S Job 22:26 [d]S Ex 15:1 [e]Ps 33:2; 92:1; 147:7; S Eph 5:19
27:7 [f]Ps 5:3; 18:6; 55:17; 119:149; 130:2; Isa 28:23 [g]S Ps 4:1
27:8 [h]S 1Ch 16:11
27:9 [i]S Dt 31:17; S Ps 22:24 [j]S Ps 2:5 [k]S Ge 49:25; S Dt 33:29 [l]S Dt 4:31; Ps 37:28; 119:8; Isa 41:17; 62:12; Jer 14:9 [m]Ps 18:46
27:11 [n]S Ex 33:13 [o]S Ezr 8:21; Ps 5:8 [p]Ps 72:4; 78:42; 106:10; Jer 21:12
27:12 [q]S Dt 19:16; S Mt 26:60; Ac 6:13; 1Co 15:15
27:13 [r]Ex 33:19; S 2Ch 6:41; Ps 23:6; 31:19; 145:7 [s]S Job 28:13
27:14 [t]Ps 33:20; 130:5,6; Isa 8:17; 30:18; Hab 2:3; Zep 3:8; Ac 1:4 [u]S Dt 1:21; S Jdg 5:21; S Eph 6:10

at his tabernacle will I sacrifice[b] with
shouts of joy;[c]
I will sing[d] and make music[e] to
the LORD.

7Hear my voice[f] when I call, O LORD;
be merciful to me and answer
me.[g]
8My heart says of you, "Seek his[x]
face![h]"
Your face, LORD, I will seek.
9Do not hide your face[i] from me,
do not turn your servant away in
anger;[j]
you have been my helper.[k]
Do not reject me or forsake[l] me,
O God my Savior.[m]
10Though my father and mother
forsake me,
the LORD will receive me.
11Teach me your way,[n] O LORD;
lead me in a straight path[o]
because of my oppressors.[p]
12Do not turn me over to the desire of
my foes,
for false witnesses[q] rise up
against me,
breathing out violence.
13I am still confident of this:
I will see the goodness of the
LORD[r]
in the land of the living.[s]
14Wait[t] for the LORD;
be strong[u] and take heart
and wait for the LORD.

Psalm 28

Of David.

1To you I call, O LORD my Rock;
do not turn a deaf ear[v] to me.
For if you remain silent,[w]
I will be like those who have gone
down to the pit.[x]
2Hear my cry for mercy[y]
as I call to you for help,
as I lift up my hands[z]
toward your Most Holy Place.[a]

3Do not drag me away with the
wicked,
with those who do evil,
who speak cordially with their
neighbors
but harbor malice in their hearts.[b]
4Repay them for their deeds
and for their evil work;

28:1 [v]S Dt 1:45 [w]S Est 4:14 [x]S Job 33:18 **28:2** [y]Ps 17:1; 61:1; 116:1; 130:2; 142:1; 143:1 [z]S Ezr 9:5; Ps 63:4; 141:2; La 2:19; 1Ti 2:8 [a]Ps 5:7; 11:4 **28:3** [b]Ps 12:2; S 26:4; 55:21; Jer 9:8

[w]2 *Or to slander me* [x]8 *Or To you, O my heart, he has said, "Seek my*

repay them for what their hands
have done[a]
and bring back upon them what
they deserve.[b]
5 Since they show no regard for the
works of the LORD
and what his hands have done,[c]
he will tear them down
and never build them up again.

6 Praise be to the LORD,[d]
for he has heard my cry for
mercy.[e]
7 The LORD is my strength[f] and my
shield;
my heart trusts[g] in him, and I am
helped.
My heart leaps for joy[h]
and I will give thanks to him in
song.[i]

8 The LORD is the strength[j] of his
people,
a fortress of salvation[k] for his
anointed one.[l]
9 Save your people[m] and bless your
inheritance;[n]
be their shepherd[o] and carry
them[p] forever.

Psalm 29

A psalm of David.

1 Ascribe to the LORD,[q] O mighty
ones,[r]
ascribe to the LORD glory[s] and
strength.
2 Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his
name;
worship the LORD in the splendor
of his[y] holiness.[t]

3 The voice[u] of the LORD is over the
waters;
the God of glory[v] thunders,[w]
the LORD thunders over the mighty
waters.[x]
4 The voice of the LORD is powerful;[y]
the voice of the LORD is majestic.
5 The voice of the LORD breaks the
cedars;
the LORD breaks in pieces the
cedars of Lebanon.[z]
6 He makes Lebanon skip[a] like a
calf,
Sirion[z][b] like a young wild ox.[c]
7 The voice of the LORD strikes
with flashes of lightning.[d]
8 The voice of the LORD shakes the
desert;
the LORD shakes the Desert of
Kadesh.[e]
9 The voice of the LORD twists the
oaks[a][f]
and strips the forests bare.
And in his temple all cry, "Glory!"[g]

10 The LORD sits[b] enthroned over the
flood;[h]
the LORD is enthroned as King
forever.[i]
11 The LORD gives strength to his
people;[j]
the LORD blesses his people with
peace.[k]

Psalm 30

A psalm. A song. For the dedication of
the temple.[c] Of David.

1 I will exalt[l] you, O LORD,
for you lifted me out of the
depths[m]
and did not let my enemies gloat
over me.[n]
2 O LORD my God, I called to you for
help[o]
and you healed me.[p]
3 O LORD, you brought me up from the
grave[d];[q]
you spared me from going down
into the pit.[r]

4 Sing[s] to the LORD, you saints[t] of his;
praise his holy name.[u]
5 For his anger[v] lasts only a moment,[w]
but his favor lasts a lifetime;[x]
weeping[y] may remain for a night,
but rejoicing comes in the
morning.[z]

6 When I felt secure, I said,
"I will never be shaken."[a]
7 O LORD, when you favored me,
you made my mountain[e] stand
firm;
but when you hid your face,[b]
I was dismayed.

8 To you, O LORD, I called;
to the Lord I cried for mercy:
9 "What gain is there in my
destruction,[f]
in my going down into the pit?[c]
Will the dust praise you?
Will it proclaim your
faithfulness?[d]

28:4 [a]Ps 62:12; 2Ti 4:14; Rev 22:12 [b]La 3:64; Rev 18:6 **28:5** [c]Isa 5:12 **28:6** [d]S Ge 24:27; 2Co 1:3; Eph 1:3; 1Pe 1:3 [e]ver 2 **28:7** [f]S Ps 18:1 [g]Ps 13:5; 112:7; Isa 26:3 [h]S Dt 16:15; S Ps 16:9 [i]Ps 33:3; 40:3; 69:30; 144:9; 149:1 **28:8** [j]Ps 18:1 [k]S Ex 15:2; Ps 27:1; Hab 3:13 [l]S Ps 20:6 **28:9** [m]1Ch 16:35; Ps 106:47; 118:25 [n]S Ex 34:9 [o]1Ch 11:2; S Ps 23:1; 78:52, 71; 80:1; Isa 40:11; Jer 31:10; Eze 34:12-16,23, 31; Mic 7:14 [p]S Dt 1:31; 32:11; Isa 46:3; 63:9 **29:1** [q]ver 2; 1Ch 16:28 [r]S 2Sa 1:19; Ps 103:20; Isa 10:13 [s]Ps 8:1 **29:2** [t]S 1Ch 16:29; Ps 96:7-9 **29:3** [u]Job 37:5 [v]S Ps 24:7; Ac 7:2 [w]S 1Sa 2:10; Ps 18:13; 46:6; 68:33; 77:17; Jer 10:13; 25:30; Joel 2:11; Am 1:2 [x]S Ex 15:10 **29:4** [y]Ps 68:33 **29:5** [z]S Jdg 9:15 **29:6** [a]Ps 114:4 [b]Dt 3:9 [c]S Nu 23:22; Job 39:9; Ps 92:10 **29:7** [d]Eze 1:14; Rev 8:5 **29:8** [e]Nu 13:26; S 20:1 **29:9** [f]Nu 13:32; Isa 2:13; Eze 27:6; Am 2:9 [g]Ps 26:8 **29:10** [h]Ge 6:17 [i]S Ex 15:18 **29:11** [j]S Ps 18:1; 28:8; 68:35 [k]S Lev 26:6; S Nu 6:26 **30:1** [l]S Ex 15:2 [m]Job 11:8; Ps 63:9; 107:26; Pr 9:18; Isa 14:15 [n]S Ps 22:17 **30:2** [o]Ps 5:2; 88:13 [p]S Nu 12:13 **30:3** [q]S Ps 16:10; S 56:13 [r]Ps 28:1; 55:23; 69:15; 86:13; 143:7; Pr 1:12; Isa 38:17; Jnh 2:6 **30:4** [s]Ps 33:1; 47:7; 68:4 [t]S Ps 16:3 [u]Ex 3:15; Ps 33:21; 103:1; 145:21

30:5 [v]Ps 103:9 [w]S Job 14:13 [x]S Ezr 3:11 [y]2Sa 15:30; Ps 6:6; 126:6; Jer 31:16 [z]2Co 4:17 **30:6** [a]S Job 29:18 **30:7** [b]S Dt 31:17 **30:9** [c]S Job 33:18; Isa 38:18 [d]S Ps 6:5; 88:11

[y]2 Or *LORD with the splendor of* [z]6 That is, Mount Hermon [a]9 Or *LORD makes the deer give birth* [b]10 Or *sat* [c]Title: Or *palace* [d]3 Hebrew *Sheol* [e]7 Or *hill country* [f]9 Or *there if I am silenced*

10Hear,[a] O LORD, and be merciful
to me;[b]
O LORD, be my help.[c]
11You turned my wailing[d] into
dancing;[e]
you removed my sackcloth[f] and
clothed me with joy,[g]
12that my heart may sing to you and
not be silent.
O LORD my God, I will give you
thanks[h] forever.[i]

Psalm 31

31:1-4pp — Ps 71:1-3

For the director of music.
A psalm of David.

1In you, O LORD, I have taken
refuge;[j]
let me never be put to shame;
deliver me in your righteousness.[k]
2Turn your ear to me,[l]
come quickly to my rescue;[m]
be my rock of refuge,[n]
a strong fortress to save me.
3Since you are my rock and my
fortress,[o]
for the sake of your name[p] lead
and guide me.
4Free me from the trap[q] that is set
for me,
for you are my refuge.[r]
5Into your hands I commit my
spirit;[s]
redeem me, O LORD, the God of
truth.[t]

6I hate those who cling to worthless
idols;[u]
I trust in the LORD.[v]
7I will be glad and rejoice in your
love,
for you saw my affliction[w]
and knew the anguish[x] of my
soul.
8You have not handed me over[y] to
the enemy
but have set my feet in a spacious
place.[z]

9Be merciful to me, O LORD, for I am
in distress;[a]
my eyes grow weak with sorrow,[b]
my soul and my body[c] with
grief.
10My life is consumed by anguish[d]
and my years by groaning;[e]
my strength fails[f] because of my
affliction,[g][k]
and my bones grow weak.[h]
11Because of all my enemies,[i]
I am the utter contempt[j] of my
neighbors;[k]
I am a dread to my friends—
those who see me on the street
flee from me.
12I am forgotten by them as though I
were dead;[l]
I have become like broken
pottery.
13For I hear the slander[m] of many;
there is terror on every side;[n]
they conspire against me[o]
and plot to take my life.[p]

14But I trust[q] in you, O LORD;
I say, "You are my God."
15My times[r] are in your hands;
deliver me from my enemies
and from those who pursue me.
16Let your face shine[s] on your
servant;
save me in your unfailing love.[t]
17Let me not be put to shame,[u]
O LORD,
for I have cried out to you;
but let the wicked be put to
shame
and lie silent[v] in the grave.[h]
18Let their lying lips[w] be silenced,
for with pride and contempt
they speak arrogantly[x] against the
righteous.

19How great is your goodness,[y]
which you have stored up for
those who fear you,
which you bestow in the sight of
men[z]
on those who take refuge[a] in you.
20In the shelter[b] of your presence you
hide[c] them
from the intrigues of men;[d]
in your dwelling you keep them
safe
from accusing tongues.

21Praise be to the LORD,[e]
for he showed his wonderful love[f]
to me
when I was in a besieged city.[g]
22In my alarm[h] I said,
"I am cut off[i] from your sight!"
Yet you heard my cry[j] for mercy
when I called to you for help.

23Love the LORD, all his saints![k]
The LORD preserves the faithful,[l]
but the proud he pays back[m] in
full.
24Be strong and take heart,[n]
all you who hope in the LORD.

30:10 a S Ps 27:7 b Ps 4:1 c S Ps 20:2
30:11 d S Est 4:1 e S Ex 15:20 f S 2Sa 3:31 g S Ps 16:11 Dt 16:15; S Ps 16:9
30:12 h Ps 35:18; 75:1; 118:28; Rev 11:17 i Ps 44:8; 52:9
31:1 j S Ps 7:1 k Ps 5:8
31:2 l S Ps 6:4 m S Ex 2:17 n S 2Sa 22:3; S Ps 18:2
31:3 o S Ps 18:2 p S Ps 23:3
31:4 q S 1Sa 28:9; S Job 18:10 r Ps 9:9
31:5 s Lk 23:46; Ac 7:59 t Isa 45:19; 65:16
31:6 u S Dt 32:21 v S Ps 4:5
31:7 w S Ps 13:5 x S Ps 25:17; Lk 22:44
31:8 y S Dt 32:30 z S 2Sa 22:20
31:9 a Ps 4:1 b Ps 6:7 c Ps 63:1
31:10 d ver 7 e Ps 6:6 f Ps 22:15; 32:4; 38:10; 73:26 g Ps 25:18 h S Ps 6:2
31:11 i Dt 30:7; Ps 3:7; 25:19; 102:8 j S Ps 22:6 k Ps 38:11
31:12 l Ps 28:1; 88:4
31:13 m S Lev 19:16; Ps 50:20 n S Job 18:11; Isa 17:8; Jer 6:25; 20:3, 10; 46:5; 49:5; La 2:22 o Ps 41:7; 56:6; 71:10; 83:3 p S Ge 37:18; S Mt 12:14
31:14 q Ps 4:5
31:15 r S Job 14:5
31:16 s S Nu 6:25 t S Ps 6:4
31:17 u S Ps 22:5 v 1Sa 2:9; Ps 94:17; 115:17
31:18 w Ps 120:2; Pr 10:18; 26:24 x S 1Sa 2:3; Jude 1:15
31:19 y S Ps 27:13; Ro 11:22 z Ps 23:5 a Ps 2:12
31:20 b Ps 55:8 c S Ps 17:8 d S Ge 37:18
31:21 e Ps 28:6 f S Ps 17:7 g 1Sa 23:7
31:22 h Ps 116:11 i Job 6:9; 17:1; Ps 37:9; 88:5; Isa 38:12 j Ps 6:9; 66:19; 116:1; 145:19
31:23 k S Ps 4:3 l S Ps 18:25; Rev 2:10 m Dt 32:41; Ps 94:2
31:24 n Ps 27:14

k10 Or *guilt* h17 Hebrew *Sheol*

Psalm 32

Of David. A *maskil.*[i]

1 Blessed is he
whose transgressions are forgiven,
whose sins are covered.[a]
2 Blessed is the man
whose sin the LORD does not count
against him[b]
and in whose spirit is no deceit.[c]
3 When I kept silent,[d]
my bones wasted away[e]
through my groaning[f] all day
long.
4 For day and night
your hand was heavy[g] upon me;
my strength was sapped[h]
as in the heat of summer. *Selah*
5 Then I acknowledged my sin to you
and did not cover up my
iniquity.[i]
I said, "I will confess[j]
my transgressions[k] to the LORD"—
and you forgave
the guilt of my sin.[l] *Selah*

6 Therefore let everyone who is godly
pray to you
while you may be found;[m]
surely when the mighty waters[n]
rise,[o]
they will not reach him.[p]
7 You are my hiding place;[q]
you will protect me from trouble[r]
and surround me with songs of
deliverance.[s] *Selah*

8 I will instruct[t] you and teach you[u]
in the way you should go;
I will counsel you and watch over[v]
you.
9 Do not be like the horse or the mule,
which have no understanding
but must be controlled by bit and
bridle[w]
or they will not come to you.
10 Many are the woes of the wicked,[x]
but the LORD's unfailing love
surrounds the man who trusts[y] in
him.
11 Rejoice in the LORD[z] and be glad,
you righteous;
sing, all you who are upright in
heart!

Psalm 33

1 Sing joyfully[a] to the LORD, you
righteous;
it is fitting[b] for the upright[c] to
praise him.
2 Praise the LORD with the harp;[d]
make music to him on the
ten-stringed lyre.[e]
3 Sing to him a new song;[f]
play skillfully, and shout for joy.[g]
4 For the word of the LORD is right[h]
and true;[i]
he is faithful[j] in all he does.
5 The LORD loves righteousness and
justice;[k]
the earth is full of his unfailing
love.[l]

6 By the word[m] of the LORD were the
heavens made,[n]
their starry host[o] by the breath of
his mouth.
7 He gathers the waters[p] of the sea
into jars[j];[q]
he puts the deep into storehouses.
8 Let all the earth fear the LORD;[r]
let all the people of the world[s]
revere him.[t]
9 For he spoke, and it came to be;
he commanded,[u] and it stood
firm.
10 The LORD foils[v] the plans[w] of the
nations;[x]
he thwarts the purposes of the
peoples.
11 But the plans of the LORD stand firm[y]
forever,
the purposes[z] of his heart through
all generations.

12 Blessed is the nation whose God is
the LORD,[a]
the people he chose[b] for his
inheritance.[c]
13 From heaven the LORD looks down[d]
and sees all mankind;[e]
14 from his dwelling place[f] he watches
all who live on earth—
15 he who forms[g] the hearts of all,
who considers everything
they do.[h]
16 No king is saved by the size of his
army;[i]
no warrior escapes by his great
strength.
17 A horse[j] is a vain hope for
deliverance;
despite all its great strength it
cannot save.
18 But the eyes[k] of the LORD are on
those who fear him,
on those whose hope is in his
unfailing love,[l]
19 to deliver them from death[m]

32:1 [a]Ps 85:2; 103:3 **32:2** [b]S Ro 4:7-8* [c]Jn 1:47; Rev 14:5 **32:3** [d]S Job 31:34 [e]Ps 31:10 [f]S Job 3:24; Ps 6:6 **32:4** [g]1Sa 5:6; S Job 9:34; Ps 38:2; 39:10 [h]Ps 22:15 **32:5** [i]Job 31:33 [j]Pr 28:13 [k]Ps 103:12 [l]S Lev 26:40; 1Jn 1:9 **32:6** [m]Ps 69:13; Isa 55:6 [n]S Ex 15:10 [o]Ps 69:1 [p]Isa 43:2 **32:7** [q]S Jdg 9:35 [r]S Ps 9:9 [s]S Jdg 5:1 **32:8** [t]S Ps 25:8 [u]Ps 34:11 [v]Ps 33:18 **32:9** [w]S Job 30:11; S 39:10; Jas 3:3 **32:10** [x]Ro 2:9 [y]Ps 4:5; Pr 16:20 **32:11** [z]Ps 64:10 **33:1** [a]S Ps 5:11; S 101:1 [b]Ps 147:1 [c]Ps 11:7 **33:2** [d]S Ge 4:21; 1Co 14:7; Rev 5:8 [e]Ps 92:3; 144:9 **33:3** [f]Ps 40:3; Isa 42:10; S Rev 5:9 [g]S Job 3:7; Ps 35:27; 47:1 **33:4** [h]S Ps 19:8 [i]Ps 119:142; Rev 19:9; 22:6 [j]Ps 18:25; 25:10 **33:5** [k]Ps 11:7 [l]Ps 6:4 **33:6** [m]S Ge 1:3; Heb 11:3 [n]S Ex 8:19; S 2Ch 2:12 [o]S Ge 1:16 **33:7** [p]S Ge 1:10 [q]S Jos 3:16 **33:8** [r]S Dt 6:13; Ps 2:11 [s]Ps 49:1; Isa 18:3; Mic 1:2 [t]S Dt 14:23 **33:9** [u]Ps 148:5 **33:10** [v]Isa 44:25 [w]S Job 5:12 [x]Ps 2:1 **33:11** [y]S Nu 23:19 [z]Jer 51:12,29 **33:12** [a]Ps 144:15 [b]S Ex 8:22; Dt 7:6; Ps 4:3; 65:4; 84:4 [c]S Ex 34:9 **33:13** [d]Ps 53:2; 102:19 [e]Job 28:24; Ps 11:4; 14:2; S Heb 4:13 **33:14** [f]S Lev 15:31; 1Ki 8:39 **33:15** [g]Job 10:8; Ps 119:73 [h]S Job 10:4; Jer 32:19 **33:16** [i]1Sa 14:6 **33:17** [j]S Ps 20:7 **33:18** [k]S Ex 3:16; S Ps 11:4; 1Pe 3:12 [l]S Ps 6:4 **33:19** [m]Ps 56:13; Ac 12:11

[i]Title: Probably a literary or musical term [j]7 Or *sea as into a heap*

and keep them alive in famine.[g]
20 We wait[h] in hope for the LORD;
he is our help and our shield.
21 In him our hearts rejoice,[c]
for we trust in his holy name.[d]
22 May your unfailing love[e] rest upon
us, O LORD,
even as we put our hope in you.

Psalm 34[k]

Of David. When he pretended to be insane[f] before Abimelech, who drove him away, and he left.

1 I will extol the LORD at all times;[g]
his praise will always be on my
lips.
2 My soul will boast[h] in the LORD;
let the afflicted hear and rejoice.[i]
3 Glorify the LORD[j] with me;
let us exalt[k] his name together.

4 I sought the LORD,[l] and he
answered me;
he delivered[m] me from all my
fears.
5 Those who look to him are radiant;[n]
their faces are never covered with
shame.[o]
6 This poor man called, and the LORD
heard him;
he saved him out of all his
troubles.[p]
7 The angel of the LORD[q] encamps
around those who fear him,
and he delivers[r] them.

8 Taste and see that the LORD is good;[s]
blessed is the man who takes
refuge[t] in him.
9 Fear the LORD,[u] you his saints,
for those who fear him lack
nothing.[v]
10 The lions may grow weak and
hungry,
but those who seek the LORD lack
no good thing.[w]

11 Come, my children, listen[x] to me;
I will teach you[y] the fear of the
LORD.[z]
12 Whoever of you loves life[a]
and desires to see many good
days,
13 keep your tongue[b] from evil
and your lips from speaking lies.[c]
14 Turn from evil and do good;[d]
seek peace[e] and pursue it.

15 The eyes of the LORD[f] are on the
righteous[g]
and his ears are attentive[h] to their
cry;

33:19 [g]S Job 5:20 **33:20** [h]S Ps 27:14 **33:21** [c]S 1Sa 2:1; S Joel 2:23 [d]S Ps 30:4; S 99:3 **33:22** [e]Ps 6:4 **34 Title** [f]1Sa 21:13 **34:1** [g]Ps 71:6; S Eph 5:20; 1Th 5:18 **34:2** [h]Ps 44:8; Jer 9:24; 1Co 1:31 [i]Ps 69:32; 107:42; 119:74 **34:3** [j]Ps 63:3; 86:12; Da 4:37; Jn 17:1; Ro 15:6 [k]S Ex 15:2 **34:4** [l]S Ex 32:11; Ps 77:2 [m]ver 17; Ps 18:43; 22:4; 56:13; 86:13 **34:5** [n]S Ex 34:29 [o]Ps 25:3; 44:15; 69:7; 83:16 **34:6** [p]S Ps 25:17 **34:7** [q]S Ge 32:1; S Da 3:28; S Mt 18:10 [r]Ps 22:4; 37:40; 41:1; 97:10; Isa 31:5; Ac 12:11 **34:8** [s]Heb 6:5; 1Pe 2:3 [t]S Ps 2:12 **34:9** [u]S Dt 6:13; Rev 14:7 [v]S Ps 23:1 **34:10** [w]S Ps 23:1 **34:11** [x]Ps 66:16 [y]S Ps 32:8 [z]S Ps 19:9 **34:12** [a]Ecc 3:13 **34:13** [b]Ps 39:1; 141:3; Pr 13:3; 21:23; Jas 1:26 [c]S Ps 12:2; 1Pe 2:22 **34:14** [d]Ps 37:27; Isa 1:17; 3Jn 1:11 [e]S Ro 14:19 **34:15** [f]Ps 33:18 [g]S Job 23:10; S 36:7 [h]Mal 3:16; S Jn 9:31 **34:16** [i]Lev 17:10; Jer 23:30 [j]1Pe 3:10-12* [k]S Ex 17:14; Ps 9:6 **34:17** [l]Ps 145:19 **34:18** [m]Dt 4:7; Ps 119:151; 145:18; Isa 50:8 [n]Ps 51:17; 109:16; 147:3; Isa 61:1 **34:19** [o]ver 17; Ps 25:17 [p]S Job 5:19; 2Ti 3:11 **34:20** [q]Jn 19:36* **34:21** [r]Ps 7:9; 9:16; 11:5; 37:20; 73:27; 94:23; 106:43; 112:10; 140:11; Pr 14:32; 24:16 **34:22** [s]S Ex 6:6; S 15:13; Lk 1:68; Rev 14:3 [t]Ps 2:12 **35:1** [u]S 1Sa 24:15 [v]S Ex 14:14 **35:2** [w]Ps 3:3 [x]Ps 3:7 [y]S Ge 50:24; S Job 17:3

16 the face of the LORD is against[i] those
who do evil,[j]
to cut off the memory[k] of them
from the earth.

17 The righteous cry out, and the LORD
hears[l] them;
he delivers them from all their
troubles.
18 The LORD is close[m] to the
brokenhearted[n]
and saves those who are crushed
in spirit.

19 A righteous man may have many
troubles,[o]
but the LORD delivers him from
them all;[p]
20 he protects all his bones,
not one of them will be broken.[q]

21 Evil will slay the wicked;[r]
the foes of the righteous will be
condemned.
22 The LORD redeems[s] his servants;
no one will be condemned who
takes refuge[t] in him.

Psalm 35

Of David.

1 Contend,[u] O LORD, with those who
contend with me;
fight[v] against those who fight
against me.
2 Take up shield[w] and buckler;
arise[x] and come to my aid.[y]
3 Brandish spear[z] and javelin[1][a]
against those who pursue me.
Say to my soul,
"I am your salvation.[b]"

4 May those who seek my life[c]
be disgraced[d] and put to shame;[e]
may those who plot my ruin
be turned back[f] in dismay.
5 May they be like chaff[g] before the
wind,
with the angel of the LORD[h]
driving them away;
6 may their path be dark and slippery,
with the angel of the LORD
pursuing them.
7 Since they hid their net[i] for me
without cause[j]
and without cause dug a pit[k]
for me,

35:3 [z]S Nu 25:7 [a]S Jos 8:18 [b]Ps 27:1 **35:4** [c]Ps 38:12; 40:14; Jer 4:30 [d]Ps 69:6,19; 70:2; 83:17; Isa 45:16; Mal 2:9 [e]Ps 25:3 [f]Ps 129:5 **35:5** [g]S Job 13:25; Ps 1:4 [h]Ps 34:7 **35:7** [i]S Job 18:8 [j]S Ps 7:4 [k]S Job 9:31; S Ps 7:15; S 55:23

[k]This psalm is an acrostic poem, the verses of which begin with the successive letters of the Hebrew alphabet. [1]3 Or *and block the way*

8may ruin overtake them by
surprise—[a]
may the net they hid entangle
them,
may they fall into the pit,[b] to their
ruin.
9Then my soul will rejoice[c] in the
LORD
and delight in his salvation.[d]
10My whole being will exclaim,
"Who is like you,[e] O LORD?
You rescue the poor from those too
strong[f] for them,
the poor and needy[g] from those
who rob them."

11Ruthless witnesses[h] come forward;
they question me on things I know
nothing about.
12They repay me evil for good[i]
and leave my soul forlorn.
13Yet when they were ill, I put on
sackcloth[j]
and humbled myself with
fasting.[k]
When my prayers returned to me
unanswered,
14 I went about mourning[l]
as though for my friend or
brother.
I bowed my head in grief
as though weeping for my
mother.
15But when I stumbled, they gathered
in glee;[m]
attackers gathered against me
when I was unaware.
They slandered[n] me without
ceasing.
16Like the ungodly they maliciously
mocked[m];[o]
they gnashed their teeth[p] at me.
17O Lord, how long[q] will you look on?
Rescue my life from their ravages,
my precious life[r] from these
lions.[s]
18I will give you thanks in the great
assembly;[t]
among throngs[u] of people I will
praise you.[v]

19Let not those gloat over me
who are my enemies[w] without
cause;
let not those who hate me without
reason[x]
maliciously wink the eye.[y]
20They do not speak peaceably,
but devise false accusations[z]
against those who live quietly in
the land.
21They gape[a] at me and say, "Aha!
Aha![b]
With our own eyes we have
seen it."

22O LORD, you have seen[c] this; be not
silent.
Do not be far[d] from me, O Lord.
23Awake,[e] and rise[f] to my defense!
Contend[g] for me, my God and
Lord.
24Vindicate me in your righteousness,
O LORD my God;
do not let them gloat[h] over me.
25Do not let them think, "Aha,[i] just
what we wanted!"
or say, "We have swallowed
him up."[j]

26May all who gloat[k] over my
distress[l]
be put to shame[m] and confusion;
may all who exalt themselves
over me[n]
be clothed with shame and
disgrace.
27May those who delight in my
vindication[o]
shout for joy[p] and gladness;
may they always say, "The LORD be
exalted,
who delights[q] in the well-being of
his servant."[r]
28My tongue will speak of your
righteousness[s]
and of your praises all day long.[t]

Psalm 36

For the director of music. Of David the servant of the LORD.

1An oracle is within my heart
concerning the sinfulness of the
wicked:[n] [u]
There is no fear[v] of God
before his eyes.[w]
2For in his own eyes he flatters
himself
too much to detect or hate his
sin.[x]
3The words of his mouth[y] are wicked
and deceitful;[z]
he has ceased to be wise[a] and to
do good.[b]
4Even on his bed he plots evil;[c]
he commits himself to a sinful
course[d]
and does not reject what is
wrong.[e]

5Your love, O LORD, reaches to the
heavens,

35:8 [a]Isa 47:11; 1Th 5:3 [b]S Ps 7:15 **35:9** [c]S Ps 2:11; S Lk 1:47 [d]Ps 9:14; 13:5; 27:1 **35:10** [e]S Ex 9:14; S Ps 18:31; 113:5 [f]Ps 18:17 [g]Ps 12:5; 37:14; 74:21; 86:1; 109:16; 140:12; Isa 41:17 **35:11** [h]S Ex 23:1; S Mt 26:60 **35:12** [i]Ps 38:20; 109:5; Pr 17:13; Jer 18:20 **35:13** [j]S 2Sa 3:31; 1Ki 20:31; Ps 30:11; 69:11 [k]Job 30:25; Ps 69:10; 109:24 **35:14** [l]Ps 38:6; 42:9; 43:2 **35:15** [m]S Job 31:29 [n]S Job 16:10 **35:16** [o]S Ps 22:7; Mk 10:34 [p]S Job 16:9; Mk 9:18; Ac 7:54 **35:17** [q]Ps 6:3 [r]Ps 22:20 [s]Ps 22:21; 57:4; 58:6 **35:18** [t]S Ps 22:25 [u]Ps 42:4; 109:30 [v]S Ps 22:22 **35:19** [w]Ps 9:13 [x]ver 7; Ps 38:19; 69:4; Jn 15:25* [y]Pr 6:13; 10:10 **35:20** [z]Ps 38:12; 55:21; Jer 9:8; Mic 6:12 **35:21** [a]S Job 16:10 [b]Ps 40:15; 70:3; Eze 25:3 **35:22** [c]Ex 3:7; Ps 10:14 [d]S Ps 10:1 **35:23** [e]S Ps 7:6; 80:2 [f]Ps 17:13 [g]S 1Sa 24:15 **35:24** [h]Ps 22:17 **35:25** [i]ver 21 [j]Ps 124:3; Pr 1:12; La 2:16 **35:26** [k]Ps 22:17 [l]Ps 4:1 [m]S Job 8:22; Ps 109:29; Mic 7:10 [n]Job 19:5; Ps 38:16 **35:27** [o]Ps 9:4 [p]Ps 20:5; S 33:3 [q]Ps 147:11; 149:4 [r]S Job 17:3 **35:28** [s]Ps 5:8; 51:14 [t]Ps 71:15, 24; 72:15 **36:1** [u]S Job 21:16 [v]Jer 2:19; 36:16, 24 [w]S Job 23:15; Ro 3:18* **36:2** [x]Dt 29:19 **36:3** [y]Ps 10:7 [z]S Job 5:13; Ps 5:6,9; 43:1; 144:8,11; Isa 44:20 [a]Ps 94:8 [b]Jer 4:22; 13:23; Am 3:10 **36:4** [c]Pr 4:16 [d]Isa 65:2 [e]Ps 52:3; Ro 12:9

[m]16 Septuagint; Hebrew may mean *ungodly circle of mockers.* [n]1 Or *heart: / Sin proceeds from the wicked.*

your faithfulness[a] to the skies.[b]
6Your righteousness[c] is like the
mighty mountains,[d]
your justice like the great deep.[e]
O LORD, you preserve both man and
beast.[f]
7 How priceless is your unfailing
love![g]
Both high and low among men
find[o] refuge in the shadow of your
wings.[h]
8They feast on the abundance of your
house;[i]
you give them drink from your
river[j] of delights.[k]
9For with you is the fountain of life;[l]
in your light[m] we see light.
10Continue your love[n] to those who
know you,[o]
your righteousness to the upright
in heart.[p]
11May the foot of the proud not come
against me,
nor the hand of the wicked[q] drive
me away.
12See how the evildoers lie fallen—
thrown down, not able to rise![r]

Psalm 37[p]

Of David.

1Do not fret because of evil men
or be envious[s] of those who do
wrong;[t]
2for like the grass they will soon
wither,[u]
like green plants they will soon die
away.[v]
3Trust in the LORD and do good;
dwell in the land[w] and enjoy safe
pasture.[x]
4Delight[y] yourself in the LORD
and he will give you the desires of
your heart.[z]
5Commit your way to the LORD;
trust in him[a] and he will do this:
6He will make your righteousness[b]
shine like the dawn,[c]
the justice of your cause like the
noonday sun.
7Be still[d] before the LORD and wait
patiently[e] for him;
do not fret[f] when men succeed in
their ways,[g]
when they carry out their wicked
schemes.[h]
8Refrain from anger[i] and turn from
wrath;
do not fret[j]—it leads only to evil.
9For evil men will be cut off,[k]
but those who hope[l] in the LORD
will inherit the land.[m]
10A little while, and the wicked will be
no more;[n]
though you look for them, they
will not be found.
11But the meek will inherit the land[o]
and enjoy great peace.[p]
12The wicked plot[q] against the
righteous
and gnash their teeth[r] at them;
13but the Lord laughs at the wicked,
for he knows their day is coming.[s]
14The wicked draw the sword[t]
and bend the bow[u]
to bring down the poor and needy,[v]
to slay those whose ways are
upright.
15But their swords will pierce their
own hearts,[w]
and their bows will be broken.[x]
16Better the little that the righteous
have
than the wealth[y] of many wicked;
17for the power of the wicked will be
broken,[z]
but the LORD upholds[a] the
righteous.
18The days of the blameless are known
to the LORD,[b]
and their inheritance will endure
forever.[c]
19In times of disaster they will not
wither;
in days of famine they will enjoy
plenty.
20But the wicked will perish:[d]
The LORD's enemies will be like the
beauty of the fields,
they will vanish—vanish like
smoke.[e]
21The wicked borrow and do not
repay,
but the righteous give
generously;[f]
22those the LORD blesses will inherit
the land,
but those he curses[g] will be cut
off.[h]

36:5 [a]Ps 89:1; 119:90 [b]Ps 57:10; 71:19; 89:2; 103:11; 108:4 **36:6** [c]Ps 5:8 [d]Ps 68:15 [e]S Ge 1:2; S 7:11 [f]Ne 9:6; Ps 104:14; 145:16 **36:7** [g]Ps 6:4 [h]S Ru 2:12; S Ps 17:8; 57:1; 91:4 **36:8** [i]Ps 65:4; Isa 25:6; Jer 31:12,14 [j]Job 20:17; Rev 22:1 [k]S Ps 23:2; 63:5 **36:9** [l]Ps 87:7; Pr 10:11; 16:22; Jer 2:13 [m]Ps 4:6; 27:1; 76:4; 104:2; Isa 2:5; 9:2; 60:1, 19; Jn 1:4; 1Pe 2:9 **36:10** [n]Jer 31:3 [o]Jer 9:24; 22:16 [p]Ps 7:10; 11:2; 94:15; 125:4 **36:11** [q]Ps 71:4; 140:4 **36:12** [r]S Ps 18:38 **37:1** [s]Pr 3:31; 23:17-18 [t]Ps 73:3; Pr 24:19 **37:2** [u]S 2Ki 19:26; Job 14:2; Ps 102:4; Isa 40:7 [v]ver 38; Ps 90:6; 92:7; Jas 1:10 **37:3** [w]Dt 30:20 [x]Eze 34:14; Jn 10:9 **37:4** [y]S Job 27:10 [z]S Job 7:6; Ps 21:2; 145:19; Mt 6:33 **37:5** [a]Ps 4:5 **37:6** [b]Ps 18:24; 103:17; 112:3 [c]S Job 11:17 **37:7** [d]S Ex 14:14; S Isa 41:1 [e]S Ps 27:14; 40:1; 130:5; Isa 38:13; Hab 3:16; Ro 8:25 [f]ver 1 [g]Jer 12:1 [h]Ps 21:11; 26:10; 119:150 **37:8** [i]Eph 4:31; Col 3:8 [j]ver 1 **37:9** [k]S Ps 31:22; 101:8; 118:10; Pr 2:22 [l]Isa 25:9; 26:8; 40:31; 49:23; 51:5 [m]ver 22; Ps 25:13; Isa 49:8; 57:13; Mt 5:5 **37:10** [n]S Job 7:10; Eze 27:36 **37:11** [o]S Nu 14:24; Mt 5:5 [p]S Lev 26:6; S Nu 6:26 **37:12** [q]Ps 2:1; 31:13 [r]S Job 16:9; Ps 35:16; 112:10 **37:13** [s]1Sa 26:10; Eze 12:23 **37:14** [t]S Ps 22:20 [u]Ps 11:2 [v]S Ps 35:10

37:15 [w]S Ps 9:16 [x]S 1Sa 2:4; Ps 46:9; Jer 49:35 **37:16** [y]Pr 15:16; 16:8 **37:17** [z]Job 38:15; Ps 10:15 [a]Ps 41:12; 140:12; 145:14; 146:7 **37:18** [b]S Job 23:10; Ps 44:21 [c]ver 27,29 **37:20** [d]S Ps 34:21 [e]Ps 68:2; 102:3; Isa 51:6 **37:21** [f]S Lev 25:35; Ps 112:5 **37:22** [g]S Job 5:3 [h]ver 9

[o]7 Or *love, O God! / Men find;* or *love! / Both heavenly beings and men / find* [p]This psalm is an acrostic poem, the stanzas of which begin with the successive letters of the Hebrew alphabet.

[23]If the LORD delights[a] in a man's way,
he makes his steps firm;[b]
[24]though he stumble, he will not fall,[c]
for the LORD upholds[d] him with his hand.

[25]I was young and now I am old,
yet I have never seen the righteous forsaken[e]
or their children begging[f] bread.
[26]They are always generous and lend freely;[g]
their children will be blessed.[h]

[27]Turn from evil and do good;[i]
then you will dwell in the land forever.[j]
[28]For the LORD loves the just
and will not forsake his faithful ones.[k]

They will be protected forever,
but the offspring of the wicked will be cut off;[l]
[29]the righteous will inherit the land[m]
and dwell in it forever.[n]

[30]The mouth of the righteous man utters wisdom,[o]
and his tongue speaks what is just.
[31]The law of his God is in his heart;[p]
his feet do not slip.[q]

[32]The wicked lie in wait[r] for the righteous,[s]
seeking their very lives;
[33]but the LORD will not leave them in their power
or let them be condemned[t] when brought to trial.[u]

[34]Wait for the LORD[v]
and keep his way.[w]
He will exalt you to inherit the land;
when the wicked are cut off,[x] you will see[y] it.

[35]I have seen a wicked and ruthless man
flourishing[z] like a green tree in its native soil,
[36]but he soon passed away and was no more;
though I looked for him, he could not be found.[a]

[37]Consider the blameless,[b] observe the upright;[c]
there is a future[q] for the man of peace.[d]
[38]But all sinners[e] will be destroyed;[f]
the future[r] of the wicked will be cut off.[g]

[39]The salvation[h] of the righteous comes from the LORD;
he is their stronghold in time of trouble.[i]
[40]The LORD helps[j] them and delivers[k] them;
he delivers them from the wicked and saves[l] them,
because they take refuge[m] in him.

Psalm 38

A psalm of David. A petition.

[1]O LORD, do not rebuke me in your anger
or discipline me in your wrath.[n]
[2]For your arrows[o] have pierced me,
and your hand has come down upon me.
[3]Because of your wrath there is no health[p] in my body;
my bones[q] have no soundness because of my sin.
[4]My guilt has overwhelmed[r] me
like a burden too heavy to bear.[s]

[5]My wounds[t] fester and are loathsome[u]
because of my sinful folly.[v]
[6]I am bowed down[w] and brought very low;
all day long I go about mourning.[x]
[7]My back is filled with searing pain;[y]
there is no health[z] in my body.
[8]I am feeble and utterly crushed;[a]
I groan[b] in anguish of heart.[c]

[9]All my longings[d] lie open before you, O Lord;
my sighing[e] is not hidden from you.
[10]My heart pounds,[f] my strength fails[g] me;
even the light has gone from my eyes.[h]
[11]My friends and companions avoid me because of my wounds;[i]
my neighbors stay far away.
[12]Those who seek my life set their traps,[j]
those who would harm me talk of my ruin;[k]
all day long they plot deception.[l]

[13]I am like a deaf man, who cannot hear,[m]
like a mute, who cannot open his mouth;
[14]I have become like a man who does not hear,
whose mouth can offer no reply.

37:23 [a]S Nu 14:8; Ps 147:11 [b]S Job 11:15; S Ps 7:9; 66:9 **37:24** [c]S Ps 13:4; 27:2; 38:17; 55:22; 119:165; Pr 3:23; 10:9 [d]S 2Ch 9:8; Ps 41:12; 145:14 **37:25** [e]ver 28; S Ge 15:1; Heb 13:5 [f]Ps 111:5; 145:15; Mk 10:46 **37:26** [g]S Lev 25:35 [h]Dt 28:4; Ps 112:2 **37:27** [i]Ps 34:14; 3Jn 1:11 [j]S Nu 24:21 **37:28** [k]S Dt 7:6; S Ps 18:25; S 97:10 [l]S Ge 17:14; S Dt 32:26; Pr 2:22 **37:29** [m]ver 9; Pr 2:21 [n]Isa 34:17 **37:30** [o]Ps 49:3; Pr 10:13 **37:31** [p]S Dt 6:6; S Job 22:22 [q]S Dt 32:35 **37:32** [r]S Ps 10:8 [s]Ps 11:5 **37:33** [t]Job 32:3; Ps 34:22; 79:11 [u]2Pe 2:9 **37:34** [v]Ps 27:14 [w]S Ps 18:21 [x]ver 9 [y]Ps 52:6 **37:35** [z]S Job 5:3 **37:36** [a]ver 10; Pr 12:7; Isa 41:12; Da 11:19 **37:37** [b]ver 18; S Ge 6:9; Ps 18:25 [c]Ps 11:7 [d]Isa 57:1-2 **37:38** [e]S Ps 1:1 [f]S ver 2; Ps 73:19 [g]ver 9 **37:39** [h]S Ps 3:8 [i]S Ps 9:9 **37:40** [j]S 1Ch 5:20; S Ps 20:2 [k]S Ps 34:7 [l]S Ps 18:48 [m]Ps 2:12 **38:1** [n]Ps 6:1 **38:2** [o]S Job 6:4 **38:3** [p]Pr 3:8; 4:22; Isa 66:14 [q]S Job 33:19 **38:4** [r]Ps 40:12; 65:3 [s]S Nu 11:14; S Ezr 9:6; Lk 11:46 **38:5** [t]ver 11; Ps 147:3 [u]Job 19:17 [v]Ps 69:5; Pr 5:23; 12:23; 13:16; Ecc 10:3 **38:6** [w]Ps 57:6; 145:14; 146:8 [x]S Ps 35:14 **38:7** [y]S Job 14:22 [z]ver 3 **38:8** [a]Ps 34:18; Pr 17:22 [b]S Ps 6:6; 22:1; Pr 5:11 [c]S Ps 6:3 **38:9** [d]Ps 119:20; 143:7 [e]S Job 3:24 **38:10** [f]S Job 37:1 [g]S Ps 31:10 [h]S Ps 6:7; S 19:8; 88:9 **38:11** [i]S ver 5 **38:12** [j]Ps 31:4; 140:5; 141:9 [k]Ps 35:4; 41:5 [l]S Ps 35:20 **38:13** [m]Ps 115:6; 135:17; Isa 43:8; Mk 7:37

[q]37 Or *there will be posterity* [r]38 Or *posterity*

15I wait[a] for you, O LORD;
you will answer,[b] O Lord my God.
16For I said, "Do not let them gloat[c]
or exalt themselves over me when my foot slips."[d]

17For I am about to fall,[e]
and my pain[f] is ever with me.
18I confess my iniquity;[g]
I am troubled by my sin.
19Many are those who are my vigorous enemies;[h]
those who hate me[i] without reason[j] are numerous.
20Those who repay my good with evil[k]
slander[l] me when I pursue what is good.

21O LORD, do not forsake me;[m]
be not far[n] from me, O my God.
22Come quickly[o] to help me,[p]
O Lord my Savior.[q]

Psalm 39

For the director of music. For Jeduthun. A psalm of David.

1I said, "I will watch my ways[r]
and keep my tongue from sin;[s]
I will put a muzzle on my mouth[t]
as long as the wicked are in my presence."
2But when I was silent[u] and still,
not even saying anything good,
my anguish[v] increased.
3My heart grew hot[w] within me,
and as I meditated,[x] the fire[y] burned;
then I spoke with my tongue:

4"Show me, O LORD, my life's end
and the number of my days;[z]
let me know how fleeting[a] is my life.[b]
5You have made my days[c] a mere handbreadth;
the span of my years is as nothing before you.
Each man's life is but a breath.[d] *Selah*
6Man is a mere phantom[e] as he goes to and fro:[f]
He bustles about, but only in vain;[g]
he heaps up wealth,[h] not knowing who will get it.[i]

7"But now, Lord, what do I look for?
My hope is in you.[j]
8Save me[k] from all my transgressions;[l]
do not make me the scorn[m] of fools.
9I was silent;[n] I would not open my mouth,[o]
for you are the one who has done this.[p]
10Remove your scourge from me;
I am overcome by the blow[q] of your hand.[r]
11You rebuke[s] and discipline[t] men for their sin;
you consume[u] their wealth like a moth[v]—
each man is but a breath.[w] *Selah*

12"Hear my prayer, O LORD,
listen to my cry for help;[x]
be not deaf[y] to my weeping.[z]
For I dwell with you as an alien,[a]
a stranger,[b] as all my fathers were.[c]
13Look away from me, that I may rejoice again
before I depart and am no more."[d]

Psalm 40

40:13-17pp — Ps 70:1-5

For the director of music. Of David. A psalm.

1I waited patiently[e] for the LORD;
he turned to me and heard my cry.[f]
2He lifted me out of the slimy pit,[g]
out of the mud[h] and mire;[i]
he set my feet[j] on a rock[k]
and gave me a firm place to stand.
3He put a new song[l] in my mouth,
a hymn of praise to our God.
Many will see and fear[m]
and put their trust[n] in the LORD.

4Blessed is the man[o]
who makes the LORD his trust,[p]
who does not look to the proud,[q]
to those who turn aside to false gods.[a][r]
5Many, O LORD my God,
are the wonders[s] you have done.
The things you planned for us
no one can recount[t] to you;
were I to speak and tell of them,
they would be too many[u] to declare.

38:15 [a]Ps 27:14 [b]Ps 17:6 **38:16** [c]S Ps 22:17 [d]S Dt 32:35 **38:17** [e]S Ps 37:24 [f]ver 7; S Job 6:10 **38:18** [g]S Lev 26:40 **38:19** [h]S Ps 18:17 [i]S Ps 25:19 [j]S Ps 35:19 **38:20** [k]S Ge 44:4; 1Jn 3:12 [l]Ps 54:5; 59:10; 119:23 **38:21** [m]Ps 27:9; 71:18; 119:8 [n]S Ps 10:1; S 22:11; 35:22; 71:12 **38:22** [o]S Ps 22:19 [p]Ps 40:13 [q]S 1Ch 16:35 **39:1** [r]1Ki 2:4; Ps 119:9,59; Pr 20:11 [s]S Job 1:22; Ps 34:13; Jas 3:2 [t]S Job 6:24; Jas 1:26 **39:2** [u]ver 9; S Job 31:34; Ps 77:4 [v]Ps 6:3; S 25:17; 31:10 **39:3** [w]Lk 24:32 [x]Ps 1:2; 48:9; 77:12; 119:15 [y]Jer 5:14; 20:9; 23:29 **39:4** [z]S Job 14:5 [a]S Job 14:2 [b]S Ge 47:9; S Job 7:7 **39:5** [c]S Job 10:20; Ps 89:45; 102:23 [d]S Job 7:7; Ps 62:9 **39:6** [e]Job 8:9; Ps 102:11; Ecc 6:12; S Jas 4:14 [f]Jas 1:11 [g]Ps 127:2 [h]S Job 27:17 [i]Lk 12:20 **39:7** [j]S Ps 9:18; S 25:5 **39:8** [k]Ps 6:4; 51:14 [l]Ps 32:1; 51:1; Isa 53:5,8, 10 [m]S Dt 28:37; Ps 69:7; 79:4; Isa 43:28; Da 9:16 **39:9** [n]S ver 2 [o]Ps 38:13 [p]Isa 38:15 **39:10** [q]2Ch 21:14; Eze 7:9; 24:16 [r]S Ex 9:3 **39:11** [s]S Dt 28:20; Isa 66:15; Eze 5:15; 2Pe 2:16 [t]Ps 94:10; Isa 26:16 [u]Ps 90:7 [v]S Job 13:28; S Isa 51:8; Lk 12:33; S Jas 5:2 [w]S Job 7:7 **39:12** [x]S Ps 17:1 [y]S Dt 1:45 [z]S 2Ki 20:5 [a]Lev 25:23 [b]S Ge 23:4; S Heb 11:13 [c]S Ge 47:9; S 1Ch 29:15 **39:13** [d]S Job 10:21 **40:1** [e]S Ps 37:7 [f]Ps 6:9; S 31:22; 34:15; 116:1; 145:19 **40:2** [g]S Job 9:31; S Ps 7:15 [h]S Job 30:19 [i]Ps 69:14 [j]Ps 31:8 [k]Ps 27:5 **40:3** [l]S Ps 28:7; S 96:1; Rev 5:9 [m]Ps 52:6; 64:9 [n]S Ex 14:31 **40:4** [o]Ps 34:8 [p]Ps 84:12 [q]Ps 101:5; 138:6; Pr 3:34; 16:5; Isa 65:5; 1Pe 5:5 [r]S Dt 31:20; S Ps 4:2; S 26:1 **40:5** [s]S Dt 4:34; Ps 75:1; 105:5; 136:4 [t]Ps 139:18 [u]Ps 71:15; 139:17

[a]4 *Or to falsehood*

6 Sacrifice and offering you did not
desire,[a]
but my ears you have
pierced[t,u][b]
burnt offerings[c] and sin
offerings
you did not require.
7 Then I said, "Here I am, I have
come—
it is written about me in the
scroll.[v][d]
8 I desire to do your will,[e] O my
God;[f]
your law is within my
heart."[g]

9 I proclaim righteousness[h] in the
great assembly;[i]
I do not seal my lips,
as you know,[j] O LORD.
10 I do not hide your righteousness in
my heart;
I speak of your faithfulness[k] and
salvation.
I do not conceal your love and your
truth
from the great assembly.[l]

11 Do not withhold your mercy[m] from
me, O LORD;
may your love[n] and your truth[o]
always protect[p] me.
12 For troubles[q] without number
surround me;
my sins have overtaken me, and I
cannot see.[r]
They are more than the hairs of my
head,[s]
and my heart fails[t] within me.
13 Be pleased, O LORD, to save me;
O LORD, come quickly to help
me.[u]
14 May all who seek to take my
life[v]
be put to shame and
confusion;[w]
may all who desire my ruin[x]
be turned back in disgrace.
15 May those who say to me, "Aha!
Aha!"[y]
be appalled at their own
shame.
16 But may all who seek you[z]
rejoice and be glad[a] in you;
may those who love your salvation
always say,
"The LORD be exalted!"[b]

17 Yet I am poor and needy;[c]
may the Lord think[d] of me.
You are my help[e] and my
deliverer;[f]
O my God, do not delay.[g]

40:6 [a]S 1Sa 15:22; Jer 6:20; Am 5:22 [b]Ex 21:6 [c]Ps 50:8; 51:16; Isa 1:11; Hos 6:6 **40:7** [d]Job 19:23; Jer 36:2; 45:1; Eze 2:9; Zec 5:1 **40:8** [e]S Mt 26:39 [f]Heb 10:5-7* [g]S Dt 6:6; S Job 22:22; Ro 7:22 **40:9** [h]S Ps 22:31 [i]S Ps 22:25 [j]S Jos 22:22 **40:10** [k]Ps 89:1 [l]S Ps 22:22 **40:11** [m]Zec 1:12 [n]Pr 20:28 [o]S Ps 26:3 [p]Ps 61:7 **40:12** [q]S Ps 25:17 [r]Ps 38:4; 65:3 [s]Ps 69:4 [t]Ps 73:26 **40:13** [u]Ps 22:19; 38:22 **40:14** [v]S 1Sa 20:1 [w]S Est 9:2; Ps 35:26 [x]S Ps 35:4 **40:15** [y]S Ps 35:21 **40:16** [z]Dt 4:29; 1Ch 28:9; Ps 9:10; 119:2 [a]Ps 9:2 [b]Ps 35:27 **40:17** [c]Ps 86:1; 109:22 [d]Ps 144:3 [e]S Ps 20:2 [f]S Ps 18:2 [g]Ps 119:60

41:1 [h]S Dt 14:29 [i]S Job 24:4 [j]Ps 25:17 **41:2** [k]Ps 12:5; 32:7 [l]Ezr 9:9; Ps 71:20; 119:88, 159; 138:7; 143:11 [m]Ps 37:22 [n]S Dt 6:24 **41:3** [o]Ps 6:6 [p]2Sa 13:5; 2Ki 1:4 **41:4** [q]Ps 6:2; S 9:13 [r]S Dt 32:39 [s]Ps 51:4 **41:5** [t]S Ps 38:12 **41:6** [u]Ps 12:2; 101:7; Mt 5:11 [v]Pr 26:24 [w]S Lev 19:16 **41:7** [x]Ps 71:10 **41:8** [y]S 2Ki 1:4 **41:9** [z]S 2Sa 15:12; S Job 19:14 [a]Nu 30:2; Job 19:19; Ps 55:20; 89:34; Mt 26:23; Lk 22:21; Jn 13:18* **41:10** [b]ver 4 [c]Ps 3:3; 9:13 [d]S 2Sa 3:39 **41:11** [e]S Nu 14:8 [f]Ps 25:2 **41:12** [g]S Ps 25:21 [h]Ps 18:35; S 37:17; 63:8 [i]S Job 4:7; Ps 21:6; 61:7 **41:13** [j]S Ge 24:27 [k]Ps 72:18 [l]Ps 72:19; 89:52; 106:48

Psalm 41

For the director of music.
A psalm of David.

1 Blessed[h] is he who has regard for
the weak;[i]
the LORD delivers him in times of
trouble.[j]
2 The LORD will protect[k] him and
preserve his life;[l]
he will bless him in the land[m]
and not surrender him to the
desire of his foes.[n]
3 The LORD will sustain him on his
sickbed[o]
and restore him from his bed of
illness.[p]

4 I said, "O LORD, have mercy[q] on me;
heal[r] me, for I have sinned[s]
against you."
5 My enemies say of me in malice,
"When will he die and his name
perish?[t]"
6 Whenever one comes to see me,
he speaks falsely,[u] while his heart
gathers slander;[v]
then he goes out and spreads[w] it
abroad.

7 All my enemies whisper together[x]
against me;
they imagine the worst for me,
saying,
8 "A vile disease has beset him;
he will never get up[y] from the
place where he lies."
9 Even my close friend,[z] whom I
trusted,
he who shared my bread,
has lifted up his heel against me.[a]

10 But you, O LORD, have mercy[b]
on me;
raise me up,[c] that I may repay[d]
them.
11 I know that you are pleased
with me,[e]
for my enemy does not triumph
over me.[f]
12 In my integrity[g] you uphold me[h]
and set me in your presence
forever.[i]

13 Praise[j] be to the LORD, the God of
Israel,[k]
from everlasting to everlasting.
Amen and Amen.[l]

[t]6 Hebrew; Septuagint *but a body you have prepared for me* (see also Symmachus and Theodotion) [u]6 Or *opened* [v]7 Or *come / with the scroll written for me*

BOOK II

Psalms 42–72

Psalm 42[w]

For the director of music. A *maskil*[x] of the Sons of Korah.

1 As the deer[a] pants for streams of water,[b]
so my soul pants[c] for you, O God.
2 My soul thirsts[d] for God, for the living God.[e]
When can I go[f] and meet with God?
3 My tears[g] have been my food day and night,
while men say to me all day long,
"Where is your God?"[h]
4 These things I remember
as I pour out my soul:[i]
how I used to go with the multitude,
leading the procession to the house of God,[j]
with shouts of joy[k] and thanksgiving[l]
among the festive throng.[m]

5 Why are you downcast,[n] O my soul?
Why so disturbed[o] within me?
Put your hope in God,[p]
for I will yet praise[q] him,
my Savior[r] and 6 my God.[s]

My[y] soul is downcast within me;
therefore I will remember[t] you
from the land of the Jordan,[u]
the heights of Hermon[v]—from Mount Mizar.
7 Deep calls to deep[w]
in the roar of your waterfalls;
all your waves and breakers
have swept over me.[x]

8 By day the LORD directs his love,[y]
at night[z] his song[a] is with me—
a prayer to the God of my life.[b]

9 I say to God my Rock,[c]
"Why have you forgotten[d] me?
Why must I go about mourning,[e]
oppressed[f] by the enemy?"[g]
10 My bones suffer mortal agony[h]
as my foes taunt[i] me,
saying to me all day long,
"Where is your God?"[j]

11 Why are you downcast, O my soul?
Why so disturbed within me?
Put your hope in God,
for I will yet praise him,
my Savior and my God.[k]

42:1 [a]S Ps 18:33 [b]S Dt 10:7 [c]S Job 19:27; Ps 119:131; Joel 1:20 **42:2** [d]Ps 63:1; 143:6 [e]S Jos 3:10; S 1Sa 14:39; S Mt 16:16; Ro 9:26 [f]Ps 43:4; 84:7 **42:3** [g]S Job 3:24 [h]ver 10; Ps 79:10; 115:2; Joel 2:17; Mic 7:10 **42:4** [i]S 1Sa 1:15 [j]Ps 55:14; 122:1; Isa 2:2; 30:29 [k]S Ezr 3:13 [l]S Jos 6:5; Ps 95:2; 100:4; 147:7; Jnh 2:9 [m]Ps 35:18; 109:30 **42:5** [n]Ps 38:6; 77:3; La 3:20; Mt 26:38 [o]S Job 20:2 [p]S Ps 25:5; S 71:14 [q]Ps 9:1 [r]Ps 18:46 **42:6** [s]ver 11; Ps 43:5 [t]Ps 63:6; 77:11 [u]Ge 13:10; S Nu 13:29 [v]S Dt 3:8; S 4:48 **42:7** [w]S Ge 1:2; S 7:11 [x]Ps 69:2; Jnh 2:3 **42:8** [y]Ps 57:3 [z]S Ps 16:7 [a]Ps 77:6 [b]Ps 133:3; Ecc 5:18; 8:15 **42:9** [c]Ps 18:31 [d]S Ps 10:11 [e]S Ps 35:14 [f]Job 20:19; Ps 43:2; 106:42 [g]Ps 9:13; 43:2 **42:10** [h]S Ps 6:2 [i]Dt 32:27; Ps 44:16; 89:51; 102:8; 119:42 [j]S ver 3 **42:11** [k]ver 5; Ps 43:5

43:1 [l]S Jdg 6:31 [m]S Ps 25:20 [n]S Ps 36:3; 109:2 **43:2** [o]Ps 44:9; 74:1; 88:14; 89:38 [p]S Ps 35:14 [q]S Ps 42:9 **43:3** [r]Ps 27:1 [s]S Ps 26:3 [t]S Ps 25:5 [u]Ps 2:6 [v]S 2Sa 15:25 **43:4** [w]S Ps 42:2 [x]Ps 26:6; 84:3 [y]S Ps 21:6 [z]Ps 16:3 [a]S Ge 4:21 **43:5** [b]S Ps 42:6 **44:1** [c]2Sa 7:22; 1Ch 17:20; Jer 26:11 [d]S Jdg 6:13 [e]S Dt 32:7; S Job 37:23 **44:2** [f]S Jos 3:10; Ac 7:45 [g]S Ex 15:17; S Isa 60:21 [h]S Jdg 4:23; S 2Ch 14:13 [i]Ps 80:9; Jer 32:23 **44:3** [j]Jos 24:12 [k]Ps 78:54 [l]Ex 15:16; Ps 77:15; 79:11; 89:10; 98:1; Isa 40:10; 52:10; 63:5 [m]Ps 89:15

Psalm 43[w]

1 Vindicate me, O God,
and plead my cause[l] against an ungodly nation;
rescue me[m] from deceitful and wicked men.[n]
2 You are God my stronghold.
Why have you rejected[o] me?
Why must I go about mourning,[p]
oppressed by the enemy?[q]
3 Send forth your light[r] and your truth,[s]
let them guide me;[t]
let them bring me to your holy mountain,[u]
to the place where you dwell.[v]
4 Then will I go[w] to the altar[x] of God,
to God, my joy[y] and my delight.[z]
I will praise you with the harp,[a]
O God, my God.

5 Why are you downcast, O my soul?
Why so disturbed within me?
Put your hope in God,
for I will yet praise him,
my Savior and my God.[b]

Psalm 44

For the director of music. Of the Sons of Korah. A *maskil*.[x]

1 We have heard with our ears,[c] O God;
our fathers have told us[d]
what you did in their days,
in days long ago.[e]
2 With your hand you drove out[f] the nations
and planted[g] our fathers;
you crushed[h] the peoples
and made our fathers flourish.[i]
3 It was not by their sword[j] that they won the land,
nor did their arm bring them victory;
it was your right hand,[k] your arm,[l]
and the light[m] of your face, for you loved[n] them.

4 You are my King[o] and my God,[p]
who decrees[z] victories[q] for Jacob.
5 Through you we push back[r] our enemies;

[n]S Dt 4:37 **44:4** [o]S Ps 24:7 [p]Ps 5:2 [q]S Ps 21:5 **44:5** [r]S Jos 23:5

[w]In many Hebrew manuscripts Psalms 42 and 43 constitute one psalm. [x]Title: Probably a literary or musical term [y]5,6 A few Hebrew manuscripts, Septuagint and Syriac; most Hebrew manuscripts *praise him for his saving help.* / [6]*O my God, my* [z]4 Septuagint, Aquila and Syriac; Hebrew *King, O God;* / *command*

through your name we trample[a]
our foes.
6 I do not trust in my bow,[b]
my sword does not bring me
victory;
7 but you give us victory[c] over our
enemies,
you put our adversaries to
shame.[d]
8 In God we make our boast[e] all day
long,[f]
and we will praise your name
forever.[g] *Selah*

9 But now you have rejected[h] and
humbled us;[i]
you no longer go out with our
armies.[j]
10 You made us retreat[k] before the
enemy,
and our adversaries have
plundered[l] us.
11 You gave us up to be devoured like
sheep[m]
and have scattered us among the
nations.[n]
12 You sold your people for a pittance,[o]
gaining nothing from their sale.

13 You have made us a reproach[p] to
our neighbors,[q]
the scorn[r] and derision[s] of those
around us.
14 You have made us a byword[t]
among the nations;
the peoples shake their heads[u]
at us.
15 My disgrace[v] is before me all day
long,
and my face is covered with
shame[w]
16 at the taunts[x] of those who reproach
and revile[y] me,
because of the enemy,[z] who is
bent on revenge.

17 All this happened to us,
though we had not forgotten[a] you
or been false to your covenant.
18 Our hearts had not turned[b] back;
our feet had not strayed from your
path.
19 But you crushed[c] us and made us a
haunt for jackals[d]
and covered us over with deep
darkness.[e]

20 If we had forgotten[f] the name of our
God
or spread out our hands to a
foreign god,[g]
21 would not God have discovered it,
since he knows the secrets of the
heart?[h]
22 Yet for your sake we face death all
day long;
we are considered as sheep[i] to be
slaughtered.[j]

23 Awake,[k] O Lord! Why do you
sleep?[l]
Rouse yourself![m] Do not reject us
forever.[n]
24 Why do you hide your face[o]
and forget[p] our misery and
oppression?[q]

25 We are brought down to the dust;[r]
our bodies cling to the ground.
26 Rise up[s] and help us;
redeem[t] us because of your
unfailing love.[u]

Psalm 45

For the director of music. To the tune of "Lilies." Of the Sons of Korah. A *maskil*.[a] A wedding song.[v]

1 My heart is stirred by a noble theme
as I recite my verses for the king;
my tongue is the pen of a skillful
writer.

2 You are the most excellent of men
and your lips have been anointed
with grace,[w]
since God has blessed you
forever.[x]
3 Gird your sword[y] upon your side,
O mighty one;[z]
clothe yourself with splendor and
majesty.[a]
4 In your majesty ride forth
victoriously[b]
in behalf of truth, humility and
righteousness;[c]
let your right hand[d] display
awesome deeds.[e]
5 Let your sharp arrows[f] pierce the
hearts[g] of the king's
enemies;[h]
let the nations fall beneath your
feet.
6 Your throne, O God, will last for
ever and ever;[i]
a scepter of justice will be the
scepter of your kingdom.
7 You love righteousness[j] and hate
wickedness;[k]
therefore God, your God, has set
you above your companions

44:5 [a]Ps 60:12; 108:13 **44:6** [b]Ge 48:22; Hos 1:7 **44:7** [c]S Dt 20:4 [d]S Job 8:22 **44:8** [e]S Ps 34:2; 1Co 1:31; 2Co 10:17 [f]Ps 52:1 [g]S Ps 30:12 **44:9** [h]S Ps 43:2 [i]S Dt 8:3; S 31:17; Ps 107:39; Isa 5:15 [j]S Jos 7:12; Ps 108:11 **44:10** [k]S Lev 26:17 [l]S Jdg 2:14 **44:11** [m]ver 22; Jer 12:3 [n]S Lev 26:33; S Ps 9:11; Eze 6:8; Zec 2:6 **44:12** [o]S Dt 32:30; Isa 50:1; 52:3; Jer 15:13 **44:13** [p]S 2Ch 29:8; Isa 30:3; Jer 25:9; 42:18; 44:8 [q]Ps 79:4; 80:6; 89:41 [r]S Dt 28:37; S Mic 2:6 [s]Eze 23:32 **44:14** [t]S 1Ki 9:7 [u]S 2Ki 19:21 **44:15** [v]Ge 30:23; 2Ch 32:21; Ps 35:26 [w]S Ps 34:5 **44:16** [x]S Ps 42:10 [y]Ps 10:13; 55:3; 74:10 [z]S 1Sa 18:25; S Jer 11:19; Ro 12:19 **44:17** [a]S Dt 6:12; S 32:18; Ps 119:16,61,153,176; Pr 3:1 **44:18** [b]Ps 119:51,157 **44:19** [c]S 2Ch 14:13; Ps 51:8 [d]S Job 30:29; S Isa 34:13 [e]S Job 3:5 **44:20** [f]S Dt 32:18; S Jdg 3:7 [g]S Ex 20:3; Isa 43:12; Jer 5:19 **44:21** [h]S 1Sa 16:7; 1Ki 8:39; Pr 15:11; Jer 12:3; 17:10 **44:22** [i]S ver 11 [j]Isa 53:7; Jer 11:19; 12:3; Ro 8:36* **44:23** [k]S Ps 7:6 [l]Ps 78:65 [m]Ps 59:5 [n]Ps 74:1; 77:7 **44:24** [o]S Dt 32:20; Ps 13:1 [p]La 5:20 [q]S Dt 26:7 **44:25** [r]Ps 119:25 **44:26** [s]S Nu 10:35; S Ps 12:5; 102:13 [t]Ps 26:11 [u]Ps 6:4 **45 Title** [v]SS 1:1

45:2 [w]Lk 4:22 [x]Ps 21:6 **45:3** [y]S Dt 32:41; Ps 149:6; Rev 1:16 [z]S 2Sa 1:19 [a]S Job 40:10; S Ps 21:5 **45:4** [b]Rev 6:2 [c]Zep 2:3 [d]Ps 21:8 [e]S Dt 4:34; Ps 65:5; 66:3 **45:5** [f]S Dt 32:23 [g]S Nu 24:8 [h]Ps 9:13; 92:9 **45:6** [i]S Ge 21:33; La 5:19 **45:7** [j]Ps 33:5 [k]S Ps 11:5

[a]Title: Probably a literary or musical term

by anointing[a] you with the oil of
joy.[b]
8All your robes are fragrant[c] with
myrrh[d] and aloes[e] and
cassia;[f]
from palaces adorned with ivory[g]
the music of the strings[h] makes
you glad.
9Daughters of kings[i] are among your
honored women;
at your right hand[j] is the royal
bride[k] in gold of Ophir.[l]

10Listen, O daughter,[m] consider[n] and
give ear:
Forget your people[o] and your
father's house.
11The king is enthralled by your
beauty;[p]
honor[q] him, for he is your
lord.[r]
12The Daughter of Tyre[s] will come
with a gift,[b t]
men of wealth will seek your
favor.
13All glorious[u] is the princess within
her chamber;
her gown is interwoven with
gold.[v]
14In embroidered garments[w] she is led
to the king;[x]
her virgin companions[y] follow her
and are brought to you.
15They are led in with joy and
gladness;[z]
they enter the palace of the king.

16Your sons will take the place of your
fathers;
you will make them princes[a]
throughout the land.
17I will perpetuate your memory
through all generations;[b]
therefore the nations will praise
you[c] for ever and ever.[d]

Psalm 46

For the director of music. Of the Sons
of Korah. According to *alamoth*.[c]
A song.

1God is our refuge[e] and strength,[f]
an ever-present[g] help[h] in
trouble.[i]
2Therefore we will not fear,[j] though
the earth give way[k]
and the mountains fall[l] into the
heart of the sea,[m]
3though its waters roar[n] and foam[o]
and the mountains quake[p] with
their surging. *Selah*

45:7 [illegible] Isa 45:1; 61:1 [illegible] Ps 4:7 [illegible] Heb 1:8-9
45:8 [illegible] 4:10 [illegible] Ge 37:25 [illegible] Nu 24:6 [illegible] Jn 19:39 [illegible] Ex 30:24 [illegible] 1Ki 22:39 [illegible] Ps 144:9; 150:4; Isa 38:20
45:9 [illegible] SS 6:8 [illegible] 1Ki 2:19 [illegible] Isa 62:5 [illegible] Ge 10:29
45:10 [illegible] Ru 1:11 [illegible] Jer 5:1 [illegible] Ru 1:16
45:11 [illegible] Est 1:11 [illegible] La 2:15 [illegible] Eph 5:33 [illegible] 1Pe 3:6
45:12 [illegible] Jos 19:29 [illegible] 1Ki 9:16 [illegible] 2Ch 9:24
45:13 [illegible] Isa 61:10 [illegible] Ex 39:3
45:14 [illegible] Jdg 5:30 [illegible] Est 2:15 [illegible] SS 1:3
45:15 [illegible] Est 8:17
45:16 [illegible] 1Sa 2:8; Ps 68:27; 113:8
45:17 [illegible] Ex 3:15; Ps 33:11; 119:90; 135:13 [illegible] Ps 138:4 dS Ps 21:4; Rev 22:5
46:1 ePs 9:9; 37:39; 61:3; 73:26; 91:2,9; 142:5; Isa 33:16; Jer 16:19; 17:17; Joel 3:16; Na 1:7 fPs 18:1 gPs 34:18; La 3:57 hPs 18:6; Lk 1:54 iS Dt 4:30; Ps 25:17
46:2 jS Ge 4:7; Ps 3:6 kPs 82:5; Isa 13:13; 24:1, 19,20; Jer 4:23; Da 11:19; Am 8:14; S Rev 6:14 lver 6; Ps 18:7; 97:5; Isa 54:10; Am 9:5; Mic 1:4; Na 1:5; Hab 3:6 mEx 15:8
46:3 nPs 93:3; Isa 17:13; Jer 5:22; Eze 1:24; Rev 19:6 oS Job 9:26 pS Jdg 5:5
46:4 qS Ge 2:10; Rev 22:1 rS Ps 1:3 sPs 48:1,8; 87:3; 101:8; Rev 3:12 tGe 14:18 uS 2Sa 15:25
46:5 vDt 23:14; S Ps 26:8; Isa 12:6; Zec 2:5 wPs 125:1 xS 1Ch 5:20
46:6 yS Job 12:23 zPs 74:23; Isa 5:30; 17:12 aPs 68:32; 102:22; Isa 13:4, 13; 23:11; Eze 26:18; Mt 4:8 bS Ps 29:3; Isa 33:3 cS ver 2

4There is a river[q] whose streams[r]
make glad the city of God,[s]
the holy place where the Most
High[t] dwells.[u]
5God is within her,[v] she will not
fall;[w]
God will help[x] her at break of
day.
6Nations[y] are in uproar,[z] kingdoms[a]
fall;
he lifts his voice,[b] the earth
melts.[c]

7The LORD Almighty[d] is with us;[e]
the God of Jacob[f] is our fortress.[g]
Selah

8Come and see the works of the
LORD,[h]
the desolations[i] he has brought
on the earth.
9He makes wars[j] cease to the ends of
the earth;
he breaks the bow[k] and shatters
the spear,
he burns the shields[d l] with fire.[l]
10"Be still, and know that I am God;[m]
I will be exalted[n] among the
nations,
I will be exalted in the earth."

11The LORD Almighty is with us;
the God of Jacob[o] is our fortress.[p]
Selah

Psalm 47

For the director of music. Of the Sons
of Korah. A psalm.

1Clap your hands,[q] all you nations;
shout to God with cries of joy.[r]
2How awesome[s] is the LORD Most
High,[t]
the great King[u] over all the earth!
3He subdued[v] nations under us,
peoples under our feet.
4He chose our inheritance[w] for us,
the pride of Jacob,[x] whom he
loved. *Selah*

5God has ascended[y] amid shouts of
joy,[z]
the LORD amid the sounding of
trumpets.[a]

46:7 dS 1Sa 1:11 eS Ge 21:22 fS Ps 20:1 gver 11; Ps 18:2
46:8 hPs 66:5 iIsa 17:9; 64:10; Da 9:26; Lk 21:20 46:9 jIsa 2:4 kS Ps 37:15; S Isa 22:6 lIsa 9:5; Eze 39:9; Hos 2:18
46:10 mDt 4:35; 1Ki 18:36,39; Ps 100:3; Isa 37:16,20; 43:11; 45:21; Eze 36:23 nPs 18:46; Isa 2:11 46:11 oS Ps 20:1 pS ver 7 47:1 qS 2Ki 11:12 rS Ps 33:3 47:2 sS Dt 7:21 tGe 14:18 uPs 2:6; 48:2; 95:3; Mt 5:35 47:3 vPs 18:39,47; Isa 14:6 47:4 wPs 2:8; 16:6; 78:55; 1Pe 1:4 xAm 6:8; 8:7 47:5 yPs 68:18; Eph 4:8 zS Job 8:21; S Ps 106:5 aS Nu 10:2; S 2Sa 6:15

b12 Or *A Tyrian robe is among the gifts* cTitle: Probably a musical term d9 Or *chariots*

[6]Sing praises[a] to God, sing praises;
sing praises to our King, sing praises.

[7]For God is the King of all the earth;[b]
sing to him a psalm[c][e] of praise.
[8]God reigns[d] over the nations;
God is seated on his holy throne.[e]
[9]The nobles of the nations assemble
as the people of the God of Abraham,
for the kings[f] of the earth belong to God;[f]
he is greatly exalted.[g]

Psalm 48

A song. A psalm of the Sons of Korah.

[1]Great is the LORD,[h] and most worthy of praise,[i]
in the city of our God,[j] his holy mountain.[k]
[2]It is beautiful[l] in its loftiness,
the joy of the whole earth.
Like the utmost heights of Zaphon[g][m] is Mount Zion,[n]
the[h] city of the Great King.[o]
[3]God is in her citadels;[p]
he has shown himself to be her fortress.[q]

[4]When the kings joined forces,
when they advanced together,[r]
[5]they saw her and were astounded;
they fled in terror.[s]
[6]Trembling seized[t] them there,
pain like that of a woman in labor.[u]
[7]You destroyed them like ships of Tarshish[v]
shattered by an east wind.[w]

[8]As we have heard,
so have we seen
in the city of the LORD Almighty,
in the city of our God:
God makes her secure forever.[x]
Selah

[9]Within your temple, O God,
we meditate[y] on your unfailing love.[z]
[10]Like your name,[a] O God,
your praise reaches to the ends of the earth;[b]
your right hand is filled with righteousness.
[11]Mount Zion rejoices,
the villages of Judah are glad
because of your judgments.[c]

[12]Walk about Zion, go around her,
count her towers,[d]
[13]consider well her ramparts,[e]
view her citadels,[f]
that you may tell of them to the next generation.[g]
[14]For this God is our God for ever and ever;
he will be our guide[h] even to the end.

Psalm 49

For the director of music. Of the Sons of Korah. A psalm.

[1]Hear[i] this, all you peoples;[j]
listen, all who live in this world,[k]
[2]both low and high,[l]
rich and poor alike:
[3]My mouth will speak words of wisdom;[m]
the utterance from my heart will give understanding.[n]
[4]I will turn my ear to a proverb;[o]
with the harp[p] I will expound my riddle:[q]

[5]Why should I fear[r] when evil days come,
when wicked deceivers surround me—
[6]those who trust in their wealth[s]
and boast[t] of their great riches?[u]
[7]No man can redeem the life of another
or give to God a ransom for him—
[8]the ransom[v] for a life is costly,
no payment is ever enough—[w]
[9]that he should live on[x] forever
and not see decay.[y]
[10]For all can see that wise men die;[z]
the foolish and the senseless[a] alike perish
and leave their wealth[b] to others.[c]
[11]Their tombs[d][i] will remain their houses[i] forever,
their dwellings for endless generations,[e]
though they had[j] named[f] lands after themselves.

[12]But man, despite his riches, does not endure;[g]
he is[k] like the beasts that perish.[h]
[13]This is the fate of those who trust in themselves,[i]

47:6 [a]S 2Sa 22:50 47:7 [b]Zec 14:9 [c]1Ch 16:7; Col 3:16 47:8 [d]S 1Ch 16:31 [e]S 1Ki 22:19; S Ps 9:4; Rev 4:9 47:9 [f]S Job 25:2 [g]Ps 46:10; 97:9 48:1 [h]Ps 86:10; 96:4; 99:2; 135:5; 147:5; Jer 10:6 [i]S 2Sa 22:4; S 1Ch 16:25; Ps 18:3 [j]S Ps 46:4 [k]S Dt 33:19; Ps 2:6; 87:1; Isa 11:9; 32:16; Jer 31:23; Da 9:16; Mic 4:1; Zec 8:3 48:2 [l]Ps 50:2; La 2:15; Eze 16:14 [m]S Jos 13:27 [n]S Ps 2:6 [o]Mt 5:35 48:3 [p]ver 13; Ps 122:7 [q]Ps 18:2 48:4 [r]2Sa 10:1-19 48:5 [s]Ex 15:16; Isa 13:8; Jer 46:5; Da 5:9 48:6 [t]S Job 4:14 [u]S Ge 3:16 48:7 [v]S Ge 10:4; S 1Ki 10:22; 22:48 [w]S Ge 41:6 48:8 [x]Jer 23:6; Zec 8:13; 14:11 48:9 [y]S Ps 39:3 [z]Ps 6:4 48:10 [a]S Ex 6:3; S Jos 7:9 [b]1Sa 2:10; Ps 22:27; 65:5; 98:3; 100:1; Isa 11:12; 24:16; 42:10; 49:6 48:11 [c]Ps 97:8 48:12 [d]S Ne 3:1 48:13 [e]2Sa 20:15; Isa 26:1; La 2:8; Hab 2:1 [f]S ver 3 [g]Ps 71:18; 78:6; 109:13 48:14 [h]Ps 25:5; 73:24; Pr 6:22; Isa 49:10; 57:18; 58:11 49:1 [i]Isa 1:2 [j]Ps 78:1 [k]S Ps 33:8 49:2 [l]Ps 62:9 49:3 [m]S Ps 37:30 [n]Ps 119:130 49:4 [o]Ps 78:2; Pr 1:6; Eze 12:22; 16:44; 18:2-3; Lk 4:23 [p]S 1Sa 16:16; Ps 33:2 [q]S Nu 12:8 49:5 [r]Ps 23:4; 27:1 49:6 [s]S Job 22:25; Ps 73:12; Jer 48:7 [t]S Ps 10:3 [u]S Job 36:19 49:8 [v]S Nu 35:31 [w]Mt 16:26 49:9 [x]Ps 22:29; 89:48 [y]Ps 16:10 49:10 [z]Ecc 2:16 [a]Ps 92:6; 94:8 [b]S Job 27:17 [c]Ecc 2:18,21; Lk 12:20

49:11 [d]Mk 5:3; Lk 8:27 [e]Ps 106:31 [f]S Dt 3:14 49:12 [g]S Job 14:2 [h]ver 20; 2Pe 2:12 49:13 [i]Lk 12:20

e7 Or *a maskil* (probably a literary or musical term)
f9 Or *shields*   g2 *Zaphon* can refer to a sacred mountain or the direction north.   h2 Or *earth,* / *Mount Zion, on the northern side* / *of the*
i11 Septuagint and Syriac; Hebrew *In their thoughts their houses will remain*   j11 Or / *for they have*
k12 Hebrew; Septuagint and Syriac read verse 12 the same as verse 20.

and of their followers, who
approve their sayings. *Selah*
14Like sheep they are destined[a] for the
grave,[l b]
and death will feed on them.
The upright will rule[c] over them in
the morning;
their forms will decay in the
grave,
far from their princely mansions.
15But God will redeem my life[m] from
the grave;[d]
he will surely take me to himself.[e]
Selah
16Do not be overawed when a man
grows rich,
when the splendor of his house
increases;
17for he will take nothing[f] with him
when he dies,
his splendor will not descend with
him.[g]
18Though while he lived he counted
himself blessed—[h]
and men praise you when you
prosper—
19he will join the generation of his
fathers,[i]
who will never see the light[j] ⌞of
life⌟.
20A man who has riches without
understanding[k]
is like the beasts that perish.[l]

Psalm 50

A psalm of Asaph.

1The Mighty One, God, the LORD,[m]
speaks and summons the earth
from the rising of the sun to the
place where it sets.[n]
2From Zion,[o] perfect in beauty,[p]
God shines forth.[q]
3Our God comes[r] and will not be
silent;[s]
a fire devours[t] before him,[u]
and around him a tempest[v] rages.
4He summons the heavens above,
and the earth,[w] that he may judge
his people:[x]
5"Gather to me my consecrated
ones,[y]
who made a covenant[z] with me
by sacrifice."
6And the heavens proclaim[a] his
righteousness,
for God himself is judge.[b] *Selah*
7"Hear, O my people, and I will
speak,
O Israel, and I will testify[c] against
you:
I am God, your God.[d]
8I do not rebuke[e] you for your
sacrifices
or your burnt offerings,[f] which
are ever before me.
9I have no need of a bull[g] from your
stall
or of goats[h] from your pens,[i]
10for every animal of the forest[j] is
mine,
and the cattle on a thousand
hills.[k]
11I know every bird[l] in the
mountains,
and the creatures of the field[m] are
mine.
12If I were hungry I would not tell
you,
for the world[n] is mine, and all that
is in it.[o]
13Do I eat the flesh of bulls
or drink the blood of goats?
14Sacrifice thank offerings[p] to God,
fulfill your vows[q] to the Most
High,[r]
15and call[s] upon me in the day of
trouble;[t]
I will deliver[u] you, and you will
honor[v] me."

16But to the wicked, God says:
"What right have you to recite my
laws
or take my covenant[w] on your
lips?[x]
17You hate[y] my instruction
and cast my words behind[z]
you.
18When you see a thief, you join[a] with
him;
you throw in your lot with
adulterers.[b]
19You use your mouth for evil
and harness your tongue to
deceit.[c]
20You speak continually against your
brother[d]
and slander your own mother's
son.
21These things you have done and I
kept silent;[e]
you thought I was altogether[n] like
you.
But I will rebuke[f] you
and accuse[g] you to your face.

49:14 [a]Jer 43:11; Eze 31:14 [b]Nu 16:30; S Job 21:13; Ps 9:17; 55:15 [c]Isa 14:2; Da 7:18; 1Co 6:2 **49:15** [d]Ps 56:13; Hos 13:14 [e]S Ge 5:24 **49:17** [f]1Ti 6:7 [g]S Ps 17:14 **49:18** [h]Ps 10:6; Lk 12:19 **49:19** [i]S Ge 15:15 [j]S Job 33:30 **49:20** [k]Pr 16:16 [l]S ver 12 **50:1** [m]Jos 22:22 [n]Ps 113:3 **50:2** [o]Ps 2:6 [p]S Ps 48:2; S La 2:15 [q]S Dt 33:2 **50:3** [r]Ps 96:13 [s]ver 21; Isa 42:14; 64:12; 65:6 [t]S Lev 10:2 [u]S Ps 18:8 [v]Job 37:9; Ps 83:15; 107:25; 147:18; Isa 29:6; 30:28; Jnh 1:4; Na 1:3 **50:4** [w]Dt 4:26; 31:28; Isa 1:2 [x]Heb 10:30 **50:5** [y]S Dt 7:6; S Ps 18:25 [z]Ex 24:7; S 2Ch 6:11 **50:6** [a]S Ps 19:1 [b]S Ge 16:5; S Job 9:15

50:7 [c]Heb 2:4 [d]Ex 20:2; Ps 48:14 **50:8** [e]S 2Sa 22:16 [f]S Ps 40:6 **50:9** [g]S Lev 1:5 [h]S Lev 16:5 [i]S Nu 32:16 **50:10** [j]Ps 104:20; Isa 56:9; Mic 5:8 [k]Ps 104:24 **50:11** [l]Mt 6:26 [m]Ps 8:7; 80:13 **50:12** [n]Ex 19:5 [o]Dt 10:14; S Jos 3:11; Ps 24:1; 1Co 10:26 **50:14** [p]S Ezr 1:4; S Ps 27:6 [q]S Nu 30:2; S Ps 66:13; 76:11 [r]Ps 7:8 **50:15** [s]Ps 4:1; 81:7; Isa 55:6; 58:9; Zec 13:9 [t]Ps 69:17; 86:7; 107:6; 142:2; Jas 5:13 [u]Ps 3:7 [v]S Ps 22:23 **50:16** [w]Ps 25:10 [x]Isa 29:13 **50:17** [y]Pr 1:22 [z]S 1Ki 14:9 **50:18** [a]Ro 1:32; 1Ti 5:22 [b]S Job 22:15 **50:19** [c]Ps 10:7; 36:3; 52:2; 101:7 **50:20** [d]Mt 10:21 **50:21** [e]Isa 42:14; 57:11; 62:1; 64:12 [f]Ps 6:1; S 18:15; 76:6; 104:7; Isa 50:2 [g]Ps 85:5; Isa 57:16

[l]14 Hebrew *Sheol;* also in verse 15 [m]15 Or *soul*
[n]21 Or *thought the 'I AM' was*

22"Consider this, you who forget
God,[a]
or I will tear you to pieces, with
none to rescue:[b]
23He who sacrifices thank offerings
honors me,
and he prepares the way[c]
so that I may show him[p] the
salvation of God.[d]"

Psalm 51

For the director of music. A psalm of David. When the prophet Nathan came to him after David had committed adultery with Bathsheba.[e]

1Have mercy[f] on me, O God,
according to your unfailing love;[g]
according to your great compassion[h]
blot out[i] my transgressions.[j]
2Wash away[k] all my iniquity
and cleanse[l] me from my sin.

3For I know my transgressions,
and my sin is always before me.[m]
4Against you, you only, have I
sinned[n]
and done what is evil in your
sight,[o]
so that you are proved right when
you speak
and justified when you judge.[p]
5Surely I was sinful[q] at birth,[r]
sinful from the time my mother
conceived me.
6Surely you desire truth in the inner
parts[q];
you teach[r] me wisdom[s] in the
inmost place.[t]

7Cleanse[u] me with hyssop,[v] and I
will be clean;
wash me, and I will be whiter than
snow.[w]
8Let me hear joy and gladness;[x]
let the bones[y] you have crushed
rejoice.
9Hide your face from my sins[z]
and blot out[a] all my iniquity.

10Create in me a pure heart,[b] O God,
and renew a steadfast spirit
within me.[c]
11Do not cast me[d] from your
presence[e]
or take your Holy Spirit[f] from me.
12Restore to me the joy of your
salvation[g]
and grant me a willing spirit,[h] to
sustain me.[i]

13Then I will teach transgressors your
ways,[j]
and sinners[k] will turn back to
you.[l]
14Save me[m] from bloodguilt,[n] O God,
the God who saves me,[o]
and my tongue will sing of your
righteousness.[p]
15O Lord, open my lips,[q]
and my mouth will declare your
praise.
16You do not delight in sacrifice,[r] or I
would bring it;
you do not take pleasure in burnt
offerings.
17The sacrifices[s] of God are[s] a broken
spirit;
a broken and contrite heart,[t]
O God, you will not despise.

18In your good pleasure make Zion[u]
prosper;
build up the walls of Jerusalem.[v]
19Then there will be righteous
sacrifices,[w]
whole burnt offerings[x] to delight
you;
then bulls[y] will be offered on your
altar.

Psalm 52

For the director of music. A *maskil*[t] of David. When Doeg the Edomite[z] had gone to Saul and told him: "David has gone to the house of Ahimelech."

1Why do you boast of evil, you
mighty man?
Why do you boast[a] all day long,[b]
you who are a disgrace in the eyes
of God?
2Your tongue plots destruction;[c]
it is like a sharpened razor,[d]
you who practice deceit.[e]
3You love evil[f] rather than good,
falsehood[g] rather than speaking
the truth. *Selah*
4You love every harmful word,
O you deceitful tongue![h]

5Surely God will bring you down to
everlasting ruin:
He will snatch you up and tear[i]
you from your tent;

50:22 [a]S Job 8:13; S Isa 17:10 [b]S Dt 32:39; Mic 5:8 **50:23** [c]Ps 85:13 [d]S Ps 9:14; 91:16; 98:3; Isa 52:10 **51 Title** [e]2Sa 11:4; 12:1 **51:1** [f]S 2Sa 24:14; S Ps 9:13 [g]S Ps 25:7; S 119:88 [h]S Ne 9:27; Ps 86:15; Isa 63:7 [i]S 2Sa 12:13; S 2Ch 6:21; S Ne 4:5; Ac 3:19 [j]S Ps 39:8 **51:2** [k]S Ru 3:3; Jer 2:22; 13:27; Ac 22:16; 1Jn 1:9 [l]Pr 20:30; Isa 4:4; Eze 36:25; Zec 13:1; Mt 23:25-26; Heb 9:14 **51:3** [m]Isa 59:12 **51:4** [n]S 1Sa 15:24 [o]S Ge 20:6; Lk 15:21 [p]Ro 3:4* **51:5** [q]S Lev 5:2 [r]S Job 5:7 **51:6** [s]Ps 119:66; 143:10 [t]S Job 9:4; S 34:32 **51:7** [u]Isa 4:4; Eze 36:25; Zec 13:1 [v]S Ex 12:22; S Nu 19:6; Heb 9:19 [w]Isa 1:18; 43:25; 44:22 **51:8** [x]Isa 35:10; Jer 33:11; Joel 1:16 [y]S Ex 12:46 **51:9** [z]Jer 16:17; Zec 4:10 [a]S 2Sa 12:13 **51:10** [b]S Ps 24:4; 78:37; Mt 5:8; Ac 15:9 [c]Eze 18:31; 36:26 **51:11** [d]Ps 27:9; 71:9; 138:8 [e]S Ge 4:14; S Ex 33:15 [f]Ps 106:33; Isa 63:10; Eph 4:30 **51:12** [g]S Job 33:26 [h]Ps 110:3 [i]S Ps 18:35 **51:13** [j]S Ex 33:13; Ac 9:21-22 [k]S Ps 1:1 [l]S Job 33:27 **51:14** [m]S Ps 39:8 [n]S 2Sa 12:9 [o]Ps 25:5; 68:20; 88:1 [p]S Ps 5:8; 35:28; 71:15 **51:15** [q]Ex 4:15 **51:16** [r]S 1Sa 15:22 **51:17** [s]Pr 15:8; Hag 2:14 [t]Mt 11:29 **51:18** [u]Ps 102:16; 147:2; Isa 14:32; 51:3; Zec 1:16-17 [v]Ps 69:35; Isa 44:26 **51:19** [w]Dt 33:19 [x]Ps 66:13; 96:8; Jer 17:26 [y]Ps 66:15

52 Title [z]1Sa 21:7; 22:9 **52:1** [a]Ps 10:3; 94:4 [b]Ps 44:8 **52:2** [c]Ps 5:9 [d]S Nu 6:5 [e]S Ps 50:19 **52:3** [f]Ex 10:10; 1Sa 12:25; Am 5:14-15; Jn 3:20 [g]Ps 58:3; Jer 9:5; Rev 21:8 **52:4** [h]Ps 5:9; 10:7; 109:2; 120:2,3; Pr 10:31; 12:19 **52:5** [i]S Dt 29:28; S Job 40:12; Isa 22:19; Eze 17:24

[p]23 Or *and to him who considers his way / I will show*
[q]6 The meaning of the Hebrew for this phrase is uncertain. [r]6 Or *you desired . . . ; / you taught*
[s]17 Or *My sacrifice, O God, is* [t]Title: Probably a literary or musical term

he will uproot[a] you from the land
of the living.[b] *Selah*
6The righteous will see and fear;
they will laugh[c] at him, saying,
7"Here now is the man
who did not make God his
stronghold[d]
but trusted in his great wealth[e]
and grew strong by destroying
others!"

8But I am like an olive tree[f]
flourishing in the house of God;
I trust[g] in God's unfailing love
for ever and ever.
9I will praise you forever[h] for what
you have done;
in your name I will hope,[i] for
your name is good.[j]
I will praise you in the presence of
your saints.[k]

Psalm 53

53:1-6pp — Ps 14:1-7

For the director of music. According to *mahalath*.[w] A *maskil*[v] of David.

1The fool[l] says in his heart,
"There is no God."[m]
They are corrupt, and their ways are
vile;
there is no one who does good.

2God looks down from heaven[n]
on the sons of men
to see if there are any who
understand,[o]
any who seek God.[p]
3Everyone has turned away,
they have together become
corrupt;
there is no one who does good,
not even one.[q]

4Will the evildoers never learn—
those who devour my people as
men eat bread
and who do not call on God?
5There they were, overwhelmed with
dread,
where there was nothing to
dread.[r]
God scattered the bones[s] of those
who attacked you;[t]
you put them to shame,[u] for God
despised them.[v]

6Oh, that salvation for Israel would
come out of Zion!
When God restores the fortunes of
his people,
let Jacob rejoice and Israel be
glad!

Psalm 54

For the director of music. With stringed instruments. A *maskil*[v] of David. When the Ziphites[w] had gone to Saul and said, "Is not David hiding among us?"

1Save me[x], O God, by your name;[y]
vindicate me by your might.[z]
2Hear my prayer, O God;[a]
listen to the words of my mouth.

3Strangers are attacking me;[b]
ruthless men[c] seek my life[d]—
men without regard for God.[e]
Selah

4Surely God is my help;[f]
the Lord is the one who
sustains me.[g]
5Let evil recoil[h] on those who
slander me;
in your faithfulness[i] destroy
them.

6I will sacrifice a freewill offering[j] to
you;
I will praise[k] your name, O LORD,
for it is good.[l]
7For he has delivered me[m] from all
my troubles,
and my eyes have looked in
triumph on my foes.[n]

Psalm 55

For the director of music. With stringed instruments. A *maskil*[v] of David.

1Listen to my prayer, O God,
do not ignore my plea;[o]
2 hear me and answer me.[p]
My thoughts trouble me and I am
distraught[q]
3 at the voice of the enemy,
at the stares of the wicked;
for they bring down suffering
upon me[r]
and revile[s] me in their anger.[t]

4My heart is in anguish[u] within me;
the terrors[v] of death assail me.
5Fear and trembling[w] have beset me;
horror[x] has overwhelmed me.
6I said, "Oh, that I had the wings of a
dove!
I would fly away and be at rest—
7I would flee far away
and stay in the desert;[y] *Selah*
8I would hurry to my place of
shelter,[z]

52:5 [a]S Dt 28:63 [b]S Job 28:13 **52:6** [c]S Job 22:19 **52:7** [d]S 2Sa 22:3 [e]S Ps 49:6; S Pr 11:28; Mk 10:23 **52:8** [f]S Ps 1:3; S Rev 11:4 [g]Ps 6:4; 13:5 **52:9** [h]S Ps 30:12 [i]S Job 7:6; Ps 25:3 [j]Ps 54:6 [k]S Dt 7:6; Ps 16:3 **53:1** [l]Ps 74:22; 107:17; Pr 10:23 [m]Ps 10:4 **53:2** [n]S Ps 33:13 [o]Ps 82:5; Jer 4:22; 8:8 [p]2Ch 15:2 **53:3** [q]Ro 3:10-12* **53:5** [r]S Lev 26:17 [s]2Ki 23:14; Ps 141:7; Jer 8:1; Eze 6:5 [t]2Ki 17:20 [u]S Job 8:22 [v]Jer 6:30; 14:19; La 5:22

54 Title [w]1Sa 23:19; 26:1 **54:1** [x]S 1Sa 24:15 [y]Ps 20:1 [z]2Ch 20:6 **54:2** [a]S Ps 4:1; 5:1; 55:1 **54:3** [b]Ps 86:14 [c]Ps 18:48; 140:1, 4,11 [d]S 1Sa 20:1 [e]Ps 36:1 **54:4** [f]S 1Ch 5:20; S Ps 20:2 [g]S Ps 18:35 **54:5** [h]S Dt 32:35; Ps 94:23; Pr 24:12 [i]Ps 89:49; Isa 42:3 **54:6** [j]S Lev 7:12,16; S Ezr 1:4; S Ps 27:6 [k]Ps 44:8; 69:30; 138:2; 142:7; 145:1 [l]Ps 52:9 **54:7** [m]Ps 34:6 [n]Ps 59:10; 92:11; 112:8; 118:7 **55:1** [o]Ps 27:9; La 3:56 **55:2** [p]Ps 4:1 [q]1Sa 1:15-16; Ps 77:3; 86:6-7; 142:2 **55:3** [r]S 2Sa 16:6-8; Ps 17:9; 143:3 [s]S Ps 44:16 [t]Ps 71:11 **55:4** [u]S Ps 6:3 [v]S Job 18:11 **55:5** [w]S Job 4:14; S 2Co 7:15 [x]Dt 28:67; Isa 21:4; Jer 46:5; 49:5; Eze 7:18 **55:7** [y]1Sa 23:14 **55:8** [z]Ps 31:20

[u]Title: Probably a musical term [v]Title: Probably a literary or musical term

far from the tempest and storm."[a]

[9]Confuse the wicked, O Lord,
confound their speech,[b]
for I see violence and strife[c] in the
city.[d]
[10]Day and night they prowl[e] about on
its walls;
malice and abuse are within it.
[11]Destructive forces[f] are at work in
the city;
threats and lies[g] never leave its
streets.

[12]If an enemy were insulting me,
I could endure it;
if a foe were raising himself
against me,
I could hide from him.
[13]But it is you, a man like myself,
my companion, my close
friend,[h]
[14]with whom I once enjoyed sweet
fellowship[i]
as we walked with the throng at
the house of God.[j]

[15]Let death take my enemies by
surprise;[k]
let them go down alive to the
grave,[w][l]
for evil finds lodging among
them.

[16]But I call to God,
and the LORD saves me.
[17]Evening,[m] morning[n] and noon[o]
I cry out in distress,
and he hears my voice.
[18]He ransoms me unharmed
from the battle waged against
me,
even though many oppose me.
[19]God, who is enthroned forever,[p]
will hear[q] them and afflict them—
Selah
men who never change their
ways
and have no fear of God.[r]

[20]My companion attacks his friends;[s]
he violates his covenant.[t]
[21]His speech is smooth as butter,[u]
yet war is in his heart;
his words are more soothing than
oil,[v]
yet they are drawn swords.[w]

[22]Cast your cares on the LORD
and he will sustain you;[x]
he will never let the righteous
fall.[y]
[23]But you, O God, will bring down the
wicked
into the pit[z] of corruption;
bloodthirsty and deceitful men[a]
will not live out half their days.[b]

But as for me, I trust in you.[c]

Psalm 56

For the director of music. To the tune
of, "A Dove on Distant Oaks." Of
David. A *miktam*.[x] When the
Philistines had seized him in Gath.

[1]Be merciful to me,[d] O God, for men
hotly pursue me;[e]
all day long they press their
attack.[f]
[2]My slanderers pursue me all day
long;[g]
many are attacking me in their
pride.[h]

[3]When I am afraid,[i]
I will trust in you.[j]
[4]In God, whose word I praise,[k]
in God I trust; I will not be
afraid.[l]
What can mortal man do to
me?[m]

[5]All day long they twist my
words;[n]
they are always plotting to
harm me.
[6]They conspire,[o] they lurk,
they watch my steps,[p]
eager to take my life.[q]
[7]On no account let them escape;[r]
in your anger, O God, bring down
the nations.[s]

[8]Record my lament;
list my tears on your scroll[y][t]—
are they not in your record?[u]
[9]Then my enemies will turn back[v]
when I call for help.[w]
By this I will know that God is
for me.[x]

[10]In God, whose word I praise,
in the LORD, whose word I
praise—
[11]in God I trust; I will not be afraid.
What can man do to me?

[12]I am under vows[y] to you, O God;
I will present my thank offerings
to you.
[13]For you have delivered me[z] from
death[z]
and my feet from stumbling,
that I may walk before God
in the light of life.[a][a]

55:8 [a]Ps 77:18; Isa 4:6; 25:4; 28:2; 29:6; 32:2
55:9 [b]Ge 11:9; Ac 2:4 [c]Ps 11:5; Isa 59:6; Jer 6:7; Eze 7:11; Hab 1:3 [d]Ge 4:17
55:10 [e]1Pe 5:8
55:11 [f]Ps 5:9 [g]Ps 10:7
55:13 [h]S 2Sa 15:12
55:14 [i]Ac 1:16-17 [j]Ps 42:4
55:15 [k]Ps 64:7; Pr 6:15; Isa 29:5; 47:9,11; 1Th 5:3 [l]S Ps 49:14
55:17 [m]Ps 141:2; Ac 3:1; 10:3,30 [n]Ps 5:3; 88:13; 92:2 [o]Ac 10:9
55:19 [p]S Ex 15:18; Dt 33:27; Ps 29:10 [q]Ps 78:59 [r]Ps 36:1; 64:4
55:20 [s]Ps 7:4 [t]S Ps 41:9
55:21 [u]Ps 12:2 [v]Pr 5:3; 6:24 [w]Ps 57:4; 59:7; 64:3; Pr 12:18; Rev 1:16
55:22 [x]S Ps 18:35; Mt 6:25-34; 1Pe 5:7 [y]Ps 15:5; 21:7; 37:24; 112:6
55:23 [z]Ps 9:15; S 30:3; 73:18; 94:13; Isa 14:15; Eze 28:8; S Lk 8:31
[a]Ps 5:6 [b]S Job 15:32 [c]Ps 11:1; 25:2; 56:3
56:1 [d]Ps 6:2 [e]Ps 57:1-3 [f]Ps 17:9
56:2 [g]Ps 35:25; 124:3 [h]Ps 35:1
56:3 [i]Ps 55:4-5 [j]S Ps 55:23
56:4 [k]ver 10 [l]S Ps 27:1 [m]Ps 118:6; Mt 10:28; Heb 13:6
56:5 [n]Ps 41:7; 2Pe 3:16
56:6 [o]Ps 59:3; 94:21; Mk 3:6 [p]Ps 17:11 [q]Ps 71:10
56:7 [r]Pr 19:5; Eze 17:15; Ro 2:3; Heb 12:25 [s]Ps 36:12; 55:23
56:8 [t]S 2Ki 20:5 [u]Isa 4:3; Da 7:10; 12:1; Mal 3:16
56:9 [v]Ps 9:3 [w]Ps 102:2 [x]S Nu 14:8; S Dt 31:6; Ro 8:31
56:12 [y]Ps 50:14
56:13 [z]Ps 30:3; 33:19; 49:15; 86:13; 107:20; 116:8 [a]S Job 33:30

[w]15 Hebrew *Sheol* [x]Title: Probably a literary or musical term [y]8 Or *put my tears in your wineskin* [z]13 Or *my soul* [a]13 Or *the land of the living*

Psalm 57

57:7-11pp — Ps 108:1-5

For the director of music.
To the tune of "Do Not Destroy."
Of David. A *miktam*.[b]
When he had fled
from Saul into the cave.[a]

[1]Have mercy on me, O God, have
mercy on me,
for in you my soul takes
refuge.[b]
I will take refuge in the shadow of
your wings[c]
until the disaster has passed.[d]

[2]I cry out to God Most High,
to God, who fulfills his purpose
for me.[e]
[3]He sends from heaven and saves
me,[f]
rebuking those who hotly pursue
me;[g] *Selah*
God sends his love and his
faithfulness.[h]

[4]I am in the midst of lions;[i]
I lie among ravenous beasts—
men whose teeth are spears and
arrows,
whose tongues are sharp
swords.[j]

[5]Be exalted, O God, above the
heavens;
let your glory be over all the
earth.[k]

[6]They spread a net for my
feet[l] —
I was bowed down[m] in
distress.
They dug a pit[n] in my path—
but they have fallen into it
themselves.[o] *Selah*

[7]My heart is steadfast, O God,
my heart is steadfast;[p]
I will sing and make music.
[8]Awake, my soul!
Awake, harp and lyre![q]
I will awaken the dawn.

[9]I will praise you, O Lord, among the
nations;
I will sing of you among the
peoples.
[10]For great is your love, reaching to
the heavens;
your faithfulness reaches to the
skies.[r]

[11]Be exalted, O God, above the
heavens;[s]
let your glory be over all the
earth.[t]

57 Title [a]1Sa 22:1; 24:3; Ps 142 Title
57:1 [b]Ps 2:12; 9:9; 34:22 [c]S Ru 2:12; S Mt 23:37 [d]Isa 26:20
57:2 [e]Ps 138:8
57:3 [f]Ps 18:9,16; 69:14; 142:6; 144:5,7 [g]Ps 56:1 [h]Ps 25:10; 40:11; 115:1
57:4 [i]S Ps 35:17 [j]S Ps 55:21; Pr 30:14
57:5 [k]ver 11; Ps 108:5
57:6 [l]Ps 10:9; 31:4; 140:5 [m]S Ps 38:6; 145:14 [n]S Ps 9:15 [o]S Est 6:13; Ps 7:15; Pr 28:10; Ecc 10:8
57:7 [p]Ps 112:7
57:8 [q]Ps 33:2; 149:3; 150:3
57:10 [r]S Ps 36:5
57:11 [s]S Ps 8:1; 113:4 [t]S ver 5

58:1 [u]Ps 82:2
58:2 [v]Mt 15:19 [w]Ps 94:20; Isa 10:1; Lk 6:38
58:4 [x]S Nu 21:6
58:5 [y]Ps 81:11 [z]Ecc 10:11; Jer 8:17
58:6 [a]Ps 3:7 [b]S Job 4:10
58:7 [c]S Lev 26:36; S Job 11:16 [d]Ps 11:2; 57:4; 64:3
58:8 [e]Isa 13:7 [f]S Job 3:16
58:9 [g]Ps 118:12; Ecc 7:6 [h]S Job 7:10; S 21:18
58:10 [i]S Job 22:19 [j]Dt 32:35; Ps 7:9; 91:8; Jer 11:20; Ro 12:17-21 [k]Ps 68:23
58:11 [l]S Ge 15:1; S Ps 128:2; Lk 6:23 [m]S Ge 18:25

Psalm 58

For the director of music.
To the tune of
"Do Not Destroy."
Of David.
A *miktam*.[b]

[1]Do you rulers indeed speak
justly?[u]
Do you judge uprightly among
men?
[2]No, in your heart you devise
injustice,[v]
and your hands mete out violence
on the earth.[w]
[3]Even from birth the wicked go
astray;
from the womb they are wayward
and speak lies.
[4]Their venom is like the venom of a
snake,[x]
like that of a cobra that has
stopped its ears,
[5]that will not heed[y] the tune of the
charmer,[z]
however skillful the enchanter
may be.

[6]Break the teeth in their mouths,
O God;[a]
tear out, O LORD, the fangs of the
lions![b]
[7]Let them vanish like water that flows
away;[c]
when they draw the bow, let their
arrows be blunted.[d]
[8]Like a slug melting away as it moves
along,[e]
like a stillborn child,[f] may they
not see the sun.

[9]Before your pots can feel the heat of
the thorns[g] —
whether they be green or dry—the
wicked will be swept
away.[c] [h]
[10]The righteous will be glad[i] when
they are avenged,[j]
when they bathe their feet in the
blood of the wicked.[k]
[11]Then men will say,
"Surely the righteous still are
rewarded;[l]
surely there is a God who judges
the earth."[m]

[b]Title: Probably a literary or musical term
[c]9 The meaning of the Hebrew for this verse is uncertain.

Psalm 59

For the director of music. To the tune of "Do Not Destroy." Of David. A *miktam*.[d] When Saul had sent men to watch David's house[a] in order to kill him.

[1]Deliver me from my enemies,
O God;[b]
protect me from those who rise up
against me.[c]
[2]Deliver me from evildoers[d]
and save me from bloodthirsty
men.[e]

[3]See how they lie in wait for me!
Fierce men conspire[f] against me
for no offense or sin of mine,
O LORD.
[4]I have done no wrong,[g] yet they are
ready to attack me.[h]
Arise to help me; look on my
plight![i]
[5]O LORD God Almighty, the God of
Israel,[j]
rouse yourself[k] to punish all the
nations;[l]
show no mercy to wicked
traitors.[m] *Selah*

[6]They return at evening,
snarling like dogs,[n]
and prowl about the city.
[7]See what they spew from their
mouths[o]—
they spew out swords[p] from their
lips,
and they say, "Who can hear
us?"[q]
[8]But you, O LORD, laugh at them;[r]
you scoff at all those nations.[s]
[9]O my Strength,[t] I watch for you;
you, O God, are my fortress,[u]
[10]my loving God.

God will go before me
and will let me gloat over those
who slander me.
[11]But do not kill them, O Lord our
shield,[e v]
or my people will forget.[w]
In your might make them wander
about,
and bring them down.[x]
[12]For the sins of their mouths,[y]
for the words of their lips,[z]
let them be caught in their pride.[a]
For the curses and lies they utter,
13 consume them in wrath,
consume them till they are no
more.[b]
Then it will be known to the ends of
the earth

59 Title [a]1Sa 19:11 **59:1** [b]Ps 143:9 [c]S Ps 20:1 **59:2** [d]Ps 14:4; 36:12; 53:4; 92:7; 94:16 [e]S Ps 26:9; 139:19; Pr 29:10 **59:3** [f]S Ps 56:6 **59:4** [g]Ps 119:3 [h]Mt 5:11 [i]S Ps 13:3 **59:5** [j]Ps 69:6; 80:4; 84:8 [k]S Ps 44:23 [l]S Ps 9:5; S Isa 10:3 [m]Jer 18:23 **59:6** [n]ver 14; Ps 22:16 **59:7** [o]Ps 94:4; Pr 10:32; 12:23; 15:2,28 [p]S Ps 55:21 [q]S Job 22:13 **59:8** [r]Ps 37:13; Pr 1:26 [s]Ps 2:4 **59:9** [t]S Ps 18:1 [u]Ps 9:9; 18:2; 62:2; 71:3 **59:11** [v]Ps 3:3; 84:9 [w]Dt 4:9; 6:12 [x]Ps 89:10; 106:27; 144:6; Isa 33:3 **59:12** [y]Ps 10:7 [z]Ps 64:8; Pr 10:14; 12:13 [a]Isa 2:12; 5:15; Zep 3:11 **59:13** [b]Ps 104:35

[c]Ps 83:18 **59:15** [d]Job 15:23 **59:16** [e]Ps 108:1 [f]S 1Sa 2:10 [g]Ps 5:3; 88:13 [h]Ps 101:1 [i]S 2Sa 22:3 [j]S Dt 4:30 **59:17** [k]ver 10 **60 Title** [l]2Sa 8:13 **60:1** [m]2Sa 5:20; Ps 44:9 [n]Ps 79:5 [o]Ps 80:3 **60:2** [p]Ps 18:7 [q]S 2Ch 7:14 **60:3** [r]Ps 71:20 [s]Ps 75:8; Isa 29:9; 51:17; 63:6; Jer 25:16; Zec 12:2; Rev 14:10 **60:4** [t]Isa 5:26; 11:10,12; 18:3 **60:5** [u]S Job 40:14 [v]S Dt 33:12 **60:6** [w]S Ge 12:6 [x]S Ge 33:17 **60:7** [y]Jos 13:31 [z]S Ge 41:52 [a]S Nu 34:19 [b]S Ge 49:10

that God rules over Jacob.[c] *Selah*
[14]They return at evening,
snarling like dogs,
and prowl about the city.
[15]They wander about for food[d]
and howl if not satisfied.
[16]But I will sing[e] of your strength,[f]
in the morning[g] I will sing of your
love;[h]
for you are my fortress,[i]
my refuge in times of trouble.[j]
[17]O my Strength, I sing praise to you;
you, O God, are my fortress, my
loving God.[k]

Psalm 60

60:5-12pp — Ps 108:6-13

For the director of music. To the tune of "The Lily of the Covenant." A *miktam*[d] of David. For teaching. When he fought Aram Naharaim[f] and Aram Zobah,[g] and when Joab returned and struck down twelve thousand Edomites in the Valley of Salt.[l]

[1]You have rejected us,[m] O God, and
burst forth upon us;
you have been angry[n]—now
restore us![o]
[2]You have shaken the land[p] and torn
it open;
mend its fractures,[q] for it is
quaking.
[3]You have shown your people
desperate times;[r]
you have given us wine that
makes us stagger.[s]
[4]But for those who fear you, you
have raised a banner[t]
to be unfurled against the bow.
Selah
[5]Save us and help us with your right
hand,[u]
that those you love[v] may be
delivered.
[6]God has spoken from his sanctuary:
"In triumph I will parcel out
Shechem[w]
and measure off the Valley of
Succoth.[x]
[7]Gilead[y] is mine, and Manasseh is
mine;
Ephraim[z] is my helmet,
Judah[a] my scepter.[b]
[8]Moab is my washbasin,
upon Edom I toss my sandal;

[d]Title: Probably a literary or musical term [e]11 Or *sovereign* [f]Title: That is, Arameans of Northwest Mesopotamia [g]Title: That is, Arameans of central Syria

over Philistia I shout in
triumph.[a]"

9Who will bring me to the fortified
city?
Who will lead me to Edom?
10Is it not you, O God, you who have
rejected us
and no longer go out with our
armies?[b]
11Give us aid against the enemy,
for the help of man is worthless.[c]
12With God we will gain the victory,
and he will trample down our
enemies.[d]

Psalm 61

For the director of music. With stringed instruments. Of David.

1Hear my cry, O God;[e]
listen to my prayer.[f]

2From the ends of the earth I call to
you,
I call as my heart grows faint;[g]
lead me to the rock[h] that is higher
than I.
3For you have been my refuge,[i]
a strong tower against the foe.[j]

4I long to dwell[k] in your tent forever
and take refuge in the shelter of
your wings.[l] *Selah*
5For you have heard my vows,[m]
O God;
you have given me the heritage of
those who fear your name.[n]

6Increase the days of the king's life,[o]
his years for many generations.[p]
7May he be enthroned in God's
presence forever;[q]
appoint your love and faithfulness
to protect him.[r]

8Then will I ever sing praise to your
name[s]
and fulfill my vows day after
day.[t]

Psalm 62

For the director of music. For Jeduthun. A psalm of David.

1My soul finds rest[u] in God alone;[v]
my salvation comes from him.
2He alone is my rock[w] and my
salvation;[x]
he is my fortress,[y] I will never be
shaken.[z]

3How long will you assault a man?

60:8 [a]S 2Sa 8:1
60:10 [b]S Jos 7:12
60:11 [c]Ps 146:3; Pr 3:5
60:12 [d]S Job 40:12; Ps 44:5
61:1 [e]Ps 64:1 [f]Ps 4:1; 86:6
61:2 [g]S Ps 6:2 [h]Ps 18:2; 31:2; 94:22
61:3 [i]Ps 9:9; S 46:1; 62:7 [j]Ps 59:9; Pr 18:10
61:4 [k]S Ps 15:1 [l]S Dt 32:11; S Mt 23:37
61:5 [m]S Nu 30:2; Ps 56:12 [n]S Ex 6:3; S Dt 33:9; Ne 1:11; Ps 102:15; Isa 59:19; Mt 6:9
61:6 [o]1Ki 3:14 [p]S Ps 21:4
61:7 [q]S Ps 41:12; Lk 22:69; Eph 1:20; Col 3:1 [r]Ps 40:11
61:8 [s]S Ex 15:1; Ps 7:17; 30:4 [t]S Nu 30:2; S Dt 23:21
62:1 [u]S Ps 5:3 [v]ver 5
62:2 [w]Ps 18:31; 89:26 [x]S Ex 15:2 [y]S Ps 59:9 [z]S Job 29:18

62:3 [a]Isa 30:13
62:4 [b]Ps 28:3; 55:21
62:5 [c]ver 1
62:7 [d]S Ps 61:3
62:8 [e]Ps 37:5; Isa 26:4 [f]1Sa 1:15; Ps 42:4; Mt 26:36-46
62:9 [g]Ps 49:2 [h]S Job 7:7 [i]Isa 40:15
62:10 [j]S Ps 12:5; 1Ti 6:17 [k]Isa 61:8; Eze 22:29; Na 3:1 [l]S Job 31:25; Mt 19:23-24; 1Ti 6:6-10
62:11 [m]S 1Ch 29:11; Rev 19:1
62:12 [n]Ps 86:5; 103:8; 130:7 [o]S Job 21:31; Ps 28:4; S Mt 16:27; Ro 2:6*; 1Co 3:8; Col 3:25
63:1 [p]Ps 42:2; 84:2 [q]Ps 143:6
63:2 [r]S Ps 15:1; 27:4; 68:24 [s]S Ex 16:7
63:3 [t]Ps 36:7; 69:16; 106:45; 109:21
63:4 [u]Ps 104:33; 146:2; Isa 38:20 [v]S Ps 28:2; 1Ti 2:8

Would all of you throw him
down—
this leaning wall,[a] this tottering
fence?
4They fully intend to topple him
from his lofty place;
they take delight in lies.
With their mouths they bless,
but in their hearts they curse.[b]
Selah

5Find rest, O my soul, in God alone;[c]
my hope comes from him.
6He alone is my rock and my
salvation;
he is my fortress, I will not be
shaken.
7My salvation and my honor depend
on God[h];
he is my mighty rock, my refuge.[d]
8Trust in him at all times, O people;[e]
pour out your hearts to him,[f]
for God is our refuge. *Selah*

9Lowborn men[g] are but a breath,[h]
the highborn are but a lie;
if weighed on a balance,[i] they are
nothing;
together they are only a breath.
10Do not trust in extortion[j]
or take pride in stolen goods;[k]
though your riches increase,
do not set your heart on them.[l]

11One thing God has spoken,
two things have I heard:
that you, O God, are strong,[m]
12 and that you, O Lord, are loving.[n]
Surely you will reward each person
according to what he has done.[o]

Psalm 63

A psalm of David. When he was in the Desert of Judah.

1O God, you are my God,
earnestly I seek you;
my soul thirsts for you,[p]
my body longs for you,
in a dry and weary land
where there is no water.[q]

2I have seen you in the sanctuary[r]
and beheld your power and your
glory.[s]
3Because your love is better than
life,[t]
my lips will glorify you.
4I will praise you as long as I live,[u]
and in your name I will lift up my
hands.[v]

h7 Or / *God Most High is my salvation and my honor*

[5]My soul will be satisfied as with the
richest of foods;[a]
with singing lips my mouth will
praise you.
[6]On my bed I remember you;
I think of you through the watches
of the night.[b]
[7]Because you are my help,[c]
I sing in the shadow of your
wings.[d]
[8]My soul clings to you;[e]
your right hand upholds me.[f]
[9]They who seek my life will be
destroyed;[g]
they will go down to the depths of
the earth.[h]
[10]They will be given over to the
sword[i]
and become food for jackals.[j]
[11]But the king will rejoice in God;
all who swear by God's name will
praise him,[k]
while the mouths of liars will be
silenced.[l]

Psalm 64

For the director of music.
A psalm of David.

[1]Hear me, O God, as I voice my
complaint;[m]
protect my life from the threat of
the enemy.[n]
[2]Hide me from the conspiracy[o] of the
wicked,[p]
from that noisy crowd of
evildoers.
[3]They sharpen their tongues like
swords[q]
and aim their words like deadly
arrows.[r]
[4]They shoot from ambush at the
innocent man;[s]
they shoot at him suddenly,
without fear.[t]
[5]They encourage each other in evil
plans,
they talk about hiding their
snares;[u]
they say, "Who will see them[i]?"[v]
[6]They plot injustice and say,
"We have devised a perfect plan!"
Surely the mind and heart of man
are cunning.
[7]But God will shoot them with
arrows;
suddenly they will be struck
down.
[8]He will turn their own tongues
against them[w]
and bring them to ruin;
all who see them will shake their
heads[x] in scorn.[y]
[9]All mankind will fear;[z]
they will proclaim the works of
God
and ponder what he has done.[a]
[10]Let the righteous rejoice in the LORD[b]
and take refuge in him;[c]
let all the upright in heart praise
him![d]

Psalm 65

For the director of music. A psalm of
David. A song.

[1]Praise awaits[j] you, O God, in
Zion;[e]
to you our vows will be fulfilled.[f]
[2]O you who hear prayer,
to you all men will come.[g]
[3]When we were overwhelmed by
sins,[h]
you forgave[k] our transgressions.[i]
[4]Blessed are those you choose[j]
and bring near[k] to live in your
courts!
We are filled with the good things of
your house,[l]
of your holy temple.
[5]You answer us with awesome deeds
of righteousness,[m]
O God our Savior,[n]
the hope of all the ends of the earth[o]
and of the farthest seas,[p]
[6]who formed the mountains[q] by your
power,
having armed yourself with
strength,[r]
[7]who stilled the roaring of the seas,[s]
the roaring of their waves,
and the turmoil of the nations.[t]
[8]Those living far away fear your
wonders;
where morning dawns and
evening fades
you call forth songs of joy.[u]
[9]You care for the land and water it;[v]
you enrich it abundantly.[w]
The streams of God are filled with
water
to provide the people with grain,[x]
for so you have ordained it.[l]
[10]You drench its furrows
and level its ridges;

63:5 aS Ps 36:8; Mt 5:6 **63:6** bS Ps 4:4; Ps 16:7; 119:148; Mt 14:25 **63:7** cPs 27:9; 118:7 dS Ru 2:12 **63:8** eS Nu 32:12; Hos 6:3 fS Ps 41:12 **63:9** gPs 40:14 hPs 55:15; 71:20; 95:4; 139:15 **63:10** iJer 18:21; Eze 35:5; Am 1:11 jLa 5:18 **63:11** kIsa 19:18; 45:23; 65:16 lS Job 5:16; Ro 3:19 **64:1** mPs 142:2 nPs 140:1 **64:2** oS Ex 1:10 pPs 56:6; 59:2 **64:3** qS Ps 55:21; Isa 49:2 rS Ps 7:13; S 58:7 **64:4** sS Job 9:23; Ps 10:8; 11:2 tS Ps 55:19 **64:5** uPs 91:3; 119:110; 140:5; 141:9 vS Job 22:13

64:8 wS Ps 59:12; Pr 18:7 xS 2Ki 19:21; Ps 109:25 yS Dt 28:37 **64:9** zS Ps 40:3 aJer 51:10 **64:10** bS Job 22:19 cPs 11:1; 25:20; 31:2 dPs 32:11 **65:1** ePs 2:6 fS Dt 23:21; Ps 116:18 **65:2** gPs 86:9; Isa 66:23 **65:3** hS Ps 40:12 iPs 79:9; Ro 3:25; Heb 9:14 **65:4** jS Ps 33:12 kS Nu 16:5 lS Ps 36:8 **65:5** mS Dt 4:34; S Ps 45:4; 106:22; Isa 64:3 nPs 18:46; 68:19; 85:4 oS Ps 48:10 pPs 107:23 **65:6** qAm 4:13 rS Ps 18:1; 93:1; Isa 51:9 **65:7** sPs 89:9; 93:3-4; 107:29; S Mt 8:26 tDt 32:41; Ps 2:1; 74:23; 139:20; Isa 17:12-13 **65:8** uPs 100:2; 107:22; 126:2; Isa 24:16; 52:9 **65:9** vS Lev 26:4; Ps 68:9-10 wPs 104:24 xS Ge 27:28; S Dt 32:14; Ps 104:14

i5 Or *us* j1 Or *befits*; the meaning of the Hebrew for this word is uncertain. k3 Or *made atonement for* l9 Or *for that is how you prepare the land*

you soften it with showers[a]
and bless its crops.
11 You crown the year with your bounty,[b]
and your carts overflow with abundance.[c]
12 The grasslands of the desert overflow;[d]
the hills are clothed with gladness.[e]
13 The meadows are covered with flocks[f]
and the valleys are mantled with grain;[g]
they shout for joy and sing.[h]

Psalm 66

For the director of music. A song. A psalm.

1 Shout with joy to God, all the earth![i]
2 Sing the glory of his name;[j]
make his praise glorious![k]
3 Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds![l]
So great is your power
that your enemies cringe[m] before you.
4 All the earth bows down[n] to you;
they sing praise[o] to you,
they sing praise to your name."
Selah
5 Come and see what God has done,
how awesome his works[p] in man's behalf!
6 He turned the sea into dry land,[q]
they passed through[r] the waters on foot—
come, let us rejoice[s] in him.
7 He rules forever[t] by his power,
his eyes watch[u] the nations—
let not the rebellious[v] rise up against him. *Selah*
8 Praise[w] our God, O peoples,
let the sound of his praise be heard;
9 he has preserved our lives[x]
and kept our feet from slipping.[y]
10 For you, O God, tested[z] us;
you refined us like silver.[a]
11 You brought us into prison[b]
and laid burdens[c] on our backs.
12 You let men ride over our heads;[d]
we went through fire and water,
but you brought us to a place of abundance.[e]
13 I will come to your temple with burnt offerings[f]
and fulfill my vows[g] to you—
14 vows my lips promised and my mouth spoke
when I was in trouble.
15 I will sacrifice fat animals to you
and an offering of rams;
I will offer bulls and goats.[h] *Selah*
16 Come and listen,[i] all you who fear God;
let me tell[j] you what he has done for me.
17 I cried out to him with my mouth;
his praise was on my tongue.
18 If I had cherished sin in my heart,
the Lord would not have listened;[k]
19 but God has surely listened
and heard my voice[l] in prayer.
20 Praise be to God,
who has not rejected[m] my prayer
or withheld his love from me!

Psalm 67

For the director of music. With stringed instruments. A psalm. A song.

1 May God be gracious to us and bless us
and make his face shine upon us,[n]
Selah
2 that your ways may be known on earth,
your salvation[o] among all nations.[p]
3 May the peoples praise you, O God;
may all the peoples praise you.[q]
4 May the nations be glad and sing for joy,[r]
for you rule the peoples justly[s]
and guide the nations of the earth.[t] *Selah*
5 May the peoples praise you, O God;
may all the peoples praise you.
6 Then the land will yield its harvest,[u]
and God, our God, will bless us.[v]
7 God will bless us,
and all the ends of the earth[w] will fear him.[x]

Psalm 68

For the director of music. Of David. A psalm. A song.

1 May God arise,[y] may his enemies be scattered;[z]
may his foes flee[a] before him.

65:10 [a]S Dt 32:2; S 2Sa 1:21; S Job 36:28; Ac 14:17 **65:11** [b]S Dt 28:12; Ps 104:28; Jn 10:10 [c]Job 36:28; Ps 147:14; Lk 6:38 **65:12** [d]S Job 28:26; Joel 2:22 [e]Ps 98:8 **65:13** [f]Ps 144:13; Isa 30:23; Zec 8:12 [g]Ps 72:16 [h]Ps 98:8; Isa 14:8; 44:23; 49:13; 55:12 **66:1** [i]Ps 81:1; 84:8; 95:1; 98:4; 100:1 **66:2** [j]Ps 79:9; 86:9 [k]Isa 42:8,12; 43:21 **66:3** [l]S Dt 7:21; S 10:21; Ps 65:5; 106:22; 111:6; 145:6 [m]S 2Sa 22:45 **66:4** [n]Ps 22:27 [o]Ps 7:17; 67:3 **66:5** [p]ver 3; Ps 106:22 **66:6** [q]S Ge 8:1; S Ex 14:22 [r]1Co 10:1 [s]S Lev 23:40 **66:7** [t]S Ex 15:18; Ps 145:13 [u]S Ex 3:16; S Ps 11:4 [v]S Nu 17:10; Ps 112:10; 140:8 **66:8** [w]S Ps 22:23 **66:9** [x]Ps 30:3 [y]S Dt 32:35; S Job 12:5 **66:10** [z]S Ex 15:25 [a]S Job 6:29; S 28:1; S Ps 12:6 **66:11** [b]Ps 142:7; 146:7; Isa 42:7, 22; 61:1 [c]S Ge 3:17; S Ex 1:14; Ps 38:4; Isa 10:27 **66:12** [d]Isa 51:23 [e]Ps 18:19 **66:13** [f]S Ps 51:19 [g]Ps 22:25; 50:14; 116:14; Ecc 5:4; Jnh 2:9 **66:15** [h]S Lev 16:5; Ps 51:19 **66:16** [i]Ps 34:11 [j]Ps 71:15,24 **66:18** [k]S Dt 1:45; S 1Sa 8:18; Jas 4:3 **66:19** [l]S Ps 18:6 **66:20** [m]Ps 22:24 **67:1** [n]Nu 6:24-26 **67:2** [o]Isa 40:5; 52:10; 62:1 [p]Ps 98:2; Isa 62:2; Ac 10:35; Tit 2:11 **67:3** [q]ver 5 **67:4** [r]Ps 100:1-2 [s]S Ps 9:4; 96:10-13 [t]Ps 68:32 **67:6** [u]S Ge 8:22; S Lev 26:4; Ps 85:12; Isa 55:10; Eze 34:27; Zec 8:12 [v]S Ge 12:2 **67:7** [w]S Ps 2:8 [x]Ps 33:8 **68:1** [y]Ps 12:5; 132:8 [z]Ps 18:14; 89:10; 92:9; 144:6 [a]Nu 10:35; Isa 17:13; 21:15; 33:3

2As smoke[a] is blown away by the
wind,
may you blow them away;
as wax melts[b] before the fire,
may the wicked perish[c] before
God.
3But may the righteous be glad
and rejoice[d] before God;
may they be happy and joyful.

4Sing to God, sing praise to his
name,[e]
extol him who rides on the
clouds[m][f] —
his name is the LORD[g] —
and rejoice before him.
5A father to the fatherless,[h] a
defender of widows,[i]
is God in his holy dwelling.[j]
6God sets the lonely[k] in
families,[n][l]
he leads forth the prisoners[m] with
singing;
but the rebellious live in a
sun-scorched land.[n]

7When you went out[o] before your
people, O God,
when you marched through the
wasteland,[p] *Selah*
8the earth shook,[q]
the heavens poured down rain,[r]
before God, the One of Sinai,[s]
before God, the God of Israel.[t]
9You gave abundant showers,[u]
O God;
you refreshed your weary
inheritance.
10Your people settled in it,
and from your bounty,[v] O God,
you provided[w] for the poor.

11The Lord announced the word,
and great was the company[x] of
those who proclaimed it:
12"Kings and armies flee[y] in haste;
in the camps men divide the
plunder.[z]
13Even while you sleep among the
campfires,[o][a]
the wings of ⌞my⌟ dove are
sheathed with silver,
its feathers with shining gold."
14When the Almighty[p] scattered[b] the
kings in the land,
it was like snow fallen on
Zalmon.[c]

15The mountains of Bashan[d] are
majestic mountains;[e]
rugged are the mountains of
Bashan.
16Why gaze in envy, O rugged
mountains,
at the mountain where God
chooses[f] to reign,
where the LORD himself will dwell
forever?[g]
17The chariots[h] of God are tens of
thousands
and thousands of thousands;[i]
the Lord ⌞has come⌟ from Sinai into
his sanctuary.
18When you ascended[j] on high,[k]
you led captives[l] in your train;
you received gifts from men,[m]
even from[q] the rebellious[n]—
that you,[r] O LORD God, might
dwell there.

19Praise be to the Lord, to God our
Savior,[o]
who daily bears our burdens.[p]
Selah

20Our God is a God who saves;[q]
from the Sovereign LORD comes
escape from death.[r]

21Surely God will crush the heads[s] of
his enemies,
the hairy crowns of those who go
on in their sins.
22The Lord says, "I will bring them
from Bashan;
I will bring them from the depths
of the sea,[t]
23that you may plunge your feet in the
blood of your foes,[u]
while the tongues of your dogs[v]
have their share."

24Your procession has come into view,
O God,
the procession of my God and
King into the sanctuary.[w]
25In front are the singers,[x] after them
the musicians;[y]
with them are the maidens playing
tambourines.[z]
26Praise God in the great
congregation;[a]
praise the LORD in the assembly of
Israel.[b]
27There is the little tribe[c] of
Benjamin,[d] leading them,
there the great throng of Judah's
princes,
and there the princes of Zebulun
and of Naphtali.[e]

28Summon your power,[f] O God[s];

68:2 [a]S Ps 37:20 [b]S Ps 22:14 [c]S Nu 10:35; Ps 9:3; 80:16 **68:3** [d]Ps 64:10; 97:12 **68:4** [e]S 2Sa 22:50; Ps 7:17; S 30:4; 66:2; 96:2; 100:4; 135:3 [f]ver 33; S Ex 20:21; S Dt 33:26 [g]S Ex 6:3; Ps 83:18 **68:5** [h]Ps 10:14 [i]S Ex 22:22; S Dt 10:18 [j]S Dt 26:15; Jer 25:30 **68:6** [k]Ps 25:16 [l]Ps 113:9 [m]Ps 79:11; 102:20; 146:7; Isa 61:1; Lk 4:18 [n]Isa 35:7; 49:10; 58:11 **68:7** [o]S Ex 13:21 [p]Ps 78:40; 106:14 **68:8** [q]S 2Sa 22:8 [r]S Jdg 5:4; 2Sa 21:10; Ecc 11:3 [s]S Dt 33:2 [t]S Jdg 5:5 **68:9** [u]S Dt 32:2; S Job 36:28; S Eze 34:26 **68:10** [v]S Dt 28:12 [w]Ps 65:9 **68:11** [x]Lk 2:13 **68:12** [y]Jos 10:16 [z]S Jdg 5:30 **68:13** [a]S Ge 49:14 **68:14** [b]2Sa 22:15 [c]Jdg 9:48 **68:15** [d]ver 22; Nu 21:33; Jer 22:20 [e]S Ps 36:6 **68:16** [f]Dt 12:5; S Ps 2:6; 132:13 [g]Ps 132:14 **68:17** [h]S 2Ki 2:11; Isa 66:15; Hab 3:8 [i]Da 7:10 **68:18** [j]S Ps 47:5 [k]Ps 7:7 [l]Jdg 5:12 [m]Eph 4:8* [n]S Nu 17:10 **68:19** [o]S Ps 65:5 [p]Ps 81:6 **68:20** [q]S 1Sa 10:19 [r]Ps 56:13; Jer 45:5; Eze 6:8 **68:21** [s]Ps 74:14; 110:5; Hab 3:13 **68:22** [t]S Job 36:30; Mt 18:6 **68:23** [u]Ps 58:10 [v]S 1Ki 21:19; S 2Ki 9:36 **68:24** [w]S Ps 63:2 **68:25** [x]S 1Ch 15:16 [y]S 1Ch 6:31; S 2Ch 5:12; Rev 18:22 [z]S Ge 31:27; S Isa 5:12 **68:26** [a]S Ps 22:22; Heb 2:12 [b]S Lev 19:2 **68:27** [c]S 1Sa 9:21 [d]S Nu 34:21 [e]S Jdg 5:18 **68:28** [f]S Ex 9:16

[m]4 Or */ prepare the way for him who rides through the deserts* [n]6 Or *the desolate in a homeland* [o]13 Or *saddlebags* [p]14 Hebrew *Shaddai* [q]18 Or *gifts for men, / even* [r]18 Or *they* [s]28 Many Hebrew manuscripts, Septuagint and Syriac; most Hebrew manuscripts *Your God has summoned power for you*

show us your strength,[a] O God,
as you have done[b] before.
29 Because of your temple at Jerusalem
kings will bring you gifts.[c]
30 Rebuke the beast[d] among the reeds,[e]
the herd of bulls[f] among the calves of the nations.
Humbled, may it bring bars of silver.
Scatter the nations[g] who delight in war.[h]
31 Envoys will come from Egypt;[i]
Cush[t][j] will submit herself to God.

32 Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth,[k]
sing praise[l] to the Lord, *Selah*
33 to him who rides[m] the ancient skies above,
who thunders[n] with mighty voice.[o]
34 Proclaim the power[p] of God,
whose majesty[q] is over Israel,
whose power is in the skies.
35 You are awesome,[r] O God, in your sanctuary;[s]
the God of Israel gives power and strength[t] to his people.[u]

Praise be to God![v]

Psalm 69

For the director of music. To ⌊the tune of⌋ "Lilies." Of David.

1 Save me, O God,
for the waters[w] have come up to my neck.[x]
2 I sink in the miry depths,[y]
where there is no foothold.
I have come into the deep waters;
the floods engulf me.
3 I am worn out calling for help;[z]
my throat is parched.
My eyes fail,[a]
looking for my God.
4 Those who hate me[b] without reason[c]
outnumber the hairs of my head;
many are my enemies without cause,[d]
those who seek to destroy me.[e]
I am forced to restore
what I did not steal.

5 You know my folly,[f] O God;
my guilt is not hidden from you.[g]

6 May those who hope in you
not be disgraced because of me,
O Lord, the LORD Almighty;
may those who seek you
not be put to shame because of me,
O God of Israel.
7 For I endure scorn[h] for your sake,[i]
and shame covers my face.[j]
8 I am a stranger to my brothers,
an alien to my own mother's sons;[k]
9 for zeal for your house consumes me,[l]
and the insults of those who insult you fall on me.[m]
10 When I weep and fast,[n]
I must endure scorn;
11 when I put on sackcloth,[o]
people make sport of me.
12 Those who sit at the gate[p] mock me,
and I am the song of the drunkards.[q]

13 But I pray to you, O LORD,
in the time of your favor;[r]
in your great love,[s] O God,
answer me with your sure salvation.
14 Rescue me from the mire,
do not let me sink;
deliver me from those who hate me,
from the deep waters.[t]
15 Do not let the floodwaters[u] engulf me
or the depths swallow me up[v]
or the pit close its mouth over me.[w]
16 Answer me, O LORD, out of the goodness of your love;[x]
in your great mercy turn to me.
17 Do not hide your face[y] from your servant;
answer me quickly,[z] for I am in trouble.[a]
18 Come near and rescue me;
redeem[b] me because of my foes.

19 You know how I am scorned,[c]
disgraced and shamed;
all my enemies are before you.
20 Scorn has broken my heart
and has left me helpless;
I looked for sympathy, but there was none,
for comforters,[d] but I found none.[e]
21 They put gall in my food
and gave me vinegar[f] for my thirst.[g]

22 May the table set before them
become a snare;

68:28 [a]Ps 29:11 [b]Isa 26:12; 29:23; 45:11; 60:21; 64:8 **68:29** [c]S 2Ch 9:24; S 32:23 **68:30** [d]Isa 27:1; 51:9; Eze 29:3 [e]S Job 40:21 [f]Ps 22:12; Isa 34:7; Jer 50:27 [g]Ps 18:14; 89:10 [h]Ps 120:7; 140:2 **68:31** [i]Isa 19:19; 43:3; 45:14 [j]Isa 11:11; 18:1; Zep 3:10 **68:32** [k]S Ps 46:6; 67:4 [l]Ps 7:17 **68:33** [m]S Dt 33:26 [n]S Ex 9:23; S Ps 29:3 [o]Ps 29:4; Isa 30:30; 33:3; 66:6 **68:34** [p]ver 28 [q]Ps 45:3 **68:35** [r]S Dt 7:21 [s]S Ge 28:17 [t]Ps 18:1; Isa 40:29; 41:10; 50:2 [u]S Ps 29:11 [v]Ps 28:6; 66:20; 2Co 1:3 **69:1** [w]S Ps 42:7 [x]Ps 32:6; Jnh 2:5 **69:2** [y]S Job 30:19 **69:3** [z]Ps 6:6 [a]Ps 119:82 **69:4** [b]S Ps 25:19 [c]Jn 15:25* [d]S Ps 35:19; 38:19 [e]Ps 40:14; 119:95; Isa 32:7 **69:5** [f]Ps 38:5 [g]S Ps 44:21 **69:7** [h]S Ps 39:8 [i]Jer 15:15 [j]Ps 44:15 **69:8** [k]Job 19:13-15; Ps 31:11; 38:11; Isa 53:3; Jn 7:5 **69:9** [l]Jn 2:17* [m]Ps 89:50-51; Ro 15:3 **69:10** [n]S Ps 35:13 **69:11** [o]S 2Sa 3:31; S Ps 35:13 **69:12** [p]S Ge 18:1; S 23:10 [q]Job 30:9 **69:13** [r]Isa 49:8; 2Co 6:2 [s]S Ps 17:7; 51:1 **69:14** [t]ver 2; Ps 144:7 **69:15** [u]Ps 124:4-5 [v]Nu 16:33 [w]Ps 28:1 **69:16** [x]S Ps 63:3 **69:17** [y]S Ps 22:24 [z]Ps 143:7 [a]S Ps 50:15; 66:14 **69:18** [b]Ps 49:15 **69:19** [c]S Ps 22:6 **69:20** [d]Job 16:2 [e]Ps 142:4; Isa 63:5 **69:21** [f]S Nu 6:3; Mt 27:48; Mk 15:36; Lk 23:36 [g]Mt 27:34; Mk 15:23; Jn 19:28-30

[t]31 That is, the upper Nile region

may it become retribution and[u] a
trap.[a]
23May their eyes be darkened so they
cannot see,
and their backs be bent forever.[b]
24Pour out your wrath[c] on them;
let your fierce anger overtake
them.
25May their place be deserted;[d]
let there be no one to dwell in
their tents.[e]
26For they persecute those you wound
and talk about the pain of those
you hurt.[f]
27Charge them with crime upon
crime;[g]
do not let them share in your
salvation.[h]
28May they be blotted out of the book
of life[i]
and not be listed with the
righteous.[j]

29I am in pain and distress;
may your salvation, O God,
protect me.[k]

30I will praise God's name in song[l]
and glorify him[m] with
thanksgiving.
31This will please the LORD more than
an ox,
more than a bull with its horns
and hoofs.[n]
32The poor will see and be glad[o]—
you who seek God, may your
hearts live![p]
33The LORD hears the needy[q]
and does not despise his captive
people.

34Let heaven and earth praise him,
the seas and all that move in
them,[r]
35for God will save Zion[s]
and rebuild the cities of Judah.[t]
Then people will settle there and
possess it;
36 the children of his servants will
inherit it,[u]
and those who love his name will
dwell there.[v]

Psalm 70

70:1-5pp — Ps 40:13-17

For the director of music. Of David.
A petition.

1Hasten, O God, to save me;
O LORD, come quickly to help me.[w]
2May those who seek my life[x]
be put to shame and confusion;
may all who desire my ruin
be turned back in disgrace.[y]
3May those who say to me, "Aha!
Aha!"[z]
turn back because of their shame.
4But may all who seek you[a]
rejoice and be glad[b] in you;
may those who love your salvation
always say,
"Let God be exalted!"[c]

5Yet I am poor and needy;[d]
come quickly to me,[e] O God.
You are my help[f] and my
deliverer;[g]
O LORD, do not delay.[h]

Psalm 71

71:1-3pp — Ps 31:1-4

1In you, O LORD, I have taken
refuge;[i]
let me never be put to shame.[j]
2Rescue me and deliver me in your
righteousness;
turn your ear[k] to me and save me.
3Be my rock of refuge,
to which I can always go;
give the command to save me,
for you are my rock and my
fortress.[l]
4Deliver[m] me, O my God, from the
hand of the wicked,[n]
from the grasp of evil and cruel
men.[o]

5For you have been my hope,[p]
O Sovereign LORD,
my confidence[q] since my youth.
6From birth[r] I have relied on you;
you brought me forth from my
mother's womb.[s]
I will ever praise[t] you.
7I have become like a portent[u] to
many,
but you are my strong refuge.[v]
8My mouth[w] is filled with your
praise,
declaring your splendor[x] all day
long.

9Do not cast[y] me away when I am
old;[z]
do not forsake[a] me when my
strength is gone.
10For my enemies[b] speak against me;
those who wait to kill[c] me
conspire[d] together.
11They say, "God has forsaken[e] him;
pursue him and seize him,
for no one will rescue[f] him."
12Be not far[g] from me, O God;

69:22 [a]S 1Sa 28:9; S Job 18:10 **69:23** [b]Ro 11:9-10* **69:24** [c]Ps 79:6; Jer 10:25 **69:25** [d]S Lev 26:43; Mt 23:38 [e]Ac 1:20* **69:26** [f]S Job 19:22; Zec 1:15 **69:27** [g]Ne 4:5 [h]Ps 109:14 **69:28** [i]Ex 32:32-33; S Lk 10:20 [j]Eze 13:9 **69:29** [k]S Ps 20:1 **69:30** [l]Ps 28:7 [m]Ps 34:3 **69:31** [n]Ps 50:9-13; 51:16 **69:32** [o]S Ps 34:2 [p]Ps 22:26 **69:33** [q]Ps 12:5 **69:34** [r]Ps 96:11; 98:7; Isa 44:23 **69:35** [s]Ob 1:17 [t]S Ezr 9:9; S Ps 51:18 **69:36** [u]Ps 25:13 [v]S Ps 37:29 **70:1** [w]Ps 22:19; 71:12 **70:2** [x]Ps 35:4 [y]Ps 6:10; 35:26; 71:13; 109:29; 129:5 **70:3** [z]S Ps 35:21 **70:4** [a]Ps 9:10 [b]Ps 31:6-7; 32:11; 118:24 [c]Ps 35:27 **70:5** [d]Ps 86:1; 109:22 [e]Ps 141:1 [f]Ps 30:10; 33:20 [g]Ps 18:2 [h]Ps 119:60 **71:1** [i]S Dt 23:15; Ru 2:12 [j]S Ps 22:5 **71:2** [k]S 2Ki 19:16 **71:3** [l]Ps 18:2 **71:4** [m]S 2Ki 19:19 [n]Ps 140:4 [o]S Ge 48:16 **71:5** [p]S Ps 9:18; S 25:5 [q]S Job 4:6; Jer 17:7 **71:6** [r]S Ps 22:10 [s]S Job 3:16; S Ps 22:9 [t]Ps 9:1; 34:1; 52:9; 119:164; 145:2 **71:7** [u]S Dt 28:46; Isa 8:18; 1Co 4:9 [v]S 2Sa 22:3; Ps 61:3 **71:8** [w]ver 15; Ps 51:15; 63:5 [x]Ps 96:6; 104:1 **71:9** [y]S Ps 51:11 [z]Ps 92:14; Isa 46:4 [a]S Dt 4:31; S 31:6 **71:10** [b]Ps 3:7 [c]S Ps 10:8; 59:3; Pr 1:18 [d]S Ex 1:10; S Ps 31:13; S Mt 12:14 **71:11** [e]S Ps 9:10; Isa 40:27; 54:7; La 5:20; Mt 27:46 [f]S Ps 7:2 **71:12** [g]S Ps 38:21

[u]22 Or *snare / and their fellowship become*

come quickly, O my God, to
help[z] me.
13May my accusers[a] perish in shame;[b]
may those who want to harm me
be covered with scorn and
disgrace.[c]

14But as for me, I will always have
hope;[d]
I will praise you more and more.
15My mouth will tell[e] of your
righteousness,[f]
of your salvation all day long,
though I know not its measure.
16I will come and proclaim your
mighty acts,[g] O Sovereign
LORD;
I will proclaim your righteousness,
yours alone.
17Since my youth, O God, you have
taught[h] me,
and to this day I declare your
marvelous deeds.[i]
18Even when I am old and gray,[j]
do not forsake me, O God,
till I declare your power[k] to the next
generation,
your might to all who are to
come.[l]

19Your righteousness reaches to the
skies,[m] O God,
you who have done great things.[n]
Who, O God, is like you?[o]
20Though you have made me see
troubles,[p] many and bitter,
you will restore[q] my life again;
from the depths of the earth[r]
you will again bring me up.
21You will increase my honor[s]
and comfort[t] me once again.

22I will praise you with the harp[u]
for your faithfulness, O my God;
I will sing praise to you with the
lyre,[v]
O Holy One of Israel.[w]
23My lips will shout for joy[x]
when I sing praise to you—
I, whom you have redeemed.[y]
24My tongue will tell of your righteous
acts
all day long,[z]
for those who wanted to harm me[a]
have been put to shame and
confusion.[b]

Psalm 72

Of Solomon.

1Endow the king with your justice,[c]
O God,

71:12 [z]Ps 22:19; 38:22
71:13 [a]Jer 18:19 [b]S Job 8:22; Ps 25:3 [c]S Ps 70:2
71:14 [d]Ps 25:3; 42:5; 130:7; 131:3
71:15 [e]S ver 8; S Ps 66:16 [f]S Ps 51:14
71:16 [g]Ps 9:1; 77:12; 106:2; 118:15; 145:4
71:17 [h]S Dt 4:5; S Jer 7:13 [i]S Job 5:9; Ps 26:7; 86:10; 96:3
71:18 [j]Isa 46:4 [k]S Ex 9:16 [l]Job 8:8; Ps 22:30,31; 78:4; 145:4; Joel 1:3
71:19 [m]S Ps 36:5 [n]Ps 126:2; Lk 1:49 [o]Ps 35:10; 77:13; 89:8
71:20 [p]Ps 25:17 [q]Ps 80:3,19; 85:4; Hos 6:2 [r]S Ps 63:9
71:21 [s]Ps 18:35 [t]Ps 23:4; 86:17; Isa 12:1; 40:1-2; 49:13; 54:10
71:22 [u]Ps 33:2 [v]S Job 21:12; Ps 92:3; 144:9 [w]S 2Ki 19:22
71:23 [x]Ps 20:5 [y]S Ex 15:13
71:24 [z]S Ps 35:28 [a]ver 13 [b]S Est 9:2
72:1 [c]S Dt 1:16; S Ps 9:8
72:2 [d]Isa 9:7; 11:4-5; 16:5; 32:1; 59:17; 63:1; Jer 23:5; 33:15
72:4 [e]S Ps 9:12; 76:9; Isa 49:13 [f]ver 13; Isa 11:4; 29:19; 32:7 [g]S Ps 27:11
72:5 [h]1Sa 13:13 [i]Ps 33:11
72:6 [j]S Dt 32:2
72:7 [k]Ps 92:12; Pr 14:11
72:8 [l]S Ex 23:31; S 1Ki 4:21 [m]Zec 9:10
72:10 [n]S Ge 10:4 [o]S Est 10:1 [p]S Ge 10:7 [q]S 1Ki 9:16; S 2Ch 9:24
72:11 [r]S Ge 27:29 [s]S Ezr 1:2
72:13 [t]Isa 60:10; Joel 2:18; Lk 10:33
72:14 [u]Ps 69:18; Eze 13:23; 34:10 [v]1Sa 26:21
72:15 [w]S Ge 10:7 [x]S Ps 35:28
72:16 [y]S Ge 27:28; Ps 4:7 [z]Isa 4:2; 27:6; Eze 34:27 [a]Ps 92:12; 104:16

the royal son with your
righteousness.
2He will[v] judge your people in
righteousness,[d]
your afflicted ones with justice.
3The mountains will bring prosperity
to the people,
the hills the fruit of righteousness.
4He will defend the afflicted[e] among
the people
and save the children of the
needy;[f]
he will crush the oppressor.[g]

5He will endure[w][h] as long as the sun,
as long as the moon, through all
generations.[i]
6He will be like rain[j] falling on a
mown field,
like showers watering the earth.
7In his days the righteous will
flourish;[k]
prosperity will abound till the
moon is no more.

8He will rule from sea to sea
and from the River[x][l] to the ends
of the earth.[y][m]
9The desert tribes will bow before him
and his enemies will lick the dust.
10The kings of Tarshish[n] and of
distant shores[o]
will bring tribute to him;
the kings of Sheba[p] and Seba
will present him gifts.[q]
11All kings will bow down[r] to him
and all nations will serve[s] him.

12For he will deliver the needy who
cry out,
the afflicted who have no one to
help.
13He will take pity[t] on the weak and
the needy
and save the needy from death.
14He will rescue[u] them from
oppression and violence,
for precious[v] is their blood in his
sight.

15Long may he live!
May gold from Sheba[w] be given
him.
May people ever pray for him
and bless him all day long.[x]
16Let grain[y] abound throughout the
land;
on the tops of the hills may it
sway.
Let its fruit[z] flourish like Lebanon;[a]

[v]2 Or *May he;* similarly in verses 3-11 and 17 [w]5 Septuagint; Hebrew *You will be feared* [x]8 That is, the Euphrates [y]8 *Or the end of the land*

let it thrive like the grass of the
field.[a]
17May his name endure forever;[b]
may it continue as long as the
sun.[c]
All nations will be blessed through
him,
and they will call him blessed.[d]

18Praise be to the LORD God, the God
of Israel,[e]
who alone does marvelous
deeds.[f]
19Praise be to his glorious name[g]
forever;
may the whole earth be filled with
his glory.[h]
Amen and Amen.[i]

20This concludes the prayers of David
son of Jesse.[j]

BOOK III

Psalms 73-89

Psalm 73

A psalm of Asaph.

1Surely God is good to Israel,
to those who are pure in heart.[k]
2But as for me, my feet had almost
slipped;[l]
I had nearly lost my foothold.[m]
3For I envied[n] the arrogant
when I saw the prosperity of the
wicked.[o]

4They have no struggles;
their bodies are healthy and
strong.[z]
5They are free[p] from the burdens
common to man;
they are not plagued by human
ills.
6Therefore pride[q] is their necklace;[r]
they clothe themselves with
violence.[s]
7From their callous hearts[t] comes
iniquity[a];
the evil conceits of their minds
know no limits.
8They scoff, and speak with malice;[u]
in their arrogance[v] they threaten
oppression.[w]
9Their mouths lay claim to heaven,
and their tongues take possession
of the earth.
10Therefore their people turn to them

72:16 [a]S Nu 22:4; Isa 44:4; 58:11; 66:14
72:17 [b]S Ex 3:15 [c]Ps 89:36 [d]S Ge 12:3; Lk 1:48
72:18 [e]1Ch 29:10; Ps 41:13; 106:48; Lk 1:68 [f]S Job 5:9
72:19 [g]S 2Sa 7:26 [h]Nu 14:21 [i]S Ps 41:13
72:20 [j]S Ru 4:17
73:1 [k]S Ps 24:4; Mt 5:8
73:2 [l]S Dt 32:35 [m]Ps 69:2; Eph 4:27
73:3 [n]Pr 3:31; 23:17; 24:1-2 [o]S Job 9:24; S 21:7; Jer 12:1; Mal 3:15
73:5 [p]ver 12; Eze 23:42
73:6 [q]S Lev 26:19 [r]S Ge 41:42; SS 4:9; Eze 16:11 [s]S Ge 6:11; S Pr 4:17
73:7 [t]S Ps 17:10
73:8 [u]Ps 41:5; Eze 25:15; Col 3:8 [v]Ps 17:10 [w]S Ps 10:7; S 12:5
73:12 [x]S ver 5 [y]S Ps 49:6
73:13 [z]S Job 9:29-31; S 21:15 [a]S Ge 44:16
73:14 [b]ver 5
73:16 [c]Ecc 8:17
73:17 [d]Ex 15:17; Ps 15:1 [e]S Job 8:13; Php 3:19
73:18 [f]S Dt 32:35; Ps 35:6 [g]S Ps 17:13
73:19 [h]Dt 28:20; Pr 24:22; Isa 47:11 [i]S Ge 19:15
73:20 [j]S Job 20:8 [k]Ps 78:65; Isa 29:8 [l]Pr 12:11; 28:19
73:22 [m]Ps 49:10; 92:6; 94:8 [n]Ps 49:12, 20; Ecc 3:18; 9:12
73:23 [o]S Ge 48:13
73:24 [p]S Ps 48:14 [q]S 1Ki 22:5
73:25 [r]Ps 16:2 [s]Php 3:8
73:26 [t]Ps 84:2 [u]S Ps 31:10; 40:12 [v]Ps 18:1 [w]S Dt 32:9
73:27 [x]S Ps 34:21 [y]S Lev 6:2; Jer 5:11; Hos 4:12; 9:1

and drink up waters in
abundance.[b]
11They say, "How can God know?
Does the Most High have
knowledge?"
12This is what the wicked are like—
always carefree,[x] they increase in
wealth.[y]
13Surely in vain[z] have I kept my heart
pure;
in vain have I washed my hands
in innocence.[a]
14All day long I have been plagued;[b]
I have been punished every
morning.
15If I had said, "I will speak thus,"
I would have betrayed your
children.
16When I tried to understand[c] all this,
it was oppressive to me
17till I entered the sanctuary[d] of God;
then I understood their final
destiny.[e]
18Surely you place them on slippery
ground;[f]
you cast them down to ruin.[g]
19How suddenly[h] are they destroyed,
completely swept away[i] by
terrors!
20As a dream[j] when one awakes,[k]
so when you arise, O Lord,
you will despise them as
fantasies.[l]

21When my heart was grieved
and my spirit embittered,
22I was senseless[m] and ignorant;
I was a brute beast[n] before you.
23Yet I am always with you;
you hold me by my right hand.[o]
24You guide[p] me with your counsel,[q]
and afterward you will take me
into glory.
25Whom have I in heaven but you?[r]
And earth has nothing I desire
besides you.[s]
26My flesh and my heart[t] may fail,[u]
but God is the strength[v] of my
heart
and my portion[w] forever.
27Those who are far from you will
perish;[x]
you destroy all who are
unfaithful[y] to you.

[z]4 With a different word division of the Hebrew; Masoretic Text *struggles at their death; / their bodies are healthy* [a]7 Syriac (see also Septuagint); Hebrew *Their eyes bulge with fat* [b]10 The meaning of the Hebrew for this verse is uncertain.

28But as for me, it is good to be near
God.[a]
I have made the Sovereign LORD
my refuge;[b]
I will tell of all your deeds.[c]

Psalm 74

A *maskil*[c] of Asaph.

1Why have you rejected[d] us forever,[e]
O God?
Why does your anger smolder
against the sheep of your
pasture?[f]
2Remember the people you
purchased[g] of old,[h]
the tribe of your inheritance,[i]
whom you redeemed[j] —
Mount Zion,[k] where you dwelt.[l]
3Turn your steps toward these
everlasting ruins,[m]
all this destruction the enemy has
brought on the sanctuary.

4Your foes roared[n] in the place where
you met with us;
they set up their standards[o] as
signs.
5They behaved like men wielding
axes
to cut through a thicket of
trees.[p]
6They smashed all the carved[q]
paneling
with their axes and hatchets.
7They burned your sanctuary to the
ground;
they defiled[r] the dwelling place[s]
of your Name.[t]
8They said in their hearts, "We will
crush[u] them completely!"
They burned[v] every place where
God was worshiped in the
land.
9We are given no miraculous signs;[w]
no prophets[x] are left,
and none of us knows how long
this will be.
10How long[y] will the enemy mock[z]
you, O God?
Will the foe revile[a] your name
forever?
11Why do you hold back your hand,
your right hand?[b]
Take it from the folds of your
garment[c] and destroy them!

12But you, O God, are my king[d] from
of old;
you bring salvation[e] upon the
earth.
13It was you who split open the sea[f]
by your power;
you broke the heads of the
monsters[g] in the waters.
14It was you who crushed the heads of
Leviathan[h]
and gave him as food to the
creatures of the desert.[i]
15It was you who opened up springs[j]
and streams;
you dried up[k] the ever flowing
rivers.
16The day is yours, and yours also the
night;
you established the sun and
moon.[l]
17It was you who set all the
boundaries[m] of the earth;
you made both summer and
winter.[n]

18Remember how the enemy has
mocked you, O LORD,
how foolish people[o] have reviled
your name.
19Do not hand over the life of your
dove[p] to wild beasts;
do not forget the lives of your
afflicted[q] people forever.
20Have regard for your covenant,[r]
because haunts of violence fill the
dark places[s] of the land.
21Do not let the oppressed[t] retreat in
disgrace;
may the poor and needy[u] praise
your name.
22Rise up,[v] O God, and defend your
cause;
remember how fools[w] mock you
all day long.
23Do not ignore the clamor[x] of your
adversaries,[y]
the uproar[z] of your enemies,[a]
which rises continually.

Psalm 75

For the director of music. ⌊To the tune of⌋ "Do Not Destroy." A psalm of Asaph. A song.

1We give thanks to you, O God,
we give thanks, for your Name is
near;[b]
men tell of your wonderful
deeds.[c]
2You say, "I choose the appointed
time;[d]
it is I who judge uprightly.[e]

73:28 [a]Zep 3:2; Heb 10:22; Jas 4:8 [b]Ps 9:9 [c]Ps 26:7; 40:5 **74:1** [d]S Ps 43:2 [e]S Ps 44:23 [f]Ps 79:13; 95:7; 100:3 **74:2** [g]S Ex 15:16; S 1Co 6:20 [h]S Dt 32:7 [i]S Ex 34:9 [j]S Ex 15:13; S Isa 48:20 [k]Ps 2:6 [l]Ps 43:3; 68:16; Isa 46:13; Joel 3:17,21; Ob 1:17 **74:3** [m]Isa 44:26; 52:9 **74:4** [n]La 2:7 [o]S Nu 2:2; S Jer 4:6 **74:5** [p]Jer 46:22 **74:6** [q]S 1Ki 6:18 **74:7** [r]S Lev 20:3; Ac 21:28 [s]S Lev 15:31 [t]Ps 75:1 **74:8** [u]Ps 94:5 [v]2Ki 25:9; 2Ch 36:19; Jer 21:10; 34:22; 52:13 **74:9** [w]S Ex 4:17; S 10:1 [x]S 1Sa 3:1 **74:10** [y]Ps 6:3; 79:5; 80:4 [z]ver 22 [a]S Ps 44:16 **74:11** [b]S Ex 15:6 [c]Ne 5:13; Eze 5:3 **74:12** [d]Ps 2:6; S 24:7; 68:24 [e]Ps 27:1 **74:13** [f]S Ex 14:21 [g]Isa 27:1; 51:9; Eze 29:3; 32:2 **74:14** [h]S Job 3:8 [i]Isa 13:21; 23:13; 34:14; Jer 50:39 **74:15** [j]S Ex 17:6; S Nu 20:11 [k]S Ex 14:29; S Jos 2:10 **74:16** [l]S Ge 1:16; Ps 136:7-9 **74:17** [m]Dt 32:8; Ac 17:26 [n]S Ge 8:22 **74:18** [o]Dt 32:6 **74:19** [p]S Ge 8:8; S Isa 59:11 [q]S Ps 9:18 **74:20** [r]S Ge 6:18 [s]Job 34:22 **74:21** [t]Ps 9:9; 10:18; 103:6; Isa 58:10 [u]S Ps 35:10 **74:22** [v]Ps 17:13 [w]S Ps 53:1 **74:23** [x]Isa 31:4 [y]S Ps 65:7 [z]S Ps 46:6 [a]S Nu 25:17 **75:1** [b]Ps 145:18 [c]S Jos 3:5; Ps 44:1; S 71:16; 77:12; 105:2; 107:8,15; 145:5, 12 **75:2** [d]S Ex 13:10 [e]S Ps 7:11

[c]Title: Probably a literary or musical term

3When the earth and all its people
quake,[a]
it is I who hold its pillars[b] firm.
Selah
4To the arrogant[c] I say, 'Boast no
more,'[d]
and to the wicked, 'Do not lift up
your horns.[e]
5Do not lift your horns against
heaven;
do not speak with outstretched
neck.[f]' "
6No one from the east or the west
or from the desert can exalt a man.
7But it is God who judges:[g]
He brings one down, he exalts
another.[h]
8In the hand of the LORD is a cup
full of foaming wine mixed[i] with
spices;
he pours it out, and all the wicked of
the earth
drink it down to its very dregs.[j]
9As for me, I will declare[k] this
forever;
I will sing[l] praise to the God of
Jacob.[m]
10I will cut off the horns of all the
wicked,
but the horns of the righteous will
be lifted up.[n]

Psalm 76

For the director of music. With stringed instruments. A psalm of Asaph. A song.

1In Judah God is known;
his name is great[o] in Israel.
2His tent is in Salem,[p]
his dwelling place in Zion.[q]
3There he broke the flashing arrows,[r]
the shields and the swords, the
weapons of war.[s] *Selah*
4You are resplendent with light,[t]
more majestic than mountains rich
with game.
5Valiant men[u] lie plundered,
they sleep their last sleep;[v]
not one of the warriors
can lift his hands.
6At your rebuke,[w] O God of Jacob,
both horse and chariot[x] lie still.
7You alone are to be feared.[y]
Who can stand[z] before you when
you are angry?[a]
8From heaven you pronounced
judgment,
and the land feared[b] and was
quiet—
9when you, O God, rose up to
judge,[c]
to save all the afflicted[d] of the
land. *Selah*
10Surely your wrath against men
brings you praise,[e]
and the survivors of your wrath
are restrained.[d]
11Make vows to the LORD your God
and fulfill them;[f]
let all the neighboring lands
bring gifts[g] to the One to be
feared.
12He breaks the spirit of rulers;
he is feared by the kings of the
earth.

Psalm 77

For the director of music. For Jeduthun. Of Asaph. A psalm.

1I cried out to God[h] for help;
I cried out to God to hear me.
2When I was in distress,[i] I sought
the Lord;
at night[j] I stretched out untiring
hands[k]
and my soul refused to be
comforted.[l]
3I remembered[m] you, O God, and I
groaned;[n]
I mused, and my spirit grew
faint.[o] *Selah*
4You kept my eyes from closing;
I was too troubled to speak.[p]
5I thought about the former days,[q]
the years of long ago;
6I remembered my songs in the night.
My heart mused and my spirit
inquired:
7"Will the Lord reject forever?[r]
Will he never show his favor[s]
again?
8Has his unfailing love[t] vanished
forever?
Has his promise[u] failed for all
time?
9Has God forgotten to be merciful?[v]
Has he in anger withheld his
compassion?[w]" *Selah*
10Then I thought, "To this I will
appeal:
the years of the right hand[x] of the
Most High."
11I will remember the deeds of the
LORD;

75:3 [a]Isa 24:19 [b]1Sa 2:8; S 2Sa 22:8 **75:4** [c]S Ps 5:5 [d]S 1Sa 2:3 [e]Zec 1:21 **75:5** [f]S Job 15:25 **75:7** [g]S Ge 16:5; Ps 50:6; 58:11; Rev 18:8 [h]1Sa 2:7; S Job 5:11; Ps 147:6; Eze 21:26; Da 2:21 **75:8** [i]Pr 23:30 [j]Isa 51:17; Jer 25:15; Zec 12:2 **75:9** [k]Ps 40:10 [l]Ps 108:1 [m]S Ge 24:12; Ps 76:6 **75:10** [n]Ps 89:17; 92:10; 112:9; 148:14 **76:1** [o]Ps 99:3 **76:2** [p]S Ge 14:18; Heb 7:1 [q]S 2Sa 5:7; Ps 2:6 **76:3** [r]Eze 39:9 [s]Ps 46:9 **76:4** [t]S Ps 36:9 **76:5** [u]S Jdg 20:44 [v]S Ps 13:3; S Mt 9:24 **76:6** [w]S Ps 50:21 [x]S Ex 15:1 **76:7** [y]S 1Ch 16:25 [z]S Ezr 9:15; Rev 6:17 [a]Ps 2:5; Na 1:6 **76:8** [b]S 1Ch 16:30; Eze 38:20 **76:9** [c]S Ps 9:8; 58:11; 74:22; 82:8; 96:13 [d]S Ps 72:4 **76:10** [e]Ex 9:16; Ro 9:17 **76:11** [f]S Lev 22:18; S Ps 50:14; Ecc 5:4-5 [g]S 2Ch 32:23 **77:1** [h]S 1Ki 8:52 **77:2** [i]S Ge 32:7; S 2Sa 22:7; S Ps 118:5 [j]Ps 6:6; 22:2; 88:1 [k]S Ex 9:29; S Job 11:13 [l]S Ge 37:35; Mt 2:18 **77:3** [m]Ps 78:35 [n]Ex 2:23; S Ps 6:6; Jer 45:3 [o]S Ps 6:2 **77:4** [p]S Ps 39:2 **77:5** [q]Dt 32:7; Ps 44:1; 143:5; Ecc 7:10 **77:7** [r]S 1Ch 28:9 [s]Ps 85:1; 102:13; 106:4 **77:8** [t]S Ps 6:4; 90:14 [u]2Pe 3:9 **77:9** [v]Ps 25:6; 40:11; 51:1 [w]Isa 49:15 **77:10** [x]S Ex 15:6

[d]10 Or *Surely the wrath of men brings you praise, / and with the remainder of wrath you arm yourself*

yes, I will remember your
miracles[a] of long ago.
12 I will meditate[b] on all your works
and consider all your mighty
deeds.[c]

13 Your ways, O God, are holy.
What god is so great as our God?[d]
14 You are the God who performs
miracles;[e]
you display your power among
the peoples.
15 With your mighty arm you
redeemed your people,[f]
the descendants of Jacob and
Joseph. *Selah*

16 The waters[g] saw you, O God,
the waters saw you and writhed;[h]
the very depths were convulsed.
17 The clouds poured down water,[i]
the skies resounded with
thunder;[j]
your arrows[k] flashed back and
forth.
18 Your thunder was heard in the
whirlwind,[l]
your lightning[m] lit up the world;
the earth trembled and quaked.[n]
19 Your path[o] led through the sea,[p]
your way through the mighty
waters,
though your footprints were not
seen.

20 You led your people[q] like a flock[r]
by the hand of Moses and Aaron.[s]

Psalm 78

A *maskil*[e] of Asaph.

1 O my people, hear my teaching;[t]
listen to the words of my mouth.
2 I will open my mouth in parables,[u]
I will utter hidden things, things
from of old—
3 what we have heard and known,
what our fathers have told us.[v]
4 We will not hide them from their
children;[w]
we will tell the next generation[x]
the praiseworthy deeds[y] of the LORD,
his power, and the wonders[z] he
has done.
5 He decreed statutes[a] for Jacob[b]
and established the law in Israel,
which he commanded our
forefathers
to teach their children,
6 so the next generation would know
them,
even the children yet to be born,[c]
and they in turn would tell their
children.
7 Then they would put their trust in
God
and would not forget[d] his deeds
but would keep his commands.[e]
8 They would not be like their
forefathers[f]—
a stubborn[g] and rebellious[h]
generation,
whose hearts were not loyal to God,
whose spirits were not faithful to
him.

9 The men of Ephraim, though armed
with bows,[i]
turned back on the day of battle;[j]
10 they did not keep God's covenant[k]
and refused to live by his law.[l]
11 They forgot what he had done,[m]
the wonders he had shown them.
12 He did miracles[n] in the sight of their
fathers
in the land of Egypt,[o] in the
region of Zoan.[p]
13 He divided the sea[q] and led them
through;
he made the water stand firm like
a wall.[r]
14 He guided them with the cloud by
day
and with light from the fire all
night.[s]
15 He split the rocks[t] in the desert
and gave them water as abundant
as the seas;
16 he brought streams out of a rocky
crag
and made water flow down like
rivers.

17 But they continued to sin[u] against
him,
rebelling in the desert against the
Most High.
18 They willfully put God to the test[v]
by demanding the food they
craved.[w]
19 They spoke against God,[x] saying,
"Can God spread a table in the
desert?
20 When he struck the rock, water
gushed out,[y]
and streams flowed abundantly.
But can he also give us food?
Can he supply meat[z] for his
people?"
21 When the LORD heard them, he was
very angry;
his fire broke out[a] against Jacob,
and his wrath rose against Israel,

[e] Title: Probably a literary or musical term

77:11 [a] S Ne 9:17
77:12 [b] S Ge 24:63 [c] Ps 143:5
77:13 [d] S Ex 15:11; S Ps 71:19; 86:8
77:14 [e] S Ex 3:20; S 34:10
77:15 [f] S Ex 6:6
77:16 [g] Ex 14:21,28; Isa 50:2; Hab 3:8 [h] Ps 114:4; Hab 3:10
77:17 [i] S Jdg 5:4 [j] S Ex 9:23; S Ps 29:3 [k] S Dt 32:23
77:18 [l] S Ps 55:8 [m] S 2Sa 22:13 [n] S Jdg 5:4
77:19 [o] S Ex 14:22 [p] S Job 9:8
77:20 [q] S Ex 13:21 [r] Ps 78:52; Isa 63:11 [s] S Ex 4:16; S Nu 33:1
78:1 [t] Isa 51:4; 55:3
78:2 [u] S Ps 49:4; S Mt 13:35*
78:3 [v] S Jdg 6:13
78:4 [w] S Dt 11:19 [x] S Dt 32:7; S Ps 71:18 [y] Ps 26:7; 71:17 [z] S Job 5:9
78:5 [a] Ps 19:7; 81:5 [b] Ps 147:19
78:6 [c] S Ps 22:31
78:7 [d] S Dt 6:12 [e] S Dt 5:29
78:8 [f] S 2Ch 30:7 [g] S Ex 32:9 [h] S Ex 23:21; S Dt 21:18; Isa 30:9; 65:2
78:9 [i] ver 57; 1Ch 12:2; Hos 7:16 [j] S Jdg 20:39
78:10 [k] S Jos 7:11; S 2Ki 17:15 [l] S Ex 16:28; S Jer 11:8
78:11 [m] Ps 106:13
78:12 [n] S Ne 9:17; Ps 106:22 [o] Ex 11:9 [p] S Nu 13:22
78:13 [q] S Ex 14:21; Ps 66:6; 136:13 [r] S Ex 14:22; S 15:8
78:14 [s] Ex 13:21; Ps 105:39
78:15 [t] S Nu 20:11; 1Co 10:4
78:17 [u] ver 32, 40; Dt 9:22; Isa 30:1; 63:10; Heb 3:16
78:18 [v] S Ex 17:2; 1Co 10:9 [w] S Ex 15:24; Nu 11:4
78:19 [x] Nu 21:5
78:20 [y] S Nu 20:11; S Isa 35:6 [z] Nu 11:18
78:21 [a] S Nu 11:1

22for they did not believe in God
or trust[s] in his deliverance.
23Yet he gave a command to the skies above
and opened the doors of the heavens;[t]
24he rained down manna[u] for the people to eat,
he gave them the grain of heaven.
25Men ate the bread of angels;
he sent them all the food they could eat.
26He let loose the east wind[v] from the heavens
and led forth the south wind by his power.
27He rained meat down on them like dust,
flying birds[w] like sand on the seashore.
28He made them come down inside their camp,
all around their tents.
29They ate till they had more than enough,[x]
for he had given them what they craved.
30But before they turned from the food they craved,
even while it was still in their mouths,[y]
31God's anger rose against them;
he put to death the sturdiest[z] among them,
cutting down the young men of Israel.

32In spite of all this, they kept on sinning;[a]
in spite of his wonders,[b] they did not believe.[c]
33So he ended their days in futility[d]
and their years in terror.
34Whenever God slew them, they would seek[e] him;
they eagerly turned to him again.
35They remembered that God was their Rock,[f]
that God Most High was their Redeemer.[g]
36But then they would flatter him with their mouths,[h]
lying to him with their tongues;
37their hearts were not loyal[i] to him,
they were not faithful to his covenant.
38Yet he was merciful;[j]
he forgave[k] their iniquities[l]
and did not destroy them.
Time after time he restrained his anger[m]
and did not stir up his full wrath.

78:22 Heb 3:19 78:23 Ge 7:11 78:24 Ex 16:4; Jn 6:31 78:26 Nu 11:31 78:27 Ex 16:13; Nu 11:31 78:29 Nu 11:20 78:30 Nu 11:33 78:31 Isa 10:16 78:32 ver 17; ver 11; ver 22 78:33 Nu 14:29,35 78:34 S Dt 4:29; Hos 5:15 78:35 S Ge 49:24; S Dt 9:26 78:36 Eze 33:31 78:37 ver 8; Ac 8:21 78:38 S Ex 34:6; Isa 1:25; 27:9; 48:10; Da 11:35; Ps 25:11; 85:2; S Jos 9:13; S Isa 30:18

78:39 S Ge 6:3; S Isa 29:5; S Job 7:7; Jas 4:14 78:40 S Ex 23:21; Ps 95:8; 106:14; Eph 4:30 78:41 S Ex 17:2; S 2Ki 19:22; Ps 71:22; 89:18 78:42 S Jdg 3:7; S Ne 9:17; S Ps 27:11 78:43 Ex 10:1; S Ex 3:20 78:44 Ex 7:20,21; Ps 105:29 78:45 Ex 8:24; Ps 105:31; S Ex 8:2,6 78:46 Na 3:15; S Ex 10:13 78:47 Ex 9:23; Ps 105:32; 147:17 78:48 Ex 9:25 78:49 Ex 15:7; S Ge 19:13; 1Co 10:10 78:51 S Ex 12:12; Ps 135:8; Ps 105:23; 106:22 78:52 S Job 21:11; S Ps 28:9; 77:20 78:53 S Ex 14:28; Ex 15:7; Ps 106:10 78:54 Ps 44:3 78:55 Ps 44:2; S Dt 1:38; S Jos 13:7; Ac 13:19

39He remembered that they were but flesh,[n]
a passing breeze[o] that does not return.

40How often they rebelled[p] against him in the desert[q]
and grieved him[r] in the wasteland!
41Again and again they put God to the test;[s]
they vexed the Holy One of Israel.[t]
42They did not remember[u] his power—
the day he redeemed them from the oppressor,[v]
43the day he displayed his miraculous signs[w] in Egypt,
his wonders[x] in the region of Zoan.
44He turned their rivers to blood;[y]
they could not drink from their streams.
45He sent swarms of flies[z] that devoured them,
and frogs[a] that devastated them.
46He gave their crops to the grasshopper,[b]
their produce to the locust.[c]
47He destroyed their vines with hail[d]
and their sycamore-figs with sleet.
48He gave over their cattle to the hail,
their livestock[e] to bolts of lightning.
49He unleashed against them his hot anger,[f]
his wrath, indignation and hostility—
a band of destroying angels.[g]
50He prepared a path for his anger;
he did not spare them from death
but gave them over to the plague.
51He struck down all the firstborn of Egypt,[h]
the firstfruits of manhood in the tents of Ham.[i]
52But he brought his people out like a flock;[j]
he led them like sheep through the desert.
53He guided them safely, so they were unafraid;
but the sea engulfed[k] their enemies.[l]
54Thus he brought them to the border of his holy land,
to the hill country his right hand[m] had taken.
55He drove out nations[n] before them
and allotted their lands to them as an inheritance;[o]

he settled the tribes of Israel in
their homes.
56But they put God to the test
and rebelled against the Most
High;
they did not keep his statutes.
57Like their fathers[a] they were disloyal
and faithless,
as unreliable as a faulty bow.[b]
58They angered him[c] with their high
places;[d]
they aroused his jealousy with
their idols.[e]
59When God heard[f] them, he was
very angry;[g]
he rejected Israel[h] completely.
60He abandoned the tabernacle of
Shiloh,[i]
the tent he had set up among
men.[j]
61He sent ⌊the ark of⌋ his might[k] into
captivity,[l]
his splendor into the hands of the
enemy.
62He gave his people over to the
sword;[m]
he was very angry with his
inheritance.[n]
63Fire consumed[o] their young men,
and their maidens had no
wedding songs;[p]
64their priests were put to the
sword,[q]
and their widows could not weep.
65Then the Lord awoke as from
sleep,[r]
as a man wakes from the stupor of
wine.
66He beat back his enemies;
he put them to everlasting
shame.[s]
67Then he rejected the tents of
Joseph,
he did not choose the tribe of
Ephraim;[t]
68but he chose the tribe of Judah,[u]
Mount Zion,[v] which he loved.
69He built his sanctuary[w] like the
heights,
like the earth that he established
forever.
70He chose David[x] his servant
and took him from the sheep pens;
71from tending the sheep[y] he brought
him
to be the shepherd[z] of his people
Jacob,
of Israel his inheritance.
72And David shepherded them with
integrity of heart;[a]
with skillful hands he led them.

78:57 [a]S 2Ch 30:7; Eze 20:27 [b]S ver 9 **78:58** [c]S Jdg 2:12 [d]S Lev 26:30 [e]Ex 20:4; S Dt 5:8; 32:21 **78:59** [f]Ps 55:19 [g]S Lev 26:28; S Nu 32:14 [h]S Dt 32:19 **78:60** [i]S Jos 18:1 [j]Eze 8:6 **78:61** [k]Ps 132:8 [l]S 1Sa 4:17 **78:62** [m]S Dt 28:25 [n]S 1Sa 10:1 **78:63** [o]S Nu 11:1 [p]S 1Ki 4:32; Jer 7:34; 16:9; 25:10 **78:64** [q]1Sa 4:17 **78:65** [r]Ps 44:23 **78:66** [s]1Sa 5:6 **78:67** [t]Jer 7:15; Hos 9:13, 12:1 **78:68** [u]S Nu 1:7; Ps 108:8 [v]S Ex 15:17; S Ps 68:16 **78:69** [w]S Ps 15:1 **78:70** [x]S 1Sa 16:1 **78:71** [y]S Ge 37:2 [z]S Ps 28:9 **78:72** [a]S Ge 17:1

Psalm 79

A psalm of Asaph.

1O God, the nations have invaded
your inheritance;[b]
they have defiled[c] your holy
temple,
they have reduced Jerusalem to
rubble.[d]
2They have given the dead bodies of
your servants
as food to the birds of the air,[e]
the flesh of your saints to the
beasts of the earth.[f]
3They have poured out blood like
water
all around Jerusalem,
and there is no one to bury[g] the
dead.[h]
4We are objects of reproach to our
neighbors,
of scorn[i] and derision to those
around us.[j]
5How long,[k] O Lord? Will you be
angry[l] forever?
How long will your jealousy burn
like fire?[m]
6Pour out your wrath[n] on the
nations
that do not acknowledge[o] you,
on the kingdoms
that do not call on your name;[p]
7for they have devoured[q] Jacob
and destroyed his homeland.
8Do not hold against us the sins of
the fathers;[r]
may your mercy come quickly to
meet us,
for we are in desperate need.[s]
9Help us,[t] O God our Savior,
for the glory of your name;
deliver us and forgive our sins
for your name's sake.[u]
10Why should the nations say,
"Where is their God?"[v]
Before our eyes, make known among
the nations
that you avenge[w] the outpoured
blood[x] of your servants.
11May the groans of the prisoners
come before you;
by the strength of your arm
preserve those condemned to die.
12Pay back into the laps[y] of our
neighbors seven times[z]
the reproach they have hurled at
you, O Lord.
13Then we your people, the sheep of
your pasture,[a]
will praise you forever;[b]

79:1 [b]S Ex 34:9 [c]S Lev 20:3 [d]S 2Ki 25:9; S Ne 4:2; S Isa 6:11 **79:2** [e]Rev 19:17-18 [f]S Dt 28:26; Jer 7:33 **79:3** [g]Jer 25:33; Rev 11:9 [h]Jer 16:4 **79:4** [i]S Ps 39:8; S Eze 5:14 [j]Ps 44:13; 80:6 **79:5** [k]S Ps 74:10 [l]Ps 74:1; 85:5 [m]S Dt 29:20; Ps 89:46; Zep 3:8 **79:6** [n]S Ps 2:5; 69:24; 110:5; Rev 16:1 [o]Ps 147:20; Jer 10:25 [p]S Ps 14:4 **79:7** [q]Isa 9:12; Jer 10:25 **79:8** [r]S Ge 9:25; Jer 44:21 [s]Ps 116:6; 142:6 **79:9** [t]S 2Ch 14:11 [u]Ps 25:11; 31:3; Jer 14:7 **79:10** [v]S Ps 42:3 [w]Ps 94:1; S Rev 6:10 [x]ver 3 **79:12** [y]Isa 65:6; Jer 32:18 [z]S Ge 4:15 **79:13** [a]S Ps 74:1 [b]Ps 44:8

from generation to generation
we will recount your praise.

Psalm 80

For the director of music. To the tune of "The Lilies of the Covenant." Of Asaph. A psalm.

1 Hear us, O Shepherd of Israel,
you who lead Joseph like a flock;[a]
you who sit enthroned between the cherubim,[b] shine forth
2 before Ephraim, Benjamin and Manasseh.[c]
Awaken[d] your might;
come and save us.[e]
3 Restore[f] us,[g] O God;
make your face shine upon us,
that we may be saved.[h]
4 O LORD God Almighty,
how long[i] will your anger smolder
against the prayers of your people?
5 You have fed them with the bread of tears;[k]
you have made them drink tears by the bowlful.[l]
6 You have made us a source of contention to our neighbors,
and our enemies mock us.[m]
7 Restore us, O God Almighty;
make your face shine upon us,
that we may be saved.[n]
8 You brought a vine[o] out of Egypt;
you drove out[p] the nations and planted[q] it.
9 You cleared the ground for it,
and it took root and filled the land.
10 The mountains were covered with its shade,
the mighty cedars with its branches.
11 It sent out its boughs to the Sea,[f]
its shoots as far as the River.[g][r]
12 Why have you broken down its walls[s]
so that all who pass by pick its grapes?
13 Boars from the forest ravage[t] it
and the creatures of the field feed on it.
14 Return to us, O God Almighty!
Look down from heaven and see![u]
Watch over this vine,
15 the root your right hand has planted,
the son[h] you have raised up for yourself.
16 Your vine is cut down, it is burned with fire;[v]
at your rebuke[w] your people perish.
17 Let your hand rest on the man at your right hand,
the son of man[x] you have raised up for yourself.
18 Then we will not turn away from you;
revive[y] us, and we will call on your name.
19 Restore us, O LORD God Almighty;
make your face shine upon us,
that we may be saved.

Psalm 81

For the director of music. According to *gittith*.[i] Of Asaph.

1 Sing for joy to God our strength;
shout aloud to the God of Jacob![z]
2 Begin the music, strike the tambourine,[a]
play the melodious harp[b] and lyre.[c]
3 Sound the ram's horn[d] at the New Moon,[e]
and when the moon is full, on the day of our Feast;
4 this is a decree for Israel,
an ordinance of the God of Jacob.[f]
5 He established it as a statute for Joseph
when he went out against Egypt,[g]
where we heard a language we did not understand.[j][h]
6 He says, "I removed the burden[i] from their shoulders;[j]
their hands were set free from the basket.
7 In your distress you called[k] and I rescued you,
I answered[l] you out of a thundercloud;
I tested you at the waters of Meribah.[m] *Selah*
8 "Hear, O my people,[n] and I will warn you—
if you would but listen to me, O Israel!
9 You shall have no foreign god[o] among you;
you shall not bow down to an alien god.

80:1 [a]Ps 77:20 [b]S Ex 25:22 **80:2** [c]Nu 2:18-24 [d]S Ps 35:23 [e]Ps 54:1; 69:1; 71:2; 109:26; 116:4; 119:94 **80:3** [f]S Ps 71:20; 85:4; Jer 31:18; La 5:21 [g]S Nu 6:25 [h]ver 7, 19 **80:4** [i]S Ps 74:10 [j]S Dt 29:20 **80:5** [k]S Job 3:24 [l]Isa 30:20 **80:6** [m]S Ps 79:4 **80:7** [n]ver 3 **80:8** [o]Isa 5:1-2; Jer 2:21; Mt 21:33-41 [p]Ex 23:28-30; S Jos 13:6; Ac 7:45 [q]S Ex 15:17 **80:11** [r]Ps 72:8 **80:12** [s]Ps 89:40; Isa 5:5; 30:13; Jer 39:8 **80:13** [t]Jer 5:6 **80:14** [u]S Dt 26:15 **80:16** [v]Ps 79:1 [w]S Dt 28:20 **80:17** [x]S Job 25:6 **80:18** [y]Ps 85:6; Isa 57:15; Hos 6:2 **81:1** [z]S Ps 66:1 **81:2** [a]S Ex 15:20 [b]Ps 92:3 [c]S Job 21:12 **81:3** [d]S Ex 19:13 [e]S Ne 10:33 **81:4** [f]ver 1 **81:5** [g]S Ex 11:4 [h]Ps 114:1 **81:6** [i]S Ex 1:14 [j]Isa 9:4; 52:2 **81:7** [k]S Ex 2:23 [l]Ex 19:19 [m]S Ex 17:7; S Dt 33:8 **81:8** [n]Ps 50:7; 78:1 **81:9** [o]S Ex 20:3

[f]11 Probably the Mediterranean [g]11 That is, the Euphrates [h]15 Or *branch* [i]Title: Probably a musical term [j]5 Or */ and we heard a voice we had not known*

[10]I am the LORD your God,
who brought you up out of
Egypt.[a]
Open[b] wide your mouth and I will
fill[c] it.

[11]"But my people would not listen
to me;
Israel would not submit to me.[d]
[12]So I gave them over[e] to their
stubborn hearts
to follow their own devices.

[13]"If my people would but listen
to me,[f]
if Israel would follow my ways,
[14]how quickly would I subdue[g] their
enemies
and turn my hand against[h] their
foes!
[15]Those who hate the LORD would
cringe[i] before him,
and their punishment would last
forever.
[16]But you would be fed with the finest
of wheat;[j]
with honey from the rock I would
satisfy you."

Psalm 82

A psalm of Asaph.

[1]God presides in the great assembly;
he gives judgment[k] among the
"gods":[l]

[2]"How long will you[k] defend the
unjust
and show partiality[m] to the
wicked?[n] *Selah*
[3]Defend the cause of the weak and
fatherless;[o]
maintain the rights of the poor[p]
and oppressed.
[4]Rescue the weak and needy;
deliver them from the hand of the
wicked.

[5]"They know nothing, they
understand nothing.[q]
They walk about in darkness;[r]
all the foundations[s] of the earth
are shaken.

[6]"I said, 'You are "gods";[t]
you are all sons of the Most
High.'
[7]But you will die[u] like mere men;
you will fall like every other
ruler."

[8]Rise up,[v] O God, judge[w] the earth,
for all the nations are your
inheritance.[x]

Psalm 83

A song. A psalm of Asaph.

[1]O God, do not keep silent;[y]
be not quiet, O God, be not still.
[2]See how your enemies are astir,[z]
how your foes rear their heads.[a]
[3]With cunning they conspire[b] against
your people;
they plot against those you
cherish.[c]
[4]"Come," they say, "let us destroy[d]
them as a nation,[e]
that the name of Israel be
remembered[f] no more."

[5]With one mind they plot together;[g]
they form an alliance against
you—
[6]the tents of Edom[h] and the
Ishmaelites,
of Moab[i] and the Hagrites,[j]
[7]Gebal,[l][k] Ammon[l] and Amalek,[m]
Philistia,[n] with the people of
Tyre.[o]
[8]Even Assyria[p] has joined them
to lend strength to the
descendants of Lot.[q] *Selah*

[9]Do to them as you did to Midian,[r]
as you did to Sisera[s] and Jabin[t] at
the river Kishon,[u]
[10]who perished at Endor[v]
and became like refuse[w] on the
ground.
[11]Make their nobles like Oreb and
Zeeb,[x]
all their princes like Zebah and
Zalmunna,[y]
[12]who said, "Let us take possession[z]
of the pasturelands of God."

[13]Make them like tumbleweed, O my
God,
like chaff[a] before the wind.
[14]As fire consumes the forest
or a flame sets the mountains
ablaze,[b]
[15]so pursue them with your tempest[c]
and terrify them with your
storm.[d]
[16]Cover their faces with shame[e]
so that men will seek your name,
O LORD.

[17]May they ever be ashamed and
dismayed;[f]
may they perish in disgrace.[g]
[18]Let them know that you, whose
name is the LORD[h]—

81:10 [a]S Ex 6:6; S 13:3; S 29:46 [b]Eze 2:8 [c]Ps 107:9 **81:11** [d]Ex 32:1-6 **81:12** [e]Eze 20:25; Ac 7:42; Ro 1:24 **81:13** [f]S Dt 5:29 **81:14** [g]Ps 47:3 [h]Am 1:8 **81:15** [i]S 2Sa 22:45 **81:16** [j]S Dt 32:14 **82:1** [k]Ps 7:8; 58:11; Isa 3:13; 66:16; Joel 3:12 [l]S Job 21:22 **82:2** [m]Dt 1:17 [n]Ps 58:1-2; Pr 18:5 **82:3** [o]S Dt 24:17 [p]Ps 140:12; Jer 5:28; 22:16 **82:5** [q]S Ps 14:4; S 53:2 [r]Job 30:26; Isa 5:30; 8:21-22; 9:2; 59:9; 60:2; Jer 13:16; 23:12; La 3:2 [s]S Jdg 5:4; S Ps 11:3 **82:6** [t]Jn 10:34* **82:7** [u]Ps 49:12; Eze 31:14 **82:8** [v]Ps 12:5 [w]S Ps 76:9 [x]Ps 2:8
83:1 [y]Ps 28:1; 35:22; Isa 42:14; 57:11; 62:1; 64:12 **83:2** [z]Ps 2:1; Isa 17:12 [a]Jdg 8:28 **83:3** [b]S Ex 1:10; S Ps 31:13 [c]Ps 17:14 **83:4** [d]S Est 3:6 [e]Jer 33:24 [f]Jer 11:19 **83:5** [g]Ps 2:2 **83:6** [h]Ps 137:7; Isa 34:5; Jer 49:7; Am 1:11 [i]2Ch 20:1 [j]S Ge 25:16 **83:7** [k]S Jos 13:5 [l]Ge 19:38 [m]S Ge 14:7; S Ex 17:14 [n]Ex 15:14 [o]Isa 23:3; Eze 27:3 **83:8** [p]S Ge 10:11 [q]S Dt 2:9 **83:9** [r]S Ge 25:2; Jdg 7:1-23 [s]S Jdg 4:2 [t]S Jos 11:1 [u]S Jdg 4:23-24 **83:10** [v]S 1Sa 28:7 [w]S 2Ki 9:37; Isa 5:25; Jer 8:2; 9:22; 16:4; 25:33; Zep 1:17 **83:11** [x]Jdg 7:25 [y]S Jdg 8:5 **83:12** [z]2Ch 20:11; Eze 35:10 **83:13** [a]S Job 13:25 **83:14** [b]Dt 32:22; Isa 9:18 **83:15** [c]S Ps 50:3 [d]S Job 9:17 **83:16** [e]S Ps 34:5; 109:29; 132:18 **83:17** [f]S 2Ki 19:26 [g]S Ps 35:4 **83:18** [h]S Ps 68:4

[k]2 The Hebrew is plural. [l]7 That is, Byblos

that you alone are the Most High[a]
over all the earth.[b]

Psalm 84

For the director of music. According to *gittith*.[m] Of the Sons of Korah. A psalm.

1 How lovely is your dwelling place,[c]
O LORD Almighty!
2 My soul yearns,[d] even faints,
for the courts of the LORD;
my heart and my flesh cry out
for the living God.[e]
3 Even the sparrow has found a
home,
and the swallow a nest for
herself,
where she may have her young—
a place near your altar,[f]
O LORD Almighty,[g] my King[h] and
my God.[i]
4 Blessed are those who dwell in your
house;
they are ever praising you. *Selah*
5 Blessed are those whose strength[j] is
in you,
who have set their hearts on
pilgrimage.[k]
6 As they pass through the Valley of
Baca,
they make it a place of springs;[l]
the autumn[m] rains also cover it
with pools.[n]
7 They go from strength to strength,[n]
till each appears[o] before God in
Zion.[p]
8 Hear my prayer,[q] O LORD God
Almighty;
listen to me, O God of Jacob. *Selah*
9 Look upon our shield,[o r] O God;
look with favor on your anointed
one.[s]
10 Better is one day in your courts
than a thousand elsewhere;
I would rather be a doorkeeper[t] in
the house of my God
than dwell in the tents of the
wicked.
11 For the LORD God is a sun[u] and
shield;[v]
the LORD bestows favor and honor;
no good thing does he withhold[w]
from those whose walk is
blameless.
12 O LORD Almighty,
blessed[x] is the man who trusts in
you.

83:18 [a]Ps 7:8; 18:13 [b]S Job 34:29 **84:1** [c]S Dt 33:27; Ps 27:4; 43:3; 90:1; 132:5 **84:2** [d]S Job 19:27 [e]S Jos 3:10 **84:3** [f]S Ps 43:4 [g]Jer 44:11 [h]Ps 2:6 [i]Ps 5:2 **84:5** [j]Ps 81:1 [k]Jer 31:6 **84:6** [l]S Job 38:26 [m]Joel 2:23 **84:7** [n]S Job 17:9 [o]S Dt 16:16 [p]1Ki 8:1 **84:8** [q]Ps 4:1 **84:9** [r]S Ps 59:11 [s]1Sa 16:6; Ps 2:2; 18:50; 132:17 **84:10** [t]1Ch 23:5 **84:11** [u]Isa 60:19; Jer 43:13; Rev 21:23 [v]S Ge 15:1 [w]Ps 34:10 **84:12** [x]Ps 2:12
85:1 [y]S Dt 30:3; Ps 14:7 **85:2** [z]S Nu 14:19 [a]S Ex 32:30; S Ps 78:38 **85:3** [b]Ps 106:23; Da 9:16 [c]Ex 32:12; Dt 13:17; Ps 78:38; Jnh 3:9 **85:4** [d]S Ps 71:20 [e]S Ps 65:5 **85:5** [f]S Ps 50:21 **85:6** [g]S Ps 80:18 [h]Php 3:1 **85:7** [i]S Ps 6:4 [j]Ps 27:1 **85:8** [k]S Lev 26:6; S Isa 60:17; S Jn 14:27; 2Th 3:16 [l]Pr 26:11; 27:22 **85:9** [m]Ps 27:1; Isa 43:3; 45:8; 46:13; 51:5; 56:1; 62:11 [n]S Ex 29:43; Isa 60:19; Hag 2:9; Zec 2:5 **85:10** [o]Ps 89:14; 115:1; Pr 3:3 [p]Ps 72:2-3; Isa 32:17 **85:11** [q]Isa 45:8 **85:12** [r]Ps 84:11; Jas 1:17 [s]Lev 26:4; S Ps 67:6; Zec 8:12 **86:1** [t]Ps 17:6

Psalm 85

For the director of music. Of the Sons of Korah. A psalm.

1 You showed favor to your land,
O LORD;
you restored the fortunes[y] of
Jacob.
2 You forgave[z] the iniquity[a] of your
people
and covered all their sins. *Selah*
3 You set aside all your wrath[b]
and turned from your fierce
anger.[c]
4 Restore[d] us again, O God our
Savior,[e]
and put away your displeasure
toward us.
5 Will you be angry with us forever?[f]
Will you prolong your anger
through all generations?
6 Will you not revive[g] us again,
that your people may rejoice[h] in
you?
7 Show us your unfailing love,[i]
O LORD,
and grant us your salvation.[j]
8 I will listen to what God the LORD
will say;
he promises peace[k] to his people,
his saints—
but let them not return to folly.[l]
9 Surely his salvation[m] is near those
who fear him,
that his glory[n] may dwell in our
land.
10 Love and faithfulness[o] meet
together;
righteousness[p] and peace kiss
each other.
11 Faithfulness springs forth from the
earth,
and righteousness[q] looks down
from heaven.
12 The LORD will indeed give what is
good,[r]
and our land will yield[s] its
harvest.
13 Righteousness goes before him
and prepares the way for his
steps.

Psalm 86

A prayer of David.

1 Hear, O LORD, and answer[t] me,
for I am poor and needy.

[m] Title: Probably a musical term [n] 6 Or *blessings* [o] 9 Or *sovereign*

2Guard my life, for I am devoted to
you.
You are my God; save your
servant
who trusts in you.[a]
3Have mercy[b] on me, O Lord,
for I call[c] to you all day long.
4Bring joy to your servant,
for to you, O Lord,
I lift[d] up my soul.

5You are forgiving and good, O Lord,
abounding in love[e] to all who call
to you.
6Hear my prayer, O LORD;
listen to my cry[f] for mercy.
7In the day of my trouble[g] I will call[h]
to you,
for you will answer[i] me.

8Among the gods[j] there is none like
you,[k] O Lord;
no deeds can compare with yours.
9All the nations you have made
will come[l] and worship[m] before
you, O Lord;
they will bring glory[n] to your
name.
10For you are great[o] and do marvelous
deeds;[p]
you alone[q] are God.

11Teach me your way,[r] O LORD,
and I will walk in your truth;[s]
give me an undivided[t] heart,
that I may fear[u] your name.
12I will praise you, O Lord my God,
with all my heart;[v]
I will glorify your name forever.
13For great is your love toward me;
you have delivered me[w] from the
depths of the grave.[p] [x]

14The arrogant are attacking me,
O God;
a band of ruthless men seeks my
life—
men without regard for you.[y]
15But you, O LORD, are a compassionate
and gracious[z] God,
slow to anger,[a] abounding[b] in
love and faithfulness.[c]
16Turn to me[d] and have mercy[e]
on me;
grant your strength[f] to your
servant
and save the son of your
maidservant.[q] [g]
17Give me a sign[h] of your goodness,
that my enemies may see it and be
put to shame,
for you, O LORD, have helped me
and comforted me.

86:2 [a]Ps 25:2; 31:14 **86:3** [b]Ps 4:1; S 9:13; 57:1 [c]Ps 88:9 **86:4** [d]Ps 46:5; 143:8 **86:5** [e]Ex 34:6; Ne 9:17; Ps 103:8; 145:8; Joel 2:13; Jnh 4:2 **86:6** [f]Ps 5:2; 17:1 **86:7** [g]Ps 27:5; S 50:15; 94:13; Hab 3:16 [h]Job 22:27; Ps 4:3; 80:18; 91:15; Isa 30:19; 58:9; 65:24; Zec 13:9 [i]Ps 3:4 **86:8** [j]S Ex 8:10; S Job 21:22 [k]S Ps 18:31 **86:9** [l]S Ps 65:2 [m]Ps 66:4; Isa 19:21; 27:13; 49:7; Zec 8:20-22; 14:16; Rev 15:4 [n]Isa 43:7; 44:23 **86:10** [o]S 2Sa 7:22; S Ps 48:1 [p]S Ex 3:20; S Ps 71:17; 72:18 [q]S Dt 6:4; S Isa 43:10; Mk 12:29; 1Co 8:4 **86:11** [r]S Ex 33:13; S 1Sa 12:23; Ps 25:5 [s]S Ps 26:3 [t]Jer 24:7; 32:39; Eze 11:19; 1Co 7:35 [u]S Dt 6:24 **86:12** [v]S Ps 9:1 **86:13** [w]S Ps 34:4; 49:15; 116:8 [x]S Ps 16:10; S 56:13 **86:14** [y]Ps 54:3 **86:15** [z]S Ps 51:1; 103:8; 111:4; 116:5; 145:8 [a]Nu 14:18 [b]ver 5 [c]S Ex 34:6; S Ne 9:17; Joel 2:13 **86:16** [d]S Ps 6:4 [e]S Ps 9:13 [f]Ps 18:1 [g]Ps 116:16 **86:17** [h]S Ex 3:12; Mt 24:3; S Jn 2:11

87:1 [i]S Ps 48:1 **87:2** [j]Ps 2:6 **87:3** [k]S Ps 46:4 **87:4** [l]S Job 9:13 [m]S 2Sa 8:1; Ps 83:7 [n]Ps 45:12; Joel 3:4 [o]Isa 19:25 **87:6** [p]Ex 32:32; Ps 69:28; Isa 4:3; Mal 3:16 **87:7** [q]Ps 149:3 [r]S Ps 36:9 **88:1** [s]S Ps 51:14 [t]Ps 3:4; 22:2; Lk 18:7 **88:3** [u]Ps 6:3; 25:17 [v]S Job 33:22 **88:4** [w]S Ps 31:12 [x]Ps 18:1 **88:5** [y]S Ps 31:22

Psalm 87

Of the sons of Korah. A psalm.
A song.

1He has set his foundation on the
holy mountain;[i]
2 the LORD loves the gates of Zion[j]
more than all the dwellings of
Jacob.
3Glorious things are said of you,
O city of God:[k] *Selah*
4"I will record Rahab[r] [l] and Babylon
among those who acknowledge
me—
Philistia[m] too, and Tyre[n], along with
Cush[s]—
and will say, 'This[t] one was born
in Zion.[o]' "
5Indeed, of Zion it will be said,
"This one and that one were born
in her,
and the Most High himself will
establish her."
6The LORD will write in the register[p]
of the peoples:
"This one was born in Zion." *Selah*
7As they make music[q] they will sing,
"All my fountains[r] are in you."

Psalm 88

A song. A psalm of the Sons of Korah.
For the director of music. According to
mahalath leannoth.[u] A *maskil*[v] of
Heman the Ezrahite.

1O LORD, the God who saves me,[s]
day and night I cry out[t] before
you.
2May my prayer come before you;
turn your ear to my cry.
3For my soul is full of trouble[u]
and my life draws near the
grave.[p] [v]
4I am counted among those who go
down to the pit;[w]
I am like a man without strength.[x]
5I am set apart with the dead,
like the slain who lie in the grave,
whom you remember no more,
who are cut off[y] from your care.
6You have put me in the lowest pit,
in the darkest depths.[z]

88:6 [z]Ps 30:1; S 69:15; La 3:55; Jnh 2:3

[p]13,3 Hebrew *Sheol* [q]16 Or *save your faithful son* [r]4 A poetic name for Egypt [s]4 That is, the upper Nile region [t]4 Or "*O Rahab and Babylon, / Philistia, Tyre and Cush, / I will record concerning those who acknowledge me: / 'This* [u]Title: Possibly a tune, "The Suffering of Affliction" [v]Title: Probably a literary or musical term

7Your wrath[a] lies heavily upon me;
you have overwhelmed me with
all your waves.[b] *Selah*
8You have taken from me my closest
friends[c]
and have made me repulsive to
them.
I am confined[d] and cannot escape;[e]
9 my eyes[f] are dim with grief.

I call[g] to you, O LORD, every day;
I spread out my hands[h] to you.
10Do you show your wonders to the
dead?
Do those who are dead rise up
and praise you?[i] *Selah*
11Is your love declared in the grave,
your faithfulness[j] in
Destruction[w]?
12Are your wonders known in the
place of darkness,
or your righteous deeds in the
land of oblivion?

13But I cry to you for help,[k]
O LORD;
in the morning[l] my prayer comes
before you.[m]
14Why, O LORD, do you reject[n] me
and hide your face[o] from me?

15From my youth[p] I have been
afflicted[q] and close to death;
I have suffered your terrors[r] and
am in despair.[s]
16Your wrath[t] has swept over me;
your terrors[u] have destroyed me.
17All day long they surround me like a
flood;[v]
they have completely engulfed
me.
18You have taken my companions[w]
and loved ones from me;
the darkness is my closest friend.

Psalm 89

A *maskil*[x] of Ethan the Ezrahite.

1I will sing[x] of the LORD's great love
forever;
with my mouth I will make your
faithfulness known[y] through
all generations.
2I will declare that your love stands
firm forever,
that you established your
faithfulness in heaven itself.[z]

3You said, "I have made a covenant
with my chosen one,
I have sworn to David my
servant,
4'I will establish your line forever
and make your throne firm
through all generations.' "[a] *Selah*

5The heavens[b] praise your wonders,
O LORD,
your faithfulness too, in the
assembly[c] of the holy ones.
6For who in the skies above can
compare with the LORD?
Who is like the LORD among the
heavenly beings?[d]
7In the council[e] of the holy ones[f]
God is greatly feared;
he is more awesome than all who
surround him.[g]
8O LORD God Almighty,[h] who is like
you?[i]
You are mighty, O LORD, and your
faithfulness surrounds you.

9You rule over the surging sea;
when its waves mount up, you
still them.[j]
10You crushed Rahab[k] like one of the
slain;
with your strong arm you
scattered[l] your enemies.
11The heavens are yours,[m] and yours
also the earth;[n]
you founded the world and all that
is in it.[o]
12You created the north and the south;
Tabor[p] and Hermon[q] sing for joy[r]
at your name.
13Your arm is endued with power;
your hand is strong, your right
hand exalted.[s]

14Righteousness and justice are the
foundation of your throne;[t]
love and faithfulness go before
you.[u]
15Blessed are those who have learned
to acclaim you,
who walk[v] in the light[w] of your
presence, O LORD.
16They rejoice in your name[x] all day
long;
they exult in your righteousness.
17For you are their glory and
strength,[y]
and by your favor you exalt our
horn.[y z]
18Indeed, our shield[z a] belongs to the
LORD,
our king[b] to the Holy One of
Israel.

19Once you spoke in a vision,
to your faithful people you said:

88:7 [a]Ps 7:11 [b]S Ps 42:7 **88:8** [c]S Job 19:13; Ps 31:11 [d]Jer 32:2; 33:1 [e]S Job 3:23 **88:9** [f]S Ps 38:10 [g]Ps 5:2 [h]Job 11:13; Ps 143:6 **88:10** [i]S Ps 6:5 **88:11** [j]S Ps 30:9 **88:13** [k]S Ps 30:2 [l]Ps 5:3; S 55:17 [m]Ps 119:147 **88:14** [n]S Ps 43:2 [o]Ps 13:1 **88:15** [p]Ps 129:1; Jer 22:21; Eze 16:22; Hos 2:15 [q]Ps 9:12 [r]Job 6:4; S 18:11 [s]2Co 4:8 **88:16** [t]Ps 7:11 [u]Job 6:4 **88:17** [v]Ps 124:4 **88:18** [w]ver 8; Ps 38:11 **89:1** [x]Ps 59:16 [y]S Ps 36:5; 40:10 **89:2** [z]S Ps 36:5

89:4 [a]2Sa 7:12-16; 1Ki 8:16; Ps 132:11-12; Isa 9:7; Eze 37:24-25; S Mt 1:1; S Lk 1:33 **89:5** [b]S Ps 19:1 [c]S Ps 1:5 **89:6** [d]S Ge 1:26; S Ex 9:14; S Ps 18:31; 113:5 **89:7** [e]Ps 111:1 [f]S Job 5:1 [g]Ps 47:2 **89:8** [h]Isa 6:3 [i]S Ps 71:19 **89:9** [j]S Ps 65:7 **89:10** [k]S Job 9:13 [l]S Ps 59:11; S 68:1; 92:9 **89:11** [m]S Dt 10:14; Ps 115:16 [n]1Ch 29:11; S Ps 24:1 [o]S Ge 1:1 **89:12** [p]S Jos 19:22 [q]S Dt 3:8; S 4:48 [r]Ps 98:8 **89:13** [s]S Jos 4:24 **89:14** [t]Ps 97:2 [u]Ps 85:10-11 **89:15** [v]Ps 1:1 [w]Ps 44:3 **89:16** [x]Ps 30:4; 105:3 **89:17** [y]Ps 18:1 [z]ver 24; Ps 75:10; 92:10; 112:9; 148:14 **89:18** [a]Ps 18:2 [b]Ps 47:9; Isa 16:5; 33:17,22

w11 Hebrew *Abaddon* x Title: Probably a literary or musical term y17 *Horn* here symbolizes strong one. z18 Or *sovereign*

"I have bestowed strength on a
warrior;
I have exalted a young man from
among the people.
20 I have found David[x] my servant;[y]
with my sacred oil[z] I have
anointed[a] him.
21 My hand will sustain him;
surely my arm will strengthen
him.[b]
22 No enemy will subject him to
tribute;[c]
no wicked man will oppress[d] him.
23 I will crush his foes before him[e]
and strike down his adversaries.[f]
24 My faithful love will be with him,[g]
and through my name his horn[a]
will be exalted.
25 I will set his hand over the sea,
his right hand over the rivers.[h]
26 He will call out to me, 'You are my
Father,[j]
my God, the Rock[k] my Savior.'[l]
27 I will also appoint him my
firstborn,[m]
the most exalted[n] of the kings[o] of
the earth.
28 I will maintain my love to him
forever,
and my covenant with him will
never fail.[p]
29 I will establish his line forever,
his throne as long as the heavens
endure.[q]

30 "If his sons forsake my law
and do not follow my statutes,
31 if they violate my decrees
and fail to keep my commands,
32 I will punish their sin with the rod,
their iniquity with flogging;[r]
33 but I will not take my love from
him,[s]
nor will I ever betray my
faithfulness.
34 I will not violate my covenant
or alter what my lips have
uttered.[t]
35 Once for all, I have sworn by my
holiness—
and I will not lie to David—
36 that his line will continue forever
and his throne endure before me
like the sun;[u]
37 it will be established forever like the
moon,
the faithful witness in the sky."[v]
Selah

38 But you have rejected,[w] you have
spurned,
you have been very angry with
your anointed one.

89:20 x Ac 13:22 y Ps 78:70 z S Ex 29:7; S 1Ki 1:39 a S 1Sa 2:35; S 2Sa 22:51
89:21 b ver 13; Ps 18:35
89:22 c S Jdg 3:15 d 2Sa 7:10
89:23 e Ps 18:40 f 2Sa 7:9
89:24 g S 2Sa 7:15
89:25 [illegible]
89:26 j S 2Sa 7:14; S Jer 3:4; Heb 1:5 k S Ps 62:2 l S 2Sa 22:47
89:27 m S Col 1:18 n S Nu 24:7 o Ps 2:6; Rev 1:5; 19:16
89:28 p ver 33-34; Isa 55:3
89:29 q ver 4,36
89:32 r 2Sa 7:14
89:33 s S 2Sa 7:15
89:34 t S Nu 23:19
89:36 u ver 4
89:37 v Jer 33:20-21
89:38 w 1Ch 28:9; Ps 44:9; 78:59
89:39 x La 5:16
89:40 y S Ps 80:12 z Isa 22:5; La 2:2
89:41 a S Jdg 2:14 b S Ps 44:13
89:42 c Ps 13:2; 80:6
89:43 d Ps 44:10
89:45 e S Ps 39:5 f Ps 44:15; 109:29
89:46 g Ps 79:5
89:47 h S Ge 47:9; S Job 7:7; Ps 39:5; 1Pe 1:24
89:48 i S Ge 5:24; Ps 22:29
89:50 j Ps 69:19
89:51 k Ps 74:10
89:52 l S Ps 41:13; S 72:19

39 You have renounced the covenant
with your servant
and have defiled his crown in the
dust.[x]
40 You have broken through all his
walls[y]
and reduced his strongholds[z] to
ruins.
41 All who pass by have plundered[a]
him;
he has become the scorn of his
neighbors.[b]
42 You have exalted the right hand of
his foes;
you have made all his enemies
rejoice.[c]
43 You have turned back the edge of
his sword
and have not supported him in
battle.[d]
44 You have put an end to his
splendor
and cast his throne to the
ground.
45 You have cut short[e] the days of his
youth;
you have covered him with a
mantle of shame.[f] *Selah*

46 How long, O LORD? Will you hide
yourself forever?
How long will your wrath burn
like fire?[g]
47 Remember how fleeting is my
life.[h]
For what futility you have created
all men!
48 What man can live and not see
death,
or save himself from the power of
the grave[b]?[i] *Selah*
49 O Lord, where is your former great
love,
which in your faithfulness you
swore to David?
50 Remember, Lord, how your servant
has[c] been mocked,[j]
how I bear in my heart the taunts
of all the nations,
51 the taunts with which your enemies
have mocked, O LORD,
with which they have mocked
every step of your anointed
one.[k]

52 Praise be to the LORD forever!
Amen and Amen.[l]

a 24 *Horn* here symbolizes strength. b 48 Hebrew *Sheol* c 50 Or *your servants have*

BOOK IV
Psalms 90–106

Psalm 90

A prayer of Moses the man of God.

1Lord, you have been our dwelling place[a]
throughout all generations.
2Before the mountains were born[b]
or you brought forth the earth and the world,
from everlasting to everlasting[c]
you are God.[d]

3You turn men back to dust,
saying, "Return to dust, O sons of men."[e]
4For a thousand years in your sight
are like a day that has just gone by,
or like a watch in the night.[f]
5You sweep men away[g] in the sleep of death;
they are like the new grass of the morning—
6though in the morning it springs up new,
by evening it is dry and withered.[h]

7We are consumed by your anger
and terrified by your indignation.
8You have set our iniquities before you,
our secret sins[i] in the light of your presence.[j]
9All our days pass away under your wrath;
we finish our years with a moan.[k]
10The length of our days is seventy years[l]—
or eighty,[m] if we have the strength;
yet their span[a] is but trouble and sorrow,[n]
for they quickly pass, and we fly away.[o]
11Who knows the power of your anger?
For your wrath[p] is as great as the fear that is due you.[q]
12Teach us to number our days[r] aright,
that we may gain a heart of wisdom.[s]

13Relent, O LORD! How long[t] will it be?
Have compassion on your servants.[u]
14Satisfy[v] us in the morning with your unfailing love,[w]
that we may sing for joy[x] and be glad all our days.[y]
15Make us glad for as many days as you have afflicted us,
for as many years as we have seen trouble.
16May your deeds be shown to your servants,
your splendor to their children.[z]

17May the favor[b] of the Lord our God rest upon us;
establish the work of our hands for us—
yes, establish the work of our hands.[a]

Psalm 91

1He who dwells in the shelter[b] of the Most High
will rest in the shadow[c] of the Almighty.[c]
2I will say[d] of the LORD, "He is my refuge[d] and my fortress,[e]
my God, in whom I trust."

3Surely he will save you from the fowler's snare[f]
and from the deadly pestilence.[g]
4He will cover you with his feathers,
and under his wings you will find refuge;[h]
his faithfulness will be your shield[i] and rampart.
5You will not fear[j] the terror of night,
nor the arrow that flies by day,
6nor the pestilence that stalks in the darkness,
nor the plague that destroys at midday.
7A thousand may fall at your side,
ten thousand at your right hand,
but it will not come near you.
8You will only observe with your eyes
and see the punishment of the wicked.[k]

9If you make the Most High your dwelling—
even the LORD, who is my refuge—
10then no harm[l] will befall you,
no disaster will come near your tent.
11For he will command his angels[m] concerning you
to guard you in all your ways;[n]
12they will lift you up in their hands,

90:1 [illegible] 90:2 [illegible] 90:3 [illegible] 90:4 [illegible] 90:5 [illegible] 90:6 [illegible] 90:8 [illegible] 90:9 [illegible] 90:10 [illegible] 90:11 [illegible] 90:12 [illegible] 90:13 [illegible] uS Dt 32:36
90:14 vPs 103:5; 107:9; 145:16,19 wS Ps 77:8; 143:8 xS Ps 5:11 yPs 31:7
90:16 zPs 44:1; Hab 3:2
90:17 aIsa 26:12
91:1 bS Ex 33:22 cPs 63:7; Isa 49:2; La 4:20
91:2 dver 9; S 2Sa 22:3; Ps 9:9 eS 2Sa 22:2
91:3 fPs 124:7; Pr 6:5 gS 1Ki 8:37
91:4 hS Ru 2:12; Ps 17:8 iS Dt 32:10; Ps 35:2; Isa 27:3; 31:5; Zec 12:8
91:5 jS Job 5:21
91:8 kPs 37:34; S 58:10
91:10 lPr 12:21
91:11 mS Ge 32:1; Heb 1:14 nPs 34:7

a10 Or yet the best of them b17 Or beauty
c1 Hebrew Shaddai d2 Or He says

so that you will not strike your
foot against a stone.[a]
13You will tread upon the lion and the
cobra;
you will trample the great lion and
the serpent.[b]

14"Because he loves me," says the
LORD, "I will rescue him;
I will protect him, for he
acknowledges my name.
15He will call upon me, and I will
answer him;
I will be with him in trouble,
I will deliver him and honor him.[c]
16With long life[d] will I satisfy him
and show him my salvation.[e]"

Psalm 92

A psalm. A song. For the Sabbath day.

1It is good to praise the LORD
and make music[f] to your name,[g]
O Most High,[h]
2to proclaim your love in the
morning[i]
and your faithfulness at night,
3to the music of the ten-stringed lyre[j]
and the melody of the harp.[k]

4For you make me glad by your
deeds, O LORD;
I sing for joy[l] at the works of your
hands.[m]
5How great are your works,[n] O LORD,
how profound your thoughts![o]
6The senseless man[p] does not know,
fools do not understand,
7that though the wicked spring up
like grass
and all evildoers flourish,
they will be forever destroyed.[q]

8But you, O LORD, are exalted forever.

9For surely your enemies[r], O LORD,
surely your enemies will perish;
all evildoers will be scattered.[s]
10You have exalted my horn[h][t] like
that of a wild ox;[u]
fine oils[v] have been poured upon
me.
11My eyes have seen the defeat of my
adversaries;
my ears have heard the rout of my
wicked foes.[w]

12The righteous will flourish[x] like a
palm tree,
they will grow like a cedar of
Lebanon;[y]
13planted in the house of the LORD,
they will flourish in the courts of
our God.[z]
14They will still bear fruit[a] in old age,
they will stay fresh and green,
15proclaiming, "The LORD is upright;
he is my Rock, and there is no
wickedness in him.[b]"

Psalm 93

1The LORD reigns,[c] he is robed in
majesty;[d]
the LORD is robed in majesty
and is armed with strength.[e]
The world is firmly established;[f]
it cannot be moved.[g]
2Your throne was established[h] long
ago;
you are from all eternity.[i]

3The seas[j] have lifted up, O LORD,
the seas have lifted up their
voice;[k]
the seas have lifted up their
pounding waves.[l]
4Mightier than the thunder[m] of the
great waters,
mightier than the breakers[n] of the
sea—
the LORD on high is mighty.[o]

5Your statutes stand firm;
holiness[p] adorns your house[q]
for endless days, O LORD.

Psalm 94

1O LORD, the God who avenges,[r]
O God who avenges, shine forth.[s]
2Rise up,[t] O Judge[u] of the earth;
pay back[v] to the proud what they
deserve.
3How long will the wicked, O LORD,
how long will the wicked be
jubilant?[w]

4They pour out arrogant[x] words;
all the evildoers are full of
boasting.[y]
5They crush your people,[z] O LORD;
they oppress your inheritance.[a]
6They slay the widow[b] and the alien;
they murder the fatherless.[c]
7They say, "The LORD does not see;[d]
the God of Jacob[e] pays no heed."

8Take heed, you senseless ones[f]
among the people;
you fools, when will you become
wise?
9Does he who implanted the ear not
hear?

91:12 [a]Mt 4:6*; Lk 4:10-11* **91:13** [b]Da 6:22; Lk 10:19 **91:15** [c]S 1Sa 2:30; Jn 12:26 **91:16** [d]Dt 6:2; S Ps 21:4 [e]S Ps 50:23 **92:1** [f]S Ps 27:6 [g]S Ps 9:2; 147:1 [h]Ps 135:3 **92:2** [i]S Ps 55:17 **92:3** [j]S Ps 71:22 [k]S 1Sa 10:5; S Ne 12:27; S Ps 33:2; 81:2 **92:4** [l]S Ps 5:11; 27:6 [m]S Ps 8:6; 111:7; 143:5 **92:5** [n]S Job 36:24; Rev 15:3 [o]Ps 40:5; 139:17; Isa 28:29; 31:2; Ro 11:33 **92:6** [p]S Ps 73:22 **92:7** [q]S Ps 37:2 **92:9** [r]S Ps 45:5 [s]S Ps 68:1; S 89:10 **92:10** [t]S Ps 89:17 [u]S Ps 29:6 [v]S Ps 23:5 **92:11** [w]S Ps 54:7; 91:8 **92:12** [x]S Ps 72:7 [y]S Ps 1:3; 52:8; Jer 17:8; Hos 14:6 **92:13** [z]Ps 135:2 **92:14** [a]S Ps 1:3; S Jn 15:2 **92:15** [b]S Job 34:10 **93:1** [c]S 1Ch 16:31; S Ps 97:1 [d]S Job 40:10; S Ps 21:5 [e]S Ps 65:6 [f]Ps 24:2; 78:69; 119:90 [g]1Ch 16:30; Ps 96:10 **93:2** [h]S 2Sa 7:16 [i]S Ge 21:33 **93:3** [j]Ps 96:11; 98:7; Isa 5:30; 17:12-13; Jer 6:23 [k]S Ps 46:3 [l]Job 9:8; Ps 107:25,29; Isa 51:15; Jer 31:35; Hab 3:10 **93:4** [m]Ps 65:7; Jer 6:23 [n]S Ps 18:4; Jnh 1:15 [o]S Ne 9:32; S Job 9:4 **93:5** [p]Ps 29:2; 96:9 [q]Ps 5:7; 23:6 **94:1** [r]S Ge 4:24; Ro 12:19 [s]S Dt 33:2; Ps 80:1 **94:2** [t]S Nu 10:35 [u]S Ge 18:25; Heb 12:23; S Jas 5:9 [v]S Ps 31:23 **94:3** [w]Ps 13:2 **94:4** [x]Jer 43:2 [y]S Ps 52:1 **94:5** [z]Ps 44:2; 74:8; Isa 3:15; Jer 8:21 [a]Ps 28:9 **94:6** [b]S Dt 10:18; S Isa 1:17 [c]Dt 24:19 **94:7** [d]S Job 22:14 [e]S Ge 24:12 **94:8** [f]S Dt 32:6; S Ps 73:22

[h]10 *Horn* here symbolizes strength.

Does he who formed the eye not
see?[a]
10Does he who disciplines[b] nations
not punish?
Does he who teaches[c] man lack
knowledge?
11The LORD knows the thoughts[d] of
man;
he knows that they are futile.[e]
12Blessed is the man you discipline,[f]
O LORD,
the man you teach[g] from your
law;
13you grant him relief from days of
trouble,[h]
till a pit[i] is dug for the wicked.
14For the LORD will not reject his
people;[j]
he will never forsake his
inheritance.
15Judgment will again be founded on
righteousness,[k]
and all the upright in heart[l] will
follow it.

16Who will rise up[m] for me against the
wicked?
Who will take a stand for me
against evildoers?[n]
17Unless the LORD had given me help,[o]
I would soon have dwelt in the
silence of death.[p]
18When I said, "My foot is slipping,[q]"
your love, O LORD, supported me.
19When anxiety[r] was great within me,
your consolation[s] brought joy to
my soul.

20Can a corrupt throne[t] be allied with
you—
one that brings on misery by its
decrees?[u]
21They band together[v] against the
righteous
and condemn the innocent[w] to
death.[x]
22But the LORD has become my
fortress,
and my God the rock[y] in whom I
take refuge.[z]
23He will repay[a] them for their sins
and destroy[b] them for their
wickedness;
the LORD our God will destroy
them.

Psalm 95

1Come,[c] let us sing for joy[d] to the
LORD;
let us shout aloud[e] to the Rock[f]
of our salvation.
2Let us come before him[g] with
thanksgiving[h]
and extol him with music[i] and
song.

3For the LORD is the great God,[j]
the great King[k] above all gods.[l]
4In his hand are the depths of the
earth,[m]
and the mountain peaks belong to
him.
5The sea is his, for he made it,
and his hands formed the dry
land.[n]

6Come, let us bow down[o] in
worship,[p]
let us kneel[q] before the LORD our
Maker;[r]
7for he is our God
and we are the people of his
pasture,[s]
the flock under his care.

Today, if you hear his voice,
8 do not harden your hearts[t] as you
did at Meribah,[i] [u]
as you did that day at Massah[j] in
the desert,[v]
9where your fathers tested[w] and tried
me,
though they had seen what I did.
10For forty years[x] I was angry with
that generation;
I said, "They are a people whose
hearts go astray,[y]
and they have not known my
ways."[z]
11So I declared on oath[a] in my anger,
"They shall never enter my rest."[b]

Psalm 96

96:1-13pp — 1Ch 16:23-33

1Sing to the LORD[c] a new song;[d]
sing to the LORD, all the earth.
2Sing to the LORD, praise his name;[e]
proclaim his salvation[f] day after
day.
3Declare his glory[g] among the
nations,
his marvelous deeds[h] among all
peoples.

4For great is the LORD and most
worthy of praise;[i]
he is to be feared[j] above all
gods.[k]

94:9 [a]Ex 4:11; Pr 20:12 **94:10** [b]S Ps 39:11 [c]S Ex 35:34; Job 35:11; Isa 28:26 **94:11** [d]Ps 139:2; Pr 15:26; S Mt 9:4 [e]1Co 3:20* **94:12** [f]S Job 5:17; 1Co 11:32; Heb 12:5 [g]S Dt 8:3; S 1Sa 12:23 **94:13** [h]S Ps 86:7 [i]S Ps 7:15; S 55:23 **94:14** [j]S Dt 31:6; Ps 37:28; Ro 11:2 **94:15** [k]Ps 97:2 [l]Ps 7:10; 11:2; S 36:10 **94:16** [m]Nu 10:35; Ps 17:13; Isa 14:22 [n]S Ps 59:2 **94:17** [o]Ps 124:2 [p]S Ps 31:17 **94:18** [q]S Dt 32:35; S Job 12:5 **94:19** [r]Ecc 11:10 [s]S Job 6:10 **94:20** [t]Jer 22:30; 36:30 [u]S Ps 58:2 **94:21** [v]S Ps 56:6 [w]Ps 106:38; Pr 17:15,26; 28:21; Isa 5:20, 23; Mt 27:4 [x]S Ge 18:23 **94:22** [y]S Ps 61:2 [z]S 2Sa 22:3; S Ps 18:2 **94:23** [a]S Ex 32:34; S Ps 54:5 [b]Ps 9:5; 37:38; 145:20 **95:1** [c]Ps 34:11; 80:2 [d]S Ps 5:11 [e]Ps 81:1; Isa 44:23; Zep 3:14 [f]S 2Sa 22:47

95:2 [g]Ps 100:2; Mic 6:6 [h]S Ps 42:4 [i]Ps 81:2; S Eph 5:19 **95:3** [j]Ps 48:1; 86:10; 145:3; 147:5 [k]S Ps 47:2 [l]Ps 96:4; 97:9 **95:4** [m]S Ps 63:9 **95:5** [n]S Ge 1:9; Ps 146:6 **95:6** [o]S 2Sa 12:16; Php 2:10 [p]S Ps 22:29 [q]2Ch 6:13 [r]Ps 100:3; 149:2; Isa 17:7; 54:5; Da 6:10-11; Hos 8:14 **95:7** [s]S Ps 74:1 **95:8** [t]Mk 10:5; Heb 3:8 [u]S Ex 17:7; S Dt 33:8; Heb 3:15*; 4:7 [v]S Ps 78:40 **95:9** [w]S Nu 14:22; 1Co 10:9 **95:10** [x]S Ex 16:35; S Nu 14:34; Ac 7:36; Heb 3:17 [y]Ps 58:3; 119:67, 176; Pr 12:26; 16:29; Isa 53:6; Jer 31:19; 50:6; Eze 34:6 [z]S Dt 8:6 **95:11** [a]S Nu 14:23 [b]Dt 1:35; Heb 3:7-11*; 4:3* **96:1** [c]Ps 30:4 [d]Ps 33:3; S 40:3; 98:1; 144:9; 149:1; Isa 42:10; S Rev 5:9 **96:2** [e]S Ps 68:4 [f]Ps 27:1; 71:15 **96:3** [g]Ps 8:1 [h]S Ps 71:17; Rev 15:3 **96:4** [i]S Ps 48:1 [j]S Dt 28:58; S 1Ch 16:25; Ps 89:7 [k]S Ps 95:3

[i]8 *Meribah* means *quarreling*. [j]8 *Massah* means *testing*.

5For all the gods of the nations are
idols,[a]
but the LORD made the heavens.[b]
6Splendor and majesty[c] are before
him;
strength and glory[d] are in his
sanctuary.
7Ascribe to the LORD,[e] O families of
nations,[f]
ascribe to the LORD glory and
strength.
8Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his
name;
bring an offering[g] and come into
his courts.[h]
9Worship the LORD[i] in the splendor
of his[k] holiness;[j]
tremble[k] before him, all the
earth.[l]
10Say among the nations, "The LORD
reigns.[m]"
The world is firmly established,[n] it
cannot be moved;[o]
he will judge[p] the peoples with
equity.[q]
11Let the heavens rejoice,[r] let the
earth be glad;[s]
let the sea resound, and all that is
in it;
12 let the fields be jubilant, and
everything in them.
Then all the trees of the forest[t] will
sing for joy;[u]
13 they will sing before the LORD, for
he comes,
he comes to judge[v] the earth.
He will judge the world in
righteousness[w]
and the peoples in his truth.[x]

Psalm 97

1The LORD reigns,[y] let the earth be
glad;[z]
let the distant shores[a] rejoice.
2Clouds[b] and thick darkness[c]
surround him;
righteousness and justice are the
foundation of his throne.[d]
3Fire[e] goes before[f] him
and consumes[g] his foes on every
side.
4His lightning[h] lights up the world;
the earth[i] sees and trembles.[j]
5The mountains melt[k] like wax[l]
before the LORD,
before the Lord of all the earth.[m]
6The heavens proclaim his
righteousness,[n]
and all the peoples see his glory.[o]

7All who worship images[p] are put to
shame,[q]
those who boast in idols[r] —
worship him,[s] all you gods![t]
8Zion hears and rejoices
and the villages of Judah are glad[u]
because of your judgments,[v]
O LORD.
9For you, O LORD, are the Most High[w]
over all the earth;[x]
you are exalted[y] far above all
gods.
10Let those who love the LORD hate
evil,[z]
for he guards[a] the lives of his
faithful ones[b]
and delivers[c] them from the hand
of the wicked.[d]
11Light is shed[e] upon the righteous[f]
and joy on the upright in heart.[g]
12Rejoice in the LORD,[h] you who are
righteous,
and praise his holy name.[i]

Psalm 98

A psalm.

1Sing to the LORD[j] a new song,[k]
for he has done marvelous
things;[l]
his right hand[m] and his holy arm[n]
have worked salvation[o] for him.
2The LORD has made his salvation
known[p]
and revealed his righteousness[q] to
the nations.[r]
3He has remembered[s] his love
and his faithfulness to the house
of Israel;
all the ends of the earth[t] have seen
the salvation of our God.[u]
4Shout for joy[v] to the LORD, all the
earth,
burst into jubilant song with
music;
5make music to the LORD with the
harp,[w]
with the harp and the sound of
singing,[x]
6with trumpets[y] and the blast of the
ram's horn[z] —
shout for joy[a] before the LORD, the
King.[b]

96:5 [a]S Lev 19:4 [b]S Ge 1:1; S 2Ch 2:12 **96:6** [c]S Ps 21:5 [d]Ps 29:1; 89:17 **96:7** [e]Ps 29:1 [f]Ps 22:27 **96:8** [g]Ps 45:12; S 51:19; 72:10 [h]Ps 65:4; 84:10; 92:13; 100:4 **96:9** [i]Ex 23:25; Jnh 1:9 [j]S Ps 93:5 [k]S Ex 15:14; Ps 114:7 [l]Ps 33:8 **96:10** [m]Ps 97:1 [n]Ps 24:2; 78:69; 119:90 [o]S Ps 93:1 [p]Ps 58:11 [q]Ps 67:4; 98:9 **96:11** [r]S Rev 12:12 [s]Ps 97:1; Isa 49:13 **96:12** [t]Isa 44:23; 55:12; Eze 17:24 [u]Ps 65:13 **96:13** [v]Rev 19:11 [w]S Ps 7:11; Ac 17:31 [x]Ps 86:11 **97:1** [y]Ex 15:18; Ps 93:1; 96:10; 99:1; Isa 24:23; 52:7 [z]S Ps 96:11 [a]S Est 10:1 **97:2** [b]S Job 22:14 [c]S Ex 19:9 [d]Ps 89:14 **97:3** [e]Isa 9:19; Da 7:10; Joel 1:19; 2:3 [f]Hab 3:5 [g]S 2Sa 22:9 **97:4** [h]S Job 36:30 [i]S 2Sa 22:8 [j]S Ps 18:7; 104:32; S Rev 6:12 **97:5** [k]S Ps 46:2, 6 [l]S Ps 22:14 [m]S Jos 3:11 **97:6** [n]Ps 50:6; 98:2 [o]S Ps 19:1 **97:7** [p]S Lev 26:1 [q]Isa 42:17; Jer 10:14 [r]S Dt 5:8 [s]Heb 1:6 [t]Ex 12:12; Ps 16:4 **97:8** [u]S Ps 9:2 [v]Ps 48:11 **97:9** [w]Ps 7:8 [x]S Job 34:29 [y]S Ps 47:9 **97:10** [z]S Job 28:28; Am 5:15; Ro 12:9 [a]Ps 145:20 [b]Ps 31:23; 37:28; Pr 2:8 [c]S Ps 34:7; Da 3:28; 6:16 [d]Ps 37:40; Jer 15:21; 20:13 **97:11** [e]S Job 22:28 [f]Ps 11:5 [g]Ps 7:10 **97:12** [h]S Job 22:19; Ps 104:34; Isa 41:16; Php 4:4 [i]S Ex 3:15; S Ps 99:3 **98:1** [j]Ps 30:4 [k]S Ps 96:1 [l]Ex 15:1; Ps 96:3; Isa 12:5; Lk 1:51 [m]S Ex 15:6 [n]S Jos 4:24; Job 40:9; Isa 51:9; 52:10; 53:1; 63:5 [o]S Ps 44:3; Isa 59:16 **98:2** [p]Isa 52:10; Lk 3:6 [q]S Ps 97:6 [r]S Ps 67:2 **98:3** [s]S 1Ch 16:15 [t]S Ge 49:10; S Ps 48:10 [u]S Ps 50:23 **98:4** [v]Ps 20:5; Isa 12:6; 44:23; 52:9; 54:1; 55:12 **98:5** [w]Ps 33:2; 92:3; 147:7 [x]Isa 51:3 **98:6** [y]S Nu 10:2; S 2Sa 6:15 [z]S Ex 19:13 [a]Ps 20:5; 100:1; Isa 12:6 [b]Ps 2:6; 47:7

k9 Or *LORD with the splendor of*

7 Let the sea[a] resound, and
everything in it,
the world, and all who live in it.[b]
8 Let the rivers clap their hands,[c]
let the mountains[d] sing together
for joy;
9 let them sing before the LORD,
for he comes to judge the earth.
He will judge the world in
righteousness
and the peoples with equity.[e]

Psalm 99

1 The LORD reigns,[f]
let the nations tremble;[g]
he sits enthroned[h] between the
cherubim,[i]
let the earth shake.
2 Great is the LORD[j] in Zion;[k]
he is exalted[l] over all the nations.
3 Let them praise[m] your great and
awesome name[n]—
he is holy.[o]
4 The King[p] is mighty, he loves
justice[q]—
you have established equity;[r]
in Jacob you have done
what is just and right.[s]
5 Exalt[t] the LORD our God
and worship at his footstool;
he is holy.
6 Moses[u] and Aaron[v] were among his
priests,
Samuel[w] was among those who
called on his name;
they called on the LORD
and he answered[x] them.
7 He spoke to them from the pillar of
cloud;[y]
they kept his statutes and the
decrees he gave them.
8 O LORD our God,
you answered them;
you were to Israel[l] a forgiving
God,[z]
though you punished[a] their
misdeeds.[m]
9 Exalt the LORD our God
and worship at his holy mountain,
for the LORD our God is holy.

Psalm 100

A psalm. For giving thanks.

1 Shout for joy[b] to the LORD, all the
earth.
2 Worship the LORD[c] with gladness;
come before him[d] with joyful
songs.
3 Know that the LORD is God.[e]
It is he who made us,[f] and we are
his[n];
we are his people,[g] the sheep of
his pasture.[h]
4 Enter his gates with thanksgiving[i]
and his courts[j] with praise;
give thanks to him and praise his
name.[k]
5 For the LORD is good[l] and his love
endures forever;[m]
his faithfulness[n] continues
through all generations.

Psalm 101

Of David. A psalm.

1 I will sing of your love[o] and
justice;
to you, O LORD, I will sing praise.
2 I will be careful to lead a blameless
life[p]—
when will you come to me?

I will walk[q] in my house
with blameless heart.
3 I will set before my eyes
no vile thing.[r]

The deeds of faithless men I hate;[s]
they will not cling to me.
4 Men of perverse heart[t] shall be far
from me;
I will have nothing to do with evil.
5 Whoever slanders his neighbor[u] in
secret,
him will I put to silence;
whoever has haughty eyes[v] and a
proud heart,
him will I not endure.
6 My eyes will be on the faithful in the
land,
that they may dwell with me;
he whose walk is blameless[w]
will minister to me.
7 No one who practices deceit
will dwell in my house;
no one who speaks falsely
will stand in my presence.
8 Every morning[x] I will put to silence
all the wicked[y] in the land;
I will cut off every evildoer[z]
from the city of the LORD.[a]

98:7 [a]S Ps 93:3 [b]S Ps 24:1
98:8 [c]S 2Ki 11:12 [d]Ps 148:9; Isa 44:23; 55:12
98:9 [e]S Ps 96:10
99:1 [f]S 1Ch 16:31; S Ps 97:1 [g]S Ex 15:14; S 1Ch 16:30 [h]S 2Sa 6:2 [i]S Ex 25:22
99:2 [j]S Ps 48:1 [k]Ps 2:6 [l]Ex 15:1; Ps 46:10; 97:9; 113:4; 148:13
99:3 [m]Ps 30:4; 33:21; 97:12; 103:1; 106:47; 111:9; 145:21; 148:5 [n]Ps 76:1 [o]S Ex 15:11; S Lev 11:44; Rev 4:8
99:4 [p]Ps 2:6 [q]S 1Ki 10:9 [r]Ps 98:9 [s]S Ge 18:19; Rev 15:3
99:5 [t]S Ex 15:2
99:6 [u]S Ex 24:6 [v]S Ex 28:1 [w]1Sa 7:5 [x]Ps 4:3; 91:15
99:7 [y]S Ex 13:21; S 19:9; S Nu 11:25
99:8 [z]S Ex 22:27; S Nu 14:20 [a]S Lev 26:18
100:1 [b]S Ps 98:6
100:2 [c]S Dt 10:12 [d]S Ps 95:2
100:3 [e]S 1Ki 18:21; S Ps 46:10 [f]S Job 10:3 [g]Ps 79:13; Isa 19:25; 63:8, 17-19; 64:9 [h]S 2Sa 24:17; S Ps 74:1
100:4 [i]S Ps 42:4 [j]S Ps 96:8 [k]Ps 116:17
100:5 [l]S 1Ch 16:34 [m]S Ezr 3:11; Ps 106:1 [n]Ps 108:4; 119:90
101:1 [o]Ps 33:1; 51:14; 89:1; 145:7
101:2 [p]S Ge 17:1; Php 1:10 [q]S 1Ki 3:14
101:3 [r]Jer 16:18; Eze 11:21; Hos 9:10 [s]S Ps 5:5
101:4 [t]Pr 3:32; 6:16-19; 11:20
101:5 [u]S Ex 20:16; S Lev 19:16 [v]S Ps 10:5
101:6 [w]ver 2; Ps 119:1
101:8 [x]Ps 5:3; Jer 21:12 [y]Ps 75:10 [z]S 2Sa 3:39; Ps 118:10-12 [a]S Ps 46:4

l8 Hebrew *them* m8 Or *| an avenger of the wrongs done to them* n3 Or *and not we ourselves*

Psalm 102

A prayer of an afflicted man. When he is faint and pours out his lament before the LORD.

1Hear my prayer,[a] O LORD;
let my cry for help[b] come to you.
2Do not hide your face[c] from me
when I am in distress.
Turn your ear[d] to me;
when I call, answer me quickly.
3For my days vanish like smoke;[e]
my bones[f] burn like glowing embers.
4My heart is blighted and withered like grass;[g]
I forget to eat my food.[h]
5Because of my loud groaning[i]
I am reduced to skin and bones.
6I am like a desert owl,[j]
like an owl among the ruins.
7I lie awake;[k] I have become
like a bird alone[l] on a roof.
8All day long my enemies[m] taunt me;[n]
those who rail against me use my name as a curse.[o]
9For I eat ashes[p] as my food
and mingle my drink with tears[q]
10because of your great wrath,[r]
for you have taken me up and thrown me aside.
11My days are like the evening shadow;[s]
I wither[t] away like grass.
12But you, O LORD, sit enthroned forever;[u]
your renown endures[v] through all generations.[w]
13You will arise[x] and have compassion[y] on Zion,
for it is time[z] to show favor[a] to her;
the appointed time[b] has come.
14For her stones are dear to your servants;
her very dust moves them to pity.
15The nations will fear[c] the name of the LORD,
all the kings[d] of the earth will revere your glory.
16For the LORD will rebuild Zion[e]
and appear in his glory.[f]
17He will respond to the prayer[g] of the destitute;
he will not despise their plea.

18Let this be written[h] for a future generation,
that a people not yet created[i] may praise the LORD:
19"The LORD looked down[j] from his sanctuary on high,
from heaven he viewed the earth,
20to hear the groans of the prisoners[k]
and release those condemned to death."
21So the name of the LORD will be declared[l] in Zion
and his praise[m] in Jerusalem
22when the peoples and the kingdoms
assemble to worship[n] the LORD.

23In the course of my life[a] he broke my strength;
he cut short my days.[o]
24So I said:
"Do not take me away, O my God, in the midst of my days;
your years go on[p] through all generations.
25In the beginning[q] you laid the foundations of the earth,
and the heavens[r] are the work of your hands.[s]
26They will perish,[t] but you remain;
they will all wear out like a garment.
Like clothing you will change them
and they will be discarded.
27But you remain the same,[u]
and your years will never end.[v]
28The children of your servants[w] will live in your presence;
their descendants[x] will be established before you."

Psalm 103

Of David.

1Praise the LORD,[y] O my soul;[z]
all my inmost being, praise his holy name.[a]
2Praise the LORD,[b] O my soul,
and forget not[c] all his benefits—
3who forgives all your sins[d]
and heals[e] all your diseases,
4who redeems your life[f] from the pit
and crowns you with love and compassion,[g]
5who satisfies[h] your desires with good things
so that your youth is renewed[i]
like the eagle's.[j]

102:1 [a]Ps 4:1 [b]S Ex 2:23 **102:2** [c]S Ps 22:24 [d]S 2Ki 19:16; Ps 31:2; 88:2 **102:3** [e]S Ps 37:20; S Jas 4:14 [f]La 1:13 **102:4** [g]S Ps 37:2; 90:5-6 [h]S 1Sa 1:7; S Ezr 10:6; S Job 33:20 **102:5** [i]S Ps 6:6 **102:6** [j]S Dt 14:15-17; Job 30:29; Isa 34:11; Zep 2:14 **102:7** [k]Ps 77:4 [l]Ps 38:11 **102:8** [m]S Ps 31:11 [n]S Ps 42:10; Lk 22:63-65; 23:35-37 [o]S Ex 22:28; Isa 65:15; Jer 24:9; 25:18; 42:18; 44:12; Eze 14:8; Zec 8:13 **102:9** [p]Isa 44:20 [q]Ps 6:6; 42:3; 80:5 **102:10** [r]Ps 7:11; 38:3 **102:11** [s]S 1Ch 29:15; S Job 14:2; S Ps 39:6 [t]S Job 8:12; Jas 1:10 **102:12** [u]S Ex 15:18 [v]Ps 135:13; Isa 55:13; 63:12 [w]S Ex 3:15 **102:13** [x]S Ps 44:26 [y]S Dt 32:36; S 1Ki 3:26; Isa 54:8; 60:10; Zec 10:6 [z]Ps 119:126 [a]S Ps 77:7 [b]S Ex 13:10; Da 8:19; Ac 1:7 **102:15** [c]1Ki 8:43; Ps 67:7; Isa 2:2 [d]Ps 76:12; 138:4; 148:11 **102:16** [e]S Ps 51:18 [f]Ps 8:1; Isa 60:1-2 **102:17** [g]S 1Ki 8:29; Ps 4:1; 6:9 **102:18** [h]S Ro 4:24 [i]S Ps 22:31 **102:19** [j]Ps 53:2 **102:20** [k]S Ps 68:6; S Lk 4:19 **102:21** [l]Ps 22:22 [m]Ps 9:14 **102:22** [n]S Ps 22:27; Isa 49:22-23; Zec 8:20-23 **102:23** [o]S Ps 39:5 **102:24** [p]S Ge 21:33; Job 36:26; Ps 90:2 **102:25** [q]S Ge 1:1; Heb 1:10-12* [r]S 2Ch 2:12

[s]S Ps 8:3 **102:26** [t]Isa 13:10,13; 34:4; 51:6; Eze 32:8; Joel 2:10; Mt 24:35; 2Pe 3:7-10; Rev 20:11 **102:27** [u]S Nu 23:19; Heb 13:8; Jas 1:17 [v]Ps 9:7 **102:28** [w]Ps 69:36 [x]Ps 25:13; 89:4 **103:1** [y]Ps 28:6 [z]Ps 104:1 [a]S Ps 30:4 **103:2** [b]Ps 106:1; 117:1 [c]S Dt 6:12; Ps 77:11 **103:3** [d]S Ex 34:7 [e]S Ex 15:26; Col 3:13; 1Pe 2:24; 1Jn 1:9 **103:4** [f]Ps 34:22; 56:13; Isa 43:1 [g]S Ps 8:5; 23:6 **103:5** [h]S Ps 90:14; S 104:28 [i]Job 33:25; Ps 119:25,93; 2Co 4:16 [j]S Ex 19:4

[a]23 Or *By his power*

6The LORD works righteousness[a]
and justice for all the oppressed.[b]

7He made known[c] his ways[d] to
Moses,
his deeds[e] to the people of Israel:
8The LORD is compassionate and
gracious,[f]
slow to anger, abounding in love.
9He will not always accuse,
nor will he harbor his anger
forever;[g]
10he does not treat us as our sins
deserve[h]
or repay us according to our
iniquities.
11For as high as the heavens are above
the earth,
so great is his love[i] for those who
fear him;[j]
12as far as the east is from the
west,
so far has he removed our
transgressions[k] from us.
13As a father has compassion[l] on his
children,
so the LORD has compassion on
those who fear him;
14for he knows how we are
formed,[m]
he remembers that we are
dust.[n]
15As for man, his days are like grass,[o]
he flourishes like a flower[p] of the
field;
16the wind blows[q] over it and it is
gone,
and its place[r] remembers it no
more.
17But from everlasting to everlasting
the LORD's love is with those who
fear him,
and his righteousness with their
children's children[s] —
18with those who keep his covenant[t]
and remember[u] to obey his
precepts.[v]

19The LORD has established his throne[w]
in heaven,
and his kingdom rules[x] over all.

20Praise the LORD,[y] you his angels,[z]
you mighty ones[a] who do his
bidding,[b]
who obey his word.
21Praise the LORD, all his heavenly
hosts,[c]
you his servants[d] who do his will.
22Praise the LORD, all his works[e]
everywhere in his dominion.

Praise the LORD, O my soul.[f]

103:6 [a]Ps 9:8; 65:5; Isa 9:7 [b]S Ps 74:21; S Lk 4:19 **103:7** [c]Ps 99:7; 147:19 [d]S Ex 33:13 [e]Ps 106:22 **103:8** [f]S Ex 22:27; S Ps 86:15; Mic 7:18-19; Jas 5:11 **103:9** [g]Ps 30:5; 79:5; Isa 57:16; Jer 3:5,12; Mic 7:18 **103:10** [h]S Ezr 9:13; Ro 6:23 **103:11** [i]Ps 13:5; 57:10; 100:5; 106:45; 117:2; La 3:22; Eph 3:18 [j]S 2Ch 6:31 **103:12** [k]S 2Sa 12:13; Ro 4:7; Eph 2:5 **103:13** [l]Mal 3:17; 1Jn 3:1 **103:14** [m]Ps 119:73; 139:13-15; Isa 29:16 [n]S Ge 2:7; S Ps 146:4 **103:15** [o]Ps 37:2; 90:5; 102:11; Isa 40:6 [p]S Job 14:2; Jas 1:10 **103:16** [q]Isa 40:7; Hag 1:9 [r]S Job 7:8 **103:17** [s]S Ge 48:11; S Ezr 9:12 **103:18** [t]S Dt 29:9 [u]Ps 119:52 [v]S Nu 15:40; Jn 14:15 **103:19** [w]Ps 47:8; 80:1; 113:5 [x]Ps 22:28; 66:7; Da 4:17 **103:20** [y]Ps 28:6 [z]S Ne 9:6; Lk 2:13; Heb 1:14 [a]S Ps 29:1 [b]Ps 107:25; 135:7; 148:8 **103:21** [c]S 1Ki 22:19 [d]S Ne 7:73 **103:22** [e]Ps 19:1; 67:3; 145:10; 150:6 [f]ver 1; Ps 104:1

104:1 [g]S Ps 103:22 [h]S Job 40:10 **104:2** [i]Isa 49:18; Jer 43:12 [j]Ps 18:12; 1Ti 6:16 [k]Job 9:8; Jer 51:15 [l]Job 37:18; Isa 40:22; 42:5; 44:24; Zec 12:1 [m]S Ps 19:4 **104:3** [n]Am 9:6 [o]S Ps 24:2 [p]S Dt 33:26; Isa 19:1; Na 1:3 [q]S 2Ki 2:11 [r]Ps 18:10 **104:4** [s]Ps 148:8; Heb 1:7* [t]Ge 3:24; 2Ki 2:11 **104:5** [u]Ex 31:17;

Psalm 104

1Praise the LORD, O my soul.[g]

O LORD my God, you are very great;
you are clothed with splendor and
majesty.[h]
2He wraps[i] himself in light[j] as with
a garment;
he stretches[k] out the heavens[l]
like a tent[m]
3 and lays the beams[n] of his upper
chambers on their waters.[o]
He makes the clouds[p] his chariot[q]
and rides on the wings of the
wind.[r]
4He makes winds his messengers,[p][s]
flames of fire[t] his servants.

5He set the earth[u] on its
foundations;[v]
it can never be moved.
6You covered it[w] with the deep[x] as
with a garment;
the waters stood[y] above the
mountains.
7But at your rebuke[z] the waters fled,
at the sound of your thunder[a]
they took to flight;
8they flowed over the mountains,
they went down into the valleys,
to the place you assigned[b] for
them.
9You set a boundary[c] they cannot
cross;
never again will they cover the
earth.

10He makes springs[d] pour water into
the ravines;
it flows between the mountains.
11They give water[e] to all the beasts of
the field;
the wild donkeys[f] quench their
thirst.
12The birds of the air[g] nest by the
waters;
they sing among the branches.[h]
13He waters the mountains[i] from his
upper chambers;[j]
the earth is satisfied by the fruit of
his work.[k]
14He makes grass grow[l] for the cattle,
and plants for man to cultivate—
bringing forth food[m] from the
earth:

Job 26:7; Ps 24:1-2; 102:25; 121:2 [v]S 1Sa 2:8 **104:6** [w]Ge 7:19 [x]S Ge 1:2 [y]2Pe 3:6 **104:7** [z]S Ps 18:15 [a]S Ex 9:23; Ps 29:3 **104:8** [b]Ps 33:7 **104:9** [c]S Ge 1:9; S Ps 16:6 **104:10** [d]Ps 107:33; Isa 41:18 **104:11** [e]ver 13 [f]S Ge 16:12; Isa 32:14; Jer 14:6 **104:12** [g]ver 17; Mt 8:20 [h]Mt 13:32 **104:13** [i]Ps 135:7; 147:8; Jer 10:13; Zec 10:1 [j]S Lev 26:4 [k]Am 9:6 **104:14** [l]S Job 38:27; Ps 147:8 [m]S Ge 1:30; S Job 28:5

[p]4 Or *angels*

15wine[a] that gladdens the heart of
man,
oil[b] to make his face shine,
and bread that sustains[c] his heart.
16The trees of the LORD[d] are well
watered,
the cedars of Lebanon[e] that he
planted.
17There the birds[f] make their nests;
the stork has its home in the pine
trees.
18The high mountains belong to the
wild goats;[g]
the crags are a refuge for the
coneys.[q][h]

19The moon marks off the seasons,[i]
and the sun[j] knows when to go
down.
20You bring darkness,[k] it becomes
night,[l]
and all the beasts of the forest[m]
prowl.
21The lions roar for their prey[n]
and seek their food from God.[o]
22The sun rises, and they steal away;
they return and lie down in their
dens.[p]
23Then man goes out to his work,[q]
to his labor until evening.[r]

24How many are your works,[s]
O LORD!
In wisdom you made[t] them all;
the earth is full of your
creatures.[u]
25There is the sea,[v] vast and spacious,
teeming with creatures beyond
number—
living things both large and
small.[w]
26There the ships[x] go to and fro,
and the leviathan,[y] which you
formed to frolic[z] there.[a]

27These all look to you
to give them their food[b] at the
proper time.
28When you give it to them,
they gather it up;
when you open your hand,
they are satisfied[c] with good
things.
29When you hide your face,[d]
they are terrified;
when you take away their breath,
they die and return to the dust.[e]
30When you send your Spirit,[f]
they are created,
and you renew the face of the
earth.

31May the glory of the LORD[g] endure
forever;
may the LORD rejoice in his
works[h]—
32he who looks at the earth, and it
trembles,[i]
who touches the mountains,[j] and
they smoke.[k]

33I will sing[l] to the LORD all my life;
I will sing praise to my God as
long as I live.
34May my meditation be pleasing to
him,
as I rejoice[m] in the LORD.
35But may sinners vanish[n] from the
earth
and the wicked be no more.[o]

Praise the LORD, O my soul.

Praise the LORD.[r][p]

Psalm 105

105:1-15pp — 1Ch 16:8-22

1Give thanks to the LORD,[q] call on his
name;[r]
make known among the nations
what he has done.
2Sing to him,[s] sing praise[t] to him;
tell of all his wonderful acts.[u]
3Glory in his holy name;[v]
let the hearts of those who seek
the LORD rejoice.
4Look to the LORD and his strength;
seek his face[w] always.

5Remember the wonders[x] he has
done,
his miracles, and the judgments he
pronounced,[y]
6O descendants of Abraham his
servant,[z]
O sons of Jacob, his chosen[a] ones.
7He is the LORD our God;
his judgments are in all the earth.

8He remembers his covenant[b]
forever,
the word he commanded, for a
thousand generations,
9the covenant he made with
Abraham,[c]
the oath he swore to Isaac.
10He confirmed it[d] to Jacob as a
decree,
to Israel as an everlasting
covenant:[e]
11"To you I will give the land of
Canaan[f]

104:15 [a]S Ge 14:18; S Jdg 9:13 [b]Ps 23:5; 92:10; Lk 7:46 [c]S Dt 8:3; Mt 6:11 **104:16** [d]Ge 1:11 [e]S Ps 72:16 **104:17** [f]ver 12 **104:18** [g]S Dt 14:5 [h]Pr 30:26 **104:19** [i]S Ge 1:14 [j]Ps 19:6 **104:20** [k]Isa 45:7; Am 5:8 [l]Ps 74:16 [m]S Ps 50:10 **104:21** [n]Am 3:4 [o]Ps 145:15; Joel 1:20; S Mt 6:26 **104:22** [p]S Job 37:8 **104:23** [q]S Ge 3:19 [r]Jdg 19:16 **104:24** [s]Ps 40:5 [t]S Ge 1:31 [u]Ps 24:1; 50:10-11 **104:25** [v]Ps 69:34 [w]Eze 47:10 **104:26** [x]Ps 107:23; Eze 27:9; Jnh 1:3 [y]S Job 3:8; 41:1 [z]Job 40:20 [a]S Ge 1:21 **104:27** [b]Job 36:31; Ps 145:15; 147:9 **104:28** [c]Ps 103:5; 145:16; Isa 58:11 **104:29** [d]S Dt 31:17 [e]S Job 7:21 **104:30** [f]S Ge 1:2 **104:31** [g]Ex 40:35; Ps 8:1; S Ro 11:36 [h]S Ge 1:4 **104:32** [i]S Ps 97:4 [j]S Ex 19:18 [k]Ps 144:5 **104:33** [l]S Ex 15:1; Ps 108:1 **104:34** [m]S Ps 2:11; 9:2; 32:11 **104:35** [n]Ps 37:38 [o]S Job 7:10 [p]Ps 28:6; 105:45; 106:48 **105:1** [q]S 1Ch 16:34 [r]Ps 80:18; 99:6; 116:13; Joel 2:32; Ac 2:21 **105:2** [s]Ps 30:4; 33:3; 96:1 [t]Ps 7:17; 18:49; 27:6; 59:17; 71:22; 146:2 [u]S Ps 75:1 **105:3** [v]S Ps 89:16 **105:4** [w]S Ps 24:6 **105:5** [x]S Ps 40:5 [y]S Dt 7:18 **105:6** [z]ver 42 [a]S Dt 10:15; Ps 106:5 **105:8** [b]S Ge 9:15; Ps 106:45; 111:5; Eze 16:60; S Lk 1:72 **105:9** [c]Ge 12:7; S 15:18; S 22:16-18; Lk 1:73; Gal 3:15-18 **105:10** [d]Ge 28:13-15 [e]Isa 55:3 **105:11** [f]S Ge 12:7

[q]18 That is, the hyrax or rock badger [r]35 Hebrew *Hallelu Yah*; in the Septuagint this line stands at the beginning of Psalm 105.

as the portion you will inherit."[a]

12 When they were but few in
number,[b]
few indeed, and strangers in it,[c]
13 they wandered from nation to
nation,[d]
from one kingdom to another.
14 He allowed no one to oppress[e]
them;
for their sake he rebuked kings:[f]
15 "Do not touch[g] my anointed ones;
do my prophets[h] no harm."

16 He called down famine[i] on the land
and destroyed all their supplies of
food;
17 and he sent a man before them—
Joseph, sold as a slave.[j]
18 They bruised his feet with shackles,[k]
his neck was put in irons,
19 till what he foretold[l] came to pass,
till the word[m] of the LORD proved
him true.
20 The king sent and released him,
the ruler of peoples set him free.[n]
21 He made him master of his
household,
ruler over all he possessed,
22 to instruct his princes[o] as he
pleased
and teach his elders wisdom.[p]

23 Then Israel entered Egypt;[q]
Jacob lived[r] as an alien in the land
of Ham.[s]
24 The LORD made his people very
fruitful;
he made them too numerous[t] for
their foes,
25 whose hearts he turned[u] to hate his
people,
to conspire[v] against his servants.
26 He sent Moses[w] his servant,
and Aaron,[x] whom he had
chosen.[y]
27 They performed[z] his miraculous
signs[a] among them,
his wonders[b] in the land of Ham.
28 He sent darkness[c] and made the
land dark—
for had they not rebelled against[d]
his words?
29 He turned their waters into blood,[e]
causing their fish to die.[f]
30 Their land teemed with frogs,[g]
which went up into the bedrooms
of their rulers.
31 He spoke,[h] and there came swarms
of flies,[i]
and gnats[j] throughout their
country.
32 He turned their rain into hail,[k]
with lightning throughout their
land;
33 he struck down their vines[l] and fig
trees[m]
and shattered the trees of their
country.
34 He spoke,[n] and the locusts came,[o]
grasshoppers[p] without number;[q]
35 they ate up every green thing in
their land,
ate up the produce of their soil.
36 Then he struck down all the
firstborn[r] in their land,
the firstfruits of all their manhood.

37 He brought out Israel, laden with
silver and gold,[s]
and from among their tribes no
one faltered.
38 Egypt was glad when they left,
because dread of Israel[t] had fallen
on them.
39 He spread out a cloud[u] as a
covering,
and a fire to give light at night.[v]
40 They asked,[w] and he brought them
quail[x]
and satisfied them with the bread
of heaven.[y]
41 He opened the rock,[z] and water
gushed out;
like a river it flowed in the desert.

42 For he remembered his holy
promise[a]
given to his servant Abraham.
43 He brought out his people with
rejoicing,[b]
his chosen ones with shouts of joy;
44 he gave them the lands of the
nations,[c]
and they fell heir to what others
had toiled[d] for—
45 that they might keep his precepts
and observe his laws.[e]

Praise the LORD.[s][f]

Psalm 106

106:1,47-48pp — 1Ch 16:34-36

1 Praise the LORD.[t][g]

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is
good;[h]
his love endures forever.[i]

105:11 [a]S Nu 34:2 **105:12** [b]Dt 7:7 [c]Ge 23:4; Heb 11:9 **105:13** [d]Ge 15:13-16; Nu 32:13; 33:3-49 **105:14** [e]Ge 35:5 [f]Ge 12:17-20; S 20:3; S Ps 9:5 **105:15** [g]S Ge 26:11; S 1Sa 12:3 [h]S Ge 20:7 **105:16** [i]S Ge 12:10; S Lev 26:26; Isa 3:1; Eze 4:16 **105:17** [j]S Ge 37:28; Ac 7:9 **105:18** [k]S Ge 40:15 **105:19** [l]S Ge 12:10; 40:20-22 [m]Ge 41:40 **105:20** [n]Ge 41:14 **105:22** [o]Ge 41:43-44 [p]S Ge 41:40 **105:23** [q]Ge 46:6; Ac 7:15; 13:17 [r]Ge 47:28 [s]S Ps 78:51 **105:24** [t]Ex 1:7, 9; Ac 7:17 **105:25** [u]S Ex 4:21 [v]Ex 1:6-10; Ac 7:19 **105:26** [w]S Ex 3:10 [x]S Ex 4:16; S Nu 33:1 [y]S Nu 16:5; 17:5-8 **105:27** [z]ver 28-37; Ex 7:8-12:51 [a]S Ex 4:17; S 10:1 [b]S Ex 3:20; Da 4:3 **105:28** [c]S Ge 1:4; S Ex 10:22 [d]S Ex 7:22 **105:29** [e]S Ps 78:44 [f]Ex 7:21 **105:30** [g]S Ex 8:2,6 **105:31** [h]Ps 107:25; 148:8 [i]Ex 8:21-24; S Ps 78:45 [j]Ex 8:16-18 **105:32** [k]Ex 9:22-25; S Job 38:22; S Ps 78:47 **105:33** [l]Ps 78:47 [m]Ex 10:5,12 **105:34** [n]Ps 107:25 [o]S Ex 10:4,12-15 [p]S 1Ki 8:37 [q]Joel 1:6 **105:36** [r]S Ex 4:23; S 12:12 **105:37** [s]S Ex 3:21,22 **105:38** [t]Ex 15:16 **105:39** [u]S Ex 13:21; 1Co 10:1 [v]S Ps 78:14 **105:40** [w]Ps 78:18 [x]S Ex 16:13 [y]S Ex 16:4; Jn 6:31 **105:41** [z]S Nu 20:11; 1Co 10:4 **105:42** [a]Ge 12:1-3; 13:14-17; 15:13-16 **105:43** [b]Ex 15:1-18; Ps 106:12 **105:44** [c]Ex 32:13; Jos 11:16-23; 12:8; 13:6-7; Ps 111:6 [d]Dt 6:10-11; Ps 78:55 **105:45** [e]S Dt 4:40; 6:21-24; Ps 78:5-7 [f]S Ps 104:35 **106:1** [g]S Ps 22:23; S 103:2 [h]S Ps 119:68 [i]S Ezr 3:11; Ps 136:1-26; Jer 33:11

[s]45 Hebrew *Hallelu Yah* [t]1 Hebrew *Hallelu Yah*; also in verse 48

2Who can proclaim the mighty acts[a]
of the LORD
or fully declare his praise?
3Blessed are they who maintain
justice,[b]
who constantly do what is right.[c]
4Remember me,[d] O LORD, when you
show favor[e] to your people,
come to my aid[f] when you save
them,
5that I may enjoy the prosperity[g] of
your chosen ones,[h]
that I may share in the joy[i] of
your nation
and join your inheritance[j] in
giving praise.

6We have sinned,[k] even as our
fathers[l] did;
we have done wrong and acted
wickedly.[m]
7When our fathers were in Egypt,
they gave no thought[n] to your
miracles;
they did not remember[o] your many
kindnesses,
and they rebelled by the sea,[p] the
Red Sea.[a]
8Yet he saved them[q] for his name's
sake,[r]
to make his mighty power[s]
known.
9He rebuked[t] the Red Sea, and it
dried up;[u]
he led them through[v] the depths
as through a desert.
10He saved them[w] from the hand of
the foe;[x]
from the hand of the enemy he
redeemed them.[y]
11The waters covered[z] their
adversaries;
not one of them survived.
12Then they believed his promises
and sang his praise.[a]

13But they soon forgot[b] what he had
done
and did not wait for his
counsel.[c]
14In the desert[d] they gave in to their
craving;
in the wasteland[e] they put God to
the test.[f]
15So he gave them[g] what they asked
for,
but sent a wasting disease[h] upon
them.

16In the camp they grew envious[i] of
Moses
and of Aaron, who was
consecrated to the LORD.

106:2
[a]S Ps 71:16
106:3 [b]Ps 112:5;
Hos 12:6
[c]Ps 15:2
106:4 [d]Ps 25:6,7
[e]S Ps 77:7
[f]S Ge 50:24
106:5
[g]S Dt 30:15;
Ps 1:3
[h]S Ps 105:6
[i]Ps 20:5; 27:6;
47:5; 118:15
[j]S Ex 34:9
106:6
[k]S 1Ki 8:47;
S Ro 3:9
[l]S 2Ch 30:7
[m]Ne 1:7
106:7 [n]S Jdg 3:7
[o]Ps 78:42
[p]Ex 14:11-12
106:8 [q]Ex 14:30;
S Ps 80:3; 107:13;
Isa 25:9;
Joel 2:32
[r]S Ex 9:16;
S Ps 23:3
[s]S Ex 14:31
106:9 [t]Ps 18:15;
Isa 50:2
[u]S Ex 14:21;
Na 1:4 [v]Ps 78:13;
Isa 63:11-14
106:10
[w]Ex 14:30;
Ps 107:13
[x]S Ps 78:53
[y]Ps 78:42; 107:2;
Isa 35:9; 62:12
106:11
[z]S Ex 14:28
106:12
[a]Ex 15:1-21;
S Ps 105:43
106:13
[b]S Ex 15:24
[c]S Ex 16:28;
S Nu 27:21
106:14
[d]S Ps 78:40
[e]S Ps 68:7
[f]S Ex 17:2;
1Co 10:9
106:15
[g]S Ex 16:13;
Ps 78:29
[h]S Nu 11:33
106:16
[i]Nu 16:1-3

106:17 [j]Dt 11:6
[k]S Ex 15:12
[l]S Nu 16:1
106:18
[m]S Lev 10:2
106:19
[n]S Ex 32:4;
Ac 7:41
106:20
[o]Jer 2:11;
Ro 1:23
106:21
[p]Ps 78:11
[q]Dt 10:21;
Ps 75:1
106:22
[r]S Ps 78:51
[s]S Ex 3:20;
S Dt 4:34
106:23
[t]S Ex 32:10
[u]Ex 32:11-14;
S Nu 11:2;
S Dt 9:19
106:24
[v]Nu 14:30-31
[w]S Dt 8:7;
S Jer 3:19
[x]S Nu 14:11;
Heb 3:18-19
106:25
[y]S Ex 15:24;
Dt 1:27;
1Co 10:10
106:26
[z]S Nu 14:23;

17The earth opened[j] up and
swallowed Dathan;[k]
it buried the company of Abiram.[l]
18Fire blazed[m] among their followers;
a flame consumed the wicked.
19At Horeb they made a calf[n]
and worshiped an idol cast from
metal.
20They exchanged their Glory[o]
for an image of a bull, which eats
grass.
21They forgot the God[p] who saved
them,
who had done great things[q] in
Egypt,
22miracles in the land of Ham[r]
and awesome deeds[s] by the Red
Sea.
23So he said he would destroy[t]
them—
had not Moses, his chosen one,
stood in the breach[u] before him
to keep his wrath from destroying
them.

24Then they despised[v] the pleasant
land;[w]
they did not believe[x] his promise.
25They grumbled[y] in their tents
and did not obey the LORD.
26So he swore[z] to them with uplifted
hand
that he would make them fall in
the desert,[a]
27make their descendants fall among
the nations
and scatter[b] them throughout the
lands.

28They yoked themselves to the Baal of
Peor[c]
and ate sacrifices offered to lifeless
gods;
29they provoked the LORD to anger[d] by
their wicked deeds,[e]
and a plague[f] broke out among
them.
30But Phinehas[g] stood up and
intervened,
and the plague was checked.[h]
31This was credited to him[i] as
righteousness
for endless generations[j] to come.
32By the waters of Meribah[k] they
angered the LORD,

Heb 4:3 [a]S Dt 2:14; Heb 3:17 106:27 [b]S Lev 26:33 106:28 [c]S Nu 23:28 106:29 [d]Nu 25:3 [e]S Ps 64:2; 141:4 [f]S Nu 16:46; 25:8 106:30 [g]S Ex 6:25 [h]Nu 25:8 106:31 [i]S Ge 15:6; S Nu 25:11-13 [j]Ps 49:11 106:32 [k]S Ex 17:7; Nu 20:2-13

[a]7 Hebrew *Yam Suph*; that is, Sea of Reeds; also in verses 9 and 22

and trouble came to Moses
because of them;
33 for they rebelled[a] against the Spirit[b]
of God,
and rash words came from Moses'
lips.[v] [c]
34 They did not destroy[d] the peoples
as the LORD had commanded[e]
them,
35 but they mingled[f] with the
nations
and adopted their customs.
36 They worshiped their idols,[g]
which became a snare[h] to them.
37 They sacrificed their sons[i]
and their daughters to demons.[j]
38 They shed innocent blood,
the blood of their sons[k] and
daughters,
whom they sacrificed to the idols of
Canaan,
and the land was desecrated by
their blood.
39 They defiled themselves[l] by what
they did;
by their deeds they prostituted[m]
themselves.
40 Therefore the LORD was angry[n] with
his people
and abhorred his inheritance.[o]
41 He handed them over[p] to the
nations,
and their foes ruled over them.
42 Their enemies oppressed[q] them
and subjected them to their
power.
43 Many times he delivered them,[r]
but they were bent on
rebellion[s]
and they wasted away in their
sin.

44 But he took note of their distress
when he heard their cry;[t]
45 for their sake he remembered his
covenant[u]
and out of his great love[v] he
relented.[w]
46 He caused them to be pitied[x]
by all who held them captive.

47 Save us,[y] O LORD our God,
and gather us[z] from the nations,
that we may give thanks[a] to your
holy name[b]
and glory in your praise.

48 Praise be to the LORD, the God of
Israel,
from everlasting to everlasting.
Let all the people say, "Amen!"[c]

Praise the LORD.

BOOK V

Psalms 107–150

Psalm 107

1 Give thanks to the LORD,[d] for he is
good;[e]
his love endures forever.
2 Let the redeemed[f] of the LORD say
this—
those he redeemed from the hand
of the foe,
3 those he gathered[g] from the lands,
from east and west, from north
and south.[w]

4 Some wandered in desert[h]
wastelands,
finding no way to a city[i] where
they could settle.
5 They were hungry[j] and thirsty,[k]
and their lives ebbed away.
6 Then they cried out[l] to the LORD in
their trouble,
and he delivered them from their
distress.
7 He led them by a straight way[m]
to a city[n] where they could settle.
8 Let them give thanks[o] to the LORD
for his unfailing love[p]
and his wonderful deeds[q] for
men,
9 for he satisfies[r] the thirsty
and fills the hungry with good
things.[s]

10 Some sat in darkness[t] and the
deepest gloom,
prisoners suffering[u] in iron
chains,[v]
11 for they had rebelled[w] against the
words of God
and despised[x] the counsel[y] of the
Most High.
12 So he subjected them to bitter labor;
they stumbled, and there was no
one to help.[z]
13 Then they cried to the LORD in their
trouble,
and he saved them[a] from their
distress.
14 He brought them out of darkness[b]
and the deepest gloom[c]
and broke away their chains.[d]

106:33 [a]S Ex 23:21; Ps 107:11 [b]S Ps 51:11; Isa 63:10 [c]Ex 17:4-7; Nu 20:8-12 **106:34** [d]S Jos 9:15; Jdg 1:27-36 [e]Ex 23:24; S Dt 2:34; 7:16; 20:17 **106:35** [f]Jdg 3:5-6; Ezr 9:1-2 **106:36** [g]S Dt 7:16 [h]S Ex 10:7 **106:37** [i]S Lev 18:21; S Dt 12:31; Eze 16:20-21 [j]S Ex 22:20; S Dt 32:17; 1Co 10:20 **106:38** [k]S Lev 18:21; S Dt 18:10; S 2Ki 3:27 **106:39** [l]S Ge 3:17; Lev 18:24; Eze 20:18 [m]S Nu 15:39 **106:40** [n]S Lev 26:28 [o]S Ex 34:9; S Dt 9:29 **106:41** [p]S Jdg 2:14 **106:42** [q]S Jdg 4:3 **106:43** [r]S Jos 10:14; Jdg 7:1-25; S Ne 9:28; Ps 81:13-14 [s]S Jdg 2:16-19; 6:1-7 **106:44** [t]S Jdg 3:9 **106:45** [u]S Ge 9:15; Ps 105:8; S Lk 1:72 [v]S Ps 17:7; S 103:11 [w]S Ex 32:14 **106:46** [x]S Ex 3:21; S 1Ki 8:50 **106:47** [y]S Ps 28:9 [z]Ps 107:3; 147:2; Isa 11:12; 27:13; 56:8; 66:20; Jer 31:8; Eze 20:34; Mic 4:6 [a]Ps 105:1 [b]Ps 30:4; S 99:3 **106:48** [c]S Ps 41:13; S 72:19

107:1 [d]S 1Ch 16:8; S 2Ch 5:13 [e]S 2Ch 7:3 **107:2** [f]S Ps 106:10; S Isa 35:9 **107:3** [g]S Ne 1:9 **107:4** [h]S Jos 5:6 [i]ver 36 **107:5** [j]Ex 16:3 [k]S Ex 15:22; S 17:2 **107:6** [l]S Ex 14:10 **107:7** [m]S Ezr 8:21 [n]ver 36 **107:8** [o]Ps 105:1 [p]Ps 6:4 [q]S Ps 75:1

107:9 [r]Ps 22:26; 63:5; Isa 58:11; Mt 5:6; Lk 1:53 [s]S Ps 23:1; Jer 31:25 **107:10** [t]ver 14; Ps 88:6; 143:3; Isa 9:2; 42:7,16; 49:9; Mic 7:9 [u]Ps 102:20; Isa 61:1 [v]S Job 36:8 **107:11** [w]S Ps 5:10 [x]S Nu 14:11 [y]S 1Ki 22:5; 2Ch 36:16 **107:12** [z]S 2Ki 14:26; Ps 72:12 **107:13** [a]S Ps 106:8 **107:14** [b]S ver 10; Isa 9:2; 42:7; 50:10; 59:9; 60:2; S Lk 1:79 [c]Ps 86:13; Isa 29:18 [d]S Job 36:8; Ps 116:16; Ac 12:7

[v]33 Or *against his spirit, / and rash words came from his lips*
[w]3 Hebrew *north and the sea*

15 Let them give thanks[a] to the LORD
for his unfailing love[b]
and his wonderful deeds[c] for men,
16 for he breaks down gates of bronze
and cuts through bars of iron.

17 Some became fools[d] through their rebellious ways[e]
and suffered affliction[f] because of their iniquities.
18 They loathed all food[g]
and drew near the gates of death.[h]
19 Then they cried[i] to the LORD in their trouble,
and he saved them[j] from their distress.
20 He sent forth his word[k] and healed them;[l]
he rescued[m] them from the grave.[n]
21 Let them give thanks[o] to the LORD
for his unfailing love[p]
and his wonderful deeds[q] for men.
22 Let them sacrifice thank offerings[r]
and tell of his works[s] with songs of joy.[t]

23 Others went out on the sea[u] in ships;[v]
they were merchants on the mighty waters.
24 They saw the works of the LORD,[w]
his wonderful deeds in the deep.
25 For he spoke[x] and stirred up a tempest[y]
that lifted high the waves.[z]
26 They mounted up to the heavens
and went down to the depths;
in their peril[a] their courage melted[b] away.
27 They reeled[c] and staggered like drunken men;
they were at their wits' end.
28 Then they cried[d] out to the LORD in their trouble,
and he brought them out of their distress.[e]
29 He stilled the storm[f] to a whisper;
the waves[g] of the sea were hushed.[h]
30 They were glad when it grew calm,
and he guided them[i] to their desired haven.
31 Let them give thanks[j] to the LORD
for his unfailing love[k]
and his wonderful deeds[l] for men.
32 Let them exalt[m] him in the assembly[n] of the people
and praise him in the council of the elders.

33 He turned rivers into a desert,[o]
flowing springs[p] into thirsty ground,
34 and fruitful land into a salt waste,[q]
because of the wickedness of those who lived there.
35 He turned the desert into pools of water[r]
and the parched ground into flowing springs;[s]
36 there he brought the hungry to live,
and they founded a city where they could settle.
37 They sowed fields and planted vineyards[t]
that yielded a fruitful harvest;
38 he blessed them, and their numbers greatly increased,[u]
and he did not let their herds diminish.[v]

39 Then their numbers decreased,[w] and they were humbled[x]
by oppression, calamity and sorrow;
40 he who pours contempt on nobles[y]
made them wander in a trackless waste.[z]
41 But he lifted the needy[a] out of their affliction
and increased their families like flocks.[b]
42 The upright see and rejoice,[c]
but all the wicked shut their mouths.[d]

43 Whoever is wise,[e] let him heed these things
and consider the great love[f] of the LORD.

Psalm 108

108:1-5pp — Ps 57:7-11
108:6-13pp — Ps 60:5-12

A song. A psalm of David.

1 My heart is steadfast,[g] O God;
I will sing[h] and make music with all my soul.
2 Awake, harp and lyre![i]
I will awaken the dawn.
3 I will praise you, O LORD, among the nations;
I will sing of you among the peoples.

107:15 [a]ver 8, 21,31; Ps 105:1 [b]Ps 6:4 [c]S Ps 75:1 **107:17** [d]S Ps 53:1 [e]S Ps 25:7 [f]S Lev 26:16; Isa 65:6-7; Jer 30:14-15; Gal 6:7-8 **107:18** [g]S Job 3:24; S 6:6 [h]S Job 17:16; S 33:22 **107:19** [i]ver 28; Ps 5:2 [j]ver 13; Ps 34:4 **107:20** [k]S Dt 32:2; Ps 147:15; Mt 8:8; Lk 7:7 [l]S Ex 15:26 [m]S Job 33:28 [n]Ps 16:10; 30:3; S 56:13 **107:21** [o]S ver 15 [p]Ps 6:4 [q]Ps 75:1 **107:22** [r]S Lev 7:12 [s]Ps 9:11; 73:28; 118:17 [t]S Job 8:21; S Ps 65:8 **107:23** [u]Isa 42:10 [v]S Ps 104:26 **107:24** [w]Ps 64:9; 111:2; 143:5 **107:25** [x]S Ps 105:31 [y]S Ps 50:3 [z]S Ps 93:3 **107:26** [a]Lk 8:23 [b]S Jos 2:11 **107:27** [c]Isa 19:14; 24:20; 28:7 **107:28** [d]S ver 19 [e]Ps 4:1; Jnh 1:6 **107:29** [f]Lk 8:24 [g]S Ps 93:3 [h]S Ps 65:7; Jnh 1:15 **107:30** [i]ver 7 **107:31** [j]S ver 15 [k]Ps 6:4 [l]Ps 75:1; 106:2 **107:32** [m]Ps 30:1; 34:3; 99:5 [n]S Ps 1:5; 22:22; 26:12; 35:18

107:33 [o]1Ki 17:1; Ps 74:15; Isa 41:15; 42:15; 50:2 [p]S Ps 104:10 **107:34** [q]S Ge 13:10 **107:35** [r]S 2Ki 3:17; Ps 105:41; 126:4; Isa 43:19; 51:3 [s]S Job 38:26; S Isa 35:7 **107:37** [t]S 2Ki 19:29; S Isa 37:30 **107:38** [u]S Ge 12:2; S Dt 7:13 [v]S Ge 49:25 **107:39** [w]S 2Ki 10:32; Eze 5:12 [x]S Ps 44:9 **107:40** [y]S Job 12:18 [z]S Dt 32:10 **107:41** [a]S 1Sa 2:8; Ps 113:7-9 [b]S Job 21:11

107:42 [c]S Job 22:19; Ps 97:10-12 [d]S Job 5:16; Ro 3:19 **107:43** [e]Jer 9:12; Hos 14:9 [f]Ps 103:11 **108:1** [g]Ps 112:7; 119:30,112 [h]S Ps 18:49 **108:2** [i]S Job 21:12

4For great is your love,[a] higher than
the heavens;
your faithfulness[b] reaches to the
skies.[c]
5Be exalted, O God, above the
heavens,[d]
and let your glory be over all the
earth.[e]

6Save us and help us with your right
hand,[f]
that those you love may be
delivered.
7God has spoken[g] from his
sanctuary:[h]
"In triumph I will parcel out
Shechem[i]
and measure off the Valley of
Succoth.[j]
8Gilead is mine, Manasseh is mine;
Ephraim is my helmet,
Judah[k] my scepter.
9Moab[l] is my washbasin,
upon Edom[m] I toss my sandal;
over Philistia[n] I shout in
triumph."

10Who will bring me to the fortified
city?
Who will lead me to Edom?
11Is it not you, O God, you who have
rejected us
and no longer go out with our
armies?[o]
12Give us aid against the enemy,
for the help of man is worthless.[p]
13With God we will gain the victory,
and he will trample down[q] our
enemies.

Psalm 109

For the director of music. Of David.
A psalm.

1O God, whom I praise,[r]
do not remain silent,[s]
2for wicked and deceitful men[t]
have opened their mouths
against me;
they have spoken against me with
lying tongues.[u]
3With words of hatred[v] they
surround me;
they attack me without cause.[w]
4In return for my friendship they
accuse me,
but I am a man of prayer.[x]
5They repay me evil for good,[y]
and hatred for my friendship.

6Appoint[x] an evil man[y] to oppose
him;
let an accuser[z][z] stand at his right
hand.
7When he is tried, let him be found
guilty,[a]
and may his prayers condemn[b]
him.
8May his days be few;[c]
may another take his place[d] of
leadership.
9May his children be fatherless
and his wife a widow.[e]
10May his children be wandering
beggars;[f]
may they be driven[a] from their
ruined homes.
11May a creditor[g] seize all he has;
may strangers plunder[h] the fruits
of his labor.[i]
12May no one extend kindness to him
or take pity[j] on his fatherless
children.
13May his descendants be cut off,[k]
their names blotted out[l] from the
next generation.
14May the iniquity of his fathers[m] be
remembered before the LORD;
may the sin of his mother never be
blotted out.
15May their sins always remain
before[n] the LORD,
that he may cut off the memory[o]
of them from the earth.

16For he never thought of doing a
kindness,
but hounded to death the poor
and the needy[p] and the
brokenhearted.[q]
17He loved to pronounce a curse—
may it[b] come on him;[r]
he found no pleasure in blessing—
may it be[c] far from him.
18He wore cursing[s] as his garment;
it entered into his body like
water,[t]
into his bones like oil.
19May it be like a cloak wrapped[u]
about him,
like a belt tied forever around him.
20May this be the LORD's payment[v] to
my accusers,
to those who speak evil[w] of me.
21But you, O Sovereign LORD,
deal well with me for your name's
sake;[x]
out of the goodness of your love,[y]
deliver me.[z]
22For I am poor and needy,

108:4 [a]Nu 14:18; Ps 106:45 [b]S Ex 34:6 [c]S Ps 36:5 **108:5** [d]S Ps 8:1 [e]S Ps 57:5 **108:6** [f]S Job 40:14 **108:7** [g]Ps 89:35 [h]Ps 68:35; 102:19 [i]S Ge 12:6 [j]S Ge 33:17 **108:8** [k]S Ps 78:68 **108:9** [l]S Ge 19:37 [m]S 2Sa 8:13-14 [n]S 2Sa 8:1 **108:11** [o]S Ps 44:9 **108:12** [p]Ps 118:8; 146:3; Isa 10:3; 30:5; 31:3; Jer 2:36; 17:5 **108:13** [q]Ps 44:5; Isa 22:5; 63:3,6 **109:1** [r]S Ex 15:2; Jer 17:14 [s]S Job 34:29 **109:2** [t]S Ps 43:1 [u]S Ps 52:4 **109:3** [v]Ps 69:4 [w]Ps 35:7; Jn 15:25 **109:4** [x]Ps 69:13; 141:5 **109:5** [y]S Ge 44:4 **109:6** [z]1Ch 21:1; Job 1:6; Zec 3:1 **109:7** [a]Ps 1:5 [b]Pr 28:9; Isa 41:24 **109:8** [c]S Job 15:32 [d]Ac 1:20* **109:9** [e]Ex 22:24; Jer 18:21 **109:10** [f]S Ge 4:12 **109:11** [g]Ne 5:3 [h]S Nu 14:3; Isa 1:7; 6:11; 36:1; La 5:2 [i]Job 20:18 **109:12** [j]S Job 5:4 **109:13** [k]Job 18:19; Ps 21:10 [l]S Nu 14:12; Ps 9:5; Pr 10:7 **109:14** [m]Ex 20:5; Nu 14:18; Isa 65:6-7; Jer 32:18 **109:15** [n]Ps 90:8 [o]S Ex 17:14; S Dt 32:26 **109:16** [p]S Job 20:19; S Ps 35:10 [q]S Ps 34:18 **109:17** [r]Pr 28:27; S Mt 7:2 **109:18** [s]Ps 10:7 [t]Nu 5:22 **109:19** [u]ver 29; Ps 73:6; Eze 7:27 **109:20** [v]S Ex 32:34; Ps 54:5; 94:23; Isa 3:11; 2Ti 4:14 [w]Ps 71:10 **109:21** [x]S Ex 9:16; S Ps 23:3 [y]Ps 69:16 [z]S Ps 3:7

[x]6 Or *They say:* "*Appoint* (with quotation marks at the end of verse 19) [y]6 Or *the Evil One* [z]6 Or *let Satan* [a]10 Septuagint; Hebrew *sought* [b]17 Or *curse, / and it has* [c]17 Or *blessing, / and it is*

and my heart is wounded
within me.
23I fade away like an evening
shadow;[a]
I am shaken off like a locust.
24My knees give[b] way from fasting;[c]
my body is thin and gaunt.[d]
25I am an object of scorn[e] to my
accusers;
when they see me, they shake
their heads.[f]

26Help me,[g] O LORD my God;
save me in accordance with your
love.
27Let them know[h] that it is your
hand,
that you, O LORD, have done it.
28They may curse,[i] but you will bless;
when they attack they will be put
to shame,
but your servant will rejoice.[j]
29My accusers will be clothed with
disgrace
and wrapped in shame[k] as in a
cloak.

30With my mouth I will greatly extol
the LORD;
in the great throng[l] I will praise
him.
31For he stands at the right hand[m] of
the needy one,
to save his life from those who
condemn him.

Psalm 110

Of David. A psalm.

1The LORD says[n] to my Lord:
"Sit at my right hand[o]
until I make your enemies
a footstool for your feet."[p]

2The LORD will extend your mighty
scepter[q] from Zion;[r]
you will rule[s] in the midst of your
enemies.
3Your troops will be willing
on your day of battle.
Arrayed in holy majesty,[t]
from the womb of the dawn
you will receive the dew of your
youth.[d][u]

4The LORD has sworn
and will not change his mind:[v]
"You are a priest forever,[w]
in the order of Melchizedek.[x]"

5The Lord is at your right hand;[y]
he will crush kings[z] on the day of
his wrath.[a]
6He will judge the nations,[b] heaping
up the dead[c]
and crushing the rulers[d] of the
whole earth.
7He will drink from a brook beside
the way[e];
therefore he will lift up his head.[e]

Psalm 111[f]

1Praise the LORD.[g]

I will extol the LORD[f] with all my
heart[g]
in the council[h] of the upright and
in the assembly.[i]

2Great are the works[j] of the
LORD;
they are pondered by all[k] who
delight in them.
3Glorious and majestic are his deeds,
and his righteousness endures[l]
forever.
4He has caused his wonders to be
remembered;
the LORD is gracious and
compassionate.[m]
5He provides food[n] for those who
fear him;[o]
he remembers his covenant[p]
forever.
6He has shown his people the power
of his works,[q]
giving them the lands of other
nations.[r]
7The works of his hands[s] are faithful
and just;
all his precepts are trustworthy.[t]
8They are steadfast for ever[u] and
ever,
done in faithfulness and
uprightness.
9He provided redemption[v] for his
people;
he ordained his covenant
forever—
holy and awesome[w] is his name.
10The fear of the LORD[x] is the
beginning of wisdom;[y]
all who follow his precepts have
good understanding.[z]
To him belongs eternal praise.[a]

109:23 [a]S Job 14:2
109:24 [b]Heb 12:12 [c]S Ps 35:13 [d]S Job 16:8
109:25 [e]S Ps 22:6 [f]S Job 16:4; S Mt 27:39; Mk 15:29
109:26 [g]Ps 12:1; 119:86
109:27 [h]S Job 37:7
109:28 [i]S 2Sa 16:12 [j]Ps 66:4; Isa 35:10; 51:11; 54:1; 65:14
109:29 [k]S Ps 35:26
109:30 [l]S Ps 35:18
109:31 [m]Ps 16:8; 108:6
110:1 [n]Mt 22:44*; Mk 12:36*; Lk 20:42*; Ac 2:34* [o]S Mk 16:19; Heb 1:13*; 12:2 [p]S Jos 10:24; S 1Ki 5:3; 1Co 15:25
110:2 [q]S Ge 49:10; Ps 45:6; Isa 14:5; Jer 48:17 [r]S Ps 2:6 [s]Ps 72:8
110:3 [t]S Ex 15:11 [u]Mic 5:7
110:4 [v]S Nu 23:19 [w]Zec 6:13; Heb 5:6*; 7:21* [x]S Ge 14:18; Heb 5:10; 7:15-17*
110:5 [y]Ps 16:8 [z]S Dt 7:24; Ps 2:12; 68:21; 76:12; Isa 60:12; Da 2:44 [a]S Ps 2:5; Ro 2:5; Rev 6:17; 11:18
110:6 [b]S Ps 9:19 [c]Isa 5:25; 34:3; 66:24 [d]S Ps 18:38
110:7 [e]Ps 3:3; 27:6
111:1 [f]Ps 34:1; 109:30; 115:18; 145:10 [g]S Ps 9:1 [h]Ps 89:7 [i]S Ps 1:5
111:2 [j]S Job 36:24; Ps 143:5; Rev 15:3 [k]Ps 64:9
111:3 [l]Ps 112:3, 9; 119:142
111:4 [m]S Dt 4:31; S Ps 86:15
111:5 [n]S Ge 1:30; S Ps 37:25; Mt 6:31-33 [o]Ps 103:11 [p]S 1Ch 16:15; S Ps 105:8
111:6 [q]Ps 64:9; S 66:3,5 [r]S Ps 105:44
111:7 [s]S Ps 92:4 [t]Ps 19:7; 119:128
111:8 [u]Ps 119:89,152, 160; Isa 40:8; S Mt 5:18
111:9 [v]Ps 34:22; S 103:4; 130:7; Lk 1:68 [w]Ps 30:4; 99:3; Lk 1:49 **111:10** [x]S Job 23:15; S Ps 19:9 [y]Dt 4:6 [z]S Dt 4:6; Ps 119:98,104,130 [a]Ps 28:6; 89:52

[d]3 Or / *your young men will come to you like the dew*
[e]7 Or / *The One who grants succession will set him in authority*
[f]This psalm is an acrostic poem, the lines of which begin with the successive letters of the Hebrew alphabet.
[g]1 Hebrew *Hallelu Yah*

Psalm 112[h]

1Praise the LORD.[i] [x]

Blessed is the man[y] who fears the
LORD,[z]
who finds great delight[a] in his
commands.
2His children[b] will be mighty in the
land;
the generation of the upright will
be blessed.
3Wealth and riches[c] are in his
house,
and his righteousness endures[d]
forever.
4Even in darkness light dawns[e] for
the upright,
for the gracious and
compassionate and
righteous[j] man.[f]
5Good will come to him who is
generous and lends freely,[g]
who conducts his affairs with
justice.
6Surely he will never be shaken;[h]
a righteous man will be
remembered[i] forever.
7He will have no fear of bad news;
his heart is steadfast,[m] trusting in
the LORD.[n]
8His heart is secure, he will have no
fear;[o]
in the end he will look in triumph
on his foes.[p]
9He has scattered abroad his gifts to
the poor,[q]
his righteousness endures[r]
forever;
his horn[k] will be lifted[s] high in
honor.

10The wicked man will see[t] and be
vexed,
he will gnash his teeth[u] and waste
away;[v]
the longings of the wicked will
come to nothing.[w]

Psalm 113

1Praise the LORD.[l] [x]

Praise, O servants of the LORD,[y]
praise the name of the LORD.
2Let the name of the LORD be
praised,[z]
both now and forevermore.[a]
3From the rising of the sun[b] to the
place where it sets,
the name of the LORD is to be
praised.

112:1 [x]Ps 33:2; 103:1; 150:1 [y]Ps 1:1-2 [z]S Job 1:8; Ps 103:11; 115:13; 128:1 [a]S Ps 1:2; 119:14,16,47,92
112:2 [b]Ps 25:13; 37:26; 128:2-4
112:3 [c]S Dt 8:18 [d]S Ps 37:6; S 111:3
112:4 [e]S Ps 18:28 [f]Ps 5:12
112:5 [g]S Ps 37:21,26; Lk 6:35
112:6 [h]S Ps 15:5; S 55:22 [i]Pr 10:7; Ecc 2:16
112:7 [m]Ps 57:7; 108:1 [n]S Ps 28:7; 56:3-4; S Isa 12:2
112:8 [o]Ps 3:6; 27:1; 56:11; Pr 1:33; Isa 12:2 [p]S Ps 54:7
112:9 [q]Lk 19:8; Ac 9:36; 2Co 9:9* [r]S Ps 111:3 [s]S Ps 75:10
112:10 [t]Ps 86:17 [u]S Ps 37:12; S Mt 8:12 [v]S Ps 34:21 [w]S Job 8:13
113:1 [x]S Ps 22:23 [y]Ps 34:22; S 103:21; 134:1
113:2 [z]S Ps 30:4; 48:10; 145:21; 148:13; 149:3; Isa 12:4 [a]Ps 115:18; 131:3; Da 2:20
113:3 [b]Isa 24:15; 45:6; 59:19; Mal 1:11
113:4 [c]S Ps 99:2 [d]S Ps 8:1; S 57:11
113:5 [e]S Ex 8:10; S Ps 35:10 [f]S Ps 103:19 [g]S Job 16:19
113:6 [h]Ps 11:4; 138:6; Isa 57:15
113:7 [i]1Sa 2:8; Ps 35:10; 68:10; 140:12 [j]Ps 107:41
113:8 [k]S 2Sa 9:11
113:9 [l]S 1Sa 2:5
114:1 [m]S Ex 13:3; S 29:46
114:2 [n]Ps 76:1 [o]S Ex 15:17; Ps 78:68-69
114:3 [p]Ex 14:21; Ps 77:16 [q]S Ex 15:8; S Jos 3:16
114:4 [r]S Jdg 5:5
114:5 [s]S Ex 14:21
114:7 [t]S Ex 15:14; S 1Ch 16:30
114:8 [u]S Ex 17:6; S Nu 20:11
115:1 [v]Ps 29:2; 66:2; 96:8 [w]S Ex 34:6
115:2 [x]S Ps 42:3
115:3 [y]Ezr 5:11; Ne 1:4; Ps 103:19; 136:26; Mt 6:9 [z]Ps 135:6

4The LORD is exalted[c] over all the
nations,
his glory above the heavens.[d]
5Who is like the LORD our God,[e]
the One who sits enthroned[f] on
high,[g]
6who stoops down to look[h]
on the heavens and the earth?

7He raises the poor[i] from the dust
and lifts the needy[j] from the ash
heap;
8he seats them[k] with princes,
with the princes of their people.
9He settles the barren[l] woman in her
home
as a happy mother of children.

Praise the LORD.

Psalm 114

1When Israel came out of Egypt,[m]
the house of Jacob from a people
of foreign tongue,
2Judah[n] became God's sanctuary,[o]
Israel his dominion.

3The sea looked and fled,[p]
the Jordan turned back;[q]
4the mountains skipped[r] like rams,
the hills like lambs.

5Why was it, O sea, that you fled,[s]
O Jordan, that you turned back,
6you mountains, that you skipped
like rams,
you hills, like lambs?

7Tremble, O earth,[t] at the presence
of the Lord,
at the presence of the God of
Jacob,
8who turned the rock into a pool,
the hard rock into springs of
water.[u]

Psalm 115

115:4-11pp — Ps 135:15-20

1Not to us, O LORD, not to us
but to your name be the glory,[v]
because of your love and
faithfulness.[w]

2Why do the nations say,
"Where is their God?"[x]
3Our God is in heaven;[y]
he does whatever pleases him.[z]

[h]This psalm is an acrostic poem, the lines of which begin with the successive letters of the Hebrew alphabet. [i]1 Hebrew *Hallelu Yah* [j]4 Or / *for the* LORD *is gracious and compassionate and righteous* [k]9 *Horn* here symbolizes dignity. [l]1 Hebrew *Hallelu Yah*; also in verse 9

[4]But their idols are silver and gold,[a]
made by the hands of men.[b]
[5]They have mouths, but cannot
speak,[c]
eyes, but they cannot see;
[6]they have ears, but cannot hear,
noses, but they cannot smell;
[7]they have hands, but cannot feel,
feet, but they cannot walk;
nor can they utter a sound with
their throats.
[8]Those who make them will be like
them,
and so will all who trust in them.

[9]O house of Israel, trust[d] in the
LORD—
he is their help and shield.
[10]O house of Aaron,[e] trust in the
LORD—
he is their help and shield.
[11]You who fear him,[f] trust in the
LORD—
he is their help and shield.

[12]The LORD remembers[g] us and will
bless us:[h]
He will bless the house of Israel,
he will bless the house of Aaron,
[13]he will bless those who fear[i] the
LORD—
small and great alike.

[14]May the LORD make you increase,[j]
both you and your children.
[15]May you be blessed by the LORD,
the Maker of heaven[k] and earth.

[16]The highest heavens belong to the
LORD,[l]
but the earth he has given[m] to
man.
[17]It is not the dead[n] who praise the
LORD,
those who go down to silence;
[18]it is we who extol the LORD,[o]
both now and forevermore.[p]

Praise the LORD.[m][q]

Psalm 116

[1]I love the LORD,[r] for he heard my
voice;
he heard my cry[s] for mercy.[t]
[2]Because he turned his ear[u] to me,
I will call on him as long as I live.

[3]The cords of death[v] entangled me,
the anguish of the grave[n] came
upon me;
I was overcome by trouble and
sorrow.
[4]Then I called on the name[w] of the
LORD:
"O LORD, save me!"[x]

[5]The LORD is gracious and righteous;[y]
our God is full of compassion.[z]
[6]The LORD protects the simplehearted;
when I was in great need,[a] he
saved me.[b]

[7]Be at rest[c] once more, O my soul,
for the LORD has been good[d] to
you.

[8]For you, O LORD, have delivered my
soul[e] from death,
my eyes from tears,
my feet from stumbling,
[9]that I may walk before the LORD[f]
in the land of the living.[g]
[10]I believed;[h] therefore[o] I said,
"I am greatly afflicted."[i]
[11]And in my dismay I said,
"All men are liars."[j]

[12]How can I repay the LORD
for all his goodness[k] to me?
[13]I will lift up the cup of salvation
and call on the name[l] of the LORD.
[14]I will fulfill my vows[m] to the LORD
in the presence of all his people.

[15]Precious in the sight[n] of the LORD
is the death of his saints.[o]
[16]O LORD, truly I am your servant;[p]
I am your servant, the son of your
maidservant[p];[q]
you have freed me from my
chains.[r]

[17]I will sacrifice a thank offering[s] to
you
and call on the name of the LORD.
[18]I will fulfill my vows[t] to the LORD
in the presence of all his people,
[19]in the courts[u] of the house of the
LORD—
in your midst, O Jerusalem.[v]

Praise the LORD.[m]

Psalm 117

[1]Praise the LORD,[w] all you nations;[x]
extol him, all you peoples.
[2]For great is his love[y] toward us,
and the faithfulness of the LORD[z]
endures forever.

Praise the LORD.[m]

115:4 [a]Rev 9:20 [b]S 2Ki 19:18; S 2Ch 32:19; Jer 10:3-5; Ac 19:26 **115:5** [c]Jer 10:5 **115:9** [d]Ps 37:3; 62:8 **115:10** [e]Ex 30:30; Ps 118:3 **115:11** [f]Ps 22:23; 103:11; 118:4 **115:12** [g]S 1Ch 16:15 [h]S Ge 12:2 **115:13** [i]S Ps 112:1 **115:14** [j]Dt 1:11 **115:15** [k]S Ge 1:1; Ac 14:15; S Rev 10:6 **115:16** [l]S Ps 89:11 [m]S Ge 1:28; Ps 8:6-8 **115:17** [n]Ps 88:10-12 **115:18** [o]S Ps 111:1 [p]S Ps 113:2 [q]Ps 28:6; 33:2; 103:1 **116:1** [r]Ps 18:1 [s]S Ps 31:22; S 40:1 [t]S Ps 6:9; S 28:2 **116:2** [u]S Ps 5:1 **116:3** [v]S 2Sa 22:6; Ps 18:4-5 **116:4** [w]Ps 80:18; 118:5 [x]S Ps 80:2 **116:5** [y]S Ex 9:27; S 2Ch 12:6; S Ezr 9:15 [z]S Ex 22:27; S Ps 86:15 **116:6** [a]S Ps 79:8 [b]Ps 18:3; 22:5; 107:13 **116:7** [c]Ps 46:10; 62:1; 131:2; Mt 11:29 [d]Ps 13:6; 106:1; 142:7 **116:8** [e]S Ps 86:13 **116:9** [f]S Ge 5:22; Ps 56:13; 89:15 [g]S Job 28:13; Ps 27:13; Isa 38:11; Jer 11:19 **116:10** [h]2Co 4:13* [i]Ps 9:18; 72:2; S 107:17; 119:67, 71,75 **116:11** [j]Jer 9:3-5; Hos 7:13; Mic 6:12; Ro 3:4 **116:12** [k]Ps 103:2; 106:1 **116:13** [l]S Ps 105:1 **116:14** [m]S Nu 30:2; S Ps 66:13 **116:15** [n]Ps 72:14 [o]S Nu 23:10 **116:16** [p]Ps 119:125; 143:12 [q]S Ps 86:16 [r]S Job 12:18 **116:17** [s]S Lev 7:12; S Ezr 1:4 **116:18** [t]ver 14; S Lev 22:18 **116:19** [u]Ps 92:13; 96:8; 100:4; 135:2 [v]Ps 102:21 **117:1** [w]S Ps 22:23; S 103:2 [x]Ro 15:11* **117:2** [y]S Ps 17:7; S 103:11 [z]Ps 119:90; 146:6

[m]*18,19,2* Hebrew *Hallelu Yah* [n]*3* Hebrew *Sheol* [o]*10* Or *believed even when* [p]*16* Or *servant, your faithful son*

Psalm 118

1Give thanks to the LORD,[a] for he is
good;[b]
his love endures forever.[c]

2Let Israel say:[d]
"His love endures forever."[e]
3Let the house of Aaron say:[f]
"His love endures forever."
4Let those who fear the LORD[g] say:
"His love endures forever."

5In my anguish[h] I cried to the LORD,
and he answered[i] by setting me
free.
6The LORD is with me;[j] I will not be
afraid.
What can man do to me?[k]
7The LORD is with me; he is my
helper.[l]
I will look in triumph on my
enemies.[m]

8It is better to take refuge in the
LORD[n]
than to trust in man.[o]
9It is better to take refuge in the
LORD
than to trust in princes.[p]
10All the nations surrounded me,
but in the name of the LORD I cut
them off.[q]
11They surrounded me[r] on every
side,[s]
but in the name of the LORD I cut
them off.
12They swarmed around me like
bees,[t]
but they died out as quickly as
burning thorns;[u]
in the name of the LORD I cut them
off.[v]
13I was pushed back and about to fall,
but the LORD helped me.[w]
14The LORD is my strength[x] and my
song;
he has become my salvation.[y]

15Shouts of joy[z] and victory
resound in the tents of the
righteous:
"The LORD's right hand[a] has done
mighty things![b]
16 The LORD's right hand is lifted
high;
the LORD's right hand has done
mighty things!"
17I will not die[c] but live,
and will proclaim[d] what the LORD
has done.
18The LORD has chastened[e] me
severely,
but he has not given me over to
death.[f]
19Open for me the gates[g] of
righteousness;
I will enter[h] and give thanks to
the LORD.
20This is the gate of the LORD[i]
through which the righteous may
enter.[j]
21I will give you thanks, for you
answered me;[k]
you have become my salvation.[l]

22The stone[m] the builders rejected
has become the capstone;[n]
23the LORD has done this,
and it is marvelous[o] in our eyes.
24This is the day the LORD has made;
let us rejoice and be glad[p] in it.

25O LORD, save us;[q]
O LORD, grant us success.
26Blessed is he who comes[r] in the
name of the LORD.
From the house of the LORD we
bless you.[s][q]
27The LORD is God,[t]
and he has made his light shine[u]
upon us.
With boughs in hand,[v] join in the
festal procession
up[r] to the horns of the altar.[w]

28You are my God, and I will give you
thanks;
you are my God,[x] and I will exalt[y]
you.

29Give thanks to the LORD, for he is
good;
his love endures forever.

Psalm 119[s]

א Aleph

1Blessed are they whose ways are
blameless,[z]
who walk[a] according to the law of
the LORD.[b]
2Blessed[c] are they who keep his
statutes[d]
and seek him[e] with all their
heart.[f]
3They do nothing wrong;[g]
they walk in his ways.[h]

118:1 [a]S 1Ch 16:8 [b]S 2Ch 5:13 [c]S 2Ch 7:3; S Ezr 3:11 **118:2** [d]Ps 115:9 [e]Ps 106:1; 136:1-26 **118:3** [f]Ex 30:30; Ps 115:10 **118:4** [g]S Ps 115:11 **118:5** [h]Ps 18:6; 31:7; 77:2; 120:1 [i]ver 21; Ps 34:4; 86:7; 116:1; 138:3 **118:6** [j]S Dt 31:6; Heb 13:6 [k]S Ps 56:4 **118:7** [l]S Dt 33:29; Heb 13:6 [m]S Ps 54:7 **118:8** [n]Ps 2:12; 5:11; 9:9; 37:3; 40:4; Isa 25:4; 57:13 [o]2Ch 32:7-8; S Ps 108:12; S Isa 2:22 **118:9** [p]Ps 146:3 **118:10** [q]S Ps 37:9 **118:11** [r]Ps 88:17 [s]Ps 3:6 **118:12** [t]Dt 1:44 [u]S Ps 58:9 [v]Ps 37:9 **118:13** [w]ver 7; 2Ch 18:31; Ps 86:17 **118:14** [x]S Ex 15:2 [y]S Ps 62:2 **118:15** [z]S Job 8:21; S Ps 106:5 [a]S Ex 15:6; Ps 89:13; 108:6 [b]Lk 1:51 **118:17** [c]Hab 1:12 [d]S Dt 32:3; Ps 64:9; 71:16; 73:28 **118:18** [e]Jer 31:18; 1Co 11:32; Heb 12:5 [f]Ps 86:13 **118:19** [g]S Ps 24:7 [h]Ps 100:4 **118:20** [i]Ps 122:1-2 [j]Ps 15:1-2; 24:3-4; Rev 22:14 **118:21** [k]S ver 5 [l]Ps 27:1 **118:22** [m]Isa 8:14 [n]Isa 17:10; 19:13; 28:16; Zec 4:7; 10:4; Mt 21:42; Mk 12:10; Lk 20:17*; S Ac 4:11*; 1Pe 2:7 **118:23** [o]Mt 21:42*; Mk 12:11* **118:24** [p]S Ps 70:4 **118:25** [q]S Ps 28:9; 116:4 **118:26** [r]S Mt 11:3; 21:9*; 23:39; Mk 11:9*; Lk 13:35*; 19:38; Jn 12:13* [s]Ps 129:8 **118:27** [t]S 1Ki 18:21 [u]Ps 27:1; Isa 58:10; 60:1, 19,20; Mal 4:2; 1Pe 2:9 [v]S Lev 23:40 [w]Ex 27:2 **118:28** [x]S Ge 28:21; S Ps 16:2; 63:1; Isa 25:1 [y]S Ex 15:2 **119:1** [z]S Ge 17:1; S Dt 18:13; Pr 11:20 [a]Ps 128:1 [b]S Ps 1:2 **119:2** [c]Ps 112:1; Isa 56:2 [d]ver 146; Ps 99:7 [e]S 1Ch 16:11; S Ps 40:16 [f]S Dt 10:12 **119:3** [g]S Ps 59:4; 1Jn 3:9; 5:18 [h]Ps 128:1; Jer 6:16; 7:23

[q]26 The Hebrew is plural. [r]27 Or *Bind the festal sacrifice with ropes / and take it* [s]This psalm is an acrostic poem; the verses of each stanza begin with the same letter of the Hebrew alphabet.

4 You have laid down precepts[a]
that are to be fully obeyed.[b]
5 Oh, that my ways were steadfast
in obeying your decrees![c]
6 Then I would not be put to
shame[d]
when I consider all your
commands.[e]
7 I will praise you with an upright
heart
as I learn your righteous laws.[f]
8 I will obey your decrees;
do not utterly forsake me.[g]

ב Beth

9 How can a young man keep his way
pure?[h]
By living according to your
word.[i]
10 I seek you with all my heart;[j]
do not let me stray from your
commands.[k]
11 I have hidden your word in my
heart[l]
that I might not sin[m] against you.
12 Praise be[n] to you, O LORD;
teach me[o] your decrees.[p]
13 With my lips I recount
all the laws that come from your
mouth.[q]
14 I rejoice in following your statutes[r]
as one rejoices in great riches.
15 I meditate on your precepts[s]
and consider your ways.
16 I delight[t] in your decrees;
I will not neglect your word.

ג Gimel

17 Do good to your servant,[u] and I will
live;
I will obey your word.[v]
18 Open my eyes that I may see
wonderful things in your law.
19 I am a stranger on earth;[w]
do not hide your commands
from me.
20 My soul is consumed[x] with longing
for your laws[y] at all times.
21 You rebuke the arrogant,[z] who are
cursed[a]
and who stray[b] from your
commands.
22 Remove from me scorn[c] and
contempt,
for I keep your statutes.[d]
23 Though rulers sit together and
slander me,
your servant will meditate on your
decrees.
24 Your statutes are my delight;
they are my counselors.

119:4 [a]Ps 103:18 [b]S ver 56; S Dt 6:17
119:5 [c]S Lev 19:37
119:6 [d]ver 46, 80 [e]ver 117
119:7 [f]S Dt 4:8
119:8 [g]S Ps 38:21
119:9 [h]S Ps 39:1 [i]ver 65, 169
119:10 [j]S Ps 9:1 [k]ver 21, 118
119:11 [l]S Dt 6:6; S Job 22:22 [m]ver 133, 165; Ps 18:22-23; 19:13; Pr 3:23; Isa 63:13
119:12 [n]Ps 28:6 [o]Ps 143:8, 10 [p]S Ex 18:20
119:13 [q]ver 72
119:14 [r]ver 111
119:15 [s]ver 97, 148; Ps 1:2
119:16 [t]S Ps 112:1
119:17 [u]Ps 13:6; 116:7 [v]ver 67; Ps 103:20
119:19 [w]S Ge 23:4; Heb 11:13
119:20 [x]Ps 42:2; 84:2 [y]ver 131; S Ps 63:1; Isa 26:9
119:21 [z]ver 51; Job 30:1; Ps 5:5; Jer 20:7; 50:32; Da 4:37; Mal 3:15 [a]Dt 27:26 [b]S ver 10
119:22 [c]Ps 39:8 [d]ver 2
119:25 [e]Ps 44:25 [f]ver 50, 107; Ps 143:11 [g]ver 9
119:26 [h]Ps 25:4; 27:11; 86:11
119:27 [i]Ps 105:2; 145:5
119:28 [j]Ps 6:7; 116:3; Isa 51:11; Jer 45:3 [k]Ps 18:1; Isa 40:29; 41:10 [l]ver 9
119:29 [m]Ps 26:4 [n]S Nu 6:25
119:30 [o]S Jos 24:22 [p]S Ps 26:3 [q]S Ps 108:1
119:31 [r]S Dt 10:20
119:33 [s]ver 12
119:34 [t]ver 27, 73, 144, 169; S Job 32:8; Pr 2:6; Da 2:21; Jas 1:5 [u]S Dt 6:25 [v]ver 69
119:35 [w]Ps 25:4-5 [x]ver 32 [y]S Ps 1:2
119:36 [z]S Jos 24:23 [a]Eze 33:31
119:37 [b]ver 25; Ps 71:20 [c]ver 9
119:38 [d]S Nu 23:19
119:39 [e]ver 22; Ps 69:9; 89:51; Isa 25:8; 51:7; 54:4

ד Daleth

25 I am laid low in the dust;[e]
preserve my life[f] according to
your word.[g]
26 I recounted my ways and you
answered me;
teach me your decrees.[h]
27 Let me understand the teaching of
your precepts;
then I will meditate on your
wonders.[i]
28 My soul is weary with sorrow;[j]
strengthen me[k] according to your
word.[l]
29 Keep me from deceitful ways;[m]
be gracious to me[n] through your
law.
30 I have chosen[o] the way of truth;[p]
I have set my heart[q] on your laws.
31 I hold fast[r] to your statutes, O LORD;
do not let me be put to shame.
32 I run in the path of your commands,
for you have set my heart free.

ה He

33 Teach me,[s] O LORD, to follow your
decrees;
then I will keep them to the end.
34 Give me understanding,[t] and I will
keep your law[u]
and obey it with all my heart.[v]
35 Direct me[w] in the path of your
commands,[x]
for there I find delight.[y]
36 Turn my heart[z] toward your statutes
and not toward selfish gain.[a]
37 Turn my eyes away from worthless
things;
preserve my life[b] according to
your word.[c] [c]
38 Fulfill your promise[d] to your
servant,
so that you may be feared.
39 Take away the disgrace[e] I dread,
for your laws are good.
40 How I long[f] for your precepts!
Preserve my life[g] in your
righteousness.

ו Waw

41 May your unfailing love[h] come to
me, O LORD,
your salvation according to your
promise;[i]
42 then I will answer[j] the one who
taunts me,[k]

119:40 [f]ver 20 [g]ver 25, 149, 154 **119:41** [h]S Ps 6:4 [i]ver 76, 116, 154, 170 **119:42** [j]Pr 27:11 [k]S Ps 42:10

[c]37 Two manuscripts of the Masoretic Text and Dead Sea Scrolls; most manuscripts of the Masoretic Text *life in your way*

for I trust in your word.
43Do not snatch the word of truth
from my mouth,[a]
for I have put my hope[b] in your
laws.
44I will always obey your law,[c]
for ever and ever.
45I will walk about in freedom,
for I have sought out your
precepts.[d]
46I will speak of your statutes before
kings[e]
and will not be put to shame,[f]
47for I delight[g] in your commands
because I love them.[h]
48I lift up my hands to[u] your
commands, which I love,
and I meditate[i] on your decrees.

ז Zayin

49Remember your word[j] to your
servant,
for you have given me hope.[k]
50My comfort in my suffering is this:
Your promise preserves my life.[l]
51The arrogant mock me[m] without
restraint,
but I do not turn[n] from your law.
52I remember[o] your ancient laws,
O LORD,
and I find comfort in them.
53Indignation grips me[p] because of the
wicked,
who have forsaken your law.[q]
54Your decrees are the theme of my
song[r]
wherever I lodge.
55In the night I remember[s] your
name, O LORD,
and I will keep your law.[t]
56This has been my practice:
I obey your precepts.[u]

ח Heth

57You are my portion,[v] O LORD;
I have promised to obey your
words.[w]
58I have sought[x] your face with all my
heart;
be gracious to me[y] according to
your promise.[z]
59I have considered my ways[a]
and have turned my steps to your
statutes.
60I will hasten and not delay
to obey your commands.[b]
61Though the wicked bind me with
ropes,
I will not forget[c] your law.
62At midnight[d] I rise to give you
thanks
for your righteous laws.[e]

119:43 [a]S 1Ki 17:24 [b]ver 74,81,114,147 **119:44** [c]ver 33,34,55; S Dt 6:25 **119:45** [d]ver 94,155 **119:46** [e]Mt 10:18; Ac 26:1-2 [f]S ver 6 **119:47** [g]ver 77,143; S Ps 112:1 [h]ver 97,127,159,163,165 **119:48** [i]S Ge 24:63 **119:49** [j]ver 9 [k]ver 43 **119:50** [l]S ver 25 **119:51** [m]S ver 21; S Job 16:10; S 17:2 [n]S Job 23:11 **119:52** [o]Ps 103:18 **119:53** [p]S Ex 32:19; S 33:4 [q]Ps 89:30 **119:54** [r]ver 172; Ps 101:1; 138:5 **119:55** [s]ver 62,72; Ps 1:2; 42:8; S 63:6; 77:2; Isa 26:9; Ac 16:25 [t]S ver 44 **119:56** [u]ver 4,100,134,168; S Nu 15:40 **119:57** [v]S Dt 32:9; Jer 51:19; La 3:24 [w]ver 17,67,101 **119:58** [x]S Dt 4:29; S 1Ch 16:11; Ps 34:4 [y]S Ge 43:29; S Ezr 9:8 [z]ver 41 **119:59** [a]Jos 24:14-15; S Ps 39:1 **119:60** [b]ver 115 **119:61** [c]ver 83,109,153,176 **119:62** [d]S ver 55; Ac 16:25 [e]ver 7

119:63 [f]Ps 15:4; 101:6-7; 103:11 [g]ver 56; Ps 111:10 **119:64** [h]Ps 33:5 [i]ver 12,108 **119:65** [j]ver 17; Ps 125:4; Isa 50:2; 59:1; Mic 2:7 [k]S ver 9 **119:66** [l]S Ps 51:6 **119:67** [m]S Ps 116:10 [n]S Ps 95:10; S Jer 8:4 [o]S ver 17 **119:68** [p]Ps 100:5; 106:1; 107:1; 135:3 [q]S Ex 18:20 **119:69** [r]Job 13:4; Ps 109:2 **119:70** [s]S Ps 17:10; Isa 29:13; Ac 28:27 **119:71** [t]ver 67,75 **119:72** [u]S Job 28:17; S Ps 19:10 **119:73** [v]S Ge 1:27; S Job 4:17; 10:8;

63I am a friend to all who fear you,[f]
to all who follow your precepts.[g]
64The earth is filled with your love,[h] O
LORD;
teach me your decrees.[i]

ט Teth

65Do good[j] to your servant
according to your word,[k] O LORD.
66Teach me knowledge[l] and good
judgment,
for I believe in your commands.
67Before I was afflicted[m] I went
astray,[n]
but now I obey your word.[o]
68You are good,[p] and what you do is
good;
teach me your decrees.[q]
69Though the arrogant have smeared
me with lies,[r]
I keep your precepts with all my
heart.
70Their hearts are callous[s] and
unfeeling,
but I delight in your law.
71It was good for me to be afflicted[t]
so that I might learn your decrees.
72The law from your mouth is more
precious to me
than thousands of pieces of silver
and gold.[u]

י Yodh

73Your hands made me[v] and formed
me;
give me understanding to learn
your commands.
74May those who fear you rejoice[w]
when they see me,
for I have put my hope in your
word.[x]
75I know, O LORD, that your laws are
righteous,[y]
and in faithfulness[z] you have
afflicted me.
76May your unfailing love[a] be my
comfort,
according to your promise[b] to
your servant.
77Let your compassion[c] come to me
that I may live,
for your law is my delight.[d]
78May the arrogant[e] be put to shame
for wronging me without
cause;[f]
but I will meditate on your
precepts.

Ps 138:8; 139:13-16 **119:74** [w]S Ps 34:2 [x]ver 9; Ps 130:5 **119:75** [y]ver 7,138,172 [z]Heb 12:5-11 **119:76** [a]Ps 6:4 [b]S ver 41 **119:77** [c]Ps 90:13; 103:13 [d]S ver 47 **119:78** [e]ver 51; Jer 50:32 [f]ver 86,161; Ps 35:19

[u]48 Or *for*

79 May those who fear you turn to me,
those who understand your
statutes.
80 May my heart be blameless toward
your decrees,
that I may not be put to shame.

כ Kaph

81 My soul faints with longing for
your salvation,
but I have put my hope in your
word.
82 My eyes fail, looking for your
promise;
I say, "When will you comfort
me?"
83 Though I am like a wineskin in the
smoke,
I do not forget your decrees.
84 How long must your servant wait?
When will you punish my
persecutors?
85 The arrogant dig pitfalls for me,
contrary to your law.
86 All your commands are
trustworthy;
help me, for men persecute me
without cause.
87 They almost wiped me from the
earth,
but I have not forsaken your
precepts.
88 Preserve my life according to your
love,
and I will obey the statutes of
your mouth.

ל Lamedh

89 Your word, O LORD, is eternal;
it stands firm in the heavens.
90 Your faithfulness continues
through all generations;
you established the earth, and it
endures.
91 Your laws endure to this day,
for all things serve you.
92 If your law had not been my
delight,
I would have perished in my
affliction.
93 I will never forget your precepts,
for by them you have preserved
my life.
94 Save me, for I am yours;
I have sought out your precepts.
95 The wicked are waiting to destroy
me,
but I will ponder your statutes.
96 To all perfection I see a limit;
but your commands are
boundless.

מ Mem

97 Oh, how I love your law!
I meditate on it all day long.
98 Your commands make me wiser
than my enemies,
for they are ever with me.
99 I have more insight than all my
teachers,
for I meditate on your statutes.
100 I have more understanding than the
elders,
for I obey your precepts.
101 I have kept my feet from every evil
path
so that I might obey your word.
102 I have not departed from your
laws,
for you yourself have taught me.
103 How sweet are your words to my
taste,
sweeter than honey to my
mouth!
104 I gain understanding from your
precepts;
therefore I hate every wrong
path.

נ Nun

105 Your word is a lamp to my feet
and a light for my path.
106 I have taken an oath and
confirmed it,
that I will follow your righteous
laws.
107 I have suffered much;
preserve my life, O LORD,
according to your word.
108 Accept, O LORD, the willing praise of
my mouth,
and teach me your laws.
109 Though I constantly take my life in
my hands,
I will not forget your law.
110 The wicked have set a snare
for me,
but I have not strayed from your
precepts.
111 Your statutes are my heritage
forever;
they are the joy of my heart.
112 My heart is set on keeping your
decrees
to the very end.

ס Samekh

113 I hate double-minded men,
but I love your law.
114 You are my refuge and my shield;

I have put my hope[a] in your
word.
115Away from me,[b] you evildoers,
that I may keep the commands of
my God!
116Sustain me[c] according to your
promise,[d] and I will live;
do not let my hopes be dashed.[e]
117Uphold me,[f] and I will be
delivered;[g]
I will always have regard for your
decrees.[h]
118You reject all who stray[i] from your
decrees,
for their deceitfulness is in vain.
119All the wicked of the earth you
discard like dross;[j]
therefore I love your statutes.[k]
120My flesh trembles[l] in fear of you;[m]
I stand in awe[n] of your laws.

ע Ayin

121I have done what is righteous and
just;[o]
do not leave me to my oppressors.
122Ensure your servant's well-being;[p]
let not the arrogant oppress me.[q]
123My eyes fail,[r] looking for your
salvation,[s]
looking for your righteous
promise.[t]
124Deal with your servant according to
your love[u]
and teach me your decrees.[v]
125I am your servant;[w] give me
discernment
that I may understand your
statutes.[x]
126It is time for you to act, O LORD;
your law is being broken.[y]
127Because I love your commands[z]
more than gold,[a] more than pure
gold,[b]
128and because I consider all your
precepts right,[c]
I hate every wrong path.[d]

פ Pe

129Your statutes are wonderful;[e]
therefore I obey them.[f]
130The unfolding of your words gives
light;[g]
it gives understanding to the
simple.[h]
131I open my mouth and pant,[i]
longing for your commands.[j]
132Turn to me[k] and have mercy[l] on
me,
as you always do to those who
love your name.[m]
133Direct my footsteps according to
your word;[n]

119:114 [a]S ver 43
119:115 [b]S Ps 6:8
119:116 [c]S Ps 18:35; 41:3; 55:22; Isa 46:4 [d]S ver 41 [e]Ro 5:5
119:117 [f]Isa 41:10; 46:4 [g]Ps 34:4 [h]ver 6
119:118 [i]S ver 10
119:119 [j]Isa 1:22,25; Eze 22:18,19 [k]ver 47
119:120 [l]S Job 4:14; S Isa 64:2 [m]S Jos 24:14 [n]Jer 10:7; Hab 3:2
119:121 [o]S 2Sa 8:15; S Job 27:6
119:122 [p]S Job 17:3 [q]ver 21,121,134; Ps 106:42
119:123 [r]Isa 38:14 [s]ver 81 [t]S ver 82
119:124 [u]S ver 88; S Ps 25:7 [v]ver 12
119:125 [w]S Ps 116:16 [x]S ver 79
119:126 [y]S Nu 15:31
119:127 [z]S ver 47 [a]Ps 19:10 [b]S Job 3:21
119:128 [c]S Ps 19:8 [d]ver 104,163; Ps 31:6; Pr 13:5
119:129 [e]ver 18 [f]ver 22,S 88
119:130 [g]S ver 105 [h]S Ps 19:7
119:131 [i]Ps 42:1 [j]S ver 20
119:132 [k]S Ps 6:4 [l]S 2Sa 24:14; S Ps 9:13 [m]S Ps 5:11
119:133 [n]ver 9 [o]S ver 11; S Ro 6:16
119:134 [p]S ver 122 [q]S ver 56; S 88
119:135 [r]S Nu 6:25; Ps 4:6; 67:1; 80:3 [s]ver 12
119:136 [t]Ps 6:6; Isa 22:4; Jer 9:1,18; 13:17; 14:17; La 1:16; 3:48 [u]ver 158; Ps 106:25; Isa 42:24; Eze 9:4
119:137 [v]S Ex 9:27; S Ezr 9:15 [w]S Ne 9:13
119:138 [x]S ver 75; S Ps 19:7 [y]ver 86
119:139 [z]Ps 69:9; Jn 2:17
119:140 [a]S Jos 23:14 [b]Ps 12:6 [c]ver 47
119:141 [d]S Ps 22:6 [e]ver 61,134
119:142 [f]ver 151,160; Ps 19:7
119:143 [g]ver 24,S 47

let no sin rule[o] over me.
134Redeem me from the oppression of
men,[p]
that I may obey your precepts.[q]
135Make your face shine[r] upon your
servant
and teach me your decrees.[s]
136Streams of tears[t] flow from my
eyes,
for your law is not obeyed.[u]

צ Tsadhe

137Righteous are you,[v] O LORD,
and your laws are right.[w]
138The statutes you have laid down are
righteous;[x]
they are fully trustworthy.[y]
139My zeal wears me out,[z]
for my enemies ignore your
words.
140Your promises[a] have been
thoroughly tested,[b]
and your servant loves them.[c]
141Though I am lowly and despised,[d]
I do not forget your precepts.[e]
142Your righteousness is everlasting
and your law is true.[f]
143Trouble and distress have come
upon me,
but your commands are my
delight.[g]
144Your statutes are forever right;
give me understanding[h] that I
may live.

ק Qoph

145I call with all my heart;[i] answer me,
O LORD,
and I will obey your decrees.[j]
146I call out to you; save me[k]
and I will keep your statutes.
147I rise before dawn[l] and cry for help;
I have put my hope in your word.
148My eyes stay open through the
watches of the night,[m]
that I may meditate on your
promises.
149Hear my voice[n] in accordance with
your love;[o]
preserve my life,[p] O LORD,
according to your laws.
150Those who devise wicked schemes[q]
are near,
but they are far from your law.
151Yet you are near,[r] O LORD,
and all your commands are true.[s]
152Long ago I learned from your
statutes[t]

119:144 [h]S ver 34 119:145 [i]ver 10 [j]ver 22,55 119:146 [k]S ver 94 119:147 [l]Ps 5:3; 57:8; 108:2 119:148 [m]S Ps 63:6 119:149 [n]S Ps 27:7 [o]ver 124 [p]S ver 40 119:150 [q]S Ps 37:7 119:151 [r]S Ps 34:18; Php 4:5 [s]S ver 142 119:152 [t]ver 7,73

that you established them to last
forever.[a]

ר Resh

153 Look upon my suffering[b] and
deliver me,[c]
for I have not forgotten[d] your law.
154 Defend my cause[e] and redeem me;[f]
preserve my life[g] according to
your promise.[h]
155 Salvation is far from the wicked,
for they do not seek out[i] your
decrees.
156 Your compassion is great,[j] O LORD;
preserve my life[k] according to
your laws.[l]
157 Many are the foes who persecute
me,[m]
but I have not turned[n] from your
statutes.
158 I look on the faithless with
loathing,[o]
for they do not obey your word.[p]
159 See how I love your precepts;
preserve my life,[q] O LORD,
according to your love.
160 All your words are true;
all your righteous laws are
eternal.[r]

ש Sin and Shin

161 Rulers persecute me[s] without
cause,
but my heart trembles[t] at your
word.
162 I rejoice[u] in your promise
like one who finds great spoil.[v]
163 I hate and abhor[w] falsehood
but I love your law.[x]
164 Seven times a day I praise you
for your righteous laws.[y]
165 Great peace[z] have they who love
your law,
and nothing can make them
stumble.[a]
166 I wait for your salvation,[b] O LORD,
and I follow your commands.
167 I obey your statutes,
for I love them[c] greatly.
168 I obey your precepts[d] and your
statutes,[e]
for all my ways are known[f] to
you.

ת Taw

169 May my cry come[g] before you,
O LORD;
give me understanding[h] according
to your word.[i]
170 May my supplication come[j] before
you;
deliver me[k] according to your
promise.[l]
171 May my lips overflow with praise,[m]
for you teach me[n] your decrees.
172 May my tongue sing[o] of your word,
for all your commands are
righteous.[p]
173 May your hand be ready to help[q]
me,
for I have chosen[r] your precepts.
174 I long for your salvation,[s] O LORD,
and your law is my delight.[t]
175 Let me live[u] that I may praise you,
and may your laws sustain me.
176 I have strayed like a lost sheep.[v]
Seek your servant,
for I have not forgotten[w] your
commands.

Psalm 120

A song of ascents.

1 I call on the LORD[x] in my distress,[y]
and he answers me.
2 Save me, O LORD, from lying lips[z]
and from deceitful tongues.[a]

3 What will he do to you,
and what more besides, O
deceitful tongue?
4 He will punish you with a warrior's
sharp arrows,[b]
with burning coals of the broom
tree.

5 Woe to me that I dwell in Meshech,
that I live among the tents of
Kedar![c]
6 Too long have I lived
among those who hate peace.
7 I am a man of peace;
but when I speak, they are for
war.

Psalm 121

A song of ascents.

1 I lift up my eyes to the hills—
where does my help come from?
2 My help comes from the LORD,
the Maker of heaven[d] and earth.[e]

3 He will not let your foot slip—
he who watches over you will not
slumber;
4 indeed, he who watches[f] over Israel
will neither slumber nor sleep.

5 The LORD watches over[g] you—

119:152 [a]S ver 89; S Ps 111:8; Lk 21:33 **119:153** [b]S Ps 13:3 [c]S Ps 3:7 [d]S Ps 44:17 **119:154** [e]Ps 35:1; Jer 50:34; Mic 7:9 [f]S 1Sa 24:15 [g]ver 25 [h]S ver 41 **119:155** [i]ver 94,118 **119:156** [j]S Ne 9:27; Jas 5:11 [k]ver 25 [l]ver 149 **119:157** [m]S Ps 7:1 [n]S Ps 44:18 **119:158** [o]ver 104; S Ex 32:19 [p]S ver 136 **119:159** [q]ver 25; S Ps 41:2 **119:160** [r]S ver 89; S Ps 111:8 **119:161** [s]ver 23,122,157; 1Sa 24:14-15 [t]ver 120 **119:162** [u]S ver 111 [v]1Sa 30:16; Isa 9:3; 53:12 **119:163** [w]S ver 128 [x]ver 47 **119:164** [y]ver 7, 160 **119:165** [z]Ps 37:11; Isa 26:3,12; 27:5; 32:17; 57:19; 66:12 [a]S ver 11; S Ps 37:24; 1Jn 2:10 **119:166** [b]ver 81 **119:167** [c]ver 47 **119:168** [d]S ver 56,S 88 [e]ver 2,22 [f]S Job 10:4; S 23:10; Ps 139:3; Pr 5:21 **119:169** [g]S Job 16:18 [h]S ver 34 [i]S ver 9 **119:170** [j]1Ki 8:30; 2Ch 6:24; Ps 28:2; 140:6; 143:1 [k]Ps 3:7; 22:20; 59:1 [l]S ver 41 **119:171** [m]Ps 51:15; 63:3 [n]Ps 94:12; Isa 2:3; Mic 4:2 **119:172** [o]Ps 51:14 [p]ver 7, S 75 **119:173** [q]Ps 37:24; 73:23; Isa 41:10 [r]S Jos 24:22 **119:174** [s]ver 166 [t]ver 16,24 **119:175** [u]ver 116,159; Isa 55:3 **119:176** [v]ver 10; S Ps 95:10; Jer 50:17; Eze 34:11; S Lk 15:4 [w]S Ps 44:17 **120:1** [x]S Ps 18:6 [y]S 2Sa 22:7; S Ps 118:5 **120:2** [z]S Ps 31:18 [a]S Ps 52:4 **120:4** [b]S Dt 32:23 **120:5** [c]S Ge 25:13; Jer 2:10

121:2 [d]S Ge 1:1 [e]S Ps 104:5 **121:4** [f]Ps 127:1 **121:5** [g]S Ps 1:6

the LORD is your shade at your
right hand;
6the sun[e] will not harm you by day,
nor the moon by night.
7The LORD will keep you from all
harm[f]—
he will watch over your life;
8the LORD will watch over your
coming and going
both now and forevermore.

Psalm 122

A song of ascents. Of David.

1I rejoiced with those who said to me,
"Let us go to the house of the
LORD."
2Our feet are standing
in your gates, O Jerusalem.
3Jerusalem is built like a city
that is closely compacted together.
4That is where the tribes go up,
the tribes of the LORD,
to praise the name of the LORD
according to the statute given to
Israel.
5There the thrones for judgment
stand,
the thrones of the house of David.
6Pray for the peace of Jerusalem:
"May those who love[d] you be
secure.
7May there be peace[e] within your
walls
and security within your
citadels.[f]"
8For the sake of my brothers and
friends,
I will say, "Peace be within you."
9For the sake of the house of the LORD
our God,
I will seek your prosperity.[g]

Psalm 123

A song of ascents.

1I lift up my eyes to you,
to you whose throne[h] is in
heaven.
2As the eyes of slaves look to the
hand of their master,
as the eyes of a maid look to the
hand of her mistress,
so our eyes look to the LORD[i] our
God,
till he shows us his mercy.
3Have mercy on us, O LORD, have
mercy on us,
for we have endured much
contempt.
4We have endured much ridicule
from the proud,
much contempt from the arrogant.

Psalm 124

A song of ascents. Of David.

1If the LORD had not been on our
side—
let Israel say[j]—
2if the LORD had not been on our
side
when men attacked us,
3when their anger flared against us,
they would have swallowed us
alive;
4the flood[k] would have engulfed
us,
the torrent[l] would have swept
over us,
5 the raging waters would have
swept us away.
6Praise be to the LORD,
who has not let us be torn by their
teeth.
7We have escaped like a bird
out of the fowler's snare;[m]
the snare has been broken,[n]
and we have escaped.
8Our help is in the name[o] of the
LORD,
the Maker of heaven[p] and earth.

Psalm 125

A song of ascents.

1Those who trust in the LORD are like
Mount Zion,[q]
which cannot be shaken[r] but
endures forever.
2As the mountains surround
Jerusalem,[s]
so the LORD surrounds[t] his people
both now and forevermore.
3The scepter[u] of the wicked will not
remain[v]
over the land allotted to the
righteous,
for then the righteous might use
their hands to do evil.[w]
4Do good, O LORD,[x] to those who are
good,
to those who are upright in
heart.[y]
5But those who turn[z] to crooked
ways[a]

[illegible]
124:1 [j]Ps 129:1
124:4 [k]Ps 88:17
[l]S Ps 18:4
124:7
[m]S Ps 91:3
[n]Ps 25:15
124:8
[o]S 1Sa 17:45
[p]Ge 1:1;
Ps 115:15; 121:2;
134:3
125:1 [q]Ps 48:12;
Isa 33:20
[r]Ps 46:5; 48:2-5
125:2
[s]S 1Ch 21:15
[t]Ps 32:10;
Zec 2:4-5
125:3
[u]S Est 4:11
[v]Ps 89:22;
Pr 22:8;
Isa 13:11; 14:5
[w]1Sa 24:10
125:4
[x]S Ps 119:65
[y]S Ps 36:10
125:5
[z]S Job 23:11
[a]Pr 2:15; Isa 59:8

the LORD will banish with the
evildoers.
Peace be upon Israel.

Psalm 126

A song of ascents.

1 When the LORD brought back the
captives to Zion,
we were like men who dreamed.
2 Our mouths were filled with
laughter,
our tongues with songs of joy.
Then it was said among the nations,
"The LORD has done great things
for them."
3 The LORD has done great things
for us,
and we are filled with joy.

4 Restore our fortunes, O LORD,
like streams in the Negev.
5 Those who sow in tears
will reap with songs of joy.
6 He who goes out weeping,
carrying seed to sow,
will return with songs of joy,
carrying sheaves with him.

Psalm 127

A song of ascents. Of Solomon.

1 Unless the LORD builds the house,
its builders labor in vain.
Unless the LORD watches over the
city,
the watchmen stand guard in vain.
2 In vain you rise early
and stay up late,
toiling for food to eat—
for he grants sleep to those he
loves.

3 Sons are a heritage from the LORD,
children a reward from him.
4 Like arrows in the hands of a
warrior
are sons born in one's youth.
5 Blessed is the man
whose quiver is full of them.
They will not be put to shame
when they contend with their
enemies in the gate.

Psalm 128

A song of ascents.

1 Blessed are all who fear the LORD,
who walk in his ways.
2 You will eat the fruit of your labor;
blessings and prosperity will be
yours.
3 Your wife will be like a fruitful vine
within your house;
your sons will be like olive shoots
around your table.
4 Thus is the man blessed
who fears the LORD.

5 May the LORD bless you from Zion
all the days of your life;
may you see the prosperity of
Jerusalem,
6 and may you live to see your
children's children.

Peace be upon Israel.

Psalm 129

A song of ascents.

1 They have greatly oppressed me
from my youth—
let Israel say—
2 they have greatly oppressed me from
my youth,
but they have not gained the
victory over me.
3 Plowmen have plowed my back
and made their furrows long.
4 But the LORD is righteous;
he has cut me free from the cords
of the wicked.

5 May all who hate Zion
be turned back in shame.
6 May they be like grass on the roof,
which withers before it can grow;
7 with it the reaper cannot fill his
hands,
nor the one who gathers fill his
arms.
8 May those who pass by not say,
"The blessing of the LORD be upon
you;
we bless you in the name of the
LORD."

Psalm 130

A song of ascents.

1 Out of the depths I cry to you,
O LORD;
2 O Lord, hear my voice.
Let your ears be attentive
to my cry for mercy.

3 If you, O LORD, kept a record of sins,
O Lord, who could stand?

[illegible]

4 But with you there is forgiveness;[a]
therefore you are feared.[b]
5 I wait for the LORD,[c] my soul waits,[d]
and in his word[e] I put my hope.
6 My soul waits for the Lord
more than watchmen[f] wait for the morning,
more than watchmen wait for the morning.[g]
7 O Israel, put your hope[h] in the LORD,
for with the LORD is unfailing love[i]
and with him is full redemption.[j]
8 He himself will redeem[k] Israel
from all their sins.[l]

Psalm 131

A song of ascents. Of David.

1 My heart is not proud,[m] O LORD,
my eyes are not haughty;[n]
I do not concern myself with great matters[o]
or things too wonderful for me.[p]
2 But I have stilled and quieted my soul;[q]
like a weaned child with its mother,
like a weaned child is my soul[r] within me.
3 O Israel, put your hope[s] in the LORD
both now and forevermore.[t]

Psalm 132

132:8-10pp — 2Ch 6:41-42

A song of ascents.

1 O LORD, remember David
and all the hardships he endured.[u]
2 He swore an oath to the LORD
and made a vow to the Mighty One of Jacob:[v]
3 "I will not enter my house[w]
or go to my bed—
4 I will allow no sleep to my eyes,
no slumber to my eyelids,
5 till I find a place[x] for the LORD,
a dwelling for the Mighty One of Jacob."
6 We heard it in Ephrathah,[y]
we came upon it in the fields of Jaar[z]:[a][z]
7 "Let us go to his dwelling place;[a]
let us worship at his footstool[b]—
8 arise, O LORD,[c] and come to your resting place,
you and the ark of your might.
9 May your priests be clothed with righteousness;[d]
may your saints[e] sing for joy."
10 For the sake of David your servant,
do not reject your anointed one.
11 The LORD swore an oath to David,[f]
a sure oath that he will not revoke:
"One of your own descendants[g]
I will place on your throne—
12 if your sons keep my covenant[h]
and the statutes I teach them,
then their sons will sit
on your throne[i] for ever and ever."
13 For the LORD has chosen Zion,[j]
he has desired it for his dwelling:[k]
14 "This is my resting place for ever and ever;[l]
here I will sit enthroned,[m] for I have desired it—
15 I will bless her with abundant provisions;
her poor will I satisfy with food.[n]
16 I will clothe her priests[o] with salvation,
and her saints will ever sing for joy.[p]
17 "Here I will make a horn[b] grow[q] for David
and set up a lamp[r] for my anointed one.[s]
18 I will clothe his enemies with shame,[t]
but the crown on his head[u] will be resplendent."

Psalm 133

A song of ascents. Of David.

1 How good and pleasant it is
when brothers live together[v] in unity![w]
2 It is like precious oil poured on the head,[x]
running down on the beard,
running down on Aaron's beard,
down upon the collar of his robes.
3 It is as if the dew[y] of Hermon[z]
were falling on Mount Zion.[a]
For there the LORD bestows his blessing,[b]
even life forevermore.[c]

130:4 [a]S Ex 34:7; S 2Sa 24:14; S Jer 31:34 [b]S 1Ki 8:40 **130:5** [c]S Ps 27:14; Isa 8:17; 26:8; 30:18; 40:23 [d]S Ps 5:3 [e]S Ps 119:74 **130:6** [f]Ps 63:6 [g]S 2Sa 23:4 **130:7** [h]S Ps 25:5; S 71:14 [i]S 1Ch 21:13 [j]S Ps 111:9; S Ro 3:24 **130:8** [k]Lk 1:68 [l]S Ex 34:7; S Mt 1:21 **131:1** [m]Ps 101:5; Isa 2:12; Ro 12:16 [n]S 2Sa 22:28; S Job 41:34 [o]Jer 45:5 [p]S Job 5:9; Ps 139:6 **131:2** [q]S Ps 116:7 [r]Mt 18:3; 1Co 13:11; 14:20 **131:3** [s]S Ps 25:5; 119:43; 130:7 [t]S Ps 113:2 **132:1** [u]1Sa 18:11; S 2Sa 15:14 **132:2** [v]S Ge 49:24; Isa 49:26; 60:16 **132:3** [w]S 2Sa 7:2,27 **132:5** [x]S 1Ki 8:17; Ac 7:46 **132:6** [y]S 1Sa 17:12 [z]S Jos 9:17; S 1Sa 7:2 **132:7** [a]S 2Sa 15:25; Ps 5:7; 122:1 [b]S 1Ch 28:2 **132:8** [c]S Nu 10:35 **132:9** [d]S Job 27:6; Isa 61:3,10; Zec 3:4; Mal 3:3; Eph 6:14 [e]Ps 16:3; 30:4; 149:5 **132:11** [f]S Ps 89:3-4,35 [g]S 1Ch 17:11-14; S Mt 1:1; Lk 3:31 **132:12** [h]2Ch 6:16; S Ps 25:10 [i]Lk 1:32; Ac 2:30 **132:13** [j]S Ex 15:17; Ps 48:1-2; S 68:16 [k]S 1Ki 8:13 **132:14** [l]ver 8; Ps 68:16 [m]S 2Sa 6:2; Ps 80:1 **132:15** [n]Ps 107:9; 147:14 **132:16** [o]S 2Ch 6:41 [p]S Job 8:21; Ps 149:5 **132:17** [q]S 1Sa 2:10; Ps 92:10; Eze 29:21; S Lk 1:69 [r]1Ki 11:36; 2Ki 8:19; 2Ch 21:7; Ps 18:28 [s]S Ps 84:9 **132:18** [t]S Job 8:22 [u]S 2Sa 12:30 **133:1** [v]S Ge 13:8; S Ro 12:10 [w]Jn 17:11 **133:2** [x]S Ex 29:7 **133:3** [y]Job 29:19; Pr 19:12; Isa 18:4; 26:19; 45:8; Hos 14:5; Mic 5:7 [z]S Dt 3:8; S 4:48 [a]S Ex 15:17; S Ps 2:6; 74:2 [b]S Lev 25:21 [c]S Ps 21:4

[z]6 That is, Kiriath Jearim [a]6 Or *heard of it in Ephrathah, / we found it in the fields of Jaar.* (And no quotes around verses 7-9) [b]17 *Horn* here symbolizes strong one, that is, king

Psalm 134

A song of ascents.

1Praise the LORD, all you servants[a] of
the LORD
who minister[b] by night[c] in the
house of the LORD.
2Lift up your hands[d] in the
sanctuary[e]
and praise the LORD.[f]
3May the LORD, the Maker of heaven[g]
and earth,
bless you from Zion.[h]

Psalm 135

135:15-20pp — Ps 115:4-11

1Praise the LORD.[c]

Praise the name of the LORD;
praise him, you servants[i] of the
LORD,
2you who minister in the house[j] of
the LORD,
in the courts[k] of the house of our
God.
3Praise the LORD, for the LORD is
good;[l]
sing praise to his name,[m] for that
is pleasant.[n]
4For the LORD has chosen Jacob[o] to be
his own,
Israel to be his treasured
possession.[p]
5I know that the LORD is great,[q]
that our Lord is greater than all
gods.[r]
6The LORD does whatever pleases
him,[s]
in the heavens and on the earth,[t]
in the seas and all their depths.
7He makes clouds rise from the ends
of the earth;
he sends lightning with the rain[u]
and brings out the wind[v] from his
storehouses.[w]
8He struck down the firstborn[x] of
Egypt,
the firstborn of men and animals.
9He sent his signs[y] and wonders into
your midst, O Egypt,
against Pharaoh and all his
servants.[z]
10He struck down many[a] nations
and killed mighty kings—
11Sihon[b] king of the Amorites,[c]
Og king of Bashan[d]
and all the kings of Canaan[e]—
12and he gave their land as an
inheritance,[f]
an inheritance to his people Israel.
13Your name, O LORD, endures
forever,[g]
your renown,[h] O LORD, through
all generations.
14For the LORD will vindicate his
people[i]
and have compassion on his
servants.[j]
15The idols of the nations[k] are silver
and gold,
made by the hands of men.[l]
16They have mouths, but cannot
speak,[m]
eyes, but they cannot see;
17they have ears, but cannot hear,
nor is there breath[n] in their
mouths.
18Those who make them will be like
them,
and so will all who trust in them.
19O house of Israel, praise the LORD;[o]
O house of Aaron, praise the LORD;
20O house of Levi, praise the LORD;
you who fear him, praise the LORD.
21Praise be to the LORD from Zion,[p]
to him who dwells in Jerusalem.[q]

Praise the LORD.

Psalm 136

1Give thanks[r] to the LORD, for he is
good.[s]
His love endures forever.[t]
2Give thanks[u] to the God of gods.[v]
His love endures forever.
3Give thanks[w] to the Lord of lords:[x]
His love endures forever.

4to him who alone does great
wonders,[y]
His love endures forever.
5who by his understanding[z] made
the heavens,[a]
His love endures forever.
6who spread out the earth[b] upon the
waters,[c]
His love endures forever.
7who made the great lights[d]—
His love endures forever.
8the sun to govern[e] the day,
His love endures forever.
9the moon and stars to govern the
night;
His love endures forever.

134:1 aS Ps 113:1; 135:1-2; Rev 19:5 bS Nu 16:9; S 1Ch 15:2 cS 1Ch 23:30 **134:2** dS Ps 28:2; 1Ti 2:8 ePs 15:1 fPs 33:2; 103:1 **134:3** gS Ps 124:8 hS Lev 25:21; S Ps 20:2 **135:1** iNe 7:73 **135:2** jS 1Ch 15:2; Lk 2:37 kS Ps 116:19 **135:3** lS 1Ch 16:34; S Ps 119:68 mS Ps 68:4 nS Ps 92:1; 147:1 **135:4** oS Dt 10:15 pEx 19:5; Dt 7:6; Mal 3:17; S Tit 2:14 **135:5** qS Ps 48:1; 145:3 rS Ex 12:12; S 1Ch 16:25; S Job 21:22 **135:6** sPs 115:3; Da 4:35 tMt 6:10 **135:7** uS Job 5:10; Ps 68:9; Isa 30:23; Jer 10:13; 51:16; Joel 2:23; Zec 10:1 vAm 4:13 wS Dt 28:12 **135:8** xS Ex 4:23; S 12:12 **135:9** yS Ex 7:9 zPs 136:10-15 **135:10** aNu 21:21-25; Jos 24:8-11; Ps 44:2; 78:55; 136:17-21 **135:11** bS Nu 21:21 cS Nu 21:26 dS Nu 21:33 eS Jos 12:7-24; 24:12 **135:12** fS Dt 29:8 **135:13** gS Ex 3:15 hS Ps 102:12 **135:14** iS 1Sa 24:15; Heb 10:30* jS Dt 32:36 **135:15** kPs 96:5; Rev 9:20 lIsa 2:8; 31:7; 37:19; 40:19; Jer 1:16; 10:5 **135:16** mS 1Ki 18:26 **135:17** nJer 10:14; Hab 2:19 **135:19** oS Ps 22:23 **135:21** pPs 128:5; 134:3 qS 1Ki 8:13; S 2Ch 6:2 **136:1** rPs 105:1 sPs 100:5; 106:1; 145:9; Jer 33:11; Na 1:7 tver 2-26; S 2Ch 5:13; S Ezr 3:11; Ps 118:1-4 **136:2** uPs 105:1 vS Dt 10:17 **136:3** wPs 105:1 xS Dt 10:17; S 1Ti 6:15 **136:4** yS Ex 3:20; S Job 9:10 **136:5** zPr 3:19; Jer 51:15 aS Ge 1:1 **136:6** bS Ge 1:1; Isa 42:5; Jer 10:12; 33:2 cS Ge 1:6 **136:7** dGe 1:14,16; Ps 74:16; Jas 1:17 **136:8** eS Ge 1:16

c1 Hebrew *Hallelu Yah*; also in verses 3 and 21

10to him who struck down the firstborn[a] of Egypt
His love endures forever.
11and brought Israel out[b] from among them
His love endures forever.
12with a mighty hand[c] and outstretched arm;[d]
His love endures forever.

13to him who divided the Red Sea[d][e] asunder
His love endures forever.
14and brought Israel through[f] the midst of it,
His love endures forever.
15but swept Pharaoh and his army into the Red Sea;[g]
His love endures forever.

16to him who led his people through the desert,[h]
His love endures forever.
17who struck down great kings,[i]
His love endures forever.
18and killed mighty kings[j] —
His love endures forever.
19Sihon king of the Amorites[k]
His love endures forever.
20and Og king of Bashan[l] —
His love endures forever.
21and gave their land[m] as an inheritance,[n]
His love endures forever.
22an inheritance[o] to his servant Israel;[p]
His love endures forever.

23to the One who remembered us[q] in our low estate
His love endures forever.
24and freed us[r] from our enemies,[s]
His love endures forever.
25and who gives food[t] to every creature.
His love endures forever.

26Give thanks[u] to the God of heaven.[v]
His love endures forever.[w]

Psalm 137

1By the rivers of Babylon[x] we sat and wept[y]
when we remembered Zion.[z]
2There on the poplars[a]
we hung our harps,[b]
3for there our captors[c] asked us for songs,
our tormentors demanded[d] songs of joy;
they said, "Sing us one of the songs of Zion!"[e]

4How can we sing the songs of the LORD[f]
while in a foreign land?
5If I forget you,[g] O Jerusalem,
may my right hand forget its skill.
6May my tongue cling to the roof[h] of my mouth
if I do not remember[i] you,
if I do not consider Jerusalem[j]
my highest joy.

7Remember, O LORD, what the Edomites[k] did
on the day Jerusalem fell.[l]
"Tear it down," they cried,
"tear it down to its foundations!"[m]
8O Daughter of Babylon, doomed to destruction,[n]
happy is he who repays you
for what you have done to us —
9he who seizes your infants
and dashes them[o] against the rocks.

Psalm 138

Of David.

1I will praise you, O LORD, with all my heart;
before the "gods"[p] I will sing[q] your praise.
2I will bow down toward your holy temple[r]
and will praise your name[s]
for your love and your faithfulness,[t]
for you have exalted above all things
your name and your word.[u]
3When I called,[v] you answered me;[w]
you made me bold[x] and stouthearted.[y]

4May all the kings of the earth[z]
praise you, O LORD,
when they hear the words of your mouth.
5May they sing[a] of the ways of the LORD,
for the glory of the LORD[b] is great.

6Though the LORD is on high, he looks upon the lowly,[c]
but the proud[d] he knows from afar.

136:10 [a]S Ex 4:23; S 12:12 **136:11** [b]S Ex 6:6; 13:3; Ps 106:43 **136:12** [c]S Ex 3:20; S Dt 5:15 [d]S Dt 9:29 **136:13** [e]S Ps 78:13 **136:14** [f]Ex 14:22; Ps 106:9 **136:15** [g]S Ex 14:27 **136:16** [h]S Ex 13:18; Ps 78:52 **136:17** [i]Nu 21:23-25; Jos 24:8-11; Ps 78:55; 135:9-12 **136:18** [j]Dt 29:7; S Jos 12:7-24 **136:19** [k]Nu 21:21-25 **136:20** [l]Nu 21:33-35 **136:21** [m]Jos 12:1 [n]S Dt 1:38; S Jos 14:1 **136:22** [o]S Dt 29:8; Ps 78:55 [p]Isa 20:3; 41:8; 42:19; 43:10; 44:1,21; 45:4; 49:5-7 **136:23** [q]Ps 78:39; 103:14; 115:12 **136:24** [r]S Jos 10:14; S Ne 9:28 [s]S Dt 6:19 **136:25** [t]S Ge 1:30; S Mt 6:26 **136:26** [u]Ps 105:1 [v]S Ps 115:3 [w]S Ezr 3:11 **137:1** [x]Eze 1:1, 3; 3:15; 10:15 [y]Ne 1:4 [z]Isa 3:26; La 1:4 **137:2** [a]S Lev 23:40 [b]Job 30:31; Isa 24:8; Eze 26:13; Am 6:5 **137:3** [c]Ps 79:1-4; La 1:5 [d]S Job 30:9; Ps 80:6 [e]Eze 16:57; 22:4; 34:29 **137:4** [f]S Ne 12:46 **137:5** [g]Isa 2:3; 56:7; 65:11; 66:20 **137:6** [h]S Ps 22:15 [i]Ne 2:3 [j]S Dt 4:29; Jer 51:50; Eze 6:9 **137:7** [k]S Ge 25:30; S 2Ch 28:17; S Ps 83:6; La 4:21-22 [l]2Ki 25:1-10; Ob 1:11 [m]Ps 74:8 **137:8** [n]Isa 13:1, 19; 47:1-15; Jer 25:12,26; 50:1; 50:2-51:58 **137:9** [o]S 2Ki 8:12; S Isa 13:16; Lk 19:44 **138:1** [p]Ps 95:3; 96:4 [q]Ps 27:6; 108:1 **138:2** [r]S 1Ki 8:29; S Ps 5:7 [s]Ps 74:21; 97:12; 140:13 [t]Ps 108:4; 115:1 [u]Ps 119:9 **138:3** [v]Ps 18:6; 30:2; 99:6; 116:4 [w]S Ps 118:5 [x]Pr 28:1; S Ac 4:29 [y]Ps 28:7 **138:4** [z]Ps 72:11; 102:15 **138:5** [a]S Ps 51:14; 71:16; 145:7 [b]Ps 21:5 **138:6** [c]S Ps 113:6 [d]S Ps 40:4; S Mt 23:12

[d]13 Hebrew *Yam Suph;* that is, Sea of Reeds; also in verse 15

7Though I walk[a] in the midst of
trouble,
you preserve my life;[b]
you stretch out your hand[c] against
the anger of my foes,[d]
with your right hand[e] you save
me.[f]
8The LORD will fulfill his purpose[g]
for me;
your love, O LORD, endures
forever[h]—
do not abandon[i] the works of
your hands.[j]

Psalm 139

For the director of music. Of David.
A psalm.

1O LORD, you have searched me[k]
and you know[l] me.
2You know when I sit and when I
rise;[m]
you perceive my thoughts[n] from
afar.
3You discern my going out[o] and my
lying down;
you are familiar with all my
ways.[p]
4Before a word is on my tongue
you know it completely,[q] O LORD.
5You hem me in[r]—behind and
before;
you have laid your hand upon me.
6Such knowledge is too wonderful
for me,[s]
too lofty[t] for me to attain.
7Where can I go from your Spirit?
Where can I flee[u] from your
presence?
8If I go up to the heavens,[v] you are
there;
if I make my bed[w] in the depths,[e]
you are there.
9If I rise on the wings of the dawn,
if I settle on the far side of the
sea,
10even there your hand will guide
me,[x]
your right hand[y] will hold me
fast.
11If I say, "Surely the darkness will
hide me
and the light become night
around me,"
12even the darkness will not be dark[z]
to you;
the night will shine like the day,
for darkness is as light to you.
13For you created my inmost being;[a]
you knit me together[b] in my
mother's womb.[c]
14I praise you[d] because I am fearfully
and wonderfully made;
your works are wonderful,[e]
I know that full well.
15My frame was not hidden from you
when I was made[f] in the secret
place.
When I was woven together[g] in the
depths of the earth,[h]
16 your eyes saw my unformed body.
All the days ordained[i] for me
were written in your book
before one of them came to be.
17How precious to[f] me are your
thoughts,[j] O God![k]
How vast is the sum of them!
18Were I to count them,[l]
they would outnumber the grains
of sand.[m]
When I awake,[n]
I am still with you.
19If only you would slay the wicked,[o]
O God!
Away from me,[p] you bloodthirsty
men![q]
20They speak of you with evil intent;
your adversaries[r] misuse your
name.[s]
21Do I not hate those[t] who hate you,
O LORD,
and abhor[u] those who rise up
against you?
22I have nothing but hatred for them;
I count them my enemies.[v]
23Search me,[w] O God, and know my
heart;[x]
test me and know my anxious
thoughts.
24See if there is any offensive way[y]
in me,
and lead me[z] in the way
everlasting.

Psalm 140

For the director of music.
A psalm of David.

1Rescue me,[a] O LORD, from evil men;
protect me from men of violence,[b]
2who devise evil plans[c] in their
hearts
and stir up war[d] every day.
3They make their tongues as sharp
as[e] a serpent's;

138:7 [a]Ps 23:4 [b]S Ps 41:2 [c]S Ex 7:5 [d]Ps 7:6 [e]Ps 20:6; 60:5; 108:6 [f]Ps 17:7,14
138:8 [g]Php 1:6 [h]S Ezr 3:11; Ps 100:5 [i]S Ps 51:11 [j]S Job 10:3,8
139:1 [k]S Ps 17:3; Ro 8:27 [l]Ps 44:21
139:2 [m]2Ki 19:27 [n]Ps 94:11; Pr 24:12; Jer 12:3
139:3 [o]2Ki 19:27 [p]S Job 31:4
139:4 [q]S Heb 4:13
139:5 [r]S 1Sa 25:16; Ps 32:10; 34:7; 125:2
139:6 [s]S Ps 131:1 [t]Ro 11:33
139:7 [u]Jer 23:24; Jnh 1:3
139:8 [v]Dt 30:12-15; Am 9:2-3 [w]Job 17:13
139:10 [x]Ps 23:3 [y]Ps 108:6; Isa 41:10
139:12 [z]Job 34:22; Da 2:22
139:13 [a]Ps 119:73 [b]S Job 10:11 [c]Isa 44:2,24; 46:3; 49:5; Jer 1:5
139:14 [d]Ps 119:164; 145:10 [e]S Job 40:19
139:15 [f]Ecc 11:5 [g]S Job 10:11 [h]S Ps 63:9
139:16 [i]S Job 33:29; S Ps 90:12
139:17 [j]S Ps 92:5 [k]S Job 5:9
139:18 [l]Ps 40:5 [m]S Job 29:18 [n]S Ps 3:5
139:19 [o]Ps 5:6; Isa 11:4 [p]S Ps 6:8 [q]S Ps 59:2
139:20 [r]S Ps 65:7 [s]S Dt 5:11
139:21 [t]2Ch 19:2; Ps 31:6; 119:113 [u]S Ps 26:5
139:22 [v]Mt 5:43
139:23 [w]Job 31:6 [x]S 1Sa 16:7; S 1Ch 29:17; S Ps 7:9; Pr 17:3; Jer 11:20; S Rev 2:23
139:24 [y]Jer 25:5; 36:3 [z]Ps 5:8; 23:2; 143:10
140:1 [a]Ps 17:13; S 25:20; 59:2; 71:4; 142:6; 143:9 [b]ver 11; Ps 86:14
140:2 [c]Ps 36:4; 52:2; Pr 6:14; 16:27; Isa 59:4; Hos 7:15 [d]S Ps 68:30
140:3 [e]Ps 57:4

[e]8 Hebrew *Sheol* [f]17 Or *concerning*

the poison of vipers[a] is on their
lips. *Selah*
4Keep me,[b] O LORD, from the hands
of the wicked;[c]
protect me from men of violence
who plan to trip my feet.
5Proud men have hidden a snare[d] for
me;
they have spread out the cords of
their net[e]
and have set traps[f] for me along
my path. *Selah*

6O LORD, I say to you, "You are my
God."[g]
Hear, O LORD, my cry for mercy.[h]
7O Sovereign LORD,[i] my strong
deliverer,
who shields my head in the day of
battle—
8do not grant the wicked[j] their
desires, O LORD;
do not let their plans succeed,
or they will become proud. *Selah*

9Let the heads of those who surround
me
be covered with the trouble their
lips have caused.[k]
10Let burning coals fall upon them;
may they be thrown into the fire,[l]
into miry pits, never to rise.
11Let slanderers not be established in
the land;
may disaster hunt down men of
violence.[m]

12I know that the LORD secures justice
for the poor[n]
and upholds the cause[o] of the
needy.[p]
13Surely the righteous will praise your
name[q]
and the upright will live[r] before
you.[s]

Psalm 141

A psalm of David.

1O LORD, I call to you; come quickly[t]
to me.
Hear my voice[u] when I call to
you.
2May my prayer be set before you like
incense;[v]
may the lifting up of my hands[w]
be like the evening sacrifice.[x]

3Set a guard over my mouth,[y]
O LORD;
keep watch over the door of my
lips.[z]

140:3 [a]Ps 58:4; Ro 3:13*; Jas 3:8 **140:4** [b]Ps 141:9 [c]S Ps 36:11 **140:5** [d]S Job 34:30; S Ps 119:110 [e]S Job 18:8 [f]Job 18:9; Ps 31:4; S 38:12 **140:6** [g]S Ps 16:2 [h]S Ps 28:2,6 **140:7** [i]Ps 68:20 **140:8** [j]Ps 10:2-3; S 66:7 **140:9** [k]Pr 18:7 **140:10** [l]Ps 11:6; 21:9; S Mt 3:10; Lk 12:49; Rev 20:15 **140:11** [m]S Ps 34:21 **140:12** [n]S Ps 82:3 [o]S 1Ki 8:45 [p]S Ps 35:10 **140:13** [q]S Ps 138:2 [r]S Ps 11:7 [s]Ps 16:11 **141:1** [t]S Ps 22:19 [u]S Ps 4:1; 5:1-2; 27:7; 143:1 **141:2** [v]S Lk 1:9; Rev 5:8; 8:3 [w]S Ps 28:2; 63:4; 1Ti 2:8 [x]S Ex 29:39,41; 30:8 **141:3** [y]S Ps 34:13; Jas 1:26; 3:8 [z]S Ps 12:2

141:4 [a]S Jos 24:23 [b]S Ps 106:29 [c]Pr 23:1-3 **141:5** [d]Pr 9:8; 19:25; 25:12; Ecc 7:5 [e]S Ex 29:7; Ps 23:5 **141:6** [f]S 2Ch 25:12 **141:7** [g]Ps 129:3 [h]Nu 16:32-33 [i]S Nu 16:30 **141:8** [j]Ps 123:2 [k]Ps 2:12; 11:1 **141:9** [l]Ps 140:4 [m]S Ps 64:5 [n]S Ps 38:12 **141:10** [o]Ps 7:15; 35:8; 57:6 [p]Ps 124:7 **142 Title** [q]1Sa 22:1; 24:3; Ps 57 Title **142:1** [r]S 1Ki 8:52; Ps 3:4 [s]Ps 30:8 **142:2** [t]Ps 64:1 [u]S Ps 50:15 **142:3** [v]Ps 6:2; 77:3; 84:2; 88:4; 143:4,7; Jer 8:18; La 1:22 **142:4** [w]Jer 25:35 [x]Jer 30:17 **142:5** [y]S Ps 46:1 [z]S Dt 32:9; Ps 16:5 [a]S Job 28:13; Ps 27:13 **142:6** [b]S Ps 17:1 [c]S Ps 79:8

4Let not my heart[a] be drawn to what
is evil,
to take part in wicked deeds[b]
with men who are evildoers;
let me not eat of their delicacies.[c]

5Let a righteous man[g] strike me—it is
a kindness;
let him rebuke me[d]—it is oil on
my head.[e]
My head will not refuse it.

Yet my prayer is ever against the
deeds of evildoers;
6 their rulers will be thrown down
from the cliffs,[f]
and the wicked will learn that my
words were well spoken.
7⌞They will say,⌟ "As one plows[g] and
breaks up the earth,[h]
so our bones have been scattered
at the mouth[i] of the
grave.[h]"

8But my eyes are fixed[j] on you,
O Sovereign LORD;
in you I take refuge[k]—do not give
me over to death.
9Keep me[l] from the snares they have
laid[m] for me,
from the traps set[n] by evildoers.
10Let the wicked fall[o] into their own
nets,
while I pass by in safety.[p]

Psalm 142

A *maskil*[i] of David. When he was in
the cave.[q] A prayer.

1I cry aloud[r] to the LORD;
I lift up my voice to the LORD for
mercy.[s]
2I pour out my complaint[t] before
him;
before him I tell my trouble.[u]

3When my spirit grows faint[v] within
me,
it is you who know my way.
In the path where I walk
men have hidden a snare for me.
4Look to my right and see;
no one is concerned for me.
I have no refuge;[w]
no one cares[x] for my life.

5I cry to you, O LORD;
I say, "You are my refuge,[y]
my portion[z] in the land of the
living."[a]
6Listen to my cry,[b]
for I am in desperate need;[c]

[g]5 Or *Let the Righteous One* [h]7 Hebrew *Sheol*
[i]Title: Probably a literary or musical term

rescue me[a] from those who pursue
me,
for they are too strong[b] for me.
7Set me free from my prison,[c]
that I may praise your name.[d]

Then the righteous will gather about
me
because of your goodness to me.[e]

Psalm 143

A psalm of David.

1O LORD, hear my prayer,[f]
listen to my cry for mercy;[g]
in your faithfulness[h] and
righteousness[i]
come to my relief.
2Do not bring your servant into
judgment,
for no one living is righteous[j]
before you.

3The enemy pursues me,
he crushes me to the ground;
he makes me dwell in darkness[k]
like those long dead.[l]
4So my spirit grows faint within me;
my heart within me is dismayed.[m]

5I remember[n] the days of long ago;
I meditate[o] on all your works
and consider what your hands
have done.
6I spread out my hands[p] to you;
my soul thirsts for you like a
parched land. *Selah*

7Answer me quickly,[q] O LORD;
my spirit faints[r] with longing.
Do not hide your face[s] from me
or I will be like those who go
down to the pit.
8Let the morning bring me word of
your unfailing love,[t]
for I have put my trust in you.
Show me the way[u] I should go,
for to you I lift up my soul.[v]
9Rescue me[w] from my enemies,[x]
O LORD,
for I hide myself in you.
10Teach me[y] to do your will,
for you are my God;[z]
may your good Spirit
lead[a] me on level ground.[b]

11For your name's sake,[c] O LORD,
preserve my life;[d]
in your righteousness,[e] bring me
out of trouble.
12In your unfailing love, silence my
enemies;[f]
destroy all my foes,[g]
for I am your servant.[h]

142:6 [a]S Ps 25:20 [b]Jer 31:11 **142:7** [c]S Ps 66:11 [d]Ps 7:17; 9:2 [e]S 2Ch 6:41 **143:1** [f]S Ps 141:1 [g]S Ps 28:2; 130:2 [h]S Ex 34:6; Ps 89:1-2 [i]Ps 71:2 **143:2** [j]S Ps 14:3; Ro 3:10 **143:3** [k]S Ps 107:10 [l]La 3:6 **143:4** [m]Ps 30:7 **143:5** [n]Ps 77:6 [o]S Ge 24:63 **143:6** [p]S Ex 9:29; S Job 11:13 **143:7** [q]S Ps 69:17 [r]S Ps 142:3 [s]S Ps 22:24; 27:9; 30:7 **143:8** [t]Ps 6:4; 90:14 [u]S Ex 33:13; S Job 34:32; Ps 27:11; 32:8 [v]Ps 25:1-2; S 86:4 **143:9** [w]S Ps 140:1 [x]S Ps 18:17; 31:15 **143:10** [y]S Ps 119:12 [z]Ps 31:14 [a]S Ne 9:20; Ps 25:4-5 [b]Ps 26:12 **143:11** [c]Ps 25:11 [d]S Ps 41:2 [e]Ps 31:1; 71:2 **143:12** [f]Ps 8:2 [g]Ps 54:5 [h]S Ps 116:16

144:1 [i]S Ge 49:24 **144:2** [j]Ps 59:9; 91:2 [k]Ps 27:1; 37:39; 43:2 [l]S Ge 15:1; S Ps 18:2 [m]S Jdg 4:23; S Ps 18:39 **144:3** [n]Heb 2:6 **144:4** [o]S Job 7:7; 27:3; Isa 2:22 [p]S 1Ch 29:15; S Job 14:2; S Jas 4:14 **144:5** [q]Ps 18:9; Isa 64:1 [r]S Ge 11:5; S Ps 57:3 [s]Ps 104:32 **144:6** [t]Hab 3:11; Zec 9:14 [u]S Ps 59:11; S 68:1 [v]Ps 7:12-13; 18:14 **144:7** [w]S 2Sa 22:17 [x]Ps 3:7; S 57:3 [y]Ps 69:2 [z]S Ps 18:44 **144:8** [a]Ps 12:2; 41:6 [b]Ge 14:22; Dt 32:40 [c]S Ps 36:3 **144:9** [d]S Ps 28:7; S 96:1 [e]Ps 33:2-3; S 71:22 **144:10** [f]S 2Sa 8:14

Psalm 144

Of David.

1Praise be to the LORD my Rock,[i]
who trains my hands for war,
my fingers for battle.
2He is my loving God and my
fortress,[j]
my stronghold[k] and my deliverer,
my shield,[l] in whom I take refuge,
who subdues peoples[a][m] under
me.

3O LORD, what is man[n] that you care
for him,
the son of man that you think of
him?
4Man is like a breath;[o]
his days are like a fleeting
shadow.[p]

5Part your heavens,[q] O LORD, and
come down;[r]
touch the mountains, so that they
smoke.[s]
6Send forth lightning[t] and scatter[u]
the enemies;
shoot your arrows[v] and rout
them.
7Reach down your hand from on
high;[w]
deliver me and rescue me[x]
from the mighty waters,[y]
from the hands of foreigners[z]
8whose mouths are full of lies,[a]
whose right hands[b] are deceitful.[c]

9I will sing a new song[d] to you,
O God;
on the ten-stringed lyre[e] I will
make music to you,
10to the One who gives victory to
kings,[f]
who delivers his servant David[g]
from the deadly sword.[h]

11Deliver me and rescue me[i]
from the hands of foreigners[j]
whose mouths are full of lies,[k]
whose right hands are deceitful.[l]

12Then our sons in their youth
will be like well-nurtured plants,[m]
and our daughters will be like
pillars[n]
carved to adorn a palace.
13Our barns will be filled[o]
with every kind of provision.

[g]Ps 18:50 [h]S Job 5:20 **144:11** [i]Ps 3:7; S 25:20 [j]S Ps 18:44 [k]Ps 41:6-7 [l]Ps 12:2; S 36:3; 106:26; Isa 44:20 **144:12** [m]Ps 92:12-14; S 128:3 [n]SS 4:4; 7:4 **144:13** [o]Pr 3:10

[a]2 Many manuscripts of the Masoretic Text, Dead Sea Scrolls, Aquila, Jerome and Syriac; most manuscripts of the Masoretic Text *subdues my people*

Our sheep will increase by
thousands,
by tens of thousands in our fields;
14 our oxen[z] will draw heavy loads.[k]
There will be no breaching of walls,[a]
no going into captivity,
no cry of distress in our streets.[b]
15 Blessed are the people[c] of whom
this is true;
blessed are the people whose God
is the LORD.

Psalm 145[l]

A psalm of praise. Of David.

1 I will exalt you,[e] my God the
King;[f]
I will praise your name[g] for ever
and ever.
2 Every day I will praise[h] you
and extol your name[i] for ever and
ever.
3 Great is the LORD[j] and most worthy
of praise;[k]
his greatness no one can fathom.[l]
4 One generation[m] will commend your
works to another;
they will tell[n] of your mighty
acts.[o]
5 They will speak of the glorious
splendor[p] of your majesty,
and I will meditate on your
wonderful works.[m][q]
6 They will tell[r] of the power of your
awesome works,[s]
and I will proclaim[t] your great
deeds.[u]
7 They will celebrate your abundant
goodness[v]
and joyfully sing[w] of your
righteousness.[x]
8 The LORD is gracious and
compassionate,[y]
slow to anger and rich in love.[z]
9 The LORD is good[a] to all;
he has compassion[b] on all he has
made.
10 All you have made will praise you,[c]
O LORD;
your saints will extol[d] you.[e]
11 They will tell of the glory of your
kingdom[f]
and speak of your might,[g]
12 so that all men may know of your
mighty acts[h]
and the glorious splendor of your
kingdom.[i]
13 Your kingdom is an everlasting
kingdom,[j]
and your dominion endures
through all generations.
The LORD is faithful[k] to all his
promises[l]
and loving toward all he has
made.[n]
14 The LORD upholds[m] all those who fall
and lifts up all[n] who are bowed
down.[o]
15 The eyes of all look to you,
and you give them their food[p] at
the proper time.
16 You open your hand
and satisfy the desires[q] of every
living thing.
17 The LORD is righteous[r] in all his
ways
and loving toward all he has
made.[s]
18 The LORD is near[t] to all who call on
him,[u]
to all who call on him in truth.
19 He fulfills the desires[v] of those who
fear him;[w]
he hears their cry[x] and saves
them.[y]
20 The LORD watches over[z] all who love
him,[a]
but all the wicked he will
destroy.[b]
21 My mouth will speak[c] in praise of
the LORD.
Let every creature[d] praise his holy
name[e]
for ever and ever.

Psalm 146

1 Praise the LORD.[o]
Praise the LORD,[f] O my soul.
2 I will praise the LORD all my life;[g]
I will sing praise[h] to my God as
long as I live.[i]
3 Do not put your trust in princes,[j]
in mortal men,[k] who cannot save.
4 When their spirit departs, they
return to the ground;[l]

144:14 [illegible] **144:15** [illegible] **145:1** [illegible] **145:2** [illegible] **145:3** [illegible] **145:4** [illegible] **145:5** [illegible] **145:6** [illegible] S Ps 75:1; 106:22 **145:7** [v]S Ex 18:9; S Ps 27:13 [w]S Ps 5:11; S 101:1 [x]S Ps 138:5 **145:8** [y]S Ps 86:15; 103:8 [z]S Ps 86:5 **145:9** [a]S 1Ch 16:34; S Ps 136:1; Mt 19:17; Mk 10:18 [b]Ps 103:13-14 **145:10** [c]S Ps 8:6; S 103:22; S 139:14 [d]Ps 30:4; 148:14; 149:9 [e]Ps 115:17-18 **145:11** [f]ver 12-13; S Ex 15:2; Mt 6:33 [g]Ps 21:13 **145:12** [h]S Ps 75:1; 105:1 [i]ver 11; Ps 103:19; Isa 2:10,19,21 **145:13** [j]S Ex 15:18; 1Ti 1:17; 2Pe 1:11; Rev 11:15 [k]S Dt 7:9; S 1Co 1:9 [l]S Jos 23:14 **145:14** [m]S Ps 37:17 [n]S 1Sa 2:8; Ps 146:8 [o]S Ps 38:6 **145:15** [p]S Ge 1:30; S Job 28:5; S Ps 37:25; S Mt 6:26 **145:16** [q]S Ps 90:14; S 104:28 **145:17** [r]S Ex 9:27; S Ezr 9:15 [s]ver 13 **145:18** [t]S Nu 23:21; S Ps 46:1; Php 4:5 [u]Ps 18:6; 80:18 **145:19** [v]S Ps 20:4 [w]S Job 22:28 [x]S Ps 31:22; S 40:1 [y]S 1Sa 10:19; Ps 7:10; 34:18 **145:20** [z]S Ps 1:6 [a]Ps 31:23; 91:14; 97:10 [b]S Ps 94:23 **145:21** [c]Ps 71:8 [d]Ps 65:2; 150:6 [e]S Ex 3:15; S Ps 30:4; S 99:3 **146:1** [f]Ps 103:1; 104:1 **146:2** [g]Ps 104:33 [h]S Ps 105:2 [i]S Ps 63:4 **146:3** [j]Ps 118:9 [k]Ps 60:11; S 108:12; Isa 2:22 **146:4** [l]S Ge 3:19; S Job 7:21; Ps 103:14; Ecc 12:7

[k]14 Or *our chieftains will be firmly established* [l]This psalm is an acrostic poem, the verses of which (including verse 13b) begin with the successive letters of the Hebrew alphabet. [m]5 Dead Sea Scrolls and Syriac (see also Septuagint); Masoretic Text *On the glorious splendor of your majesty / and on your wonderful works I will meditate* [n]13 One manuscript of the Masoretic Text, Dead Sea Scrolls and Syriac (see also Septuagint); most manuscripts of the Masoretic Text do not have the last two lines of verse 13. [o]1 Hebrew *Hallelu Yah*; also in verse 10

on that very day their plans come
to nothing.[a]
5Blessed is he[b] whose help[c] is the
God of Jacob,
whose hope is in the LORD his
God,
6the Maker of heaven[d] and earth,
the sea, and everything in them—
the LORD, who remains faithful[e]
forever.
7He upholds[f] the cause of the
oppressed[g]
and gives food to the hungry.[h]
The LORD sets prisoners free,[i]
8 the LORD gives sight[j] to the
blind,[k]
the LORD lifts up those who are
bowed down,[l]
the LORD loves the righteous.[m]
9The LORD watches over the alien[n]
and sustains the fatherless[o] and
the widow,[p]
but he frustrates the ways of the
wicked.

10The LORD reigns[q] forever,
your God, O Zion, for all
generations.

Praise the LORD.

Psalm 147

1Praise the LORD.[p]

How good it is to sing praises to our
God,
how pleasant[r] and fitting to praise
him![s]

2The LORD builds up Jerusalem;[t]
he gathers the exiles[u] of Israel.
3He heals the brokenhearted[v]
and binds up their wounds.[w]
4He determines the number of the
stars[x]
and calls them each by name.
5Great is our Lord[y] and mighty in
power;[z]
his understanding has no limit.[a]
6The LORD sustains the humble[b]
but casts the wicked[c] to the
ground.

7Sing to the LORD[d] with
thanksgiving;[e]
make music[f] to our God on the
harp.[g]
8He covers the sky with clouds;[h]
he supplies the earth with rain[i]
and makes grass grow[j] on the
hills.
9He provides food[k] for the cattle
and for the young ravens[l] when
they call.

10His pleasure is not in the strength[m]
of the horse,[n]
nor his delight in the legs of a
man;
11the LORD delights[o] in those who fear
him,[p]
who put their hope[q] in his
unfailing love.[r]

12Extol the LORD, O Jerusalem;[s]
praise your God, O Zion,
13for he strengthens the bars of your
gates[t]
and blesses your people[u] within
you.
14He grants peace[v] to your borders
and satisfies you[w] with the finest
of wheat.[x]

15He sends his command[y] to the
earth;
his word runs[z] swiftly.
16He spreads the snow[a] like wool
and scatters the frost[b] like ashes.
17He hurls down his hail[c] like
pebbles.
Who can withstand his icy blast?
18He sends his word[d] and melts them;
he stirs up his breezes,[e] and the
waters flow.

19He has revealed his word[f] to
Jacob,[g]
his laws and decrees[h] to Israel.
20He has done this for no other
nation;[i]
they do not know[j] his laws.

Praise the LORD.[k]

Psalm 148

1Praise the LORD.[q l]

Praise the LORD from the heavens,[m]
praise him in the heights above.
2Praise him, all his angels,[n]
praise him, all his heavenly
hosts.[o]
3Praise him, sun[p] and moon,
praise him, all you shining stars.
4Praise him, you highest heavens[q]
and you waters above the skies.[r]

146:4 ePs 33:10; 1Co 2:6 **146:5** fPs 33:18; 37:9; 119:43; 144:15; Jer 17:7 gPs 70:5; 71:5; 121:2 **146:6** hS 2Ch 2:12; Ps 115:15; Ac 14:15; S Rev 10:6 iS Dt 7:9; S Ps 18:25; 108:4; 117:2 **146:7** jS Ps 37:17 kPs 103:6 lPs 107:9; 145:15 mS Ps 66:11; S 68:6 **146:8** jPr 20:12; Isa 29:18; 32:3; 35:5; 42:7,18-19; 43:8; Mt 11:5 kS Ex 4:11 lS Ps 38:6 mS Dt 7:13; S Job 23:10 **146:9** nS Lev 19:34 oS Ps 10:18 pS Ex 22:22; Jas 1:27 **146:10** qS Ge 21:33; S 1Ch 16:31; Ps 93:1; 99:1; Rev 11:15 **147:1** rS Ps 135:3 sPs 33:1 **147:2** tS Ps 51:18 uS Ps 106:47 **147:3** vS Ps 34:18 wS Nu 12:13; S Job 5:18; Isa 1:6; Eze 34:16 **147:4** xS Ge 15:5 **147:5** yS Ps 48:1 zS Ex 14:31 aPs 145:3; Isa 40:28 **147:6** bS 2Ch 33:23; Ps 146:8-9 cPs 37:9-10; 145:20 **147:7** dPs 30:4; 33:3 eS Ps 42:4 fS Ps 27:6 gS Ps 98:5 **147:8** hS Job 26:8 iS Dt 11:14; S 32:2; S 2Sa 1:21; S Job 5:10 jS Job 28:26; S Ps 104:14 **147:9** kS Ge 1:30; Ps 104:27-28; S Mt 6:26 lS Ge 8:7 **147:10** mS 1Sa 16:7 nS Job 39:11; Ps 33:16-17 **147:11** oS Ps 35:27 pPs 33:18; 103:11 qPs 119:43 rPs 6:4 **147:12** sPs 48:1 **147:13** tS Dt 33:25 uS Lev 25:21; Ps 128:5; 134:3 **147:14** vS Lev 26:6; S 2Sa 7:10; S Isa 48:18 wS Ps 132:15 xS Dt 32:14 **147:15** yJob 37:12; Ps 33:9; 148:5 zIsa 55:11 **147:16** aPs 148:8 bS Job 37:12; 38:29 **147:17** cEx 9:22-23; S Job 38:22; S Ps 78:47 **147:18** dver 15; Ps 33:9; 107:20 eS Ps 50:3 **147:19** fS Ex 20:1; Ro 3:2 gPs 78:5 hS Dt 33:4; Jos 1:8; 2Ki 22:8; Mal 4:4; Ro 9:4 **147:20** iDt 4:7-8,32-34 jS Ps 79:6 kPs 33:2; 103:1 **148:1** lPs 33:2; 103:1 mPs 19:1; 69:34; 150:1 **148:2** nPs 103:20 oS 1Ki 22:19 **148:3** pS Ps 19:1 **148:4** qS Dt 10:14 rS Ge 1:7

p1 Hebrew *Hallelu Yah*; also in verse 20
q1 Hebrew *Hallelu Yah*; also in verse 14

5 Let them praise the name[a] of the LORD,
for he commanded[b] and they were created.
6 He set them in place for ever and ever;
he gave a decree[c] that will never pass away.

7 Praise the LORD[d] from the earth,
you great sea creatures[e] and all ocean depths,[f]
8 lightning and hail,[g] snow and clouds,
stormy winds that do his bidding,[h]
9 you mountains and all hills,[i]
fruit trees and all cedars,
10 wild animals[j] and all cattle,
small creatures and flying birds,
11 kings[k] of the earth and all nations,
you princes and all rulers on earth,
12 young men and maidens,
old men and children.

13 Let them praise the name of the LORD,[l]
for his name alone is exalted;
his splendor[m] is above the earth and the heavens.[n]
14 He has raised up for his people a horn,[r][o]
the praise[p] of all his saints,[q]
of Israel, the people close to his heart.[r]

Praise the LORD.

Psalm 149

1 Praise the LORD.[s][s]

Sing to the LORD a new song,[t]
his praise in the assembly[u] of the saints.

2 Let Israel rejoice[v] in their Maker;[w]
let the people of Zion be glad in their King.[x]
3 Let them praise his name with dancing[y]
and make music to him with tambourine and harp.[z]
4 For the LORD takes delight[a] in his people;
he crowns the humble with salvation.[b]
5 Let the saints rejoice[c] in this honor
and sing for joy on their beds.[d]

6 May the praise of God be in their mouths[e]
and a double-edged[f] sword in their hands,[g]
7 to inflict vengeance[h] on the nations
and punishment[i] on the peoples,
8 to bind their kings with fetters,[j]
their nobles with shackles of iron,[k]
9 to carry out the sentence written against them.[l]
This is the glory of all his saints.[m]

Praise the LORD.

Psalm 150

1 Praise the LORD.[t][n]

Praise God in his sanctuary;[o]
praise him in his mighty heavens.[p]
2 Praise him for his acts of power;[q]
praise him for his surpassing greatness.[r]
3 Praise him with the sounding of the trumpet,[s]
praise him with the harp and lyre,[t]
4 praise him with tambourine and dancing,[u]
praise him with the strings[v] and flute,[w]
5 praise him with the clash of cymbals,[x]
praise him with resounding cymbals.

6 Let everything[y] that has breath praise the LORD.

Praise the LORD.

148:5 [a]Ps 145:21 [b]S Ps 147:15 **148:6** [c]Jer 31:35-36; 33:25 **148:7** [d]Ps 33:2 [e]S Ge 1:21; Ps 74:13-14 [f]S Dt 33:13 **148:8** [g]S Ex 9:18; S Jos 10:11 [h]Job 37:11-12; S Ps 103:20; 147:15-18 **148:9** [i]Isa 44:23; 49:13; 55:12 **148:10** [j]Isa 43:20; Hos 2:18 **148:11** [k]S Ps 102:15 **148:13** [l]S Ps 113:2; 138:4 [m]S Ps 145:5 [n]S Ps 8:1 **148:14** [o]S 1Sa 2:1 [p]S Ex 15:2; Ps 22:3 [q]S Ps 145:10 [r]S Dt 26:19 **149:1** [s]Ps 33:2; 103:1 [t]S Ps 28:7; S 96:1; Rev 5:9 [u]S Ps 1:5 **149:2** [v]Isa 13:3; Jer 51:48 [w]S Job 10:3; Ps 95:6; Isa 44:2; 45:11; 54:5 [x]Ps 10:16; 47:6; Isa 32:1; Zec 9:9 **149:3** [y]S Ex 15:20 [z]S Ps 57:8 **149:4** [a]Ps 35:27; 147:11 [b]Ps 132:16 **149:5** [c]S Ps 132:16 [d]Job 35:10; Ps 42:8 **149:6** [e]Ps 66:17 [f]Heb 4:12; Rev 1:16 [g]Ne 4:17 **149:7** [h]S Nu 31:3; S Dt 32:41 [i]Ps 81:15 **149:8** [j]S 2Sa 3:34; S Isa 14:1-2 [k]2Ch 33:11 **149:9** [l]Dt 7:1; Eze 28:26 [m]S Ps 145:10 **150:1** [n]S Ps 112:1 [o]Ps 68:24-26; 73:17; 102:19 [p]S Ps 148:1

150:2 [q]S Dt 3:24 [r]S Ex 15:7 **150:3** [s]S Nu 10:2 [t]S Ps 57:8 **150:4** [u]S Ex 15:20 [v]S Ps 45:8 [w]S Ge 4:21 **150:5** [x]S 2Sa 6:5 **150:6** [y]S Ps 103:22

[r]14 *Horn* here symbolizes strong one, that is, king. [s]1 Hebrew *Hallelu Yah*; also in verse 9 [t]1 Hebrew *Hallelu Yah*; also in verse 6

Proverbs

Prologue: Purpose and Theme

1 The proverbs[a] of Solomon[b] son of
David, king of Israel:[c]

2for attaining wisdom and discipline;
for understanding words of
insight;
3for acquiring a disciplined and
prudent life,
doing what is right and just and
fair;
4for giving prudence to the simple,[d]
knowledge and discretion[e] to the
young—
5let the wise listen and add to their
learning,[f]
and let the discerning get
guidance—
6for understanding proverbs and
parables,[g]
the sayings and riddles[h] of the
wise.[i]

7The fear of the LORD[j] is the
beginning of knowledge,
but fools[a] despise wisdom[k] and
discipline.[l]

Exhortations to Embrace Wisdom

Warning Against Enticement

8Listen, my son,[m] to your father's[n]
instruction
and do not forsake your mother's
teaching.[o]
9They will be a garland to grace your
head
and a chain to adorn your neck.[p]

10My son, if sinners entice[q] you,
do not give in[r] to them.[s]
11If they say, "Come along with us;
let's lie in wait[t] for someone's
blood,
let's waylay some harmless soul;
12let's swallow[u] them alive, like the
grave,[b]
and whole, like those who go
down to the pit;[v]
13we will get all sorts of valuable
things
and fill our houses with plunder;
14throw in your lot with us,
and we will share a common
purse[w]"—
15my son, do not go along with them,
do not set foot[x] on their paths;[y]
16for their feet rush into sin,[z]
they are swift to shed blood.[a]
17How useless to spread a net
in full view of all the birds!
18These men lie in wait[b] for their own
blood;
they waylay only themselves![c]
19Such is the end of all who go after
ill-gotten gain;
it takes away the lives of those
who get it.[d]

Warning Against Rejecting Wisdom

20Wisdom calls aloud[e] in the street,
she raises her voice in the public
squares;
21at the head of the noisy streets[c] she
cries out,
in the gateways of the city she
makes her speech:

22"How long will you simple ones[d][f]
love your simple ways?
How long will mockers delight in
mockery
and fools hate[g] knowledge?
23If you had responded to my rebuke,
I would have poured out my heart
to you
and made my thoughts known to
you.
24But since you rejected[h] me when I
called[i]
and no one gave heed[j] when I
stretched out my hand,
25since you ignored all my advice
and would not accept my rebuke,

1:1 [a]Mt 13:3 [b]1Ki 4:29-34 [c]Pr 10:1; 25:1; Ecc 1:1 **1:4** [d]Pr 8:5 [e]Pr 8:12 **1:5** [f]Pr 9:9 **1:6** [g]S Ps 49:4; Mt 13:10-17 [h]S Nu 12:8; S Jdg 14:12 [i]Pr 22:17; 24:23 **1:7** [j]S Ex 20:20; S Job 23:15; Ps 34:4-22; S 112:1; Pr 9:10; 15:33; Isa 33:6; 50:10; 59:19 [k]S Dt 4:6; Jer 8:9 [l]Pr 8:33-36; 9:7-9; 12:1; 13:18; 15:32 **1:8** [m]ver 8-9; Pr 2:1; 3:1; 4:1; 5:1; 6:1; 7:1; 19:27; 22:17; 23:26-28 [n]Jer 35:8 [o]S Dt 21:18; Pr 6:20 **1:9** [p]Pr 3:21-22; 4:1-9 **1:10** [q]S Job 24:15 [r]Dt 13:8 [s]ver 15; Ps 1:1; Pr 16:29 **1:11** [t]S Ps 10:8 **1:12** [u]S Ps 35:25 [v]ver 16-18; S Job 33:18; S Ps 30:3 **1:14** [w]ver 19 **1:15** [x]S Ps 119:101 [y]S Ge 49:6; Pr 4:14 **1:16** [z]S Job 15:31 [a]Pr 6:18; Isa 59:7 **1:18** [b]S Ps 71:10 [c]S ver 11-12 **1:19** [d]S ver 13-14; Pr 4:14-17; 11:19 **1:20** [e]S Job 28:12; Pr 7:10-13; 9:1-3, 13-15 **1:22** [f]Pr 6:32; 7:7; 8:5; 9:4,16 [g]Ps 50:17 **1:24** [h]Jer 26:5; 35:17; 36:31 [i]Isa 65:12; 66:4; Jer 7:13 [j]S 1Sa 8:19

[a]7 The Hebrew words rendered *fool* in Proverbs, and often elsewhere in the Old Testament, denote one who is morally deficient. [b]12 Hebrew *Sheol* [c]21 Hebrew; Septuagint / *on the tops of the walls* [d]22 The Hebrew word rendered *simple* in Proverbs generally denotes one without moral direction and inclined to evil.

26I in turn will laugh[a] at your
disaster;[b]
I will mock[c] when calamity
overtakes you[d]—
27when calamity overtakes you like a
storm,
when disaster[e] sweeps over you
like a whirlwind,
when distress and trouble
overwhelm you.

28"Then they will call to me but I will
not answer;[f]
they will look for me but will not
find me.[g]
29Since they hated knowledge
and did not choose to fear the
LORD,[h]
30since they would not accept my
advice
and spurned my rebuke,[i]
31they will eat the fruit of their ways
and be filled with the fruit of their
schemes.[j]
32For the waywardness of the simple
will kill them,
and the complacency of fools will
destroy them;[k]
33but whoever listens to me will live in
safety[l]
and be at ease, without fear of
harm."[m]

Moral Benefits of Wisdom

2 My son,[n] if you accept my words
and store up my commands within
you,
2turning your ear to wisdom
and applying your heart to
understanding,[o]
3and if you call out for insight[p]
and cry aloud for understanding,
4and if you look for it as for silver
and search for it as for hidden
treasure,[q]
5then you will understand the fear of
the LORD
and find the knowledge of God.[r]
6For the LORD gives wisdom,[s]
and from his mouth come
knowledge and
understanding.[t]
7He holds victory in store for the
upright,
he is a shield[u] to those whose
walk is blameless,[v]
8for he guards the course of the just
and protects the way of his faithful
ones.[w]

9Then you will understand[x] what is
right and just
and fair—every good path.

10For wisdom will enter your heart,[y]
and knowledge will be pleasant to
your soul.
11Discretion will protect you,
and understanding will guard
you.[z]

12Wisdom will save[a] you from the
ways of wicked men,
from men whose words are
perverse,
13who leave the straight paths
to walk in dark ways,[b]
14who delight in doing wrong
and rejoice in the perverseness of
evil,[c]
15whose paths are crooked[d]
and who are devious in their
ways.[e]

16It will save you also from the
adulteress,[f]
from the wayward wife with her
seductive words,
17who has left the partner of her youth
and ignored the covenant she
made before God.[e][g]
18For her house leads down to death
and her paths to the spirits of the
dead.[h]
19None who go to her return
or attain the paths of life.[i]

20Thus you will walk in the ways of
good men
and keep to the paths of the
righteous.
21For the upright will live in the land,[j]
and the blameless will remain in it;
22but the wicked[k] will be cut off from
the land,[l]
and the unfaithful will be torn
from it.[m]

Further Benefits of Wisdom

3 My son,[n] do not forget my
teaching,[o]
but keep my commands in your
heart,
2for they will prolong your life many
years[p]
and bring you prosperity.[q]

3Let love and faithfulness[r] never
leave you;
bind them around your neck,
write them on the tablet of your
heart.[s]
4Then you will win favor and a good
name
in the sight of God and man.[t]

1:26 aS Ps 2:4 bver 33; S Ps 59:8 cS 2Ki 19:21 dDt 28:63 **1:27** eS Ps 18:18; Pr 5:12-14 **1:28** fS Dt 1:45; S 1Sa 8:18; S Jer 11:11 gS Job 27:9; Pr 8:17; Eze 8:18; Hos 5:6; Zec 7:13 **1:29** hS Job 21:14 **1:30** iver 25 **1:31** jS 2Ch 36:16; Pr 14:14; Jer 6:19; 14:16; 21:14; 30:15 **1:32** kPr 5:22; 15:10; Isa 66:4 **1:33** lS Nu 24:21; S Dt 33:28; Pr 3:23 mS ver 21-26; S Ps 112:8 **2:1** nS Pr 1:8 **2:2** oPr 22:17; 23:12 **2:3** pJas 1:5 **2:4** qS Job 3:21; Mt 13:44 **2:5** rS Dt 4:6 **2:6** sS Job 12:13; S Ps 119:34 tS Job 9:4; S 22:22 **2:7** uS Ge 15:1; Pr 30:5-6 vS Ge 6:9; Ps 84:11 **2:8** w1Sa 2:9; S Ps 18:25; S 97:10 **2:9** xS Dt 1:16 **2:10** yPr 14:33 **2:11** zPr 4:6 **2:12** aver 16; Pr 3:13-18; 4:5 **2:13** bPr 4:19 **2:14** cPr 10:23; 15:21 **2:15** dS Ps 125:5 ePr 21:8 **2:16** fPr 5:1-6; 6:20-29; 7:5-27 **2:17** gMal 2:14 **2:18** hPr 5:5; 7:27; 9:18 **2:19** iPr 3:16-18; 5:8; Ecc 7:26 **2:21** jS Ps 37:29 **2:22** kS Ps 5:4 lS Job 18:17 mDt 28:63; S 29:28; Ps 37:9, 28-29; Pr 10:30 **3:1** nS Pr 1:8 oS Ps 44:17 **3:2** pS Dt 11:21 qS Dt 5:16; S 30:15,16; S 1Ki 3:13,14; Pr 9:6, 10-11 **3:3** rS Ps 85:10 sS Ex 13:9; S Dt 6:6; Pr 6:21; 7:3; S 2Co 3:3 **3:4** tS 1Sa 2:26; Lk 2:52

e17 *Or covenant of her God*

5Trust in the LORD[a] with all your
heart
and lean not on your own
understanding;
6in all your ways acknowledge him,
and he will make your paths[b]
straight.[f] [c]

7Do not be wise in your own eyes;[d]
fear the LORD[e] and shun evil.[f]
8This will bring health to your body[g]
and nourishment to your bones.[h]

9Honor the LORD with your wealth,
with the firstfruits[i] of all your
crops;
10then your barns will be filled[j] to
overflowing,
and your vats will brim over with
new wine.[k]

11My son,[l] do not despise the LORD's
discipline[m]
and do not resent his rebuke,
12because the LORD disciplines those he
loves,[n]
as a father[g] the son he delights
in.[o]

13Blessed is the man who finds
wisdom,
the man who gains
understanding,
14for she is more profitable than silver
and yields better returns than
gold.[p]
15She is more precious than rubies;[q]
nothing you desire can compare
with her.[r]
16Long life is in her right hand;[s]
in her left hand are riches and
honor.[t]
17Her ways are pleasant ways,
and all her paths are peace.[u]
18She is a tree of life[v] to those who
embrace her;
those who lay hold of her will be
blessed.[w]

19By wisdom[x] the LORD laid the earth's
foundations,[y]
by understanding he set the
heavens[z] in place;
20by his knowledge the deeps were
divided,
and the clouds let drop the dew.

21My son,[a] preserve sound judgment
and discernment,
do not let them out of your sight;[b]
22they will be life for you,[c]
an ornament to grace your neck.[d]
23Then you will go on your way in
safety,[e]
and your foot will not stumble;[f]

3:5 [a]S Ps 4:5
3:6 [b]S Job 33:11;
S Isa 30:11
[c]Ps 5:8; Pr 16:3;
Isa 40:3; Jer 42:3
3:7 [d]Pr 26:5,12;
Isa 5:21
[e]Ps 111:10
[f]S Ex 20:20;
S Dt 4:6;
S Job 1:1
3:8 [g]S Ps 38:3;
Pr 4:22
[h]Job 21:24
3:9 [i]S Ex 22:29;
Dt 26:1-15
3:10 [j]Ps 144:13
[k]S Job 22:21;
Joel 2:24;
Mal 3:10-12
3:11 [l]Pr 1:8-9
[m]S Job 5:17
3:12 [n]Pr 13:24;
Rev 3:19
[o]S Dt 8:5;
S Job 5:17;
Heb 12:5-6*
3:14
[p]S Job 28:15;
Pr 8:19; 16:16
3:15
[q]S Job 28:18
[r]S Job 28:17-19
3:16 [s]S Ge 15:15
[t]S 1Ki 3:13,14
3:17
[u]Mt 11:28-30
3:18 [v]S Ge 2:9;
S Pr 10:11;
S Rev 2:7
[w]S Pr 2:12;
4:3-9,8; 8:17-21
3:19 [x]S Ge 1:31;
Ps 136:5-9
[y]S Job 28:25-27
[z]Pr 8:27-29
3:21 [a]Pr 1:8-9;
6:20 [b]Pr 4:20-22
3:22
[c]S Dt 30:20;
Pr 4:13
[d]S Pr 1:8-9
3:23 [e]S Pr 1:33
[f]S Ps 37:24;
S 119:11; Pr 4:12

3:24 [g]S Lev 26:6
[h]Ps 91:5; 112:8
[i]S Job 11:18;
Jer 31:26
3:26 [j]S 2Ki 18:5;
S Job 4:6
[k]S 1Sa 2:9
[l]S Job 5:19
3:28
[m]Lev 19:13;
Dt 24:15;
Lk 10:25-37
3:29 [n]Zec 8:17
3:31 [o]S Ps 37:1;
Pr 24:1-2
3:32 [p]S Ps 101:4
[q]S Job 29:4
3:33 [r]S Job 5:3
[s]Zec 5:4
[t]Ps 37:22;
Pr 14:11
3:34
[u]S 2Ki 19:21
[v]S Ps 40:4
[w]S Ps 18:25-27;
S Mt 23:12;
Jas 4:6*; 1Pe 5:5*
4:1 [x]S Pr 1:8
[y]Pr 19:20
[z]S Job 8:10
4:4 [a]S 1Ki 9:4
[b]Pr 7:2
4:5 [c]S Pr 2:12;
3:13-18
4:6 [d]2Th 2:10

24when you lie down,[g] you will not be
afraid;[h]
when you lie down, your sleep[i]
will be sweet.
25Have no fear of sudden disaster
or of the ruin that overtakes the
wicked,
26for the LORD will be your confidence[j]
and will keep your foot[k] from
being snared.[l]

27Do not withhold good from those
who deserve it,
when it is in your power to act.
28Do not say to your neighbor,
"Come back later; I'll give it
tomorrow"—
when you now have it with you.[m]
29Do not plot harm against your
neighbor,
who lives trustfully near you.[n]
30Do not accuse a man for no reason—
when he has done you no harm.

31Do not envy[o] a violent man
or choose any of his ways,
32for the LORD detests a perverse man[p]
but takes the upright into his
confidence.[q]
33The LORD's curse[r] is on the house of
the wicked,[s]
but he blesses the home of the
righteous.[t]
34He mocks[u] proud mockers[v]
but gives grace to the humble.[w]
35The wise inherit honor,
but fools he holds up to shame.

Wisdom Is Supreme

4 Listen, my sons,[x] to a father's
instruction;[y]
pay attention and gain
understanding.[z]
2I give you sound learning,
so do not forsake my teaching.
3When I was a boy in my father's
house,
still tender, and an only child of
my mother,
4he taught me and said,
"Lay hold[a] of my words with all
your heart;
keep my commands and you will
live.[b]
5Get wisdom,[c] get understanding;
do not forget my words or swerve
from them.
6Do not forsake wisdom, and she will
protect you;[d]

[f]6 *Or will direct your paths* [g]12 Hebrew; Septuagint */ and he punishes*

love her, and she will watch over you.[a]
7 Wisdom is supreme; therefore get wisdom.
Though it cost all[b] you have,[b] get understanding.[c]
8 Esteem her, and she will exalt you;
embrace her, and she will honor you.[d]
9 She will set a garland of grace on your head
and present you with a crown of splendor.[e]"

10 Listen, my son,[f] accept what I say,
and the years of your life will be many.[g]
11 I guide[h] you in the way of wisdom
and lead you along straight paths.[i]
12 When you walk, your steps will not be hampered;
when you run, you will not stumble.[j]
13 Hold on to instruction, do not let it go;
guard it well, for it is your life.[k]
14 Do not set foot on the path of the wicked
or walk in the way of evil men.[l]
15 Avoid it, do not travel on it;
turn from it and go on your way.
16 For they cannot sleep till they do evil;[m]
they are robbed of slumber till they make someone fall.
17 They eat the bread of wickedness
and drink the wine of violence.[n]

18 The path of the righteous[o] is like the first gleam of dawn,[p]
shining ever brighter till the full light of day.[q]
19 But the way of the wicked is like deep darkness;[r]
they do not know what makes them stumble.[s]

20 My son,[t] pay attention to what I say;
listen closely to my words.[u]
21 Do not let them out of your sight,[v]
keep them within your heart;
22 for they are life to those who find them
and health to a man's whole body.[w]
23 Above all else, guard[x] your heart,
for it is the wellspring of life.[y]
24 Put away perversity from your mouth;
keep corrupt talk far from your lips.

4:6 [a]S Pr 2:11 **4:7** [b]Mt 13:44-46 [c]Pr 23:23 **4:8** [d]S Pr 3:18 **4:9** [e]S Pr 1:8-9 **4:10** [f]Ps 34:11-16; Pr 1:8-9 [g]S Dt 11:21 **4:11** [h]S 1Sa 12:23 [i]2Sa 22:37; Ps 5:8 **4:12** [j]S Job 18:7; Pr 3:23 **4:13** [k]S Pr 3:22 **4:14** [l]Ps 1:1; S Pr 1:15 **4:16** [m]Ps 36:4; Mic 7:3 **4:17** [n]Ge 49:5; Ps 73:6; Pr 1:10-19; 14:22; Isa 59:6; Jer 22:3; Hab 1:2; Mal 2:16 **4:18** [o]Job 17:9 [p]S Job 22:28 [q]S 2Sa 23:4; Da 12:3; Mt 5:14; Jn 8:12; Php 2:15 **4:19** [r]S Pr 2:13 [s]S Dt 32:35; S Job 3:23; Pr 13:9; S Isa 8:15 **4:20** [t]Ps 34:11-16; Pr 1:8-9 [u]Pr 5:1 **4:21** [v]Pr 3:21 **4:22** [w]S Pr 3:8 **4:23** [x]S 2Ki 10:31 [y]Pr 10:11; Lk 6:45

4:25 [z]S Job 31:1 **4:26** [a]Heb 12:13* **4:27** [b]S Lev 10:11; S Dt 5:32 **5:1** [c]S Pr 1:8 [d]Pr 4:20 **5:3** [e]S Ps 55:21; Pr 7:5 **5:4** [f]Ecc 7:26 **5:5** [g]S Ps 9:17; S Pr 2:18; 7:26-27 **5:6** [h]Pr 9:13; 30:20 **5:7** [i]Pr 1:8-9 **5:8** [j]S Pr 2:16-19; 6:20-29; 7:1-27 **5:10** [k]Pr 29:3 **5:12** [l]Pr 12:1 **5:14** [m]Pr 1:24-27; 6:33 [n]Pr 31:3

25 Let your eyes[z] look straight ahead,
fix your gaze directly before you.
26 Make level[c] paths for your feet[a]
and take only ways that are firm.
27 Do not swerve to the right or the left;[b]
keep your foot from evil.

Warning Against Adultery

5 My son,[c] pay attention to my wisdom,
listen well to my words[d] of insight,
2 that you may maintain discretion
and your lips may preserve knowledge.
3 For the lips of an adulteress drip honey,
and her speech is smoother than oil;[e]
4 but in the end she is bitter as gall,[f]
sharp as a double-edged sword.
5 Her feet go down to death;
her steps lead straight to the grave.[j] [g]
6 She gives no thought to the way of life;
her paths are crooked, but she knows it not.[h]

7 Now then, my sons, listen[i] to me;
do not turn aside from what I say.
8 Keep to a path far from her,[j]
do not go near the door of her house,
9 lest you give your best strength to others
and your years to one who is cruel,
10 lest strangers feast on your wealth
and your toil enrich another man's house.[k]
11 At the end of your life you will groan,
when your flesh and body are spent.
12 You will say, "How I hated discipline!
How my heart spurned correction!
13 I would not obey my teachers
or listen to my instructors.
14 I have come to the brink of utter ruin[m]
in the midst of the whole assembly."[n]

15 Drink water from your own cistern,
running water from your own well.

[b]7 Or *Whatever else you get* [c]26 Or *Consider the* [j]5 Hebrew *Sheol*

16Should your springs overflow in the streets,
your streams of water in the public squares?
17Let them be yours alone,
never to be shared with strangers.
18May your fountain[a] be blessed,
and may you rejoice in the wife of your youth.[b]
19A loving doe, a graceful deer[c]—
may her breasts satisfy you always,
may you ever be captivated by her love.
20Why be captivated, my son, by an adulteress?
Why embrace the bosom of another man's wife?

21For a man's ways are in full view[d] of the LORD,
and he examines[e] all his paths.[f]
22The evil deeds of a wicked man ensnare him;[g]
the cords of his sin hold him fast.[h]
23He will die for lack of discipline,[i]
led astray by his own great folly.[j]

Warnings Against Folly

6 My son,[k] if you have put up security[l] for your neighbor,[m]
if you have struck hands in pledge[n] for another,
2if you have been trapped by what you said,
ensnared by the words of your mouth,
3then do this, my son, to free yourself,
since you have fallen into your neighbor's hands:
Go and humble yourself;
press your plea with your neighbor!
4Allow no sleep to your eyes,
no slumber to your eyelids.[o]
5Free yourself, like a gazelle[p] from the hand of the hunter,[q]
like a bird from the snare of the fowler.[r]

6Go to the ant, you sluggard;[s]
consider its ways and be wise!
7It has no commander,
no overseer or ruler,
8yet it stores its provisions in summer[t]
and gathers its food at harvest.[u]

9How long will you lie there, you sluggard?[v]
When will you get up from your sleep?

5:18 [a]SS 4:12-15 [b]S Dt 20:7; Pr 2:17; Ecc 9:9; Mal 2:14 5:19 [c]SS 4:5; 8:14 5:21 [d]S Ps 119:168 [e]Jer 29:23 [f]S Job 10:4; S 14:16; Pr 15:3; Jer 32:19; S Heb 4:13 5:22 [g]Ps 9:16 [h]Nu 32:23; S Job 18:9; Ps 7:15-16; S Pr 1:31-32 5:23 [i]S Job 4:21; Pr 10:21 [j]Job 34:21-25; Pr 11:5 6:1 [k]S Pr 1:8 [l]Job 17:3 [m]Pr 17:18 [n]Pr 11:15; 22:26-27 6:4 [o]Ps 132:4 6:5 [p]S 2Sa 2:18 [q]Isa 13:14 [r]S Ps 91:3 6:6 [s]ver 6-11; Pr 20:4 6:8 [t]Pr 30:24-25 [u]Pr 10:4 6:9 [v]Pr 24:30-34; 26:13-16

6:10 [w]Pr 24:33; Ecc 4:5 6:11 [x]ver 10-11; Pr 20:13; 24:30-34 6:13 [y]S Ps 35:19; Pr 16:30 [z]Isa 58:9 6:14 [a]S Ps 140:2 [b]ver 16-19 6:15 [c]S Ps 55:15 [d]Job 5:3 [e]Pr 14:32; 29:1 6:16 [f]ver 16-19; Pr 3:32; 8:13; 15:8,9,26; 16:5 6:17 [g]S Job 41:34; S Ps 10:5 [h]Pr 12:22 [i]S Dt 19:10; Pr 1:16; Isa 1:21; 59:7; Jer 2:34; Mic 7:2 6:18 [j]S Job 15:31 6:19 [k]S Dt 19:16 [l]S Ps 12:2 [m]ver 12-15; Pr 15:18; Zec 8:17 6:20 [n]S Pr 3:21 [o]Pr 1:8 6:21 [p]Dt 6:8; S Pr 3:3; 7:1-3 6:23 [q]S Ps 119:105 [r]Pr 10:17 6:24 [s]Ge 39:8; S Ps 55:21; Pr 2:16; 7:5

10A little sleep, a little slumber,
a little folding of the hands to rest[w]—
11and poverty[x] will come on you like a bandit
and scarcity like an armed man.[k]

12A scoundrel and villain,
who goes about with a corrupt mouth,
13 who winks with his eye,[y]
signals with his feet
and motions with his fingers,[z]
14 who plots evil[a] with deceit in his heart—
he always stirs up dissension.[b]
15Therefore disaster will overtake him in an instant;[c]
he will suddenly[d] be destroyed—without remedy.[e]

16There are six things the LORD hates,[f]
seven that are detestable to him:
17 haughty eyes,[g]
a lying tongue,[h]
hands that shed innocent blood,[i]
18 a heart that devises wicked schemes,
feet that are quick to rush into evil,[j]
19 a false witness[k] who pours out lies[l]
and a man who stirs up dissension among brothers.[m]

Warning Against Adultery

20My son,[n] keep your father's commands
and do not forsake your mother's teaching.[o]
21Bind them upon your heart forever;
fasten them around your neck.[p]
22When you walk, they will guide you;
when you sleep, they will watch over you;
when you awake, they will speak to you.
23For these commands are a lamp,
this teaching is a light,[q]
and the corrections of discipline
are the way to life,[r]
24keeping you from the immoral woman,
from the smooth tongue of the wayward wife.[s]
25Do not lust in your heart after her beauty
or let her captivate you with her eyes,

[k]11 *Or like a vagrant / and scarcity like a beggar*

26 for the prostitute reduces you to a loaf of bread,
and the adulteress preys upon your very life.[a]
27 Can a man scoop fire into his lap
without his clothes being burned?
28 Can a man walk on hot coals
without his feet being scorched?
29 So is he who sleeps[b] with another man's wife;[c]
no one who touches her will go unpunished.

30 Men do not despise a thief if he steals
to satisfy his hunger when he is starving.
31 Yet if he is caught, he must pay sevenfold,[d]
though it costs him all the wealth of his house.
32 But a man who commits adultery[e] lacks judgment;[f]
whoever does so destroys himself.
33 Blows and disgrace are his lot,
and his shame will never[g] be wiped away;
34 for jealousy[h] arouses a husband's fury,[i]
and he will show no mercy when he takes revenge.
35 He will not accept any compensation;
he will refuse the bribe, however great it is.[j]

Warning Against the Adulteress

7 My son,[k] keep my words
and store up my commands within you.
2 Keep my commands and you will live;[l]
guard my teachings as the apple of your eye.
3 Bind them on your fingers;
write them on the tablet of your heart.[m]
4 Say to wisdom, "You are my sister,"
and call understanding your kinsman;
5 they will keep you from the adulteress,
from the wayward wife with her seductive words.[n]

6 At the window of my house
I looked out through the lattice.
7 I saw among the simple,
I noticed among the young men,
a youth who lacked judgment.[o]
8 He was going down the street near her corner,
walking along in the direction of her house
9 at twilight,[p] as the day was fading,
as the dark of night set in.

10 Then out came a woman to meet him,
dressed like a prostitute and with crafty intent.
11 (She is loud[q] and defiant,
her feet never stay at home;
12 now in the street, now in the squares,
at every corner she lurks.)[r]
13 She took hold of him[s] and kissed him
and with a brazen face she said:[t]

14 "I have fellowship offerings[1][u] at home;
today I fulfilled my vows.
15 So I came out to meet you;
I looked for you and have found you!
16 I have covered my bed
with colored linens from Egypt.
17 I have perfumed my bed[v]
with myrrh,[w] aloes and cinnamon.
18 Come, let's drink deep of love till morning;
let's enjoy ourselves with love![x]
19 My husband is not at home;
he has gone on a long journey.
20 He took his purse filled with money
and will not be home till full moon."

21 With persuasive words she led him astray;
she seduced him with her smooth talk.[y]
22 All at once he followed her
like an ox going to the slaughter,
like a deer[m] stepping into a noose[n][z]
23 till an arrow pierces[a] his liver,
like a bird darting into a snare,
little knowing it will cost him his life.[b]

24 Now then, my sons, listen[c] to me;
pay attention to what I say.
25 Do not let your heart turn to her ways
or stray into her paths.[d]
26 Many are the victims she has brought down;
her slain are a mighty throng.
27 Her house is a highway to the grave,[o]

6:26 [a]Pr 7:22-23 **6:29** [b]S Ex 20:14 [c]Pr 2:16-19; S 5:8 **6:31** [d]Ex 22:1-14 **6:32** [e]S Ex 20:14 [f]Pr 7:7; 9:4,16 **6:33** [g]Pr 5:9-14 **6:34** [h]S Nu 5:14 [i]S Ge 34:7 **6:35** [j]Job 31:9-11; SS 8:7 **7:1** [k]S Pr 1:8 **7:2** [l]Pr 4:4 **7:3** [m]S Pr 3:3 **7:5** [n]ver 21; S Job 31:9; S Pr 2:16; 6:24 **7:7** [o]S Pr 1:22; S 6:32 **7:9** [p]Job 24:15 **7:11** [q]Pr 9:13 **7:12** [r]Pr 8:1-36; 23:26-28 **7:13** [s]S Ge 39:12 [t]S Pr 1:20 **7:14** [u]S Lev 7:11-18 **7:17** [v]S Est 1:6; Isa 57:7; Eze 23:41; Am 6:4 [w]S Ge 37:25 **7:18** [x]S Ge 39:7 **7:21** [y]S ver 5 **7:22** [z]S Job 18:10 **7:23** [a]S Job 15:22; S 16:13 [b]S Pr 6:26; Ecc 7:26 **7:24** [c]Pr 1:8-9; 8:32 **7:25** [d]Pr 5:7-8

[1]14 Traditionally *peace offerings* [m]22 Syriac (see also Septuagint); Hebrew *fool* [n]22 The meaning of the Hebrew for this line is uncertain. [o]27 Hebrew *Sheol*

leading down to the chambers of
death.[a]

Wisdom's Call

8 Does not wisdom call out?[b]
Does not understanding raise her
voice?
2 On the heights along the way,
where the paths meet, she takes
her stand;
3 beside the gates leading into the city,
at the entrances, she cries aloud:[c]
4 "To you, O men, I call out;[d]
I raise my voice to all mankind.
5 You who are simple,[e] gain
prudence;[f]
you who are foolish, gain
understanding.
6 Listen, for I have worthy things to
say;
I open my lips to speak what is
right.
7 My mouth speaks what is true,[g]
for my lips detest wickedness.
8 All the words of my mouth are just;
none of them is crooked or
perverse.
9 To the discerning all of them are
right;
they are faultless to those who
have knowledge.
10 Choose my instruction instead of
silver,
knowledge rather than choice
gold,[h]
11 for wisdom is more precious[i] than
rubies,
and nothing you desire can
compare with her.[j]
12 "I, wisdom, dwell together with
prudence;
I possess knowledge and
discretion.[k]
13 To fear the LORD[l] is to hate evil;[m]
I hate[n] pride and arrogance,
evil behavior and perverse speech.
14 Counsel and sound judgment are
mine;
I have understanding and power.[o]
15 By me kings reign
and rulers[p] make laws that are
just;
16 by me princes govern,[q]
and all nobles who rule on earth.[p]
17 I love those who love me,[r]
and those who seek me find me.[s]
18 With me are riches and honor,[t]
enduring wealth and prosperity.[u]
19 My fruit is better than fine gold;[v]
what I yield surpasses choice
silver.[w]
20 I walk in the way of righteousness,[x]
along the paths of justice,
21 bestowing wealth on those who love
me
and making their treasuries full.[y]
22 "The LORD brought me forth[q] as the
first of his works,[r]
before his deeds of old;
23 I was appointed[s] from eternity,
from the beginning, before the
world began.
24 When there were no oceans, I was
given birth,
when there were no springs
abounding with water;[z]
25 before the mountains were settled in
place,[a]
before the hills, I was given
birth,[b]
26 before he made the earth or its
fields
or any of the dust of the world.[c]
27 I was there when he set the heavens
in place,[d]
when he marked out the horizon[e]
on the face of the deep,
28 when he established the clouds
above[f]
and fixed securely the fountains of
the deep,[g]
29 when he gave the sea its boundary[h]
so the waters would not overstep
his command,[i]
and when he marked out the
foundations of the earth.[j]
30 Then I was the craftsman at his
side.[k]
I was filled with delight day after
day,
rejoicing always in his presence,
31 rejoicing in his whole world
and delighting in mankind.[l]
32 "Now then, my sons, listen[m] to me;
blessed are[n] those who keep my
ways.[o]
33 Listen to my instruction and be wise;
do not ignore it.
34 Blessed is the man who listens[p] to
me,
watching daily at my doors,
waiting at my doorway.
35 For whoever finds me[q] finds life[r]
and receives favor from the LORD.[s]
36 But whoever fails to find me harms
himself;[t]
all who hate me love death."[u]

7:27 [a]Jdg 16:19; S Pr 2:18; Rev 22:15
8:1 [b]S Job 28:12
8:3 [c]Pr 7:6-13
8:4 [d]Isa 42:2
8:5 [e]S Pr 1:22 [f]Pr 1:4
8:7 [g]Jn 8:14
8:10 [h]S Job 28:17; S Ps 19:10
8:11 [i]ver 19; S Job 28:17-19 [j]Pr 3:13-15
8:12 [k]Pr 1:4
8:13 [l]S Ge 22:12 [m]S Ex 20:20; S Job 28:28 [n]Jer 44:4
8:14 [o]S Job 9:4; Pr 21:22; Ecc 7:19
8:15 [p]S Ps 2:10
8:16 [q]S 2Ch 1:10; Pr 29:4
8:17 [r]S 1Sa 2:30; Jn 14:21-24 [s]S 1Ch 16:11; S Pr 1:28; 3:13-18; Mt 7:7-11
8:18 [t]S 1Ki 3:13 [u]S Dt 8:18
8:19 [v]S Job 28:17-19 [w]S Pr 3:13-14
8:20 [x]S Ps 5:8
8:21 [y]Pr 15:6; 24:4
8:24 [z]S Ge 7:11
8:25 [a]S Job 38:6 [b]S Job 15:7
8:26 [c]S Ps 90:2
8:27 [d]S Job 26:7 [e]S Job 22:14
8:28 [f]S Job 36:29 [g]S Ge 1:7; S Job 9:8; S 26:10
8:29 [h]S Ge 1:9; S Ps 16:6 [i]S Job 38:8 [j]S 1Sa 2:8; S Job 38:5
8:30 [k]Pr 3:19-20; Rev 3:14
8:31 [l]S Job 28:25-27; 38:4-38; Ps 104:1-30; Pr 30:4; Jn 1:1-4; Col 1:15-20
8:32 [m]S Pr 7:24 [n]Lk 11:28 [o]S 2Sa 22:22; S Ps 18:21
8:34 [p]1Ki 10:8
8:35 [q]Pr 3:13-18 [r]Pr 9:6; Jn 5:39-40 [s]S Job 33:26
8:36 [t]Pr 15:32; Isa 3:9; Jer 40:2 [u]S Job 28:22

[p]16 Many Hebrew manuscripts and Septuagint; most Hebrew manuscripts *all righteous rulers* [q]22 Or *The LORD possessed me* [r]22 Or *way*; or *dominion* [s]23 Or *fashioned*

Invitations of Wisdom and of Folly

9 Wisdom has built her house;
she has hewn out its seven pillars.
2 She has prepared her meat and
mixed her wine;
she has also set her table.
3 She has sent out her maids, and she
calls
from the highest point of the
city.
4 "Let all who are simple come in
here!"
she says to those who lack
judgment.
5 "Come, eat my food
and drink the wine I have mixed.
6 Leave your simple ways and you will
live;
walk in the way of
understanding.
7 "Whoever corrects a mocker invites
insult;
whoever rebukes a wicked man
incurs abuse.
8 Do not rebuke a mocker or he will
hate you;
rebuke a wise man and he will
love you.
9 Instruct a wise man and he will be
wiser still;
teach a righteous man and he will
add to his learning.
10 "The fear of the LORD is the
beginning of wisdom,
and knowledge of the Holy One
is understanding.
11 For through me your days will be
many,
and years will be added to your
life.
12 If you are wise, your wisdom will
reward you;
if you are a mocker, you alone will
suffer."
13 The woman Folly is loud;
she is undisciplined and without
knowledge.
14 She sits at the door of her house,
on a seat at the highest point of
the city,
15 calling out to those who pass by,
who go straight on their way.
16 "Let all who are simple come in
here!"
she says to those who lack
judgment.
17 "Stolen water is sweet;
food eaten in secret is delicious!"
18 But little do they know that the dead
are there,
that her guests are in the depths of
the grave.

Proverbs of Solomon

10 The proverbs of Solomon:
A wise son brings joy to his
father,
but a foolish son grief to his
mother.
2 Ill-gotten treasures are of no
value,
but righteousness delivers from
death.
3 The LORD does not let the righteous
go hungry
but he thwarts the craving of the
wicked.
4 Lazy hands make a man poor,
but diligent hands bring wealth.
5 He who gathers crops in summer is
a wise son,
but he who sleeps during harvest
is a disgraceful son.
6 Blessings crown the head of the
righteous,
but violence overwhelms the
mouth of the wicked.*
7 The memory of the righteous will
be a blessing,
but the name of the wicked will
rot.
8 The wise in heart accept commands,
but a chattering fool comes to
ruin.
9 The man of integrity walks
securely,
but he who takes crooked paths
will be found out.
10 He who winks maliciously causes
grief,
and a chattering fool comes to
ruin.
11 The mouth of the righteous is a
fountain of life,
but violence overwhelms the
mouth of the wicked.
12 Hatred stirs up dissension,
but love covers over all
wrongs.
13 Wisdom is found on the lips of the
discerning,
but a rod is for the back of him
who lacks judgment.

9:18 Hebrew *Sheol* 10:6 Or *but the mouth of the wicked conceals violence;* also in verse 11

14 Wise men store up knowledge,[a]
but the mouth of a fool invites ruin.[b]

15 The wealth of the rich is their fortified city,[c]
but poverty is the ruin of the poor.[d]

16 The wages of the righteous bring them life,[e]
but the income of the wicked brings them punishment.[f]

17 He who heeds discipline shows the way to life,[g]
but whoever ignores correction leads others astray.

18 He who conceals his hatred has lying lips,[h]
and whoever spreads slander is a fool.

19 When words are many, sin is not absent,
but he who holds his tongue is wise.[i]

20 The tongue of the righteous is choice silver,
but the heart of the wicked is of little value.

21 The lips of the righteous nourish many,
but fools die for lack of judgment.[j]

22 The blessing of the LORD[k] brings wealth,[l]
and he adds no trouble to it.[m]

23 A fool finds pleasure in evil conduct,[n]
but a man of understanding delights in wisdom.

24 What the wicked dreads[o] will overtake him;[p]
what the righteous desire will be granted.[q]

25 When the storm has swept by, the wicked are gone,
but the righteous stand firm[r] forever.[s]

26 As vinegar to the teeth and smoke[t] to the eyes,
so is a sluggard to those who send him.[u]

27 The fear of the LORD adds length to life,[v]
but the years of the wicked are cut short.[w]

28 The prospect of the righteous is joy,
but the hopes of the wicked come to nothing.[x]

29 The way of the LORD is a refuge for the righteous,
but it is the ruin of those who do evil.[y]

30 The righteous will never be uprooted,
but the wicked will not remain in the land.[z]

31 The mouth of the righteous brings forth wisdom,[a]
but a perverse tongue[b] will be cut out.

32 The lips of the righteous know what is fitting,[c]
but the mouth of the wicked only what is perverse.[d]

11 The LORD abhors dishonest scales,[e]
but accurate weights are his delight.[f]

2 When pride comes, then comes disgrace,[g]
but with humility comes wisdom.[h]

3 The integrity of the upright guides them,
but the unfaithful are destroyed by their duplicity.[i]

4 Wealth[j] is worthless in the day of wrath,[k]
but righteousness delivers from death.[l]

5 The righteousness of the blameless makes a straight way[m] for them,
but the wicked are brought down by their own wickedness.[n]

6 The righteousness of the upright delivers them,
but the unfaithful are trapped by evil desires.[o]

7 When a wicked man dies, his hope perishes;[p]
all he expected from his power comes to nothing.[q]

8 The righteous man is rescued from trouble,
and it comes on the wicked instead.[r]

9 With his mouth the godless destroys his neighbor,
but through knowledge the righteous escape.[s]

10 When the righteous prosper, the city rejoices;[t]

10:14 [a] Pr 11:13; 12:23 [b] S ver 6; S Ps 59:12; S Pr 14:3; 18:6,7; S Mt 12:37 **10:15** [c] Pr 18:11 [d] Pr 19:7 **10:16** [e] S Dt 30:15 [f] Pr 11:18-19; 15:6; S Ro 6:23 **10:17** [g] Pr 6:23; 15:5 **10:18** [h] S Ps 31:18 **10:19** [i] S Job 1:22; S 6:24; Pr 17:28; S 20:25; 21:23; Jas 1:19; 3:2-12 **10:21** [j] Pr 5:22-23; Isa 5:13; Jer 5:4; Hos 4:1,6,14 **10:22** [k] S Ps 128:2 [l] S Ge 13:2; S 49:25; S Dt 8:18 [m] S 2Ch 25:9 **10:23** [n] S Pr 2:14 **10:24** [o] Isa 65:7; 66:4 [p] S Ge 42:36 [q] S Ps 37:4; 145:17-19; Eze 11:8 **10:25** [r] S Ps 20:8 [s] Pr 12:3,7; Mt 7:24-27 **10:26** [t] Isa 65:5 [u] Pr 13:17; 25:13; 26:6 **10:27** [v] S ver 11; Dt 11:9; Pr 9:10-11; 19:23; 22:4 [w] S Job 15:32 **10:28** [x] Est 7:10; S Job 8:13; Ps 112:10; Pr 11:7 **10:29** [y] Pr 21:15; Hos 14:9 **10:30** [z] Ps 37:9,28-29; S Pr 2:20-22 **10:31** [a] S ver 13; S Pr 15:2; 31:26 [b] S Ps 52:4 **10:32** [c] Ecc 10:12 [d] S Ps 59:7 **11:1** [e] S Lev 19:36; Dt 25:13-16; S Job 6:2; Pr 20:10,23 [f] Pr 16:11; Eze 45:10 **11:2** [g] Pr 16:18 [h] Pr 18:12; 29:23 **11:3** [i] ver 5; Pr 13:6 **11:4** [j] Eze 27:27 [k] S Job 20:20; S Eze 7:19 [l] S Pr 10:2 **11:5** [m] S 1Ki 8:36 [n] S ver 3; Pr 5:21-23; 13:6; 21:7 **11:6** [o] S Est 7:9 **11:7** [p] S Job 8:13 [q] S Pr 10:28 **11:8** [r] Pr 21:18 **11:9** [s] Pr 12:6; Jer 45:5 **11:10** [t] S 2Ki 11:20

when the wicked perish, there are
shouts of joy.[a]

11 Through the blessing of the upright
a city is exalted,[b]
but by the mouth of the wicked it
is destroyed.[c]

12 A man who lacks judgment derides
his neighbor,[d]
but a man of understanding holds
his tongue.[e]

13 A gossip betrays a confidence,[f]
but a trustworthy man keeps a
secret.[g]

14 For lack of guidance a nation falls,[h]
but many advisers make victory
sure.[i]

15 He who puts up security[j] for
another will surely suffer,
but whoever refuses to strike
hands in pledge is safe.[k]

16 A kindhearted woman gains
respect,[l]
but ruthless men gain only wealth.

17 A kind man benefits himself,
but a cruel man brings trouble on
himself.

18 The wicked man earns deceptive
wages,
but he who sows righteousness
reaps a sure reward.[m]

19 The truly righteous man attains life,[n]
but he who pursues evil goes to
his death.[o]

20 The LORD detests men of perverse
heart[p]
but he delights[q] in those whose
ways are blameless.[r]

21 Be sure of this: The wicked will not
go unpunished,
but those who are righteous will
go free.[s]

22 Like a gold ring in a pig's snout
is a beautiful woman who shows
no discretion.

23 The desire of the righteous ends only
in good,
but the hope of the wicked only in
wrath.

24 One man gives freely, yet gains even
more;
another withholds unduly, but
comes to poverty.

25 A generous[t] man will prosper;
he who refreshes others will
himself be refreshed.[u]

26 People curse the man who hoards
grain,
but blessing crowns him who is
willing to sell.

27 He who seeks good finds goodwill,
but evil comes to him who
searches for it.[v]

28 Whoever trusts in his riches will
fall,[w]
but the righteous will thrive like a
green leaf.[x]

29 He who brings trouble on his family
will inherit only wind,
and the fool will be servant to the
wise.[y]

30 The fruit of the righteous is a tree of
life,[z]
and he who wins souls is wise.

31 If the righteous receive their due[a] on
earth,
how much more the ungodly and
the sinner!

12 Whoever loves discipline loves
knowledge,
but he who hates correction is
stupid.[b]

2 A good man obtains favor from the
LORD,[c]
but the LORD condemns a crafty
man.[d]

3 A man cannot be established
through wickedness,
but the righteous cannot be
uprooted.[e]

4 A wife of noble character[f] is her
husband's crown,
but a disgraceful wife is like decay
in his bones.[g]

5 The plans of the righteous are just,
but the advice of the wicked is
deceitful.

6 The words of the wicked lie in wait
for blood,
but the speech of the upright
rescues them.[h]

7 Wicked men are overthrown and are
no more,[i]
but the house of the righteous
stands firm.[j]

8 A man is praised according to his
wisdom,
but men with warped[k] minds are
despised.

9 Better to be a nobody and yet have a
servant

11:10 [a]S Est 8:17
11:11 [b]Pr 14:34 [c]Pr 29:8
11:12 [d]Pr 14:21 [e]S Job 6:24
11:13 [f]Pr 20:19 [g]S Pr 10:14
11:14 [h]Pr 20:18 [i]S 2Sa 15:34; Pr 15:22; 24:6
11:15 [j]S Pr 6:1 [k]Pr 17:18; 22:26-27
11:16 [l]Pr 31:31
11:18 [m]S Ex 1:20; S Job 4:8; Hos 10:12-13
11:19 [n]S Dt 30:15; S Pr 10:2 [o]1Sa 2:6; Ps 89:48; Pr 1:18-19; Ecc 7:2; Jer 43:11
11:20 [p]Pr 3:32 [q]S Nu 14:8 [r]S 1Ch 29:17; S Ps 15:2; 101:1-4; S 119:1; Pr 12:2,22; 15:9
11:21 [s]Pr 16:5
11:25 [t]1Ch 29:17; Isa 32:8 [u]Pr 22:9; 2Co 9:6-9
11:27 [v]Ps 7:15-16
11:28 [w]Job 31:24-28; S Ps 49:6; S 52:7; 62:10; Jer 9:23; 48:7 [x]Ps 52:8; 92:12-14
11:29 [y]Pr 14:19
11:30 [z]S Ge 2:9; S Pr 10:11
11:31 [a]Jer 25:29; 49:12; 1Pe 4:18
12:1 [b]Pr 5:11-14; S 9:7-9; 13:1,18; 15:5,10,12,32
12:2 [c]S Job 33:26; Ps 84:11 [d]2Sa 15:3; S Pr 11:20
12:3 [e]S Pr 10:25
12:4 [f]S Ru 3:11; Pr 31:10-11 [g]Pr 18:22
12:6 [h]S Pr 11:9; 14:3
12:7 [i]S Ps 37:36 [j]S Pr 10:25; 14:11; 15:25
12:8 [k]Isa 19:14; 29:24

than pretend to be somebody and
have no food.

10A righteous man cares for the needs
of his animal,[a]
but the kindest acts of the wicked
are cruel.

11He who works his land will have
abundant food,
but he who chases fantasies lacks
judgment.[b]

12The wicked desire the plunder of evil
men,
but the root of the righteous
flourishes.

13An evil man is trapped by his sinful
talk,[c]
but a righteous man escapes
trouble.[d]

14From the fruit of his lips a man is
filled with good things[e]
as surely as the work of his hands
rewards him.[f]

15The way of a fool seems right to
him,[g]
but a wise man listens to
advice.[h]

16A fool[i] shows his annoyance at
once,[j]
but a prudent man overlooks an
insult.[k]

17A truthful witness gives honest
testimony,
but a false witness tells lies.[l]

18Reckless words pierce like a sword,[m]
but the tongue of the wise brings
healing.[n]

19Truthful lips endure forever,
but a lying tongue lasts only a
moment.

20There is deceit in the hearts of those
who plot evil,
but joy for those who promote
peace.[o]

21No harm befalls the righteous,[p]
but the wicked have their fill of
trouble.

22The LORD detests lying lips,[q]
but he delights[r] in men who are
truthful.[s]

23A prudent man keeps his knowledge
to himself,[t]
but the heart of fools blurts out
folly.[u]

24Diligent hands will rule,
but laziness ends in slave labor.[v]

25An anxious heart weighs a man
down,[w]
but a kind word cheers him up.

26A righteous man is cautious in
friendship,[v]
but the way of the wicked leads
them astray.[x]

27The lazy man does not roast[w] his
game,
but the diligent man prizes his
possessions.

28In the way of righteousness there is
life;[y]
along that path is immortality.

13 A wise son heeds his father's
instruction,
but a mocker does not listen to
rebuke.[z]

2From the fruit of his lips a man
enjoys good things,[a]
but the unfaithful have a craving
for violence.

3He who guards his lips[b] guards his
life,[c]
but he who speaks rashly will
come to ruin.[d]

4The sluggard craves and gets
nothing,[e]
but the desires of the diligent are
fully satisfied.

5The righteous hate what is false,[f]
but the wicked bring shame and
disgrace.

6Righteousness guards the man of
integrity,
but wickedness overthrows the
sinner.[g]

7One man pretends to be rich, yet has
nothing;[h]
another pretends to be poor, yet
has great wealth.[i]

8A man's riches may ransom his life,
but a poor man hears no threat.[j]

9The light of the righteous shines
brightly,
but the lamp of the wicked is
snuffed out.[k]

10Pride only breeds quarrels,
but wisdom is found in those who
take advice.[l]

11Dishonest money dwindles away,[m]
but he who gathers money little by
little makes it grow.

12:10 [a]S Nu 22:29
12:11 [b]Pr 28:19
12:13 [c]S Ps 59:12; S Pr 10:6; 18:7 [d]Pr 21:23
12:14 [e]Pr 13:2; 15:23; 18:20 [f]Pr 14:14
12:15 [g]Pr 14:12; 16:2,25 [h]S Pr 9:7-9; 19:20
12:16 [i]S 1Sa 25:25 [j]S Job 5:2 [k]Pr 29:11
12:17 [l]S Ps 12:2; Pr 14:5,25
12:18 [m]S Ps 55:21; Pr 25:18 [n]Pr 15:4
12:20 [o]S Ro 14:19
12:21 [p]S Job 4:7
12:22 [q]1Ki 13:18; Pr 6:17 [r]Ps 18:19 [s]S Pr 11:20
12:23 [t]S Pr 10:14 [u]S Ps 38:5; S 59:7; Pr 18:2
12:24 [v]S Pr 10:4
12:25 [w]Pr 15:13
12:26 [x]S Ps 95:10
12:28 [y]S Dt 30:15; S Pr 10:2
13:1 [z]S Pr 12:1; 15:5
13:2 [a]S Pr 12:14
13:3 [b]S Ps 12:2; S 34:13 [c]S Pr 10:6; 21:23 [d]S Job 1:22; Pr 18:7,20-21
13:4 [e]Pr 21:25-26
13:5 [f]S Ps 119:128
13:6 [g]S Pr 11:3; 5; Jer 44:5
13:7 [h]Rev 3:17 [i]2Co 6:10
13:8 [j]Pr 15:16
13:9 [k]S Job 18:5; S Pr 4:18-19
13:10 [l]S Jdg 19:30; S Pr 9:9
13:11 [m]S Pr 10:2

v26 Or *man is a guide to his neighbor* w27 The meaning of the Hebrew for this word is uncertain.

[12]Hope deferred makes the heart sick,
but a longing fulfilled is a tree of life.[a]
[13]He who scorns instruction will pay for it,[b]
but he who respects[c] a command is rewarded.[d]
[14]The teaching of the wise is a fountain of life,[e]
turning a man from the snares of death.[f]
[15]Good understanding wins favor,
but the way of the unfaithful is hard.[x]
[16]Every prudent man acts out of knowledge,
but a fool exposes[g] his folly.[h]
[17]A wicked messenger falls into trouble,[i]
but a trustworthy envoy brings healing.[j]
[18]He who ignores discipline comes to poverty and shame,[k]
but whoever heeds correction is honored.[l]
[19]A longing fulfilled is sweet to the soul,[m]
but fools detest turning from evil.
[20]He who walks with the wise grows wise,
but a companion of fools suffers harm.[n]
[21]Misfortune pursues the sinner,[o]
but prosperity[p] is the reward of the righteous.[q]
[22]A good man leaves an inheritance for his children's children,
but a sinner's wealth is stored up for the righteous.[r]
[23]A poor man's field may produce abundant food,
but injustice sweeps it away.
[24]He who spares the rod[s] hates his son,
but he who loves him is careful to discipline[t] him.[u]
[25]The righteous eat to their hearts' content,
but the stomach of the wicked goes hungry.[v]

14

[1]The wise woman builds her house,[w]
but with her own hands the foolish one tears hers down.

13:12 [a]S Pr 10:11
13:13 [b]S Nu 15:31 [c]Ex 9:20 [d]Pr 16:20
13:14 [e]S Pr 10:11 [f]Pr 14:27
13:16 [g]Ecc 10:3 [h]Est 5:11; S Ps 38:5
13:17 [i]S Pr 10:26 [j]Pr 25:13
13:18 [k]S Pr 1:7; S 12:1 [l]Ps 141:5; Pr 25:12; Ecc 7:5
13:19 [m]S Pr 10:11
13:20 [n]2Ch 10:8
13:21 [o]2Sa 3:39; Jer 40:3; 50:7; Eze 14:13; 18:4 [p]Ps 25:13 [q]Ps 32:10
13:22 [r]S Est 8:2; S Job 27:17; Ecc 2:26
13:24 [s]S 2Sa 7:14 [t]S Pr 3:12 [u]Pr 19:18; 22:15; 23:13-14; 29:15, 17; Eph 6:4; Heb 12:7
13:25 [v]Pr 10:3
14:1 [w]S Ru 3:11; Pr 24:3
14:3 [x]S Pr 10:14; Ecc 10:12 [y]S Pr 10:13; S 12:6
14:4 [z]Ps 144:14
14:5 [a]S Ps 12:2; S Pr 12:17
14:6 [b]S Pr 9:9
14:8 [c]ver 15; Pr 15:28; 21:29 [d]ver 24
14:11 [e]S Job 8:22; Pr 21:12 [f]S Ps 72:7; S Pr 3:33; S 12:7
14:12 [g]S Pr 12:15 [h]Pr 16:25
14:13 [i]Ecc 2:2; 7:3,6
14:14 [j]S Pr 1:31 [k]S 2Ch 15:7; Pr 12:14
14:15 [l]S ver 8
14:16 [m]S Ex 20:20; Pr 22:3 [n]S 1Sa 25:25
14:17 [o]S 2Ki 5:12 [p]ver 29; Pr 15:18; 16:28; 26:21; 28:25; 29:22 [q]S Est 5:9

[2]He whose walk is upright fears the LORD,
but he whose ways are devious despises him.
[3]A fool's talk brings a rod to his back,[x]
but the lips of the wise protect them.[y]
[4]Where there are no oxen, the manger is empty,
but from the strength of an ox[z] comes an abundant harvest.
[5]A truthful witness does not deceive,
but a false witness pours out lies.[a]
[6]The mocker seeks wisdom and finds none,
but knowledge comes easily to the discerning.[b]
[7]Stay away from a foolish man,
for you will not find knowledge on his lips.
[8]The wisdom of the prudent is to give thought to their ways,[c]
but the folly of fools is deception.[d]
[9]Fools mock at making amends for sin,
but goodwill is found among the upright.
[10]Each heart knows its own bitterness,
and no one else can share its joy.
[11]The house of the wicked will be destroyed,[e]
but the tent of the upright will flourish.[f]
[12]There is a way that seems right to a man,[g]
but in the end it leads to death.[h]
[13]Even in laughter[i] the heart may ache,
and joy may end in grief.
[14]The faithless will be fully repaid for their ways,[j]
and the good man rewarded for his.[k]
[15]A simple man believes anything,
but a prudent man gives thought to his steps.[l]
[16]A wise man fears the LORD and shuns evil,[m]
but a fool[n] is hotheaded and reckless.
[17]A quick-tempered[o] man does foolish things,[p]
and a crafty man is hated.[q]

[x]15 Or *unfaithful does not endure*

[18]The simple inherit folly,
but the prudent are crowned with knowledge.

[19]Evil men will bow down in the presence of the good,
and the wicked at the gates of the righteous.[a]

[20]The poor are shunned even by their neighbors,
but the rich have many friends.[b]

[21]He who despises his neighbor sins,[c]
but blessed is he who is kind to the needy.[d]

[22]Do not those who plot evil go astray?[e]
But those who plan what is good find[y] love and faithfulness.

[23]All hard work brings a profit,
but mere talk leads only to poverty.

[24]The wealth of the wise is their crown,
but the folly of fools yields folly.[f]

[25]A truthful witness saves lives,
but a false witness is deceitful.[g]

[26]He who fears the LORD has a secure fortress,[h]
and for his children it will be a refuge.[i]

[27]The fear of the LORD is a fountain of life,[j]
turning a man from the snares of death.[k]

[28]A large population is a king's glory,
but without subjects a prince is ruined.[l]

[29]A patient man has great understanding,[m]
but a quick-tempered man displays folly.[n]

[30]A heart at peace gives life to the body,
but envy rots the bones.[o]

[31]He who oppresses the poor shows contempt for their Maker,[p]
but whoever is kind to the needy honors God.[q]

[32]When calamity comes, the wicked are brought down,[r]
but even in death the righteous have a refuge.[s]

[33]Wisdom reposes in the heart of the discerning[t]
and even among fools she lets herself be known.[z]

14:19 [a]Pr 11:29 **14:20** [b]Pr 19:4,7 **14:21** [c]Pr 11:12 [d]Pr 19:17 **14:22** [e]Pr 4:16-17 **14:24** [f]ver 8 **14:25** [g]S Pr 12:17 **14:26** [h]Pr 18:10 [i]Ps 9:9 **14:27** [j]S Pr 10:11 [k]Ps 18:5; Pr 13:14 **14:28** [l]S 2Sa 19:7 **14:29** [m]S 2Ki 5:12; Pr 17:27 [n]S ver 17; Ecc 7:8-9 **14:30** [o]Pr 17:22 **14:31** [p]Pr 17:5 [q]S Dt 24:14; S Job 20:19; S Mt 10:42 **14:32** [r]S Ps 34:21; S Pr 6:15 [s]S Job 13:15 **14:33** [t]Pr 2:6-10 **14:34** [u]Pr 11:11 **14:35** [v]S Est 8:2; Mt 24:45-51; 25:14-30 **15:1** [w]1Ki 12:7; 2Ch 10:7 [x]Pr 25:15 **15:2** [y]ver 7; S Pr 10:31 [z]S Ps 59:7; Ecc 10:12 **15:3** [a]S 2Ch 16:9 [b]S Job 10:4; S 31:4; S Heb 4:13 [c]S Job 34:21; Pr 5:21; Jer 16:17 **15:4** [d]S Ps 5:9 [e]S Pr 10:11 [f]Pr 12:18 **15:5** [g]S Pr 10:17; S 12:1; S 13:1 **15:6** [h]S Pr 8:21 [i]S Pr 10:16 **15:7** [j]S ver 2; S Pr 10:13 **15:8** [k]S Ps 51:17; S Isa 1:13 [l]S Pr 6:16; 21:27 [m]ver 29; Job 35:13; Pr 28:9; S Jn 9:31 **15:9** [n]S Pr 6:16 [o]S Dt 7:13; S Pr 11:20 **15:10** [p]S Pr 1:31-32; S 12:1 **15:11** [q]S Job 26:6 [r]S 1Sa 2:3; S 2Ch 6:30; S Ps 44:21; S Rev 2:23 **15:12** [s]S Pr 9:8; S 12:1 **15:13** [t]ver 15 [u]S Pr 12:25; 17:22; 18:14 **15:14** [v]Pr 18:15

[34]Righteousness exalts a nation,[u]
but sin is a disgrace to any people.

[35]A king delights in a wise servant,
but a shameful servant incurs his wrath.[v]

15

A gentle answer[w] turns away wrath,[x]
but a harsh word stirs up anger.

[2]The tongue of the wise commends knowledge,[y]
but the mouth of the fool gushes folly.[z]

[3]The eyes[a] of the LORD are everywhere,[b]
keeping watch on the wicked and the good.[c]

[4]The tongue[d] that brings healing is a tree of life,[e]
but a deceitful tongue crushes the spirit.[f]

[5]A fool spurns his father's discipline,
but whoever heeds correction shows prudence.[g]

[6]The house of the righteous contains great treasure,[h]
but the income of the wicked brings them trouble.[i]

[7]The lips of the wise spread knowledge;[j]
not so the hearts of fools.

[8]The LORD detests the sacrifice[k] of the wicked,[l]
but the prayer of the upright pleases him.[m]

[9]The LORD detests the way of the wicked[n]
but he loves those who pursue righteousness.[o]

[10]Stern discipline awaits him who leaves the path;
he who hates correction will die.[p]

[11]Death and Destruction[a] lie open before the LORD[q] —
how much more the hearts of men![r]

[12]A mocker resents correction;[s]
he will not consult the wise.

[13]A happy heart makes the face cheerful,[t]
but heartache crushes the spirit.[u]

[14]The discerning heart seeks knowledge,[v]

y22 Or show z33 *Hebrew; Septuagint and Syriac / but in the heart of fools she is not known* a11 *Hebrew Sheol and Abaddon*

but the mouth of a fool feeds on
folly.

15All the days of the oppressed are
wretched,
but the cheerful heart has a
continual feast.[a]

16Better a little with the fear of the
LORD
than great wealth with turmoil.[b]

17Better a meal of vegetables where
there is love
than a fattened calf with hatred.[c]

18A hot-tempered man stirs up
dissension,[d]
but a patient man calms a
quarrel.[e]

19The way of the sluggard is blocked
with thorns,[f]
but the path of the upright is a
highway.

20A wise son brings joy to his father,[g]
but a foolish man despises his
mother.

21Folly delights a man who lacks
judgment,[h]
but a man of understanding keeps
a straight course.

22Plans fail for lack of counsel,[i]
but with many advisers[j] they
succeed.[k]

23A man finds joy in giving an apt
reply[l] —
and how good is a timely word![m]

24The path of life leads upward for the
wise
to keep him from going down to
the grave.[b]

25The LORD tears down the proud
man's house[n]
but he keeps the widow's
boundaries intact.[o]

26The LORD detests the thoughts[p] of
the wicked,[q]
but those of the pure[r] are pleasing
to him.

27A greedy man brings trouble to his
family,
but he who hates bribes will live.[s]

28The heart of the righteous weighs its
answers,[t]
but the mouth of the wicked
gushes evil.[u]

29The LORD is far from the wicked
but he hears the prayer of the
righteous.[v]

30A cheerful look brings joy to the
heart,
and good news gives health to the
bones.[w]

31He who listens to a life-giving
rebuke
will be at home among the wise.[x]

32He who ignores discipline despises
himself,[y]
but whoever heeds correction
gains understanding.[z]

33The fear of the LORD[a] teaches a man
wisdom,[c]
and humility comes before
honor.[b]

16 To man belong the plans of the
heart,
but from the LORD comes the reply
of the tongue.[c]

2All a man's ways seem innocent to
him,[d]
but motives are weighed[e] by the
LORD.[f]

3Commit to the LORD whatever you
do,
and your plans will succeed.[g]

4The LORD works out everything for
his own ends[h] —
even the wicked for a day of
disaster.[i]

5The LORD detests all the proud of
heart.[j]
Be sure of this: They will not go
unpunished.[k]

6Through love and faithfulness sin is
atoned for;
through the fear of the LORD[l] a
man avoids evil.[m]

7When a man's ways are pleasing to
the LORD,
he makes even his enemies live at
peace[n] with him.[o]

8Better a little with righteousness
than much gain[p] with injustice.[q]

9In his heart a man plans his course,
but the LORD determines his
steps.[r]

10The lips of a king speak as an oracle,
and his mouth should not betray
justice.[s]

11Honest scales and balances are from
the LORD;
all the weights in the bag are of his
making.[t]

b24 Hebrew *Sheol* c33 Or *Wisdom teaches the fear of the LORD*

15:15 [a]ver 13 **15:16** [b]ver 17; Ps 37:16-17; Pr 13:8; 16:8; 17:1 **15:17** [c]S ver 16; Pr 17:1; Ecc 4:6 **15:18** [d]S Pr 6:16-19; S 14:17 [e]S Ge 13:8 **15:19** [f]Pr 22:5 **15:20** [g]S Pr 10:1 **15:21** [h]S Pr 2:14 **15:22** [i]S Ps 16:7 [j]1Ki 1:12; Pr 24:6 [k]S Pr 11:14 **15:23** [l]S Pr 12:14 [m]Pr 25:11 **15:25** [n]S Pr 12:7 [o]S Dt 19:14; Pr 23:10-11 **15:26** [p]S Ps 94:11 [q]S Pr 6:16 [r]S Ps 18:26 **15:27** [s]S Ex 23:8; S Ps 15:5; Isa 1:23; 33:15 **15:28** [t]S Pr 14:8 [u]S Ps 59:7 **15:29** [v]S ver 8; S Job 15:31; Ps 145:18-19; Isa 59:2; S Jn 9:31 **15:30** [w]Pr 25:25 **15:31** [x]S Pr 9:7-9; S 12:1 **15:32** [y]S Pr 1:7; S 12:1 [z]S Pr 9:7-9; S 12:1; Ecc 7:5 **15:33** [a]S Pr 1:7 [b]Pr 16:18; 18:12; 22:4; 29:23; Isa 66:2 **16:1** [c]ver 9; Pr 19:21 **16:2** [d]S Pr 12:15; 30:12 [e]S 1Sa 2:3 [f]S 2Ch 6:30; Pr 20:27; 21:2; Lk 16:15 **16:3** [g]S 2Ch 20:20; S Ps 20:4; 37:5-6; S Pr 3:5-6 **16:4** [h]Ex 9:16 [i]S 2Ch 34:24; S Ps 18:18; Ro 9:22 **16:5** [j]S Ps 40:4; S Pr 6:16 [k]Pr 11:20-21 **16:6** [l]S Ge 20:11; S Ex 1:17 [m]S Ex 20:20 **16:7** [n]S Ge 39:21 [o]Ps 105:15; Jer 39:12; 40:1; 42:12; Da 1:9 **16:8** [p]S Ps 37:16 [q]S Pr 15:16; 17:1; Ecc 4:6 **16:9** [r]S ver 1; S Job 33:29; S Ps 90:12 **16:10** [s]Pr 17:7 **16:11** [t]S Pr 11:1; Eze 45:10

12Kings detest wrongdoing,
for a throne is established through righteousness.[a]
13Kings take pleasure in honest lips;
they value a man who speaks the truth.[b]
14A king's wrath is a messenger of death,[c]
but a wise man will appease it.[d]
15When a king's face brightens, it means life;[e]
his favor is like a rain cloud in spring.[f]
16How much better to get wisdom than gold,
to choose understanding[g] rather than silver![h]
17The highway of the upright avoids evil;
he who guards his way guards his life.[i]
18Pride[j] goes before destruction,
a haughty spirit[k] before a fall.[l]
19Better to be lowly in spirit and among the oppressed
than to share plunder with the proud.
20Whoever gives heed to instruction prospers,[m]
and blessed is he who trusts in the LORD.[n]
21The wise in heart are called discerning,
and pleasant words promote instruction.[d][o]
22Understanding is a fountain of life to those who have it,[p]
but folly brings punishment to fools.
23A wise man's heart guides his mouth,[q]
and his lips promote instruction.[e][r]
24Pleasant words are a honeycomb,[s]
sweet to the soul and healing to the bones.[t]
25There is a way that seems right to a man,[u]
but in the end it leads to death.[v]
26The laborer's appetite works for him;
his hunger drives him on.
27A scoundrel[w] plots evil,
and his speech is like a scorching fire.[x]
28A perverse man stirs up dissension,[y]
and a gossip separates close friends.[z]
29A violent man entices his neighbor
and leads him down a path that is not good.[a]
30He who winks[b] with his eye is plotting perversity;
he who purses his lips is bent on evil.
31Gray hair is a crown of splendor;[c]
it is attained by a righteous life.
32Better a patient man than a warrior,
a man who controls his temper than one who takes a city.
33The lot is cast[d] into the lap,
but its every decision[e] is from the LORD.[f]

17 Better a dry crust with peace and quiet
than a house full of feasting,[f] with strife.[g]
2A wise servant will rule over a disgraceful son,
and will share the inheritance as one of the brothers.
3The crucible for silver and the furnace for gold,[h]
but the LORD tests the heart.[i]
4A wicked man listens to evil lips;
a liar pays attention to a malicious tongue.
5He who mocks the poor[j] shows contempt for their Maker;[k]
whoever gloats over disaster[l] will not go unpunished.[m]
6Children's children[n] are a crown to the aged,
and parents are the pride of their children.
7Arrogant[g] lips are unsuited to a fool—
how much worse lying lips to a ruler![o]
8A bribe is a charm to the one who gives it;
wherever he turns, he succeeds.[p]
9He who covers over an offense promotes love,[q]
but whoever repeats the matter separates close friends.[r]
10A rebuke impresses a man of discernment

16:12 [a]Pr 20:28; 25:5; 29:14; 31:5 **16:13** [b]Pr 22:11 **16:14** [c]S Ge 40:2; S Job 29:24; Pr 20:2 [d]Pr 25:15; 29:8; Ecc 10:4 **16:15** [e]S Ge 40:2; S Job 29:24 [f]Pr 19:12; 28:2-7 **16:16** [g]Ps 49:20 [h]S Job 28:15; S Pr 3:13-14 **16:17** [i]Pr 19:16 **16:18** [j]S 1Sa 17:42 [k]Ps 18:27; Isa 13:11; Jer 48:29 [l]S Est 5:12; Pr 11:2; S 15:33; 18:12; 29:23 **16:20** [m]Pr 13:13 [n]S Ps 32:10; 40:4; Pr 19:8; 29:25; Jer 17:7 **16:21** [o]ver 23 **16:22** [p]S Pr 10:11 **16:23** [q]Job 15:5 [r]ver 21 **16:24** [s]S 1Sa 14:27 [t]Pr 24:13-14 **16:25** [u]S Pr 12:15 [v]Est 3:6; Pr 14:12 **16:27** [w]S Ps 140:2 [x]Jas 3:6 **16:28** [y]S Pr 14:17 [z]Pr 17:9 **16:29** [a]S Pr 1:10; 12:26 **16:30** [b]S Pr 6:13 **16:31** [c]Pr 20:29 **16:33** [d]S Lev 16:8; S 1Sa 10:21; Eze 21:21 [e]1Sa 14:41 [f]Jos 7:14; Pr 18:18; 29:26; Jnh 1:7 **17:1** [g]S Pr 15:16,17; S 16:8 **17:3** [h]Pr 27:21 [i]S 1Ch 29:17; Ps 26:2; S 139:23; 1Pe 1:7 **17:5** [j]S Job 5:16 [k]Pr 14:31 [l]S Job 31:29 [m]Eze 25:3; Ob 1:12 **17:6** [n]S Ps 125:5 **17:7** [o]Pr 16:10 **17:8** [p]S Ex 23:8; Pr 19:6 **17:9** [q]S Pr 10:12 [r]Pr 16:28

[d]21 *Or words make a man persuasive* [e]23 *Or mouth / and makes his lips persuasive* [f]1 Hebrew *sacrifices* [g]7 *Or Eloquent*

more than a hundred lashes a fool.

11An evil man is bent only on
rebellion;
a merciless official will be sent
against him.

12Better to meet a bear robbed of her
cubs
than a fool in his folly.[a]

13If a man pays back evil[b] for good,[c]
evil will never leave his house.

14Starting a quarrel is like breaching a
dam;
so drop the matter before a
dispute breaks out.[d]

15Acquitting the guilty and
condemning the innocent[e] —
the LORD detests them both.[f]

16Of what use is money in the hand of
a fool,
since he has no desire to get
wisdom?[g]

17A friend loves at all times,
and a brother is born for
adversity.[h]

18A man lacking in judgment strikes
hands in pledge
and puts up security for his
neighbor.[i]

19He who loves a quarrel loves sin;
he who builds a high gate invites
destruction.

20A man of perverse heart does not
prosper;
he whose tongue is deceitful falls
into trouble.

21To have a fool for a son brings
grief;
there is no joy for the father of a
fool.[j]

22A cheerful heart is good medicine,
but a crushed[k] spirit dries up the
bones.[l]

23A wicked man accepts a bribe[m] in
secret
to pervert the course of justice.[n]

24A discerning man keeps wisdom in
view,
but a fool's eyes[o] wander to the
ends of the earth.

25A foolish son brings grief to his
father
and bitterness to the one who bore
him.[p]

26It is not good to punish an innocent
man,[q]
or to flog officials for their
integrity.

27A man of knowledge uses words
with restraint,[r]
and a man of understanding is
even-tempered.[s]

28Even a fool is thought wise if he
keeps silent,
and discerning if he holds his
tongue.[t]

18

1An unfriendly man pursues
selfish ends;
he defies all sound judgment.

2A fool finds no pleasure in
understanding
but delights in airing his own
opinions.[u]

3When wickedness comes, so does
contempt,
and with shame comes disgrace.

4The words of a man's mouth are
deep waters,[v]
but the fountain of wisdom is a
bubbling brook.

5It is not good to be partial to the
wicked[w]
or to deprive the innocent of
justice.[x]

6A fool's lips bring him strife,
and his mouth invites a beating.[y]

7A fool's mouth is his undoing,
and his lips are a snare[z] to his
soul.[a]

8The words of a gossip are like choice
morsels;
they go down to a man's inmost
parts.[b]

9One who is slack in his work
is brother to one who destroys.[c]

10The name of the LORD is a strong
tower;[d]
the righteous run to it and are
safe.[e]

11The wealth of the rich is their
fortified city;[f]
they imagine it an unscalable wall.

12Before his downfall a man's heart is
proud,
but humility comes before honor.[g]

13He who answers before listening—
that is his folly and his shame.[h]

14A man's spirit sustains him in
sickness,
but a crushed spirit who can
bear?[i]

17:12 [a]S 1Sa 25:25 **17:13** [b]S 1Sa 19:4 [c]S Ge 44:4; S Ps 35:12 **17:14** [d]Mt 5:25-26 **17:15** [e]S Ps 94:21; S Pr 18:5 [f]Ex 23:6-7; Isa 5:23; La 3:34-36 **17:16** [g]Pr 23:23 **17:17** [h]S 2Sa 15:21; Pr 27:10 **17:18** [i]Pr 6:1-5; S 11:15; 22:26-27 **17:21** [j]S Pr 10:1 **17:22** [k]S Ps 38:8 [l]S Ex 12:46; Pr 14:30; S 15:13; 18:14 **17:23** [m]S Ex 18:21; S 23:8; S 1Sa 8:3 [n]S Job 34:33 **17:24** [o]S Job 31:1 **17:25** [p]S Pr 10:1 **17:26** [q]S Ps 94:21 **17:27** [r]S Job 6:24 [s]S Pr 14:29 **17:28** [t]S Job 2:13; 13:5; S Pr 10:19 **18:2** [u]S Pr 12:23 **18:4** [v]S Ps 18:16 **18:5** [w]Pr 24:23-25; 28:21 [x]S Ps 82:2; S Pr 17:15 **18:6** [y]S Pr 10:14 **18:7** [z]Ps 140:9 [a]S Ps 64:8; S Pr 10:14; S 12:13; S 13:3; Ecc 10:12 **18:8** [b]Pr 26:22 **18:9** [c]Pr 28:24 **18:10** [d]S Ps 61:3 [e]S Ps 20:1; Pr 14:26 **18:11** [f]Pr 10:15 **18:12** [g]S Pr 11:2; 15:33; S 16:18 **18:13** [h]Pr 20:25 **18:14** [i]S Pr 15:13; S 17:22

[15]The heart of the discerning acquires
knowledge;[a]
the ears of the wise seek it out.

[16]A gift[b] opens the way for the giver
and ushers him into the presence
of the great.

[17]The first to present his case seems
right,
till another comes forward and
questions him.

[18]Casting the lot settles disputes[c]
and keeps strong opponents apart.

[19]An offended[d] brother is more
unyielding than a fortified
city,
and disputes are like the barred
gates of a citadel.

[20]From the fruit of his mouth a man's
stomach is filled;
with the harvest from his lips he is
satisfied.[e]

[21]The tongue has the power of life and
death,[f]
and those who love it will eat its
fruit.[g]

[22]He who finds a wife finds what is
good[h]
and receives favor from the LORD.[i]

[23]A poor man pleads for mercy,
but a rich man answers harshly.

[24]A man of many companions may
come to ruin,
but there is a friend who sticks
closer than a brother.[j]

19

[1]Better a poor man whose walk is
blameless
than a fool whose lips are
perverse.[k]

[2]It is not good to have zeal without
knowledge,
nor to be hasty and miss the
way.[l]

[3]A man's own folly[m] ruins his life,
yet his heart rages against the
LORD.[n]

[4]Wealth brings many friends,
but a poor man's friend deserts
him.[o]

[5]A false witness[p] will not go
unpunished,[q]
and he who pours out lies will not
go free.[r]

[6]Many curry favor with a ruler,[s]
and everyone is the friend of a
man who gives gifts.[t]

18:15 [a]S Pr 18:14
18:16 [b]S Ge 32:13; S 1Sa 10:4; Pr 19:6
18:18 [c]S Pr 16:33
18:19 [d]S 1Sa 17:28
18:20 [e]S Pr 12:14
18:21 [f]S Ps 12:4 [g]Pr 13:2-3; S Mt 12:37
18:22 [h]S Pr 12:4 [i]S Job 33:26; Pr 19:14; 31:10
18:24 [j]S 1Sa 20:42; Jn 15:13-15
19:1 [k]Pr 28:6
19:2 [l]Pr 29:20
19:3 [m]Ps 14:1; Pr 9:13; 24:9; Isa 32:6 [n]Jas 1:13-15
19:4 [o]ver 7; Pr 14:20
19:5 [p]S Ex 23:1 [q]S Ps 56:7 [r]ver 9; S Dt 19:19; Pr 21:28
19:6 [s]Pr 29:26 [t]S Pr 17:8; S 18:16
19:7 [u]Pr 10:15 [v]S ver 4
19:8 [w]S Pr 16:20
19:9 [x]S ver 5; S Dt 19:19
19:10 [y]Pr 26:1 [z]Pr 30:21-23; Ecc 10:5-7
19:11 [a]S 2Ki 5:12
19:12 [b]Pr 20:2 [c]S Ps 133:3 [d]S Est 1:12; S 7:7; Ps 72:5-6; Pr 16:14-15
19:13 [e]S Pr 10:1 [f]S Est 1:18; Pr 21:9
19:14 [g]2Co 12:14 [h]S Pr 18:22
19:15 [i]S Pr 10:4; 20:13
19:16 [j]S Pr 16:17; S Ro 10:5
19:17 [k]S Dt 24:14 [l]S Dt 24:19; Pr 14:21; 22:9; S Mt 10:42
19:18 [m]S Pr 13:24; 23:13-14

[7]A poor man is shunned by all his
relatives—
how much more do his friends
avoid him![u]
Though he pursues them with
pleading,
they are nowhere to be found.[h][v]

[8]He who gets wisdom loves his own
soul;
he who cherishes understanding
prospers.[w]

[9]A false witness will not go
unpunished,
and he who pours out lies will
perish.[x]

[10]It is not fitting for a fool[y] to live in
luxury—
how much worse for a slave to
rule over princes![z]

[11]A man's wisdom gives him
patience;[a]
it is to his glory to overlook an
offense.

[12]A king's rage is like the roar of a
lion,[b]
but his favor is like dew[c] on the
grass.[d]

[13]A foolish son is his father's ruin,[e]
and a quarrelsome wife is like a
constant dripping.[f]

[14]Houses and wealth are inherited
from parents,[g]
but a prudent wife is from the
LORD.[h]

[15]Laziness brings on deep sleep,
and the shiftless man goes
hungry.[i]

[16]He who obeys instructions guards
his life,
but he who is contemptuous of his
ways will die.[j]

[17]He who is kind to the poor lends to
the LORD,[k]
and he will reward him for what
he has done.[l]

[18]Discipline your son, for in that there
is hope;
do not be a willing party to his
death.[m]

[19]A hot-tempered man must pay the
penalty;
if you rescue him, you will have to
do it again.

h7 The meaning of the Hebrew for this sentence is uncertain.

[20]Listen to advice and accept instruction,[a]
and in the end you will be wise.[b]
[21]Many are the plans in a man's heart,
but it is the LORD's purpose that prevails.[c]
[22]What a man desires is unfailing love[1];
better to be poor than a liar.
[23]The fear of the LORD leads to life:
Then one rests content, untouched by trouble.[d]
[24]The sluggard buries his hand in the dish;
he will not even bring it back to his mouth![e]
[25]Flog a mocker, and the simple will learn prudence;
rebuke a discerning man,[f] and he will gain knowledge.[g]
[26]He who robs his father and drives out his mother[h]
is a son who brings shame and disgrace.
[27]Stop listening to instruction, my son,
and you will stray from the words of knowledge.
[28]A corrupt witness mocks at justice,
and the mouth of the wicked gulps down evil.[j]
[29]Penalties are prepared for mockers,
and beatings for the backs of fools.[k]

20 Wine[l] is a mocker[m] and beer a brawler;
whoever is led astray[n] by them is not wise.[o]
[2]A king's wrath is like the roar of a lion;[p]
he who angers him forfeits his life.[q]
[3]It is to a man's honor to avoid strife,
but every fool[r] is quick to quarrel.[s]
[4]A sluggard[t] does not plow in season;
so at harvest time he looks but finds nothing.[u]
[5]The purposes of a man's heart are deep waters,[v]
but a man of understanding draws them out.
[6]Many a man claims to have unfailing love,

19:20 [a]Pr 8:33 [b]S Pr 12:15 **19:21** [c]Ps 33:11; Pr 16:9; Isa 14:24, 27; 40:8; 46:10; 48:14; 55:11; Jer 44:29; La 3:37 **19:23** [d]S Job 4:7; S Pr 10:27 **19:24** [e]Pr 26:15 **19:25** [f]S Ps 141:5 [g]S Pr 9:9; 21:11 **19:26** [h]Pr 28:24 **19:27** [i]S Pr 1:8 **19:28** [j]S Job 15:16 **19:29** [k]S Pr 26:3 **20:1** [l]S Lev 10:9; Hab 2:5 [m]S 1Sa 25:36 [n]1Ki 20:16 [o]Pr 31:4 **20:2** [p]S Pr 19:12 [q]S Est 7:7; S Pr 16:14 **20:3** [r]S 1Sa 25:25 [s]S Ge 13:8 **20:4** [t]S Pr 6:6 [u]Ecc 10:18 **20:5** [v]S Pr 18:4 **20:6** [w]Ps 12:1 **20:7** [x]S Ps 26:1 [y]Ps 37:25-26; 112:2 **20:8** [z]S 1Ki 7:7 [a]ver 26; Pr 25:4-5 **20:9** [b]S Job 15:14 [c]1Ki 8:46; Ecc 7:20; 1Jn 1:8 **20:10** [d]ver 23; S Pr 11:1 **20:11** [e]S Ps 39:1 **20:12** [f]S Ps 94:9 **20:13** [g]S Pr 6:11; S 19:15 **20:16** [h]S Ex 22:26 [i]Pr 27:13 **20:17** [j]Pr 9:17 [k]Job 20:14; La 3:16 **20:18** [l]Pr 11:14; 24:6 **20:19** [m]Pr 11:13 **20:20** [n]Pr 30:11 [o]Ex 21:17; S Job 18:5

but a faithful man who can find?[w]
[7]The righteous man leads a blameless life;[x]
blessed are his children after him.[y]
[8]When a king sits on his throne to judge,[z]
he winnows out all evil with his eyes.[a]
[9]Who can say, "I have kept my heart pure;[b]
I am clean and without sin"?[c]
[10]Differing weights and differing measures—
the LORD detests them both.[d]
[11]Even a child is known by his actions,
by whether his conduct is pure[e] and right.
[12]Ears that hear and eyes that see—
the LORD has made them both.[f]
[13]Do not love sleep or you will grow poor;[g]
stay awake and you will have food to spare.
[14]"It's no good, it's no good!" says the buyer;
then off he goes and boasts about his purchase.
[15]Gold there is, and rubies in abundance,
but lips that speak knowledge are a rare jewel.
[16]Take the garment of one who puts up security for a stranger;
hold it in pledge[h] if he does it for a wayward woman.[i]
[17]Food gained by fraud tastes sweet to a man,[j]
but he ends up with a mouth full of gravel.[k]
[18]Make plans by seeking advice;
if you wage war, obtain guidance.[l]
[19]A gossip betrays a confidence;[m]
so avoid a man who talks too much.
[20]If a man curses his father or mother,[n]
his lamp will be snuffed out in pitch darkness.[o]
[21]An inheritance quickly gained at the beginning
will not be blessed at the end.

[1]22 Or *A man's greed is his shame*

22Do not say, "I'll pay you back for
this wrong!"[a]
Wait for the LORD, and he will
deliver you.[b]
23The LORD detests differing weights,
and dishonest scales do not please
him.[c]
24A man's steps are directed[d] by the
LORD.[e]
How then can anyone understand
his own way?[f]
25It is a trap for a man to dedicate
something rashly
and only later to consider his
vows.[g]
26A wise king winnows out the
wicked;
he drives the threshing wheel over
them.[h]
27The lamp of the LORD[i] searches the
spirit of a man[j];
it searches out his inmost being.[i]
28Love and faithfulness keep a king
safe;
through love[k] his throne is made
secure.[l]
29The glory of young men is their
strength,
gray hair the splendor of the old.[m]
30Blows and wounds cleanse[n] away
evil,
and beatings[o] purge the inmost
being.

21 The king's heart is in the hand
of the LORD;
he directs it like a watercourse
wherever he pleases.[p]
2All a man's ways seem right to
him,
but the LORD weighs the heart.[q]
3To do what is right and just
is more acceptable to the LORD
than sacrifice.[r]
4Haughty eyes[s] and a proud heart,
the lamp of the wicked, are sin!
5The plans of the diligent lead to
profit[t]
as surely as haste leads to poverty.
6A fortune made by a lying tongue
is a fleeting vapor and a deadly
snare.[k][u]
7The violence of the wicked will drag
them away,[v]
for they refuse to do what is right.
8The way of the guilty is devious,[w]
but the conduct of the innocent is
upright.
9Better to live on a corner of the roof
than share a house with a
quarrelsome wife.[x]
10The wicked man craves evil;
his neighbor gets no mercy from
him.
11When a mocker is punished, the
simple gain wisdom;
when a wise man is instructed, he
gets knowledge.[y]
12The Righteous One[l] takes note of
the house of the wicked
and brings the wicked to ruin.[z]
13If a man shuts his ears to the cry of
the poor,
he too will cry out[a] and not be
answered.[b]
14A gift given in secret soothes anger,
and a bribe concealed in the cloak
pacifies great wrath.[c]
15When justice is done, it brings joy to
the righteous
but terror to evildoers.[d]
16A man who strays from the path of
understanding
comes to rest in the company of
the dead.[e]
17He who loves pleasure will become
poor;
whoever loves wine and oil will
never be rich.[f]
18The wicked become a ransom[g] for
the righteous,
and the unfaithful for the upright.
19Better to live in a desert
than with a quarrelsome and
ill-tempered wife.[h]
20In the house of the wise are stores of
choice food and oil,
but a foolish man devours all he
has.
21He who pursues righteousness and
love
finds life, prosperity[m][i] and
honor.[j]
22A wise man attacks the city of the
mighty[k]
and pulls down the stronghold in
which they trust.

20:22 [a]Pr 24:29 [b]Isa 37:20; Jer 1:19; 42:11; Ro 12:19 **20:23** [c]S ver 10; S Dt 25:13 **20:24** [d]S Ps 90:12 [e]S Job 33:29 [f]S Pr 19:21; Jer 10:23 **20:25** [g]S Pr 10:19; 18:13; Ecc 5:2, 4-5; Jer 44:25 **20:26** [h]S ver 8 **20:27** [i]S Ps 119:105 [j]S Pr 16:2 **20:28** [k]Ps 40:11 [l]S Pr 16:12; Isa 16:5 **20:29** [m]Pr 16:31 **20:30** [n]S Ps 51:2; Pr 22:15 [o]Isa 1:5 **21:1** [p]Est 5:1; Jer 39:11-12 **21:2** [q]S Pr 16:2 **21:3** [r]S 1Sa 15:22; Isa 1:11; Mic 6:6-8 **21:4** [s]S Job 41:34 **21:5** [t]S Pr 10:4 **21:6** [u]S Pr 10:2 **21:7** [v]S Pr 11:5 **21:8** [w]S Pr 2:15 **21:9** [x]ver 19; Pr 19:13; 25:24 **21:11** [y]S Pr 19:25 **21:12** [z]S Pr 14:11 **21:13** [a]S Ex 11:6 [b]S Job 29:12 **21:14** [c]S Ge 32:20 **21:15** [d]S Pr 10:29 **21:16** [e]Eze 18:24 **21:17** [f]Pr 23:20-21, 29-35 **21:18** [g]Pr 11:8; Isa 43:3 **21:19** [h]S ver 9 **21:21** [i]Ps 25:13 [j]Mt 5:6 **21:22** [k]S Pr 8:14

[i]27 Or *The spirit of man is the LORD's lamp* [k]6 Some Hebrew manuscripts, Septuagint and Vulgate; most Hebrew manuscripts *vapor for those who seek death* [l]12 Or *The righteous man* [m]21 Or *righteousness*

[23]He who guards his mouth[a] and his tongue
keeps himself from calamity.[b]

[24]The proud and arrogant[c] man—
"Mocker" is his name;
he behaves with overweening pride.

[25]The sluggard's craving will be the death of him,[d]
because his hands refuse to work.

[26]All day long he craves for more,
but the righteous[e] give without sparing.

[27]The sacrifice of the wicked is detestable[f]—
how much more so when brought with evil intent![g]

[28]A false witness[h] will perish,[i]
and whoever listens to him will be destroyed forever.[a]

[29]A wicked man puts up a bold front,
but an upright man gives thought to his ways.[j]

[30]There is no wisdom,[k] no insight, no plan
that can succeed against the LORD.[l]

[31]The horse is made ready for the day of battle,
but victory rests with the LORD.[m]

22 A good name is more desirable than great riches;
to be esteemed is better than silver or gold.[n]

[2]Rich and poor have this in common:
The LORD is the Maker of them all.[o]

[3]A prudent man sees danger and takes refuge,[p]
but the simple keep going and suffer for it.[q]

[4]Humility and the fear of the LORD
bring wealth and honor[r] and life.[s]

[5]In the paths of the wicked lie thorns and snares,[t]
but he who guards his soul stays far from them.

[6]Train[b][u] a child in the way he should go,[v]
and when he is old he will not turn from it.[w]

[7]The rich rule over the poor,
and the borrower is servant to the lender.

[8]He who sows wickedness reaps trouble,[x]
and the rod of his fury will be destroyed.[y]

[9]A generous man will himself be blessed,[z]
for he shares his food with the poor.[a]

[10]Drive out the mocker, and out goes strife;
quarrels and insults are ended.[b]

[11]He who loves a pure heart and whose speech is gracious
will have the king for his friend.[c]

[12]The eyes of the LORD keep watch over knowledge,
but he frustrates the words of the unfaithful.

[13]The sluggard says, "There is a lion outside!"[d]
or, "I will be murdered in the streets!"

[14]The mouth of an adulteress is a deep pit;[e]
he who is under the LORD's wrath will fall into it.[f]

[15]Folly is bound up in the heart of a child,
but the rod of discipline will drive it far from him.[g]

[16]He who oppresses the poor to increase his wealth
and he who gives gifts to the rich—both come to poverty.

Sayings of the Wise

[17]Pay attention[h] and listen to the sayings of the wise;[i]
apply your heart to what I teach,[j]
[18]for it is pleasing when you keep them in your heart
and have all of them ready on your lips.
[19]So that your trust may be in the LORD,
I teach you today, even you.
[20]Have I not written thirty[c] sayings for you,
sayings of counsel and knowledge,
[21]teaching you true and reliable words,[k]
so that you can give sound answers
to him who sent you?

21:23 [a]S Ps 34:13; [b]S Pr 10:19; 12:13; S 13:3 21:24 [c]Jer 43:2 21:25 [d]Pr 13:4 21:26 [e]S 2Sa 17:28; S Lev 25:35 21:27 [f]S 1Ki 14:24; [g]S Pr 15:8 21:28 [h]Dt 19:21; [i]S Pr 19:5 21:29 [j]S Pr 14:8 21:30 [k]S Job 12:13; S 15:25; [l]S 2Ch 13:12; S Job 5:13; Isa 8:10 21:31 [m]Ps 33:12-19; Isa 31:1 22:1 [n]Ecc 7:1 22:2 [o]S Job 31:15; Pr 29:13; Mt 5:45 22:3 [p]S Pr 14:16; [q]Pr 27:12 22:4 [r]S Pr 15:33; [s]S Pr 10:27; Da 4:36 22:5 [t]Pr 15:19 22:6 [u]S Ge 18:14; [v]Eph 6:4; [w]S Dt 6:7 22:8 [x]S Ex 1:20; S Job 4:8; Gal 6:7-8; [y]Hos 8:7 22:9 [z]S Dt 14:29; [a]S Pr 11:25; S 19:17; 28:27 22:10 [b]Pr 26:20 22:11 [c]Pr 16:13; Mt 5:8 22:13 [d]Pr 26:13 22:14 [e]S Pr 5:3-5; 23:27; [f]Ecc 7:26 22:15 [g]S Pr 13:24; S 20:30 22:17 [h]S Pr 1:8; [i]S Pr 1:6; 30:1; 31:1; [j]S Pr 2:2 22:21 [k]Ecc 12:10

[a]28 Or / but the words of an obedient man will live on [b]6 Or Start [c]20 Or not formerly written; or not written excellent

22Do not exploit the poor[a] because
they are poor
and do not crush the needy in
court,[b]
23for the LORD will take up their
case[c]
and will plunder those who
plunder them.[d]

24Do not make friends with a
hot-tempered man,
do not associate with one easily
angered,
25or you may learn his ways
and get yourself ensnared.[e]

26Do not be a man who strikes hands
in pledge[f]
or puts up security for debts;
27if you lack the means to pay,
your very bed will be snatched
from under you.[g]

28Do not move an ancient boundary
stone[h]
set up by your forefathers.

29Do you see a man skilled[i] in his
work?
He will serve[j] before kings;[k]
he will not serve before obscure
men.

23 When you sit to dine with a
ruler,
note well what[q] is before you,
2and put a knife to your throat
if you are given to gluttony.
3Do not crave his delicacies,[l]
for that food is deceptive.

4Do not wear yourself out to get
rich;
have the wisdom to show
restraint.
5Cast but a glance at riches, and they
are gone,[m]
for they will surely sprout wings
and fly off to the sky like an
eagle.[n]

6Do not eat the food of a stingy man,
do not crave his delicacies;[o]
7for he is the kind of man
who is always thinking about the
cost.[r]
"Eat and drink," he says to you,
but his heart is not with you.
8You will vomit up the little you have
eaten
and will have wasted your
compliments.

9Do not speak to a fool,
for he will scorn the wisdom of
your words.[p]

10Do not move an ancient boundary
stone[q]
or encroach on the fields of the
fatherless,
11for their Defender[r] is strong;[s]
he will take up their case against
you.[t]

12Apply your heart to instruction[u]
and your ears to words of
knowledge.

13Do not withhold discipline from a
child;
if you punish him with the rod, he
will not die.
14Punish him with the rod
and save his soul from death.[s][v]

15My son, if your heart is wise,
then my heart will be glad;
16my inmost being will rejoice
when your lips speak what is
right.[w]

17Do not let your heart envy[x] sinners,
but always be zealous for the fear
of the LORD.
18There is surely a future hope for
you,
and your hope will not be cut off.[y]

19Listen, my son,[z] and be wise,
and keep your heart on the right
path.
20Do not join those who drink too
much wine[a]
or gorge themselves on meat,
21for drunkards and gluttons become
poor,[b]
and drowsiness clothes them in
rags.

22Listen to your father, who gave you
life,
and do not despise your mother
when she is old.[c]
23Buy the truth and do not sell it;
get wisdom, discipline and
understanding.[d]
24The father of a righteous man has
great joy;
he who has a wise son delights in
him.[e]
25May your father and mother be glad;
may she who gave you birth
rejoice![f]

26My son,[g] give me your heart
and let your eyes keep to my
ways,[h]
27for a prostitute is a deep pit[i]

22:22 [a]S Lev 25:17; S Job 5:4 [b]S Ex 23:6
22:23 [c]S Job 29:16; Ps 140:12 [d]Est 8:1; S 9:4; Pr 23:10-11
22:25 [e]1Co 15:33
22:26 [f]Pr 6:1-5
22:27 [g]S Pr 11:15; S 17:18
22:28 [h]S Dt 19:14
22:29 [i]S 1Ki 11:28 [j]S Ge 41:46 [k]S Ge 39:4
23:3 [l]ver 6-8; Ps 141:4
23:5 [m]S Mt 6:19 [n]Pr 27:24
23:6 [o]ver 1-3; Ps 141:4
23:9 [p]S Pr 9:7
23:10 [q]S Dt 19:14
23:11 [r]S Job 19:25 [s]Ps 24:8 [t]Ex 22:22-24; Pr 15:25; 22:22-23
23:12 [u]S Pr 2:2
23:14 [v]S Pr 13:24; S 19:18
23:16 [w]ver 24; Pr 27:11; 29:3
23:17 [x]S Ps 37:1; S 73:3
23:18 [y]S Ps 9:18; 37:1-4; Pr 24:14, 19-20
23:19 [z]Dt 4:9; Pr 28:7
23:20 [a]Isa 5:11, 22; 56:12; Hab 2:15
23:21 [b]S Pr 21:17
23:22 [c]S Lev 19:32
23:23 [d]Pr 4:7; 17:16
23:24 [e]S ver 15-16
23:25 [f]S Pr 10:1
23:26 [g]Pr 5:1-6 [h]S Ps 18:21
23:27 [i]S Pr 22:14

q1 Or who · *r7 Or for as he thinks within himself, / so he is; or for as he puts on a feast, / so he is*
s14 Hebrew Sheol

and a wayward wife is a narrow
well.
28Like a bandit she lies in wait,[a]
and multiplies the unfaithful
among men.

29Who has woe? Who has sorrow?
Who has strife? Who has
complaints?
Who has needless bruises? Who
has bloodshot eyes?
30Those who linger over wine,[b]
who go to sample bowls of mixed
wine.
31Do not gaze at wine when it is red,
when it sparkles in the cup,
when it goes down smoothly!
32In the end it bites like a snake
and poisons like a viper.
33Your eyes will see strange sights
and your mind imagine confusing
things.
34You will be like one sleeping on the
high seas,
lying on top of the rigging.
35"They hit me," you will say, "but
I'm not hurt!
They beat me, but I don't feel it!
When will I wake up
so I can find another drink?"[c]

24 Do not envy[d] wicked men,
do not desire their company;
2for their hearts plot violence,[e]
and their lips talk about making
trouble.[f]

3By wisdom a house is built,[g]
and through understanding it is
established;
4through knowledge its rooms are
filled
with rare and beautiful treasures.[h]

5A wise man has great power,
and a man of knowledge increases
strength;
6for waging war you need guidance,
and for victory many advisers.[i]

7Wisdom is too high for a fool;
in the assembly at the gate he has
nothing to say.

8He who plots evil
will be known as a schemer.
9The schemes of folly are sin,
and men detest a mocker.

10If you falter in times of trouble,
how small is your strength![j]

11Rescue those being led away to
death;
hold back those staggering toward
slaughter.[k]

23:28 [a]Pr 7:11-12 **23:30** [b]Isa 5:11, 22 **23:35** [c]Jer 5:3 **24:1** [d]Ps 73:3; Pr 23:17 **24:2** [e]S Ps 2:1; Isa 59:6 [f]Job 15:35; Ps 10:7 **24:3** [g]S Pr 14:1 **24:4** [h]S Pr 8:21 **24:6** [i]S Pr 11:14; S 20:18; Lk 14:31 **24:10** [j]S Job 4:5 **24:11** [k]Ps 82:4

24:12 [l]S Ps 139:2 [m]S 1Sa 2:3 [n]S Ps 54:5 [o]Job 34:11; Ps 62:12; S Mt 16:27; Ro 2:6* **24:14** [p]Ps 119:103; Pr 16:24 [q]Pr 23:18 **24:16** [r]S Job 5:19; S Ps 34:21 **24:17** [s]Ob 1:12 [t]S 2Sa 3:32; Mic 7:8 **24:18** [u]S Job 31:29 **24:19** [v]Ps 37:1 **24:20** [w]S Job 18:5; S Pr 23:17-18 **24:21** [x]Ro 13:1-5 **24:22** [y]S Ps 73:19 **24:23** [z]S Pr 1:6 [a]S Ex 18:16; S Lev 19:15 [b]Ps 72:2; Pr 28:21; 31:8-9; Jer 22:16 **24:24** [c]S Pr 17:15

12If you say, "But we knew nothing
about this,"
does not he who weighs[l][m] the
heart perceive it?
Does not he who guards your life
know it?
Will he not repay[n] each person
according to what he has
done?[o]

13Eat honey, my son, for it is good;
honey from the comb is sweet to
your taste.
14Know also that wisdom is sweet to
your soul;
if you find it, there is a future
hope for you,
and your hope will not be cut
off.[p][q]

15Do not lie in wait like an outlaw
against a righteous man's
house,
do not raid his dwelling place;
16for though a righteous man falls
seven times, he rises again,
but the wicked are brought down
by calamity.[r]

17Do not gloat[s] when your enemy
falls;
when he stumbles, do not let your
heart rejoice,[t]
18or the LORD will see and disapprove
and turn his wrath away from
him.[u]

19Do not fret[v] because of evil men
or be envious of the wicked,
20for the evil man has no future
hope,
and the lamp of the wicked will be
snuffed out.[w]

21Fear the LORD and the king,[x] my
son,
and do not join with the
rebellious,
22for those two will send sudden
destruction[y] upon them,
and who knows what calamities
they can bring?

Further Sayings of the Wise

23These also are sayings of the wise:[z]

To show partiality[a] in judging is not
good:[b]
24Whoever says to the guilty, "You are
innocent"[c]—
peoples will curse him and nations
denounce him.
25But it will go well with those who
convict the guilty,

and rich blessing will come upon them.

26An honest answer
is like a kiss on the lips.

27Finish your outdoor work
and get your fields ready;
after that, build your house.

28Do not testify against your neighbor
without cause,v
or use your lips to deceive.
29Do not say, "I'll do to him as he has
done to me;
I'll pay that man back for what he
did."w

30I went past the field of the
sluggard,x
past the vineyard of the man who
lacks judgment;
31thorns had come up everywhere,
the ground was covered with
weeds,
and the stone wall was in
ruins.
32I applied my heart to what I
observed
and learned a lesson from what I
saw:
33A little sleep, a little slumber,
a little folding of the hands to
rest d—
34and poverty will come on you like a
bandit
and scarcity like an armed man.t e

More Proverbs of Solomon

25 These are more proverbsf of Solomon, copied by the men of Hezekiah king of Judah:g

2It is the glory of God to conceal a
matter;
to search out a matter is the glory
of kings.h
3As the heavens are high and the
earth is deep,
so the hearts of kings are
unsearchable.

4Remove the dross from the silver,
and out comes material foru the
silversmith;
5remove the wicked from the king's
presence,i
and his throne will be establishedj
through righteousness.k

6Do not exalt yourself in the king's
presence,
and do not claim a place among
great men;
7it is better for him to say to you,
"Come up here,"l
than for him to humiliate you
before a nobleman.

What you have seen with your eyes
8 do not bringv hastily to court,
for what will you do in the end
if your neighbor puts you to
shame?m

9If you argue your case with a
neighbor,
do not betray another man's
confidence,
10or he who hears it may shame you
and you will never lose your bad
reputation.

11A word aptly spoken
is like apples of gold in settings of
silver.n

12Like an earring of gold or an
ornament of fine gold
is a wise man's rebuke to a
listening ear.o

13Like the coolness of snow at harvest
time
is a trustworthy messenger to
those who send him;
he refreshes the spirit of his
masters.p

14Like clouds and wind without rain
is a man who boasts of gifts he
does not give.

15Through patience a ruler can be
persuaded,q
and a gentle tongue can break a
bone.r

16If you find honey, eat just enough—
too much of it, and you will
vomit.s

17Seldom set foot in your neighbor's
house—
too much of you, and he will hate
you.

18Like a club or a sword or a sharp
arrow
is the man who gives false
testimony against his
neighbor.t

19Like a bad tooth or a lame foot
is reliance on the unfaithful in
times of trouble.

20Like one who takes away a garment
on a cold day,
or like vinegar poured on soda,

24:28 vS Ps 7:4
24:29 wPr 20:22; Mt 5:38-41
24:30 xPr 6:6-11; 26:13-16
24:33 dS Pr 6:10
24:34 eS Pr 10:4; Ecc 10:18
25:1 fS 1Ki 4:32 gS Pr 1:1
25:2 hPr 16:10-15
25:5 iS Pr 20:8 jS 2Sa 7:13 kS Pr 16:12; 29:14
25:7 lLk 14:7-10
25:8 mMt 5:25-26
25:11 nver 12; Pr 15:23
25:12 oS ver 11; Ps 141:5; S Pr 13:18
25:13 pS Pr 10:26; 13:17
25:15 qEcc 10:4 rPr 15:1
25:16 sver 27
25:18 tS Pr 12:18

t34 Or like a vagrant / and scarcity like a beggar u4 Or comes a vessel from v7,8 Or nobleman / on whom you had set your eyes. / 8Do not go

is one who sings songs to a heavy
heart.
21If your enemy is hungry, give him
food to eat;
if he is thirsty, give him water to
drink.
22In doing this, you will heap burning
coals on his head,
and the LORD will reward you.
23As a north wind brings rain,
so a sly tongue brings angry looks.
24Better to live on a corner of the roof
than share a house with a
quarrelsome wife.
25Like cold water to a weary soul
is good news from a distant land.[a]
26Like a muddied spring or a polluted
well
is a righteous man who gives way
to the wicked.
27It is not good to eat too much
honey,[e]
nor is it honorable to seek one's
own honor.[f]
28Like a city whose walls are broken
down
is a man who lacks self-control.

26 Like snow in summer or rain[g]
in harvest,
honor is not fitting for a fool.[h]
2Like a fluttering sparrow or a darting
swallow,
an undeserved curse does not
come to rest.[i]
3A whip for the horse, a halter for the
donkey,[j]
and a rod for the backs of fools![k]
4Do not answer a fool according to
his folly,
or you will be like him yourself.[l]
5Answer a fool according to his folly,
or he will be wise in his own
eyes.[m]
6Like cutting off one's feet or drinking
violence
is the sending of a message by the
hand of a fool.[n]
7Like a lame man's legs that hang
limp
is a proverb in the mouth of a
fool.[o]
8Like tying a stone in a sling
is the giving of honor to a fool.[p]
9Like a thornbush in a drunkard's
hand
is a proverb in the mouth of a
fool.[q]
10Like an archer who wounds at
random
is he who hires a fool or any
passer-by.
11As a dog returns to its vomit,[r]
so a fool repeats his folly.[s]
12Do you see a man wise in his own
eyes?[t]
There is more hope for a fool than
for him.[u]
13The sluggard says,[v] "There is a lion
in the road,
a fierce lion roaming the streets!"[w]
14As a door turns on its hinges,
so a sluggard turns on his bed.[x]
15The sluggard buries his hand in the
dish;
he is too lazy to bring it back to his
mouth.[y]
16The sluggard is wiser in his own
eyes
than seven men who answer
discreetly.
17Like one who seizes a dog by the
ears
is a passer-by who meddles in a
quarrel not his own.
18Like a madman shooting
firebrands or deadly arrows
19is a man who deceives his neighbor
and says, "I was only joking!"
20Without wood a fire goes out;
without gossip a quarrel dies
down.[z]
21As charcoal to embers and as wood
to fire,
so is a quarrelsome man for
kindling strife.[a]
22The words of a gossip are like choice
morsels;
they go down to a man's inmost
parts.[b]
23Like a coating of glaze[w] over
earthenware
are fervent lips with an evil heart.
24A malicious man disguises himself
with his lips,[c]
but in his heart he harbors deceit.[d]
25Though his speech is charming,[e] do
not believe him,
for seven abominations fill his
heart.[f]

[illegible] 25:27 ver 16 [illegible] 26:4 ver 5 [illegible] 26:5 ver 4 [illegible] 26:6 Pr 10:26 26:7 ver 9 26:8 ver 1

26:9 [q]ver 7
26:11 [r]2Pe 2:22* [s]S Ps 85:8
26:12 [t]S Pr 3:7 [u]Pr 29:20
26:13 [v]Pr 6:6-11; 24:30-34 [w]Pr 22:13
26:14 [x]S Pr 6:9
26:15 [y]Pr 19:24
26:20 [z]Pr 22:10
26:21 [a]S Pr 14:17
26:22 [b]Pr 18:8
26:24 [c]S Ps 31:18 [d]Ps 41:6
26:25 [e]Ps 28:3 [f]Jer 9:4

w23 With a different word division of the Hebrew; Masoretic Text *of silver dross*

26 His malice may be concealed by
deception,
but his wickedness will be exposed
in the assembly.

27 If a man digs a pit,[a] he will fall into
it;[b]
if a man rolls a stone, it will roll
back on him.[c]

28 A lying tongue hates those it hurts,
and a flattering mouth[d] works
ruin.

27 Do not boast[e] about tomorrow,
for you do not know what a day
may bring forth.[f]

2 Let another praise you, and not your
own mouth;
someone else, and not your own
lips.[g]

3 Stone is heavy and sand[h] a burden,
but provocation by a fool is
heavier than both.

4 Anger is cruel and fury
overwhelming,
but who can stand before
jealousy?[i]

5 Better is open rebuke
than hidden love.

6 Wounds from a friend can be
trusted,
but an enemy multiplies kisses.[j]

7 He who is full loathes honey,
but to the hungry even what is
bitter tastes sweet.

8 Like a bird that strays from its nest[k]
is a man who strays from his
home.

9 Perfume[l] and incense bring joy to
the heart,
and the pleasantness of one's
friend springs from his
earnest counsel.

10 Do not forsake your friend and the
friend of your father,
and do not go to your brother's
house when disaster[m] strikes
you—
better a neighbor nearby than a
brother far away.

11 Be wise, my son, and bring joy to
my heart;[n]
then I can answer anyone who
treats me with contempt.[o]

12 The prudent see danger and take
refuge,
but the simple keep going and
suffer for it.[p]

13 Take the garment of one who puts
up security for a stranger;
hold it in pledge if he does it for a
wayward woman.[q]

14 If a man loudly blesses his neighbor
early in the morning,
it will be taken as a curse.

15 A quarrelsome wife is like
a constant dripping[r] on a rainy
day;

16 restraining her is like restraining the
wind
or grasping oil with the hand.

17 As iron sharpens iron,
so one man sharpens another.

18 He who tends a fig tree will eat its
fruit,[s]
and he who looks after his master
will be honored.[t]

19 As water reflects a face,
so a man's heart reflects the man.

20 Death and Destruction[u] are never
satisfied,[v]
and neither are the eyes of man.[w]

21 The crucible for silver and the
furnace for gold,[x]
but man is tested by the praise he
receives.

22 Though you grind a fool in a mortar,
grinding him like grain with a
pestle,
you will not remove his folly from
him.

23 Be sure you know the condition of
your flocks,[y]
give careful attention to your
herds;

24 for riches do not endure forever,[z]
and a crown is not secure for all
generations.

25 When the hay is removed and new
growth appears
and the grass from the hills is
gathered in,

26 the lambs will provide you with
clothing,
and the goats with the price of a
field.

27 You will have plenty of goats' milk
to feed you and your family
and to nourish your servant girls.

28 The wicked man flees[a] though
no one pursues,[b]
but the righteous are as bold as a
lion.[c]

26:27 [illegible]
26:28 [illegible]
27:1 [illegible]
27:2 [illegible]
27:3 [illegible]
27:4 [illegible]
27:6 [illegible]
27:8 [illegible]
27:9 [illegible]
27:10 [illegible]
27:11 [illegible]
27:12 [illegible]
27:13 [illegible]
27:15 [illegible]
27:18 [illegible]
27:20 [illegible]
27:21 [illegible]
27:23 [illegible]
27:24 [illegible]
28:1 [illegible]

[u]20 Hebrew Sheol and Abaddon

[2]When a country is rebellious, it has
many rulers,
but a man of understanding and
knowledge maintains order.

[3]A ruler[y] who oppresses the poor
is like a driving rain that leaves no
crops.

[4]Those who forsake the law praise the
wicked,
but those who keep the law resist
them.

[5]Evil men do not understand justice,
but those who seek the LORD
understand it fully.

[6]Better a poor man whose walk is
blameless
than a rich man whose ways are
perverse.[a]

[7]He who keeps the law is a
discerning son,
but a companion of gluttons
disgraces his father.[b]

[8]He who increases his wealth by
exorbitant interest[c]
amasses it for another,[d] who will
be kind to the poor.[e]

[9]If anyone turns a deaf ear to the
law,
even his prayers are detestable.[f]

[10]He who leads the upright along an
evil path
will fall into his own trap,[g]
but the blameless will receive a
good inheritance.

[11]A rich man may be wise in his own
eyes,
but a poor man who has
discernment sees through
him.

[12]When the righteous triumph, there
is great elation;[h]
but when the wicked rise to
power, men go into hiding.[i]

[13]He who conceals his sins[j] does not
prosper,
but whoever confesses[k] and
renounces them finds
mercy.[l]

[14]Blessed is the man who always fears
the LORD,
but he who hardens his heart falls
into trouble.

[15]Like a roaring lion or a charging bear
is a wicked man ruling over a
helpless people.

[16]A tyrannical ruler lacks judgment,
but he who hates ill-gotten gain
will enjoy a long life.

[17]A man tormented by the guilt of
murder
will be a fugitive[m] till death;
let no one support him.

[18]He whose walk is blameless is kept
safe,[n]
but he whose ways are perverse
will suddenly fall.[o]

[19]He who works his land will have
abundant food,
but the one who chases fantasies
will have his fill of poverty.[p]

[20]A faithful man will be richly blessed,
but one eager to get rich will not
go unpunished.[q]

[21]To show partiality[r] is not good[s] —
yet a man will do wrong for a
piece of bread.[t]

[22]A stingy man is eager to get rich
and is unaware that poverty
awaits him.[u]

[23]He who rebukes a man will in the
end gain more favor
than he who has a flattering
tongue.[v]

[24]He who robs his father or mother[w]
and says, "It's not wrong"—
he is partner to him who
destroys.[x]

[25]A greedy man stirs up dissension,[y]
but he who trusts in the LORD[z] will
prosper.

[26]He who trusts in himself is a fool,[a]
but he who walks in wisdom is
kept safe.[b]

[27]He who gives to the poor will lack
nothing,[c]
but he who closes his eyes to them
receives many curses.[d]

[28]When the wicked rise to power,
people go into hiding;[e]
but when the wicked perish, the
righteous thrive.

29 A man who remains
stiff-necked[f] after many
rebukes
will suddenly be
destroyed[g]—without
remedy.[h]

[2]When the righteous thrive, the
people rejoice;[i]

28:6 [a]Pr 19:1
28:7 [b]Pr 23:19-21
28:8 [c]S Ex 18:21; Eze 18:8 [d]S Job 27:17 [e]S Job 3:15; Ps 112:9; Lk 14:12-14
28:9 [f]S Ps 109:7; S Pr 15:8; S Isa 1:13
28:10 [g]S Ps 57:6; S Pr 26:27
28:12 [h]S 2Ki 11:20 [i]ver 28; Job 24:4; Pr 29:2
28:13 [j]S 2Sa 12:13; S Job 31:33 [k]S Lev 5:5 [l]Ps 32:1-5; Da 4:27; 1Jn 1:9
28:17 [m]1Sa 30:17; 1Ki 20:20; Jer 41:15; 44:14
28:18 [n]Jer 39:18 [o]S Est 6:13; Pr 10:9
28:19 [p]Pr 12:11
28:20 [q]ver 22
28:21 [r]S Lev 19:15 [s]S Ps 94:21; S Pr 18:5 [t]Eze 13:19
28:22 [u]ver 20
28:23 [v]S Pr 27:5-6
28:24 [w]Pr 19:26 [x]S Pr 18:9
28:25 [y]S Pr 14:17 [z]Pr 29:25
28:26 [a]S Ps 4:5 [b]1Co 3:18
28:27 [c]S Dt 24:19; S Pr 22:9 [d]S Ps 109:17
28:28 [e]S ver 12; S Job 20:19
29:1 [f]S Ex 32:9; S Dt 9:27 [g]Jer 19:15; 36:31; Hab 2:7 [h]S 2Ch 36:16; Pr 6:15
29:2 [i]S 2Ki 11:20

[y]3 Or *A poor man*

when the wicked rule,[a] the people
groan.[b]

[3]A man who loves wisdom brings joy
to his father,[c]
but a companion of prostitutes
squanders his wealth.[d]

[4]By justice a king gives a country
stability,[e]
but one who is greedy for bribes
tears it down.

[5]Whoever flatters his neighbor
is spreading a net for his feet.[f]

[6]An evil man is snared by his own
sin,[g]
but a righteous one can sing and
be glad.

[7]The righteous care about justice for
the poor,[h]
but the wicked have no such
concern.

[8]Mockers stir up a city,
but wise men turn away anger.[i]

[9]If a wise man goes to court with a
fool,
the fool rages and scoffs, and there
is no peace.

[10]Bloodthirsty men hate a man of
integrity
and seek to kill the upright.[j]

[11]A fool gives full vent to his anger,[k]
but a wise man keeps himself
under control.[l]

[12]If a ruler[m] listens to lies,
all his officials become wicked.[n]

[13]The poor man and the oppressor
have this in common:
The LORD gives sight to the eyes of
both.[o]

[14]If a king judges the poor with
fairness,
his throne will always be secure.[p]

[15]The rod of correction imparts
wisdom,
but a child left to himself disgraces
his mother.[q]

[16]When the wicked thrive, so does sin,
but the righteous will see their
downfall.[r]

[17]Discipline your son, and he will give
you peace;
he will bring delight to your soul.[s]

[18]Where there is no revelation, the
people cast off restraint;
but blessed is he who keeps the
law.[t]

29:2 [a]Pr 30:22; Ecc 10:6 [b]S Pr 28:12 **29:3** [c]S Pr 10:1; S 23:15-16 [d]Pr 5:8-10; Lk 15:11-32 **29:4** [e]ver 14; S Pr 8:15-16 **29:5** [f]S Job 32:21; S Pr 26:28 **29:6** [g]S Job 5:13; S Pr 26:27; Ecc 9:12 **29:7** [h]Ps 31:8-9 **29:8** [i]Pr 11:11; S 16:14 **29:10** [j]ver 27; 1Jn 3:12 **29:11** [k]S Job 15:13 [l]Pr 12:16 **29:12** [m]2Ki 21:9 [n]S Job 34:30 **29:13** [o]S Pr 22:2; Mt 5:45 **29:14** [p]S ver 4; Ps 72:1-5; S Pr 16:12 **29:15** [q]ver 17; S Pr 13:24 **29:16** [r]S Ps 91:8; S 92:11 **29:17** [s]S ver 15 **29:18** [t]Ps 1:1-2; 19:11; 119:1-2

[19]A servant cannot be corrected by
mere words;
though he understands, he will
not respond.

[20]Do you see a man who speaks in
haste?
There is more hope for a fool than
for him.[u]

[21]If a man pampers his servant from
youth,
he will bring grief[z] in the end.

[22]An angry man stirs up dissension,
and a hot-tempered one commits
many sins.[v]

[23]A man's pride brings him low,[w]
but a man of lowly spirit gains
honor.[x]

[24]The accomplice of a thief is his own
enemy;
he is put under oath and dare not
testify.[y]

[25]Fear[z] of man will prove to be a
snare,
but whoever trusts in the LORD[a] is
kept safe.[b]

[26]Many seek an audience with a
ruler,[c]
but it is from the LORD that man
gets justice.[d]

[27]The righteous detest the dishonest;
the wicked detest the upright.[e]

Sayings of Agur

30 The sayings[f] of Agur son of
Jakeh—an oracle[a]:

This man declared to Ithiel,
to Ithiel and to Ucal:[b]

[2]"I am the most ignorant of men;
I do not have a man's
understanding.
[3]I have not learned wisdom,
nor have I knowledge of the Holy
One.[g]
[4]Who has gone up[h] to heaven and
come down?
Who has gathered up the wind in
the hollow[i] of his hands?
Who has wrapped up the waters[j] in
his cloak?[k]
Who has established all the ends
of the earth?

29:20 [u]Pr 19:2; 26:12 **29:22** [v]S Pr 14:17 **29:23** [w]S Est 5:12 [x]S Pr 11:2; S 15:33; S 16:18 **29:24** [y]S Lev 5:1 **29:25** [z]S 1Sa 15:24 [a]Pr 28:25 [b]S Pr 16:20 **29:26** [c]Pr 19:6 [d]S Pr 16:33 **29:27** [e]S ver 10 **30:1** [f]S Pr 22:17 **30:3** [g]S Pr 9:10 **30:4** [h]Dt 30:12; Ps 24:1-2; S Pr 8:22-31; Jn 3:13; Eph 4:7-10 [i]Isa 40:12 [j]Job 26:8 [k]S Ge 1:2

[z]21 The meaning of the Hebrew for this word is uncertain. [a]1 Or *Jakeh of Massa* [b]1 Masoretic Text; with a different word division of the Hebrew *declared, "I am weary, O God; I am weary, O God, and faint.*

What is his name,[r] and the name of
his son?
Tell me if you know!

5"Every word of God is flawless;[s]
he is a shield[t] to those who take
refuge in him.
6Do not add[u] to his words,
or he will rebuke you and prove
you a liar.

7"Two things I ask of you, O LORD;
do not refuse me before I die:
8Keep falsehood and lies far from me;
give me neither poverty nor
riches,
but give me only my daily bread.[v]
9Otherwise, I may have too much and
disown[w] you
and say, 'Who is the LORD?'[x]
Or I may become poor and steal,
and so dishonor the name of my
God.[y]

10"Do not slander a servant to his
master,
or he will curse you, and you will
pay for it.

11"There are those who curse their
fathers
and do not bless their mothers;[z]
12those who are pure in their own
eyes[a]
and yet are not cleansed of their
filth;[b]
13those whose eyes are ever so
haughty,[c]
whose glances are so disdainful;
14those whose teeth[d] are swords
and whose jaws are set with
knives[e]
to devour[f] the poor[g] from the earth,
the needy from among mankind.[h]

15"The leech has two daughters.
'Give! Give!' they cry.

"There are three things that are
never satisfied,[i]
four that never say, 'Enough!':
16the grave,[c][j] the barren womb,
land, which is never satisfied with
water,
and fire, which never says,
'Enough!'

17"The eye that mocks[k] a father,
that scorns obedience to a mother,
will be pecked out by the ravens of
the valley,
will be eaten by the vultures.[l]

18"There are three things that are too
amazing for me,
four that I do not understand:

30:4 [r]Rev 19:12
30:5 [s]S Ps 12:6; S 18:30 [t]S Ge 15:1
30:6 [u]S Dt 4:2
30:8 [v]Mt 6:11
30:9 [w]Jos 24:27; Isa 1:4; 59:13 [x]Dt 6:12; 8:10-14; Hos 13:6 [y]S Dt 8:12
30:11 [z]S Pr 20:20
30:12 [a]S Pr 16:2 [b]Jer 2:23, 35
30:13 [c]S 2Sa 22:28; S Job 41:34
30:14 [d]S Job 4:11; S Ps 3:7 [e]Ps 57:4 [f]S Job 24:9 [g]Am 8:4; Mic 2:2 [h]S Job 19:22
30:15 [i]Pr 27:20
30:16 [j]Isa 5:14; 14:9, 11; Hab 2:5
30:17 [k]Dt 21:18-21 [l]S Job 15:23
30:20 [m]Pr 5:6
30:22 [n]S Pr 19:10; S 29:2
30:25 [o]Pr 6:6-8
30:26 [p]S Ps 104:18
30:27 [q]S Ex 10:4
30:32 [r]S Job 29:9
31:1 [s]S Pr 22:17

19the way of an eagle in the sky,
the way of a snake on a rock,
the way of a ship on the high seas,
and the way of a man with a
maiden.

20"This is the way of an adulteress:
She eats and wipes her mouth
and says, 'I've done nothing
wrong.'[m]

21"Under three things the earth
trembles,
under four it cannot bear up:
22a servant who becomes king,[n]
a fool who is full of food,
23an unloved woman who is married,
and a maidservant who displaces
her mistress.

24"Four things on earth are small,
yet they are extremely wise:
25Ants are creatures of little strength,
yet they store up their food in the
summer;[o]
26coneys[d][p] are creatures of little
power,
yet they make their home in the
crags;
27locusts[q] have no king,
yet they advance together in
ranks;
28a lizard can be caught with the hand,
yet it is found in kings' palaces.

29"There are three things that are
stately in their stride,
four that move with stately
bearing:
30a lion, mighty among beasts,
who retreats before nothing;
31a strutting rooster, a he-goat,
and a king with his army around
him.[e]

32"If you have played the fool and
exalted yourself,
or if you have planned evil,
clap your hand over your mouth![r]
33For as churning the milk produces
butter,
and as twisting the nose produces
blood,
so stirring up anger produces
strife."

Sayings of King Lemuel

31 The sayings[s] of King Lemuel—
an oracle[f] his mother taught
him:

[c]16 Hebrew *Sheol* [d]26 That is, the hyrax or rock badger [e]31 Or *king secure against revolt* [f]1 Or *of Lemuel king of Massa, which*

2 "O my son, O son of my womb,
O son of my vows,[g][a]
3 do not spend your strength on women,
your vigor on those who ruin kings.[b]

4 "It is not for kings, O Lemuel—
not for kings to drink wine,[c]
not for rulers to crave beer,
5 lest they drink[d] and forget what the law decrees,[e]
and deprive all the oppressed of their rights.
6 Give beer to those who are perishing,
wine[f] to those who are in anguish;
7 let them drink[g] and forget their poverty
and remember their misery no more.

8 "Speak[h] up for those who cannot speak for themselves,
for the rights of all who are destitute.
9 Speak up and judge fairly;
defend the rights of the poor and needy."[i]

Epilogue: The Wife of Noble Character

10 [h]A wife of noble character[j] who can find?[k]
She is worth far more than rubies.
11 Her husband[l] has full confidence in her
and lacks nothing of value.[m]
12 She brings him good, not harm,
all the days of her life.
13 She selects wool and flax
and works with eager hands.[n]
14 She is like the merchant ships,
bringing her food from afar.
15 She gets up while it is still dark;
she provides food for her family
and portions for her servant girls.
16 She considers a field and buys it;
out of her earnings she plants a vineyard.
17 She sets about her work vigorously;
her arms are strong for her tasks.

18 She sees that her trading is profitable,
and her lamp does not go out at night.
19 In her hand she holds the distaff
and grasps the spindle with her fingers.
20 She opens her arms to the poor
and extends her hands to the needy.[o]
21 When it snows, she has no fear for her household;
for all of them are clothed in scarlet.
22 She makes coverings for her bed;
she is clothed in fine linen and purple.
23 Her husband is respected at the city gate,
where he takes his seat among the elders[p] of the land.
24 She makes linen garments and sells them,
and supplies the merchants with sashes.
25 She is clothed with strength and dignity;
she can laugh at the days to come.
26 She speaks with wisdom,
and faithful instruction is on her tongue.[q]
27 She watches over the affairs of her household
and does not eat the bread of idleness.
28 Her children arise and call her blessed;
her husband also, and he praises her:
29 "Many women do noble things,
but you surpass them all."
30 Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting;
but a woman who fears the LORD is to be praised.
31 Give her the reward she has earned,
and let her works bring her praise[r] at the city gate.

31:2 [a]S Jdg 11:30 **31:3** [b]S Dt 17:17; S 1Ki 11:3; Pr 5:1-14 **31:4** [c]S Pr 20:1; Ecc 10:16-17; Isa 5:22 **31:5** [d]S 1Ki 16:9 [e]S Pr 16:12 **31:6** [f]S Ge 14:18 **31:7** [g]S Est 1:10 **31:8** [h]S 1Sa 19:4 **31:9** [i]S Pr 24:23; 29:7 **31:10** [j]S Ru 3:11; S Pr 18:22 [k]Pr 8:35 **31:11** [l]S Ge 2:18 [m]S Pr 12:4 **31:13** [n]1Ti 2:9-10 **31:20** [o]Dt 15:11 **31:23** [p]S Ex 3:16 **31:26** [q]S Pr 10:31 **31:31** [r]Pr 11:16

[g]2 Or / *the answer to my prayers* [h]10 Verses 10-31 are an acrostic, each verse beginning with a successive letter of the Hebrew alphabet.

Ecclesiastes

Everything Is Meaningless

1 The words of the Teacher,[a a] son of
David, king in Jerusalem:[b]

2 "Meaningless! Meaningless!"[c]
says the Teacher.
"Utterly meaningless!
Everything is meaningless."[c]

3 What does man gain from all his
labor
at which he toils under the sun?[d]
4 Generations come and generations
go,
but the earth remains forever.[e]
5 The sun rises and the sun sets,
and hurries back to where it
rises.[f]
6 The wind blows to the south
and turns to the north;
round and round it goes,
ever returning on its course.
7 All streams flow into the sea,
yet the sea is never full.
To the place the streams come from,
there they return again.[g]
8 All things are wearisome,
more than one can say.
The eye never has enough of
seeing,[h]
nor the ear its fill of hearing.
9 What has been will be again,
what has been done will be done
again;[i]
there is nothing new under the
sun.
10 Is there anything of which one can
say,
"Look! This is something new"?
It was here already, long ago;
it was here before our time.
11 There is no remembrance of men of
old,[j]
and even those who are yet to
come
will not be remembered
by those who follow.[k]

Wisdom Is Meaningless

12 I, the Teacher,[l] was king over Is-
rael in Jerusalem.[m] 13 I devoted myself
to study and to explore by wisdom all
that is done under heaven.[n] What a
heavy burden God has laid on men![o]
14 I have seen all the things that are
done under the sun; all of them are
meaningless, a chasing after the
wind.[p]

15 What is twisted cannot be
straightened;[q]
what is lacking cannot be counted.

16 I thought to myself, "Look, I have
grown and increased in wisdom more
than anyone who has ruled over
Jerusalem before me;[r] I have experi-
enced much of wisdom and knowl-
edge." 17 Then I applied myself to the
understanding of wisdom,[s] and also of
madness and folly,[t] but I learned that
this, too, is a chasing after the wind.

18 For with much wisdom comes much
sorrow;[u]
the more knowledge, the more
grief.[v]

Pleasures Are Meaningless

2 I thought in my heart, "Come now,
I will test you with pleasure[w] to
find out what is good." But that also
proved to be meaningless. 2 "Laugh-
ter,"[x] I said, "is foolish. And what
does pleasure accomplish?" 3 I tried
cheering myself with wine,[y] and em-
bracing folly[z]—my mind still guiding
me with wisdom. I wanted to see what
was worthwhile for men to do under
heaven during the few days of their
lives.

4 I undertook great projects: I built
houses for myself[a] and planted vine-
yards.[b] 5 I made gardens and parks and
planted all kinds of fruit trees in them.
6 I made reservoirs to water groves of
flourishing trees. 7 I bought male and
female slaves and had other slaves[c]
who were born in my house. I also
owned more herds and flocks than
anyone in Jerusalem before me. 8 I

1:1 [a]ver 12; Ecc 7:27; 12:10 [b]S Pr 1:1 **1:2** [c]Ps 39:5-6; 62:9; Ecc 12:8; Ro 8:20-21 **1:3** [d]Ecc 2:11,22; 3:9; 5:15-16 **1:4** [e]S Job 8:19 **1:5** [f]Ps 19:5-6 **1:7** [g]Job 36:28 **1:8** [h]Pr 27:20 **1:9** [i]Ecc 2:12; 3:15 **1:11** [j]Ge 40:23; Ecc 9:15 [k]Ps 88:12; Ecc 2:16; 8:10; 9:5 **1:12** [l]S ver 1 [m]Ecc 2:9 **1:13** [n]S Job 28:3 [o]S Ge 3:17; Ecc 3:10 **1:14** [p]Ecc 2:11,17; 4:4; 6:9 **1:15** [q]Ecc 7:13 **1:16** [r]S 1Ki 3:12 **1:17** [s]Ecc 7:23; 8:16 [t]Ecc 2:3,12; 7:25 **1:18** [u]Jer 45:3 [v]Ecc 2:23; 12:12 **2:1** [w]ver 24; Ecc 7:4; 8:15 **2:2** [x]S Pr 14:13 **2:3** [y]ver 24-25; S Jdg 9:13; Ru 3:3; Ecc 3:12-13; 5:18; 8:15 [z]S Ecc 1:17 **2:4** [a]2Ch 2:1; 8:1-6 [b]SS 8:11 **2:7** [c]2Ch 8:7-8

[a]1 Or *leader of the assembly;* also in verses 2 and 12

amassed silver and gold[a] for myself,
and the treasure of kings and prov-
inces.[b] I acquired men and women
singers,[c] and a harem[b] as well—the
delights of the heart of man. 9I became
greater by far than anyone in Jerusa-
lem[d] before me.[e] In all this my wis-
dom stayed with me.

10I denied myself nothing my eyes
desired;
I refused my heart no pleasure.
My heart took delight in all my
work,
and this was the reward for all my
labor.
11Yet when I surveyed all that my
hands had done
and what I had toiled to achieve,
everything was meaningless, a
chasing after the wind;[f]
nothing was gained under the
sun.[g]

Wisdom and Folly Are Meaningless

12Then I turned my thoughts to
consider wisdom,
and also madness and folly.[h]
What more can the king's successor
do
than what has already been
done?[i]
13I saw that wisdom[j] is better than
folly,[k]
just as light is better than
darkness.
14The wise man has eyes in his head,
while the fool walks in the
darkness;
but I came to realize
that the same fate overtakes them
both.[l]
15Then I thought in my heart,

"The fate of the fool will overtake
me also.
What then do I gain by being
wise?"[m]
I said in my heart,
"This too is meaningless."
16For the wise man, like the fool, will
not be long remembered;[n]
in days to come both will be
forgotten.[o]
Like the fool, the wise man too must
die![p]

Toil Is Meaningless

17So I hated life, because the work
that is done under the sun was griev-
ous to me. All of it is meaningless, a
chasing after the wind.[q] 18I hated all

2:8 [a]S 1Ki 9:28 [b]S Jdg 3:15 [c]S 2Sa 19:35
2:9 [d]Ecc 1:12 [e]1Ch 29:25
2:11 [f]S Ecc 1:14 [g]S Ecc 1:3
2:12 [h]S Ecc 1:17 [i]S Ecc 1:9
2:13 [j]Ecc 7:19; 9:18 [k]Ecc 7:11-12
2:14 [l]Ps 49:10; Ecc 3:19; 6:6; 7:2; 9:3,11-12
2:15 [m]ver 19; Ecc 6:8
2:16 [n]S Ps 112:6 [o]S Ecc 1:11 [p]Ps 49:10
2:17 [q]S Ecc 1:14
2:18 [r]Ps 39:6; 49:10
2:19 [s]S ver 15
2:22 [t]S Ecc 1:3
2:23 [u]S Ecc 1:18 [v]S Ge 3:17; S Job 7:2
2:24 [w]ver 3; 1Co 15:32 [x]S ver 1; Ecc 3:22 [y]S Job 2:10; Ecc 3:12-13; 5:17-19; 7:14; 9:7-10; 11:7-10
2:25 [z]S Ps 127:2
2:26 [a]S Job 9:4 [b]S Job 27:17 [c]S Pr 13:22
3:1 [d]ver 11,17; Ecc 8:6
3:2 [e]Isa 28:24
3:3 [f]S Dt 5:17
3:7 [g]S Est 4:14

the things I had toiled for under the
sun, because I must leave them to the
one who comes after me.[r] 19And who
knows whether he will be a wise man
or a fool?[s] Yet he will have control over
all the work into which I have poured
my effort and skill under the sun. This
too is meaningless. 20So my heart be-
gan to despair over all my toilsome la-
bor under the sun. 21For a man may do
his work with wisdom, knowledge and
skill, and then he must leave all he
owns to someone who has not worked
for it. This too is meaningless and a
great misfortune. 22What does a man
get for all the toil and anxious striving
with which he labors under the sun?[t]
23All his days his work is pain and
grief;[u] even at night his mind does not
rest.[v] This too is meaningless.
24A man can do nothing better than
to eat and drink[w] and find satisfaction
in his work.[x] This too, I see, is from
the hand of God,[y] 25for without him,
who can eat or find enjoyment?[z] 26To
the man who pleases him, God gives
wisdom,[a] knowledge and happiness,
but to the sinner he gives the task of
gathering and storing up wealth[b] to
hand it over to the one who pleases
God.[c] This too is meaningless, a chas-
ing after the wind.

A Time for Everything

3 There is a time[d] for everything,
and a season for every activity
under heaven:

2 a time to be born and a time to
die,
a time to plant and a time to
uproot,[e]
3 a time to kill[f] and a time to heal,
a time to tear down and a time to
build,
4 a time to weep and a time to
laugh,
a time to mourn and a time to
dance,
5 a time to scatter stones and a time
to gather them,
a time to embrace and a time to
refrain,
6 a time to search and a time to give
up,
a time to keep and a time to throw
away,
7 a time to tear and a time to mend,
a time to be silent[g] and a time to
speak,

[b]8 The meaning of the Hebrew for this phrase is
uncertain.

8 a time to love and a time to
hate,
a time for war and a time for
peace.

9What does the worker gain from his
toil?[a] 10I have seen the burden God has
laid on men.[b] 11He has made every-
thing beautiful in its time.[c] He has also
set eternity in the hearts of men; yet
they cannot fathom[d] what God has
done from beginning to end.[e] 12I know
that there is nothing better for men
than to be happy and do good while
they live. 13That everyone may eat and
drink,[f] and find satisfaction[g] in all his
toil—this is the gift of God.[h] 14I know
that everything God does will endure
forever; nothing can be added to it and
nothing taken from it. God does it so
that men will revere him.[i]

15Whatever is has already been,[j]
and what will be has been
before;[k]
and God will call the past to
account.[c]

16And I saw something else under
the sun:

In the place of judgment—
wickedness was there,
in the place of justice—wickedness
was there.

17I thought in my heart,

"God will bring to judgment[l]
both the righteous and the
wicked,
for there will be a time for every
activity,
a time for every deed."[m]

18I also thought, "As for men, God
tests them so that they may see that
they are like the animals.[n] 19Man's
fate[o] is like that of the animals; the
same fate awaits them both: As one
dies, so dies the other. All have the
same breath[d]; man has no advantage
over the animal. Everything is mean-
ingless. 20All go to the same place; all
come from dust, and to dust all re-
turn.[p] 21Who knows if the spirit of man
rises upward[q] and if the spirit of the
animal[e] goes down into the earth?"
22So I saw that there is nothing better
for a man than to enjoy his work,[r] be-
cause that is his lot.[s] For who can
bring him to see what will happen after
him?

3:9 [a]S Ecc 1:3 **3:10** [b]S Ecc 1:13 **3:11** [c]S ver 1 [d]S Job 11:7 [e]S Job 28:23; Ro 11:33 **3:13** [f]Ecc 2:3 [g]Ps 34:12 [h]S Dt 12:7, 18; S Ecc 2:24 **3:14** [i]S Job 23:15; Ecc 5:7; 7:18; 8:12-13 **3:15** [j]Ecc 6:10 [k]S Ecc 1:9 **3:17** [l]S Job 19:29; Ecc 11:9; 12:14 [m]ver 1 **3:18** [n]S Ps 73:22 **3:19** [o]S Ecc 2:14 **3:20** [p]S Ge 2:7; S Job 34:15 **3:21** [q]Ecc 12:7 **3:22** [r]S Ecc 2:24 [s]S Job 31:2

Oppression, Toil, Friendlessness

4 Again I looked and saw all the op-
pression[t] that was taking place un-
der the sun:

I saw the tears of the oppressed—
and they have no comforter;
power was on the side of their
oppressors—
and they have no comforter.[u]
2And I declared that the dead,[v]
who had already died,
are happier than the living,
who are still alive.[w]
3But better than both
is he who has not yet been,[x]
who has not seen the evil
that is done under the sun.[y]

4And I saw that all labor and all
achievement spring from man's envy
of his neighbor. This too is meaning-
less, a chasing after the wind.[z]

5The fool folds his hands[a]
and ruins himself.
6Better one handful with tranquillity
than two handfuls with toil[b]
and chasing after the wind.

7Again I saw something meaningless
under the sun:

8There was a man all alone;
he had neither son nor brother.
There was no end to his toil,
yet his eyes were not content[c]
with his wealth.
"For whom am I toiling," he
asked,
"and why am I depriving myself
of enjoyment?"
This too is meaningless—
a miserable business!

9Two are better than one,
because they have a good return
for their work:
10If one falls down,
his friend can help him up.
But pity the man who falls
and has no one to help him up!
11Also, if two lie down together, they
will keep warm.
But how can one keep warm
alone?
12Though one may be overpowered,
two can defend themselves.
A cord of three strands is not quickly
broken.

4:1 [t]S Ps 12:5 [u]La 1:16 **4:2** [v]Jer 20:17-18; 22:10 [w]S Job 3:17; S 10:18 **4:3** [x]S Job 3:16 [y]S Job 3:22 **4:4** [z]S Ecc 1:14 **4:5** [a]S Pr 6:10 **4:6** [b]Pr 15:16-17; S 16:8 **4:8** [c]Pr 27:20

[c]15 Or *God calls back the past* [d]19 Or *spirit*
[e]21 Or *Who knows the spirit of man, which rises upward, or the spirit of the animal, which*

Advancement Is Meaningless

13Better a poor but wise youth than
an old but foolish king who no longer
knows how to take warning. 14The
youth may have come from prison to
the kingship, or he may have been
born in poverty within his kingdom. 15I
saw that all who lived and walked un-
der the sun followed the youth, the
king's successor. 16There was no end to
all the people who were before them.
But those who came later were not
pleased with the successor. This too is
meaningless, a chasing after the wind.

Stand in Awe of God

5 Guard your steps when you go to
the house of God. Go near to listen
rather than to offer the sacrifice of
fools, who do not know that they do
wrong.

2Do not be quick with your mouth,
do not be hasty in your heart
to utter anything before God.[a]
God is in heaven
and you are on earth,
so let your words be few.[b]
3As a dream[c] comes when there are
many cares,
so the speech of a fool when there
are many words.[d]

4When you make a vow to God, do
not delay in fulfilling it.[e] He has no
pleasure in fools; fulfill your vow.[f] 5It
is better not to vow than to make a vow
and not fulfill it.[g] 6Do not let your
mouth lead you into sin. And do not
protest to the temple messenger, "My
vow was a mistake." Why should God
be angry at what you say and destroy
the work of your hands? 7Much dream-
ing and many words are meaningless.
Therefore stand in awe of God.[h]

Riches Are Meaningless

8If you see the poor oppressed[i] in a
district, and justice and rights denied,
do not be surprised at such things; for
one official is eyed by a higher one, and
over them both are others higher still.
9The increase from the land is taken by
all; the king himself profits from the
fields.

10Whoever loves money never has
money enough;
whoever loves wealth is never
satisfied with his income.
This too is meaningless.

11As goods increase,
so do those who consume them.
And what benefit are they to the
owner
except to feast his eyes on them?

12The sleep of a laborer is sweet,
whether he eats little or much,
but the abundance of a rich man
permits him no sleep.[j]

13I have seen a grievous evil under
the sun:[k]

wealth hoarded to the harm of its
owner,
14 or wealth lost through some
misfortune,
so that when he has a son
there is nothing left for him.
15Naked a man comes from his
mother's womb,
and as he comes, so he departs.[l]
He takes nothing from his labor[m]
that he can carry in his hand.[n]

16This too is a grievous evil:

As a man comes, so he departs,
and what does he gain,
since he toils for the wind?[o]
17All his days he eats in darkness,
with great frustration, affliction
and anger.

18Then I realized that it is good and
proper for a man to eat and drink,[p]
and to find satisfaction in his toilsome
labor[q] under the sun during the few
days of life God has given him—for
this is his lot. 19Moreover, when God
gives any man wealth and posses-
sions,[r] and enables him to enjoy
them,[s] to accept his lot[t] and be happy
in his work—this is a gift of God.[u] 20He
seldom reflects on the days of his life,
because God keeps him occupied with
gladness of heart.[v]

6 I have seen another evil under the
sun, and it weighs heavily on men:
2God gives a man wealth, possessions
and honor, so that he lacks nothing his
heart desires, but God does not enable
him to enjoy them,[w] and a stranger en-
joys them instead. This is meaningless,
a grievous evil.[x]
3A man may have a hundred chil-
dren and live many years; yet no mat-
ter how long he lives, if he cannot en-
joy his prosperity and does not receive
proper burial, I say that a stillborn[y]
child is better off than he.[z] 4It comes
without meaning, it departs in dark-
ness, and in darkness its name is
shrouded. 5Though it never saw the
sun or knew anything, it has more rest

5:2 [a]S Jdg 11:35 [b]S Job 6:24; S Pr 20:25
5:3 [c]S Job 20:8 [d]Ecc 10:14
5:4 [e]S Dt 23:21; S Jdg 11:35; Ps 119:60 [f]S Nu 30:2; Ps 66:13-14
5:5 [g]Nu 30:2-4; Jnh 2:9
5:7 [h]Ecc 3:14
5:8 [i]S Ps 12:5
5:12 [j]Job 20:20
5:13 [k]Ecc 6:1-2
5:15 [l]S Job 1:21 [m]Ps 49:17; 1Ti 6:7 [n]Ecc 1:3
5:16 [o]S Ecc 1:3
5:18 [p]S Ecc 2:3 [q]Ecc 2:24
5:19 [r]S 1Ch 29:12 [s]Ecc 6:2 [t]S Job 31:2 [u]S Ecc 2:24
5:20 [v]S Dt 12:7, 18
6:2 [w]Ecc 5:19 [x]Ecc 5:13
6:3 [y]S Job 3:16 [z]S Job 3:3

than does that man—⁶even if he lives a
thousand years twice over but fails to
enjoy his prosperity. Do not all go to
the same place?[a]

⁷All man's efforts are for his mouth,
yet his appetite is never satisfied.[b]
⁸What advantage has a wise man
over a fool?[c]
What does a poor man gain
by knowing how to conduct
himself before others?
⁹Better what the eye sees
than the roving of the appetite.
This too is meaningless,
a chasing after the wind.[d]

¹⁰Whatever exists has already been
named,[e]
and what man is has been known;
no man can contend
with one who is stronger than he.
¹¹The more the words,
the less the meaning,
and how does that profit anyone?

¹²For who knows what is good for a
man in life, during the few and mean-
ingless days[f] he passes through like a
shadow?[g] Who can tell him what will
happen under the sun after he is gone?

Wisdom

7 A good name is better than fine
perfume,[h]
and the day of death better than
the day of birth.[i]
²It is better to go to a house of
mourning
than to go to a house of feasting,
for death[j] is the destiny[k] of every
man;
the living should take this to heart.
³Sorrow is better than laughter,[l]
because a sad face is good for the
heart.
⁴The heart of the wise is in the house
of mourning,
but the heart of fools is in the
house of pleasure.[m]
⁵It is better to heed a wise man's
rebuke[n]
than to listen to the song of fools.
⁶Like the crackling of thorns[o] under
the pot,
so is the laughter[p] of fools.
This too is meaningless.

⁷Extortion turns a wise man into a
fool,
and a bribe[q] corrupts the heart.
⁸The end of a matter is better than its
beginning,
and patience[r] is better than pride.
⁹Do not be quickly provoked[s] in your
spirit,
for anger resides in the lap of
fools.[t]

¹⁰Do not say, "Why were the old
days[u] better than these?"
For it is not wise to ask such
questions.

¹¹Wisdom, like an inheritance, is a
good thing[v]
and benefits those who see the
sun.[w]
¹²Wisdom is a shelter
as money is a shelter,
but the advantage of knowledge is
this:
that wisdom preserves the life of
its possessor.

¹³Consider what God has done:[x]

Who can straighten
what he has made crooked?[y]
¹⁴When times are good, be happy;
but when times are bad, consider:
God has made the one
as well as the other.[z]
Therefore, a man cannot discover
anything about his future.

¹⁵In this meaningless life[a] of mine I
have seen both of these:

a righteous man perishing in his
righteousness,
and a wicked man living long in
his wickedness.[b]
¹⁶Do not be overrighteous,
neither be overwise—
why destroy yourself?
¹⁷Do not be overwicked,
and do not be a fool—
why die before your time?[c]
¹⁸It is good to grasp the one
and not let go of the other.
The man who fears God[d] will
avoid all extremes.[a]
¹⁹Wisdom[e] makes one wise man more
powerful[f]
than ten rulers in a city.
²⁰There is not a righteous man[g] on
earth
who does what is right and never
sins.[h]
²¹Do not pay attention to every word
people say,
or you[i] may hear your servant
cursing you—
²²for you know in your heart

6:6 aEcc 2:14
6:7 bS Pr 27:20
6:8 cS Ecc 2:15
6:9 dS Ecc 1:14
6:10 eEcc 3:15
6:12
S Job 10:20;
S 20:8
gS 1Ch 29:15;
S Job 14:2
hPs 39:6
7:1 iS Pr 22:1;
S 1:3
S Job 10:18
7:2 kS Ps 13:19
lS Ecc 2:14
7:3 mS Pr 14:13
7:4 nS Ecc 2:1;
Jer 16:8
7:5 oS Pr 13:18;
15:31-32
7:6 pS Ps 58:9
qS Pr 14:13
7:7 rS Ex 18:21;
S 23:8
7:8 sPr 14:29
7:9 tS Mt 5:22
uS Pr 14:29
7:10 vS Ps 77:5
7:11 wEcc 2:13
xEcc 11:7
7:13 yEcc 2:24
zEcc 1:15
7:14 aS Job 1:21;
S Ecc 2:24
7:15 bS Job 7:7
cS Job 21:7;
Ecc 8:12-14;
Jer 12:1
7:17 dJob 15:32
7:18 eS Ecc 3:14
7:19 fS Ecc 2:13
gS Pr 8:14
7:20 hS Ps 14:3
iS 2Ch 6:36;
Ro 3:12;
S Job 4:17;
S Pr 20:9
7:21 iPr 30:10

a18 Or will follow them both

that many times you yourself have
cursed others.

23All this I tested by wisdom and I
said,

"I am determined to be wise"[a]—
but this was beyond me.
24Whatever wisdom may be,
it is far off and most profound—
who can discover it?[b]
25So I turned my mind to understand,
to investigate and to search out
wisdom and the scheme of
things[c]
and to understand the stupidity of
wickedness
and the madness of folly.[d]

26I find more bitter than death
the woman who is a snare,[e]
whose heart is a trap
and whose hands are chains.
The man who pleases God will
escape her,
but the sinner she will ensnare.[f]

27"Look," says the Teacher,[g][g] "this
is what I have discovered:

"Adding one thing to another to
discover the scheme of
things—
28 while I was still searching
but not finding—
I found one ˌuprightˌ man among a
thousand,
but not one ˌuprightˌ woman[h]
among them all.
29This only have I found:
God made mankind upright,
but men have gone in search of
many schemes."

8 Who is like the wise man?
Who knows the explanation of
things?
Wisdom brightens a man's face
and changes its hard appearance.

Obey the King

2Obey the king's command, I say, be-
cause you took an oath before God.
3Do not be in a hurry to leave the king's
presence.[i] Do not stand up for a bad
cause, for he will do whatever he
pleases. 4Since a king's word is su-
preme, who can say to him, "What are
you doing?[j] "

5Whoever obeys his command will
come to no harm,
and the wise heart will know the
proper time and procedure.

6For there is a proper time and
procedure for every matter,[k]
though a man's misery weighs
heavily upon him.
7Since no man knows the future,
who can tell him what is to come?
8No man has power over the wind to
contain it[h];
so no one has power over the day
of his death.
As no one is discharged in time of
war,
so wickedness will not release
those who practice it.

9All this I saw, as I applied my mind
to everything done under the sun.
There is a time when a man lords it
over others to his own[i] hurt. 10Then
too, I saw the wicked buried[l]—those
who used to come and go from the
holy place and receive praise[j] in the
city where they did this. This too is
meaningless.
11When the sentence for a crime is
not quickly carried out, the hearts of
the people are filled with schemes to
do wrong. 12Although a wicked man
commits a hundred crimes and still
lives a long time, I know that it will go
better[m] with God-fearing men,[n] who
are reverent before God.[o] 13Yet be-
cause the wicked do not fear God,[p] it
will not go well with them, and their
days[q] will not lengthen like a shadow.
14There is something else meaning-
less that occurs on earth: righteous
men who get what the wicked deserve,
and wicked men who get what the
righteous deserve.[r] This too, I say, is
meaningless.[s] 15So I commend the en-
joyment of life[t], because nothing is
better for a man under the sun than to
eat and drink[u] and be glad.[v] Then joy
will accompany him in his work all the
days of the life God has given him un-
der the sun.
16When I applied my mind to know
wisdom[w] and to observe man's labor
on earth[x]—his eyes not seeing sleep
day or night— 17then I saw all that God
has done.[y] No one can comprehend
what goes on under the sun. Despite
all his efforts to search it out, man can-
not discover its meaning. Even if a wise
man claims he knows, he cannot really
comprehend it.[z]

7:23 [a]S Ecc 1:17
7:24 [b]S Job 28:12
7:25 [c]S Job 28:3 [d]S Ecc 1:17
7:26 [e]S Ex 10:7; S Jdg 14:15; [f]S Pr 2:16-19; S 5:3-5; S 7:23; 22:14
7:27 [g]S Ecc 1:1
7:28 [h]1Ki 11:3
8:3 [i]Ecc 10:4
8:4 [j]Est 1:19
8:6 [k]Ecc 3:1
8:10 [l]S Ecc 1:11
8:12 [m]S Dt 12:28 [n]S Ex 1:20 [o]Ecc 3:14
8:13 [p]Ecc 3:14 [q]Dt 4:40; Job 5:26; Ps 34:12; Isa 65:20
8:14 [r]S Job 21:7 [s]S Ecc 7:15
8:15 [t]S Ps 42:8 [u]S Ex 32:6; S Ecc 2:3 [v]S Ecc 2:1
8:16 [w]S Ecc 1:17 [x]Ecc 1:13
8:17 [y]S Job 28:3 [z]S Job 28:23; Ro 11:33

[g]27 Or *leader of the assembly* [h]8 Or *over his spirit to retain it* [i]9 Or *to their* [j]10 Some Hebrew manuscripts and Septuagint (Aquila); most Hebrew manuscripts *and are forgotten*

A Common Destiny for All

9 So I reflected on all this and con-
cluded that the righteous and the
wise and what they do are in God's
hands, but no man knows whether
love or hate awaits him.[a] 2All share a
common destiny—the righteous and
the wicked, the good and the bad,[k] the
clean and the unclean, those who offer
sacrifices and those who do not.

As it is with the good man,
so with the sinner;
as it is with those who take oaths,
so with those who are afraid to
take them.[b]

3This is the evil in everything that
happens under the sun: The same des-
tiny overtakes all.[c] The hearts of men,
moreover, are full of evil and there is
madness in their hearts while they
live,[d] and afterward they join the
dead.[e] 4Anyone who is among the liv-
ing has hope[l]—even a live dog is bet-
ter off than a dead lion!

5For the living know that they will
die,
but the dead know nothing;[f]
they have no further reward,
and even the memory of them[g] is
forgotten.[h]
6Their love, their hate
and their jealousy have long since
vanished;
never again will they have a part
in anything that happens under
the sun.[i]

7Go, eat your food with gladness,
and drink your wine[j] with a joyful
heart,[k] for it is now that God favors
what you do. 8Always be clothed in
white,[l] and always anoint your head
with oil. 9Enjoy life with your wife,[m]
whom you love, all the days of this
meaningless life that God has given
you under the sun—all your meaning-
less days. For this is your lot[n] in life
and in your toilsome labor under the
sun. 10Whatever[o] your hand finds to
do, do it with all your might,[p] for in
the grave,[m][q] where you are going,
there is neither working nor planning
nor knowledge nor wisdom.[r]

11I have seen something else under
the sun:

The race is not to the swift
or the battle to the strong,[s]
nor does food come to the wise[t]
or wealth to the brilliant
or favor to the learned;
but time and chance[u] happen to
them all.[v]

12Moreover, no man knows when his
hour will come:

As fish are caught in a cruel net,
or birds are taken in a snare,
so men are trapped by evil times[w]
that fall unexpectedly upon
them.[x]

Wisdom Better Than Folly

13I also saw under the sun this exam-
ple of wisdom[y] that greatly impressed
me: 14There was once a small city with
only a few people in it. And a powerful
king came against it, surrounded it and
built huge siegeworks against it. 15Now
there lived in that city a man poor but
wise, and he saved the city by his wis-
dom. But nobody remembered that
poor man.[z] 16So I said, "Wisdom is
better than strength." But the poor
man's wisdom is despised, and his
words are no longer heeded.[a]

17The quiet words of the wise are
more to be heeded
than the shouts of a ruler of fools.
18Wisdom[b] is better than weapons of
war,
but one sinner destroys much
good.

10 As dead flies give perfume a
bad smell,
so a little folly[c] outweighs wisdom
and honor.
2The heart of the wise inclines to the
right,
but the heart of the fool to the left.
3Even as he walks along the road,
the fool lacks sense
and shows everyone[d] how stupid
he is.
4If a ruler's anger rises against you,
do not leave your post;[e]
calmness can lay great errors to
rest.[f]

5There is an evil I have seen under
the sun,
the sort of error that arises from a
ruler:
6Fools are put in many high
positions,[g]
while the rich occupy the low
ones.
7I have seen slaves on horseback,

9:1 [a]Ecc 10:14
9:2 [b]Job 9:22
Ecc 2:14
9:3 [c]S Job 9:22
S Ecc 2:14
Jer 17:9; 13:10;
16:12; 1:9
[e]S Job 21:26
9:4 [f]S Job 14:21
[g]S Ps 9:6
[h]S Ecc 1:11
9:6 [i]S Job 21:21
9:7 [j]S Nu 6:20
[k]S Ecc 2:24
9:8 [l]S Rev 3:4
9:9 [m]S Pr 5:18
[n]S Job 31:2
9:10 [o]S 1Sa 10:7
[p]Ecc 11:6
[q]Nu 16:33
S Ps 6:5
Isa 38:18
[r]S Ecc 2:24
9:11
[s]Am 2:14-15
[t]Job 32:13
Isa 47:10
Jer 9:23
[u]Ecc 2:14
[v]S Dt 8:18
9:12 [w]S Pr 29:6
[x]S Ps 73:22;
S Ecc 2:14
9:13
[y]S 2Sa 20:22
9:15
[z]S Ge 40:14;
S Ecc 1:11
9:16 [a]Est 6:3
9:18 [b]S Ecc 2:13
10:1 [c]Pr 13:16;
18:2
10:3 [d]Pr 13:16
10:4 [e]Ecc 8:3
[f]S Pr 16:14
10:6 [g]S Pr 29:2

[k]2 Septuagint (Aquila), Vulgate and Syriac; Hebrew does not have *and the bad.* [l]4 Or *What then is to be chosen? With all who live, there is hope* [m]10 Hebrew *Sheol*

while princes go on foot like
slaves.[a]

8Whoever digs a pit may fall into it;[b]
whoever breaks through a wall
may be bitten by a snake.[c]
9Whoever quarries stones may be
injured by them;
whoever splits logs may be
endangered by them.[d]

10If the ax is dull
and its edge unsharpened,
more strength is needed
but skill will bring success.

11If a snake bites before it is charmed,
there is no profit for the charmer.[e]

12Words from a wise man's mouth are
gracious,[f]
but a fool is consumed by his own
lips.[g]
13At the beginning his words are folly;
at the end they are wicked
madness—
14 and the fool multiplies words.[h]

No one knows what is coming—
who can tell him what will happen
after him?[i]

15A fool's work wearies him;
he does not know the way to
town.

16Woe to you, O land whose king was
a servant[a] [j]
and whose princes feast in the
morning.
17Blessed are you, O land whose king
is of noble birth
and whose princes eat at a proper
time—
for strength and not for
drunkenness.[k]

18If a man is lazy, the rafters sag;
if his hands are idle, the house
leaks.[l]

19A feast is made for laughter,
and wine[m] makes life merry,
but money is the answer for
everything.

20Do not revile the king[n] even in your
thoughts,
or curse the rich in your bedroom,
because a bird of the air may carry
your words,
and a bird on the wing may report
what you say.

Bread Upon the Waters

11 Cast[o] your bread upon the
waters,
for after many days you will find it
again.[p]
2Give portions to seven, yes to eight,
for you do not know what disaster
may come upon the land.

3If clouds are full of water,
they pour rain upon the earth.
Whether a tree falls to the south or
to the north,
in the place where it falls, there
will it lie.
4Whoever watches the wind will not
plant;
whoever looks at the clouds will
not reap.

5As you do not know the path of the
wind,[q]
or how the body is formed[b] in a
mother's womb,[r]
so you cannot understand the work
of God,
the Maker of all things.

6Sow your seed in the morning,
and at evening let not your hands
be idle,[s]
for you do not know which will
succeed,
whether this or that,
or whether both will do equally
well.

Remember Your Creator While Young

7Light is sweet,
and it pleases the eyes to see the
sun.[t]
8However many years a man may
live,
let him enjoy them all.
But let him remember[u] the days of
darkness,
for they will be many.
Everything to come is
meaningless.

9Be happy, young man, while you are
young,
and let your heart give you joy in
the days of your youth.
Follow the ways of your heart
and whatever your eyes see,
but know that for all these things
God will bring you to judgment.[v]
10So then, banish anxiety[w] from your
heart
and cast off the troubles of your
body,
for youth and vigor are
meaningless.[x]

10:7 [a]Pr 19:10 **10:8** [b]S Ps 57:6 [c]S Est 2:23; Ps 9:16; Am 5:19 **10:9** [d]S Pr 26:27 **10:11** [e]S Ps 58:5; S Isa 3:3 **10:12** [f]Pr 10:32 [g]S Pr 10:6; S 14:3; S 15:2; S 18:7 **10:14** [h]Ecc 5:3 [i]Ecc 9:1 **10:16** [j]Isa 3:4-5, 12 **10:17** [k]S Dt 14:26; S 1Sa 25:36; S Pr 31:4 **10:18** [l]Pr 20:4; S 24:30-34 **10:19** [m]S Ge 14:18; S Jdg 9:13 **10:20** [n]S Ex 22:28 **11:1** [o]ver 6; Isa 32:20; Hos 10:12 [p]S Dt 24:19 **11:5** [q]Jn 3:8-10 [r]Ps 139:14-16 **11:6** [s]S Ecc 9:10 **11:7** [t]Ecc 7:11 **11:8** [u]Ecc 12:1 **11:9** [v]S Job 19:29; S Ecc 2:24; S 3:17 **11:10** [w]Ps 94:19 [x]S Ecc 2:24

[a]16 Or *king is a child* [b]5 Or *know how life (or the spirit) / enters the body being formed*

12 Remember[a] your Creator
in the days of your youth,
before the days of trouble[b] come
and the years approach when you
will say,
"I find no pleasure in them"—
2before the sun and the light
and the moon and the stars grow
dark,
and the clouds return after the
rain;
3when the keepers of the house
tremble,
and the strong men stoop,
when the grinders cease because
they are few,
and those looking through the
windows grow dim;
4when the doors to the street are
closed
and the sound of grinding fades;
when men rise up at the sound of
birds,
but all their songs grow faint;[c]
5when men are afraid of heights
and of dangers in the streets;
when the almond tree blossoms
and the grasshopper drags himself
along
and desire no longer is stirred.
Then man goes to his eternal home[d]
and mourners[e] go about the
streets.

6Remember him—before the silver
cord is severed,
or the golden bowl is broken;
before the pitcher is shattered at the
spring,
or the wheel broken at the well,
7and the dust returns[f] to the ground
it came from,
and the spirit returns to God[g] who
gave it.[h]

8"Meaningless! Meaningless!" says
the Teacher.[p][i]
"Everything is meaningless![j] "

The Conclusion of the Matter

9Not only was the Teacher wise, but
also he imparted knowledge to the
people. He pondered and searched out
and set in order many proverbs.[k] 10The
Teacher[l] searched to find just the right
words, and what he wrote was upright
and true.[m]
11The words of the wise are like
goads, their collected sayings like firm-
ly embedded nails[n]—given by one
Shepherd. 12Be warned, my son, of
anything in addition to them.
Of making many books there is no
end, and much study wearies the
body.[o]

13Now all has been heard;
here is the conclusion of the
matter:
Fear God[p] and keep his
commandments,[q]
for this is the whole ⌞duty⌟ of
man.[r]
14For God will bring every deed into
judgment,[s]
including every hidden thing,[t]
whether it is good or evil.

12:1 [a]Ecc 11:8 [b]S 2Sa 19:35
12:4 [c]Jer 25:10
12:5 [d]S Job 10:21 [e]Jer 9:17; Am 5:16
12:7 [f]S Ge 2:7; S Ps 146:4 [g]Ecc 3:21 [h]S Job 20:8
12:8 [i]Ecc 1:1 [j]S Ecc 1:2
12:9 [k]1Ki 4:32
12:10 [l]S Ecc 1:1 [m]Pr 22:20-21
12:11 [n]S Ezr 9:8; S Job 6:25
12:12 [o]S Ecc 1:18
12:13 [p]S Ex 20:20; S 1Sa 12:24; S Job 23:15; S Ps 19:9 [q]S Dt 4:2 [r]S Dt 4:6; S Job 37:24
12:14 [s]S Job 19:29; S Ecc 3:17 [t]S Job 34:21; S Ps 19:12; Jer 16:17; 23:24

p8 *Or the leader of the assembly; also in verses 9 and 10*

Song of Songs

1 Solomon's Song of Songs.[a]

Beloved[a]

[2]Let him kiss me with the kisses of his mouth—
for your love[b] is more delightful than wine.[c]
[3]Pleasing is the fragrance of your perfumes;[d]
your name[e] is like perfume poured out.
No wonder the maidens[f] love you!
[4]Take me away with you—let us hurry!
Let the king bring me into his chambers.[g]

Friends

We rejoice and delight[h] in you[b];
we will praise your love[i] more than wine.

Beloved

How right they are to adore you!

[5]Dark am I, yet lovely,[j]
O daughters of Jerusalem,[k]
dark like the tents of Kedar,[l]
like the tent curtains of Solomon.[c]
[6]Do not stare at me because I am dark,
because I am darkened by the sun.
My mother's sons were angry with me
and made me take care of the vineyards;[m]
my own vineyard I have neglected.
[7]Tell me, you whom I love, where you graze your flock
and where you rest your sheep[n] at midday.
Why should I be like a veiled[o] woman
beside the flocks of your friends?

Friends

[8]If you do not know, most beautiful of women,[p]
follow the tracks of the sheep
and graze your young goats
by the tents of the shepherds.

Lover

[9]I liken you, my darling, to a mare
harnessed to one of the chariots[q] of Pharaoh.
[10]Your cheeks[r] are beautiful with earrings,
your neck with strings of jewels.[s]
[11]We will make you earrings of gold,
studded with silver.

Beloved

[12]While the king was at his table,
my perfume spread its fragrance.[t]
[13]My lover is to me a sachet of myrrh[u]
resting between my breasts.
[14]My lover[v] is to me a cluster of henna[w] blossoms
from the vineyards of En Gedi.[x]

Lover

[15]How beautiful[y] you are, my darling!
Oh, how beautiful!
Your eyes are doves.[z]

Beloved

[16]How handsome you are, my lover![a]
Oh, how charming!
And our bed is verdant.

Lover

[17]The beams of our house are cedars;[b]
our rafters are firs.

Beloved[d]

2 I am a rose[e][c] of Sharon,[d]
a lily[e] of the valleys.

Lover

[2]Like a lily among thorns
is my darling among the maidens.

1:1 aS 1Ki 4:32; Ps 45 Title
1:2 bver 4; SS 4:10; 5:1 cS Ge 14:18; S Jdg 9:13
1:3 dS Est 2:12; S Ps 45:8 eS Ecc 7:1 fPs 45:14
1:4 gPs 45:15 hSS 2:3 iS ver 2
1:5 jSS 2:14; 4:3 kSS 5:16 lS Ge 25:13
1:6 mSS 2:15; 7:12; 8:12
1:7 nIsa 13:20 oS Ge 24:65
1:8 pSS 5:9; 6:1
1:9 q2Ch 1:17
1:10 rSS 5:13 sIsa 61:10
1:12 tSS 4:11-14
1:13 uS Ge 37:25
1:14 vver 16; SS 2:3,17; 5:8 wSS 4:13 xS 1Sa 23:29; S 2Ch 20:2
1:15 ySS 4:7; 7:6 zPs 74:19; SS 2:14; 4:1; 5:2, 12; 6:9; Jer 48:28
1:16 aS ver 14
1:17 b1Ki 6:9
2:1 cIsa 35:1 dS 1Ch 27:29 eSS 5:13; Hos 14:5

aPrimarily on the basis of the gender of the Hebrew pronouns used, male and female speakers are indicated in the margins by the captions *Lover* and *Beloved* respectively. The words of others are marked *Friends*. In some instances the divisions and their captions are debatable. b4 The Hebrew is masculine singular. c5 Or *Salma* d1 Or *Lover* e1 Possibly a member of the crocus family

Beloved

3Like an apple tree among the trees of
the forest
is my lover[a] among the young
men.
I delight[b] to sit in his shade,
and his fruit is sweet to my
taste.[c]
4He has taken me to the banquet
hall,[d]
and his banner[e] over me is
love.
5Strengthen me with raisins,
refresh me with apples,[f]
for I am faint with love.[g]
6His left arm is under my head,
and his right arm embraces me.[h]
7Daughters of Jerusalem, I charge
you[i]
by the gazelles and by the does of
the field:
Do not arouse or awaken love
until it so desires.[j]

8Listen! My lover!
Look! Here he comes,
leaping across the mountains,
bounding over the hills.[k]
9My lover is like a gazelle[l] or a
young stag.[m]
Look! There he stands behind our
wall,
gazing through the windows,
peering through the lattice.
10My lover spoke and said to me,
"Arise, my darling,
my beautiful one, and come with
me.
11See! The winter is past;
the rains are over and gone.
12Flowers appear on the earth;
the season of singing has come,
the cooing of doves
is heard in our land.
13The fig tree forms its early fruit;[n]
the blossoming[o] vines spread their
fragrance.
Arise, come, my darling;
my beautiful one, come with me."

Lover

14My dove[p] in the clefts of the rock,
in the hiding places on the
mountainside,
show me your face,
let me hear your voice;
for your voice is sweet,
and your face is lovely.[q]
15Catch for us the foxes,[r]
the little foxes
that ruin the vineyards,[s]
our vineyards that are in bloom.[t]

2:3 [illegible]
2:4 [illegible]
2:5 [illegible]
2:6 [illegible]
2:7 [illegible]
2:8 [illegible]
2:9 [illegible]
2:13 [illegible]
2:14 [illegible]
2:15 [illegible] SS 7:12
2:16 [a]SS 7:10 [v]SS 4:5; 6:3
2:17 [w]SS 4:6 [x]S SS 1:14 [y]S ver 9 [z]S ver 8
3:1 [a]SS 5:6
3:3 [b]SS 5:7
3:4 [c]SS 8:2 [d]SS 6:9; 8:5
3:5 [e]S SS 2:7 [f]SS 8:4
3:6 [g]SS 8:5 [h]SS 4:6,14 [i]Ex 30:34
3:7 [j]S 1Sa 8:11
3:8 [k]S Job 15:22; Ps 91:5

Beloved

16My lover is mine and I am his;[u]
he browses among the lilies.[v]
17Until the day breaks
and the shadows flee,[w]
turn, my lover,[x]
and be like a gazelle
or like a young stag[y]
on the rugged hills.[f][z]

3 All night long on my bed
I looked[a] for the one my heart
loves;
I looked for him but did not find
him.
2I will get up now and go about the
city,
through its streets and squares;
I will search for the one my heart
loves.
So I looked for him but did not
find him.
3The watchmen found me
as they made their rounds in the
city.[b]
"Have you seen the one my heart
loves?"
4Scarcely had I passed them
when I found the one my heart
loves.
I held him and would not let him go
till I had brought him to my
mother's house,[c]
to the room of the one who
conceived me.[d]
5Daughters of Jerusalem, I charge
you[e]
by the gazelles and by the does of
the field:
Do not arouse or awaken love
until it so desires.[f]

6Who is this coming up from the
desert[g]
like a column of smoke,
perfumed with myrrh[h] and incense
made from all the spices[i] of the
merchant?
7Look! It is Solomon's carriage,
escorted by sixty warriors,[j]
the noblest of Israel,
8all of them wearing the sword,
all experienced in battle,
each with his sword at his side,
prepared for the terrors of the
night.[k]
9King Solomon made for himself the
carriage;
he made it of wood from Lebanon.
10Its posts he made of silver,
its base of gold.

f17 *Or the hills of Bether*

Its seat was upholstered with purple,
its interior lovingly inlaid
by the daughters of Jerusalem.
11 Come out, you daughters of Zion,
and look at King Solomon wearing the crown,
the crown with which his mother crowned him
on the day of his wedding,
the day his heart rejoiced.

Lover

4 How beautiful you are, my darling!
Oh, how beautiful!
Your eyes behind your veil are doves.
Your hair is like a flock of goats
descending from Mount Gilead.
2 Your teeth are like a flock of sheep just shorn,
coming up from the washing.
Each has its twin;
not one of them is alone.
3 Your lips are like a scarlet ribbon;
your mouth is lovely.
Your temples behind your veil
are like the halves of a pomegranate.
4 Your neck is like the tower of David,
built with elegance;
on it hang a thousand shields,
all of them shields of warriors.
5 Your two breasts are like two fawns,
like twin fawns of a gazelle
that browse among the lilies.
6 Until the day breaks
and the shadows flee,
I will go to the mountain of myrrh
and to the hill of incense.
7 All beautiful you are, my darling;
there is no flaw in you.

8 Come with me from Lebanon, my bride,
come with me from Lebanon.
Descend from the crest of Amana,
from the top of Senir, the summit of Hermon,
from the lions' dens
and the mountain haunts of the leopards.
9 You have stolen my heart, my sister, my bride;
you have stolen my heart
with one glance of your eyes,
with one jewel of your necklace.
10 How delightful is your love, my sister, my bride!
How much more pleasing is your love than wine,
and the fragrance of your perfume than any spice!
11 Your lips drop sweetness as the honeycomb, my bride;
milk and honey are under your tongue.
The fragrance of your garments is like that of Lebanon.
12 You are a garden locked up, my sister, my bride;
you are a spring enclosed, a sealed fountain.
13 Your plants are an orchard of pomegranates
with choice fruits,
with henna and nard,
14 nard and saffron,
calamus and cinnamon,
with every kind of incense tree,
with myrrh and aloes
and all the finest spices.
15 You are a garden fountain,
a well of flowing water
streaming down from Lebanon.

Beloved

16 Awake, north wind,
and come, south wind!
Blow on my garden,
that its fragrance may spread abroad.
Let my lover come into his garden
and taste its choice fruits.

Lover

5 I have come into my garden, my sister, my bride;
I have gathered my myrrh with my spice.
I have eaten my honeycomb and my honey;
I have drunk my wine and my milk.

Friends

Eat, O friends, and drink;
drink your fill, O lovers.

Beloved

2 I slept but my heart was awake.
Listen! My lover is knocking:
"Open to me, my sister, my darling,
my dove, my flawless one.
My head is drenched with dew,
my hair with the dampness of the night."
3 I have taken off my robe—
must I put it on again?

a10 Or its inlaid interior a gift of love / from ... b14 The meaning of the Hebrew for this word is uncertain. c15 Or I am (spoken by the Beloved)

I have washed my feet—
must I soil them again?
[4]My lover thrust his hand through
the latch-opening;
my heart began to pound for him.
[5]I arose to open for my lover,
and my hands dripped with
myrrh,[a]
my fingers with flowing myrrh,
on the handles of the lock.
[6]I opened for my lover,[b]
but my lover had left; he was
gone.[c]
My heart sank at his departure.[j]
I looked[d] for him but did not find
him.
I called him but he did not
answer.
[7]The watchmen found me
as they made their rounds in the
city.[e]
They beat me, they bruised me;
they took away my cloak,
those watchmen of the walls!
[8]O daughters of Jerusalem, I charge
you[f]—
if you find my lover,[g]
what will you tell him?
Tell him I am faint with love.[h]

Friends

[9]How is your beloved better than
others,
most beautiful of women?[i]
How is your beloved better than
others,
that you charge us so?

Beloved

[10]My lover is radiant and ruddy,
outstanding among ten
thousand.[j]
[11]His head is purest gold;
his hair is wavy
and black as a raven.
[12]His eyes are like doves[k]
by the water streams,
washed in milk,[l]
mounted like jewels.
[13]His cheeks[m] are like beds of spice[n]
yielding perfume.
His lips are like lilies[o]
dripping with myrrh.[p]
[14]His arms are rods of gold
set with chrysolite.
His body is like polished ivory
decorated with sapphires.[k][q]
[15]His legs are pillars of marble
set on bases of pure gold.
His appearance is like Lebanon,[r]
choice as its cedars.

5:5 [a]ver 13
5:6 [b]SS 6:1
[c]SS 6:2 [d]SS 3:1
5:7 [e]SS 3:3
5:8 [f]SS 2:7
[g]S SS 1:14
[h]SS 2:5
5:9 [i]S SS 1:8
5:10 [j]Ps 45:2
5:12 [k]S SS 1:15
[l]Ge 49:12
5:13 [m]SS 1:10
[n]SS 6:2 [o]S SS 2:1
[p]ver 5
5:14 [q]S Job 28:6
5:15 [r]1Ki 4:33;
SS 7:4

5:16 [s]SS 4:3
[t]SS 7:9 [u]SS 1:5
6:1 [v]SS 5:6
[w]S SS 1:8
6:2 [x]SS 5:6
[y]S SS 4:12
[z]SS 5:13
6:3 [a]SS 7:10
[b]S SS 2:16
6:4 [c]S Jos 12:24;
S 1Ki 15:33
[d]Ps 48:2; 50:2
[e]S Nu 1:52
6:5 [f]S SS 4:1
6:6 [g]SS 4:2
6:7 [h]S Ge 24:65
[i]SS 4:3
6:8 [j]Ps 45:9
[k]S Ge 22:24;
S Est 2:14
6:9 [l]S SS 1:15
[m]SS 5:2
[n]S SS 3:4

[16]His mouth[s] is sweetness itself;
he is altogether lovely.
This is my lover,[t] this my friend,
O daughters of Jerusalem.[u]

Friends

6

Where has your lover[v] gone,
most beautiful of women?[w]
Which way did your lover turn,
that we may look for him with
you?

Beloved

[2]My lover has gone[x] down to his
garden,[y]
to the beds of spices,[z]
to browse in the gardens
and to gather lilies.
[3]I am my lover's and my lover is
mine;[a]
he browses among the lilies.[b]

Lover

[4]You are beautiful, my darling, as
Tirzah,[c]
lovely as Jerusalem,[d]
majestic as troops with banners.[e]
[5]Turn your eyes from me;
they overwhelm me.
Your hair is like a flock of goats
descending from Gilead.[f]
[6]Your teeth are like a flock of sheep
coming up from the washing.
Each has its twin,
not one of them is alone.[g]
[7]Your temples behind your veil[h]
are like the halves of a
pomegranate.[i]
[8]Sixty queens[j] there may be,
and eighty concubines,[k]
and virgins beyond number;
[9]but my dove,[l] my perfect one,[m] is
unique,
the only daughter of her mother,
the favorite of the one who bore
her.[n]
The maidens saw her and called her
blessed;
the queens and concubines praised
her.

Friends

[10]Who is this that appears like the
dawn,
fair as the moon, bright as the
sun,
majestic as the stars in procession?

[j]6 *Or heart had gone out to him when he spoke*
[k]14 *Or lapis lazuli*

Lover

11I went down to the grove of nut
trees
to look at the new growth in the
valley,
to see if the vines had budded
or the pomegranates were in
bloom.
12Before I realized it,
my desire set me among the royal
chariots of my people.

Friends

13Come back, come back,
O Shulammite;
come back, come back, that we
may gaze on you!

Lover

Why would you gaze on the
Shulammite
as on the dance of Mahanaim?

7 How beautiful your sandaled
feet,
O prince's daughter!
Your graceful legs are like jewels,
the work of a craftsman's hands.
2Your navel is a rounded goblet
that never lacks blended wine.
Your waist is a mound of wheat
encircled by lilies.
3Your breasts are like two fawns,
twins of a gazelle.
4Your neck is like an ivory tower.
Your eyes are the pools of
Heshbon
by the gate of Bath Rabbim.
Your nose is like the tower of
Lebanon
looking toward Damascus.
5Your head crowns you like Mount
Carmel.
Your hair is like royal tapestry;
the king is held captive by its
tresses.
6How beautiful you are and how
pleasing,
O love, with your delights!
7Your stature is like that of the
palm,
and your breasts like clusters of
fruit.
8I said, "I will climb the palm tree;
I will take hold of its fruit."
May your breasts be like the clusters
of the vine,
the fragrance of your breath like
apples,
9 and your mouth like the best
wine.

Beloved

May the wine go straight to my
lover,
flowing gently over lips and
teeth.
10I belong to my lover,
and his desire is for me.
11Come, my lover, let us go to the
countryside,
let us spend the night in the
villages.
12Let us go early to the vineyards
to see if the vines have budded,
if their blossoms have opened,
and if the pomegranates are in
bloom—
there I will give you my love.
13The mandrakes send out their
fragrance,
and at our door is every delicacy,
both new and old,
that I have stored up for you, my
lover.

8 If only you were to me like a
brother,
who was nursed at my mother's
breasts!
Then, if I found you outside,
I would kiss you,
and no one would despise me.
2I would lead you
and bring you to my mother's
house—
she who has taught me.
I would give you spiced wine to
drink,
the nectar of my pomegranates.
3His left arm is under my head
and his right arm embraces me.
4Daughters of Jerusalem, I charge
you:
Do not arouse or awaken love
until it so desires.

Friends

5Who is this coming up from the
desert
leaning on her lover?

Beloved

Under the apple tree I roused you;
there your mother conceived
you,
there she who was in labor gave
you birth.
6Place me like a seal over your heart,
like a seal on your arm;

12 Or among the chariots of Amminadab; or among the chariots of the people of the prince
9 Septuagint, Aquila, Vulgate and Syriac; Hebrew lips of sleepers
11 Or henna bushes

for love[a] is as strong as death,
its jealousy[o b] unyielding as the grave.[p]
It burns like blazing fire,
like a mighty flame.[q]
7Many waters cannot quench love;
rivers cannot wash it away.
If one were to give
all the wealth of his house for love,
it[r] would be utterly scorned.[c]

Friends

8We have a young sister,
and her breasts are not yet grown.
What shall we do for our sister
for the day she is spoken for?
9If she is a wall,
we will build towers of silver on her.
If she is a door,
we will enclose her with panels of cedar.

Beloved

10I am a wall,
and my breasts are like towers.
Thus I have become in his eyes
like one bringing contentment.
11Solomon had a vineyard[d] in Baal Hamon;
he let out his vineyard to tenants.
Each was to bring for its fruit
a thousand shekels[s e] of silver.
12But my own vineyard[f] is mine to give;
the thousand shekels are for you, O Solomon,
and two hundred[t] are for those who tend its fruit.

Lover

13You who dwell in the gardens
with friends in attendance,
let me hear your voice!

Beloved

14Come away, my lover,
and be like a gazelle[g]
or like a young stag[h]
on the spice-laden mountains.[i]

8:6 [a]S SS 1:2 [b]S Nu 5:14
8:7 [c]S Pr 6:35
8:11 [d]Ecc 2:4 [e]Isa 7:23
8:12 [f]S SS 1:6
8:14 [g]S Pr 5:19 [h]S SS 2:9 [i]S SS 2:8

[o]6 Or *ardor* [p]6 Hebrew *Sheol* [q]6 Or / *like the very flame of the LORD* [r]7 Or *he* [s]11 That is, about 25 pounds (about 11.5 kilograms); also in verse 12 [t]12 That is,, about 5 pounds (about 2.3 kilograms)

Isaiah

1 The vision[a] concerning Judah and Jerusalem[b] that Isaiah son of Amoz saw[c] during the reigns of Uzziah,[d] Jotham,[e] Ahaz[f] and Hezekiah,[g] kings of Judah.

A Rebellious Nation

[2]Hear, O heavens! Listen, O earth![h]
For the LORD has spoken:[i]
"I reared children[j] and brought them up,
but they have rebelled[k] against me.
[3]The ox knows[l] his master,
the donkey his owner's manger,[m]
but Israel does not know,[n]
my people do not understand."[o]

[4]Ah, sinful nation,
a people loaded with guilt,[p]
a brood of evildoers,[q]
children given to corruption![r]
They have forsaken[s] the LORD;
they have spurned the Holy One[t] of Israel
and turned their backs[u] on him.

[5]Why should you be beaten[v] anymore?
Why do you persist[w] in rebellion?[x]
Your whole head is injured,
your whole heart[y] afflicted.[z]
[6]From the sole of your foot to the top of your head[a]
there is no soundness[b]—
only wounds and welts[c]
and open sores,
not cleansed or bandaged[d]
or soothed with oil.[e]

[7]Your country is desolate,[f]
your cities burned with fire;[g]
your fields are being stripped by foreigners[h]
right before you,
laid waste as when overthrown by strangers.[i]
[8]The Daughter of Zion[j] is left[k]
like a shelter in a vineyard,
like a hut[l] in a field of melons,
like a city under siege.

[9]Unless the LORD Almighty
had left us some survivors,[m]
we would have become like Sodom,
we would have been like Gomorrah.[n]

[10]Hear the word of the LORD,[o]
you rulers of Sodom;[p]
listen to the law[q] of our God,
you people of Gomorrah![r]
[11]"The multitude of your sacrifices—
what are they to me?" says the LORD.
"I have more than enough of burnt offerings,
of rams and the fat of fattened animals;[s]
I have no pleasure[t]
in the blood of bulls[u] and lambs and goats.[v]
[12]When you come to appear before me,
who has asked this of you,[w]
this trampling of my courts?
[13]Stop bringing meaningless offerings![x]
Your incense[y] is detestable[z] to me.
New Moons,[a] Sabbaths and convocations[b]—
I cannot bear your evil assemblies.
[14]Your New Moon[c] festivals and your appointed feasts[d]
my soul hates.[e]
They have become a burden to me;[f]
I am weary[g] of bearing them.
[15]When you spread out your hands[h] in prayer,
I will hide[i] my eyes from you;
even if you offer many prayers,
I will not listen.[j]

1:1 [a]1Sa 3:1; Isa 22:1,5; Ob 1:1; Na 1:1 [b]Isa 40:9; 44:26 [c]Isa 2:1; 13:1 [d]S 2Ki 14:21; S 2Ch 26:22 [e]S 1Ch 3:12 [f]S 2Ki 16:1 [g]S 1Ch 3:13 **1:2** [h]S Dt 4:26 [i]Jdg 11:10; Jer 42:5; Mic 1:2 [j]Isa 23:4; 63:16 [k]ver 4,23; Isa 24:5,20; 30:1,9; 46:8; 48:8; 57:4; 65:2; 66:24; Eze 24:3; Hag 1:12; Mal 1:6; 3:5 **1:3** [l]Job 12:9 [m]S Ge 42:27 [n]Jer 4:22; 5:4; 9:3,6; Hos 2:8; 4:1 [o]S Dt 32:28; Isa 42:25; 48:8; Hos 4:6; 7:9 **1:4** [p]Isa 5:18 [q]S ver 2; Isa 9:17; 14:20; 31:2; Jer 23:14 [r]Ps 14:3 [s]S Dt 32:15; S Ps 119:87 [t]S 2Ki 19:22; Isa 5:19,24; 31:1; 37:23; 41:14; 43:14; 45:11; 47:4; Eze 39:7 [u]S Pr 30:9; Isa 59:13 **1:5** [v]Pr 20:30 [w]Jer 2:30; 5:3; 8:5 [x]S ver 2; Isa 31:6; Jer 44:16-17; Heb 3:16 [y]La 2:11; 5:17 [z]Isa 30:26; 33:6,24; 58:8; Jer 30:17 **1:6** [a]S Dt 28:35 [b]Ps 38:3 [c]Isa 53:5 [d]S Ps 147:3; Isa 30:26; Jer 8:22; 14:19; 30:17; La 2:13; Eze 34:4 [e]2Sa 14:2; Ps 23:5; 45:7; 104:15; Isa 61:3; Lk 10:34 **1:7** [f]S Lev 26:34 [g]S Lev 26:31; S Dt 29:23 [h]Lev 26:16; Jdg 6:3-6; Isa 62:8; Jer 5:17 [i]S 2Ki 18:13; S Ps 109:11 **1:8** [j]S Ps 9:14; S Isa 10:32 [k]Isa 30:17; 49:21 [l]S Job 27:18 **1:9** [m]S Ge 45:7; S 2Ki 21:14; Isa 4:2; 6:13; 27:12; 28:5; 37:4,31-32; 45:25; 56:8; Jer 23:3; Joel 2:32 [n]S Ge 19:24; Ro 9:29* **1:10** [o]Isa 28:14 [p]S Ge 13:13; S 18:20; Eze 16:49; Ro 9:29; Rev 11:8 [q]Isa 5:24; 8:20; 30:9 [r]Isa 13:19 **1:11** [s]Ps 50:8; Am 6:4 [t]S Job 22:3 [u]Isa 66:3; Jer 6:20 [v]1Sa 15:22; S Ps 40:6; Mal 1:10; Heb 10:4 **1:12** [w]Ex 23:17; Dt 31:11 **1:13** [x]Pr 15:8; Isa 66:3; Hag 2:14 [y]Jer 7:9; 18:15; 44:8 [z]S 1Ki 14:24; Ps 115:8; Pr 28:9; Isa 41:24; Mal 2:11 [a]S Nu 10:10 [b]1Ch 23:31 **1:14** [c]S Nu 10:10 [d]Ex 12:16; Lev 23:1-44; Nu 28:11-29:39; Dt 16:1-17; Isa 5:12; 29:1; Hos 2:11 [e]S Ps 11:5 [f]S Job 7:12 [g]Ps 69:3; Isa 7:13; 43:22,24; Jer 44:22; Mal 2:17; 3:14 **1:15** [h]S Ex 9:29 [i]S Dt 31:17; Isa 57:17; 59:2 [j]S Dt 1:45; S 1Sa 8:18; S Job 15:31; S Jn 9:31

Your hands[a] are full of blood;[b]
16 wash[c] and make yourselves clean.
Take your evil deeds
out of my sight![d]
Stop doing wrong,[e]
17 learn to do right![f]
Seek justice,[g]
encourage the oppressed.[a h]
Defend the cause of the fatherless,[i]
plead the case of the widow.[j]

18 "Come now, let us reason together,"[k]
says the LORD.
"Though your sins are like scarlet,
they shall be as white as snow;[l]
though they are red as crimson,
they shall be like wool.[m]
19 If you are willing and obedient,[n]
you will eat the best from the land;[o]
20 but if you resist and rebel,[p]
you will be devoured by the sword."[q]
For the mouth of the LORD
has spoken.[r]

21 See how the faithful city
has become a harlot![s]
She once was full of justice;
righteousness[t] used to dwell in her—
but now murderers![u]
22 Your silver has become dross,[v]
your choice wine is diluted with water.
23 Your rulers are rebels,[w]
companions of thieves;[x]
they all love bribes[y]
and chase after gifts.
They do not defend the cause of the fatherless;
the widow's case does not come before them.[z]
24 Therefore the Lord, the LORD Almighty,
the Mighty One[a] of Israel, declares:
"Ah, I will get relief from my foes
and avenge[b] myself on my enemies.[c]
25 I will turn my hand against you;[d]
I will thoroughly purge[e] away your dross[f]
and remove all your impurities.[g]
26 I will restore your judges as in days of old,[h]
your counselors as at the beginning.
Afterward you will be called[i]
the City of Righteousness,[j]
the Faithful City.[k]"

27 Zion will be redeemed with justice,
her penitent[l] ones with righteousness.[m]
28 But rebels and sinners[n] will both be broken,
and those who forsake[o] the LORD will perish.[p]

29 "You will be ashamed[q] because of the sacred oaks[r]
in which you have delighted;
you will be disgraced because of the gardens[s]
that you have chosen.
30 You will be like an oak with fading leaves,[t]
like a garden without water.
31 The mighty man will become tinder
and his work a spark;
both will burn together,
with no one to quench the fire.[u]"

The Mountain of the LORD

2:1-4pp — Mic 4:1-3

2 This is what Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem:[v]

2 In the last days[w]

the mountain[x] of the LORD's temple will be established
as chief among the mountains;[y]
it will be raised[z] above the hills,
and all nations will stream to it.[a]

3 Many peoples[b] will come and say,
"Come, let us go[c] up to the mountain[d] of the LORD,
to the house of the God of Jacob.
He will teach us his ways,
so that we may walk in his paths."
The law[e] will go out from Zion,
the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.[f]
4 He will judge[g] between the nations
and will settle disputes[h] for many peoples.
They will beat their swords into plowshares

1:15 [a]S Job 9:30 [b]Isa 4:4; 59:3; Jer 2:34; Eze 7:23; Hos 4:2; Joel 3:21 **1:16** [c]S Ru 3:3; Mt 27:24; Jas 4:8 [d]Nu 19:11,16; Isa 52:11 [e]Isa 55:7; Jer 25:5 **1:17** [f]S Ps 34:14 [g]S Ps 72:1; Isa 11:4; 33:5; 56:1; 61:8; Am 5:14-15; Mic 6:8; Zep 2:3 [h]S Dt 14:29 [i]ver 23; Job 22:9; Ps 82:3; 94:6; Isa 10:2 [j]S Ex 22:22; Eze 18:31; 22:7; Lk 18:3; Jas 1:27 **1:18** [k]S 1Sa 2:25; Isa 41:1; 43:9,26 [l]S Ps 51:7; Rev 7:14 [m]Isa 55:7 **1:19** [n]S Job 36:11; S Isa 50:10 [o]Dt 30:15-16; Ezr 9:12; Ps 34:10; Isa 30:23; 55:2; 58:14; 62:9; 65:13,21-22 **1:20** [p]S 1Sa 12:15 [q]S Job 15:22; Isa 3:25; 27:1; 65:12; 66:16; Jer 17:27 [r]Nu 23:19; Isa 21:17; 34:16; 40:5; 58:14; Jer 49:13; Mic 4:4; Zec 1:6; Rev 1:16 **1:21** [s]Isa 57:3-9; Jer 2:20; 3:2,9; 13:27; Eze 23:3; Hos 2:1-13 [t]Isa 5:7; 46:13; 59:14; Am 6:12 [u]S Pr 6:17 **1:22** [v]S Ps 119:119 **1:23** [w]S ver 2 [x]S Dt 19:14; Mic 2:1-2; 6:12 [y]S Ex 23:8; Am 5:12 [z]Isa 10:2; Jer 5:28; Eze 22:6-7; Mic 3:9; Hab 1:4 **1:24** [a]S Ge 49:24 [b]Isa 34:2,8; 35:4; 47:3; 59:17; 61:2; 63:4; Jer 51:6; Eze 5:13 [c]S Dt 32:43; S Isa 10:3 **1:25** [d]Dt 28:63 [e]S Ps 78:38 [f]S Ps 119:119 [g]2Ch 29:15; Isa 48:10; Jer 6:29; 9:7; Eze 22:22; Mal 3:3 **1:26** [h]Jer 33:7, 11; Mic 4:8 [i]S Ge 32:28 [j]Isa 32:16; 33:5; 46:13; 48:18; 61:11; 62:1; Jer 31:23; Zec 8:3 [k]Isa 4:3; 48:2; 52:1; 60:14; 62:2; 64:10; Da 9:24

1:27 [l]Isa 30:15; 31:6; 59:20; Eze 18:30 [m]Isa 35:10; 41:14; 43:1; 52:3; 62:12; 63:4; Hos 2:19 **1:28** [n]Isa 33:14; 43:27; 48:8; 50:1; 59:2; Jer 4:18 [o]S Dt 32:15 [p]Ps 9:5; Isa 24:20; 66:24; Jer 16:4; 42:22; 44:12; 2Th 1:8-9 **1:29** [q]Ps 97:7; Isa 42:17; 44:9,11; 45:16; Jer 10:14 [r]Isa 57:5; Eze 6:13; Hos 4:13 [s]Isa 65:3; 66:17 **1:30** [t]S Ps 1:3 **1:31** [u]Isa 4:4; 5:24; 9:18-19; 10:17; 24:6; 26:11; 30:27,33; 33:14; 34:10; 66:15-16,24; Jer 5:14; 7:20; 21:12; Ob 1:18; Mal 3:2; 4:1; S Mt 25:41 **2:1** [v]Isa 1:1 **2:2** [w]Ac 2:17; Heb 1:2 [x]Isa 11:9; 24:23; 25:6,10; 27:13; 56:7; 57:13; 65:25; 66:20; Jer 31:23; Da 11:45; Joel 3:17; Mic 4:7 [y]Isa 65:9 [z]Zec 14:10 [a]S Ps 102:15; Jer 16:19 **2:3** [b]Isa 45:23; 49:1; 60:3-6,14; 66:18; Jer 3:17; Joel 3:2; Zep 3:8; Zec 14:2 [c]Isa 45:14; 49:12,23; 55:5 [d]S Dt 33:19; S Ps 137:5 [e]S Isa 1:10; 33:22; 51:4,7 [f]Lk 24:47; S Jn 4:22 **2:4** [g]Ps 7:6; S 9:19; 96:13; 98:9; Isa 1:27; 3:13; 9:7; 42:4; 51:4; Joel 3:14 [h]S Ge 49:10

[a]17 Or / *rebuke the oppressor*

and their spears into pruning
hooks.[z]
Nation will not take up sword
against nation,[a]
nor will they train for war
anymore.

5 Come, O house of Jacob,[b]
let us walk in the light[c] of the
LORD.

The Day of the LORD

6 You have abandoned[d] your people,
the house of Jacob.[e]
They are full of superstitions from
the East;
they practice divination[f] like the
Philistines[g]
and clasp hands[h] with pagans.[i]
7 Their land is full of silver and gold;[j]
there is no end to their treasures.[k]
Their land is full of horses;[l]
there is no end to their chariots.[m]
8 Their land is full of idols;[n]
they bow down[o] to the work of
their hands,[p]
to what their fingers[q] have made.
9 So man will be brought low[r]
and mankind humbled[s]—
do not forgive them.[b][t]

10 Go into the rocks,
hide[u] in the ground
from dread of the LORD
and the splendor of his majesty![v]
11 The eyes of the arrogant[w] man will
be humbled[x]
and the pride[y] of men brought
low;[z]
the LORD alone will be exalted[a] in
that day.[b]

12 The LORD Almighty has a day[c] in
store
for all the proud[d] and lofty,[e]
for all that is exalted[f]
(and they will be humbled),[g]
13 for all the cedars of Lebanon,[h] tall
and lofty,[i]
and all the oaks of Bashan,[j]
14 for all the towering mountains
and all the high hills,[k]
15 for every lofty tower[l]
and every fortified wall,[m]
16 for every trading ship[c][n]
and every stately vessel.
17 The arrogance of man will be
brought low[o]
and the pride of men humbled;[p]
the LORD alone will be exalted in that
day,[q]
18 and the idols[r] will totally
disappear.[s]

19 Men will flee to caves[t] in the rocks
and to holes in the ground[u]
from dread[v] of the LORD
and the splendor of his majesty,[w]
when he rises to shake the earth.[x]
20 In that day[y] men will throw away
to the rodents and bats[z]
their idols of silver and idols of
gold,[a]
which they made to worship.
21 They will flee to caverns in the
rocks[b]
and to the overhanging crags
from dread of the LORD
and the splendor of his majesty,[c]
when he rises[d] to shake the
earth.[e]
22 Stop trusting in man,[f]
who has but a breath[g] in his
nostrils.
Of what account is he?[h]

Judgment on Jerusalem and Judah

3 See now, the Lord,
the LORD Almighty,
is about to take from Jerusalem and
Judah
both supply and support:[i]
all supplies of food[j] and all supplies
of water,[k]
2 the hero and warrior,[l]
the judge and prophet,
the soothsayer[m] and elder,[n]
3 the captain of fifty[o] and man of
rank,[p]
the counselor, skilled craftsman[q]
and clever enchanter.[r]

4 I will make boys their officials;
mere children will govern them.[s]
5 People will oppress each other—
man against man, neighbor
against neighbor.[t]
The young will rise up against the
old,
the base against the honorable.

6 A man will seize one of his brothers
at his father's home, and say,
"You have a cloak, you be our
leader;
take charge of this heap of ruins!"
7 But in that day[u] he will cry out,

[illegible] 17:23; Eze 31:10 #S Job 40:11 #S Ps 46:10 ver 17,20; Isa 5:7,16; 4:1,2; 5:30; 7:18; 17:4,7; 24:21; 25:9; 26:1; 27:1 **2:12** #Isa 13:6,9; 22:5,8,12; 34:8; 61:2; Jer 30:7; La 1:12; Eze 7:7; 30:3; Joel 1:15; 2:11; Am 5:18; Zep 1:14 #S Ps 59:12 /S 2Sa 22:28 #Ps 76:12; Isa 24:4,21; 60:11; Mal 4:1 #S Job 40:11 **2:13** /S Jdg 9:15; Isa 10:34; 29:17; Eze 27:5 /Isa 10:33 #S Ps 22:12; Zec 11:2 **2:14** /Isa 30:25; 40:4 **2:15** #Isa 30:25; 32:14; 33:18 #Isa 25:2,12; Zep 1:16 **2:16** #fn S Ge 10:4; S 1Ki 9:26 **2:17** #S 2Sa 22:28; S Job 40:11 #S ver 9 #S ver 11 **2:18** #S 1Sa 5:2; Eze 36:25 #S Dt 9:21; Isa 21:9; Jer 10:11; Mic 5:13

2:19 #S Jdg 6:2; Isa 7:19 #S Jdg 6:2; S Job 30:6; Lk 23:30; Rev 6:15 #S Dt 2:25 #S Ps 145:12 #ver 21; S Job 9:6; S Isa 14:16; Heb 12:26 **2:20** #S ver 11 #Lev 11:19 #S Job 22:24; Eze 36:25; Rev 9:20 #Eze 7:19-20; 14:6 **2:21** #S Ex 33:22 #S Ps 145:12 #Isa 33:10 #S ver 19 **2:22** #Ps 118:6,8; 146:3; Isa 51:12; Jer 17:5 #S Ge 2:7; S Ps 144:4 #S Job 12:19; Ps 8:4; 18:42; 144:3; Isa 17:13; 29:5; 40:15; S Jas 4:14 **3:1** #S Ps 18:18 #S Lev 26:26; Am 4:6 #Isa 5:13; 65:13; Eze 4:16 **3:2** #Eze 17:13 #Eze 18:10 #Isa 9:14-15 **3:3** #S 2Ki 1:9 #S Job 22:8 #2Ki 24:14 #S Ecc 10:11; Jer 8:17 **3:4** #ver 12; Ecc 10:16 fn **3:5** #Ps 28:3; Isa 9:19; Jer 9:8; Mic 7:2,6 **3:7** #S Isa 2:11

b9 Or *not raise them up* c16 Hebrew *every ship of Tarshish*

"I have no remedy.[a]
I have no food[b] or clothing in my
house;
do not make me the leader of the
people."[c]

8Jerusalem staggers,
Judah is falling;[d]
their words[e] and deeds[f] are against
the LORD,
defying[g] his glorious presence.
9The look on their faces testifies[h]
against them;
they parade their sin like
Sodom;[i]
they do not hide it.
Woe to them!
They have brought disaster[j] upon
themselves.

10Tell the righteous it will be well[k]
with them,
for they will enjoy the fruit of their
deeds.[l]
11Woe to the wicked![m] Disaster[n] is
upon them!
They will be paid back[o] for what
their hands have done.[p]

12Youths[q] oppress my people,
women rule over them.
O my people, your guides lead you
astray;[r]
they turn you from the path.

13The LORD takes his place in court;[s]
he rises to judge[t] the people.
14The LORD enters into judgment[u]
against the elders and leaders of
his people:
"It is you who have ruined my
vineyard;
the plunder[v] from the poor[w] is in
your houses.
15What do you mean by crushing my
people[x]
and grinding[y] the faces of the
poor?"[z]
declares the Lord,
the LORD Almighty.[a]

16The LORD says,
"The women of Zion[b] are
haughty,
walking along with outstretched
necks,[c]
flirting with their eyes,
tripping along with mincing steps,
with ornaments jingling on their
ankles.
17Therefore the Lord will bring sores
on the heads of the women
of Zion;
the LORD will make their scalps
bald.[d]"

18In that day[e] the Lord will snatch
away their finery: the bangles and
headbands and crescent necklaces,[f]
19the earrings and bracelets[g] and
veils,[h] 20the headdresses[i] and ankle
chains and sashes, the perfume bottles
and charms, 21the signet rings and nose
rings,[j] 22the fine robes and the capes
and cloaks,[k] the purses 23and mirrors,
and the linen garments[l] and tiaras[m]
and shawls.

24Instead of fragrance[n] there will be a
stench;[o]
instead of a sash,[p] a rope;
instead of well-dressed hair,
baldness;[q]
instead of fine clothing,
sackcloth;[r]
instead of beauty,[s] branding.[t]
25Your men will fall by the sword,[u]
your warriors in battle.[v]
26The gates[w] of Zion will lament and
mourn;[x]
destitute,[y] she will sit on the
ground.[z]

4 In that day[a] seven women
will take hold of one man[b]
and say, "We will eat our own food[c]
and provide our own clothes;
only let us be called by your name.
Take away our disgrace!"[d]

The Branch of the LORD

2In that day[e] the Branch of the LORD[f]
will be beautiful[g] and glorious, and the
fruit[h] of the land will be the pride and
glory[i] of the survivors[j] in Israel.
3Those who are left in Zion,[k] who re-
main[l] in Jerusalem, will be called
holy,[m] all who are recorded[n] among
the living in Jerusalem. 4The Lord will
wash away the filth[o] of the women of
Zion;[p] he will cleanse[q] the blood-
stains[r] from Jerusalem by a spirit[d] of
judgment[s] and a spirit[d] of fire.[t] 5Then
the LORD will create[u] over all of Mount
Zion[v] and over those who assemble
there a cloud of smoke by day and a
glow of flaming fire by night;[w] over all
the glory[x] will be a canopy.[y] 6It will be
a shelter[z] and shade from the heat of

3:7 [a]Jer 30:12; Eze 34:4; Hos 5:13 [b]Joel 1:16 [c]Isa 24:2 **3:8** [d]Isa 1:7 [e]Isa 9:15,17; 28:15; 30:9; 59:3, 13 [f]2Ch 33:6 [g]S Job 1:11; Ps 73:9,11; Isa 65:7 **3:9** [h]Nu 32:23; Isa 59:12; Jer 14:7; Hos 5:5 [i]S Ge 13:13 [j]S 2Ch 34:24; S Pr 8:36; Ro 6:23 **3:10** [k]S Dt 5:33; S 12:28; 28:1-14; Ps 37:17; Jer 22:15 [l]S Ge 15:1; S Ps 128:2 **3:11** [m]S Job 9:13; Isa 57:20 [n]Dt 28:15-68 [o]S 2Ch 6:23 [p]Jer 21:14; La 5:16; Eze 24:14 **3:12** [q]S ver 4 [r]Isa 9:16; 19:14; 28:7; 29:9; Jer 23:13; 25:16; Mic 3:5 **3:13** [s]S Job 10:2 [t]S Ps 82:1; S Isa 2:4 **3:14** [u]S 1Sa 12:7; S Job 22:4 [v]S Job 24:9; Jas 2:6 [w]Isa 11:4; 25:4 **3:15** [x]S Ps 94:5 [y]S Job 24:14 [z]Isa 10:6; 11:4; 26:6; 29:19; 32:6; 51:23 [a]Isa 5:7 **3:16** [b]S SS 3:11 [c]S Job 15:25 **3:17** [d]ver 24; Eze 27:31; Am 8:10 **3:18** [e]S Isa 2:11 [f]S Ge 41:42; S Jdg 8:21 **3:19** [g]S Ge 24:47 [h]Eze 16:11-12 **3:20** [i]Ex 39:28; Eze 24:17,23; 44:18 **3:21** [j]S Ge 24:22 **3:22** [k]Ru 3:15 **3:23** [l]Eze 16:10; 23:26 [m]S Ex 29:6; SS 3:11; Isa 61:3; 62:3 **3:24** [n]S Est 2:12 [o]Isa 4:4 [p]Pr 31:24 [q]S ver 17; S Lev 13:40; S Job 1:20 [r]S Ge 37:34; Job 16:15; Isa 20:2; Jer 4:8; La 2:10; Eze 27:30-31; Jnh 3:5-8 [s]1Pe 3:3 [t]S 2Sa 10:4; Isa 20:4 **3:25** [u]S Isa 1:20 [v]Jer 15:8 **3:26** [w]Isa 14:31; 24:12; 45:2 [x]S Ps 137:1; Isa 24:4,7; 29:2; 33:9; Jer 4:28; 14:2 [y]S Lev 26:31 [z]S Job 2:13; La 4:5 **4:1** [a]S Isa 2:11 [b]Isa 13:12; 32:9 [c]2Th 3:12 [d]S Ge 30:23 **4:2** [e]S Isa 2:11 [f]Isa 11:1-5; 52:13; 53:2; Jer 23:5-6; 33:15-16; Eze 17:22; Zec 3:8; 6:12 [g]Isa 33:17; 53:2 [h]S Ps 72:16; Eze 36:8 [i]Isa 60:15; Eze 34:29 [j]S Isa 1:9 **4:3** [k]S Isa 1:26 [l]Isa 1:9; Ro 11:5 [m]S Ex 19:6; Isa 26:2; 45:25; 52:1; 60:21; Joel 3:17; Ob 1:17; Zep 3:13 [n]S Ps 56:8; S 87:6; S Lk 10:20 **4:4** [o]Isa 3:24 [p]S SS 3:11 [q]S Ps 51:2 [r]S Isa 1:15 [s]Isa 28:6 [t]S Isa 1:31; S 30:30; S Zec 13:9; Mt 3:11; Lk 3:17 **4:5** [u]Isa 41:20; 65:18 [v]Rev 14:1 [w]S Ex 13:21 [x]Isa 35:2; 58:8; 60:1 [y]S Ps 18:11; Rev 7:15 **4:6** [z]Lev 23:34-43; Ps 27:5; Isa 8:14; 25:4; Eze 11:16

d4 Or *the Spirit*

the day, and a refuge[a] and hiding place from the storm[b] and rain.

The Song of the Vineyard

5 I will sing for the one I love
a song about his vineyard:[c]
My loved one had a vineyard
on a fertile hillside.
2He dug it up and cleared it of stones
and planted it with the choicest
vines.[d]
He built a watchtower[e] in it
and cut out a winepress[f] as well.
Then he looked for a crop of good
grapes,
but it yielded only bad fruit.[g]

3"Now you dwellers in Jerusalem and
men of Judah,
judge between me and my
vineyard.[h]
4What more could have been done for
my vineyard
than I have done for it?[i]
When I looked for good grapes,
why did it yield only bad?[j]
5Now I will tell you
what I am going to do to my
vineyard:
I will take away its hedge,
and it will be destroyed;[k]
I will break down its wall,[l]
and it will be trampled.[m]
6I will make it a wasteland,[n]
neither pruned nor cultivated,
and briers and thorns[o] will grow
there.
I will command the clouds
not to rain[p] on it."

7The vineyard[q] of the LORD Almighty
is the house of Israel,
and the men of Judah
are the garden of his delight.
And he looked for justice,[r] but saw
bloodshed;
for righteousness,[s] but heard cries
of distress.[t]

Woes and Judgments

8Woe[u] to you who add house to
house
and join field to field[v]
till no space is left
and you live alone in the land.
9The LORD Almighty[w] has declared in my hearing:[x]

"Surely the great houses will become
desolate,[y]
the fine mansions left without
occupants.
10A ten-acre[e] vineyard will produce
only a bath[f] of wine,
a homer[g] of seed only an ephah[h]
of grain."[z]

11Woe[a] to those who rise early in the
morning
to run after their drinks,
who stay up late at night
till they are inflamed with wine.[b]
12They have harps and lyres at their
banquets,
tambourines[c] and flutes[d] and
wine,
but they have no regard[e] for the
deeds of the LORD,
no respect for the work of his
hands.[f]
13Therefore my people will go into
exile[g]
for lack of understanding;[h]
their men of rank[i] will die of hunger
and their masses will be parched
with thirst.[j]
14Therefore the grave[i][k] enlarges its
appetite
and opens its mouth[l] without
limit;
into it will descend their nobles and
masses
with all their brawlers and
revelers.[m]
15So man will be brought low[n]
and mankind humbled,[o]
the eyes of the arrogant[p]
humbled.
16But the LORD Almighty will be
exalted[q] by his justice,[r]
and the holy God will show
himself holy[s] by his
righteousness.
17Then sheep will graze as in their
own pasture;[t]
lambs will feed[j] among the ruins
of the rich.

18Woe[u] to those who draw sin along
with cords[v] of deceit,
and wickedness[w] as with cart
ropes,
19to those who say, "Let God hurry,
let him hasten[x] his work
so we may see it.
Let it approach,

4:6 [a]Isa 14:32; 25:4; 30:2; 57:13 [b]S Ps 55:8
5:1 [c]Ps 80:8-9; Isa 27:2; Jn 15:1
5:2 [d]S Ex 15:17; Isa 16:8 [e]1Sa 2:9; Isa 27:3; 31:5; 49:8; Mt 21:33 [f]S Job 24:11 [g]Mt 21:19; Mk 11:13; Lk 13:6
5:3 [h]Mt 21:40
5:4 [i]S 2Ch 36:15; Jer 2:5-7; Mic 6:3-4; Mt 23:37 [j]Jer 2:21; 24:2; 29:17
5:5 [k]2Ch 36:21; Isa 6:12; 27:10 [l]S Ps 80:12; S Isa 22:5 [m]Isa 10:6; 26:6; 28:3,18; 41:25; 63:3; Jer 12:10; 34:22; La 1:15; Hos 2:12; Mic 7:10; Mal 4:3; S Lk 21:24
5:6 [n]S Ge 6:13; S Lev 26:32; Isa 6:13; 49:17,19; 51:3; Joel 1:10 [o]ver 10,17; S 2Sa 23:6; Isa 7:23,24; 32:13; 34:13; 55:13; Eze 28:24; Hos 2:12; Heb 6:8 [p]S Dt 28:24; S 2Sa 1:21; Am 4:7
5:7 [q]Ps 80:8; Isa 17:10; 18:5; 37:30 [r]Isa 10:2; 29:21; 32:7; 59:15; 61:8; Eze 9:9; 22:29 [s]S Isa 1:21 [t]S Ps 12:5
5:8 [u]ver 11,18,20; Isa 6:5; 10:1; 24:16; Jer 22:13 [v]Job 20:19; Mic 2:2; Hab 2:9-12
5:9 [w]Jer 44:11 [x]Isa 22:14 [y]Isa 6:11-12; Mt 23:38
5:10 [z]S ver 6; Lev 26:26; S Dt 28:38; Zec 8:10
5:11 [a]S ver 8 [b]S 1Sa 25:36; S Pr 23:29-30
5:12 [c]Ps 68:25; Isa 24:8 [d]S Job 21:12 [e]S 1Sa 12:24 [f]Ps 28:5; Eze 26:13
5:13 [g]Isa 49:21 [h]S Pr 10:21; S Isa 1:3 [i]S Job 22:8 [j]S Isa 3:1
5:14 [k]S Pr 30:16 [l]S Nu 16:30 [m]Isa 22:2,13; 23:7; 24:8
5:15 [n]Isa 10:33 [o]S Isa 2:9 [p]S Isa 2:11
5:16 [q]Ps 97:9; Isa 33:10 [r]Isa 28:17; 30:18; 33:5; 61:8 [s]S Lev 10:3; Isa 29:23; Eze 36:23
5:17 [t]Isa 7:25; 17:2; 32:14; Zep 2:6,14
5:18 [u]S ver 8 [v]Hos 11:4 [w]Isa 59:4-8; Jer 23:14
5:19 [x]Isa 60:22

[e]10 Hebrew *ten-yoke*, that is, the land plowed by 10 yoke of oxen in one day [f]10 That is, probably about 6 gallons (about 22 liters) [g]10 That is, probably about 6 bushels (about 220 liters) [h]10 That is, probably about 3/5 bushel (about 22 liters) [i]14 Hebrew *Sheol* [j]17 Septuagint; Hebrew / *strangers will eat*

let the plan of the Holy One[a] of
Israel come,
so we may know it."[b]

20Woe[c] to those who call evil good[d]
and good evil,[e]
who put darkness for light
and light for darkness,[f]
who put bitter for sweet
and sweet for bitter.[g]

21Woe to those who are wise in their
own eyes[h]
and clever in their own sight.

22Woe to those who are heroes at
drinking wine[i]
and champions at mixing drinks,[j]
23who acquit the guilty for a bribe,[k]
but deny justice[l] to the innocent.[m]
24Therefore, as tongues of fire[n] lick up
straw[o]
and as dry grass sinks down in the
flames,
so their roots will decay[p]
and their flowers blow away like
dust;[q]
for they have rejected the law of the
LORD Almighty
and spurned the word[r] of the
Holy One[s] of Israel.
25Therefore the LORD's anger[t] burns
against his people;
his hand is raised and he strikes
them down.
The mountains shake,[u]
and the dead bodies[v] are like
refuse[w] in the streets.[x]

Yet for all this, his anger is not
turned away,[y]
his hand is still upraised.[z]

26He lifts up a banner[a] for the distant
nations,
he whistles[b] for those at the ends
of the earth.[c]
Here they come,
swiftly and speedily!
27Not one of them grows tired[d] or
stumbles,
not one slumbers or sleeps;
not a belt[e] is loosened at the waist,[f]
not a sandal thong is broken.[g]
28Their arrows are sharp,[h]
all their bows[i] are strung;
their horses' hoofs[j] seem like flint,
their chariot wheels like a
whirlwind.[k]
29Their roar is like that of the lion,[l]
they roar like young lions;
they growl as they seize[m] their prey
and carry it off with no one to
rescue.[n]

5:19 [a]S Isa 1:4; 29:23; 30:11,12 [b]Jer 17:15; Eze 12:22; 2Pe 3:4 **5:20** [c]S ver 8 [d]S Ge 18:25; S 1Ki 22:8 [e]S Ps 94:21 [f]S Job 24:13; Mt 6:22-23; Lk 11:34-35 [g]Am 5:7 **5:21** [h]S Pr 3:7; Isa 47:10; Ro 12:16; 1Co 3:18-20 **5:22** [i]S 1Sa 25:36; S Pr 23:20; S Isa 22:13 [j]S Pr 31:4; Isa 65:11; Jer 7:18 **5:23** [k]S Ex 23:8; S Eze 22:12 [l]ver 7; S Isa 1:17; 10:2; 29:21; 59:4, 13-15 [m]S Ps 94:21; Am 5:12; Jas 5:6 **5:24** [n]S Isa 1:31 [o]Isa 47:14; Na 1:10 [p]S 2Ki 19:30; S Job 18:16 [q]S Job 24:24; Isa 40:8 [r]Ps 107:11; Isa 8:6; 30:9,12 [s]Job 6:10; Isa 1:4; 10:20; 12:6 **5:25** [t]S 2Ki 22:13; S Job 40:11; Isa 10:17; 26:11; 31:9; 66:15; S Jer 6:12 [u]S Ex 19:18 [v]S Ps 110:6 [w]S 2Ki 9:37 [x]S 2Sa 22:43 [y]Jer 4:8; Da 9:16 [z]Isa 9:12,17,21; 10:4 **5:26** [a]S Ps 20:5 [b]Isa 7:18; Zec 10:8 [c]Dt 28:49; Isa 13:5; 18:3 **5:27** [d]Isa 14:31; 40:29-31 [e]Isa 22:21; Eze 23:15 [f]S Job 12:18 [g]Joel 2:7-8 **5:28** [h]S Job 39:23; Ps 45:5 [i]S Ps 7:12 [j]Eze 26:11 [k]S 2Ki 2:1; S Job 1:19 **5:29** [l]S 2Ki 17:25; Jer 51:38; Zep 3:3; Zec 11:3 [m]Isa 10:6; 49:24-25 [n]Isa 42:22; Mic 5:8

5:30 [o]S Isa 2:11 [p]S Ps 93:3; Jer 50:42; Lk 21:25 [q]S 1Sa 2:9; S Job 21:30; Ps 18:28; 44:19; S 82:5 [r]S Jdg 6:2; Isa 22:5; 33:2; Jer 4:23-28 [s]Isa 13:10; 50:3; Joel 2:10 **6:1** [t]S 2Ch 26:22,23 [u]S 2Ki 15:7

30In that day[o] they will roar over it
like the roaring of the sea.[p]
And if one looks at the land,
he will see darkness[q] and
distress;[r]
even the light will be darkened[s]
by the clouds.

Isaiah's Commission

6 In the year that King Uzziah[t]
died,[u] I saw the Lord[v] seated on a
throne,[w] high and exalted,[x] and the
train of his robe[y] filled the temple.
2Above him were seraphs,[z] each with
six wings: With two wings they
covered their faces, with two they
covered their feet,[a] and with two they
were flying. 3And they were calling to
one another:

"Holy, holy[b], holy is the LORD
Almighty;[c]
the whole earth[d] is full of his
glory."[e]

4At the sound of their voices the door-
posts and thresholds shook and the
temple was filled with smoke.[f]
5"Woe[g] to me!" I cried. "I am
ruined![h] For I am a man of unclean
lips,[i][j] and I live among a people of
unclean lips,[k] and my eyes have seen[l]
the King,[m] the LORD Almighty."[n]
6Then one of the seraphs flew to me
with a live coal[o] in his hand, which he
had taken with tongs from the altar.
7With it he touched my mouth and
said, "See, this has touched your lips;[p]
your guilt is taken away and your sin
atoned for.[q]"
8Then I heard the voice[r] of the Lord
saying, "Whom shall I send?[s] And
who will go for us?[t]"
And I said, "Here am I.[u] Send me!"
9He said, "Go[v] and tell this people:

" 'Be ever hearing, but never
understanding;
be ever seeing, but never
perceiving.'[w]
10Make the heart of this people
calloused;[x]
make their ears dull

[v]S Ex 24:10; S Nu 12:8; Jn 12:41 [w]S 1Ki 22:19; S Ps 9:4; S 123:1; S Rev 4:2 [x]Isa 52:13; 53:12 [y]Rev 1:13 **6:2** [z]Eze 1:5; 10:15; Rev 4:8 [a]Eze 1:11 **6:3** [b]S Ex 15:11 [c]Ps 89:8 [d]Isa 11:9; 54:5; Mal 1:11 [e]S Ex 16:7; Nu 14:21; Ps 72:19; Rev 4:8 **6:4** [f]S Ex 19:18; S 40:34; Eze 43:5; 44:4; Rev 15:8 **6:5** [g]S Isa 5:8 [h]S Nu 17:12; S Dt 5:26 [i]Lk 5:8 [j]Ex 6:12 [k]Isa 59:3; Jer 9:3-8 [l]S Ex 24:10 [m]Ps 45:3; Isa 24:23; 32:1; 33:17; Jer 51:57 [n]S Job 42:5 **6:6** [o]S Lev 10:1; Eze 10:2 **6:7** [p]Jer 1:9; Da 10:16 [q]S Lev 26:41; Isa 45:25; Da 12:3; 1Jn 1:7 **6:8** [r]S Job 40:9; Ac 9:4 [s]Jer 26:12,15 [t]S Ge 1:26 [u]S Ge 22:1; S Ex 3:4 **6:9** [v]Eze 3:11; Am 7:15; Mt 28:19 [w]Jer 5:21; S Mt 13:15*; Lk 8:10* **6:10** [x]S Ex 4:21; Dt 32:15; Ps 119:70

and close their eyes.[k] [a]
Otherwise they might see with their eyes,
hear with their ears,[b]
understand with their hearts,
and turn and be healed."[c]

11Then I said, "For how long, O
Lord?"[d]
And he answered:
"Until the cities lie ruined[e]
and without inhabitant,
until the houses are left deserted[f]
and the fields ruined and ravaged,[g]
12until the LORD has sent everyone far away[h]
and the land is utterly forsaken.[i]
13And though a tenth remains[j] in the land,
it will again be laid waste.[k]
But as the terebinth and oak
leave stumps[l] when they are cut down,
so the holy[m] seed will be the stump in the land."[n]

The Sign of Immanuel

7 When Ahaz[o] son of Jotham, the
son of Uzziah, was king of Judah,
King Rezin[p] of Aram[q] and Pekah[r] son
of Remaliah[s] king of Israel marched up
to fight against Jerusalem, but they
could not overpower it.
2Now the house of David[t] was told,
"Aram has allied itself with[l]
Ephraim[u]"; so the hearts of Ahaz and
his people were shaken,[v] as the trees
of the forest are shaken by the wind.
3Then the LORD said to Isaiah, "Go
out, you and your son Shear-Jashub,[m][w]
to meet Ahaz at the end of the aque-
duct of the Upper Pool, on the road to
the Washerman's Field.[x] 4Say to him,
'Be careful, keep calm[y] and don't be
afraid.[z] Do not lose heart[a] because of
these two smoldering stubs[b] of fire-
wood—because of the fierce anger[c] of
Rezin and Aram and of the son of
Remaliah.[d] 5Aram, Ephraim and
Remaliah's[e] son have plotted[f] your
ruin, saying, 6"Let us invade Judah; let
us tear it apart and divide it among
ourselves, and make the son of Tabeel
king over it." 7Yet this is what the Sov-
ereign LORD says:[g]

"'It will not take place,
it will not happen,[h]
8for the head of Aram is Damascus,[i]
and the head of Damascus is only Rezin.[j]
Within sixty-five years
Ephraim will be too shattered[k] to be a people.
9The head of Ephraim is Samaria,[l]
and the head of Samaria is only Remaliah's son.
If you do not stand[m] firm in your faith,[n]
you will not stand at all.'"[o]

10Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz,
11"Ask the LORD your God for a sign,[p]
whether in the deepest depths or in the
highest heights.[q]"
12But Ahaz said, "I will not ask; I will
not put the LORD to the test.[r]"
13Then Isaiah said, "Hear now, you
house of David![s] Is it not enough[t] to
try the patience of men? Will you try
the patience[u] of my God[v] also?
14Therefore the Lord himself will give
you[n] a sign:[w] The virgin[x] will be with
child and will give birth to a son,[y]
and[o] will call him Immanuel.[p][z] 15He
will eat curds[a] and honey[b] when he
knows enough to reject the wrong and
choose the right. 16But before the boy
knows[c] enough to reject the wrong
and choose the right,[d] the land of the
two kings you dread will be laid
waste.[e] 17The LORD will bring on you
and on your people and on the house
of your father a time unlike any since
Ephraim broke away[f] from Judah—he
will bring the king of Assyria.[g]"
18In that day[h] the LORD will whistle[i]
for flies from the distant streams of
Egypt and for bees from the land of As-
syria.[j] 19They will all come and settle
in the steep ravines and in the crev-
ices[k] in the rocks, on all the thorn-
bushes[l] and at all the water holes. 20In
that day[m] the Lord will use[n] a razor
hired from beyond the River[q][o]—the
king of Assyria[p]—to shave your head
and the hair of your legs, and to take
off your beards[q] also.[r] 21In that day,[s]
a man will keep alive a young cow and
two goats.[t] 22And because of the abun-
dance of the milk they give, he will

6:10 [a]Isa 29:9; 32:19,20; 43:8; 44:18 [b]S Dt 29:4; Eze 12:2; Mk 8:18 [c]S Dt 32:39; Mt 13:13-15; Mk 4:12*; Jn 12:40*; Ac 28:26-27* **6:11** [d]Ps 79:5 [e]S Lev 26:31; S Jer 4:13 [f]S Lev 26:43; Isa 24:10 [g]Ps 79:1; S 109:11; Jer 35:17 **6:12** [h]S Dt 28:64 [i]S Isa 5:5,9; 60:15; 62:4; Jer 4:29; 30:17 **6:13** [j]S Isa 1:9; 10:22 [k]S Isa 5:6 [l]S Job 14:8 [m]S Lev 27:30; S Dt 14:2 [n]S Job 14:7 **7:1** [o]S 1Ch 3:13 [p]S ver 8; S 2Ki 15:37 [q]2Ch 28:5 [r]S 2Ki 15:25 [s]ver 5,9; Isa 8:6 **7:2** [t]ver 13; S 2Sa 7:11; Isa 16:5; 22:22; Jer 21:12; Am 9:11 [u]Isa 9:9; Hos 5:3 [v]Isa 6:4; Da 5:6 **7:3** [w]Isa 10:21-22 [x]2Ki 18:17; Isa 36:2 **7:4** [y]Isa 30:15; La 3:26 [z]S Ge 15:1; S Dt 3:2; Isa 8:12; 12:2; 35:4; 37:6; Mt 24:6 [a]S Dt 20:3; S Isa 21:4 [b]Am 4:11; Zec 3:2 [c]Isa 10:24; 51:13; 54:14 [d]S 2Ki 15:27 **7:5** [e]S ver 1 [f]ver 2 **7:7** [g]Isa 24:3; 25:8; 28:16 [h]Ps 2:1; Isa 8:10; 14:24; 28:18; 40:8; 46:10; Ac 4:25 **7:8** [i]S Ge 14:15 [j]ver 1; Isa 9:11 [k]2Ki 17:24; Isa 8:4; 17:1-3 **7:9** [l]S 2Ki 15:29; Isa 9:9; 28:1,3 [m]S Ps 20:8; Isa 8:10; 40:8 [n]2Ch 20:20 [o]Isa 8:6-8; 30:12-14 **7:11** [p]S Ex 7:9; S Dt 13:2 [q]Ps 139:8 **7:12** [r]Dt 4:34 **7:13** [s]S ver 2 [t]S Ge 30:15 [u]S Isa 1:14 [v]Ps 63:1; 118:28; Isa 25:1; 49:4; 61:10 **7:14** [w]S Ex 3:12; S Lk 2:12 [x]S Ge 24:43 [y]S Ge 3:15; Lk 1:31 [z]S Ge 21:22; Isa 8:8,10; Mt 1:23*

7:15 [a]S Ge 18:8 [b]ver 22 **7:16** [c]Isa 8:4 [d]Dt 1:39 [e]S Dt 13:16; Isa 17:3; Jer 7:15; Hos 5:9,13; Am 1:3-5 **7:17** [f]1Ki 12:16 [g]S ver 20; S 2Ch 28:20 **7:18** [h]ver 20,21; S Isa 2:11 [i]S Isa 5:26 [j]Isa 13:5 **7:19** [k]S Isa 2:19 [l]ver 25; Isa 17:9; 34:13; 55:13 **7:20** [m]S ver 18 [n]Isa 10:15; 29:16 [o]Isa 11:15; Jer 2:18 [p]ver 17; 2Ki 18:16; Isa 8:7; 10:5 [q]S 2Sa 10:4 [r]S Dt 28:49 **7:21** [s]ver 23; Isa 2:17 [t]Jer 39:10

[k]9,10 Hebrew; Septuagint *'You will be ever hearing, but never understanding; / you will be ever seeing, but never perceiving.' / 10This people's heart has become calloused; / they hardly hear with their ears, / and they have closed their eyes* [l]2 Or *has set up camp in* [m]3 *Shear-Jashub* means *a remnant will return.* [n]14 The Hebrew is plural. [o]14 Masoretic Text; Dead Sea Scrolls *and he* or *and they* [p]14 *Immanuel* means *God with us.* [q]20 That is, the Euphrates

have curds to eat. All who remain in
the land will eat curds[a] and honey.[b]
23 In that day,[c] in every place where
there were a thousand vines worth a
thousand silver shekels,[r d] there will
be only briers and thorns.[e] 24 Men will
go there with bow and arrow, for the
land will be covered with briers[f] and
thorns. 25 As for all the hills[g] once cul-
tivated by the hoe, you will no longer
go there for fear of the briers and
thorns;[h] they will become places where
cattle are turned loose and where
sheep run.[i]

Assyria, the Lord's Instrument

8 The LORD said to me, "Take a large
scroll[j] and write on it with an ordi-
nary pen: Maher-Shalal-Hash-Baz.[s k]
2 And I will call in Uriah[l] the priest and
Zechariah son of Jeberekiah as reliable
witnesses[m] for me."

3 Then I went to the prophetess,[n] and
she conceived and gave birth to a son.[o]
And the LORD said to me, "Name him
Maher-Shalal-Hash-Baz.[p] 4 Before the
boy knows[q] how to say 'My father' or
'My mother,' the wealth of Damascus[r]
and the plunder of Samaria will be car-
ried off by the king of Assyria.[s]"

5 The LORD spoke to me again:

6 "Because this people has rejected[t]
the gently flowing waters of
Shiloah[u]
and rejoices over Rezin
and the son of Remaliah,[v]
7 therefore the Lord is about to bring
against them
the mighty floodwaters[w] of the
River[t] —
the king of Assyria[x] with all his
pomp.[y]
It will overflow all its channels,
run over all its banks[z]
8 and sweep on into Judah, swirling
over it,[a]
passing through it and reaching
up to the neck.
Its outspread wings[b] will cover the
breadth of your land,
O Immanuel[u]!"[c]

9 Raise the war cry,[v d] you nations,
and be shattered![e]
Listen, all you distant lands.
Prepare[f] for battle, and be shattered!
Prepare for battle, and be shattered!
10 Devise your strategy, but it will be
thwarted;[g]
propose your plan, but it will not
stand,[h]
for God is with us.[w i]

7:22 [a]S Ge 18:8 [b]ver 15; Isa 14:30 **7:23** [c]ver 21 [d]S SS 8:11 [e]S Isa 5:6; Hos 2:12 **7:24** [f]S Isa 5:6 **7:25** [g]Hag 1:11 [h]S ver 19 [i]S Isa 5:17 **8:1** [j]S Dt 27:8; Job 19:23; Isa 30:8; Jer 51:60 [k]ver 3; Jer 20:3; Hos 1:4 **8:2** [l]S 2Ki 16:10 [m]ver 16; S Jos 24:22; S Ru 4:9; Jer 32:10,12,25,44 **8:3** [n]S Ex 15:20 [o]S Ge 3:15 [p]S ver 1 **8:4** [q]Isa 7:16 [r]S Ge 14:15 [s]S Isa 7:8 **8:6** [t]S Isa 5:24 [u]S Ne 3:15; Jn 9:7 [v]S Isa 7:1 **8:7** [w]Isa 17:12-13; 28:2,17; 30:28; 43:2; Da 11:40; Na 1:8 [x]S 2Ch 28:20; S Isa 7:20 [y]Isa 10:16 [z]S Jos 3:15 **8:8** [a]Isa 28:15 [b]Isa 18:6; 46:11; Jer 4:13; 48:40 [c]S Isa 7:14 **8:9** [d]S Job 6:5; Isa 17:12-13 [e]S Job 34:24 [f]Jer 6:4; 46:3; 51:12,27-28; Eze 38:7; Joel 3:9; Zec 14:2-3 **8:10** [g]S Job 5:12 [h]S Pr 19:21; S 21:30; S Isa 7:7 [i]S Isa 7:14; Mt 1:23; Ro 8:31 **8:11** [j]Eze 1:3; 3:14 [k]Eze 2:8 **8:12** [l]Isa 7:2; 20:5; 30:1; 36:6 [m]S Isa 7:4; Mt 10:28 [n]1Pe 3:14* **8:13** [o]S Nu 20:12 [p]S Ex 20:20 [q]Isa 29:23 **8:14** [r]S Isa 4:6 [s]S Ps 118:22 [t]Jer 6:21; Eze 3:20; 14:3,7; Lk 20:18 [u]S Lk 2:34; Ro 9:33*; 1Pe 2:8* [v]S Ps 119:110; Isa 24:17-18 **8:15** [w]Pr 4:19; Isa 28:13; 59:10; Ro 9:32 **8:16** [x]S Ru 4:7 [y]Isa 29:11-12; Jer 32:14; Da 8:26; 12:4 **8:17** [z]S Ps 27:14 [a]S Dt 31:17 [b]S Ps 22:5; Heb 2:13* **8:18** [c]S Ge 33:5; Heb 2:13* [d]S Ex 3:12; Eze 4:3; 12:6; 24:24; Lk 2:34 [e]S Dt 28:46; S Eze 12:11 [f]Ps 9:11

Fear God

11 The LORD spoke to me with his
strong hand upon me,[j] warning me
not to follow[k] the way of this people.
He said:

12 "Do not call conspiracy[l]
everything that these people call
conspiracy[x];
do not fear what they fear,[m]
and do not dread it.[n]
13 The LORD Almighty is the one you
are to regard as holy,[o]
he is the one you are to fear,[p]
he is the one you are to dread,[q]
14 and he will be a sanctuary;[r]
but for both houses of Israel he
will be
a stone[s] that causes men to
stumble[t]
and a rock that makes them fall.[u]
And for the people of Jerusalem he
will be
a trap and a snare.[v]
15 Many of them will stumble;[w]
they will fall and be broken,
they will be snared and captured."

16 Bind up the testimony[x]
and seal[y] up the law among my
disciples.
17 I will wait[z] for the LORD,
who is hiding[a] his face from the
house of Jacob.
I will put my trust in him.[b]

18 Here am I, and the children the
LORD has given me.[c] We are signs[d] and
symbols[e] in Israel from the LORD Al-
mighty, who dwells on Mount Zion.[f]

19 When men tell you to consult[g]
mediums and spiritists,[h] who whisper
and mutter,[i] should not a people in-
quire[j] of their God? Why consult the
dead on behalf of the living? 20 To the
law[k] and to the testimony![l] If they do
not speak according to this word, they
have no light[m] of dawn. 21 Distressed
and hungry,[n] they will roam through
the land;[o] when they are famished,
they will become enraged and, looking
upward, will curse[p] their king and
their God. 22 Then they will look toward

8:19 [g]S 1Sa 28:8 [h]S Lev 19:31 [i]Isa 29:4 [j]S Nu 27:21 **8:20** [k]S Isa 1:10; Lk 16:29 [l]S Ru 4:7 [m]ver 22; Isa 9:2; 59:9; 60:2; Mic 3:6 **8:21** [n]S Job 18:12 [o]Job 30:3 [p]S Ex 22:28; Rev 16:11

[r]23 That is, about 25 pounds (about 11.5 kilograms)
[s]1 *Maher-Shalal-Hash-Baz* means *quick to the plunder, swift to the spoil;* also in verse 3. [t]7 That is, the Euphrates [u]8 *Immanuel* means *God with us.*
[v]9 Or *Do your worst* [w]10 Hebrew *Immanuel*
[x]12 Or *Do not call for a treaty / every time these people call for a treaty*

the earth and see only distress and darkness and fearful gloom,[a] and they will be thrust into utter darkness.[b]

To Us a Child Is Born

9 Nevertheless, there will be no more gloom[c] for those who were in distress. In the past he humbled the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,[d] but in the future he will honor Galilee of the Gentiles, by the way of the sea, along the Jordan—

2The people walking in darkness[e]
have seen a great light;[f]
on those living in the land of the shadow of death[y][g]
a light has dawned.[h]
3You have enlarged the nation[i]
and increased their joy;[j]
they rejoice before you
as people rejoice at the harvest,
as men rejoice
when dividing the plunder.[k]
4For as in the day of Midian's defeat,[l]
you have shattered[m]
the yoke[n] that burdens them,
the bar across their shoulders,[o]
the rod of their oppressor.[p]
5Every warrior's boot used in battle
and every garment rolled in blood
will be destined for burning,[q]
will be fuel for the fire.
6For to us a child is born,[r]
to us a son is given,[s]
and the government[t] will be on his shoulders.[u]
And he will be called
Wonderful Counselor,[z][v] Mighty God,[w]
Everlasting[x] Father,[y] Prince of Peace.[z]
7Of the increase of his government[a] and peace[b]
there will be no end.[c]
He will reign[d] on David's throne
and over his kingdom,
establishing and upholding it
with justice[e] and righteousness[f]
from that time on and forever.[g]
The zeal[h] of the LORD Almighty
will accomplish this.

The LORD's Anger Against Israel

8The Lord has sent a message[i] against Jacob;
it will fall on Israel.
9All the people will know it—
Ephraim[j] and the inhabitants of Samaria[k]—
who say with pride
and arrogance[l] of heart,
10"The bricks have fallen down,
but we will rebuild with dressed stone;[m]
the fig[n] trees have been felled,
but we will replace them with cedars."[o]
11But the LORD has strengthened Rezin's[p] foes against them
and has spurred their enemies on.
12Arameans[q] from the east and Philistines[r] from the west
have devoured[s] Israel with open mouth.

Yet for all this, his anger[t] is not turned away,
his hand is still upraised.[u]

13But the people have not returned[v] to him who struck[w] them,
nor have they sought[x] the LORD Almighty.
14So the LORD will cut off from Israel
both head and tail,
both palm branch and reed[y] in a single day;[z]
15the elders[a] and prominent men[b] are the head,
the prophets[c] who teach lies[d] are the tail.
16Those who guide[e] this people mislead them,
and those who are guided are led astray.[f]
17Therefore the Lord will take no pleasure in the young men,[g]
nor will he pity[h] the fatherless and widows,
for everyone is ungodly[i] and wicked,[j]
every mouth speaks vileness.[k]
Yet for all this, his anger is not turned away,
his hand is still upraised.[l]

18Surely wickedness burns like a fire;[m]
it consumes briers and thorns,[n]
it sets the forest thickets ablaze,[o]
so that it rolls upward in a column of smoke.
19By the wrath[p] of the LORD Almighty
the land will be scorched[q]
and the people will be fuel for the fire;[r]

8:22 [a]S Job 15:24 [b]S ver 20; S Job 3:13; S Isa 5:30; S Joel 2:2; Mt 25:30; Rev 16:10 **9:1** [c]S Job 18:24 [d]S 2Ki 15:29 **9:2** [e]S Ps 82:5; S 107:10,14; S Isa 8:20 [f]S Ps 36:9; Isa 42:6; 49:6; 60:19; Mal 4:2; Eph 5:8 [g]S Lk 1:79 [h]Isa 58:8; Mt 4:15-16* **9:3** [i]S Job 12:23 [j]S Ps 4:7; S Isa 25:9 [k]S Ex 15:9; S Jos 22:8; S Ps 119:162 **9:4** [l]S Jdg 7:25 [m]S Job 34:24; Isa 37:36-38 [n]Isa 14:25; 58:6,9; Jer 2:20; 30:8; Eze 30:18; Na 1:13; Mt 11:30 [o]S Ps 81:6; S Isa 10:27 [p]Isa 14:4; 16:4; 29:5,20; 49:26; 51:13; 54:14; 60:18 **9:5** [q]S Isa 2:4 **9:6** [r]S Ge 3:15; Isa 53:2; Lk 2:11 [s]Jn 3:16 [t]S Mt 28:18 [u]Isa 22:22 [v]S Job 15:8; Isa 28:29 [w]S Dt 7:21; Ps 24:8; Isa 10:21; 11:2; 42:13 [x]S Ps 90:2 [y]S Ex 4:22; Isa 64:8; Jn 14:9-10 [z]Isa 26:3,12; 53:5; 66:12; Jer 33:6; Mic 5:5; S Lk 2:14 **9:7** [a]S Isa 2:4 [b]S Ps 85:8; 119:165; Isa 11:9; 26:3,12; 32:17; 48:18 [c]Da 2:44; 4:3; S Lk 1:33; Jn 12:34 [d]Isa 1:26; 32:1; 60:17; 1Co 15:25 [e]Isa 11:4; 16:5; 32:1,16; 33:5; 42:1; Jer 23:5; 33:14 [f]S Ps 72:2 [g]S 2Sa 7:13 [h]2Ki 19:31; Isa 26:11; 37:32; 42:13; 59:17; 63:15 **9:8** [i]S Dt 32:2 **9:9** [j]S Isa 7:2 [k]S Isa 7:9 [l]Isa 46:12; 48:4; Eze 2:4; Zec 7:11 **9:10** [m]S Ge 11:3 [n]Am 7:14; Lk 19:4 [o]1Ki 7:2-3 **9:11** [p]S Isa 7:8 **9:12** [q]2Ki 16:6 [r]S 2Ch 28:18 [s]S Ps 79:7 [t]S Job 40:11 [u]S Isa 5:25 **9:13** [v]S 2Ch 28:22; Am 4:9; Zep 3:7; Hag 2:17 [w]Jer 5:3; Eze 7:9

[x]Isa 2:3; 17:7; 31:1; 55:6; Jer 50:4; Da 9:13; Hos 3:5; 7:7,10; Am 4:6,10; Zep 1:6 **9:14** [y]ver 14-15; Isa 19:15 [z]Rev 18:8 **9:15** [a]Isa 3:2-3 [b]S Isa 5:13 [c]Isa 28:7; Eze 13:2 [d]S Job 13:4; S Isa 3:8; 44:20; Eze 13:22; Mt 24:24 **9:16** [e]Mt 15:14; 23:16,24 [f]S Isa 3:12 **9:17** [g]Jer 9:21; 11:22; 18:21; 48:15; 49:26; Am 4:10; 8:13 [h]S Job 5:4; Isa 27:11; Jer 13:14 [i]Isa 10:6; 32:6; Mic 7:2 [j]S Isa 1:4 [k]S Isa 3:8; Mt 12:34; Ro 3:13-14 [l]S Isa 5:25 **9:18** [m]S Dt 29:23; S Isa 1:31 [n]S Isa 5:6 [o]S Ps 83:14 **9:19** [p]S Job 40:11; Isa 13:9,13 [q]Jer 17:27 [r]S Ps 97:3; S Isa 1:31

y2 *Or land of darkness* z6 *Or Wonderful, Counselor*

no one will spare his brother.[e]
20On the right they will devour,
but still be hungry;[b]
on the left they will eat,[c]
but not be satisfied.
Each will feed on the flesh of his
own offspring[a]:
21 Manasseh will feed on Ephraim,
and Ephraim on Manasseh;[d]
together they will turn against
Judah.[e]

Yet for all this, his anger is not
turned away,
his hand is still upraised.[f]

10 Woe[g] to those who make unjust
laws,
to those who issue oppressive
decrees,[h]
2to deprive[i] the poor of their rights
and withhold justice from the
oppressed of my people,[j]
making widows their prey
and robbing the fatherless.[k]
3What will you do on the day of
reckoning,[l]
when disaster[m] comes from afar?
To whom will you run for help?[n]
Where will you leave your riches?
4Nothing will remain but to cringe
among the captives[o]
or fall among the slain.[p]

Yet for all this, his anger is not
turned away,[q]
his hand is still upraised.

God's Judgment on Assyria

5"Woe[r] to the Assyrian,[s] the rod[t] of
my anger,
in whose hand is the club[u] of my
wrath![v]
6I send him against a godless[w]
nation,
I dispatch[x] him against a people
who anger me,[y]
to seize loot and snatch plunder,[z]
and to trample[a] them down like
mud in the streets.
7But this is not what he intends,[b]
this is not what he has in mind;
his purpose is to destroy,
to put an end to many nations.
8'Are not my commanders[c] all
kings?' he says.
9 'Has not Calno[d] fared like
Carchemish?[e]
Is not Hamath[f] like Arpad,[g]
and Samaria[h] like Damascus?[i]
10As my hand seized the kingdoms of
the idols,[j]
kingdoms whose images excelled
those of Jerusalem and
Samaria—
11shall I not deal with Jerusalem and
her images
as I dealt with Samaria and her
idols?[k]' "

12When the Lord has finished all his
work[l] against Mount Zion[m] and
Jerusalem, he will say, "I will punish
the king of Assyria[n] for the willful
pride[o] of his heart and the haughty
look[p] in his eyes. 13For he says:

" 'By the strength of my hand[q] I
have done this,[r]
and by my wisdom, because I
have understanding.
I removed the boundaries of nations,
I plundered their treasures;[s]
like a mighty one I subdued[b] their
kings.[t]
14As one reaches into a nest,[u]
so my hand reached for the
wealth[v] of the nations;
as men gather abandoned eggs,
so I gathered all the countries;[w]
not one flapped a wing,
or opened its mouth to chirp.[x]' "
15Does the ax raise itself above him
who swings it,
or the saw boast against him who
uses it?[y]
As if a rod were to wield him who
lifts it up,
or a club[z] brandish him who is
not wood!
16Therefore, the Lord, the LORD
Almighty,
will send a wasting disease[a] upon
his sturdy warriors;[b]
under his pomp[c] a fire[d] will be
kindled
like a blazing flame.
17The Light of Israel will become a
fire,[e]
their Holy One[f] a flame;
in a single day it will burn and
consume
his thorns[g] and his briers.[h]
18The splendor of his forests[i] and
fertile fields
it will completely destroy,[j]
as when a sick man wastes away.

9:19 [e]S Isa 3:5 **9:20** [b]S Lev 26:26; S Job 18:12 [c]Isa 49:26; Zec 11:9 **9:21** [d]S Jdg 7:22; S 12:4 [e]S 2Ch 28:6 [f]S Isa 5:25 **10:1** [g]S Isa 5:8 [h]S Ps 58:2 **10:2** [i]Isa 3:14 [j]S Isa 5:23 [k]S Dt 10:18; S Job 6:27; S Isa 1:17 **10:3** [l]S Job 31:14 [m]ver 25; Ps 59:5; Isa 1:24; 13:6; 14:23; 24:6; 26:14; 47:11; Jer 5:9; 9:9; 50:15; Lk 19:44 [n]S Ps 108:12; Isa 20:6; 30:7; 31:3 **10:4** [o]Isa 24:22; Zec 9:11 [p]Isa 22:2; 34:3; 66:16; Jer 39:6; Na 3:3 [q]S Isa 5:25; 12:1; 63:10; 64:5; Jer 4:8; 30:24; La 1:12 **10:5** [r]S 2Ki 19:21; S Isa 28:1 [s]ver 12,18; S Isa 7:20; 14:25; 31:8; 37:7; Zep 2:13 [t]Isa 14:5; 54:16 [u]ver 15,24; Isa 30:31; 41:15; 45:1; Jer 50:23; 51:20 [v]Isa 9:4; 13:3,5,13; 26:20; 30:30; 34:2; 63:6; 66:14; Eze 30:24-25 **10:6** [w]S Isa 9:17 [x]Hab 1:12 [y]S 2Ch 28:9; Isa 9:19 [z]S Jdg 6:4; S Isa 5:29; 8:1 [a]S 2Sa 22:43; S Ps 7:5; S Isa 5:5; 37:26-27 **10:7** [b]S Ge 50:20; Ac 4:23-28 **10:8** [c]2Ki 18:24 **10:9** [d]S Ge 10:10 [e]S 2Ch 35:20 [f]Nu 34:8; 2Ch 8:4; Isa 11:11 [g]2Ki 18:34 [h]2Ki 17:6 [i]S Ge 14:15; 2Ki 16:9; Jer 49:24 **10:10** [j]2Ki 19:18 **10:11** [k]S 2Ki 19:13; S Isa 2:8; 36:18-20; 37:10-13 **10:12** [l]Isa 28:21-22; 65:7; 66:4; Jer 5:29 [m]2Ki 19:31 [n]S ver 5; S 2Ki 19:7; Isa 30:31-33; 37:36-38; Jer 50:18 [o]S Isa 2:11; S Eze 28:17 [p]Ps 18:27

10:13 [q]S Dt 8:17 [r]S Dt 32:26-27; Isa 47:7; Da 4:30 [s]Eze 28:4 [t]Isa 14:13-14 **10:14** [u]Jer 49:16; Ob 1:4; Hab 2:6-11 [v]S Job 31:25 [w]Isa 14:6 [x]2Ki 19:22-24; Isa 37:24-25 **10:15** [y]S Isa 7:20; 45:9; Ro 9:20-21 [z]S ver 5 **10:16** [a]ver 18; S Nu 11:33; Isa 17:4 [b]Ps 78:31 [c]S Isa 8:7 [d]Jer 21:14 **10:17** [e]S Job 41:21; S Isa 1:31; 31:9; Zec 2:5 [f]Isa 37:23 [g]S Nu 11:1-3; S 2Sa 23:6 [h]S Isa 9:18 **10:18** [i]S 2Ki 19:23 [j]S ver 5

[a]20 Or *arm* [b]13 Or / *I subdued the mighty,*

19And the remaining trees of his
forests[a] will be so few[b]
that a child could write them
down.

The Remnant of Israel

20In that day[c] the remnant of Israel,
the survivors[d] of the house of
Jacob,
will no longer rely[e] on him
who struck them down[f]
but will truly rely[g] on the LORD,
the Holy One of Israel.[h]
21A remnant[i] will return,[c][j] a
remnant of Jacob
will return to the Mighty God.[k]
22Though your people, O Israel, be
like the sand[l] by the sea,
only a remnant will return.[m]
Destruction has been decreed,[n]
overwhelming and righteous.
23The Lord, the LORD Almighty, will
carry out
the destruction decreed[o] upon the
whole land.[p]

24Therefore, this is what the Lord,
the LORD Almighty, says:

"O my people who live in Zion,[q]
do not be afraid[r] of the Assyrians,
who beat[s] you with a rod[t]
and lift up a club against you, as
Egypt did.
25Very soon[u] my anger against you
will end
and my wrath[v] will be directed to
their destruction.[w]"
26The LORD Almighty will lash[x] them
with a whip,
as when he struck down Midian[y]
at the rock of Oreb;
and he will raise his staff[z] over the
waters,[a]
as he did in Egypt.
27In that day[b] their burden[c] will be
lifted from your shoulders,
their yoke[d] from your neck;[e]
the yoke[f] will be broken
because you have grown so fat.[d]

28They enter Aiath;
they pass through Migron;[g]
they store supplies[h] at Micmash.[i]
29They go over the pass, and say,
"We will camp overnight at
Geba.[j]"
Ramah[k] trembles;
Gibeah[l] of Saul flees.[m]
30Cry out, O Daughter of Gallim![n]
Listen, O Laishah!
Poor Anathoth![o]
31Madmenah is in flight;
the people of Gebim take cover.
32This day they will halt at Nob;[p]
they will shake their fist[q]
at the mount of the Daughter of
Zion,[r]
at the hill of Jerusalem.

33See, the Lord, the LORD Almighty,
will lop off[s] the boughs with great
power.
The lofty trees will be felled,[t]
the tall[u] ones will be brought
low.[v]
34He will cut down[w] the forest thickets
with an ax;
Lebanon[x] will fall before the
Mighty One.[y]

The Branch From Jesse

11 A shoot[z] will come up from the
stump[a] of Jesse;[b]
from his roots a Branch[c] will bear
fruit.[d]
2The Spirit[e] of the LORD will rest on
him—
the Spirit of wisdom[f] and of
understanding,
the Spirit of counsel and of
power,[g]
the Spirit of knowledge and of the
fear of the LORD—
3and he will delight in the fear[h] of
the LORD.

He will not judge by what he sees
with his eyes,[i]
or decide by what he hears with
his ears;[j]
4but with righteousness[k] he will
judge the needy,[l]
with justice[m] he will give decisions
for the poor[n] of the earth.
He will strike[o] the earth with the
rod of his mouth;[p]
with the breath[q] of his lips he will
slay the wicked.[r]
5Righteousness will be his belt[s]
and faithfulness[t] the sash around
his waist.[u]

6The wolf will live with the lamb,[v]
the leopard will lie down with the
goat,

10:19 [a]ver 33-34; Isa 32:19 [b]Isa 17:6; 21:17; 27:13; Jer 44:28 **10:20** [c]ver 27; Isa 11:10,11; 12:1,4; 19:18,19; 24:21; 28:5; 52:6; Zec 9:16 [d]S Isa 1:9; Eze 7:16 [e]S 2Ki 16:7 [f]2Ch 28:20 [g]2Ch 14:11; Isa 17:7; 48:2; 50:10; Jer 21:2; Hos 3:5; 6:1; Mic 3:11; 7:7 [h]S Isa 5:24 **10:21** [i]S Ge 45:7; Isa 6:13; Zep 3:13 [j]Isa 7:3 [k]S Isa 9:6 **10:22** [l]S Ge 12:2; Isa 48:19; Jer 33:22 [m]Ezr 1:4; Isa 11:11; 46:3 [n]ver 23; Isa 28:22; Jer 40:2; Da 9:27 **10:23** [o]S ver 22 [p]Isa 6:12; 28:22; Ro 9:27-28* **10:24** [q]Ps 87:5-6 [r]S Isa 7:4 [s]S Ex 5:14 [t]S ver 5 **10:25** [u]Isa 17:14; 29:17; Hag 2:6 [v]ver 5; Ps 30:5; Isa 13:5; 24:21; 26:20; 30:30; 34:2; 66:14; Da 8:19; 11:36 [w]S ver 3; Mic 5:6 **10:26** [x]Isa 37:36-38 [y]S Isa 9:4 [z]Isa 30:32 [a]S Ex 14:16 **10:27** [b]S ver 20 [c]S Ps 66:11 [d]S Lev 26:13; S Isa 9:4 [e]Isa 14:25; 47:6; 52:2 [f]Jer 30:8 **10:28** [g]S 1Sa 14:2 [h]S Jos 1:11 [i]1Sa 13:2 **10:29** [j]S Jos 18:24; S Ne 11:31 [k]S Jos 18:25 [l]S Jdg 19:14 [m]Isa 15:5 **10:30** [n]1Sa 25:44 [o]S Ne 11:32 **10:32** [p]S 1Sa 21:1 [q]S Job 15:25 [r]S Ps 9:14; Isa 16:1; Jer 6:23 **10:33** [s]Isa 18:5; 27:11; Eze 17:4 [t]S Ex 12:12 [u]Isa 2:13; Am 2:9 [v]Isa 5:15 **10:34** [w]Na 1:12; Zec 11:2 [x]S 2Ki 19:23 [y]S Ge 49:24; Ps 93:4; Isa 33:21 **11:1** [z]S 2Ki 19:26; S Job 14:7 [a]S Job 14:8 [b]ver 10; Isa 9:7; S Mt 1:1; S Rev 5:5 [c]S Isa 4:2 [d]S 2Ki 19:30; S Isa 27:6 **11:2** [e]S Jdg 3:10; Isa 32:15; 42:1; 44:3; 48:16; 59:21; 61:1; Eze 37:14; 39:29; Joel 2:28; Mt 3:16; Jn 1:32-33; 16:13 [f]S Ex 28:3; S Eph 1:17; S Col 2:3 [g]S Isa 9:6; 2Ti 1:7 **11:3** [h]Isa 33:6 [i]Jn 7:24 [j]Jn 2:25 **11:4** [k]S Ps 72:2 [l]S Ps 72:4; S Isa 14:30 [m]S Isa 9:7; Rev 19:11 [n]S Job 5:16; S Isa 3:14 [o]Isa 27:7; 30:31; Zec 14:12; Mal 4:6 [p]S Job 40:18; Ps 2:9; Rev 19:15 [q]S Job 4:9; Ps 18:8; Isa 30:28,33; 40:24; 59:19; Eze 21:31; 2Th 2:8 [r]S Ps 139:19 **11:5** [s]Ex 12:11; 1Ki 18:46 [t]Isa 25:1 [u]Eph 6:14 **11:6** [v]Isa 65:25

[c]21 Hebrew *shear-jashub*; also in verse 22
[d]27 Hebrew; Septuagint *broken / from your shoulders*

the calf and the lion and the
yearling[e] together;
and a little child will lead them.
7The cow will feed with the bear,
their young will lie down together,
and the lion will eat straw like the
ox.[a]
8The infant[b] will play near the hole of
the cobra,
and the young child put his hand
into the viper's[c] nest.
9They will neither harm nor destroy[d]
on all my holy mountain,[e]
for the earth[f] will be full of the
knowledge[g] of the LORD
as the waters cover the sea.

10In that day[h] the Root of Jesse[i] will
stand as a banner[j] for the peoples; the
nations[k] will rally to him,[l] and his
place of rest[m] will be glorious.[n] 11In
that day[o] the Lord will reach out his
hand a second time to reclaim the rem-
nant[p] that is left of his people from As-
syria,[q] from Lower Egypt, from Upper
Egypt,[f][r] from Cush,[g][s] from Elam,[t]
from Babylonia,[h] from Hamath[u] and
from the islands[v] of the sea.[w]

12He will raise a banner[x] for the
nations
and gather[y] the exiles of Israel;[z]
he will assemble the scattered
people[a] of Judah
from the four quarters of the
earth.[b]
13Ephraim's jealousy will vanish,
and Judah's enemies[i] will be cut
off;
Ephraim will not be jealous of Judah,
nor Judah hostile toward
Ephraim.[c]
14They will swoop down on the slopes
of Philistia[d] to the west;
together they will plunder the
people to the east.[e]
They will lay hands on Edom[f] and
Moab,[g]
and the Ammonites[h] will be
subject to them.[i]
15The LORD will dry up[j]
the gulf of the Egyptian sea;
with a scorching wind[k] he will
sweep his hand[l]
over the Euphrates River.[j][m]
He will break it up into seven
streams
so that men can cross over in
sandals.[n]
16There will be a highway[o] for the
remnant[p] of his people
that is left from Assyria,[q]
as there was for Israel

11:7
[a]S Job 40:15
11:8 [b]Isa 65:20
[c]Isa 14:29; 30:6;
59:5
11:9
[d]S Nu 25:12;
S Isa 2:4; S 9:7
[e]S Ps 48:1;
S Isa 2:2
[f]1Sa 17:46;
Ps 98:2-3;
Isa 45:22; 48:20;
52:10 [g]Ex 7:5;
Isa 19:21; 45:6,
14; 49:26;
Jer 24:7; 31:34;
Hab 2:14
11:10
[h]S Isa 10:20
[i]S ver 1
[j]S Ps 20:5;
Isa 18:3; Jer 4:6;
Jn 12:32 [k]Isa 2:4;
14:1; 49:23; 56:3,
6; 60:5,10;
Lk 2:32; Ac 11:18
[l]Ro 15:12*
[m]S Ps 116:7;
Isa 14:3; 28:12;
32:17-18; 40:2;
Jer 6:16; 30:10;
46:27 [n]Hag 2:9;
Zec 2:5
11:11
[o]S Isa 10:20
[p]S Dt 30:4;
S Isa 1:9
[q]Isa 19:24;
Hos 11:11;
Mic 7:12;
Zec 10:10
[r]Jer 44:1,15;
Eze 29:14; 30:14
[s]S Ge 10:6;
Ac 8:27
[t]S Ge 10:22
[u]S Isa 10:9
[v]Isa 24:15; 41:1,
5; 42:4,10,12;
49:1; 51:5; 59:18;
60:9; 66:19
[w]Isa 49:12;
Jer 16:15; 46:27;
Eze 38:8; Zec 8:7
11:12 [x]S Ps 20:5
[y]Isa 14:2; 43:5;
49:22; 54:7;
Jer 16:15; 31:10;
32:37 [z]S Ne 1:9;
S Ps 106:47;
Isa 14:1; 41:14;
49:5 [a]Eze 28:25;
Zep 3:10
[b]S Ps 48:10; 67:7;
Isa 41:5; Rev 7:1
11:13
[c]S 2Ch 28:6;
Jer 3:18;
Eze 37:16-17,22;
Hos 1:11
11:14
[d]S 2Ch 26:6;
S 28:18
[e]S Jdg 6:3
[f]S Nu 24:18;
S Ps 137:7;
Isa 34:5-6; 63:1;
Jer 49:22;
Eze 25:12;
Da 11:41;
Joel 3:19; Ob 1:1;
Mal 1:4
[g]Isa 15:1; 16:14;
25:10; Jer 48:40;
Zep 2:8-11
[h]Jdg 11:14-18
[i]Isa 25:3; 60:12
11:15
[j]S Ex 14:22;
S Dt 11:10;
Isa 37:25; 42:15;
Jer 50:38; 51:36
[k]S Ge 41:6
[l]Isa 19:16; 30:32
[m]S Isa 7:20
[n]S Ex 14:29

when they came up from Egypt.[r]

Songs of Praise

12 In that day[s] you will say:
"I will praise[t] you, O LORD.
Although you were angry with
me,
your anger has turned away[u]
and you have comforted[v] me.
2Surely God is my salvation;[w]
I will trust[x] and not be afraid.
The LORD, the LORD,[y] is my
strength[z] and my song;
he has become my salvation."[a]
3With joy you will draw water[b]
from the wells[c] of salvation.

4In that day[d] you will say:

"Give thanks to the LORD, call on his
name;[e]
make known among the nations[f]
what he has done,
and proclaim that his name is
exalted.[g]
5Sing[h] to the LORD, for he has done
glorious things;[i]
let this be known to all the world.
6Shout aloud and sing for joy,[j]
people of Zion,
for great[k] is the Holy One of
Israel[l] among you."[m]

A Prophecy Against Babylon

13 An oracle[n] concerning Babylon[o]
that Isaiah son of Amoz[p] saw:[q]

2Raise a banner[r] on a bare hilltop,
shout to them;
beckon to them
to enter the gates[s] of the nobles.
3I have commanded my holy ones;
I have summoned my warriors[t] to
carry out my wrath[u]—
those who rejoice[v] in my triumph.

4Listen, a noise on the mountains,

11:16 [o]Isa 19:23; 35:8; 40:3; 49:11; 51:10; 57:14; 62:10; Jer 50:5 [p]S Ge 45:7 [q]S ver 11 [r]Ex 14:26-31 **12:1** [s]S Isa 10:20 [t]Ps 9:1; Isa 25:1 [u]S Job 13:16 [v]S Ps 71:21 **12:2** [w]Isa 17:10; 25:9; 33:6; 45:17; 51:5,6; 54:8; 59:16; 61:10; 62:11 [x]S Job 13:15; S Ps 26:1; S 112:7; Isa 26:3; Da 6:23 [y]Isa 26:4; 38:11 [z]S Ps 18:1 [a]S Ex 15:2 **12:3** [b]S 2Ki 3:17; Ps 36:9; Jer 2:13; 17:13; Jn 4:10,14 [c]Ex 15:25 **12:4** [d]S Isa 10:20 [e]Ex 3:15; Ps 80:18; 105:1; Isa 24:15; 25:1; 26:8,13; Hos 12:5 [f]Isa 54:5; 60:3; Jer 10:7; Zep 2:11; Mal 1:11 [g]S Ps 113:2 **12:5** [h]S Ex 15:1 [i]S Ps 98:1 **12:6** [j]S Ge 21:6; S Ps 98:4; Isa 24:14; 48:20; 52:8; Jer 20:13; 31:7; Zec 2:10 [k]Ps 48:1 [l]S Ps 78:41; 99:2; Isa 1:24; 10:20; 17:7; 29:19; 37:23; 43:3,14; 45:11; 49:26; 55:5; Eze 39:7 [m]S Ps 46:5; Zep 3:14-17 **13:1** [n]Isa 14:28; 15:1; 21:1; Na 1:1; Hab 1:1; Zec 9:1; 12:1; Mal 1:1 [o]ver 19; S Ge 10:10; Isa 14:4; 21:9; 46:1-2; 48:14; Jer 24:1; 25:12; Rev 14:8 [p]Isa 20:2; 37:2 [q]S Isa 1:1 **13:2** [r]S Ps 20:5; Jer 50:2; 51:27 [s]Isa 24:12; 45:2; Jer 51:58 **13:3** [t]ver 17; Isa 21:2; Jer 51:11; Da 5:28,31; Joel 3:11 [u]S Job 40:11; S Isa 10:5 [v]S Ps 149:2

[e]6 Hebrew; Septuagint *lion will feed* [f]11 Hebrew *from Pathros* [g]11 That is, the upper Nile region [h]11 Hebrew *Shinar* [i]13 Or *hostility* [j]15 Hebrew *the River*

like that of a great multitude![a]
Listen, an uproar[b] among the kingdoms,
like nations massing together!
The LORD Almighty[c] is mustering[d]
an army for war.
5They come from faraway lands,
from the ends of the heavens[e] —
the LORD and the weapons[f] of his wrath[g] —
to destroy[h] the whole country.

6Wail,[i] for the day[j] of the LORD is near;
it will come like destruction[k] from the Almighty.[k][l]
7Because of this, all hands will go limp,[m]
every man's heart will melt.[n]
8Terror[o] will seize them,
pain and anguish will grip[p] them;
they will writhe like a woman in labor.[q]
They will look aghast at each other,
their faces aflame.[r]

9See, the day[s] of the LORD is coming
—a cruel[t] day, with wrath[u] and fierce anger[v] —
to make the land desolate
and destroy the sinners within it.
10The stars of heaven and their constellations
will not show their light.[w]
The rising sun[x] will be darkened[y]
and the moon will not give its light.[z]
11I will punish[a] the world for its evil,
the wicked[b] for their sins.
I will put an end to the arrogance of the haughty[c]
and will humble[d] the pride of the ruthless.[e]
12I will make man[f] scarcer than pure gold,
more rare than the gold of Ophir.[g]
13Therefore I will make the heavens tremble;[h]
and the earth will shake[i] from its place
at the wrath[j] of the LORD Almighty,
in the day of his burning anger.[k]

14Like a hunted[l] gazelle,
like sheep without a shepherd,[m]
each will return to his own people,
each will flee[n] to his native land.[o]
15Whoever is captured will be thrust through;
all who are caught will fall[p] by the sword.[q]
16Their infants[r] will be dashed to pieces before their eyes;
their houses will be looted and their wives ravished.[s]

17See, I will stir up[t] against them the Medes,[u]
who do not care for silver
and have no delight in gold.[v]
18Their bows[w] will strike down the young men;[x]
they will have no mercy[y] on infants
nor will they look with compassion on children.[z]
19Babylon,[a] the jewel of kingdoms,[b]
the glory[c] of the Babylonians'[l]
pride,
will be overthrown[d] by God
like Sodom and Gomorrah.[e]
20She will never be inhabited[f]
or lived in through all generations;
no Arab[g] will pitch his tent there,
no shepherd will rest his flocks there.
21But desert creatures[h] will lie there,
jackals[i] will fill her houses;
there the owls[j] will dwell,
and there the wild goats[k] will leap about.
22Hyenas[l] will howl in her strongholds,[m]
jackals[n] in her luxurious palaces.
Her time is at hand,[o]
and her days will not be prolonged.[p]

14 The LORD will have compassion[q] on Jacob;
once again he will choose[r] Israel
and will settle them in their own land.[s]
Aliens[t] will join them
and unite with the house of Jacob.
2Nations will take them
and bring[u] them to their own place.
And the house of Israel will possess the nations[v]
as menservants and maidservants
in the LORD's land.
They will make captives[w] of their captors

13:4 aJoel 3:14 bS Ps 46:6 cIsa 47:4; 51:15 dIsa 42:13; Jer 50:41 13:5 eS Isa 5:26 fIsa 45:1; 54:16; Jer 50:25 gS Isa 10:25 hS Jos 6:17; Isa 24:1; 30:25; 34:2 13:6 iIsa 14:31; 15:2; 16:7; 23:1; Eze 30:2; Jas 5:1 jS Isa 2:12 kS Isa 10:3; S 14:15 lS Ge 17:1 13:7 mS 2Ki 19:26; S Job 4:3; S Jer 47:3 nS Jos 2:11; Eze 21:7 13:8 oS Ps 31:13; S 48:5; S Isa 21:4 pEx 15:14 qS Ge 3:16; S Jn 16:21 rJoel 2:6; Na 2:10 13:9 sS Isa 2:12; Jer 51:2 tJer 6:23 uS Isa 9:19 vIsa 26:21; 66:16; Jer 25:31; Joel 3:2 13:10 wS Job 9:7 xIsa 24:23; Zec 14:7 yS Ex 10:22; S Isa 5:30; Rev 8:12 zEze 32:7; Am 5:20; 8:9; S Mt 24:29*; Mk 13:24* 13:11 aIsa 3:11; 11:4; 26:21; 65:6-7; 66:16 bS Ps 125:3 cS Ps 10:5; S Pr 16:18; Da 5:23 dS Isa 2:9; 23:9; Eze 28:2; Da 4:37 eIsa 25:3,5; 29:5, 20; 49:25,26 13:12 fS Isa 4:1 gS Ge 10:29 13:13 hS Ps 102:26; Isa 34:4; 51:6 iS Job 9:6; S Isa 14:16; Mt 24:7; Mk 13:8 jS Isa 9:19 kS Job 9:5 13:14 lPr 6:5 mS 1Ki 22:17; S Mt 9:36; S Jn 10:11 nS Ge 11:9; Isa 17:13; 21:15; 22:3; 33:3; Jer 4:9 oJer 46:16; 50:16; 51:9; Na 3:7 13:15 pJer 51:4 qIsa 14:19; Jer 50:25 13:16 rver 18; S Nu 16:27; S 2Ki 8:12 sS Ge 34:29; S Hos 13:16 13:17 tJer 50:9, 41; 51:1 uS ver 3 v2Ki 18:14-16; Pr 6:34-35 13:18 wS Ps 7:12; Isa 41:2; Jer 50:9, 14,29 xS Dt 32:25; Jer 49:26; 50:30; 51:4 yIsa 47:6; Jer 6:23; 50:42 zS ver 16; Isa 14:22; 47:9 13:19 aS ver 1 bIsa 47:5; Da 2:37-38 cDa 4:30 dS Ps 137:8; S Rev 14:8 eS Ge 19:25; Isa 1:9-10; Ro 9:29 13:20 fIsa 14:23; 34:10-15; Jer 51:29,37-43,62 g2Ch 17:11 13:21 hS Ps 74:14; Rev 18:2 iJer 14:6 jS Lev 11:16-18; S Dt 14:15-17 kLev 17:7; 2Ch 11:15 13:22 lIsa 34:14 mIsa 25:2; 32:14 nIsa 34:13; 35:7; 43:20; Jer 9:11; 49:33; 51:37; Mal 1:3 oDt 32:35; Jer 48:16; 51:33 pJer 50:39 14:1 qPs 102:13; Isa 49:10,13; 54:7-8,10; Jer 33:26; Zec 10:6 rGe 18:19; 2Ch 6:6; Isa 41:8; 42:1; 44:1; 45:4; 49:7; 65:9,22; Zec 1:17; 2:12; 3:2 sJer 3:18; 16:15; 23:8 tS Ex 12:43; S Isa 11:10; Eze 47:22; Zec 8:22-23; Eph 2:12-19 14:2 uS Isa 11:12; 60:9 vS Ps 49:14; Isa 26:15; 43:14; 49:7,23; 54:3 wPs 149:8; Isa 45:14; 49:25; 60:12; Jer 48:1

k6 Hebrew Shaddai   l19 Or Chaldeans'

and rule over their oppressors.[a]

3 On the day the LORD gives you re-
lief[b] from suffering and turmoil[c] and
cruel bondage,[d] 4 you will take up this
taunt[e] against the king of Babylon:[f]

How the oppressor[g] has come to an
end!
How his fury[m] has ended!
5 The LORD has broken the rod[h] of the
wicked,[i]
the scepter[j] of the rulers,
6 which in anger struck down
peoples[k]
with unceasing blows,
and in fury subdued[l] nations
with relentless aggression.[m]
7 All the lands are at rest and at
peace;[n]
they break into singing.[o]
8 Even the pine trees[p] and the cedars
of Lebanon
exult over you and say,
"Now that you have been laid low,
no woodsman comes to cut us
down."[q]
9 The grave[r][n] below is all astir
to meet you at your coming;
it rouses the spirits of the departed[s]
to greet you—
all those who were leaders[t] in the
world;
it makes them rise from their
thrones—
all those who were kings over the
nations.[u]
10 They will all respond,
they will say to you,
"You also have become weak, as we
are;
you have become like us."[v]
11 All your pomp has been brought
down to the grave,[w]
along with the noise of your
harps;[x]
maggots are spread out beneath you
and worms[y] cover you.[z]
12 How you have fallen[a] from heaven,
O morning star,[b] son of the dawn!
You have been cast down to the
earth,
you who once laid low the
nations![c]
13 You said in your heart,
"I will ascend[d] to heaven;
I will raise my throne[e]
above the stars of God;
I will sit enthroned on the mount of
assembly,[f]
on the utmost heights[g] of the
sacred mountain.[o]
14 I will ascend above the tops of the
clouds;[h]
I will make myself like the Most
High."[i]
15 But you are brought down[j] to the
grave,[k]
to the depths[l] of the pit.[m]
16 Those who see you stare at you,
they ponder your fate:[n]
"Is this the man who shook[o] the
earth
and made kingdoms tremble,
17 the man who made the world a
desert,[p]
who overthrew[q] its cities
and would not let his captives go
home?"[r]
18 All the kings of the nations lie in
state,
each in his own tomb.[s]
19 But you are cast out[t] of your tomb
like a rejected branch;
you are covered with the slain,[u]
with those pierced by the sword,[v]
those who descend to the stones
of the pit.[w]
Like a corpse trampled underfoot,
20 you will not join them in burial,[x]
for you have destroyed your land
and killed your people.

The offspring[y] of the wicked[z]
will never be mentioned[a] again.
21 Prepare a place to slaughter his
sons[b]
for the sins of their forefathers;[c]
they are not to rise to inherit the
land
and cover the earth with their
cities.
22 "I will rise up[d] against them,"
declares the LORD Almighty.
"I will cut off from Babylon her
name[e] and survivors,
her offspring and descendants,[f]"
declares the LORD.
23 "I will turn her into a place for owls[g]
and into swampland;
I will sweep her with the broom of
destruction,[h]"
declares the LORD Almighty.[i]

14:2 [a]Isa 60:14; 61:5; Jer 30:16; 49:2; Eze 39:10; Zep 3:19; Zec 2:9 **14:3** [b]S Isa 11:10 [c]S Job 3:17 [d]S Ex 1:14 **14:4** [e]Mic 2:4; Hab 2:6 [f]S Isa 13:1 [g]S Isa 9:4 **14:5** [h]S Isa 10:15 [i]S Ps 125:3 [j]S Ps 110:2 **14:6** [k]Isa 10:14 [l]S Ps 47:3 [m]S 2Ki 15:29; Isa 47:6; Hab 1:17 **14:7** [n]S Nu 6:26; Jer 50:34; Zec 1:11 [o]Ps 98:1; 126:1-3; Isa 12:6 **14:8** [p]S 1Ch 16:33; S Ps 65:13; Eze 31:16 [q]S 2Ki 19:23; Isa 37:24 **14:9** [r]S Pr 30:16; Eze 32:21 [s]S Job 26:5 [t]Zec 10:3 [u]S Job 3:14 **14:10** [v]Eze 26:20; 32:21 **14:11** [w]S Nu 16:30; S Pr 30:16 [x]Isa 5:12; Eze 26:13; Am 6:5 [y]S Job 7:5; 24:20; Isa 51:8; 66:24 [z]S Job 21:26 **14:12** [a]Lk 10:18 [b]2Pe 1:19; Rev 2:28; 8:10; 9:1 [c]Eze 26:17 **14:13** [d]Da 5:23; 8:10; Ob 1:4; Mt 11:23 [e]Eze 28:2; 2Th 2:4 [f]Ps 82:1 [g]Isa 37:24 **14:14** [h]S Job 20:6 [i]S Ge 3:5; S Nu 24:16; Isa 10:13; 47:8; Jer 50:29; 51:53; Da 11:36; 2Th 2:4 **14:15** [j]Isa 13:6; 45:7; 47:11; Jer 51:8,43 [k]S Job 21:13 [l]Mt 11:23; Lk 10:15 [m]S Ps 55:23; Eze 31:16; 32:23 **14:16** [n]Jer 50:23; Rev 18:9 [o]S Isa 2:19; 13:13; Joel 3:16; Hag 2:6,21 **14:17** [p]Isa 15:6; Joel 2:3 [q]Ps 52:7 [r]Ex 7:14; S 2Ki 15:29; Jer 50:33; Rev 18:18 **14:18** [s]Job 21:32 **14:19** [t]Isa 22:16-18; Jer 8:1; 36:30 [u]Isa 34:3 [v]S Isa 13:15 [w]Jer 41:7-9 **14:20** [x]S 1Ki 21:19 [y]S Job 18:19 [z]S Isa 1:4 [a]S Dt 32:26 **14:21** [b]S Nu 16:27 [c]S Ge 9:25; S Lev 26:39 **14:22** [d]S Ps 94:16 [e]S Job 18:17; Ps 109:13; Na 1:14 [f]2Sa 18:18; 1Ki 14:10; Job 18:19; S Ps 9:6; S Isa 13:18 **14:23** [g]S Lev 11:16-18; Isa 34:11-15; Zep 2:14 [h]S Isa 10:3; Jer 25:12 [i]Jer 50:3; 51:62

[m]4 Dead Sea Scrolls, Septuagint and Syriac; the meaning of the word in the Masoretic Text is uncertain. [n]9 Hebrew *Sheol;* also in verses 11 and 15 [o]13 Or *the north;* Hebrew *Zaphon*

A Prophecy Against Assyria

24The LORD Almighty has sworn,[x]
"Surely, as I have planned,[y] so it will be,
and as I have purposed, so it will stand.[z]
25I will crush the Assyrian[a] in my land;
on my mountains I will trample him down.
His yoke[b] will be taken from my people,
and his burden removed from their shoulders."[c]
26This is the plan[d] determined for the whole world;
this is the hand[e] stretched out over all nations.
27For the LORD Almighty has purposed,[f] and who can thwart him?
His hand[g] is stretched out, and who can turn it back?[h]

A Prophecy Against the Philistines

28This oracle[i] came in the year[j] King Ahaz[k] died:

29Do not rejoice, all you Philistines,[l]
that the rod that struck you is broken;
from the root of that snake will spring up a viper,[m]
its fruit will be a darting, venomous serpent.[n]
30The poorest of the poor will find pasture,
and the needy[o] will lie down in safety.[p]
But your root I will destroy by famine;[q]
it will slay[r] your survivors.[s]
31Wail,[t] O gate![u] Howl, O city!
Melt away, all you Philistines![v]
A cloud of smoke comes from the north,[w]
and there is not a straggler in its ranks.[x]
32What answer shall be given
to the envoys[y] of that nation?
"The LORD has established Zion,[z]
and in her his afflicted people will find refuge."[a]

A Prophecy Against Moab

15:1-16:12pp — Jer 48:29-36

15 An oracle[b] concerning Moab:[c]

Ar[d] in Moab is ruined,[e]
destroyed in a night!
Kir[f] in Moab is ruined,
destroyed in a night!
2Dibon goes up to its temple,
to its high places to weep;
Moab wails over Nebo and Medeba.
Every head is shaved
and every beard cut off.
3In the streets they wear sackcloth;
on the roofs and in the public squares
they all wail,
prostrate with weeping.
4Heshbon and Elealeh cry out,
their voices are heard all the way to Jahaz.
Therefore the armed men of Moab cry out,
and their hearts are faint.

5My heart cries out over Moab;
her fugitives flee as far as Zoar,
as far as Eglath Shelishiyah.
They go up the way to Luhith,
weeping as they go;
on the road to Horonaim
they lament their destruction.
6The waters of Nimrim are dried up
and the grass is withered;
the vegetation is gone
and nothing green is left.
7So the wealth they have acquired and stored up
they carry away over the Ravine of the Poplars.
8Their outcry echoes along the border of Moab;
their wailing reaches as far as Eglaim,
their lamentation as far as Beer Elim.
9Dimon's[a] waters are full of blood,
but I will bring still more upon Dimon—
a lion upon the fugitives of Moab
and upon those who remain in the land.

16 Send lambs as tribute
to the ruler of the land,
from Sela, across the desert,
to the mount of the Daughter of Zion.
2Like fluttering birds
pushed from the nest,
so are the women of Moab
at the fords of the Arnon.

[illegible]

[illegible]

a9 Masoretic Text, Dead Sea Scrolls, some Septuagint manuscripts and Vulgate Dibon

3"Give us counsel,
render a decision.
Make your shadow like night—
at high noon.
Hide the fugitives,[a]
do not betray the refugees.
4Let the Moabite fugitives stay with
you;
be their shelter[b] from the
destroyer."

The oppressor[c] will come to an
end,
and destruction will cease;[d]
the aggressor will vanish from the
land.
5In love a throne[e] will be
established;[f]
in faithfulness a man will sit
on it—
one from the house[q] of David[g]—
one who in judging seeks justice[h]
and speeds the cause of
righteousness.

6We have heard of Moab's[i] pride[j]—
her overweening pride and
conceit,
her pride and her insolence—
but her boasts are empty.
7Therefore the Moabites wail,[k]
they wail together for Moab.
Lament and grieve
for the men[r][l] of Kir Hareseth.[m]
8The fields of Heshbon[n] wither,[o]
the vines of Sibmah[p] also.
The rulers of the nations
have trampled down the choicest
vines,[q]
which once reached Jazer[r]
and spread toward the desert.
Their shoots spread out[s]
and went as far as the sea.[t]
9So I weep,[u] as Jazer weeps,
for the vines of Sibmah.
O Heshbon, O Elealeh,[v]
I drench you with tears![w]
The shouts of joy[x] over your ripened
fruit
and over your harvests[y] have
been stilled.
10Joy and gladness are taken away
from the orchards;[z]
no one sings or shouts[a] in the
vineyards;
no one treads[b] out wine at the
presses,[c]
for I have put an end to the
shouting.
11My heart laments for Moab[d] like a
harp,[e]
my inmost being[f] for Kir
Hareseth.

16:3 [a]S 1Ki 18:4 **16:4** [b]Isa 58:7 [c]S Isa 9:4 [d]Isa 2:2-4 **16:5** [e]S 1Sa 13:14; Da 7:14; Mic 4:7 [f]S Pr 20:28 [g]S Isa 7:2; Lk 1:32 [h]S Isa 9:7 **16:6** [i]Jer 25:21; Eze 25:8; Am 2:1; Zep 2:8 [j]S Lev 26:19; S Job 20:6; Jer 49:16; Ob 1:3; Zep 2:10 **16:7** [k]S Isa 13:6; Jer 48:20; 49:3 [l]S 1Ch 16:3 [m]S 2Ki 3:25 **16:8** [n]S Nu 21:25 [o]S Isa 15:6 [p]S Nu 32:3 [q]S Isa 5:2 [r]S Nu 21:32 [s]S Job 8:16 [t]Ps 80:11 **16:9** [u]S Isa 15:3; Eze 27:31 [v]S Nu 32:3 [w]S Job 7:3 [x]S Ezr 3:13 [y]Jer 40:12 **16:10** [z]Isa 24:7-8 [a]Jer 25:30 [b]S Jdg 9:27 [c]S Job 24:11; S Isa 5:2 **16:11** [d]S Isa 15:5 [e]S Job 30:31 [f]Isa 63:15; Hos 11:8; Php 2:1 **16:12** [g]1Ki 11:7 [h]S Isa 15:2 [i]S 1Ki 18:29; Ps 115:4-7; Isa 44:17-18; 1Co 8:4 **16:14** [j]Isa 20:3; 37:30 [k]S Lev 25:50 [l]S Lev 19:13 [m]Isa 25:10; Jer 48:42 [n]Isa 21:17 **17:1** [o]Isa 13:1 [p]S Ge 14:15; Ac 9:2 [q]S Dt 13:16; S Isa 25:2 **17:2** [r]S 2Ki 10:33 [s]S Isa 5:17; 7:21; Eze 25:5 [t]Isa 27:10 [u]S Lev 26:6; Jer 7:33; Mic 4:4 **17:3** [v]Isa 25:2, 12; Hos 10:14 [w]ver 4; Isa 21:16; Hos 9:11 [x]Isa 7:8,16; 8:4 **17:4** [y]S Isa 2:11 [z]S ver 3 [a]S Isa 10:16 **17:5** [b]ver 11; Isa 33:4; Jer 51:33; Joel 3:13; Mt 13:30 [c]Job 24:24 [d]S Jos 17:15; S 1Ch 11:15 **17:6** [e]S Dt 4:27; S Isa 10:19; S 24:13 [f]ver 11; Isa 27:12 **17:7** [g]S Isa 2:11 [h]S Isa 9:13; S 10:20

12When Moab appears at her high
place,[g]
she only wears herself out;
when she goes to her shrine[h] to
pray,
it is to no avail.[i]

13This is the word the LORD has al-
ready spoken concerning Moab. 14But
now the LORD says: "Within three
years,[j] as a servant bound by con-
tract[k] would count them,[l] Moab's
splendor and all her many people will
be despised,[m] and her survivors will be
very few and feeble."[n]

An Oracle Against Damascus

17 An oracle[o] concerning Damas-
cus:[p]

"See, Damascus will no longer be a
city
but will become a heap of ruins.[q]
2The cities of Aroer[r] will be deserted
and left to flocks,[s] which will lie
down,[t]
with no one to make them afraid.[u]
3The fortified[v] city will disappear
from Ephraim,
and royal power from Damascus;
the remnant of Aram will be
like the glory[w] of the Israelites,"[x]
declares the LORD Almighty.

4"In that day[y] the glory[z] of Jacob will
fade;
the fat of his body will waste[a]
away.
5It will be as when a reaper gathers
the standing grain
and harvests[b] the grain with his
arm—
as when a man gleans heads of
grain[c]
in the Valley of Rephaim.[d]
6Yet some gleanings will remain,[e]
as when an olive tree is beaten,[f]
leaving two or three olives on the
topmost branches,
four or five on the fruitful
boughs,"
declares the LORD,
the God of Israel.

7In that day[g] men will look[h] to their
Maker[i]
and turn their eyes to the Holy
One[j] of Israel.
8They will not look to the altars,[k]
the work of their hands,[l]

[i]S Ps 95:6 [j]S Isa 12:6 **17:8** [k]S Lev 26:30 [l]S 2Ch 32:19; Isa 2:18,20; 30:22; 46:6; Rev 9:20

[q]5 Hebrew *tent* [r]7 Or *"raisin cakes,"* a wordplay

and they will have no regard for the
Asherah poles[a]
and the incense altars their
fingers have made.

9 In that day their strong cities, which
they left because of the Israelites, will
be like places abandoned to thickets
and undergrowth. And all will be
desolation.

10 You have forgotten God your
Savior;
you have not remembered the
Rock, your fortress.
Therefore, though you set out the
finest plants
and plant imported vines,
11 though on the day you set them out,
you make them grow,
and on the morning when you
plant them, you bring them
to bud,
yet the harvest will be as
nothing
in the day of disease and
incurable pain.

12 Oh, the raging of many nations—
they rage like the raging sea!
Oh, the uproar of the peoples—
they roar like the roaring of great
waters!
13 Although the peoples roar like the
roar of surging waters,
when he rebukes them they flee
far away,
driven before the wind like chaff on
the hills,
like tumbleweed before a gale.
14 In the evening, sudden terror!
Before the morning, they are
gone!
This is the portion of those who loot
us,
the lot of those who plunder us.

A Prophecy Against Cush

18 Woe to the land of whirring
wings[b]
along the rivers of Cush,[c]
2 which sends envoys by sea
in papyrus boats over the water.

Go, swift messengers,
to a people tall and
smooth-skinned,
to a people feared far and wide,
an aggressive nation of strange
speech,
whose land is divided by rivers.

3 All you people of the world,
you who live on the earth,
when a banner is raised on the
mountains,
you will see it,
and when a trumpet sounds,
you will hear it.
4 This is what the LORD says to me:
"I will remain quiet and will look
on from my dwelling place,
like shimmering heat in the
sunshine,
like a cloud of dew in the heat of
harvest."
5 For, before the harvest, when the
blossom is gone
and the flower becomes a ripening
grape,
he will cut off the shoots with
pruning knives,
and cut down and take away the
spreading branches.
6 They will all be left to the mountain
birds of prey
and to the wild animals;
the birds will feed on them all
summer,
the wild animals all winter.

7 At that time gifts will be brought to
the LORD Almighty

from a people tall and
smooth-skinned,
from a people feared far and
wide,
an aggressive nation of strange
speech,
whose land is divided by rivers—

the gifts will be brought to Mount
Zion, the place of the Name of the LORD
Almighty.

A Prophecy About Egypt

19 An oracle concerning Egypt:
See, the LORD rides on a swift
cloud
and is coming to Egypt.
The idols of Egypt tremble before
him,
and the hearts of the Egyptians
melt within them.

2 "I will stir up Egyptian against
Egyptian—
brother will fight against brother,
neighbor against neighbor,
city against city,
kingdom against kingdom.
3 The Egyptians will lose heart,

17:8 S Jdg 3:7; S 2Ki 17:10 Isa 2:8 17:9 S Isa 7:19 17:10 S Dt 32:18; Ps 106:21; Isa 51:13; 57:11; Jer 2:32; 3:21; 13:25; 18:15; Eze 22:12; 23:35; Hos 8:14; 13:6 S Isa 12:2; S Lk 1:47 S Ge 49:24 S Ps 18:2 S Isa 5:7 17:11 Ps 90:6 S ver 5 S Lev 26:20; Hos 8:7; Joel 1:11; Hag 1:6 Jer 10:19; 30:12 S Dt 28:39; S Job 4:8 17:12 ver 13; Isa 41:11 S Ps 18:4; Lk 21:25 S Ps 46:6; Isa 8:9 Isa 8:7 17:13 S Ps 46:3 S Dt 28:20; S Ps 9:5 S Ps 68:1; S Isa 13:14 S Job 13:25; S Isa 2:22; 41:2, 15-16; Da 2:35 Job 21:18; S Ps 65:7 17:14 Isa 29:5; 30:13; 47:11; 48:3 Isa 33:18; 54:14 S 2Ki 19:35 18:1 Isa 5:8 S Ge 10:6; S Ps 68:31; S Eze 29:10 18:2 Ob 1:1 Ex 2:3; Job 9:26 S Ge 41:14 S Ge 10:8-9; S 2Ch 12:3 ver 7 18:3 S Ps 33:8 S Ps 60:4; Isa 5:26; 11:10; 13:2; 31:9; Jer 4:21 S Jos 6:20; S Jdg 3:27 18:4 Isa 62:1; 64:12 Isa 26:21; Hos 5:15; Mic 1:3 S Jdg 5:31; S Ps 18:12; Hab 3:4 2Sa 1:21; S Ps 133:3; Isa 26:19; Hos 14:5 18:5 S Isa 10:33 Isa 17:10-11; Eze 17:6 18:6 S Isa 8:8 Isa 37:36; 56:9; Jer 7:33; Eze 32:4; 39:17 18:7 S 2Ch 9:24; S Isa 60:7 S Ge 41:14 Hab 1:7 ver 2 Ps 68:31 19:1 Isa 13:1 Isa 20:3; Joel 3:19 S Ex 12:12; S Jer 46:25 S Dt 10:14; S 2Sa 22:10; S Rev 1:7 S Jos 2:11
19:2 S Jdg 7:22; S 1Sa 14:16; Mt 10:21, 36 S 2Ch 15:6; 20:23; Mt 24:7; Mk 13:8; Lk 21:10 19:3 Ps 146:4

[a] 8 That is, symbols of the goddess Asherah [b] 1 Or of locusts [c] 1 That is, the upper Nile region

and I will bring their plans to
nothing;
they will consult the idols and the
spirits of the dead,
the mediums and the spiritists.
4 I will hand the Egyptians over
to the power of a cruel master,
and a fierce king will rule over
them,"
declares the Lord, the LORD
Almighty.

5 The waters of the river will dry up,
and the riverbed will be parched
and dry.
6 The canals will stink;
the streams of Egypt will dwindle
and dry up.
The reeds and rushes will wither,
7 also the plants along the Nile,
at the mouth of the river.
Every sown field along the Nile
will become parched, will blow
away and be no more.
8 The fishermen will groan and
lament,
all who cast hooks into the Nile;
those who throw nets on the water
will pine away.
9 Those who work with combed flax
will despair,
the weavers of fine linen will lose
hope.
10 The workers in cloth will be
dejected,
and all the wage earners will be
sick at heart.

11 The officials of Zoan are nothing
but fools;
the wise counselors of Pharaoh
give senseless advice.
How can you say to Pharaoh,
"I am one of the wise men,
a disciple of the ancient kings"?

12 Where are your wise men now?
Let them show you and make
known
what the LORD Almighty
has planned against Egypt.
13 The officials of Zoan have become
fools,
the leaders of Memphis are
deceived;
the cornerstones of her peoples
have led Egypt astray.
14 The LORD has poured into them
a spirit of dizziness;
they make Egypt stagger in all that
she does,
as a drunkard staggers around in
his vomit.
15 There is nothing Egypt can do—
head or tail, palm branch or reed.

16 In that day the Egyptians will be
like women. They will shudder with
fear at the uplifted hand that the
LORD Almighty raises against them.
17 And the land of Judah will bring ter-
ror to the Egyptians; everyone to
whom Judah is mentioned will be terri-
fied, because of what the LORD Al-
mighty is planning against them.
18 In that day five cities in Egypt
will speak the language of Canaan and
swear allegiance to the LORD Al-
mighty. One of them will be called the
City of Destruction.
19 In that day there will be an altar
to the LORD in the heart of Egypt, and
a monument to the LORD at its border.
20 It will be a sign and witness to the
LORD Almighty in the land of Egypt.
When they cry out to the LORD because
of their oppressors, he will send them a
savior and defender, and he will res-
cue them. 21 So the LORD will make
himself known to the Egyptians, and in
that day they will acknowledge the
LORD. They will worship with sacri-
fices and grain offerings; they will
make vows to the LORD and keep
them. 22 The LORD will strike Egypt
with a plague; he will strike them and
heal them. They will turn to the LORD,
and he will respond to their pleas and
heal them.
23 In that day there will be a high-
way from Egypt to Assyria. The As-
syrians will go to Egypt and the Egyp-
tians to Assyria. The Egyptians and As-
syrians will worship together. 24 In
that day Israel will be the third, along
with Egypt and Assyria, a blessing
on the earth. 25 The LORD Almighty will
bless them, saying, "Blessed be Egypt
my people, Assyria my handiwork,
and Israel my inheritance."

A Prophecy Against Egypt and Cush

20 In the year that the supreme
commander, sent by Sargon
king of Assyria, came to Ashdod and
attacked and captured it— 2 at that time
the LORD spoke through Isaiah son of

[a]13 Hebrew *Noph* [b]18 Most manuscripts of the Masoretic Text; some manuscripts of the Masoretic Text, Dead Sea Scrolls and Vulgate *City of the Sun* (that is, Heliopolis)

Amoz. He said to him, "Take off the
sackcloth from your body and the
sandals from your feet." And he did
so, going around stripped and bare-
foot.
3Then the LORD said, "Just as my ser-
vant Isaiah has gone stripped and
barefoot for three years, as a sign
and portent against Egypt and
Cush,[a] 4so the king of Assyria will
lead away stripped and barefoot the
Egyptian captives and Cushite ex-
iles, young and old, with buttocks
bared—to Egypt's shame. 5Those
who trusted in Cush and boasted in
Egypt will be afraid and put to
shame. 6In that day the people who
live on this coast will say, 'See what
has happened to those we relied on,
those we fled to for help and deliver-
ance from the king of Assyria! How
then can we escape?' "

A Prophecy Against Babylon

21 An oracle concerning the Desert by the Sea:

Like whirlwinds sweeping through
the southland,
an invader comes from the desert,
from a land of terror.

2A dire vision has been shown to
me:
The traitor betrays, the looter
takes loot.
Elam, attack! Media, lay siege!
I will bring to an end all the
groaning she caused.

3At this my body is racked with
pain,
pangs seize me, like those of a
woman in labor;
I am staggered by what I hear,
I am bewildered by what I see.
4My heart falters,
fear makes me tremble;
the twilight I longed for
has become a horror to me.

5They set the tables,
they spread the rugs,
they eat, they drink!
Get up, you officers,
oil the shields!

6This is what the Lord says to me:

"Go, post a lookout
and have him report what he sees.
7When he sees chariots
with teams of horses,
riders on donkeys
or riders on camels,
let him be alert,
fully alert."

8And the lookout[b] shouted,

"Day after day, my lord, I stand on
the watchtower;
every night I stay at my post.
9Look, here comes a man in a
chariot
with a team of horses.
And he gives back the answer:
'Babylon has fallen, has fallen!
All the images of its gods
lie shattered on the ground!' "

10O my people, crushed on the
threshing floor,
I tell you what I have heard
from the LORD Almighty,
from the God of Israel.

A Prophecy Against Edom

11An oracle concerning Dumah[c]:

Someone calls to me from Seir,
"Watchman, what is left of the
night?
Watchman, what is left of the
night?"
12The watchman replies,
"Morning is coming, but also the
night.
If you would ask, then ask;
and come back yet again."

A Prophecy Against Arabia

13An oracle concerning Arabia:

You caravans of Dedanites,
who camp in the thickets of
Arabia,
14 bring water for the thirsty;
you who live in Tema,
bring food for the fugitives.
15They flee from the sword,
from the drawn sword,
from the bent bow
and from the heat of battle.

16This is what the Lord says to me:
"Within one year, as a servant bound
by contract would count it, all the
pomp of Kedar will come to an end.
17The survivors of the bowmen, the
warriors of Kedar, will be few." The
LORD, the God of Israel, has spoken.

20:2 [illegible] 20:3 [illegible] 20:4 [illegible] 20:5 [illegible] 20:6 [illegible] 21:1 [illegible] 21:2 [illegible] 21:3 [illegible] 21:4 [illegible] 21:5 [illegible] 21:6 [illegible] 21:7 [illegible] 21:8 [illegible] 21:9 [illegible] 21:10 [illegible]

Hab 3:12; Mt 3:12 21:11 [illegible] 21:13 [illegible] 21:14 [illegible] 21:15 [illegible] 21:16 [illegible] 21:17 [illegible]

a3 That is, the upper Nile region; also in verse 5
b8 Dead Sea Scrolls and Syriac; Masoretic Text *A lion*
c11 *Dumah* means *silence* or *stillness*, a wordplay on *Edom*.

A Prophecy About Jerusalem

22 An oracle[a] concerning the Valley[b] of Vision:[c]

What troubles you now,
that you have all gone up on the roofs,[d]
2O town full of commotion,
O city of tumult[e] and revelry?[f]
Your slain[g] were not killed by the sword,[h]
nor did they die in battle.
3All your leaders have fled[i] together;
they have been captured[j] without using the bow.
All you who were caught were taken prisoner together,
having fled while the enemy was still far away.
4Therefore I said, "Turn away from me;
let me weep[k] bitterly.
Do not try to console me
over the destruction of my people."[l]

5The Lord, the LORD Almighty, has a day[m]
of tumult and trampling[n] and terror[o]
in the Valley of Vision,[p]
a day of battering down walls[q]
and of crying out to the mountains.
6Elam[r] takes up the quiver,[s]
with her charioteers and horses;
Kir[t] uncovers the shield.
7Your choicest valleys[u] are full of chariots,
and horsemen are posted at the city gates;[v]
8 the defenses of Judah are stripped away.

And you looked in that day[w]
to the weapons[x] in the Palace of the Forest;[y]
9you saw that the City of David
had many breaches[z] in its defenses;
you stored up water
in the Lower Pool.[a]
10You counted the buildings in Jerusalem
and tore down houses[b] to strengthen the wall.[c]
11You built a reservoir between the two walls[d]
for the water of the Old Pool,[e]
but you did not look to the One who made it,
or have regard[f] for the One who planned[g] it long ago.

12The Lord, the LORD Almighty,
called you on that day[h]
to weep[i] and to wail,
to tear out your hair[j] and put on sackcloth.[k]
13But see, there is joy and revelry,[l]
slaughtering of cattle and killing of sheep,
eating of meat and drinking of wine![m]
"Let us eat and drink," you say,
"for tomorrow we die!"[n]

14The LORD Almighty has revealed this in my hearing:[o] "Till your dying day this sin will not be atoned[p] for," says the Lord, the LORD Almighty.

15This is what the Lord, the LORD Almighty, says:

"Go, say to this steward,
to Shebna,[q] who is in charge[r] of the palace:[s]
16What are you doing here and who gave you permission
to cut out a grave[t] for yourself[u] here,
hewing your grave on the height
and chiseling your resting place in the rock?
17"Beware, the LORD is about to take firm hold of you
and hurl[v] you away, O you mighty man.
18He will roll you up tightly like a ball
and throw[w] you into a large country.
There you will die
and there your splendid chariots[x] will remain—
you disgrace to your master's house!
19I will depose you from your office,
and you will be ousted[y] from your position.[z]

20"In that day[a] I will summon my
servant,[b] Eliakim[c] son of Hilkiah. 21I
will clothe him with your robe and fasten your sash[d] around him and hand
your authority[e] over to him. He will be
a father to those who live in Jerusalem
and to the house of Judah. 22I will place
on his shoulder[f] the key[g] to the house
of David;[h] what he opens no one can
shut, and what he shuts no one can
open.[i] 23I will drive him like a peg[j]
into a firm place;[k] he will be a seat[a] of

22:1 [a]Isa 13:1 [b]Ps 125:2; Jer 21:13; Joel 3:2,12,14 [c]S Isa 1:1 [d]S Jos 2:8; Jer 48:38 **22:2** [e]Eze 22:5 [f]S Isa 5:14; S 21:5 [g]S Isa 10:4 [h]S 2Ki 25:3 **22:3** [i]S Isa 13:14 [j]S 2Ki 25:6 **22:4** [k]S Isa 15:3; S La 1:16; Eze 21:6; Lk 19:41 [l]Jer 9:1 **22:5** [m]S Isa 2:12 [n]S Job 40:12; S Ps 108:13 [o]S 2Sa 22:43; Isa 13:3; Jer 30:7; La 1:5; Eze 8:17-18; 9:9-10; Joel 2:31; Am 5:18-20; Zep 1:15 [p]S Isa 1:1 [q]Ne 6:15; S Ps 89:40; Isa 5:5; Jer 39:8; Eze 13:14 **22:6** [r]S Isa 21:2 [s]Ps 46:9; Jer 49:35; 51:56 [t]S 2Ki 16:9 **22:7** [u]Jos 15:8 [v]S 2Ch 32:1-2 **22:8** [w]S Isa 2:12 [x]S 2Ch 32:5 [y]S 1Ki 7:2 **22:9** [z]S Ne 1:3 [a]S 2Ki 18:17; S 2Ch 32:4 **22:10** [b]Jer 33:4 [c]S 2Ch 32:5 **22:11** [d]2Ki 25:4; 2Ch 32:5; Jer 39:4 [e]S 2Ch 32:4 [f]S 1Sa 12:24 [g]2Ki 19:25 **22:12** [h]S Isa 2:12 [i]Joel 1:9; 2:17 [j]S Lev 13:40; Mic 1:16 [k]S Isa 3:24 **22:13** [l]S Isa 21:5 [m]S 1Sa 25:36; Ecc 8:15; Isa 5:22; 28:7-8; 56:12; Lk 17:26-29 [n]1Co 15:32* **22:14** [o]Isa 5:9 [p]S 1Sa 2:25; Isa 13:11; 26:21; 30:13-14; Eze 24:13 **22:15** [q]S 2Ki 6:30; S 18:18 [r]ver 21 [s]S Ge 41:40 **22:16** [t]Mt 27:60 [u]S Ge 50:5; S Nu 32:42 **22:17** [v]Jer 10:18; 13:18; 22:26 **22:18** [w]S Job 18:11; Isa 14:19; 17:13 [x]S Ge 41:43 **22:19** [y]S 1Sa 2:7; S Ps 52:5 [z]Lk 16:3 **22:20** [a]ver 25 [b]S Isa 20:3 [c]S 2Ki 18:18; S Isa 36:3 **22:21** [d]S Isa 5:27 [e]ver 15 **22:22** [f]Isa 9:6 [g]1Ch 9:27; Mt 16:19; Rev 3:7 [h]S Isa 7:2 [i]S Job 12:14 **22:23** [j]ver 25; Eze 15:3; Zec 10:4 [k]S Ezr 9:8; S Job 6:25

[a]23 Or *throne*

honor[u] for the house of his father. [24]All
the glory of his family will hang on
him: its offspring and offshoots—all its
lesser vessels, from the bowls to all the
jars.

[25]"In that day,[v]" declares the LORD
Almighty, "the peg[w] driven into the
firm place will give way; it will be
sheared off and will fall, and the load
hanging on it will be cut down." The
LORD has spoken.[x]

A Prophecy About Tyre

23 An oracle concerning Tyre:[a]
Wail,[b] O ships[c] of Tarshish![d]
For Tyre is destroyed[e]
and left without house or harbor.
From the land of Cyprus[b]
word has come to them.

[2]Be silent,[f] you people of the island
and you merchants[g] of Sidon,[h]
whom the seafarers have enriched.
[3]On the great waters
came the grain of the Shihor;[m]
the harvest of the Nile[c][n] was the
revenue of Tyre,[o]
and she became the marketplace of
the nations.

[4]Be ashamed, O Sidon,[p] and you,
O fortress of the sea,
for the sea has spoken:
"I have neither been in labor nor
given birth;[q]
I have neither reared sons nor
brought up daughters."
[5]When word comes to Egypt,
they will be in anguish[r] at the
report from Tyre.[s]

[6]Cross over to Tarshish;[t]
wail, you people of the island.
[7]Is this your city of revelry,[u]
the old, old city,
whose feet have taken her
to settle in far-off lands?
[8]Who planned this against Tyre,
the bestower of crowns,
whose merchants[v] are princes,
whose traders[w] are renowned in
the earth?
[9]The LORD Almighty planned[x] it,
to bring low[y] the pride of all glory
and to humble[z] all who are
renowned[a] on the earth.

[10]Till[d] your land as along the Nile,
O Daughter of Tarshish,
for you no longer have a harbor.
[11]The LORD has stretched out his
hand[b] over the sea
and made its kingdoms tremble.[c]
He has given an order concerning
Phoenicia[e]
that her fortresses be destroyed.[d]
[12]He said, "No more of your
reveling,[e]
O Virgin Daughter[f] of Sidon, now
crushed!

"Up, cross over to Cyprus[b];[g]
even there you will find no rest."
[13]Look at the land of the
Babylonians,[f][h]
this people that is now of no
account!
The Assyrians[i] have made it
a place for desert creatures;[j]
they raised up their siege towers,[k]
they stripped its fortresses bare
and turned it into a ruin.[l]

[14]Wail, you ships[m] of Tarshish;[n]
your fortress is destroyed![o]

[15]At that time Tyre[p] will be forgotten
for seventy years,[q] the span of a king's
life. But at the end of these seventy
years, it will happen to Tyre as in the
song of the prostitute:

[16]"Take up a harp, walk through the
city,
O prostitute[r] forgotten;
play the harp well, sing many a
song,
so that you will be remembered."

[17]At the end of seventy years,[s] the
LORD will deal with Tyre. She will re-
turn to her hire as a prostitute[t] and
will ply her trade with all the kingdoms
on the face of the earth.[u] [18]Yet her
profit and her earnings will be set apart
for the LORD;[v] they will not be stored
up or hoarded. Her profits will go to
those who live before the LORD,[w] for
abundant food and fine clothes.[x]

The LORD's Devastation of the Earth

24 See, the LORD is going to lay
waste the earth[y]
and devastate[z] it;
he will ruin its face
and scatter[a] its inhabitants—
[2]it will be the same
for priest as for people,[b]
for master as for servant,
for mistress as for maid,
for seller as for buyer,[c]
for borrower as for lender,

[b]1,12 Hebrew *Kittim* [c]2,3 Masoretic Text; one Dead Sea Scroll *Sidon, / who cross over the sea; / your envoys* [3]*are on the great waters. / The grain of the Shihor, / the harvest of the Nile,* [d]10 Dead Sea Scrolls and some Septuagint manuscripts; Masoretic Text *Go through* [e]11 Hebrew *Canaan* [f]13 Or *Chaldeans*

22:23 [u] S 1Sa 2:7-8; S Job 36:7 **22:25** [v] ver 20 [w] S ver 23 [x] Isa 46:11; Mic 4:4 **23:1** [a] Jos 19:29; 1Ki 5:1; Jer 47:4; Joel 3:4-8; Am 1:9-10; Zec 9:2-4 [b] S Isa 13:6 [c] S 1Ki 10:22 [d] S Ge 10:4; Isa 2:16 fn [e] S Ge 1:2; Eze 26:4 **23:2** [f] S Job 2:13 [g] Eze 27:5-24 [h] Jdg 1:31 **23:3** [m] S Ge 41:5 [n] S Isa 19:7 [o] S Ps 83:7 **23:4** [p] S Ge 10:15,19 [q] Isa 54:1 **23:5** [r] Eze 30:9 [s] Eze 26:17-18 **23:6** [t] S Ge 10:4 **23:7** [u] ver 12; S Isa 5:14; S 21:5; 32:13; Eze 26:13 **23:8** [v] Na 3:16 [w] Eze 28:5; Rev 18:23 **23:9** [x] S Isa 14:24 [y] S Job 40:11 [z] S Isa 13:11 [a] Isa 5:13; 9:15; Eze 27:3 **23:11** [b] S Ex 14:21 [c] S Ps 46:6 [d] ver 14; Isa 25:2; Eze 26:4; Zec 9:3-4 **23:12** [e] S ver 7; Rev 18:22 [f] Isa 37:22; 47:1; Jer 14:17; 46:11; La 2:13; Zep 3:14; Zec 2:10 [g] S Ge 10:4 **23:13** [h] Isa 43:14; Jer 51:12 [i] Isa 10:5 [j] S Ps 74:14; Isa 18:6 [k] S 2Ki 25:1 [l] Isa 10:7 **23:14** [m] S 1Ki 10:22 [n] S Ge 10:4; Isa 2:16 fn [o] S ver 11 **23:15** [p] Jer 25:22 [q] S Ps 90:10 **23:16** [r] Pr 7:10 **23:17** [s] S Ps 90:10 [t] Dt 23:17-18; Eze 16:26; Na 3:4; Rev 17:1; 18:3,9 [u] Jer 25:26 **23:18** [v] Ex 28:36; S 39:30; Jos 6:17-19; Ps 72:10 [w] Isa 18:7; 60:5-9; 61:6; Mic 4:13 [x] Am 1:9-10; Zec 14:1,14 **24:1** [y] ver 20; Isa 2:19-21; 33:9; Jer 25:29 [z] S Jos 6:17; S Isa 13:5 [a] S Ge 11:9 **24:2** [b] Hos 4:9 [c] Eze 7:12; 1Co 7:29-31

for debtor as for creditor.[a]
3The earth will be completely laid
waste[b]
and totally plundered.[c]
The LORD has spoken[d]
this word.

4The earth dries up[e] and withers,[f]
the world languishes and withers,
the exalted[g] of the earth
languish.[h]
5The earth is defiled[i] by its
people;
they have disobeyed[j] the laws,
violated the statutes
and broken the everlasting
covenant.[k]
6Therefore a curse[l] consumes the
earth;
its people must bear their guilt.
Therefore earth's inhabitants are
burned up,[m]
and very few are left.
7The new wine dries up[n] and the
vine withers;[o]
all the merrymakers groan.[p]
8The gaiety of the tambourines[q] is
stilled,
the noise[r] of the revelers[s] has
stopped,
the joyful harp[t] is silent.[u]
9No longer do they drink wine[v] with
a song;
the beer is bitter[w] to its
drinkers.
10The ruined city[x] lies desolate;[y]
the entrance to every house is
barred.
11In the streets they cry out[z] for
wine;[a]
all joy turns to gloom,[b]
all gaiety is banished from the
earth.
12The city is left in ruins,[c]
its gate[d] is battered to pieces.
13So will it be on the earth
and among the nations,
as when an olive tree is beaten,[e]
or as when gleanings are left after
the grape harvest.[f]

14They raise their voices, they shout
for joy;[g]
from the west[h] they acclaim the
LORD's majesty.
15Therefore in the east[i] give glory[j] to
the LORD;
exalt[k] the name[l] of the LORD, the
God of Israel,
in the islands[m] of the sea.
16From the ends of the earth[n] we hear
singing:[o]
"Glory[p] to the Righteous One."[q]

24:2
aS Lev 25:35-37;
Dt 23:19-20;
Isa 3:1-7
24:3 bS Ge 6:13
cIsa 6:11-12; 10:6
dS Isa 7:7
24:4 eJer 12:11;
14:4; Joel 1:10
fS Isa 15:6
gS Isa 2:12
hS Isa 3:26
24:5 iS Ge 3:17
jS Isa 1:2; 9:17;
10:6; 59:12;
Jer 7:28
kS Ge 9:11;
S Jer 11:10
24:6 lS Jos 23:15
mS Isa 1:31
24:7 nJer 48:33;
Joel 1:5
oIsa 7:23; S 15:6;
32:10 pS Isa 3:26;
16:8-10
24:8
qS Ge 31:27;
S Isa 5:12
rJer 7:34; 16:9;
25:10; 33:11;
Hos 2:11
sS Isa 5:14;
S 21:5
tS Ps 137:2;
Rev 18:22
uLa 5:14;
Eze 26:13
24:9 vIsa 5:11,
22 wIsa 5:20
24:10 xIsa 25:2;
26:5 yS Ge 1:2;
S Isa 6:11
24:11
zS Ps 144:14
aLa 2:12
bS Isa 15:6;
16:10; 32:13;
Jer 14:3
24:12
cS Isa 19:18
dS Isa 3:26;
S 13:2
24:13
eS Dt 30:4;
S Isa 17:6
fOb 1:5; Mic 7:1
24:14
gS Isa 12:6
hIsa 43:5; 49:12
24:15
iS Ps 113:3
jIsa 42:12; 66:19;
Zep 1:12
kS Ex 15:2;
Isa 25:3; 59:19;
Mal 1:11
lS Isa 12:4
mS Isa 11:11
24:16
nS Ps 48:10
oS Ps 65:8
pIsa 28:5; 60:1,19
qS Ezr 9:15

rS Lev 26:39
s1Sa 4:8;
S Isa 5:8;
Jer 10:19; 45:3
tS Ps 25:3
uIsa 21:2; 33:1;
Jer 3:6,20; 5:11;
9:2; Hos 5:7; 9:1
24:17
vDt 32:23-25
wIsa 8:14;
Jer 48:43
xLk 21:35
24:18
yS Job 20:24
zIsa 42:22
aS Job 18:9;
S Isa 8:14;
La 3:47;
Eze 12:13
bS Ge 7:11
cS Jdg 5:4;
S Job 9:6;
S Ps 11:3;

But I said, "I waste away, I waste
away![r]
Woe[s] to me!
The treacherous[t] betray!
With treachery the treacherous
betray!"[u]
17Terror[v] and pit and snare[w] await
you,
O people of the earth.[x]
18Whoever flees[y] at the sound of
terror
will fall into a pit;[z]
whoever climbs out of the pit
will be caught in a snare.[a]
The floodgates of the heavens[b] are
opened,
the foundations of the earth
shake.[c]
19The earth is broken up,[d]
the earth is split asunder,[e]
the earth is thoroughly shaken.
20The earth reels like a drunkard,[f]
it sways like a hut[g] in the wind;
so heavy upon it is the guilt of its
rebellion[h]
that it falls[i]—never to rise again.[j]
21In that day[k] the LORD will punish[l]
the powers[m] in the heavens above
and the kings[n] on the earth below.
22They will be herded together
like prisoners[o] bound in a
dungeon;[p]
they will be shut up in prison
and be punished[q] after many
days.[a]
23The moon will be abashed, the sun[r]
ashamed;
for the LORD Almighty will reign[s]
on Mount Zion[t] and in Jerusalem,
and before its elders, gloriously.[u]

Praise to the LORD

25 O LORD, you are my God;[v]
I will exalt you and praise your
name,[w]
for in perfect faithfulness[x]
you have done marvelous things,[y]
things planned[z] long ago.
2You have made the city a heap of
rubble,[a]
the fortified[b] town a ruin,[c]

S Eze 38:19 24:19 dS Ps 46:2 eS Dt 11:6 24:20 fS Job 12:25
gS Job 27:18 hS Isa 1:2,28; 43:27; 58:1 iS Ps 46:2 jS Job 12:14
24:21 kS Isa 2:11; S 10:20; Rev 16:14 lIsa 10:12; 13:11;
Jer 25:29 m1Co 6:3; Eph 6:11-12 nS Isa 2:12 24:22
oS Isa 10:4 pIsa 42:7,22; Lk 8:31; Rev 20:7-10 qEze 38:8
24:23 rS Isa 13:10 sS Ps 97:1; Rev 22:5 tS Isa 2:2; Heb 12:22
uIsa 28:5; 41:16; 45:25; 60:19; Eze 48:35; Zec 2:5; Rev 21:23
25:1 vS Isa 7:13 wS Ps 145:2; S Isa 12:1,4 xIsa 11:5 yPs 40:5;
98:1; Joel 2:21,26 zNu 23:19; S Isa 14:24; 37:26; 46:11;
Eph 1:11 25:2 aIsa 17:1; 26:5; 37:26 bS Isa 17:3 cS Dt 13:16

a22 Or released

the foreigners' stronghold[a] a city no
more;
it will never be rebuilt.[b]
3Therefore strong peoples will honor
you;[c]
cities of ruthless[d] nations will
revere you.
4You have been a refuge[e] for the
poor,[f]
a refuge for the needy[g] in his
distress,
a shelter from the storm[h]
and a shade from the heat.
For the breath of the ruthless[i]
is like a storm driving against a
wall
5 and like the heat of the desert.
You silence[j] the uproar of
foreigners;[k]
as heat is reduced by the shadow
of a cloud,
so the song of the ruthless[l] is
stilled.

6On this mountain[m] the LORD
Almighty will prepare
a feast[n] of rich food for all
peoples,
a banquet of aged wine—
the best of meats and the finest of
wines.[o]
7On this mountain he will destroy
the shroud[p] that enfolds all
peoples,[q]
the sheet that covers all nations;
8 he will swallow up death[r] forever.
The Sovereign LORD will wipe away
the tears[s]
from all faces;
he will remove the disgrace[t] of his
people
from all the earth.
The LORD has spoken.[u]

9In that day[v] they will say,

"Surely this is our God;[w]
we trusted[x] in him, and he saved[y]
us.
This is the LORD, we trusted in him;
let us rejoice[z] and be glad in his
salvation."[a]

10The hand of the LORD will rest on
this mountain;[b]
but Moab[c] will be trampled under
him
as straw is trampled down in the
manure.
11They will spread out their hands
in it,
as a swimmer spreads out his
hands to swim.
God will bring down[d] their pride[e]
despite the cleverness[h] of their
hands.
12He will bring down your high
fortified walls[f]
and lay them low;[g]
he will bring them down to the
ground,
to the very dust.

A Song of Praise

26

In that day[h] this song will be
sung[i] in the land of Judah:

We have a strong city;[j]
God makes salvation
its walls[k] and ramparts.[l]
2Open the gates[m]
that the righteous[n] nation may
enter,
the nation that keeps faith.
3You will keep in perfect peace[o]
him whose mind is steadfast,
because he trusts[p] in you.
4Trust[q] in the LORD forever,[r]
for the LORD, the LORD, is the
Rock[s] eternal.
5He humbles those who dwell on
high,
he lays the lofty city low;
he levels it to the ground[t]
and casts it down to the dust.[u]
6Feet trample[v] it down—
the feet of the oppressed,[w]
the footsteps of the poor.[x]

7The path of the righteous is level;[y]
O upright One,[z] you make the
way of the righteous
smooth.[a]
8Yes, LORD, walking in the way of
your laws,[i] [b]
we wait[c] for you;
your name[d] and renown
are the desire of our hearts.
9My soul yearns for you in the
night;[e]
in the morning my spirit longs[f]
for you.
When your judgments[g] come upon
the earth,
the people of the world learn
righteousness.[h]
10Though grace is shown to the
wicked,[i]
they do not learn righteousness;

25:2 [a]S Isa 13:22 [b]S Job 12:14 **25:3** [c]S Ex 6:2; S Ps 22:23; S Isa 11:14 [d]S Isa 13:11 **25:4** [e]S 2Sa 22:3; S Ps 118:8; S Isa 4:6; 17:10; 27:5; 33:16; Joel 3:16 [f]S Isa 3:14 [g]S Isa 14:30; 29:19 [h]S Ps 55:8 [i]Isa 29:5; 49:25 **25:5** [j]Jer 51:55 [k]S Ps 18:44 [l]S Isa 13:11 **25:6** [m]S Isa 2:2 [n]S Ge 29:22; 1Ki 1:25; Isa 1:19; 55:1-2; 66:11; Joel 3:18; Mt 8:11; 22:4; Rev 19:9 [o]S Ps 36:8; S Pr 9:2 **25:7** [p]2Co 3:15-16; Eph 4:18 [q]S Job 4:9 **25:8** [r]Isa 26:19; Hos 13:14; 1Co 15:54-55* [s]Isa 15:3; 30:19; 35:10; 51:11; 65:19; Jer 31:16; Rev 7:17; 21:4 [t]S Ge 30:23; S Ps 119:39; Mt 5:11; 1Pe 4:14; Rev 7:14 [u]S Isa 7:7 **25:9** [v]S Isa 2:11; S 10:20 [w]Isa 40:9 [x]S Ps 22:5; S Isa 12:2 [y]Ps 145:19; Isa 19:20; 33:22; 35:4; 43:3,11; 45:15,21; 49:25-26,26; 60:16; 63:8; Jer 14:8 [z]S Dt 32:43; S Ps 9:2; Isa 9:3; 35:2,10; 41:16; 51:3; 61:7,10; 66:14 [a]S Ps 13:5; S Isa 12:2 **25:10** [b]S Isa 2:2 [c]S Ge 19:37; S Nu 21:29; S Dt 23:6; S Isa 11:14; Am 2:1-3 **25:11** [d]Isa 5:25; 14:26; 16:14 [e]S Lev 26:19; S Job 40:12 **25:12** [f]S Isa 2:15 [g]S Job 40:11; S Isa 15:1; S Jer 51:44 **26:1** [h]S Isa 10:20 [i]Isa 30:29 [j]S Isa 14:32 [k]Isa 32:18; 60:18; Zec 2:5; 9:8 [l]S Ps 48:13 **26:2** [m]S Ps 24:7 [n]Ps 24:3-4; 85:13; S Isa 1:26; S 4:3; 9:7; 50:8; 53:11; 54:14; 58:8; 62:2 **26:3** [o]S Job 22:21; S Isa 9:6,7; Php 4:7 [p]S 1Ch 5:20; S Ps 22:5; S 28:7; S Isa 12:2

26:4 [q]S Isa 12:2; 50:10 [r]S Ps 62:8 [s]S Ge 49:24 **26:5** [t]S Isa 25:12; Eze 26:11 [u]S Isa 25:2 **26:6** [v]S Isa 5:5 [w]Isa 49:26 [x]S Isa 3:15; S 14:30 **26:7** [y]S Ps 26:12 [z]S Ps 25:8 [a]S Ex 14:19; Isa 40:4; 42:16 **26:8** [b]S Dt 18:18; Ps 1:2; Isa 56:1; 64:5 [c]S Ps 37:9; S 130:5 [d]S Ps 145:2; S Isa 12:4 **26:9** [e]S Ps 119:55 [f]Ps 42:1-3; 63:1; 78:34; Isa 55:6 [g]S 1Ch 16:14 [h]Mt 6:33 **26:10** [i]Mt 5:45

[h]11 The meaning of the Hebrew for this word is uncertain. [i]8 Or *judgments*

even in a land of uprightness they go on doing evil[a]
and regard[b] not the majesty of the LORD.
11 O LORD, your hand is lifted high,[c]
but they do not see[d] it.
Let them see your zeal[e] for your people and be put to shame;[f]
let the fire[g] reserved for your enemies consume them.

12 LORD, you establish peace[h] for us;
all that we have accomplished you have done[i] for us.
13 O LORD, our God, other lords[j] besides you have ruled over us,
but your name[k] alone do we honor.[l]
14 They are now dead,[m] they live no more;
those departed spirits[n] do not rise.
You punished them and brought them to ruin;[o]
you wiped out all memory of them.[p]
15 You have enlarged the nation, O LORD;
you have enlarged the nation.[q]
You have gained glory for yourself;
you have extended all the borders[r] of the land.

16 LORD, they came to you in their distress;[s]
when you disciplined[t] them,
they could barely whisper[u] a prayer.[j]
17 As a woman with child and about to give birth[v]
writhes and cries out in her pain,
so were we in your presence, O LORD.
18 We were with child, we writhed in pain,
but we gave birth[w] to wind.
We have not brought salvation[x] to the earth;
we have not given birth to people of the world.[y]

19 But your dead[z] will live;
their bodies will rise.
You who dwell in the dust,[a]
wake up and shout for joy.
Your dew[b] is like the dew of the morning;
the earth will give birth to her dead.[c]

20 Go, my people, enter your rooms
and shut the doors[d] behind you;
hide[e] yourselves for a little while
until his wrath[f] has passed by.[g]
21 See, the LORD is coming[h] out of his dwelling[i]
to punish[j] the people of the earth for their sins.
The earth will disclose the blood[k] shed upon her;
she will conceal her slain no longer.

Deliverance of Israel

27 In that day,[l]
the LORD will punish with his sword,[m]
his fierce, great and powerful sword,
Leviathan[n] the gliding serpent,[o]
Leviathan the coiling serpent;
he will slay the monster[p] of the sea.

2 In that day[q]—

"Sing[r] about a fruitful vineyard:[s]
3 I, the LORD, watch over it;
I water[t] it continually.
I guard[u] it day and night
so that no one may harm[v] it.
4 I am not angry.
If only there were briers and thorns confronting me!
I would march against them in battle;
I would set them all on fire.[w]
5 Or else let them come to me for refuge;[x]
let them make peace[y] with me,
yes, let them make peace with me."

6 In days to come Jacob will take root,[z]
Israel will bud and blossom[a]
and fill all the world with fruit.[b]

7 Has the LORD struck her
as he struck[c] down those who struck her?
Has she been killed
as those were killed who killed her?
8 By warfare[k] and exile[d] you contend with her—
with his fierce blast he drives her out,
as on a day the east wind[e] blows.
9 By this, then, will Jacob's guilt be atoned[f] for,

26:10 [a]Isa 32:6; 59:7,13 [b]S 1Sa 12:24; Isa 22:12-13; Jer 2:19; Hos 11:7; Jn 5:37-38; Ro 2:4 **26:11** [c]S Ps 10:12 [d]Isa 18:3; 44:9,18 [e]S Isa 9:7; Joel 2:18; Zec 1:14 [f]Mic 7:16 [g]S Isa 1:31; Heb 10:27 **26:12** [h]S Ps 119:165; S Isa 9:6 [i]S Ps 68:28 **26:13** [j]Isa 2:8; 10:5,11 [k]S Isa 12:4 [l]Isa 42:8; 63:7 **26:14** [m]S Dt 4:28 [n]S Job 26:5 [o]S Ps 9:5; S Isa 10:3 [p]S Ps 9:6 **26:15** [q]S Job 12:23; S Isa 14:2 [r]Isa 33:17 **26:16** [s]S Jdg 6:2; S Isa 5:30 [t]S Ps 39:11 [u]Isa 29:4 **26:17** [v]S Isa 21:3; S Jn 16:21; Rev 12:2 **26:18** [w]Isa 33:11; 59:4 [x]S Ge 49:10; Ps 17:14 [y]Isa 42:6; 49:6; S 51:4; Jer 12:16 **26:19** [z]S Isa 25:8; Eph 5:14 [a]Ps 22:29 [b]S Ge 27:28; S Isa 18:4 [c]Isa 66:24; Eze 37:1-14; Da 12:2 **26:20** [d]Ex 12:23 [e]Ps 91:1,4 [f]S Isa 10:25; S 30:27 [g]S Job 14:13 **26:21** [h]Isa 29:6; Jude 1:14 [i]S Isa 18:4 [j]S Isa 13:9,11; 30:12-14 [k]S Job 16:18; Lk 11:50-51 **27:1** [l]ver 13; S Isa 2:11; 28:5 [m]S Ge 3:24; S Dt 32:41; Isa 31:8; 34:6; 65:12; 66:16; Eze 21:3; Na 3:15 [n]S Job 3:8 [o]Job 26:13 [p]S Ps 68:30; S 74:13; Rev 12:9 **27:2** [q]Isa 24:21 [r]S Isa 5:1 [s]Jer 2:21 **27:3** [t]Isa 58:11 [u]S Ps 91:4; S Isa 5:2 [v]S Jn 6:39 **27:4** [w]S ver 11; S Isa 10:17; Mt 3:12; Heb 6:8 **27:5** [x]S Isa 25:4 [y]S Job 22:21; S Ps 119:165; Ro 5:1; 2Co 5:20

27:6 [z]S 2Ki 19:30; Isa 11:10 [a]S Ge 40:10 [b]S Ps 72:16; Isa 11:1; 37:31; Eze 17:23; 36:8; Hos 14:8 **27:7** [c]Isa 10:26; S 11:4; 37:36-38 **27:8** [d]Isa 49:14; 50:1; 54:7 [e]S Ge 41:6 **27:9** [f]S Ps 78:38

j16 The meaning of the Hebrew for this clause is uncertain. k8 See Septuagint; the meaning of the Hebrew for this word is uncertain.

and this will be the full fruitage of
the removal of his sin:
When he makes all the altar stones
to be like chalk stones crushed to
pieces,
no Asherah poles[g] or incense altars
will be left standing.
10 The fortified city stands desolate,
an abandoned settlement,
forsaken like the desert;
there the calves graze,
there they lie down;
they strip its branches bare.
11 When its twigs are dry, they are
broken off
and women come and make fires
with them.
For this is a people without
understanding;
so their Maker has no compassion
on them,
and their Creator shows them no
favor.

12 In that day the LORD will thresh
from the flowing Euphrates[h] to the
Wadi of Egypt, and you, O Israelites,
will be gathered up one by one. 13 And
in that day a great trumpet will
sound. Those who were perishing in
Assyria and those who were exiled in
Egypt will come and worship the
LORD on the holy mountain in Jerusa-
lem.

Woe to Ephraim

28 Woe to that wreath, the pride
of Ephraim's drunkards,
to the fading flower, his glorious
beauty,
set on the head of a fertile valley—
to that city, the pride of those laid
low by wine!
2 See, the Lord has one who is
powerful and strong.
Like a hailstorm and a
destructive wind,
like a driving rain and a flooding
downpour,
he will throw it forcefully to the
ground.
3 That wreath, the pride of Ephraim's
drunkards,
will be trampled underfoot.
4 That fading flower, his glorious
beauty,
set on the head of a fertile valley,
will be like a fig ripe before
harvest—
as soon as someone sees it and
takes it in his hand,
he swallows it.

5 In that day the LORD Almighty
will be a glorious crown,
a beautiful wreath
for the remnant of his people.
6 He will be a spirit of justice
to him who sits in judgment,
a source of strength
to those who turn back the battle
at the gate.

7 And these also stagger from wine
and reel from beer:
Priests and prophets stagger from
beer
and are befuddled with wine;
they reel from beer,
they stagger when seeing
visions,
they stumble when rendering
decisions.
8 All the tables are covered with
vomit
and there is not a spot without
filth.

9 "Who is it he is trying to teach?
To whom is he explaining his
message?
To children weaned from their
milk,
to those just taken from the
breast?
10 For it is:
Do and do, do and do,
rule on rule, rule on rule[i];
a little here, a little there."

11 Very well then, with foreign lips and
strange tongues
God will speak to this people,
12 to whom he said,
"This is the resting place, let the
weary rest";
and, "This is the place of repose"—
but they would not listen.
13 So then, the word of the LORD to
them will become:
Do and do, do and do,
rule on rule, rule on rule;
a little here, a little there—
so that they will go and fall
backward,
be injured and snared and
captured.

27:9 [illegible] S Ex 23:24 S Ex 34:13 S Lev 26:30 2Ch 14:5 27:10 [illegible] S 17:9 Isa 5:6; 32:14; Jer 10:22; 26:6 La 1:4; 5:18 S Isa 5:5 S Isa 5:17 Isa 17:2 27:11 S Isa 10:33 S ver 4 Isa 33:12 S Dt 32:28 S Isa 1:3 Dt 32:18 Isa 43:1, 7; 44:1-2, 21, 24 S Isa 9:17 Jer 11:16 27:12 S Isa 21:10 Mt 3:12 S Ge 15:18 S Dt 30:4 S Isa 1:9 S 11:12; S 17:6 27:13 S ver 1 S Lev 25:9 S Jdg 3:27 S Mt 24:31 S Ps 106:47 S Isa 10:19; 19:21, 25 S Ge 27:29 S Ps 22:29 S Ps 2:6 S Isa 2:2 28:1 Isa 10:5; 29:1; 30:1; 31:1; 33:1 ver 3; Isa 7:2; 9:9 ver 4 S Lev 10:9; Isa 5:11; Hos 7:5; Am 6:6 28:2 Isa 40:10 S Jos 10:11 Isa 29:6 S Isa 8:7 S Da 9:26 28:3 S ver 1 S Job 40:12; S Isa 5:5 28:4 ver 1 S SS 2:13; Hos 9:10; Na 3:12

28:5 S Isa 10:20; S 27:1; 29:18; 30:23 S Isa 24:16, 23 Isa 62:3; Jer 13:18; Eze 16:12; 21:26; Zec 9:16 S Isa 1:9 28:6 S 2Sa 14:20; Isa 11:2-4; 32:1, 16; 33:5 Isa 4:4; Jn 5:30 Jdg 9:44-45; S 2Ch 32:8 28:7 S Isa 3:12 S Lev 10:9; S Isa 22:13; S Eph 5:18 S Ps 107:27 Isa 24:2 S Isa 9:15 S Isa 1:1; 29:11 28:8 Jer 48:26 28:9 ver 26; Ps 32:8; Isa 2:3; 30:20; 48:17; 50:4; 54:13; Jer 31:34; 32:33 Isa 52:7; 53:1 Ps 131:2 Heb 5:12-13; 1Pe 2:2 28:10 ver 13

28:11 S Ge 11:7; Isa 33:19; Jer 5:15 Eze 3:5; 1Co 14:21* 28:12 S Ex 14:14; S Jos 1:13; S Job 11:18; S Isa 11:10; Mt 11:28-29 28:13 ver 10 Mt 21:44 S Isa 8:15

g 9 That is, symbols of the goddess Asherah
h 12 Hebrew *River*   i 10 Hebrew / *sav lasav sav lasav / kav lakav kav lakav* (possibly meaningless sounds; perhaps a mimicking of the prophet's words); also in verse 13

14 Therefore hear the word of the LORD,[a] you scoffers[b]
who rule this people in Jerusalem.
15 You boast, "We have entered into a covenant with death,[c]
with the grave[a] we have made an agreement.
When an overwhelming scourge sweeps by,[d]
it cannot touch us,
for we have made a lie[b] our refuge
and falsehood[e] our hiding place.[f]"

16 So this is what the Sovereign LORD says:

"See, I lay a stone in Zion,[g]
a tested stone,[h]
a precious cornerstone for a sure foundation;[i]
the one who trusts will never be dismayed.[j]
17 I will make justice[k] the measuring line
and righteousness the plumb line;[l]
hail[m] will sweep away your refuge, the lie,
and water will overflow[n] your hiding place.
18 Your covenant with death will be annulled;
your agreement with the grave will not stand.[o]
When the overwhelming scourge sweeps by,[p]
you will be beaten down[q] by it.
19 As often as it comes it will carry you away;[r]
morning after morning,[s] by day and by night,
it will sweep through."

The understanding of this message will bring sheer terror.[t]
20 The bed is too short to stretch out on,
the blanket too narrow to wrap around you.[u]
21 The LORD will rise up as he did at Mount Perazim,[v]
he will rouse himself as in the Valley of Gibeon[w]—
to do his work,[x] his strange work,
and perform his task, his alien task.
22 Now stop your mocking,[y]
or your chains will become heavier;
the Lord, the LORD Almighty, has told me
of the destruction decreed against the whole land.[z]

23 Listen[a] and hear my voice;
pay attention and hear what I say.
24 When a farmer plows for planting,[b]
does he plow continually?
Does he keep on breaking up and harrowing the soil?
25 When he has leveled the surface,
does he not sow caraway and scatter cummin?[c]
Does he not plant wheat in its place,[c]
barley[d] in its plot,[e]
and spelt[f] in its field?
26 His God instructs him
and teaches[g] him the right way.
27 Caraway is not threshed[h] with a sledge,[i]
nor is a cartwheel rolled over cummin;
caraway is beaten out with a rod,[j]
and cummin with a stick.
28 Grain must be ground to make bread;
so one does not go on threshing it forever.
Though he drives the wheels of his threshing cart[k] over it,
his horses do not grind it.
29 All this also comes from the LORD Almighty,
wonderful in counsel[l] and magnificent in wisdom.[m]

Woe to David's City

29 Woe[n] to you, Ariel, Ariel,[o]
the city[p] where David settled!
Add year to year
and let your cycle of festivals[q] go on.
2 Yet I will besiege Ariel;[r]
she will mourn and lament,[s]
she will be to me like an altar hearth.[d][t]
3 I will encamp against you all around;
I will encircle[u] you with towers
and set up my siege works[v] against you.
4 Brought low, you will speak from the ground;
your speech will mumble[w] out of the dust.[x]
Your voice will come ghostlike[y] from the earth;
out of the dust your speech will whisper.[z]

28:14 Isa 1:10 ... 28:15 ... 28:16 ... 28:17 ... 28:18 ... 28:19 ... 28:20 Isa 59:6 28:21 ... 28:22 ... Jer 25:18; La 2:15; Zep 2:15
S Isa 10:22 S Isa 10:23 28:23 Isa 32:9 28:24 Ecc 3:2 28:25 Mt 23:23 S Ex 9:31 Ex 9:32; Eze 4:9 28:26 S Ps 94:10 28:27 S Isa 21:10 S Job 41:30 Isa 10:5 28:28 S Isa 21:10 28:29 S Isa 9:6 S Ps 92:5; Ro 11:33 29:1 Isa 22:12-13; S 28:1 ver 2,7 S 2Sa 5:7 S Isa 1:14 29:2 S ver 1 S Isa 3:26; La 2:5 Eze 43:15 29:3 Lk 19:43-44 S 2Ki 25:1 29:4 Isa 8:19 Isa 47:1; 52:2 S Lev 19:31 Isa 26:16

a15 Hebrew *Sheol*; also in verse 18 b15 Or *false gods* c25 The meaning of the Hebrew for this word is uncertain. d2 The Hebrew for *altar hearth* sounds like the Hebrew for *Ariel*.

5 But your many enemies will become
like fine dust,[a]
the ruthless[b] hordes like blown
chaff.[c]
Suddenly,[d] in an instant,
6 the LORD Almighty will come[e]
with thunder[f] and earthquake[g] and
great noise,
with windstorm and tempest[h] and
flames of a devouring fire.[i]
7 Then the hordes of all the nations[j]
that fight against Ariel,[k]
that attack her and her fortress
and besiege her,
will be as it is with a dream,[l]
with a vision in the night—
8 as when a hungry man dreams that
he is eating,
but he awakens,[m] and his hunger
remains;
as when a thirsty man dreams that
he is drinking,
but he awakens faint, with his
thirst unquenched.[n]
So will it be with the hordes of all
the nations
that fight against Mount Zion.[o]

9 Be stunned and amazed,[p]
blind yourselves and be sightless;[q]
be drunk,[r] but not from wine,[s]
stagger,[t] but not from beer.
10 The LORD has brought over you a
deep sleep:[u]
He has sealed your eyes[v] (the
prophets);[w]
he has covered your heads (the
seers).[x]

11 For you this whole vision[y] is noth-
ing but words sealed[z] in a scroll. And
if you give the scroll to someone who
can read, and say to him, "Read this,
please," he will answer, "I can't; it is
sealed." 12 Or if you give the scroll to
someone who cannot read, and say,
"Read this, please," he will answer, "I
don't know how to read."

13 The Lord says:

"These people[a] come near to me
with their mouth
and honor me with their lips,[b]
but their hearts are far from me.[c]
Their worship of me
is made up only of rules taught by
men.[s][d]
14 Therefore once more I will astound
these people
with wonder upon wonder;[e]
the wisdom of the wise[f] will perish,
the intelligence of the intelligent
will vanish.[g]"
15 Woe to those who go to great depths
to hide[h] their plans from the LORD,
who do their work in darkness and
think,
"Who sees us?[i] Who will
know?"[j]
16 You turn things upside down,
as if the potter were thought to be
like the clay![k]
Shall what is formed say to him who
formed[l] it,
"He did not make me"?
Can the pot say of the potter,[m]
"He knows nothing"?[n]

17 In a very short time,[o] will not
Lebanon[p] be turned into a
fertile field[q]
and the fertile field seem like a
forest?[r]
18 In that day[s] the deaf[t] will hear the
words of the scroll,
and out of gloom and darkness[u]
the eyes of the blind will see.[v]
19 Once more the humble[w] will rejoice
in the LORD;
the needy[x] will rejoice in the Holy
One[y] of Israel.
20 The ruthless[z] will vanish,[a]
the mockers[b] will disappear,
and all who have an eye for evil[c]
will be cut down—
21 those who with a word make a man
out to be guilty,
who ensnare the defender in
court[d]
and with false testimony[e] deprive
the innocent of justice.[f]

22 Therefore this is what the LORD,
who redeemed[g] Abraham,[h] says to the
house of Jacob:

"No longer will Jacob be ashamed;[i]
no longer will their faces grow
pale.[j]
23 When they see among them their
children,[k]
the work of my hands,[l]
they will keep my name holy;[m]
they will acknowledge the holiness
of the Holy One[n] of Jacob,

29:5 [a]S Dt 9:21; Ps 78:39; 103:15; S Isa 2:22; 37:27; 40:6; 51:12 [b]S Isa 13:11 [c]S Isa 17:13 [d]S Ps 55:15; S Isa 17:14; 1Th 5:3 **29:6** [e]S Isa 26:21; Zec 14:1-5 [f]S Ex 19:16 [g]Mt 24:7; Mk 13:8; Lk 21:11; S Rev 6:12; 11:19 [h]S Ps 50:3; S 55:8; S Isa 28:15 [i]S Lev 10:2; Ps 83:13-15 **29:7** [j]Mic 4:11-12; Zec 12:9 [k]S ver 1 [l]S Job 20:8 **29:8** [m]S Ps 73:20 [n]ver 5,7; Isa 41:11,15; Jer 30:16; Zec 12:3 [o]Isa 17:12-14; 54:17 **29:9** [p]ver 14; Jer 4:9; Hab 1:5 [q]S Isa 6:10 [r]Isa 51:17; 63:6; Jer 13:13; 25:27 [s]S Lev 10:9; Isa 28:1; 51:21-22 [t]S Ps 60:3; S Isa 3:12 **29:10** [u]S Jdg 4:21; Jnh 1:5 [v]Ps 69:23; S Isa 6:9-10; 44:18; Ro 11:8*; 2Th 2:9-11 [w]Mic 3:6 [x]S 1Sa 9:9 **29:11** [y]S Isa 28:7 [z]S Isa 8:16; Da 8:26; 12:9; Mt 13:11; Rev 5:1-2 **29:13** [a]Jer 14:11; Hag 1:2; 2:14 [b]S Ps 50:16 [c]S Ps 119:70; Isa 58:2; Jer 12:2; Eze 33:31 [d]Mt 15:8-9*; Mk 7:6-7*; Col 2:22 **29:14** [e]S Job 10:16 [f]S Job 5:13; Jer 8:9; 49:7 [g]Isa 6:9-10; 1Co 1:19*

29:15 [h]S Ge 3:8; S Isa 28:15 [i]S Job 8:3; Ps 10:11-13; 94:7; Isa 47:10; 57:12; Eze 8:12; 9:9 [j]S 2Ki 21:16; S Job 22:13 **29:16** [k]S Job 10:9; S Isa 10:15 [l]S Ge 2:7 [m]Isa 45:9; 64:8; Jer 18:6; Ro 9:20-21* [n]S Job 9:12 **29:17** [o]S Isa 10:25 [p]S Isa 2:13 [q]Ps 84:6; 107:33 [r]Isa 32:15 **29:18** [s]S Isa 28:5 [t]Mk 7:37

[u]S Ps 107:14 [v]S Ps 146:8; S Isa 32:3; Mt 11:5; Lk 7:22 **29:19** [w]Ps 25:9; 37:11; Isa 61:1; Mt 5:5; 11:29 [x]S Ps 72:4; S Isa 3:15; S 14:30; Mt 11:5; Lk 7:22; Jas 1:9; 2:5 [y]ver 23; Isa 1:4; S 5:19; S 12:6; 30:11 **29:20** [z]S Isa 9:4; S 13:11 [a]Isa 34:12 [b]S 2Ch 36:16; Isa 28:22 [c]S Job 15:35; Ps 7:14; Isa 32:7; 33:11; 59:4; Eze 11:2; Mic 2:1; Na 1:11 **29:21** [d]Am 5:10,15 [e]Pr 21:28 [f]S Isa 5:23; 32:7; Hab 1:4 **29:22** [g]S Ex 6:6 [h]Ge 17:16; Isa 41:8; 51:2; 63:16 [i]Ps 22:5; 25:3; S Isa 28:16; 49:23; 61:7; Joel 2:26; Zep 3:11 [j]Jer 30:6,10; Joel 2:6,21; Na 2:10 **29:23** [k]Isa 49:20-26; 53:10; 54:1-3 [l]S Ps 8:6; S Isa 19:25 [m]Mt 6:9 [n]S ver 19; S Isa 5:19

[s]13 Hebrew; Septuagint *They worship me in vain; / their teachings are but rules taught by men*

and will stand in awe of the God
of Israel.
24 Those who are wayward[a] in spirit
will gain understanding;[b]
those who complain will accept
instruction."[c]

Woe to the Obstinate Nation

30 "Woe[d] to the obstinate
children,"[e]
declares the LORD,
"to those who carry out plans that
are not mine,
forming an alliance,[f] but not by
my Spirit,
heaping sin upon sin;
2 who go down to Egypt[g]
without consulting[h] me;
who look for help to Pharaoh's
protection,[i]
to Egypt's shade for refuge.[j]
3 But Pharaoh's protection will be to
your shame,
Egypt's shade[k] will bring you
disgrace.[l]
4 Though they have officials in Zoan[m]
and their envoys have arrived in
Hanes,
5 everyone will be put to shame
because of a people[n] useless[o] to
them,
who bring neither help[p] nor
advantage,
but only shame and disgrace."[q]

6 An oracle[r] concerning the animals
of the Negev:[s]

Through a land of hardship and
distress,[t]
of lions[u] and lionesses,
of adders and darting snakes,[v]
the envoys carry their riches on
donkeys'[w] backs,
their treasures[x] on the humps of
camels,
to that unprofitable nation,
7 to Egypt, whose help is utterly
useless.[y]
Therefore I call her
Rahab[z] the Do-Nothing.

8 Go now, write it on a tablet[a] for
them,
inscribe it on a scroll,[b]
that for the days to come
it may be an everlasting witness.[c]
9 These are rebellious[d] people,
deceitful[e] children,
children unwilling to listen to the
LORD's instruction.[f]
10 They say to the seers,[g]
"See no more visions[h]!"
and to the prophets,
"Give us no more visions of what
is right!
Tell us pleasant things,[i]
prophesy illusions.[j]
11 Leave this way,[k]
get off this path,
and stop confronting[l] us
with the Holy One[m] of Israel!"

12 Therefore, this is what the Holy
One[n] of Israel says:

"Because you have rejected this
message,[o]
relied on oppression[p]
and depended on deceit,
13 this sin will become for you
like a high wall,[q] cracked and
bulging,
that collapses[r] suddenly,[s] in an
instant.
14 It will break in pieces like pottery,[t]
shattered so mercilessly
that among its pieces not a fragment
will be found
for taking coals from a hearth
or scooping water out of a
cistern."

15 This is what the Sovereign[u] LORD,
the Holy One[v] of Israel, says:

"In repentance and rest[w] is your
salvation,
in quietness and trust[x] is your
strength,
but you would have none of it.[y]
16 You said, 'No, we will flee[z] on
horses.'[a]
Therefore you will flee!
You said, 'We will ride off on swift
horses.'
Therefore your pursuers will be
swift!
17 A thousand will flee
at the threat of one;
at the threat of five[b]
you will all flee[c] away,
till you are left[d]
like a flagstaff on a mountaintop,
like a banner[e] on a hill."

18 Yet the LORD longs[f] to be gracious to
you;
he rises to show you compassion.[g]
For the LORD is a God of justice.[h]
Blessed are all who wait for him![i]

19 O people of Zion, who live in
Jerusalem, you will weep no more.[j]

29:24 [a]Ps 95:10; S Pr 12:8; Isa 28:7; Heb 5:2 [b]Isa 1:3; 32:4; 41:20; 60:16 [c]Isa 30:21; 42:16 **30:1** [d]S Isa 28:1 [e]S Dt 21:18; S Isa 1:2 [f]S 2Ki 17:4; S Isa 8:12 **30:2** [g]2Ki 25:26; Isa 31:1; 36:6; Jer 2:18,36; 42:14; Eze 17:15; 29:16 [h]S Ge 25:22; S Nu 27:21 [i]Isa 36:9 [j]S Isa 4:6 **30:3** [k]Jdg 9:8-15 [l]ver 5; S Ps 44:13; Isa 20:4-5; 36:6 **30:4** [m]S Nu 13:22 **30:5** [n]ver 7; Isa 20:5; 31:1; 36:6 [o]S 2Ki 18:21 [p]S Ps 108:12; Jer 37:3-5 [q]S ver 3; S 2Ki 18:21; Eze 17:15 **30:6** [r]Isa 13:1 [s]S Jdg 1:9 [t]S Ex 1:13; 5:10, 21; Isa 5:30; 8:22; Jer 11:4 [u]S Isa 5:29; 35:9 [v]S Dt 8:15 [w]S Ge 42:26; S 1Sa 25:18 [x]S Isa 15:7 **30:7** [y]S 2Ki 18:21; S Jer 2:36 [z]S Job 9:13 **30:8** [a]S Dt 27:8 [b]S Ex 17:14; S Isa 8:1; Jer 25:13; 30:2; 36:28; Hab 2:2 [c]Jos 24:26-27 **30:9** [d]S Ps 78:8; S Isa 1:2; S Eze 2:6 [e]Isa 28:15; 59:3-4 [f]S Isa 1:10 **30:10** [g]S 1Sa 9:9 [h]Jer 11:21; 32:3; Am 7:13 [i]S 1Ki 22:8; S Jer 4:10 [j]Jer 23:26; 25:9; 26:9; 36:29; Eze 13:7; Ro 16:18; 2Ti 4:3-4 **30:11** [k]ver 21; Pr 3:6; Isa 35:8-9; 48:17 [l]S Job 21:14 [m]S Isa 29:19 **30:12** [n]ver 15; S Isa 5:19; 31:1 [o]S Isa 5:24 [p]S Ps 10:7; S 12:5; S Isa 5:7 **30:13** [q]S Ne 2:17; Ps 62:3; S 80:12 [r]S 1Ki 20:30 [s]S Isa 17:14 **30:14** [t]S Ps 2:9 **30:15** [u]Jer 7:20; Eze 3:11 [v]S ver 12 [w]S Ex 14:14; S Jos 1:13 [x]S 2Ch 20:12; Isa 32:17 [y]Isa 8:6; 42:24; 57:17 **30:16** [z]Jer 46:6 [a]S Dt 17:16; 1Ki 10:28-29; S Ps 20:7; Isa 31:1,3; 36:8

30:17 [b]S Lev 26:8 [c]Lev 26:36; Dt 28:25; S 2Ki 7:7 [d]S Isa 1:8 [e]S Ps 20:5 **30:18** [f]S Ge 43:31; Isa 42:14; 2Pe 3:9,15 [g]Ps 78:38; Isa 48:9; Jnh 3:10 [h]S Ps 11:7; S Isa 5:16 [i]S Ps 27:14; Isa 25:9; 33:2; 40:31; 64:4; La 3:25; Da 12:12 **30:19** [j]S Isa 25:8; 60:20; 61:3

How gracious he will be when you cry
for help![a] As soon as he hears, he will
answer[b] you. 20 Although the Lord
gives you the bread[c] of adversity and
the water of affliction, your teachers[d]
will be hidden[e] no more; with your
own eyes you will see them. 21 Whether
you turn to the right or to the left, your
ears will hear a voice[f] behind you, say-
ing, "This is the way;[g] walk in it."
22 Then you will defile your idols[h] over-
laid with silver and your images
covered with gold;[i] you will throw
them away like a menstrual[j] cloth and
say to them, "Away with you![k]"

23 He will also send you rain[l] for the
seed you sow in the ground, and the
food that comes from the land will be
rich[m] and plentiful.[n] In that day[o] your
cattle will graze in broad meadows.[p]
24 The oxen[q] and donkeys that work the
soil will eat fodder[r] and mash, spread
out with fork[s] and shovel. 25 In the day
of great slaughter,[t] when the towers[u]
fall, streams of water will flow[v] on
every high mountain and every lofty
hill. 26 The moon will shine like the
sun,[w] and the sunlight will be seven
times brighter, like the light of seven
full days, when the LORD binds up the
bruises of his people and heals[x] the
wounds he inflicted.

27 See, the Name[y] of the LORD comes
from afar,
with burning anger[z] and dense
clouds of smoke;
his lips are full of wrath,[a]
and his tongue is a consuming
fire.[b]
28 His breath[c] is like a rushing
torrent,[d]
rising up to the neck.[e]
He shakes the nations in the sieve[f]
of destruction;
he places in the jaws of the
peoples
a bit[g] that leads them astray.
29 And you will sing
as on the night you celebrate a
holy festival;[h]
your hearts will rejoice[i]
as when people go up with
flutes[j]
to the mountain[k] of the LORD,
to the Rock[l] of Israel.
30 The LORD will cause men to hear his
majestic voice[m]
and will make them see his arm[n]
coming down
with raging anger[o] and consuming
fire,[p]
with cloudburst, thunderstorm[q]
and hail.[r]
31 The voice of the LORD will shatter
Assyria;[s]
with his scepter he will strike[t]
them down.
32 Every stroke the LORD lays on them
with his punishing rod[u]
will be to the music of tambourines[v]
and harps,
as he fights them in battle with the
blows of his arm.[w]
33 Topheth[x] has long been prepared;
it has been made ready for the
king.
Its fire pit has been made deep and
wide,
with an abundance of fire and
wood;
the breath[y] of the LORD,
like a stream of burning sulfur,[z]
sets it ablaze.[a]

Woe to Those Who Rely on Egypt

31 Woe[b] to those who go down to
Egypt[c] for help,
who rely on horses,[d]
who trust in the multitude of their
chariots[e]
and in the great strength of their
horsemen,
but do not look to the Holy One[f] of
Israel,
or seek help from the LORD.[g]
2 Yet he too is wise[h] and can bring
disaster;[i]
he does not take back his words.[j]
He will rise up against the house of
the wicked,[k]
against those who help evildoers.
3 But the Egyptians[l] are men and not
God;[m]
their horses[n] are flesh and not
spirit.
When the LORD stretches out his
hand,[o]
he who helps will stumble,
he who is helped[p] will fall;
both will perish together.[q]

4 This is what the LORD says to me:
"As a lion[r] growls,
a great lion over his prey—

30:19 [a]S Job 24:12 [b]Job 22:27; Ps 50:15; S 86:7; Isa 41:17; 58:9; 65:24; Zec 13:9; Mt 7:7-11 **30:20** [c]1Ki 22:27 [d]S Isa 28:9 [e]Ps 74:9; Am 8:11 **30:21** [f]S Isa 29:24 [g]S ver 11; S Job 33:11 **30:22** [h]S Ex 32:4; S Isa 17:8 [i]S Job 22:24; Isa 31:7 [j]Lev 15:19-23 [k]Eze 7:19-20 **30:23** [l]S Dt 28:12; Isa 65:21-22 [m]Isa 25:6; 55:2; Jer 31:14 [n]S Job 36:31; Isa 62:8 [o]S Isa 28:5 [p]S Ps 65:13 **30:24** [q]Isa 32:14,20 [r]S Job 6:5 [s]Mt 3:12; Lk 3:17 **30:25** [t]S Isa 13:5; 34:6; 65:12; Jer 25:32; 50:27 [u]S Isa 2:15 [v]S Ex 17:6; Isa 32:2; 41:18; Joel 3:18; Zec 14:8 **30:26** [w]Isa 24:23; 60:19-20; Zec 14:7; Rev 21:23; 22:5 [x]S Dt 32:39; S 2Ch 7:14; Ps 107:20; S Isa 1:5; Jer 3:22; 17:14; Hos 14:4 **30:27** [y]1Ki 18:24; Ps 20:1; Isa 59:19; 64:2 [z]Isa 26:20; 66:14; Eze 22:31 [a]Isa 10:5; 13:5 [b]S ver 30; S Job 41:21 **30:28** [c]S Isa 11:4 [d]S Ps 50:3; S Isa 28:15 [e]S Isa 8:8 [f]Am 9:9 [g]2Ki 19:28 **30:29** [h]Isa 25:6 [i]Isa 12:1 [j]S 1Sa 10:5 [k]S Ps 42:4; Mt 26:30 [l]S Ge 49:24 **30:30** [m]S Ps 68:33 [n]Isa 9:12; 40:10; 51:9; 52:10; 53:1; 59:16; 62:8; 63:12 [o]S ver 27; S Isa 10:25 [p]S Isa 4:4; 47:14 [q]Ex 20:18; Ps 29:3 [r]S Ex 9:18 **30:31** [s]S Isa 10:5,12 [t]S Isa 11:4 **30:32** [u]Isa 10:26 [v]S Ex 15:20 [w]S Isa 11:15; Eze 32:10 **30:33** [x]S 2Ki 23:10 [y]S Ex 15:10; S 2Sa 22:16 [z]S Ge 19:24; S Rev 9:17 [a]S Isa 1:31 **31:1** [b]S Isa 28:1 [c]S Dt 17:16; S Isa 30:2,5; S Jer 37:5 [d]S Isa 30:16 [e]S Isa 2:7 [f]Job 6:10; S Isa 1:4; S 30:12 [g]S Dt 20:1; S Pr 21:31; S Isa 9:13; Jer 46:9; Eze 29:16 **31:2** [h]S Ps 92:5; Ro 16:27 [i]Isa 45:7; 47:11; Am 3:6 [j]Nu 23:19; S Pr 19:21 [k]S Isa 1:4; 29:15; 32:6 **31:3** [l]Isa 20:5; 36:9 [m]S Ps 9:20; Eze 28:9; 2Th 2:4 [n]S Isa 30:16 [o]Ne 1:10; S Job 30:21; Isa 9:17,21; Jer 51:25; Eze 20:34 [p]Isa 10:3; 30:5-7 [q]S Isa 20:6; Jer 17:5 **31:4** [r]Nu 24:9; S 1Sa 17:34; Hos 11:10; Am 3:8

and though a whole band of
shepherds[a]
is called together against him,
he is not frightened by their shouts
or disturbed by their clamor[b] —
so the LORD Almighty will come
down[c]
to do battle on Mount Zion and on
its heights.
5Like birds hovering[d] overhead,
the LORD Almighty will shield[e]
Jerusalem;
he will shield it and deliver[f] it,
he will 'pass over'[g] it and will
rescue it."

6Return[h] to him you have so greatly
revolted[i] against, O Israelites. 7For in
that day[j] every one of you will reject
the idols of silver and gold[k] your sinful
hands have made.[l]

8"Assyria[m] will fall by a sword that is
not of man;
a sword, not of mortals, will
devour[n] them.
They will flee before the sword
and their young men will be put to
forced labor.[o]
9Their stronghold[p] will fall because of
terror;
at sight of the battle standard[q]
their commanders will
panic,"[r]
declares the LORD,
whose fire[s] is in Zion,
whose furnace[t] is in Jerusalem.

The Kingdom of Righteousness

32 See, a king[u] will reign in
righteousness
and rulers will rule with justice.[v]
2Each man will be like a shelter[w] from
the wind
and a refuge from the storm,[x]
like streams of water[y] in the desert[z]
and the shadow of a great rock in
a thirsty land.
3Then the eyes of those who see will
no longer be closed,[a]
and the ears[b] of those who hear
will listen.
4The mind of the rash will know and
understand,[c]
and the stammering tongue[d] will
be fluent and clear.
5No longer will the fool[e] be called
noble
nor the scoundrel be highly
respected.
6For the fool speaks folly,[f]
his mind is busy with evil:[g]
He practices ungodliness[h]
and spreads error[i] concerning the
LORD;
the hungry he leaves empty[j]
and from the thirsty he withholds
water.
7The scoundrel's methods are
wicked,[k]
he makes up evil schemes[l]
to destroy the poor with lies,
even when the plea of the needy[m]
is just.[n]
8But the noble man makes noble
plans,
and by noble deeds[o] he stands.[p]

The Women of Jerusalem

9You women[q] who are so
complacent,
rise up and listen[r] to me;
you daughters who feel secure,[s]
hear what I have to say!
10In little more than a year[t]
you who feel secure will tremble;
the grape harvest will fail,[u]
and the harvest of fruit will not
come.
11Tremble,[v] you complacent women;
shudder, you daughters who feel
secure![w]
Strip off your clothes,[x]
put sackcloth[y] around your
waists.
12Beat your breasts[z] for the pleasant
fields,
for the fruitful vines[a]
13and for the land of my people,
a land overgrown with thorns and
briers[b] —
yes, mourn[c] for all houses of
merriment
and for this city of revelry.[d]
14The fortress[e] will be abandoned,
the noisy city deserted;[f]
citadel and watchtower[g] will become
a wasteland forever,
the delight of donkeys,[h] a pasture
for flocks,[i]
15till the Spirit[j] is poured upon us
from on high,
and the desert becomes a fertile
field,[k]
and the fertile field seems like a
forest.[l]
16Justice[m] will dwell in the desert[n]
and righteousness[o] live in the
fertile field.

31:4 [a]Jer 3:15; 23:4; Eze 34:23; Na 3:18 [b]Ps 74:23 [c]Isa 42:13 **31:5** [d]S Ge 1:2; S Mt 23:37 [e]S Ps 91:4; S Isa 5:2; S Zec 9:15 [f]S Ps 34:7; Isa 37:35; 38:6 [g]S Ex 12:23 **31:6** [h]S Job 22:23; S Isa 1:27 [i]S Isa 1:5 **31:7** [j]Isa 29:18 [k]S Isa 30:22 [l]S Ps 135:15 **31:8** [m]S Isa 10:12 [n]S Ex 12:12; Isa 10:12; 14:25; S 27:1; 33:1; 37:7; Jer 25:12; Hab 2:8 [o]S Ge 49:15; S Dt 20:11 **31:9** [p]Dt 32:31, 37 [q]S Isa 18:3; S Jer 4:6 [r]Jer 51:9; Na 3:7 [s]S Isa 10:17 [t]Ps 21:9; Mal 4:1 **32:1** [u]S Ps 149:2; S Isa 6:5; 55:4; Eze 37:24 [v]Ps 72:1-4; S Isa 9:7; S 28:6 **32:2** [w]S 1Ki 18:4 [x]S Ps 55:8 [y]S Ps 23:2; S Isa 30:25; 49:10; Jer 31:9 [z]S Ps 107:35; Isa 44:3 **32:3** [a]S Isa 29:18; 35:5; 42:7,16 [b]S Dt 29:4 **32:4** [c]Isa 6:10; S 29:24 [d]Isa 35:6 **32:5** [e]S 1Sa 25:25 **32:6** [f]S Pr 19:3 [g]S Pr 24:2; S Isa 26:10 [h]S Isa 9:17 [i]Isa 3:12; 9:16 [j]S Isa 3:15 **32:7** [k]Jer 5:26-28; Da 12:10 [l]S Isa 29:20; Mic 7:3 [m]S Ps 72:4; Isa 29:19; 61:1 [n]S Isa 29:21 **32:8** [o]1Ch 29:9; S Pr 11:25 [p]Isa 14:24 **32:9** [q]S Isa 4:1 [r]Isa 28:23 [s]ver 11; Isa 47:8; Da 4:4; Am 6:1; Zep 2:15 **32:10** [t]Isa 37:30 [u]Isa 5:5-6; S 24:7 **32:11** [v]Isa 33:14 [w]S ver 9 [x]Isa 47:2; Mic 1:8; Na 3:5 [y]S Isa 3:24 **32:12** [z]Na 2:7 [a]Isa 16:9 **32:13** [b]S Isa 5:6; Hos 10:8 [c]S Isa 24:11 [d]S Isa 23:7 **32:14** [e]S Isa 13:22 [f]S Isa 6:11; S 27:10 [g]S Isa 2:15; 34:13 [h]S Ps 104:11 [i]S Isa 5:17 **32:15** [j]S Isa 11:2; S Eze 37:9 [k]Ps 107:35; Isa 35:1-2 [l]Isa 29:17 **32:16** [m]S Isa 9:7; S 28:6 [n]Isa 35:1,6; 42:11 [o]S Ps 48:1; S Isa 1:26

17The fruit of righteousness[a] will be peace;[b]
the effect of righteousness will be quietness and confidence[c] forever.
18My people will live in peaceful[d] dwelling places,
in secure homes,[e]
in undisturbed places of rest.[f]
19Though hail[g] flattens the forest[h]
and the city is leveled[i] completely,
20how blessed you will be,
sowing[j] your seed by every stream,[k]
and letting your cattle and donkeys range free.[l]

Distress and Help

33 Woe[m] to you, O destroyer,
you who have not been destroyed!
Woe to you, O traitor,
you who have not been betrayed!
When you stop destroying,
you will be destroyed;[n]
when you stop betraying,
you will be betrayed.[o]

2O LORD, be gracious[p] to us;
we long for you.
Be our strength[q] every morning,
our salvation[r] in time of distress.[s]
3At the thunder of your voice,[t] the peoples flee;[u]
when you rise up,[v] the nations scatter.
4Your plunder,[w] O nations, is harvested[x] as by young locusts;[y]
like a swarm of locusts men pounce on it.

5The LORD is exalted,[z] for he dwells on high;[a]
he will fill Zion with justice[b] and righteousness.[c]
6He will be the sure foundation for your times,
a rich store of salvation[d] and wisdom and knowledge;
the fear[e] of the LORD is the key to this treasure.[f] [6]

7Look, their brave men[g] cry aloud in the streets;
the envoys[h] of peace weep bitterly.
8The highways are deserted,
no travelers[i] are on the roads.[j]
The treaty is broken,[k]
its witnesses[8] are despised,
no one is respected.
9The land mourns[l][9] and wastes away,
Lebanon[m] is ashamed and withers;[n]
Sharon[o] is like the Arabah,
and Bashan[p] and Carmel[q] drop their leaves.

10"Now will I arise,[r]" says the LORD.
"Now will I be exalted;[s]
now will I be lifted up.
11You conceive[t] chaff,
you give birth[u] to straw;
your breath is a fire[v] that consumes you.
12The peoples will be burned as if to lime;[w]
like cut thornbushes[x] they will be set ablaze.[y]"

13You who are far away,[z] hear[a] what I have done;
you who are near, acknowledge my power!
14The sinners[b] in Zion are terrified;
trembling[c] grips the godless:
"Who of us can dwell with the consuming fire?[d]
Who of us can dwell with everlasting burning?"
15He who walks righteously[e]
and speaks what is right,[f]
who rejects gain from extortion[g]
and keeps his hand from accepting bribes,[h]
who stops his ears against plots of murder
and shuts his eyes[i] against contemplating evil—
16this is the man who will dwell on the heights,[j]
whose refuge[k] will be the mountain fortress.[l]
His bread will be supplied,
and water will not fail[m] him.

17Your eyes will see the king[n] in his beauty[o]
and view a land that stretches afar.[p]
18In your thoughts you will ponder the former terror:[q]
"Where is that chief officer?
Where is the one who took the revenue?
Where is the officer in charge of the towers?[r]"

32:17 a S Ps 85:10 b S Ps 119:165; S Isa 9:7; Ro 14:17; Heb 12:11; Jas 3:18 c S Isa 30:15 **32:18** d S Isa 2:4 e S Isa 26:1; 33:20; 37:33; 65:21; 66:14; Am 9:14 f S Jos 1:13; S Job 11:18; Hos 2:18-23 **32:19** g Isa 28:17 h S Isa 10:19; Zec 11:2 i S Job 40:11; S Isa 19:18; 24:10; 27:10 **32:20** j S Ecc 11:1 k S Dt 28:12 l Job 39:8; S Isa 30:24 **33:1** m S 2Ki 19:21; S Isa 28:1 n S Isa 31:8; S Mt 7:2 o S Isa 21:2; Jer 30:16; Eze 39:10 **33:2** p S Ge 43:29; S Ezr 9:8 q Isa 40:10; 51:9; 59:16; 63:5 r S Ps 13:5; S Isa 12:2 s S Isa 5:30 **33:3** t S Ps 46:6; S 68:33 u S Ps 68:1; S Isa 13:14 v ver 10; Nu 10:35; Ps 12:5; Isa 59:16-18 **33:4** w S Nu 14:3; S 2Ki 7:16 x S Isa 17:5; Joel 3:13 y Joel 1:4 **33:5** z S Isa 5:16 a S Job 16:19 b S Isa 9:7; S 28:6 c S Isa 1:26 **33:6** d S Isa 12:2; 26:1; 51:6; 60:18 e S Pr 1:7; Isa 11:2-3; Mt 6:33 f S Ge 39:3; S Job 22:25 **33:7** g Isa 10:34 h S 2Ki 18:37 **33:8** i Isa 60:15; Zec 7:14 j S Jdg 5:6; Isa 30:21; 35:8 k S 2Ki 18:14 **33:9** l S Isa 3:26 m S 2Ki 19:23; Isa 2:13; 35:2; 37:24; Jer 22:6 n S Isa 15:6 o S 1Ch 27:29 p Mic 7:14 q 1Ki 18:19; Isa 35:2; Na 1:4 **33:10** r S ver 3; Isa 2:21 s S Isa 5:16 **33:11** t Ps 7:14; Isa 59:4; Jas 1:15 u S Isa 26:18 v Isa 1:31 **33:12** w Am 2:1 x S Isa 5:6 y S Isa 10:17; S 27:11 **33:13** z Ps 48:10; 49:1 a Isa 34:1; 48:16; 49:1

33:14 b S Isa 1:28 c S Isa 32:11 d S Isa 1:31; S 30:30; S Zec 13:9; Heb 12:29 **33:15** e Isa 58:8 f Ps 15:2; 24:4 g Eze 22:13; 33:31 h S Pr 15:27 i Ps 119:37 **33:16** j S Dt 32:13 k S Ps 46:1; S Isa 25:4 l Ps 18:1-2; Isa 26:1 m Isa 48:21; 49:10; 65:13 **33:17** n S Isa 6:5 o S Isa 4:2 p S Isa 26:15 **33:18** q S Isa 17:14 r S Isa 2:15

6 Or *is a treasure from him* 8 Dead Sea Scrolls; Masoretic Text *the cities* 9 Or *dries up*

[19]You will see those arrogant people[a]
no more,
those people of an obscure speech,
with their strange,
incomprehensible tongue.[b]
[20]Look upon Zion,[c] the city of our
festivals;
your eyes will see Jerusalem,
a peaceful abode,[d] a tent[e] that
will not be moved;[f]
its stakes will never be pulled up,
nor any of its ropes broken.
[21]There the LORD will be our Mighty[g]
One.
It will be like a place of broad
rivers and streams.[h]
No galley with oars will ride them,
no mighty ship[i] will sail them.
[22]For the LORD is our judge,[j]
the LORD is our lawgiver,[k]
the LORD is our king;[l]
it is he who will save[m] us.

[23]Your rigging hangs loose:
The mast is not held secure,
the sail is not spread.
Then an abundance of spoils will be
divided
and even the lame[n] will carry off
plunder.[o]
[24]No one living in Zion will say, "I am
ill";[p]
and the sins of those who dwell
there will be forgiven.[q]

Judgment Against the Nations

34 Come near, you nations, and
listen;[r]
pay attention, you peoples![s]
Let the earth[t] hear, and all that is
in it,
the world, and all that comes out
of it![u]
[2]The LORD is angry with all nations;
his wrath[v] is upon all their armies.
He will totally destroy[w][w] them,
he will give them over to
slaughter.[x]
[3]Their slain[y] will be thrown out,
their dead bodies[z] will send up a
stench;[a]
the mountains will be soaked with
their blood.[b]
[4]All the stars of the heavens will be
dissolved[c]
and the sky rolled up[d] like a
scroll;
all the starry host will fall[e]
like withered[f] leaves from the
vine,
like shriveled figs from the fig tree.

[5]My sword[g] has drunk its fill in the
heavens;
see, it descends in judgment on
Edom,[h]
the people I have totally
destroyed.[i]
[6]The sword[j] of the LORD is bathed in
blood,
it is covered with fat—
the blood of lambs and goats,
fat from the kidneys of rams.
For the LORD has a sacrifice[k] in
Bozrah[l]
and a great slaughter[m] in Edom.
[7]And the wild oxen[n] will fall with
them,
the bull calves and the great
bulls.[o]
Their land will be drenched with
blood,[p]
and the dust will be soaked with
fat.

[8]For the LORD has a day[q] of
vengeance,[r]
a year of retribution,[s] to uphold
Zion's cause.
[9]Edom's streams will be turned into
pitch,
her dust into burning sulfur;[t]
her land will become blazing pitch!
[10]It will not be quenched[u] night and
day;
its smoke will rise forever.[v]
From generation to generation[w] it
will lie desolate;[x]
no one will ever pass through it
again.
[11]The desert owl[x][y] and screech owl[x]
will possess it;
the great owl[x] and the raven[z] will
nest there.
God will stretch out over Edom[a]
the measuring line of chaos[b]
and the plumb line[c] of desolation.
[12]Her nobles will have nothing there
to be called a kingdom,
all her princes[d] will vanish[e] away.
[13]Thorns[f] will overrun her citadels,
nettles and brambles her
strongholds.[g]
She will become a haunt for jackals,[h]
a home for owls.[i]

33:19 [a]S Ps 5:5 [b]S Ge 11:7; S Isa 28:11 **33:20** [c]S Ps 125:1 [d]S Isa 32:18 [e]S Ge 26:22 [f]ver 6; Ps 46:5 **33:21** [g]S Isa 10:34 [h]S Ex 17:6; S Ps 1:3; Isa 32:2; 41:18; 48:18; 49:10; 66:12; Na 3:8 [i]Isa 23:1 **33:22** [j]Isa 11:4 [k]S Isa 2:3; Jas 4:12 [l]S Ps 89:18 [m]S Isa 25:9 **33:23** [n]S 2Ki 7:8 [o]S 2Ki 7:16 **33:24** [p]S Isa 30:26 [q]S Nu 23:21; S 2Ch 6:21; Isa 43:1; 48:20; Jer 31:34; 33:8; 1Jn 1:7-9 **34:1** [r]S Isa 33:13 [s]Isa 41:1; 43:9 [t]S Dt 4:26; Ps 49:1 [u]Ps 24:1 **34:2** [v]S Isa 10:25 [w]S Isa 13:5; S Zec 5:3 [x]S Isa 30:25 **34:3** [y]S Isa 5:25; S 10:4 [z]S Ps 110:6; Eze 39:11 [a]Joel 2:20; Am 4:10 [b]ver 7; S 2Sa 1:22; Isa 63:6; Eze 5:17; 14:19; 32:6; 35:6; 38:22 **34:4** [c]S Job 9:7; S Isa 13:10; 2Pe 3:10 [d]Isa 38:12; Heb 1:12 [e]S Mt 24:29*; Mk 13:24-25* [f]S Job 8:12; S Isa 15:6; Mt 21:19 **34:5** [g]Dt 32:41-42; Jer 47:6; Eze 21:5; Zec 13:7 [h]S 2Sa 8:13-14; S 2Ch 28:17; Am 1:11-12 [i]S Dt 13:15; S Jos 6:17; Isa 24:6; Am 3:14-15; 6:11; Mal 1:4 **34:6** [j]S Dt 32:41; S Isa 27:1 [k]S Lev 3:9 [l]S Ge 36:33 [m]S Isa 30:25; S Jer 25:34; Rev 19:17 **34:7** [n]S Nu 23:22 [o]S Ps 68:30 [p]S 2Sa 1:22 **34:8** [q]S Isa 2:12 [r]S Isa 1:24; 35:4; 47:3; 63:4 [s]Isa 59:18; Eze 25:12-17; Joel 3:4; Am 1:6-8,9-10 **34:9** [t]S Ge 19:24 **34:10** [u]S Isa 1:31 [v]Rev 14:10-11; 19:3 [w]ver 17 [x]Isa 13:20; 24:1; Jer 49:18; Eze 29:12; 35:3; Mal 1:3 **34:11** [y]S Lev 11:16-18; S Dt 14:15-17; Rev 18:2 [z]S Ge 8:7 [a]Isa 21:11; Eze 35:15; Joel 3:19; Ob 1:1; Mal 1:4 [b]S Ge 1:2 [c]S 2Ki 21:13; Am 7:8 **34:12** [d]Job 12:21; Ps 107:40; Isa 40:23; Jer 21:7; 27:20; 39:6; Eze 24:5 [e]Isa 29:20; 41:11-12 **34:13** [f]S Isa 5:6; S 7:19 [g]S Isa 13:22 [h]Ps 44:19; S Isa 13:22; Jer 9:11; 10:22 [i]S Lev 11:16-18

[w]2 The Hebrew term refers to the irrevocable giving over of things or persons to the LORD, often by totally destroying them; also in verse 5. [x]11 The precise identification of these birds is uncertain.

[14]Desert creatures[a] will meet with
hyenas,[b]
and wild goats will bleat to each
other;
there the night creatures[c] will also
repose
and find for themselves places of
rest.
[15]The owl will nest there and lay eggs,
she will hatch them, and care for
her young under the shadow
of her wings;[d]
there also the falcons[e] will gather,
each with its mate.

[16]Look in the scroll[f] of the LORD and
read:

None of these will be missing,[g]
not one will lack her mate.
For it is his mouth[h] that has given
the order,[i]
and his Spirit will gather them
together.
[17]He allots their portions;[j]
his hand distributes them by
measure.
They will possess it forever
and dwell there from generation to
generation.[k]

Joy of the Redeemed

35 The desert[l] and the parched
land will be glad;
the wilderness will rejoice and
blossom.[m]
Like the crocus,[n] [2]it will burst into
bloom;
it will rejoice greatly and shout for
joy.[o]
The glory of Lebanon[p] will be given
to it,
the splendor of Carmel[q] and
Sharon;[r]
they will see the glory[s] of the LORD,
the splendor of our God.[t]

[3]Strengthen the feeble hands,
steady the knees[u] that give way;
[4]say[v] to those with fearful hearts,[w]
"Be strong, do not fear;[x]
your God will come,[y]
he will come with vengeance;[z]
with divine retribution
he will come to save[a] you."

[5]Then will the eyes of the blind be
opened[b]
and the ears of the deaf[c]
unstopped.
[6]Then will the lame[d] leap like a
deer,[e]
and the mute tongue[f] shout for
joy.[g]

34:14 [a]S Ps 74:14 [b]Isa 13:22 [c]Rev 18:2 **34:15** [d]S Ps 17:8 [e]Dt 14:13 **34:16** [f]Isa 30:8 [g]Isa 40:26; 48:13 [h]Isa 1:20; 58:14 [i]S Isa 1:20 **34:17** [j]Isa 17:14; Jer 13:25 [k]ver 10 **35:1** [l]Isa 27:10; 32:15,16; 41:18,19 [m]Isa 27:6; 51:3 [n]SS 2:1 **35:2** [o]S Ge 21:6; Ps 105:43; Isa 12:6; S 25:9; 44:23; 51:11; 52:9; 55:12 [p]S Ezr 3:7 [q]S Isa 33:9 [r]SS 2:1; S 1Ch 27:29; Isa 65:10 [s]S Ex 16:7; S Isa 4:5; S 59:19 [t]S Isa 25:9 **35:3** [u]S Job 4:4; Heb 12:12 **35:4** [v]2Ch 32:6; Isa 40:2; Zec 1:13 [w]S Dt 20:3 [x]S Isa 21:4 [y]S Jos 1:9; S Isa 7:4; Da 10:19 [z]Isa 40:9, 10-11; 51:5; 62:11; Rev 22:12 [a]S Isa 1:24; S 34:8 [a]S Isa 25:9 **35:5** [b]S Ps 146:8; Jn 9:6-7; Ac 26:18 [c]Isa 29:18; 42:18; 50:4 **35:6** [d]Mt 15:30; Lk 7:22; Jn 5:8-9; Ac 3:8 [e]S 2Sa 22:34 [f]Isa 32:4; Mt 9:32-33; 12:22; Mk 7:35; Lk 11:14 [g]Ps 20:5 [h]S Ex 17:6; Jn 7:38 **35:7** [i]S Ps 68:6; Isa 41:17; 44:3; 55:1 [j]Ps 107:35; Isa 49:10; 58:11 [k]S Isa 13:22 [l]S Job 8:11; S 40:21 **35:8** [m]S Isa 11:16; S 33:8; S Jer 31:21; Mt 7:13-14 [n]Isa 4:3; 1Pe 1:15 [o]Isa 52:1 **35:9** [p]S Isa 30:6 [q]Isa 11:6; 13:22; 34:14 [r]S Ex 6:6; Lev 25:47-55; Isa 51:11; 62:12; 63:4 **35:10** [s]S Job 19:25; S Isa 1:27 [t]Isa 30:29 [u]S Ps 4:7; S 126:5; S Isa 25:9 [v]S Ps 51:8; S Isa 51:3 [w]S Isa 30:19; Rev 7:17; 21:4 **36:1** [x]S 2Ki 18:9 [y]S 2Ch 32:1 [z]S Ps 109:11 **36:2** [a]S Jos 10:3 [b]S Isa 7:3

Water will gush forth in the
wilderness
and streams[h] in the desert.
[7]The burning sand will become a
pool,
the thirsty ground[i] bubbling
springs.[j]
In the haunts where jackals[k] once
lay,
grass and reeds[l] and papyrus will
grow.

[8]And a highway[m] will be there;
it will be called the Way of
Holiness.[n]
The unclean[o] will not journey on it;
it will be for those who walk in
that Way;
wicked fools will not go about
on it.[y]
[9]No lion[p] will be there,
nor will any ferocious beast[q] get
up on it;
they will not be found there.
But only the redeemed[r] will walk
there,
[10] and the ransomed[s] of the LORD
will return.
They will enter Zion with singing;[t]
everlasting joy[u] will crown their
heads.
Gladness[v] and joy will overtake
them,
and sorrow and sighing will flee
away.[w]

Sennacherib Threatens Jerusalem

36:1-22pp — 2Ki 18:13,17-37; 2Ch 32:9-19

36 In the fourteenth year of King
Hezekiah's[x] reign, Sennach-
erib[y] king of Assyria attacked all the
fortified cities of Judah and captured
them.[z] [2]Then the king of Assyria sent
his field commander with a large army
from Lachish[a] to King Hezekiah at
Jerusalem. When the commander
stopped at the aqueduct of the Upper
Pool, on the road to the Washerman's
Field,[b] [3]Eliakim[c] son of Hilkiah the
palace administrator,[d] Shebna[e] the
secretary,[f] and Joah[g] son of Asaph the
recorder[h] went out to him.
[4]The field commander said to them,
"Tell Hezekiah,

" 'This is what the great king, the
king of Assyria, says: On what are
you basing this confidence of
yours? [5]You say you have strategy

36:3 [c]Isa 22:20,20-21; 37:2 [d]S Ge 41:40 [e]S 2Ki 18:18 [f]S 2Sa 8:17 [g]ver 11 [h]S 2Sa 8:16

[y]8 Or / *the simple will not stray from it*

and military strength—but you
speak only empty words. On
whom are you depending, that you
rebel[a] against me? 6Look now, you
are depending[b] on Egypt,[c][d] that
splintered reed[e] of a staff, which
pierces a man's hand and wounds
him if he leans on it! Such is Phar-
aoh king of Egypt to all who de-
pend on him. 7And if you say to
me, "We are depending[f] on the
LORD our God"—isn't he the one
whose high places and altars Heze-
kiah removed,[g] saying to Judah
and Jerusalem, "You must worship
before this altar"?[h]
8" 'Come now, make a bargain
with my master, the king of As-
syria: I will give you two thousand
horses[i]—if you can put riders on
them! 9How then can you repulse
one officer of the least of my mas-
ter's officials, even though you are
depending on Egypt[j] for chariots[k]
and horsemen?[l] 10Furthermore,
have I come to attack and destroy
this land without the LORD? The
LORD himself told[m] me to march
against this country and destroy
it.' "

11Then Eliakim, Shebna and Joah[n]
said to the field commander, "Please
speak to your servants in Aramaic,[o]
since we understand it. Don't speak to
us in Hebrew in the hearing of the
people on the wall."
12But the commander replied, "Was
it only to your master and you that my
master sent me to say these things, and
not to the men sitting on the wall—
who, like you, will have to eat their
own filth and drink their own urine?[p]"
13Then the commander stood and
called out in Hebrew,[q] "Hear the
words of the great king, the king of As-
syria![r] 14This is what the king says: Do
not let Hezekiah deceive[s] you. He can-
not deliver you! 15Do not let Hezekiah
persuade you to trust in the LORD when
he says, 'The LORD will surely deliver[t]
us; this city will not be given into the
hand of the king of Assyria.'[u]
16"Do not listen to Hezekiah. This is
what the king of Assyria says: Make
peace with me and come out to me.
Then every one of you will eat from his
own vine and fig tree[v] and drink water
from his own cistern,[w] 17until I come
and take you to a land like your
own[x]—a land of grain and new wine,[y]
a land of bread and vineyards.

18"Do not let Hezekiah mislead you
when he says, 'The LORD will deliver
us.' Has the god of any nation ever de-
livered his land from the hand of the
king of Assyria? 19Where are the gods
of Hamath and Arpad?[z] Where are the
gods of Sepharvaim?[a] Have they res-
cued Samaria[b] from my hand? 20Who
of all the gods[c] of these countries has
been able to save his land from me?
How then can the LORD deliver Jerusa-
lem from my hand?"[d]
21But the people remained silent and
said nothing in reply, because the king
had commanded, "Do not answer
him."[e]
22Then Eliakim[f] son of Hilkiah the
palace administrator, Shebna the secre-
tary, and Joah son of Asaph the
recorder[g] went to Hezekiah, with their
clothes torn,[h] and told him what the
field commander had said.

Jerusalem's Deliverance Foretold

37:1-13pp — 2Ki 19:1-13

37 When King Hezekiah heard this,
he tore his clothes[i] and put on
sackcloth[j] and went into the temple[k]
of the LORD. 2He sent Eliakim[l] the pal-
ace administrator, Shebna[m] the secre-
tary, and the leading priests, all wear-
ing sackcloth, to the prophet Isaiah son
of Amoz.[n] 3They told him, "This is
what Hezekiah says: This day is a day
of distress[o] and rebuke and disgrace,
as when children come to the point of
birth[p] and there is no strength to de-
liver them. 4It may be that the LORD
your God will hear the words of the
field commander, whom his master,
the king of Assyria, has sent to ridi-
cule[q] the living God,[r] and that he will
rebuke him for the words the LORD
your God has heard.[s] Therefore pray[t]
for the remnant[u] that still survives."
5When King Hezekiah's officials
came to Isaiah, 6Isaiah said to them,
"Tell your master, 'This is what the
LORD says: Do not be afraid[v] of what
you have heard—those words with
which the underlings of the king of As-
syria have blasphemed[w] me. 7Listen! I
am going to put a spirit[x] in him so that
when he hears a certain report,[y] he
will return to his own country, and
there I will have him cut down[z] with
the sword.' "
8When the field commander heard
that the king of Assyria had left La-
chish,[a] he withdrew and found the
king fighting against Libnah.[b]

36:5 [a]S 2Ki 18:7
36:6 [b]S 2Ki 17:4; S Isa 8:12 [c]Eze 17:17 [d]S Isa 30:2,5 [e]Isa 42:3; 58:6; Eze 29:6-7
36:7 [f]Ps 22:8; Mt 27:43 [g]S 2Ki 18:4 [h]Dt 12:2-5; S 2Ch 31:1
36:8 [i]S Ps 20:7; S Isa 30:16
36:9 [j]S Isa 31:3 [k]Isa 37:24 [l]S Ps 20:7; Isa 30:2-5
36:10 [m]S 1Ki 13:18; Isa 10:5-7
36:11 [n]ver 3 [o]S Ezr 4:7
36:12 [p]2Ki 6:25; Eze 4:12
36:13 [q]S 2Ch 32:18 [r]Isa 37:4
36:14 [s]S 2Ch 32:15
36:15 [t]S Ps 3:2,7 [u]Isa 37:10
36:16 [v]S 1Ki 4:25 [w]Pr 5:15
36:17 [x]S 2Ki 15:29 [y]S Ge 27:28; S Dt 28:51
36:19 [z]S 2Ki 18:34 [a]S 2Ki 17:24 [b]S 2Ki 15:29
36:20 [c]S 1Ki 20:23 [d]Ex 5:2; 2Ch 25:15; Isa 10:8-11; 37:10-13,18-20; 40:18; Da 3:15
36:21 [e]Pr 9:7-8; S 26:4
36:22 [f]S 2Ki 18:18 [g]S 2Sa 8:16 [h]S Ge 37:29; S 2Ch 34:19
37:1 [i]S Ge 37:29; S 2Ch 34:19 [j]S Ge 37:34 [k]S ver 14; S 1Ki 8:33; Mt 21:13
37:2 [l]S 2Ki 18:18; S Isa 36:3 [m]S 2Ki 18:18 [n]ver 21; Isa 1:1; S 13:1; 38:1
37:3 [o]S Jdg 6:2; S Isa 5:30 [p]Isa 26:18; 66:9; Hos 13:13
37:4 [q]ver 23-24; S 2Ch 32:17 [r]S Jos 3:10 [s]Isa 36:13,18-20 [t]S 1Sa 7:8 [u]S Isa 1:9; Am 7:2
37:6 [v]S Jos 1:9; S Isa 7:4 [w]S Nu 15:30
37:7 [x]1Ch 5:26 [y]ver 9 [z]S Isa 31:8
37:8 [a]S Jos 10:3 [b]S Nu 33:20

[9]Now Sennacherib[a] received a re-
port[b] that Tirhakah, the Cushite[z] [c]
king [of Egypt], was marching out to
fight against him. When he heard it, he
sent messengers to Hezekiah with this
word: [10]"Say to Hezekiah king of
Judah: Do not let the god you depend
on deceive[d] you when he says, 'Jerusa-
lem will not be handed over to the king
of Assyria.'[e] [11]Surely you have heard
what the kings of Assyria have done to
all the countries, destroying them com-
pletely. And will you be delivered?[f]
[12]Did the gods of the nations that were
destroyed by my forefathers[g] deliver
them—the gods of Gozan, Haran,[h] Re-
zeph and the people of Eden[i] who
were in Tel Assar? [13]Where is the king
of Hamath, the king of Arpad,[j] the
king of the city of Sepharvaim,[k] or of
Hena or Ivvah?"[l]

Hezekiah's Prayer

37:14-20pp — 2Ki 19:14-19

[14]Hezekiah received the letter[m] from
the messengers and read it. Then he
went up to the temple[n] of the LORD and
spread it out before the LORD. [15]And
Hezekiah prayed[o] to the LORD: [16]"O
LORD Almighty, God of Israel, en-
throned[p] between the cherubim,[q] you
alone are God[r] over all the kingdoms[s]
of the earth. You have made heaven
and earth.[t] [17]Give ear, O LORD, and
hear;[u] open your eyes, O LORD, and
see;[v] listen to all the words Sennach-
erib[w] has sent to insult[x] the living
God.[y]

[18]"It is true, O LORD, that the Assyr-
ian kings have laid waste all these peo-
ples and their lands.[z] [19]They have
thrown their gods into the fire[a] and
destroyed them,[b] for they were not
gods[c] but only wood and stone, fash-
ioned by human hands.[d] [20]Now, O
LORD our God, deliver[e] us from his
hand, so that all kingdoms on earth[f]
may know that you alone, O LORD, are
God.[a] [g]"

Sennacherib's Fall

37:21-38pp — 2Ki 19:20-37; 2Ch 32:20-21

[21]Then Isaiah son of Amoz[h] sent a
message to Hezekiah: "This is what the
LORD, the God of Israel, says: Because
you have prayed to me concerning Sen-
nacherib king of Assyria, [22]this is the
word the LORD has spoken against him:

"The Virgin Daughter[i] of Zion[j]
  despises and mocks you.
The Daughter of Jerusalem
  tosses her head[k] as you flee.
[23]Who is it you have insulted and
    blasphemed?[l]
  Against whom have you raised
    your voice[m]
and lifted your eyes in pride?[n]
  Against the Holy One[o] of Israel!
[24]By your messengers
  you have heaped insults on the
    Lord.
And you have said,
  'With my many chariots[p]
I have ascended the heights of the
    mountains,
  the utmost heights[q] of Lebanon.[r]
I have cut down its tallest cedars,
  the choicest of its pines.[s]
I have reached its remotest heights,
  the finest of its forests.
[25]I have dug wells in foreign lands[b]
  and drunk the water there.
With the soles of my feet
  I have dried up[t] all the streams of
    Egypt.[u]'

[26]"Have you not heard?
  Long ago I ordained[v] it.
In days of old I planned[w] it;
  now I have brought it to pass,
that you have turned fortified cities
  into piles of stone.[x]
[27]Their people, drained of power,
  are dismayed and put to shame.
They are like plants in the field,
  like tender green shoots,
like grass[y] sprouting on the roof,[z]
  scorched[c] before it grows up.

[28]"But I know where you stay
  and when you come and go[a]
  and how you rage[b] against me.
[29]Because you rage against me
  and because your insolence[c] has
    reached my ears,
I will put my hook[d] in your nose[e]
  and my bit in your mouth,
and I will make you return
  by the way you came.[f]

[30]"This will be the sign[g] for you,
O Hezekiah:

"This year[h] you will eat what grows
    by itself,

37:9 [a]S 2Ch 32:1 [b]ver 7 [c]S Isa 20:5 **37:10** [d]2Ch 32:11,15 [e]Isa 36:15 **37:11** [f]Isa 36:18-20 **37:12** [g]2Ki 18:11 [h]Ge 11:31; 12:1-4; Ac 7:2 [i]Eze 27:23; Am 1:5 **37:13** [j]Isa 10:9 [k]S 2Ki 17:24 [l]S Isa 36:20 **37:14** [m]2Ch 32:17 [n]ver 1,38; S 1Ki 8:33 **37:15** [o]S 2Ch 32:20 **37:16** [p]S Ps 2:4 [q]S Ge 3:24 [r]Dt 10:17; S Ps 46:10; 86:10; 136:2-3 [s]Da 4:34 [t]S Ge 1:1; S Isa 11:12; 41:9; 43:6; Ac 4:24 **37:17** [u]S 1Ki 8:29; S 2Ch 6:40 [v]Jer 25:29; Da 9:18 [w]S 2Ch 32:1 [x]S 2Ch 32:17 [y]S Jos 3:10 **37:18** [z]S 2Ki 15:29; Na 2:11-12 **37:19** [a]S Jos 7:15 [b]Isa 26:14; 36:20 [c]2Ch 13:9; Isa 40:17; 41:24, 29; Jer 2:11; 5:7; 16:20; Gal 4:8 [d]S 2Ch 32:19; S Ps 135:15; Isa 40:18-20; 44:9-11 **37:20** [e]S Ps 3:2, 7; S Pr 20:22 [f]S Jos 4:24 [g]S 1Sa 17:46; S Ps 46:10 **37:21** [h]S ver 2 **37:22** [i]S Isa 23:12 [j]S Isa 10:32 [k]S Job 16:4 **37:23** [l]ver 4; S Nu 15:30; Isa 52:5; Eze 36:20,23; Da 7:25 [m]S Job 15:25 [n]S Isa 2:11 [o]S Isa 1:4; S 12:6 **37:24** [p]Isa 36:9 [q]Isa 14:13 [r]S 1Ki 7:2; S Isa 14:8; S 33:9 [s]1Ki 5:8-10; Isa 41:19; 55:13; 60:13; Hos 14:8 **37:25** [t]S Isa 19:6; 44:27 [u]S Dt 11:10; S Isa 10:14; Da 4:30 **37:26** [v]Ac 2:23; 4:27-28; 1Pe 2:8 [w]Isa 10:6; S 25:1 [x]S Dt 13:16; S Isa 25:2 **37:27** [y]S Isa 15:6 [z]Ps 129:6 **37:28** [a]Ps 139:1-3 [b]Ps 2:1 **37:29** [c]Isa 10:12 [d]S 2Ch 33:11 [e]S Job 40:24 [f]ver 34

37:30 [g]S Isa 20:3 [h]Isa 32:10

[z]9 That is, from the upper Nile region [a]20 Dead Sea Scrolls (see also 2 Kings 19:19); Masoretic Text *alone are the LORD* [b]25 Dead Sea Scrolls (see also 2 Kings 19:24); Masoretic Text does not have *in foreign lands.* [c]27 Some manuscripts of the Masoretic Text, Dead Sea Scrolls and some Septuagint manuscripts (see also 2 Kings 19:26); most manuscripts of the Masoretic Text *housetops / and terraced fields*

and the second year what springs
from that.
But in the third year[a] sow and reap,
plant vineyards[b] and eat their
fruit.[c]
31Once more a remnant of the house
of Judah
will take root[d] below and bear
fruit[e] above.
32For out of Jerusalem will come a
remnant,[f]
and out of Mount Zion a band of
survivors.[g]
The zeal[h] of the LORD Almighty
will accomplish this.

33"Therefore this is what the LORD
says concerning the king of Assyria:

"He will not enter this city[i]
or shoot an arrow here.
He will not come before it with
shield
or build a siege ramp[j] against it.
34By the way that he came he will
return;[k]
he will not enter this city,"
declares the LORD.
35"I will defend[l] this city and save it,
for my sake[m] and for the sake of
David[n] my servant!"

36Then the angel[o] of the LORD went
out and put to death[p] a hundred and
eighty-five thousand men in the Assyr-
ian[q] camp. When the people got up
the next morning—there were all the
dead bodies! 37So Sennacherib[r] king of
Assyria broke camp and withdrew. He
returned to Nineveh[s] and stayed
there.
38One day, while he was worshiping
in the temple[t] of his god Nisroch, his
sons Adrammelech and Sharezer cut
him down with the sword, and they
escaped to the land of Ararat.[u] And
Esarhaddon[v] his son succeeded him as
king.[w]

Hezekiah's Illness

38:1-8pp — 2Ki 20:1-11; 2Ch 32:24-26

38 In those days Hezekiah became
ill and was at the point of death.
The prophet Isaiah son of Amoz[x] went
to him and said, "This is what the LORD
says: Put your house in order,[y] be-
cause you are going to die; you will not
recover."[z]
2Hezekiah turned his face to the wall
and prayed to the LORD, 3"Remember,
O LORD, how I have walked[a] before
you faithfully and with wholehearted
devotion[b] and have done what is good
in your eyes."[c] And Hezekiah wept[d]
bitterly.
4Then the word[e] of the LORD came to
Isaiah: 5"Go and tell Hezekiah, 'This is
what the LORD, the God of your father
David,[f] says: I have heard your prayer
and seen your tears;[g] I will add fifteen
years[h] to your life. 6And I will deliver
you and this city from the hand of the
king of Assyria. I will defend[i] this city.
7" 'This is the LORD's sign[j] to you
that the LORD will do what he has
promised: 8I will make the shadow cast
by the sun go back the ten steps it has
gone down on the stairway of Ahaz.' "
So the sunlight went back the ten steps
it had gone down.[k]

9A writing of Hezekiah king of Judah
after his illness and recovery:

10I said, "In the prime of my life[l]
must I go through the gates of
death[d][m]
and be robbed of the rest of my
years?"[n]
11I said, "I will not again see the LORD,
the LORD,[o] in the land of the
living;[p]
no longer will I look on mankind,
or be with those who now dwell in
this world.[e]
12Like a shepherd's tent[q] my house
has been pulled down[r] and taken
from me.
Like a weaver I have rolled[s] up my
life,
and he has cut me off from the
loom;[t]
day and night[u] you made an end
of me.
13I waited patiently[v] till dawn,
but like a lion he broke[w] all my
bones;[x]
day and night[y] you made an end
of me.
14I cried like a swift or thrush,
I moaned like a mourning dove.[z]
My eyes grew weak[a] as I looked to
the heavens.
I am troubled; O Lord, come to my
aid!"[b]
15But what can I say?[c]
He has spoken to me, and he
himself has done this.[d]
I will walk humbly[e] all my years
because of this anguish of my
soul.[f]
16Lord, by such things men live;

37:30 [a]S Isa 16:14 [b]S Lev 25:4 [c]Ps 107:37; Isa 30:23; 65:21; Jer 31:5 **37:31** [d]Isa 11:10 [e]S Isa 27:6 **37:32** [f]S Isa 11:11 [g]S Isa 1:9 [h]S Isa 9:7 **37:33** [i]S Isa 32:18 [j]S 2Sa 20:15 **37:34** [k]ver 29 **37:35** [l]S Isa 31:5 [m]Isa 43:25; 48:9, 11; Eze 36:21-22 [n]S 1Ch 17:19 **37:36** [o]S Ex 12:23 [p]S Ex 12:12 [q]S Isa 10:12 **37:37** [r]S 2Ch 32:1 [s]S Ge 10:11; S Na 1:1 **37:38** [t]S ver 14 [u]Ge 8:4; Jer 51:27 [v]S 2Ki 17:24 [w]S Isa 9:4; 10:26; S 14:25 **38:1** [x]S Isa 37:2 [y]2Sa 17:23 [z]2Ki 8:10 **38:3** [a]Ps 26:3 [b]S 1Ki 8:61; S 1Ch 29:19 [c]S Dt 6:18; S 10:20 [d]Ps 6:8 **38:4** [e]1Sa 13:13; Isa 39:5 **38:5** [f]2Ki 18:3 [g]Ps 6:6 [h]S 2Ki 18:2 **38:6** [i]S Isa 31:5 **38:7** [j]S Ge 24:14; S 2Ch 32:31; Isa 7:11,14; S 20:3 **38:8** [k]Jos 10:13 **38:10** [l]Ps 102:24 [m]S Job 17:16; Ps 107:18; 2Co 1:9 [n]S Job 17:11 **38:11** [o]S Isa 12:2 [p]S Job 28:13; S Ps 116:9 **38:12** [q]Isa 33:20; 2Co 5:1,4; 2Pe 1:13-14 [r]S Job 4:21 [s]S Isa 34:4; Heb 1:12 [t]S Nu 11:15; S Job 7:6; S Ps 31:22 [u]ver 13; Ps 32:4; 73:14 **38:13** [v]S Ps 37:7 [w]S Job 9:17; Ps 51:8 [x]S Job 10:16; Jer 34:17; La 3:4; Da 6:24 [y]S ver 12 **38:14** [z]S Ge 8:8; S Isa 59:11 [a]S Ps 6:7 [b]S Ge 50:24; S Job 17:3 **38:15** [c]2Sa 7:20 [d]S Ps 39:9 [e]1Ki 21:27 [f]S Job 7:11

[d]*10* Hebrew *Sheol* [e]*11* A few Hebrew manuscripts; most Hebrew manuscripts *in the place of cessation*

and my spirit finds life in them too.
You restored me to health
and let me live.[a]
17Surely it was for my benefit[b]
that I suffered such anguish.[c]
In your love you kept me
from the pit[d] of destruction;
you have put all my sins[e]
behind your back.[f]
18For the grave[l][g] cannot praise you,
death cannot sing your praise;[h]
those who go down to the pit[i]
cannot hope for your faithfulness.
19The living, the living—they praise[j] you,
as I am doing today;
fathers tell their children[k]
about your faithfulness.

20The LORD will save me,
and we will sing[l] with stringed instruments[m]
all the days of our lives[n]
in the temple[o] of the LORD.

21Isaiah had said, "Prepare a poultice of figs and apply it to the boil, and he will recover."

22Hezekiah had asked, "What will be the sign[p] that I will go up to the temple of the LORD?"

Envoys From Babylon

39:1-8pp — 2Ki 20:12-19

39 At that time Merodach-Baladan son of Baladan king of Babylon[q] sent Hezekiah letters and a gift, because he had heard of his illness and recovery. 2Hezekiah received the envoys[r] gladly and showed them what was in his storehouses—the silver, the gold,[s] the spices, the fine oil, his entire armory and everything found among his treasures.[t] There was nothing in his palace or in all his kingdom that Hezekiah did not show them.

3Then Isaiah the prophet went to King Hezekiah and asked, "What did those men say, and where did they come from?"

"From a distant land,[u]" Hezekiah replied. "They came to me from Babylon."

4The prophet asked, "What did they see in your palace?"

"They saw everything in my palace," Hezekiah said. "There is nothing among my treasures that I did not show them."

5Then Isaiah said to Hezekiah, "Hear the word[v] of the LORD Almighty: 6The time will surely come when everything in your palace, and all that your fathers have stored up until this day, will be carried off to Babylon.[w] Nothing will be left, says the LORD. 7And some of your descendants, your own flesh and blood who will be born to you, will be taken away, and they will become eunuchs in the palace of the king of Babylon.[x]"

8"The word of the LORD you have spoken is good,[y]" Hezekiah replied. For he thought, "There will be peace and security in my lifetime.[z]"

Comfort for God's People

40 Comfort, comfort[a] my people,
says your God.
2Speak tenderly[b] to Jerusalem,
and proclaim to her
that her hard service[c] has been completed,[d]
that her sin has been paid for,[e]
that she has received from the LORD's hand
double[f] for all her sins.

3A voice of one calling:
"In the desert prepare
the way[g] for the LORD[a];
make straight[h] in the wilderness
a highway for our God.[b][i]
4Every valley shall be raised up,[j]
every mountain and hill[k] made low;
the rough ground shall become level,[l]
the rugged places a plain.
5And the glory[m] of the LORD will be revealed,
and all mankind together will see it.[n]
For the mouth of the LORD has spoken."[o]

6A voice says, "Cry out."
And I said, "What shall I cry?"

"All men are like grass,[p]
and all their glory is like the flowers of the field.
7The grass withers[q] and the flowers fall,
because the breath[r] of the LORD blows[s] on them.
Surely the people are grass.
8The grass withers and the flowers[t] fall,
but the word[u] of our God stands[v] forever.[w]"

38:16 [a]Ps 119:25; Heb 12:9
38:17 [b]Ro 8:28; Heb 12:11 [c]S Job 7:11; Ps 119:71,75 [d]S Job 17:16; S Ps 30:3 [e]Ps 103:3; Jer 31:34 [f]S Ps 103:12; Isa 43:25; Mic 7:19
38:18 [g]S Nu 16:30; S Ecc 9:10 [h]Ps 6:5; 88:10-11; 115:17 [i]S Ps 30:9
38:19 [j]Ps 118:17; 119:175 [k]S Dt 11:19
38:20 [l]Ps 68:25 [m]S Ps 33:2; S 45:8 [n]Ps 23:6; S 63:4; 116:2 [o]Ps 116:17-19
38:22 [p]S 2Ch 32:31
39:1 [q]S 2Ch 32:31
39:2 [r]2Ch 32:31 [s]S 2Ki 18:15 [t]2Ch 32:27-29
39:3 [u]S Dt 28:49
39:5 [v]S Isa 38:4
39:6 [w]S Jdg 6:4; S 2Ki 24:13
39:7 [x]S 2Ki 24:15; Da 1:1-7
39:8 [y]S Jdg 10:15; Job 1:21; Ps 39:9 [z]S 2Ch 32:26
40:1 [a]Isa 12:1; 49:13; 51:3,12; 52:9; 57:18; 61:2; 66:13; Jer 31:13; Zep 3:14-17; Zec 1:17; 2Co 1:3
40:2 [b]S Ge 34:3; S Isa 35:4 [c]S Job 7:1 [d]Isa 41:11-13; 49:25 [e]S Lev 26:41 [f]Isa 51:19; 61:7; Jer 16:18; 17:18; Zec 9:12; Rev 18:6
40:3 [g]S Isa 11:16; 43:19; Mal 3:1 [h]S Pr 3:5-6 [i]Mt 3:3*; Mk 1:3*; Jn 1:23*
40:4 [j]Isa 49:11 [k]S Isa 2:14 [l]S Ps 26:12; S Isa 26:7; 45:2,13; Jer 31:9
40:5 [m]S Ex 16:7; S Nu 14:21; S Isa 59:19 [n]Isa 52:10; 62:2; Lk 2:30; 3:4-6* [o]S Isa 1:20; 58:14
40:6 [p]S Ge 6:3; S Isa 29:5
40:7 [q]S Job 8:12; S Isa 15:6 [r]S Ex 15:10; S Job 41:21 [s]S Ps 103:16; S Eze 22:21
40:8 [t]S Isa 5:24; Jas 1:10 [u]Isa 55:11; 59:21 [v]S Pr 19:21; S Isa 7:7,9; S Jer 39:16 [w]S Ps 119:89; S Mt 5:18; 1Pe 1:24-25*

l18 Hebrew *Sheol*   a3 Or *A voice of one calling in the desert: / "Prepare the way for the LORD*   b3 Hebrew; Septuagint *make straight the paths of our God*

9You who bring good tidings[a] to
Zion,
go up on a high mountain.
You who bring good tidings to
Jerusalem,[i] [b]
lift up your voice with a shout,
lift it up, do not be afraid;
say to the towns of Judah,
"Here is your God!"[c]
10See, the Sovereign LORD comes[d] with
power,[e]
and his arm[f] rules[g] for him.
See, his reward[h] is with him,
and his recompense accompanies
him.
11He tends his flock like a shepherd:[i]
He gathers the lambs in his arms[j]
and carries them close to his heart;[k]
he gently leads[l] those that have
young.[m]

12Who has measured the waters[n] in
the hollow of his hand,[o]
or with the breadth of his hand
marked off the heavens?[p]
Who has held the dust of the earth
in a basket,
or weighed the mountains on the
scales
and the hills in a balance?[q]
13Who has understood the mind[j] [r]
of the LORD,
or instructed him as his
counselor?[s]
14Whom did the LORD consult to
enlighten him,
and who taught him the right
way?
Who was it that taught him
knowledge[t]
or showed him the path of
understanding?[u]

15Surely the nations are like a drop in
a bucket;
they are regarded as dust on the
scales;[v]
he weighs the islands as though
they were fine dust.[w]
16Lebanon[x] is not sufficient for altar
fires,
nor its animals[y] enough for burnt
offerings.
17Before him all the nations[z] are as
nothing;[a]
they are regarded by him as
worthless
and less than nothing.[b]

18To whom, then, will you compare
God?[c]
What image[d] will you compare
him to?
19As for an idol,[e] a craftsman casts it,
and a goldsmith[f] overlays it with
gold[g]
and fashions silver chains for it.
20A man too poor to present such an
offering
selects wood[h] that will not rot.
He looks for a skilled craftsman
to set up an idol[i] that will not
topple.[j]

21Do you not know?
Have you not heard?[k]
Has it not been told[l] you from the
beginning?[m]
Have you not understood[n] since
the earth was founded?[o]
22He sits enthroned[p] above the circle
of the earth,
and its people are like
grasshoppers.[q]
He stretches out the heavens[r] like a
canopy,[s]
and spreads them out like a tent[t]
to live in.[u]
23He brings princes[v] to naught
and reduces the rulers of this
world to nothing.[w]
24No sooner are they planted,
no sooner are they sown,
no sooner do they take root[x] in
the ground,
than he blows[y] on them and they
wither,[z]
and a whirlwind sweeps them
away like chaff.[a]

25"To whom will you compare me?[b]
Or who is my equal?" says the
Holy One.[c]
26Lift your eyes and look to the
heavens:[d]
Who created[e] all these?
He who brings out the starry host[f]
one by one,
and calls them each by name.
Because of his great power and
mighty strength,[g]
not one of them is missing.[h]

27Why do you say, O Jacob,
and complain, O Israel,
"My way is hidden from the LORD;
my cause is disregarded by my
God"?[i]
28Do you not know?

40:9 [a]Isa 41:27; 44:28; 52:7-10; 61:1; Na 1:15; S Ac 13:32; Ro 10:15; 1Co 15:1-4 [b]S Isa 1:1 [c]Isa 25:9 **40:10** [d]Isa 35:4; 59:20; Mt 21:5; Rev 22:7 [e]Isa 28:2 [f]S Ps 44:3; S Isa 30:30; S 33:2 [g]Isa 9:6-7 [h]S Isa 35:4; Rev 22:12 **40:11** [i]S Ge 48:15; S Ps 28:9; S Mic 5:4; S Jn 10:11 [j]S Nu 11:12 [k]S Dt 26:19 [l]Isa 49:10 [m]S Ge 33:13; S Dt 30:4 **40:12** [n]S Job 12:15; S 38:10 [o]Pr 30:4 [p]S Job 38:5; Heb 1:10-12 [q]S Job 38:18; Pr 16:11 **40:13** [r]Isa 11:2; 42:1 [s]S Job 15:8; Ro 11:34*; 1Co 2:16* **40:14** [t]Job 21:22; Col 2:3 [u]S Job 12:13; S 34:13; Isa 55:9 **40:15** [v]S Ps 62:9 [w]S Dt 9:21; Isa 2:22 **40:16** [x]Isa 33:9; 37:24 [y]Ps 50:9-11; Mic 6:7; Heb 10:5-9 **40:17** [z]Isa 30:28 [a]S Job 12:19; Isa 29:7 [b]S Isa 37:19; Da 4:35 **40:18** [c]S Ex 8:10; S 1Sa 2:2 [d]S Dt 4:15; Ac 17:29 **40:19** [e]S Ex 20:4; Ps 115:4; S Isa 37:19; 42:17; Jer 2:8,28; 10:8; 16:19; Hab 2:18; Zec 10:2 [f]Isa 41:7; 46:6; Jer 10:3 [g]Isa 2:20; 31:7 **40:20** [h]Isa 44:19 [i]S 1Sa 12:21 [j]S 1Sa 5:3 **40:21** [k]ver 28; 2Ki 19:25; Isa 41:22; 42:9; 44:8; 48:3,5 [l]Ps 19:1; 50:6; Ac 14:17 [m]S Ge 1:1 [n]Ro 1:19 [o]Isa 48:13; 51:13 **40:22** [p]S 2Ch 6:18; S Ps 2:4 [q]S Nu 13:33 [r]S Ge 1:1; S Isa 48:13 [s]S Ge 1:8; S Job 22:14 [t]S Job 36:29 [u]S Job 26:7 **40:23** [v]S Job 12:18; S Isa 34:12 [w]S Job 12:19; Am 2:3 **40:24** [x]S Job 5:3 [y]S 2Sa 22:16; S Isa 11:4; 41:16 [z]S Job 8:12; S 18:16 [a]S Job 24:24; S Isa 41:2 **40:25** [b]S 1Sa 2:2; S 1Ch 16:25 [c]Isa 1:4; 37:23 **40:26** [d]Isa 51:6 [e]ver 28; Ps 89:11-13; Isa 42:5; 66:2 [f]S 2Ki 17:16; S Ne 9:6; S Job 38:32 [g]S Job 9:4; S Isa 45:24; Eph 1:19 [h]S Isa 34:16 **40:27** [i]S Job 6:29; S 27:2; Lk 18:7-8

[i]9 Or *O Zion, bringer of good tidings, / go up on a high mountain. / O Jerusalem, bringer of good tidings*
[j]13 Or *Spirit*; or *spirit*

Have you not heard?[a]
The LORD is the everlasting[b] God,
the Creator[c] of the ends of the earth.[d]
He will not grow tired or weary,[e]
and his understanding no one can fathom.[f]
29 He gives strength[g] to the weary[h]
and increases the power of the weak.
30 Even youths grow tired and weary,
and young men[i] stumble and fall;[j]
31 but those who hope[k] in the LORD
will renew their strength.[l]
They will soar on wings like eagles;[m]
they will run and not grow weary,
they will walk and not be faint.[n]

The Helper of Israel

41 "Be silent[o] before me, you islands![p]
Let the nations renew their strength![q]
Let them come forward[r] and speak;
let us meet together[s] at the place of judgment.
2 "Who has stirred[t] up one from the east,[u]
calling him in righteousness[v] to his service[a]?[w]
He hands nations over to him
and subdues kings before him.
He turns them to dust[x] with his sword,
to windblown chaff[y] with his bow.[z]
3 He pursues them and moves on unscathed,[a]
by a path his feet have not traveled before.
4 Who has done this and carried it through,
calling[b] forth the generations from the beginning?[c]
I, the LORD—with the first of them
and with the last[d]—I am he.[e]"
5 The islands[f] have seen it and fear;
the ends of the earth[g] tremble.
They approach and come forward;
6 each helps the other
and says to his brother, "Be strong![h]"
7 The craftsman[i] encourages the goldsmith,[j]
and he who smooths with the hammer
spurs on him who strikes the anvil.
He says of the welding, "It is good."
He nails down the idol so it will not topple.[k]
8 "But you, O Israel, my servant,[l]
Jacob, whom I have chosen,[m]
you descendants of Abraham[n] my friend,[o]
9 I took you from the ends of the earth,[p]
from its farthest corners I called[q] you.
I said, 'You are my servant';[r]
I have chosen[s] you and have not rejected you.
10 So do not fear,[t] for I am with you;[u]
do not be dismayed, for I am your God.
I will strengthen[v] you and help[w] you;
I will uphold you[x] with my righteous right hand.[y]
11 "All who rage[z] against you
will surely be ashamed and disgraced;[a]
those who oppose[b] you
will be as nothing and perish.[c]
12 Though you search for your enemies,
you will not find them.[d]
Those who wage war against you
will be as nothing[e] at all.
13 For I am the LORD, your God,
who takes hold of your right hand[f]
and says to you, Do not fear;
I will help[g] you.
14 Do not be afraid,[h] O worm[i] Jacob,
O little Israel,
for I myself will help[j] you," declares the LORD,
your Redeemer,[k] the Holy One[l] of Israel.
15 "See, I will make you into a threshing sledge,[m]
new and sharp, with many teeth.
You will thresh the mountains[n] and crush them,
and reduce the hills to chaff.[o]
16 You will winnow[p] them, the wind will pick them up,
and a gale[q] will blow them away.[r]
But you will rejoice[s] in the LORD
and glory[t] in the Holy One[u] of Israel.

40:28 [a]S ver 21 [b]S Dt 33:27; S Ps 90:2 [c]S ver 26 [d]S Isa 37:16 [e]Isa 44:12 [f]S Ps 147:5; Ro 11:33 **40:29** [g]S Ge 18:14; S Ps 68:35; S 119:28 [h]Isa 50:4; 57:19; Jer 31:25 **40:30** [i]Isa 9:17; Jer 6:11; 9:21 [j]S Ps 20:8; Isa 5:27 **40:31** [k]S Ps 37:9; 40:1; S Isa 30:18; Lk 18:1 [l]S 1Sa 2:4; S 2Ki 6:33; S 2Co 4:16 [m]S Ex 19:4 [n]2Co 4:1; Heb 12:1-3 **41:1** [o]Ps 37:7; Hab 2:20; Zep 1:7; Zec 2:13 [p]S Isa 11:11 [q]S 1Sa 2:4 [r]Isa 48:16; 57:3 [s]S Isa 1:18; 34:1; 50:8 **41:2** [t]S Ezr 1:2 [u]ver 25; Isa 13:4, 17; 44:28; 45:1, 13; 48:14; Jer 50:3; 51:11 [v]Isa 45:8, 13 [w]Isa 44:28; Jer 25:9 [x]S 2Sa 22:43 [y]Ps 1:4; Isa 40:24 [z]S Isa 13:18 **41:3** [a]Da 8:4 **41:4** [b]ver 9; Isa 43:7 [c]ver 26; S Ge 1:1; Isa 46:10 [d]Isa 44:6; 48:12; Rev 1:8, 17 [e]S Dt 32:39 **41:5** [f]S Isa 11:11; Eze 26:17-18 [g]S Dt 30:4; S Isa 11:12 **41:6** [h]S Jos 1:6 **41:7** [i]Isa 44:13; Jer 10:3-5 [j]S Isa 40:19 [k]S 1Sa 5:3; Isa 46:7 **41:8** [l]S Ps 136:22; S Isa 27:11 [m]S Isa 14:1 [n]S Isa 29:22; 51:2; 63:16 [o]2Ch 20:7; Jas 2:23 **41:9** [p]Isa 11:12; S 37:16 [q]S ver 4 [r]S Isa 20:3 [s]S Dt 7:6 **41:10** [t]S Ge 15:1 [u]S Dt 3:22; Jos 1:9; Isa 43:2, 5; Jer 30:10; 46:27-28; Ro 8:31 [v]S Ps 68:35; S 119:28 [w]ver 13-14; Isa 44:2; 49:8; 50:7-9 [x]S Ps 18:35; S 136:12 [y]S Ex 15:6; S Job 40:14 **41:11** [z]S Isa 17:12 [a]Isa 29:22; 45:24; 54:17 [b]S Ex 23:22 [c]S Isa 29:8; S Jer 2:3

41:12 [d]Ps 37:35-36; S Isa 34:12 [e]S Job 7:8; Isa 17:14; 29:20 **41:13** [f]Ps 73:23; Isa 42:6; 45:1; 51:18 [g]S ver 10 **41:14** [h]S Ge 15:1 [i]S Job 4:19; S Ps 22:6 [j]S ver 10 [k]S Ex 15:13; S Job 19:25; S Isa 1:27 [l]ver 16, 20; S Isa 1:4 **41:15** [m]S Job 41:30; S Isa 10:5; S 21:10 [n]S Ex 19:18; S Ps 107:33; Jer 9:10; Eze 33:28 [o]S ver 2 **41:16** [p]Jer 15:7; 51:2 [q]Isa 40:24 [r]Da 2:35 [s]S Isa 25:9 [t]Isa 45:25; 60:19 [u]S ver 14; S Mk 1:24

[a]2 Or / whom victory meets at every step

17 "The poor and needy search for
water,[a]
but there is none;
their tongues are parched with
thirst.[b]
But I the LORD will answer[c] them;
I, the God of Israel, will not
forsake[d] them.
18 I will make rivers flow[e] on barren
heights,
and springs within the valleys.
I will turn the desert[f] into pools of
water,[g]
and the parched ground into
springs.[h]
19 I will put in the desert[i]
the cedar and the acacia,[j] the
myrtle and the olive.
I will set pines[k] in the wasteland,
the fir and the cypress[l] together,[m]
20 so that people may see and know,[n]
may consider and understand,[o]
that the hand[p] of the LORD has done
this,
that the Holy One[q] of Israel has
created[r] it.

21 "Present your case,[s]" says the LORD.
"Set forth your arguments," says
Jacob's King.[t]
22 "Bring in your idols, to tell us
what is going to happen.[u]
Tell us what the former things[v]
were,
so that we may consider them
and know their final outcome.
Or declare to us the things to come,[w]
23 tell us what the future holds,
so we may know[x] that you are
gods.
Do something, whether good or
bad,[y]
so that we will be dismayed[z] and
filled with fear.
24 But you are less than nothing[a]
and your works are utterly
worthless;[b]
he who chooses you is
detestable.[c]

25 "I have stirred[d] up one from the
north,[e] and he comes—
one from the rising sun who calls
on my name.
He treads[f] on rulers as if they were
mortar,
as if he were a potter treading the
clay.
26 Who told of this from the
beginning,[g] so we could
know,
or beforehand, so we could say,
'He was right'?
No one told of this,
no one foretold[h] it,
no one heard any words[i] from
you.
27 I was the first to tell[j] Zion, 'Look,
here they are!'
I gave to Jerusalem a messenger of
good tidings.[k]
28 I look but there is no one[l] —
no one among them to give
counsel,[m]
no one to give answer[n] when I ask
them.
29 See, they are all false!
Their deeds amount to nothing;[o]
their images[p] are but wind[q] and
confusion.

The Servant of the LORD

42 "Here is my servant,[r] whom I
uphold,
my chosen one[s] in whom I
delight;[t]
I will put my Spirit[u] on him
and he will bring justice[v] to the
nations.[w]
2 He will not shout or cry out,[x]
or raise his voice in the streets.
3 A bruised reed[y] he will not break,[z]
and a smoldering wick he will not
snuff out.[a]
In faithfulness he will bring forth
justice;[b]
4 he will not falter or be discouraged
till he establishes justice[c] on earth.
In his law[d] the islands[e] will put
their hope."[f]

5 This is what God the LORD says—
he who created the heavens[g] and
stretched them out,
who spread out the earth[h] and all
that comes out of it,[i]
who gives breath[j] to its people,
and life to those who walk on it:
6 "I, the LORD, have called[k] you in
righteousness;[l]
I will take hold of your hand.[m]
I will keep[n] you and will make you
to be a covenant[o] for the people
and a light[p] for the Gentiles,[q]
7 to open eyes that are blind,[r]
to free[s] captives from prison[t]
and to release from the dungeon
those who sit in darkness.[u]

8 "I am the LORD;[v] that is my name![w]

41:17 [a]Isa 43:20 [b]S Isa 35:7 [c]S Isa 30:19 [d]S Dt 31:6; S Ps 27:9 **41:18** [e]S Isa 30:25 [f]Isa 43:19 [g]S 2Ki 3:17 [h]S Job 38:26; S Isa 35:7 **41:19** [i]S Isa 35:1; 51:3 [j]Ex 25:5,10,13 [k]S Isa 37:24 [l]Isa 44:14 [m]Isa 60:13 **41:20** [n]S Ex 6:7 [o]S Isa 29:24 [p]Ezr 7:6; 8:31; Isa 50:2; 51:9; 59:1; 66:14; Jer 32:17 [q]S ver 14; Isa 43:3,14 [r]S Isa 4:5 **41:21** [s]S ver 1 [t]Isa 43:15; 44:6 **41:22** [u]ver 26; Isa 43:9; 44:7; 45:21; 48:14 [v]Isa 43:18,26; 46:9; 48:3 [w]Isa 42:9; 43:19; 46:10; 48:6; 65:17; Jn 13:19 **41:23** [x]Isa 45:3 [y]Jer 10:5 [z]S 2Ki 19:26 **41:24** [a]S Isa 37:19; 1Co 8:4 [b]S 1Sa 12:21; Jer 8:19; 10:5,8, 15 [c]S Ps 109:7; S Isa 1:13; S 48:8 **41:25** [d]S Ezr 1:2 [e]S ver 2; Jer 50:9,41; 51:48 [f]S 2Sa 22:43; S Isa 5:5; Na 3:14 **41:26** [g]S ver 4 [h]S ver 22; Isa 52:6 [i]S 1Ki 18:26; Hab 2:18-19 **41:27** [j]Isa 48:3, 16 [k]S Isa 40:9 **41:28** [l]Ps 22:11; Isa 50:2; 59:16; 63:5; 64:7; Eze 22:30 [m]Isa 40:13-14 [n]S 1Ki 18:26; Isa 65:12; 66:4; Jer 25:4 **41:29** [o]S 1Sa 12:21 [p]S Isa 37:19 [q]Jer 5:13 **42:1** [r]S Isa 20:3; S Mt 20:28 [s]S Isa 14:1; Lk 9:35; 23:35; 1Pe 2:4,6 [t]Mt 3:17 [u]S Isa 11:2; S 44:3; Mt 3:16-17; S Jn 3:34 [v]S Isa 9:7 [w]S Ge 49:10 **42:2** [x]Pr 8:1-4 **42:3** [y]S Isa 36:6 [z]S Job 30:24 [a]S Job 13:25 [b]Ps 72:2; 96:13 **42:4** [c]S Isa 2:4 [d]ver 21; Ex 34:29; Isa 51:4 [e]S Isa 11:11 [f]S Ge 49:10; Mt 12:18-21* **42:5** [g]S Ge 1:6; Ps 102:25; Isa 48:13 [h]S Ge 1:1 [i]Ps 24:2; Ac 17:24 [j]S Ge 2:7; Ac 17:25 **42:6** [k]Ex 31:2; S Jdg 4:10; Isa 41:9-10; 43:1 [l]Isa 45:24; Jer 23:6; Da 9:7 [m]Isa 41:13; 45:1 [n]Isa 26:3; 27:3 [o]Isa 49:8; 54:10; 59:21; 61:8; Jer 31:31; 32:40; Mal 3:1; S Lk 22:20 [p]S Isa 9:2 [q]S Isa 26:18; S Lk 2:32 **42:7** [r]S Ps 146:8; S Isa 32:3; Mt 11:5 [s]Isa 49:9; 51:14; 52:2; Zec 2:7 [t]S Ps 66:11; S Isa 24:22; 48:20; Zec 9:11; S Lk 4:19; 2Ti 2:26; Heb 2:14-15 [u]S Ps 107:10,14; Ac 26:18 **42:8** [v]Ps 81:10; Isa 43:3,11,15; 46:9; 49:23 [w]S Ex 3:15; S 6:3

I will not give my glory to
another[a]
or my praise to idols.[b]
9See, the former things[c] have taken
place,
and new things I declare;
before they spring into being
I announce[d] them to you."

Song of Praise to the LORD

10Sing[e] to the LORD a new song,[f]
his praise[g] from the ends of the
earth,[h]
you who go down to the sea, and all
that is in it,[i]
you islands,[j] and all who live in
them.
11Let the desert[k] and its towns raise
their voices;
let the settlements where Kedar[l]
lives rejoice.
Let the people of Sela[m] sing for
joy;
let them shout from the
mountaintops.[n]
12Let them give glory[o] to the LORD
and proclaim his praise[p] in the
islands.[q]
13The LORD will march out like a
mighty[r] man,
like a warrior[s] he will stir up his
zeal;[t]
with a shout[u] he will raise the battle
cry
and will triumph over his
enemies.[v]

14"For a long time I have kept silent,[w]
I have been quiet and held myself
back.[x]
But now, like a woman in childbirth,
I cry out, I gasp and pant.[y]
15I will lay waste[z] the mountains[a] and
hills
and dry up all their vegetation;
I will turn rivers into islands
and dry up[b] the pools.
16I will lead[c] the blind[d] by ways they
have not known,
along unfamiliar paths I will guide
them;
I will turn the darkness into light[e]
before them
and make the rough places
smooth.[f]
These are the things I will do;
I will not forsake[g] them.
17But those who trust in idols,
who say to images, 'You are our
gods,'[h]
will be turned back in utter
shame.[i]

Israel Blind and Deaf

18"Hear, you deaf;[j]
look, you blind, and see!
19Who is blind[k] but my servant,[l]
and deaf like the messenger[m] I
send?
Who is blind like the one
committed[n] to me,
blind like the servant of the LORD?
20You have seen many things, but
have paid no attention;
your ears are open, but you hear
nothing."[o]
21It pleased the LORD
for the sake[p] of his righteousness
to make his law[q] great and
glorious.
22But this is a people plundered[r] and
looted,
all of them trapped in pits[s]
or hidden away in prisons.[t]
They have become plunder,
with no one to rescue them;[u]
they have been made loot,
with no one to say, "Send them
back."

23Which of you will listen to this
or pay close attention[v] in time to
come?
24Who handed Jacob over to become
loot,
and Israel to the plunderers?[w]
Was it not the LORD,[x]
against whom we have sinned?
For they would not follow[y] his
ways;
they did not obey his law.[z]
25So he poured out on them his
burning anger,[a]
the violence of war.
It enveloped them in flames,[b] yet
they did not understand;[c]
it consumed them, but they did
not take it to heart.[d]

Israel's Only Savior

43 But now, this is what the LORD
says—
he who created[e] you, O Jacob,
he who formed[f] you, O Israel:[g]
"Fear not, for I have redeemed[h] you;
I have summoned you by name;[i]
you are mine.[j]
2When you pass through the waters,[k]
I will be with you;[l]

42:8 [a]Isa 48:11 [b]S Ex 8:10; S 20:4 **42:9** [c]S Isa 41:22 [d]S Isa 40:21; Eze 2:4 **42:10** [e]S Ex 15:1 [f]S Ps 96:1 [g]1Ki 10:9; Isa 60:6 [h]S Dt 30:4; S Ps 48:10; 65:5; Isa 49:6 [i]S 1Ch 16:32; Ps 96:11 [j]S Isa 11:11 **42:11** [k]S Isa 32:16 [l]S Ge 25:13; Isa 60:7 [m]S Jdg 1:36 [n]Isa 52:7; Na 1:15 **42:12** [o]S 1Ch 16:24; S Isa 24:15 [p]S Ps 26:7; S 66:2; 1Pe 2:9 [q]S Isa 11:11 **42:13** [r]S Isa 9:6 [s]S Ex 14:14 [t]S Isa 26:11 [u]S Jos 6:5; Jer 25:30; Hos 11:10; Joel 3:16; Am 1:2; 3:4,8 [v]Isa 66:14 **42:14** [w]S Est 4:14; S Ps 50:21 [x]S Ge 43:31; Lk 18:7; 2Pe 3:9 [y]Jer 4:31 **42:15** [z]Eze 38:20 [a]S Ps 107:33 [b]S Isa 11:15; 50:2; Na 1:4-6 **42:16** [c]S Isa 29:24; 40:11; 57:18; 58:11; Jer 31:8-9; Lk 1:78-79 [d]S Isa 32:3 [e]S Ps 18:28; Isa 58:8,10; S Ac 26:18 [f]S Isa 26:7; Lk 3:5 [g]S Dt 4:31; Heb 13:5 **42:17** [h]S Ex 32:4 [i]S Ps 97:7; S Isa 1:29 **42:18** [j]S Isa 35:5 **42:19** [k]Isa 43:8; Eze 12:2 [l]Isa 41:8-9 [m]Isa 44:26; Hag 1:13 [n]Isa 26:3 **42:20** [o]Isa 6:9-10; 43:8; Jer 5:21; 6:10 **42:21** [p]Isa 43:25 [q]S ver 4; 2Co 3:7 **42:22** [r]S Jdg 6:4; S 2Ki 24:13 [s]S Isa 24:18 [t]S Ps 66:11; S Isa 24:22 [u]S Isa 5:29 **42:23** [v]Dt 32:29; Ps 81:13; Isa 47:7; 48:18; 57:11 **42:24** [w]S 2Ki 17:6; Isa 43:28; 47:6 [x]Isa 10:5-6 [y]S Isa 30:15 [z]S Jos 1:7; S Ps 119:136; Isa 5:24; Jer 44:10 **42:25** [a]S 2Ki 22:13; S Job 40:11; S Isa 51:17; S Eze 7:19 [b]2Ki 25:9; Isa 66:15; Jer 4:4; 21:12; La 2:3; Na 1:6 [c]S Isa 1:3 [d]Isa 29:13; 47:7; 57:1,11; Hos 7:9 **43:1** [e]S Isa 27:11 [f]S ver 7; S Ge 2:7 [g]Ge 32:28; Isa 44:21 [h]S Ex 6:6; S Job 19:25 [i]S Isa 42:6; 45:3-4; 49:1 [j]S Dt 7:6; Mal 3:17 **43:2** [k]S Isa 8:7 [l]S Ge 26:3; S Ex 14:22

and when you pass through the
rivers,
they will not sweep over you.
When you walk through the fire,[a]
you will not be burned;
the flames will not set you
ablaze.[b]
3 For I am the LORD, your God,[c]
the Holy One[d] of Israel, your
Savior;[e]
I give Egypt[f] for your ransom,
Cush[l][g] and Seba[h] in your stead.[i]
4 Since you are precious and honored[j]
in my sight,
and because I love[k] you,
I will give men in exchange for
you,
and people in exchange for your
life.
5 Do not be afraid,[l] for I am with
you;[m]
I will bring your children[n] from
the east
and gather[o] you from the west.[p]
6 I will say to the north, 'Give them
up!'
and to the south,[q] 'Do not hold
them back.'
Bring my sons from afar
and my daughters[r] from the ends
of the earth[s]—
7 everyone who is called by my
name,[t]
whom I created[u] for my glory,[v]
whom I formed and made.[w]"

8 Lead out those who have eyes but
are blind,[x]
who have ears but are deaf.[y]
9 All the nations gather together[z]
and the peoples assemble.
Which of them foretold[a] this
and proclaimed to us the former
things?
Let them bring in their witnesses to
prove they were right,
so that others may hear and say,
"It is true."
10 "You are my witnesses,[b]" declares
the LORD,
"and my servant[c] whom I have
chosen,
so that you may know[d] and believe
me
and understand that I am he.
Before me no god[e] was formed,
nor will there be one after me.[f]
11 I, even I, am the LORD,[g]
and apart from me there is no
savior.[h]
12 I have revealed and saved and
proclaimed—

43:2 [a]Isa 29:6; 30:27 [b]Ps 66:12; Da 3:25-27 **43:3** [c]S Ex 20:2 [d]S Isa 41:20 [e]S Ex 14:30; S Jdg 2:18; S Ps 3:8; S Isa 25:9 [f]S Ps 68:31; Isa 19:1; Eze 29:20 [g]S Isa 20:3 [h]S Ge 10:7 [i]S Pr 21:18 **43:4** [j]Ex 19:5; Isa 49:5 [k]Isa 63:9; Rev 3:9 **43:5** [l]S Ge 15:1; Isa 44:2 [m]S Ge 21:22; S Ex 14:22; Jer 30:10-11 [n]Isa 41:8; 54:3; 61:9; 66:22 [o]S Isa 11:12; S 49:18 [p]S Isa 24:14; Zec 8:7; S Mt 8:11 **43:6** [q]Ps 107:3 [r]Isa 60:4; Eze 16:61; 2Co 6:18 [s]S Dt 30:4; S Isa 11:12; Jer 23:8; Eze 36:24 **43:7** [t]Isa 48:1; 56:5; 62:2; 63:19; 65:1; Jer 15:16; Jas 2:7 [u]S Isa 27:11 [v]S Ps 86:9 [w]ver 1,21; Ps 100:3; S Isa 19:25 **43:8** [x]S Isa 6:9-10 [y]S Isa 42:20; Eze 12:2 **43:9** [z]S Isa 41:1; 45:20; 48:14 [a]S Isa 41:26 **43:10** [b]ver 12; S Jos 24:22 [c]S Isa 20:3; 41:8-9 [d]S Ex 6:7 [e]ver 11; S Ps 86:10; Isa 19:21; 44:6,8; 45:5-6,14 [f]S Dt 4:35; S 32:39; Jer 14:22 **43:11** [g]S Ex 6:2; S Isa 42:8 [h]S ver 10; S Ps 3:8; S 18:31; S Isa 25:9; 64:4 **43:12** [i]S Dt 32:12 [j]S ver 10 **43:13** [k]Ps 90:2 [l]S Dt 32:39; Isa 46:4; 48:12 [m]S Nu 23:8; S Job 9:12 **43:14** [n]S Ex 15:13; S Job 19:25 [o]S Isa 1:4; S 41:20 [p]Isa 13:14-15 [q]S Isa 23:13 **43:15** [r]S Isa 42:8 [s]S Isa 27:11; 45:11 [t]S Isa 41:21 **43:16** [u]S Ex 14:29; S 15:8; S Isa 11:15 **43:17** [v]Ps 118:12; Isa 1:31 [w]S Ex 14:22

I, and not some foreign god[i]
among you.
You are my witnesses,[j]" declares
the LORD, "that I am God.
13 Yes, and from ancient days[k] I am
he.[l]
No one can deliver out of my hand.
When I act, who can reverse it?"[m]

God's Mercy and Israel's Unfaithfulness

14 This is what the LORD says—
your Redeemer,[n] the Holy One[o]
of Israel:
"For your sake I will send to Babylon
and bring down as fugitives[p] all
the Babylonians,[m][q]
in the ships in which they took
pride.
15 I am the LORD,[r] your Holy One,
Israel's Creator,[s] your King.[t]"
16 This is what the LORD says—
he who made a way through the
sea,
a path through the mighty
waters,[u]
17 who drew out[v] the chariots and
horses,[w]
the army and reinforcements
together,[x]
and they lay[y] there, never to rise
again,
extinguished, snuffed out like a
wick:[z]
18 "Forget the former things;[a]
do not dwell on the past.
19 See, I am doing a new thing![b]
Now it springs up; do you not
perceive it?
I am making a way in the desert[c]
and streams in the wasteland.[d]
20 The wild animals[e] honor me,
the jackals[f] and the owls,
because I provide water[g] in the
desert
and streams in the wasteland,
to give drink to my people, my
chosen,
21 the people I formed[h] for myself[i]
that they may proclaim my
praise.[j]

22 "Yet you have not called upon me,
O Jacob,
you have not wearied[k] yourselves
for me, O Israel.[l]

[x]S Ex 14:9 [y]Ps 76:5-6 [z]S Job 13:25; Jer 51:21; Eze 38:4 **43:18** [a]S Isa 41:22 **43:19** [b]S Isa 41:22; Jer 16:14-15; 23:7-8; 2Co 5:17; Rev 21:5 [c]S Isa 40:3 [d]S Ps 126:4; S Isa 33:21; S 35:7 **43:20** [e]S Ps 148:10 [f]S Isa 13:22 [g]S Nu 20:8 **43:21** [h]S ver 7; S Ge 2:7 [i]Mal 3:17 [j]S Ps 66:2; 102:18; 1Pe 2:9 **43:22** [k]S Jos 22:5; S Isa 1:14 [l]Isa 30:11

[l]3 That is, the upper Nile region [m]14 Or *Chaldeans*

23You have not brought me sheep for
burnt offerings,[a]
nor honored[b] me with your
sacrifices.[c]
I have not burdened[d] you with grain
offerings
nor wearied you with demands[e]
for incense.[f]
24You have not bought any fragrant
calamus[g] for me,
or lavished on me the fat[h] of your
sacrifices.
But you have burdened me with
your sins
and wearied[i] me with your
offenses.[j]

25"I, even I, am he who blots out
your transgressions,[k] for my own
sake,[l]
and remembers your sins[m] no
more.[n]
26Review the past for me,
let us argue the matter together;[o]
state the case[p] for your innocence.
27Your first father[q] sinned;
your spokesmen[r] rebelled[s]
against me.
28So I will disgrace the dignitaries of
your temple,
and I will consign Jacob to
destruction[a][t]
and Israel to scorn.[u]

Israel the Chosen

44 "But now listen, O Jacob, my
servant,[v]
Israel, whom I have chosen.[w]
2This is what the LORD says—
he who made[x] you, who formed
you in the womb,[y]
and who will help[z] you:
Do not be afraid,[a] O Jacob, my
servant,[b]
Jeshurun,[c] whom I have chosen.
3For I will pour water[d] on the thirsty
land,
and streams on the dry ground;[e]
I will pour out my Spirit[f] on your
offspring,
and my blessing[g] on your
descendants.[h]
4They will spring up like grass[i] in a
meadow,
like poplar trees[j] by flowing
streams.[k]
5One will say, 'I belong[l] to the LORD';
another will call himself by the
name of Jacob;
still another will write on his hand,[m]
'The LORD's,'[n]
and will take the name Israel.

The LORD, Not Idols

6"This is what the LORD says—
Israel's King[o] and Redeemer,[p] the
LORD Almighty:
I am the first and I am the last;[q]
apart from me there is no God.[r]
7Who then is like me?[s] Let him
proclaim it.
Let him declare and lay out before
me
what has happened since I
established my ancient
people,
and what is yet to come—
yes, let him foretell[t] what will
come.
8Do not tremble, do not be afraid.
Did I not proclaim[u] this and
foretell it long ago?
You are my witnesses. Is there any
God[v] besides me?
No, there is no other Rock;[w] I
know not one."
9All who make idols[x] are nothing,
and the things they treasure are
worthless.[y]
Those who would speak up for them
are blind;[z]
they are ignorant, to their own
shame.[a]
10Who shapes a god and casts an
idol,[b]
which can profit him nothing?[c]
11He and his kind will be put to
shame;[d]
craftsmen are nothing but men.
Let them all come together and take
their stand;
they will be brought down to
terror and infamy.[e]
12The blacksmith[f] takes a tool
and works with it in the coals;
he shapes an idol with hammers,
he forges it with the might of his
arm.[g]
He gets hungry and loses his
strength;
he drinks no water and grows
faint.[h]
13The carpenter[i] measures with a line
and makes an outline with a
marker;
he roughs it out with chisels
and marks it with compasses.

43:23 [a]S Ex 29:41 [b]Zec 7:5-6; Mal 1:6-8 [c]Am 5:25 [d]Mic 6:3; Mal 1:12-13 [e]Jer 7:22 [f]Ex 30:35; S Lev 2:1 **43:24** [g]S Ex 30:23 [h]Lev 3:9 [i]S Isa 1:14; S 7:13; S Jer 8:21 [j]Jer 44:22; Mal 2:17 **43:25** [k]S 2Sa 12:13; S 2Ch 6:21; Mk 2:7; Lk 5:21; Ac 3:19 [l]S Isa 37:35; S Eze 20:44 [m]Isa 64:9; Mic 7:18 [n]S Job 7:21; S Isa 38:17 **43:26** [o]S Isa 1:18 [p]S Isa 41:1; 49:25; 50:8 **43:27** [q]S Ge 12:18 [r]Isa 9:15; 28:7; Jer 5:31 [s]S Isa 24:20; S 48:8 **43:28** [t]S Nu 5:27; S Dt 13:15; S Isa 42:24; S Zec 5:3 [u]S Ps 39:8; Jer 24:9; Eze 5:15 **44:1** [v]ver 21 [w]S Ge 16:11; S Isa 14:1 **44:2** [x]ver 21; S Ps 149:2 [y]S Ge 2:7; S Ps 139:13; S Isa 27:11 [z]S Isa 41:10 [a]S Isa 43:5 [b]Jer 30:10; 46:27 [c]S Nu 23:21; S Dt 32:15 **44:3** [d]Joel 3:18; Jn 4:10 [e]S Pr 9:5; S Isa 32:2; S 35:7 [f]S Isa 11:2; Eze 36:27; S Mk 1:8; S Ac 2:17 [g]Mal 3:10 [h]Isa 61:9; 65:23 **44:4** [i]S Job 5:25; S Ps 72:16 [j]S Lev 23:40 [k]S Job 40:22 **44:5** [l]Ps 116:16; Isa 19:21; Jer 50:5 [m]Ex 13:9 [n]Isa 60:3; 66:23; Zec 8:20-22; 13:9; 14:16 **44:6** [o]S Isa 41:21 [p]S Job 19:25; Isa 43:1 [q]S Isa 41:4; Rev 1:8,17 [r]S Dt 6:4; S 1Ch 17:20; S Ps 18:31; S Isa 43:10 **44:7** [s]S Dt 32:39 [t]S Isa 41:22,26 **44:8** [u]S Isa 40:21; S 42:9 [v]S Isa 43:10 [w]S Ge 49:24 **44:9** [x]S Ex 20:4; S Lev 19:4; Isa 40:19 [y]S Isa 41:24 [z]S Isa 26:11 [a]S Isa 1:29; 65:13; 66:5; Jer 22:22 **44:10** [b]S Isa 40:19 [c]Isa 41:29; Jer 10:5; Ac 19:26 **44:11** [d]S ver 9; S Isa 1:29 [e]S 2Ki 19:18; S Isa 37:19 **44:12** [f]S Isa 40:19; 41:6-7; 54:16 [g]Ac 17:29 [h]Isa 40:28 **44:13** [i]S Isa 41:7

[a]*28* The Hebrew term refers to the irrevocable giving over of things or persons to the LORD, often by totally destroying them.

He shapes it in the form of man,[f]
of man in all his glory,
that it may dwell in a shrine.[g]
14He cut down cedars,
or perhaps took a cypress or oak.
He let it grow among the trees of the forest,
or planted a pine,[h] and the rain made it grow.
15It is man's fuel[i] for burning;
some of it he takes and warms himself,
he kindles a fire and bakes bread.
But he also fashions a god and worships[j] it;
he makes an idol and bows[k] down to it.
16Half of the wood he burns in the fire;
over it he prepares his meal,
he roasts his meat and eats his fill.
He also warms himself and says,
"Ah! I am warm; I see the fire.[l]"
17From the rest he makes a god, his idol;
he bows down to it and worships.[m]
He prays[n] to it and says,
"Save[o] me; you are my god."
18They know nothing, they understand[p] nothing;
their eyes[q] are plastered over so they cannot see,
and their minds closed so they cannot understand.
19No one stops to think,
no one has the knowledge or understanding[r] to say,
"Half of it I used for fuel;[s]
I even baked bread over its coals,
I roasted meat and I ate.
Shall I make a detestable[t] thing from what is left?
Shall I bow down to a block of wood?"[u]
20He feeds on ashes,[v] a deluded[w] heart misleads him;
he cannot save himself, or say,
"Is not this thing in my right hand a lie?[x]"

21"Remember[y] these things, O Jacob,
for you are my servant, O Israel.[z]
I have made you, you are my servant;[a]
O Israel, I will not forget you.[b]
22I have swept away[c] your offenses like a cloud,
your sins like the morning mist.
Return[d] to me,
for I have redeemed[e] you."

23Sing for joy,[g] O heavens, for the LORD has done this;
shout aloud, O earth[h] beneath.
Burst into song, you mountains,[i]
you forests and all your trees,[j]
for the LORD has redeemed[k] Jacob,
he displays his glory[l] in Israel.

Jerusalem to Be Inhabited

24"This is what the LORD says—
your Redeemer,[m] who formed[n] you in the womb:[o]

I am the LORD,
who has made all things,
who alone stretched out the heavens,[p]
who spread out the earth[q] by myself,
25who foils[r] the signs of false prophets
and makes fools of diviners,[s]
who overthrows the learning of the wise[t]
and turns it into nonsense,[u]
26who carries out the words[v] of his servants
and fulfills[w] the predictions of his messengers,

who says of Jerusalem,[x] 'It shall be inhabited,'
of the towns of Judah, 'They shall be built,'
and of their ruins,[y] 'I will restore them,'[z]
27who says to the watery deep, 'Be dry,
and I will dry up[a] your streams,'
28who says of Cyrus,[b] 'He is my shepherd
and will accomplish all that I please;
he will say of Jerusalem,[c] "Let it be rebuilt,"
and of the temple,[d] "Let its foundations[e] be laid."'

45 "This is what the LORD says to his anointed,[a]
to Cyrus,[b] whose right hand I take hold[c] of
to subdue nations[d] before him
and to strip kings of their armor,
to open doors before him
so that gates will not be shut:
2I will go before you[e]

44:13 [f]Ps 115:4-7 [g]S Jdg 17:4-5 44:14 [h]S Isa 41:19 44:15 [i]ver 19 [j]S Ex 20:5; Rev 9:20 [k]S 2Ch 25:14 44:16 [l]Isa 47:14 44:17 [m]S Ex 20:5; Isa 2:8; Jer 1:16 [n]S 1Ki 18:26 [o]S Jdg 10:14; Isa 45:20; 46:7; 47:13 44:18 [p]Isa 1:3; S 16:12; Jer 4:22; 10:8,14; 14-15 [q]S Isa 6:9-10; S 29:10 44:19 [r]ver 18-19; Isa 5:13; 27:11; 45:20 [s]ver 15 [t]S Dt 27:15 [u]Isa 40:20 44:20 [v]Ps 102:9 [w]S Job 15:31; Ro 1:21-23,28; 2Th 2:11; 2Ti 3:13 [x]S Dt 4:28; Hos 10:5; 13:2 Isa 59:3,4,13; Jer 9:3; 10:14; 51:17; Ro 1:25 44:21 [y]Isa 46:8; Zec 10:9 [z]S Isa 43:1 [a]S Ps 136:22; S Isa 27:11 [b]Ps 27:10; Isa 49:15; Jer 31:20 44:22 [c]S 2Sa 12:13; S 2Ch 6:21; Ac 3:19 [d]S Job 22:23; Isa 45:22; 55:7; Jer 36:3; Mal 3:7 [e]S Isa 33:24; S Mt 20:28; 1Co 6:20 44:23 [g]S Ps 96:4; S Isa 12:6 [h]S 1Ch 16:31; Ps 148:7 [i]S Ps 98:8 [j]S Ps 65:13 [k]S Ex 6:6; Isa 51:11; 62:12 [l]S Ex 16:7; S Lev 10:3; S Isa 4:2; 43:7; 46:13; 49:3; 52:1; 55:5; 60:9,21; 61:3; Jer 30:19 44:24 [m]S Job 19:25; Isa 43:14 [n]S Isa 27:11 [o]S Ps 139:13 [p]S Ge 2:1; S Isa 42:5 [q]S Ge 1:1 44:25 [r]Ps 33:10 [s]Lev 19:26; 1Sa 6:2; Isa 2:6; 8:19; 47:13; Jer 27:9; Da 2:2,10; 4:7; Mic 3:7; Zec 10:2 [t]S Job 5:13; 1Co 1:27 [u]2Sa 15:31; 1Co 1:19-20 44:26 [v]Isa 59:21; Zec 1:6 [w]Isa 46:10; 55:11; Jer 23:20; 39:16; La 2:17; Da 9:12; S Mt 5:18 [x]S Isa 1:1 [y]S Ps 74:3; S Isa 51:3 [z]S Ezr 9:9; S Ps 51:18; Isa 49:8-21; S 61:4 44:27 [a]S Isa 11:15; S 19:5; Rev 16:12 44:28 [b]S 2Ch 36:22; S Isa 41:2 [c]S Isa 14:32 [d]Ezr 1:2-4 [e]S Isa 28:16; 58:12 45:1 [a]S Ps 45:7 [b]S 2Ch 36:22; S Isa 41:2 [c]Ps 73:23; Isa 41:13; 42:6 [d]Isa 48:14; Jer 50:35; 51:20,24; Mic 4:13 45:2 [e]Ex 23:20

and will level the mountains;
I will break down gates of bronze
and cut through bars of iron.
3 I will give you the treasures of
darkness,
riches stored in secret places,
so that you may know that I am the
LORD,
the God of Israel, who summons
you by name.
4 For the sake of Jacob my servant,
of Israel my chosen,
I summon you by name
and bestow on you a title of
honor,
though you do not acknowledge
me.
5 I am the LORD, and there is no
other;
apart from me there is no God.
I will strengthen you,
though you have not
acknowledged me,
6 so that from the rising of the sun
to the place of its setting
men may know there is none
besides me.
I am the LORD, and there is no
other.
7 I form the light and create
darkness,
I bring prosperity and create
disaster;
I, the LORD, do all these things.

8 "You heavens above, rain down
righteousness;
let the clouds shower it down.
Let the earth open wide,
let salvation spring up,
let righteousness grow with it;
I, the LORD, have created it.

9 "Woe to him who quarrels with his
Maker,
to him who is but a potsherd
among the potsherds on the
ground.
Does the clay say to the potter,
'What are you making?'
Does your work say,
'He has no hands'?
10 Woe to him who says to his father,
'What have you begotten?'
or to his mother,
'What have you brought to birth?'

11 "This is what the LORD says—
the Holy One of Israel, and its
Maker:
Concerning things to come,
do you question me about my
children,

[illegible]
ᵗS Isa 10:15
45:11 ᵘS Isa 1:4
ᵛS Ps 149:2;
S Isa 51:13
ʷS Ps 8:6;
S Isa 19:25
45:12 ˣS Ge 1:1
ʸS Ge 2:1;
S Isa 48:13
ᶻS Ne 9:6;
S Job 38:32
45:13
ᵃS 2Ch 36:22;
S Isa 41:2
ᵇS 1Ki 8:36;
S Ps 26:12;
S Isa 40:4
ᶜS Ezr 1:2
ᵈIsa 52:3
45:14 ᵉ2Sa 8:2;
Isa 18:7; 60:5
ᶠS Isa 2:3; 60:11;
62:2; Zec 8:20-22
ᵍS Isa 2:3
ʰS Ge 27:29
ⁱS 2Sa 3:34;
S Isa 14:1-2
ʲJer 16:19;
Zec 8:20-23
ᵏ1Co 14:25
ˡS Ps 18:31;
S Isa 11:9;
S 43:10
45:15
ˢS Dt 31:17;
Ps 44:24;
S Isa 1:15
ᵗS Isa 25:9
45:16
ᵘS Ps 35:4;
S Isa 1:29
45:17 ᵛJer 23:6;
33:16; Ro 11:26
ʷS Isa 12:2

or give me orders about the work
of my hands?
12 It is I who made the earth
and created mankind upon it.
My own hands stretched out the
heavens;
I marshaled their starry hosts.
13 I will raise up Cyrus in my
righteousness:
I will make all his ways straight.
He will rebuild my city
and set my exiles free,
but not for a price or reward,
says the LORD Almighty."

14 This is what the LORD says:

"The products of Egypt and the
merchandise of Cush,[q]
and those tall Sabeans—
they will come over to you
and will be yours;
they will trudge behind you,
coming over to you in chains.
They will bow down before you
and plead with you, saying,
'Surely God is with you, and there
is no other;
there is no other god.'"
15 Truly you are a God who hides[s]
himself,
O God and Savior[t] of Israel.
16 All the makers of idols will be put to
shame and disgraced;[u]
they will go off into disgrace
together.
17 But Israel will be saved[v] by the LORD
with an everlasting salvation;[w]
you will never be put to shame or
disgraced,[x]
to ages everlasting.
18 For this is what the LORD says—
he who created the heavens,
he is God;
he who fashioned and made the
earth,[y]
he founded it;
he did not create it to be empty,[z]
but formed it to be inhabited[a]—
he says:
"I am the LORD,
and there is no other.[b]
19 I have not spoken in secret,[c]
from somewhere in a land of
darkness;[d]

ˣS Ge 30:23; S Isa 29:22; S 41:11 **45:18** ʸS Ge 1:1 ᶻS Ge 1:2
ᵃS Ge 1:26 ᵇver 5; Dt 4:35 **45:19** ᶜIsa 48:16; 65:4 ᵈJer 2:31

°2 Dead Sea Scrolls and Septuagint; the meaning of the word in the Masoretic Text is uncertain.
ᵖ13 Hebrew *him* ᑫ14 That is, the upper Nile region

I have not said to Jacob's
descendants,[a]
'Seek[b] me in vain.'
I, the LORD, speak the truth;
I declare what is right.[c]

20"Gather together[d] and come;
assemble, you fugitives from the
nations.
Ignorant[e] are those who carry[f]
about idols of wood,
who pray to gods that cannot
save.[g]
21Declare what is to be, present it—
let them take counsel together.
Who foretold[h] this long ago,
who declared it from the distant
past?[i]
Was it not I, the LORD?
And there is no God apart from
me,[j]
a righteous God[k] and a Savior;[l]
there is none but me.

22"Turn[m] to me and be saved,[n]
all you ends of the earth;[o]
for I am God, and there is no
other.[p]
23By myself I have sworn,[q]
my mouth has uttered in all
integrity[r]
a word that will not be revoked:[s]
Before me every knee will bow;[t]
by me every tongue will swear.[u]
24They will say of me, 'In the LORD
alone
are righteousness[v] and
strength.[w]'"
All who have raged against him
will come to him and be put to
shame.[x]
25But in the LORD all the descendants[y]
of Israel
will be found righteous[z] and will
exult.[a]

Gods of Babylon

46 Bel[b] bows down, Nebo stoops
low;
their idols[c] are borne by beasts of
burden.[r]
The images that are carried[d] about
are burdensome,
a burden for the weary.
2They stoop and bow down
together;
unable to rescue the burden,
they themselves go off into
captivity.[e]

3"Listen[f] to me, O house of Jacob,
all you who remain[g] of the house
of Israel,
you whom I have upheld since you
were conceived,[h]
and have carried[i] since your
birth.[j]
4Even to your old age and gray hairs[k]
I am he,[l] I am he who will sustain
you.
I have made you and I will carry
you;
I will sustain[m] you and I will
rescue you.

5"To whom will you compare me or
count me equal?
To whom will you liken me that
we may be compared?[n]
6Some pour out gold from their bags
and weigh out silver on the scales;
they hire a goldsmith[o] to make it
into a god,
and they bow down and worship
it.[p]
7They lift it to their shoulders and
carry[q] it;
they set it up in its place, and
there it stands.
From that spot it cannot move.[r]
Though one cries out to it, it does
not answer;[s]
it cannot save[t] him from his
troubles.

8"Remember[u] this, fix it in mind,
take it to heart, you rebels.[v]
9Remember the former things,[w] those
of long ago;[x]
I am God, and there is no other;
I am God, and there is none like
me.[y]
10I make known the end from the
beginning,[z]
from ancient times,[a] what is still
to come.[b]
I say: My purpose will stand,[c]
and I will do all that I please.
11From the east I summon[d] a bird of
prey;[e]
from a far-off land, a man to fulfill
my purpose.
What I have said, that will I bring
about;
what I have planned,[f] that will I
do.[g]
12Listen[h] to me, you
stubborn-hearted,[i]
you who are far from
righteousness.[j]

45:19 [a]ver 25; Isa 41:8; 65:9; Jer 31:36 [b]S Dt 4:29; S 2Ch 15:2 [c]S Dt 30:11 **45:20** [d]S Isa 43:9 [e]S Isa 44:19 [f]Ps 115:7; Isa 46:1; Jer 10:5 [g]Dt 32:37; S Isa 44:17; Jer 1:16; 2:28 **45:21** [h]S Isa 41:22 [i]Isa 46:10 [j]ver 5; S Ps 46:10; Isa 46:9; Mk 12:32 [k]Ps 11:7 [l]S Ps 3:8; S Isa 25:9 **45:22** [m]S Isa 44:22; Zec 12:10 [n]Nu 21:8-9; S 2Ch 20:12 [o]S Ge 49:10; S Isa 11:9,12; 49:6,12 [p]Hos 13:4 **45:23** [q]S Ge 22:16; S Isa 14:24 [r]S Dt 30:11; Heb 6:13 [s]Isa 55:11 [t]S ver 14 [u]S Ps 63:11; S Isa 19:18; Ro 14:11*; Php 2:10-11 **45:24** [v]S ver 8; Jer 33:16 [w]S Dt 33:29; S Ps 18:39; S Isa 40:26; 63:1 [x]S Isa 41:11 **45:25** [y]S ver 19 [z]S Isa 4:3; S 49:4 [a]S Isa 24:23; S 41:16 **46:1** [b]S Isa 21:9; Jer 50:2; 51:44 [c]S 1Sa 5:2 [d]ver 7; S Isa 45:20 **46:2** [e]S Jdg 18:17-18; S 2Sa 5:21; Jer 51:47 **46:3** [f]ver 12; Isa 48:12; 51:1 [g]S Isa 1:9 [h]S Ps 139:13; Isa 44:2 [i]S Dt 1:31; S Ps 28:9 [j]S Ps 22:10 **46:4** [k]Ps 71:18 [l]S Dt 32:39; S Isa 43:13 [m]S Ps 18:35; S 119:117 **46:5** [n]S Ex 15:11; Job 41:10; Isa 40:18,25; Jer 49:19 **46:6** [o]S Isa 40:19 [p]S Ex 20:5; Isa 44:17; Hos 13:2 **46:7** [q]S ver 1 [r]S 1Sa 5:3; S Isa 41:7 [s]S 1Ki 18:26 [t]S Isa 44:17; S 47:13 **46:8** [u]S Isa 44:21 [v]S Isa 1:2 **46:9** [w]S Isa 41:22 [x]S Dt 32:7 [y]S Ex 8:10; S Isa 45:21; Mk 12:32 **46:10** [z]S Isa 41:4 [a]S Isa 45:21 [b]S Isa 41:22 [c]S Pr 19:21; S Isa 7:7,9; S 44:26; Ac 5:39; Eph 1:11 **46:11** [d]S Jdg 4:10; S Ezr 1:2 [e]S Isa 8:8 [f]S Isa 25:1 [g]S Ge 41:25; Jer 44:28 **46:12** [h]S ver 3 [i]S Ex 32:9; S Isa 9:9 [j]Ps 119:150; Isa 48:1; Jer 2:5

[r]1 Or *are but beasts and cattle*

13 I am bringing my righteousness near,
it is not far away;
and my salvation will not be delayed.
I will grant salvation to Zion,
my splendor to Israel.

The Fall of Babylon

47 "Go down, sit in the dust,
Virgin Daughter of Babylon;
sit on the ground without a throne,
Daughter of the Babylonians.[a]
No more will you be called
tender or delicate.
2 Take millstones and grind flour;
take off your veil.
Lift up your skirts, bare your legs,
and wade through the streams.
3 Your nakedness will be exposed
and your shame uncovered.
I will take vengeance;
I will spare no one."

4 Our Redeemer—the LORD Almighty is his name—
is the Holy One of Israel.

5 "Sit in silence, go into darkness,
Daughter of the Babylonians;
no more will you be called
queen of kingdoms.
6 I was angry with my people
and desecrated my inheritance;
I gave them into your hand,
and you showed them no mercy.
Even on the aged
you laid a very heavy yoke.
7 You said, 'I will continue forever—
the eternal queen!'
But you did not consider these things
or reflect on what might happen.

8 "Now then, listen, you wanton creature,
lounging in your security
and saying to yourself,
'I am, and there is none besides me.
I will never be a widow
or suffer the loss of children.'
9 Both of these will overtake you
in a moment, on a single day:
loss of children and widowhood.
They will come upon you in full measure,
in spite of your many sorceries
and all your potent spells.
10 You have trusted in your wickedness
and have said, 'No one sees me.'
Your wisdom and knowledge
mislead you
when you say to yourself,
'I am, and there is none besides me.'
11 Disaster will come upon you,
and you will not know how to conjure it away.
A calamity will fall upon you
that you cannot ward off with a ransom;
a catastrophe you cannot foresee
will suddenly come upon you.

12 "Keep on, then, with your magic spells
and with your many sorceries,
which you have labored at since childhood.
Perhaps you will succeed,
perhaps you will cause terror.
13 All the counsel you have received
has only worn you out!
Let your astrologers come forward,
those stargazers who make
predictions month by month,
let them save you from what is
coming upon you.
14 Surely they are like stubble;
the fire will burn them up.
They cannot even save themselves
from the power of the flame.
Here are no coals to warm anyone;
here is no fire to sit by.
15 That is all they can do for you—
these you have labored with
and trafficked with since childhood.
Each of them goes on in his error;
there is not one that can save you.

Stubborn Israel

48 "Listen to this, O house of Jacob,
you who are called by the name of Israel
and come from the line of Judah,
you who take oaths in the name of the LORD
and invoke the God of Israel—
but not in truth or righteousness—
2 you who call yourselves citizens of the holy city

a1 Or *Chaldeans;* also in verse 5

and rely[a] on the God of Israel—
the Lord Almighty is his name:[b]
3I foretold the former things[c] long
ago,
my mouth announced[d] them and I
made them known;
then suddenly[e] I acted, and they
came to pass.
4For I knew how stubborn[f] you were;
the sinews of your neck[g] were
iron,
your forehead[h] was bronze.
5Therefore I told you these things
long ago;
before they happened I
announced[i] them to you
so that you could not say,
'My idols did them;[j]
my wooden image and metal god
ordained them.'
6You have heard these things; look at
them all.
Will you not admit them?

"From now on I will tell you of new
things,[k]
of hidden things unknown to you.
7They are created[l] now, and not long
ago;[m]
you have not heard of them before
today.
So you cannot say,
'Yes, I knew[n] of them.'
8You have neither heard nor
understood;[o]
from of old your ear[p] has not been
open.
Well do I know how treacherous[q]
you are;
you were called a rebel[r] from
birth.
9For my own name's sake[s] I delay
my wrath;[t]
for the sake of my praise I hold it
back from you,
so as not to cut you off.[u]
10See, I have refined[v] you, though not
as silver;
I have tested[w] you in the furnace[x]
of affliction.
11For my own sake,[y] for my own
sake, I do this.
How can I let myself be
defamed?[z]
I will not yield my glory to
another.[a]

Israel Freed

12"Listen[b] to me, O Jacob,
Israel, whom I have called:[c]
I am he;[d]
I am the first and I am the last.[e]
13My own hand laid the foundations
of the earth,[f]
and my right hand spread out the
heavens;[g]
when I summon them,
they all stand up together.[h]

14"Come together,[i] all of you, and
listen:
Which of the idols has foretold
these things?[j]
The Lord's chosen ally[k]
will carry out his purpose[l] against
Babylon;[m]
his arm will be against the
Babylonians.[a]
15I, even I, have spoken;
yes, I have called[n] him.
I will bring him,
and he will succeed[o] in his
mission.

16"Come near[p] me and listen[q] to
this:

"From the first announcement I have
not spoken in secret;[r]
at the time it happens, I am
there."
And now the Sovereign Lord[s] has
sent[t] me,
with his Spirit.[u]

17This is what the Lord says—
your Redeemer,[v] the Holy One[w]
of Israel:
"I am the Lord your God,
who teaches[x] you what is best for
you,
who directs[y] you in the way[z] you
should go.
18If only you had paid attention[a] to
my commands,
your peace[b] would have been like
a river,[c]
your righteousness[d] like the
waves of the sea.
19Your descendants[e] would have been
like the sand,[f]
your children like its numberless
grains;[g]
their name would never be cut off[h]
nor destroyed from before me."

20Leave Babylon,
flee[i] from the Babylonians!
Announce this with shouts of joy[j]
and proclaim it.
Send it out to the ends of the earth;[k]

48:2 [a]S Isa 10:20; Ro 2:17 [b]S Isa 47:4 **48:3** [c]S Isa 41:22 [d]S Isa 40:21; 45:21 [e]S Isa 17:14; 30:13 **48:4** [f]S Isa 9:9 [g]S Ex 32:9; S Dt 9:27; Ac 7:51 [h]Eze 3:9 **48:5** [i]S Isa 40:21; S 42:9 [j]Jer 44:15-18 **48:6** [k]S Isa 41:22; S Ro 16:25 **48:7** [l]Isa 65:18 [m]Isa 45:21 [n]S Ex 6:7 **48:8** [o]S Isa 1:3 [p]S Dt 29:4 [q]Isa 41:24; Mal 2:11,14 [r]Dt 9:7,24; Ps 58:3; S Isa 1:2; 43:27; 58:1 **48:9** [s]S 1Sa 12:22; S Isa 37:35 [t]S Job 9:13; S Isa 30:18 [u]S Ne 9:31 **48:10** [v]S Isa 1:25; Zec 13:9; Mal 3:3; 1Pe 1:7 [w]S Ex 15:25 [x]S Ex 1:13; S 1Ki 8:51 **48:11** [y]S 1Sa 12:22; S Isa 37:35 [z]S Lev 18:21; Dt 32:27; Jer 14:7,21; Eze 20:9,14,22, 44 [a]Isa 42:8 **48:12** [b]S Isa 46:3 [c]Isa 41:8; 42:6; 43:1 [d]S Isa 43:13 [e]S Isa 41:4; S Rev 1:17 **48:13** [f]Heb 1:10-12 [g]S Ge 2:1; Ex 20:11; Job 9:8; Isa 40:22; S 42:5; 45:18; 51:16; 65:17 [h]S Isa 34:16 **48:14** [i]S Isa 43:9 [j]S Isa 41:22 [k]S Isa 41:2 [l]Isa 46:10-11 [m]S Isa 21:9; S 45:1; Jer 50:45 **48:15** [n]S Jdg 4:10; Isa 45:1 [o]Isa 44:28-45:4 **48:16** [p]S Isa 41:1 [q]S Isa 33:13 [r]S Isa 45:19 [s]Isa 50:5,7,9 [t]Zec 2:9,11 [u]S Isa 11:2 **48:17** [v]S Job 19:25; Isa 49:7; 54:8 [w]S Isa 47:4 [x]S Isa 28:9; S Jer 7:13 [y]Isa 49:10; 57:18; 58:11 [z]S Isa 30:11 **48:18** [a]S Isa 42:23 [b]Ps 147:14; S Isa 9:7; 54:13; 66:12 [c]S Isa 33:21 [d]S Isa 1:26; S 45:8 **48:19** [e]Isa 43:5; 44:3; 61:9 [f]S Ge 12:2 [g]S Job 5:25 [h]Isa 56:5; 65:23; 66:22; Jer 35:19 **48:20** [i]Isa 52:11; Jer 48:6; 50:8; 51:6,45; Zec 2:6-7; Rev 18:4 [j]S Isa 12:6; 49:13; 51:11 [k]S Ge 49:10; S Dt 30:4; S Jer 25:22

[a]14 Or *Chaldeans*; also in verse 20

say, "The LORD has redeemed his
servant Jacob."
21They did not thirst when he led
them through the deserts;
he made water flow for them
from the rock;
he split the rock
and water gushed out.
22"There is no peace," says the LORD,
"for the wicked."

The Servant of the LORD

49 Listen to me, you islands;
hear this, you distant nations:
Before I was born the LORD called
me;
from my birth he has made
mention of my name.
2He made my mouth like a
sharpened sword,
in the shadow of his hand he hid
me;
he made me into a polished arrow
and concealed me in his quiver.
3He said to me, "You are my
servant,
Israel, in whom I will display my
splendor."
4But I said, "I have labored to no
purpose;
I have spent my strength in vain
and for nothing.
Yet what is due me is in the LORD's
hand,
and my reward is with my
God."

5And now the LORD says—
he who formed me in the womb
to be his servant
to bring Jacob back to him
and gather Israel to himself,
for I am honored in the eyes of the
LORD
and my God has been my
strength—
6he says:
"It is too small a thing for you to be
my servant
to restore the tribes of Jacob
and bring back those of Israel I
have kept.
I will also make you a light for the
Gentiles,
that you may bring my salvation to
the ends of the earth."

7This is what the LORD says—
the Redeemer and Holy One of
Israel—
to him who was despised and
abhorred by the nation,
to the servant of rulers:
"Kings will see you and rise up,
princes will see and bow down,
because of the LORD, who is
faithful,
the Holy One of Israel, who has
chosen you."

Restoration of Israel

8This is what the LORD says:

"In the time of my favor I will
answer you,
and in the day of salvation I will
help you;
I will keep you and will make you
to be a covenant for the people,
to restore the land
and to reassign its desolate
inheritances,
9to say to the captives, 'Come out,'
and to those in darkness, 'Be
free!'

"They will feed beside the roads
and find pasture on every barren
hill.
10They will neither hunger nor thirst,
nor will the desert heat or the sun
beat upon them.
He who has compassion on them
will guide them
and lead them beside springs of
water.
11I will turn all my mountains into
roads,
and my highways will be raised
up.
12See, they will come from afar—
some from the north, some from
the west,
some from the region of Aswan.[a]"
13Shout for joy, O heavens;
rejoice, O earth;
burst into song, O mountains!
For the LORD comforts his people
and will have compassion on his
afflicted ones.

14But Zion said, "The LORD has
forsaken me,
the Lord has forgotten me."
15"Can a mother forget the baby at her
breast
and have no compassion on the
child she has borne?
Though she may forget,

a12 Dead Sea Scrolls; Masoretic Text *Sinim*

I will not forget you![a]
16See, I have engraved[b] you on the
palms of my hands;
your walls[c] are ever before me.
17Your sons hasten back,
and those who laid you waste[d]
depart from you.
18Lift up your eyes and look around;
all your sons gather[e] and come to
you.
As surely as I live,[f]" declares the
LORD,
"you will wear[g] them all as
ornaments;
you will put them on, like a
bride.

19"Though you were ruined and made
desolate[h]
and your land laid waste,[i]
now you will be too small for your
people,[j]
and those who devoured[k] you will
be far away.
20The children born during your
bereavement
will yet say in your hearing,
'This place is too small for us;
give us more space to live in.'[l]
21Then you will say in your heart,
'Who bore me these?[m]
I was bereaved[n] and barren;
I was exiled and rejected.[o]
Who brought these[p] up?
I was left[q] all alone,[r]
but these—where have they come
from?' "

22This is what the Sovereign LORD[s]
says:

"See, I will beckon to the Gentiles,
I will lift up my banner[t] to the
peoples;
they will bring[u] your sons in their
arms
and carry your daughters on their
shoulders.[v]
23Kings[w] will be your foster fathers,
and their queens your nursing
mothers.[x]
They will bow down[y] before you
with their faces to the
ground;
they will lick the dust[z] at your
feet.
Then you will know that I am the
LORD;[a]
those who hope[b] in me will not be
disappointed.[c]"

24Can plunder be taken from
warriors,[d]

49:15 [a]S Isa 44:21 **49:16** [b]S Ge 38:18; S Ex 28:9 [c]Ps 48:12-13; Isa 62:6 **49:17** [d]S Isa 5:6; 10:6; 37:18 **49:18** [e]S Isa 11:12; 14:1; 43:5; 51:3; 54:7 [f]S Nu 14:21; Isa 45:23; 54:9; 62:8; Ro 14:11* [g]Isa 52:1; 61:10; Jer 2:32 **49:19** [h]S Lev 26:33; Isa 54:1,3; 60:18; 62:4 [i]S Isa 5:6 [j]Eze 36:10-11; Zec 10:10 [k]S Isa 1:20 **49:20** [l]Isa 54:1-3; Zec 2:4; 10:10 **49:21** [m]Isa 29:23; 66:7-8 [n]S Isa 47:8; 54:1 [o]Isa 5:13; 54:6 [p]Isa 60:8 [q]S Isa 1:8 [r]S Ps 142:4; Isa 51:18; Jer 10:20 **49:22** [s]S Ge 15:2 [t]S Isa 11:10 [u]S Isa 11:12; S 14:2 [v]Lk 15:5 **49:23** [w]Isa 60:3, 10-11 [x]S Nu 11:12; S Isa 60:16 [y]S Ge 27:29; Rev 3:9 [z]S Ge 3:14; Ps 72:9 [a]S Ex 6:2; S Ps 22:23; S Isa 42:8 [b]S Ps 37:9; S 130:5 [c]S Ps 22:5; S Isa 29:22; S 41:11 **49:24** [d]Mt 12:29; Mk 3:27; Lk 11:21 **49:25** [e]S Isa 14:2 [f]Jer 50:33-34; Mk 3:27 [g]S Isa 13:11; S 25:4 [h]Isa 25:5; S 43:26; 51:22; Jer 50:34 [i]S 1Sa 24:15 [j]Isa 25:9; 33:22; 35:4 **49:26** [k]S Isa 9:4; S 13:11 [l]S Isa 9:20 [m]Nu 23:24; Jer 25:27; Na 1:10; 3:11; Rev 16:6 [n]Ex 6:7; S Isa 11:9; Eze 39:7 [o]S Isa 25:9 [p]S Job 19:25; S Isa 48:17 [q]S Ge 49:24; S Ps 132:2 **50:1** [r]S Dt 24:1; Hos 2:2; Mt 19:7; Mk 10:4 [s]S Ne 5:5; S Mt 18:25 [t]S Isa 1:28 [u]S Dt 32:30; S Jdg 3:8 **50:2** [v]S 1Sa 8:19;

or captives rescued from the
fierce[v]?

25But this is what the LORD says:

"Yes, captives[e] will be taken from
warriors,[f]
and plunder retrieved from the
fierce;[g]
I will contend with those who
contend with you,[h][i]
and your children I will save.[j]
26I will make your oppressors[k] eat[l]
their own flesh;
they will be drunk on their own
blood,[m] as with wine.
Then all mankind will know[n]
that I, the LORD, am your Savior,[o]
your Redeemer,[p] the Mighty One
of Jacob.[q]"

Israel's Sin and the Servant's Obedience

50 This is what the LORD says:
"Where is your mother's
certificate of divorce[r]
with which I sent her away?
Or to which of my creditors
did I sell[s] you?
Because of your sins[t] you were
sold;[u]
because of your transgressions
your mother was sent away.
2When I came, why was there no
one?
When I called, why was there no
one to answer?[v]
Was my arm too short[w] to ransom
you?
Do I lack the strength[x] to rescue
you?
By a mere rebuke[y] I dry up the sea,[z]
I turn rivers into a desert;[a]
their fish rot for lack of water
and die of thirst.
3I clothe the sky with darkness[b]
and make sackcloth[c] its covering."

4The Sovereign LORD[d] has given me
an instructed tongue,[e]
to know the word that sustains the
weary.[f]
He wakens me morning by
morning,[g]
wakens my ear to listen like one
being taught.[h]

S Isa 41:28 [w]Nu 11:23; Isa 59:1 [x]S Ge 18:14; S Ps 68:35; Jer 14:9 [y]S Ps 18:15 [z]S Ex 14:22 [a]S Ps 107:33 **50:3** [b]S Ex 10:22; S Isa 5:30 [c]Rev 6:12 **50:4** [d]ver 5; Isa 61:1 [e]S Ex 4:12 [f]S Isa 40:29; Mt 11:28 [g]Ps 5:3; 88:13; 119:147; 143:8 [h]S Isa 28:9

[v]24 Dead Sea Scrolls, Vulgate and Syriac (see also Septuagint and verse 25); Masoretic Text *righteous*

5The Sovereign LORD[a] has opened my
ears,[b]
and I have not been rebellious;[c]
I have not drawn back.
6I offered my back to those who beat[d]
me,
my cheeks to those who pulled out
my beard;[e]
I did not hide my face
from mocking and spitting.[f]
7Because the Sovereign LORD[g] helps[h]
me,
I will not be disgraced.
Therefore have I set my face like
flint,[i]
and I know I will not be put to
shame.[j]
8He who vindicates[k] me is near.[l]
Who then will bring charges
against me?[m]
Let us face each other![n]
Who is my accuser?
Let him confront me!
9It is the Sovereign LORD[o] who helps[p]
me.
Who is he that will condemn[q] me?
They will all wear out like a garment;
the moths[r] will eat them up.

10Who among you fears[s] the LORD
and obeys[t] the word of his
servant?[u]
Let him who walks in the dark,
who has no light,[v]
trust[w] in the name of the LORD
and rely on his God.
11But now, all you who light fires
and provide yourselves with
flaming torches,[x]
go, walk in the light of your fires[y]
and of the torches you have set
ablaze.
This is what you shall receive from
my hand:[z]
You will lie down in torment.[a]

Everlasting Salvation for Zion

51 "Listen[b] to me, you who
pursue righteousness[c]
and who seek[d] the LORD:
Look to the rock[e] from which you
were cut
and to the quarry from which you
were hewn;
2look to Abraham,[f] your father,
and to Sarah, who gave you birth.
When I called him he was but one,
and I blessed him and made him
many.[g]
3The LORD will surely comfort[h] Zion[i]
and will look with compassion on
all her ruins;[j]
he will make her deserts like Eden,[k]
her wastelands[l] like the garden of
the LORD.
Joy and gladness[m] will be found in
her,
thanksgiving[n] and the sound of
singing.

4"Listen to me, my people;[o]
hear me,[p] my nation:
The law[q] will go out from me;
my justice[r] will become a light to
the nations.[s]
5My righteousness draws near
speedily,
my salvation[t] is on the way,[u]
and my arm[v] will bring justice to
the nations.
The islands[w] will look to me
and wait in hope[x] for my arm.
6Lift up your eyes to the heavens,
look at the earth beneath;
the heavens will vanish like smoke,[y]
the earth will wear out like a
garment[z]
and its inhabitants die like flies.
But my salvation[a] will last forever,[b]
my righteousness will never fail.[c]

7"Hear me, you who know what is
right,[d]
you people who have my law in
your hearts:[e]
Do not fear the reproach of men
or be terrified by their insults.[f]
8For the moth will eat them up like a
garment;[g]
the worm[h] will devour them like
wool.
But my righteousness will last
forever,[i]
my salvation through all
generations."

9Awake, awake![j] Clothe yourself
with strength,[k]
O arm[l] of the LORD;
awake, as in days gone by,
as in generations of old.[m]
Was it not you who cut Rahab[n] to
pieces,
who pierced that monster[o]
through?
10Was it not you who dried up the
sea,[p]
the waters of the great deep,[q]
who made a road in the depths of
the sea[r]

50:5 [a]S Isa 48:16 [b]Isa 35:5 [c]Eze 2:8; 24:3; S Mt 26:39; Jn 8:29; 14:31; 15:10; Ac 26:19; Heb 5:8 **50:6** [d]Isa 53:5; Mt 27:30; Mk 14:65; 15:19; Lk 22:63; Jn 19:1 [e]S 2Sa 10:4 [f]S Nu 12:14; La 3:30; Mt 26:67; Mk 10:34 **50:7** [g]S Isa 48:16 [h]S Isa 41:10; 42:1 [i]Jer 1:18; 15:20; Eze 3:8-9 [j]S Isa 28:16; S 29:22 **50:8** [k]S Isa 26:2; S 49:4 [l]S Ps 34:18 [m]S Job 13:19; S Isa 43:26; Ro 8:32-34 [n]S Isa 41:1 **50:9** [o]S Isa 48:16 [p]S Isa 41:10 [q]Ro 8:1,34 [r]S Job 13:28; S Isa 51:8 **50:10** [s]S Pr 1:7 [t]Isa 1:19; Hag 1:12 [u]S Isa 49:3 [v]S Ps 107:14; Ac 26:18 [w]S Isa 10:20; S 26:4 **50:11** [x]Pr 26:18 [y]Isa 1:31; Jas 3:6 [z]S Dt 21:22-23; S Pr 26:27 [a]S Job 15:20; Isa 65:13-15 **51:1** [b]S Isa 46:3 [c]ver 7; S Dt 7:13; 16:20; Ps 94:15; Isa 63:8; Ro 9:30-31 [d]Isa 55:6; 65:10 [e]Isa 17:10 **51:2** [f]S Ge 17:6; S Isa 29:22; Ro 4:16; Heb 11:11 [g]S Ge 12:2 **51:3** [h]S Isa 40:1 [i]S Ps 51:18; S Isa 61:4 [j]Isa 44:26; 52:9; 61:4 [k]S Ge 2:8 [l]S Isa 5:6; S 41:19 [m]S Isa 25:9; 35:10; 65:18; 66:10; Jer 16:9 [n]Jer 17:26; 30:19; 33:11 **51:4** [o]Ex 6:7; Ps 50:7; Isa 3:15; 63:8; 64:9 [p]S Ps 78:1 [q]S Dt 18:18 [r]S Isa 2:4 [s]S Isa 26:18; S 49:6 **51:5** [t]S Ps 85:9; S Isa 12:2 [u]S Isa 35:4 [v]Ps 98:1; Isa 40:10; 50:2; 52:10; 59:16; 63:1,5 [w]S Isa 11:11 [x]S Ge 49:10; S Ps 37:9 **51:6** [y]S Ps 37:20; S 102:26; Mt 24:35; Lk 21:33; 2Pe 3:10 [z]Ps 102:25-26; Heb 1:10-12 [a]S Isa 12:2 [b]ver 8; S Ps 119:89 [c]Ps 89:33; Isa 54:10 **51:7** [d]S ver 1 [e]S Dt 6:6; Ps 119:11 [f]S Ps 119:39; Isa 50:7; 54:4; Mt 5:11; Lk 6:22; Ac 5:41 **51:8** [g]S Job 13:28; Jas 5:2 [h]S Isa 14:11 [i]S ver 6 **51:9** [j]S Jdg 5:12 [k]S Ge 18:14; S Ps 65:6; Isa 40:31; 52:1 [l]S Ps 98:1; S Isa 30:30; S 33:2 [m]Ex 6:6; Dt 4:34; S 32:7 [n]S Job 9:13 [o]S Ps 68:30; S 74:13 **51:10** [p]S Ex 14:22; Zec 10:11; Rev 16:12 [q]Ex 15:5,8 [r]S Job 36:30

so that the redeemed[a] might cross
over?
11The ransomed[b] of the LORD will
return.
They will enter Zion with
singing;[c]
everlasting joy will crown their
heads.
Gladness and joy[d] will overtake
them,
and sorrow and sighing will flee
away.[e]

12"I, even I, am he who comforts[f]
you.
Who are you that you fear[g] mortal
men,[h]
the sons of men, who are but
grass,[i]
13that you forget[j] the LORD your
Maker,[k]
who stretched out the heavens[l]
and laid the foundations of the
earth,
that you live in constant terror[m]
every day
because of the wrath of the
oppressor,
who is bent on destruction?
For where is the wrath of the
oppressor?[n]
14 The cowering prisoners will soon
be set free;[o]
they will not die in their dungeon,
nor will they lack bread.[p]
15For I am the LORD your God,
who churns up the sea[q] so that its
waves roar[r] —
the LORD Almighty[s] is his name.
16I have put my words in your
mouth[t]
and covered you with the shadow
of my hand[u] —
I who set the heavens in place,
who laid the foundations of the
earth,[v]
and who say to Zion, 'You are my
people.'[w]"

The Cup of the LORD's Wrath

17Awake, awake![x]
Rise up, O Jerusalem,
you who have drunk from the hand
of the LORD
the cup[y] of his wrath,[z]
you who have drained to its
dregs[a]
the goblet that makes men
stagger.[b]
18Of all the sons[c] she bore
there was none to guide her;[d]
of all the sons she reared

51:10 [a]S Ex 15:13
51:11 [b]S Isa 35:9; S 44:23 [c]S Ps 109:28; Isa 65:14; Jer 30:19; Zep 3:14 [d]S Isa 48:20; Jer 33:11 [e]S Isa 30:19; Jer 31:13; S Rev 7:17
51:12 [f]S Isa 40:1; S 2Co 1:4 [g]S 2Ki 1:15 [h]S Isa 2:22 [i]S Isa 15:6; 40:6-7; 1Pe 1:24
51:13 [j]S Job 8:13; S Isa 17:10 [k]S Job 4:17; Isa 17:7; 45:11; 54:5 [l]S Ge 1:1; S Isa 48:13 [m]S Isa 7:4 [n]S Isa 9:4
51:14 [o]S Isa 42:7 [p]Isa 49:10
51:15 [q]S Ex 14:21 [r]S Ps 93:3 [s]S Isa 13:4
51:16 [t]S Ex 4:12,15 [u]S Ex 33:22 [v]S Isa 48:13 [w]Jer 7:23; 11:4; 24:7; Eze 14:11; Zec 8:8
51:17 [x]S Jdg 5:12; Isa 52:1 [y]S ver 22; S Ps 16:5; S Mt 20:22 [z]ver 20; Job 21:20; Isa 42:25; 66:15; Rev 14:10; 16:19 [a]S Ps 75:8 [b]S ver 23; S Ps 60:3
51:18 [c]Ps 88:18 [d]S Job 31:18; S Isa 49:21 [e]S Isa 41:13
51:19 [f]S Isa 40:2; 47:9 [g]Isa 49:13; 54:11; Jer 15:5; Na 3:7 [h]Isa 60:18; 62:4; Jer 48:3; La 3:47 [i]S Isa 14:30 [j]Jer 14:12; 24:10
51:20 [k]Isa 5:25; Jer 14:16; La 2:19 [l]S Job 18:10 [m]S ver 17; S Job 40:11; Jer 44:6 [n]S Dt 28:20
51:21 [o]S Isa 14:32 [p]ver 17; S Isa 29:9
51:22 [q]S Isa 49:25 [r]S ver 17; Jer 25:15; 51:7; Hab 2:16; S Mt 20:22
51:23 [s]Isa 14:4; 49:26; Jer 25:15-17,26, 28; 49:12 [t]ver 17; Zec 12:2 [u]S Jos 10:24 [v]Ps 66:12; Mic 7:10
52:1 [w]S Isa 51:17 [x]S 1Sa 2:4; S Isa 51:9 [y]Ex 28:2,40; Est 6:8; Ps 110:3; Isa 49:18; 61:10;

there was none to take her by the
hand.[e]
19These double calamities[f] have come
upon you —
who can comfort you?[g] —
ruin and destruction,[h] famine[i] and
sword[j] —
who can[w] console you?
20Your sons have fainted;
they lie at the head of every
street,[k]
like antelope caught in a net.[l]
They are filled with the wrath[m] of
the LORD
and the rebuke[n] of your God.

21Therefore hear this, you afflicted[o]
one,
made drunk,[p] but not with wine.
22This is what your Sovereign LORD
says,
your God, who defends[q] his
people:
"See, I have taken out of your hand
the cup[r] that made you stagger;
from that cup, the goblet of my
wrath,
you will never drink again.
23I will put it into the hands of your
tormentors,[s]
who said to you,
'Fall prostrate[t] that we may walk[u]
over you.'
And you made your back like the
ground,
like a street to be walked over."[v]

52 Awake, awake,[w] O Zion,
clothe yourself with strength.[x]
Put on your garments of splendor,[y]
O Jerusalem, the holy city.[z]
The uncircumcised[a] and defiled[b]
will not enter you again.[c]
2Shake off your dust;[d]
rise up,[e] sit enthroned,
O Jerusalem.
Free yourself from the chains on
your neck,[f]
O captive Daughter of Zion.[g]
3For this is what the LORD says:

"You were sold for nothing,[h]
and without money[i] you will be
redeemed.[j]"

4For this is what the Sovereign LORD
says:

Zec 3:4 [z]S Ne 11:1; S Isa 1:26; Mt 4:5; S Rev 21:2 [a]S Ge 34:14 [b]S Isa 35:8 [c]Joel 3:17; Na 1:15; Zec 9:8; Rev 21:27 52:2 [d]S Isa 29:4 [e]Isa 60:1 [f]S Ps 81:6; S Isa 10:27 [g]Ps 9:14 52:3 [h]S Ps 44:12 [i]Isa 45:13 [j]S Isa 1:27; 1Pe 1:18

w19 Dead Sea Scrolls, Septuagint, Vulgate and Syriac; Masoretic Text / *how can I*

4"At first my people went down to
Egypt[a] to live;
lately, Assyria[b] has oppressed
them.

5"And now what do I have here?"
declares the LORD.

"For my people have been taken
away for nothing,
and those who rule them mock,[x]"
declares the LORD.
"And all day long
my name is constantly
blasphemed.[c]
6Therefore my people will know[d] my
name;[e]
therefore in that day[f] they will
know
that it is I who foretold[g] it.
Yes, it is I."

7How beautiful on the mountains[h]
are the feet of those who bring
good news,[i]
who proclaim peace,[j]
who bring good tidings,
who proclaim salvation,
who say to Zion,
"Your God reigns!"[k]
8Listen! Your watchmen[l] lift up their
voices;[m]
together they shout for joy.[n]
When the LORD returns[o] to Zion,[p]
they will see it with their own
eyes.
9Burst into songs of joy[q] together,
you ruins[r] of Jerusalem,
for the LORD has comforted[s] his
people,
he has redeemed Jerusalem.[t]
10The LORD will lay bare his holy
arm[u]
in the sight of all the nations,[v]
and all the ends of the earth[w] will
see
the salvation[x] of our God.

11Depart,[y] depart, go out from there!
Touch no unclean thing![z]
Come out from it and be pure,[a]
you who carry the vessels[b] of the
LORD.
12But you will not leave in haste[c]
or go in flight;
for the LORD will go before you,[d]
the God of Israel will be your rear
guard.[e]

The Suffering and Glory of the Servant

13See, my servant[f] will act wisely[y];
he will be raised and lifted up and
highly exalted.[g]
14Just as there were many who were
appalled[h] at him[z]—
his appearance was so disfigured[i]
beyond that of any man
and his form marred beyond
human likeness[j]—
15so will he sprinkle[k] many nations,[a]
and kings[l] will shut their
mouths[m] because of him.
For what they were not told, they
will see,
and what they have not heard,
they will understand.[n]

53 Who has believed our message[o]
and to whom has the arm[p] of
the LORD been revealed?[q]
2He grew up before him like a tender
shoot,[r]
and like a root[s] out of dry ground.
He had no beauty or majesty to
attract us to him,
nothing in his appearance[t] that
we should desire him.
3He was despised and rejected by
men,
a man of sorrows,[u] and familiar
with suffering.[v]
Like one from whom men hide[w]
their faces
he was despised,[x] and we
esteemed him not.

4Surely he took up our infirmities
and carried our sorrows,[y]
yet we considered him stricken by
God,[z]
smitten by him, and afflicted.[a]
5But he was pierced[b] for our
transgressions,[c]
he was crushed[d] for our iniquities;
the punishment[e] that brought us
peace[f] was upon him,
and by his wounds[g] we are
healed.[h]
6We all, like sheep, have gone
astray,[i]
each of us has turned to his own
way;[j]
and the LORD has laid on him
the iniquity[k] of us all.

7He was oppressed[l] and afflicted,

52:4 [a]S Ge 46:6 [b]Isa 10:24 **52:5** [c]S Isa 37:23; Ro 2:24* **52:6** [d]S Isa 49:23 [e]S Ex 6:3 [f]S Isa 10:20 [g]S Isa 41:26 **52:7** [h]S Isa 42:11 [i]S 2Sa 18:26; S Isa 40:9; Ro 10:15* [j]Na 1:15; Lk 2:14; Eph 6:15 [k]S 1Ch 16:31; S Ps 97:1; 1Co 15:24-25 **52:8** [l]S 1Sa 14:16; Isa 56:10; 62:6; Jer 6:17; 31:6; Eze 3:17; 33:7 [m]Isa 40:9 [n]S Isa 12:6 [o]S Nu 10:36 [p]Isa 59:20; Zec 8:3 **52:9** [q]S Ps 98:4; S Isa 35:2 [r]S Ps 74:3; S Isa 51:3 [s]S Isa 40:1; Lk 2:25 [t]S Ezr 9:9; S Isa 48:20 **52:10** [u]S 2Ch 32:8; S Ps 44:3; S Isa 30:30 [v]Isa 66:18 [w]S Jos 4:24; S Isa 11:9 [x]S Ps 67:2; Lk 2:30; 3:6 **52:11** [y]S Isa 48:20 [z]S Isa 1:16; 2Co 6:17* [a]S Nu 8:6; 2Ti 2:19 [b]S 2Ch 36:10 **52:12** [c]S Ex 12:11 [d]Mic 2:13; Jn 10:4 [e]S Ex 14:19 **52:13** [f]S Jos 1:8; S Isa 4:2; S 20:3 [g]S Isa 6:1; 57:15; Ac 3:13; S Php 2:9 **52:14** [h]S Lev 26:32; S Job 18:20 [i]S 2Sa 10:4 [j]S Job 2:12; S 16:16 **52:15** [k]S Lev 14:7; S 16:14-15 [l]S Isa 49:7 [m]S Jdg 18:19; Ps 107:42 [n]Ro 15:21*; Eph 3:4-5 **53:1** [o]S Isa 28:9; Ro 10:16* [p]S Ps 98:1; S Isa 30:30 [q]Jn 12:38* **53:2** [r]S 2Ki 19:26; S Job 14:7; S Isa 4:2 [s]S Isa 11:10 [t]Isa 52:14 **53:3** [u]Ps 69:29 [v]ver 4,10; S Ex 1:10; S Mt 16:21; Lk 18:31-33; Heb 5:8 [w]S Dt 31:17; Isa 1:15 [x]S 1Sa 2:30; S Ps 22:6; Mt 27:29; Jn 1:10-11 **53:4** [y]Mt 8:17* [z]S Dt 5:24; S Job 4:5; Jer 23:5-6; 25:34; Eze 34:23-24; Mic 5:2-4; Zec 13:7; Jn 19:7 [a]S ver 3; S Ge 12:17; S Ru 1:21 **53:5** [b]S Ps 22:16 [c]S Ex 28:38; S Ps 39:8; S Jn 3:17; Ro 4:25; 1Co 15:3; Heb 9:28 [d]Ps 34:18 [e]S Isa 50:6 [f]S Isa 9:6; Ro 5:1 [g]Isa 1:6; Mt 27:26; Jn 19:1 [h]S Dt 32:39; S 2Ch 7:14; 1Pe 2:24-25 **53:6** [i]S Ps 95:10; 1Pe 2:24-25 [j]S 1Sa 8:3; Isa 56:11; 57:17; Mic 3:5 [k]ver 12; S Ex 28:38; Ro 4:25 **53:7** [l]Isa 49:26

[x]5 Dead Sea Scrolls and Vulgate; Masoretic Text *wail*
[y]13 Or *will prosper*   [z]14 Hebrew *you*
[a]15 Hebrew; Septuagint *so will many nations marvel at him*

yet he did not open his
mouth;[a]
he was led like a lamb[b] to the
slaughter,[c]
and as a sheep before her shearers
is silent,
so he did not open his mouth.
8 By oppression[b] and judgment[d] he
was taken away.
And who can speak of his
descendants?
For he was cut off from the land of
the living;[e]
for the transgression[f] of my
people he was stricken.[c]
9 He was assigned a grave with the
wicked,[g]
and with the rich[h] in his death,
though he had done no violence,[i]
nor was any deceit in his mouth.[j]

10 Yet it was the LORD's will[k] to crush[l]
him and cause him to
suffer,[m]
and though the LORD makes[d] his
life a guilt offering,[n]
he will see his offspring[o] and
prolong his days,
and the will of the LORD will
prosper[p] in his hand.
11 After the suffering[q] of his soul,
he will see the light[r] ⌊of life⌋[e] and
be satisfied[f];
by his knowledge[g] my righteous
servant[s] will justify[t] many,
and he will bear their iniquities.[u]
12 Therefore I will give him a portion
among the great,[h v]
and he will divide the spoils[w] with
the strong,[i]
because he poured out his life unto
death,[x]
and was numbered with the
transgressors.[y]
For he bore[z] the sin of many,[a]
and made intercession[b] for the
transgressors.

The Future Glory of Zion

54 "Sing, O barren woman,[c]
you who never bore a child;
burst into song, shout for joy,[d]
you who were never in labor;[e]
because more are the children[f] of
the desolate[g] woman
than of her who has a husband,[h]"
says the LORD.
2 "Enlarge the place of your tent,[i]
stretch your tent curtains wide,
do not hold back;
lengthen your cords,
strengthen your stakes.[j]

53:7 aS Mk 14:61; 1Pe 2:23 bMt 27:31; S Jn 1:29 cS Ps 44:22 53:8 dMk 14:49 ePs 88:5; Da 9:26; Ac 8:32-33* fver 12; S Ps 39:8 53:9 gMt 27:38; Mk 15:27; Lk 23:32; Jn 19:18 hMt 27:57-60; Mk 15:43-46; Lk 23:50-53; Jn 19:38-41 iIsa 42:1-3 jS Job 16:17; 1Pe 2:22*; 1Jn 3:5; Rev 14:5 53:10 kIsa 46:10; 55:11; Ac 2:23 lver 5 mS ver 3; S Ge 12:17 nS Lev 5:15; Jn 3:17 oS Ps 22:30 pS Jos 1:8; S Isa 49:4 53:11 qJn 10:14-18 rS Job 33:30 sS Isa 20:3; Ac 7:52 tS Isa 6:7; Jn 1:29; Ac 10:43; S Ro 4:25 uS Ex 28:38 53:12 vS Isa 6:1; S Php 2:9 wS Ex 15:9; S Ps 119:162; Lk 11:22 xMt 26:28,38,39,42 yMt 27:38; Mk 15:27*; Lk 22:37*; 23:32 zS ver 6; 1Pe 2:24 aHeb 9:28 bIsa 59:16; S Ro 8:34 54:1 cS Ge 30:1 dS Ge 21:6; S Ps 98:4 eIsa 66:7 fIsa 49:20 gS Isa 49:19 hS 1Sa 2:5; Gal 4:27* 54:2 iS Ge 26:22; Isa 26:15; 49:19-20 jEx 35:18; 39:40

54:3 kS Ge 13:14; S Isa 48:19 lS Job 12:23; S Isa 14:2; 60:4-11 mS Isa 49:19 54:4 nJer 30:10; Joel 2:21 oS Isa 28:16; S 29:22 pS Ge 30:23; S Ps 119:39; S Isa 41:11 qS Ps 25:7; S Jer 2:2; S 22:21 rS Isa 51:7 sS Isa 47:8 54:5 tS Ps 95:6; S 149:2; S Isa 51:13 uS SS 3:11; Jer 3:14; 31:32; Hos 2:7,16 vS Isa 1:4; 49:7; 55:5; 60:9 wS Isa 48:17

3 For you will spread out to the right
and to the left;
your descendants[k] will dispossess
nations[l]
and settle in their desolate[m] cities.
4 "Do not be afraid;[n] you will not
suffer shame.[o]
Do not fear disgrace;[p] you will not
be humiliated.
You will forget the shame of your
youth[q]
and remember no more the
reproach[r] of your
widowhood.[s]
5 For your Maker[t] is your husband[u]—
the LORD Almighty is his name—[x]
the Holy One[v] of Israel is your
Redeemer;[w]
he is called the God of all the
earth.[x]
6 The LORD will call you back[y]
as if you were a wife deserted[z]
and distressed in spirit—
a wife who married young,[a]
only to be rejected," says your
God.
7 "For a brief moment[b] I abandoned[c]
you,
but with deep compassion[d] I will
bring you back.[e]
8 In a surge of anger[f]
I hid[g] my face from you for a
moment,
but with everlasting kindness[h]
I will have compassion[i] on you,"
says the LORD your Redeemer.[j]
9 "To me this is like the days of Noah,
when I swore that the waters of
Noah would never again
cover the earth.[k]
So now I have sworn[l] not to be
angry[m] with you,
never to rebuke[n] you again.
10 Though the mountains be shaken[o p]
and the hills be removed,
yet my unfailing love[q] for you will
not be shaken[r]

xS Isa 6:3; S 12:4 54:6 yIsa 49:14-21 zver 6-7; Isa 1:4; 50:1-2; 60:15; 62:4,12; Jer 44:2; Hos 1:10 aS Ex 20:14; Mal 2:15 54:7 bS Job 14:13; Isa 26:20 cS Ps 71:11; S Isa 27:8 dS Ps 51:1 eS Isa 49:18 54:8 fIsa 9:12; 26:20; 60:10 gS Isa 1:15 hver 10; S Ps 25:6; 92:2; Isa 55:3; 63:7 iS Ps 102:13; S Isa 14:1; Hos 2:19 jS Isa 48:17 54:9 kS Ge 8:21 lS Isa 14:24; S 49:18 mPs 13:1; 103:9; Isa 12:1; 57:16; Jer 3:5,12; Eze 39:29; Mic 7:18 nS Dt 28:20 54:10 oRev 6:14 pS Ps 46:2 qS Ps 6:4 rS Isa 51:6; Heb 12:27

b8 Or *From arrest* c8 Or *away. / Yet who of his generation considered / that he was cut off from the land of the living / for the transgression of my people, / to whom the blow was due?* d10 Hebrew *though you make* e11 Dead Sea Scrolls (see also Septuagint); Masoretic Text does not have *the light of life*. f11 Or (with Masoretic Text) [11]*He will see the result of the suffering of his soul / and be satisfied* g11 Or *by knowledge of him* h12 Or *many* i12 Or *numerous*

nor my covenant of peace be removed,"
says the LORD, who has compassion on you.

11 "O afflicted city, lashed by storms and not comforted,
I will build you with stones of turquoise,[j]
your foundations with sapphires.[k]
12 I will make your battlements of rubies,
your gates of sparkling jewels,
and all your walls of precious stones.
13 All your sons will be taught by the LORD,
and great will be your children's peace.
14 In righteousness you will be established:
Tyranny will be far from you;
you will have nothing to fear.
Terror will be far removed;
it will not come near you.
15 If anyone does attack you, it will not be my doing;
whoever attacks you will surrender to you.

16 "See, it is I who created the blacksmith[s]
who fans the coals into flame
and forges a weapon[t] fit for its work.
And it is I who have created the destroyer[u] to work havoc;
17 no weapon forged against you will prevail,[v]
and you will refute[w] every tongue that accuses you.
This is the heritage of the servants[x] of the LORD,
and this is their vindication[y] from me,"
declares the LORD.

Invitation to the Thirsty

55 "Come, all you who are thirsty,[z]
come to the waters;[a]
and you who have no money,
come, buy[b] and eat!
Come, buy wine and milk[c]
without money and without cost.[d]
2 Why spend money on what is not bread,
and your labor on what does not satisfy?[e]
Listen, listen to me, and eat what is good,[f]
and your soul will delight in the richest[g] of fare.
3 Give ear and come to me;
hear[h] me, that your soul may live.[i]
I will make an everlasting covenant[j] with you,
my faithful love[k] promised to David.[l]
4 See, I have made him a witness[m] to the peoples,
a leader and commander[n] of the peoples.
5 Surely you will summon nations[o] you know not,
and nations that do not know you will hasten to you,[p]
because of the LORD your God,
the Holy One[q] of Israel,
for he has endowed you with splendor."[r]

6 Seek[s] the LORD while he may be found;[t]
call[u] on him while he is near.
7 Let the wicked forsake[v] his way
and the evil man his thoughts.[w]
Let him turn[x] to the LORD, and he will have mercy[y] on him,
and to our God, for he will freely pardon.[z]

8 "For my thoughts[a] are not your thoughts,
neither are your ways my ways,"[b]
declares the LORD.
9 "As the heavens are higher than the earth,[c]
so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts.[d]
10 As the rain[e] and the snow
come down from heaven,
and do not return to it
without watering the earth
and making it bud and flourish,[f]
so that it yields seed[g] for the sower and bread for the eater,[h]
11 so is my word[i] that goes out from my mouth:
It will not return to me empty,[j]
but will accomplish what I desire

[illegible] **54:15** [illegible] Isa 41:11-16 **54:16** [illegible] S Isa 44:12 [illegible] S Isa 10:5 [illegible] S Isa 13:5 **54:17** [illegible] S Isa 29:8 [illegible] S Isa 41:11 [illegible] Isa 50:6-8; 63:17; 65:8, 9, 13-15; 66:14 [illegible] S Ps 17:2; Zec 1:20-21 **55:1** [z] S Pr 9:5; S Isa 35:7; Mt 5:6; Lk 6:21; Jn 4:14; 7:37 [a] Jer 2:13; Eze 47:1,12; Zec 14:8 [b] La 5:4; Mt 13:44; Rev 3:18 [c] S SS 5:1; 1Pe 2:2 [d] Hos 14:4; Mt 10:8; Rev 21:6; 22:17 **55:2** [e] Ps 22:26; Ecc 6:2; Isa 49:4; Jer 12:13; Hos 4:10; 8:7; Mic 6:14; Hag 1:6 [f] S Isa 1:19 [g] S Isa 30:23 **55:3** [h] S Ps 78:1 [i] S Lev 18:5; S Jn 6:27; Ro 10:5 [j] S Ge 9:16; S Isa 54:10; S Heb 13:20 [k] S Isa 54:8 [l] Ac 13:34* **55:4** [m] Rev 1:5 [n] S 1Sa 13:14; S 2Ch 7:18; S Isa 32:1 **55:5** [o] S Isa 49:6 [p] S Isa 2:3 [q] S Isa 12:6; S 54:5 [r] S Isa 44:23 **55:6** [s] S Dt 4:29; S 2Ch 15:2; S Isa 9:13 [t] Ps 32:6; Isa 49:8; Ac 17:27; 2Co 6:1-2 [u] S Ps 50:15; Isa 65:24; Jer 29:12; 33:3 **55:7** [v] S 2Ch 7:14; S 30:9; Eze 18:27-28 [w] Isa 32:7; 59:7 [x] S Isa 44:22; S Jer 26:3; S Eze 18:32 [y] S Isa 54:10 [z] S 2Ch 6:21; Isa 1:18; 40:2 **55:8** [a] Php 2:5; 4:8 [b] Isa 53:6; Mic 4:12 **55:9** [c] S Job 11:8; Ps 103:11 [d] S Nu 23:19; S Isa 40:13-14 **55:10** [e] Isa 30:23 [f] S Lev 25:19; S Job 14:9; S Ps 67:6 [g] S Ge 47:23 [h] 2Co 9:10 **55:11** [i] S Dt 32:2; Jn 1:1 [j] Isa 40:8; 45:23; S Mt 5:18; Heb 4:12

[j] 11 The meaning of the Hebrew for this word is uncertain. [k] 11 Or *lapis lazuli*

and achieve the purpose for
which I sent it.
12You will go out in joy
and be led forth in peace;
the mountains and hills
will burst into song before you,
and all the trees of the field
will clap their hands.
13Instead of the thornbush will grow
the pine tree,
and instead of briers the myrtle
will grow.
This will be for the LORD's renown,
for an everlasting sign,
which will not be destroyed."

Salvation for Others

56 This is what the LORD says:

"Maintain justice
and do what is right,
for my salvation[l] is close at hand
and my righteousness[m] will soon
be revealed.
2Blessed[n] is the man who does this,
the man who holds it fast,
who keeps the Sabbath[o] without
desecrating it,
and keeps his hand from doing
any evil."
3Let no foreigner[p] who has bound
himself to the LORD say,
"The LORD will surely exclude me
from his people."[q]
And let not any eunuch[r] complain,
"I am only a dry tree."
4For this is what the LORD says:

"To the eunuchs[s] who keep my
Sabbaths,
who choose what pleases me
and hold fast to my covenant[t]—
5to them I will give within my temple
and its walls[u]
a memorial[v] and a name
better than sons and daughters;
I will give them an everlasting
name[w]
that will not be cut off.[x]
6And foreigners[y] who bind
themselves to the LORD
to serve[z] him,
to love the name[a] of the LORD,
and to worship him,
all who keep the Sabbath[b] without
desecrating it
and who hold fast to my
covenant—
7these I will bring to my holy
mountain[c]
and give them joy in my house of
prayer.
Their burnt offerings and sacrifices[d]
will be accepted on my altar;
for my house will be called
a house of prayer for all
nations."[e][f]
8The Sovereign LORD declares—
he who gathers the exiles of Israel:
"I will gather[g] still others to them
besides those already gathered."

God's Accusation Against the Wicked

9Come, all you beasts of the field,[h]
come and devour, all you beasts of
the forest!
10Israel's watchmen[i] are blind,
they all lack knowledge;[j]
they are all mute dogs,
they cannot bark;
they lie around and dream,
they love to sleep.[k]
11They are dogs with mighty appetites;
they never have enough.
They are shepherds[l] who lack
understanding;[m]
they all turn to their own way,[n]
each seeks his own gain.[o]
12"Come," each one cries, "let me get
wine![p]
Let us drink our fill of beer!
And tomorrow will be like today,
or even far better."[q]

57 The righteous perish,[r]
and no one ponders it in his
heart;[s]
devout men are taken away,
and no one understands
that the righteous are taken away
to be spared from evil.[t]
2Those who walk uprightly[u]
enter into peace;
they find rest[v] as they lie in death.

3"But you—come here, you sons of a
sorceress,[w]
you offspring of adulterers[x] and
prostitutes![y]
4Whom are you mocking?
At whom do you sneer
and stick out your tongue?
Are you not a brood of rebels,[z]
the offspring of liars?
5You burn with lust among the oaks[a]
and under every spreading tree;[b]
you sacrifice your children[c] in the
ravines
and under the overhanging crags.
6⌞The idols⌟[d] among the smooth

[illegible] 56:2 [n] S Ps 119:2 [o] S Ex 20:8,10 56:3 [p] S Ex 12:43; S 1Ki 8:41; S Isa 11:10; Zec 8:20-23 [q] Dt 23:3 [r] S Lev 21:20; Jer 38:7 fn; Ac 8:27 56:4 [s] Jer 38:7 fn [t] S Ex 31:13 56:5 [u] Isa 26:1; 60:18 [v] S Nu 32:42; 1Sa 15:12 [w] S Isa 43:7 [x] S Isa 48:19; 55:13 56:6 [y] S Ex 12:43; S 1Ki 8:41 [z] S 1Ch 22:2; Isa 60:7,10; 61:5 [a] Mal 1:11 [b] ver 2,4 56:7 [c] S Isa 2:2; Eze 20:40 [d] S Isa 19:21; Ro 12:1; Php 4:18; Heb 13:15 [e] Mt 21:13*; Lk 19:46* [f] Mk 11:17* 56:8 [g] S Dt 30:4; S Isa 1:9; S 11:12; 60:3-11; Eze 34:12; Jn 10:16 56:9 [h] Isa 18:6; Jer 12:9; Eze 34:5,8; 39:17-20 56:10 [i] S Isa 52:8; 62:6; Jer 6:17; 31:6; Eze 3:17; 33:7 [j] Jer 2:8; 10:21; 14:13-14 [k] Na 3:18 56:11 [l] Jer 23:1; Eze 34:2 [m] Isa 1:3 [n] S Isa 53:6; Hos 4:7-8 [o] Isa 57:17; Jer 6:13; 8:10; 22:17; Eze 13:19; Mic 3:11 56:12 [p] S Lev 10:9; S Pr 23:20; S Isa 22:13 [q] Ps 10:6; Lk 12:18-19 57:1 [r] S Ps 12:1; Eze 21:3 [s] S Isa 42:25 [t] S 2Ki 22:20

57:2 [u] Isa 26:7 [v] Da 12:13 57:3 [w] S Ex 22:18; Mal 3:5 [x] ver 7-8; Mt 16:4; Jas 4:4 [y] Isa 1:21; Jer 2:20 57:4 [z] S Isa 1:2 57:5 [a] S Isa 1:29 [b] S Dt 12:2; 2Ki 16:4 [c] S Lev 18:21; S Dt 18:10; Ps 106:37-38; Eze 16:20 57:6 [d] S 2Ki 17:10; Jer 3:9; Hab 2:19

stones of the ravines are your portion;
they, they are your lot.
Yes, to them you have poured out drink offerings[a]
and offered grain offerings.
In the light of these things, should I relent?[b]
7You have made your bed on a high and lofty hill;[c]
there you went up to offer your sacrifices.[d]
8Behind your doors and your doorposts
you have put your pagan symbols.
Forsaking me, you uncovered your bed,
you climbed into it and opened it wide;
you made a pact with those whose beds you love,[e]
and you looked on their nakedness.[f]
9You went to Molech[l][g] with olive oil
and increased your perfumes.[h]
You sent your ambassadors[m][i] far away;
you descended to the grave[n][j] itself!
10You were wearied[k] by all your ways,
but you would not say, 'It is hopeless.'[l]
You found renewal of your strength,[m]
and so you did not faint.

11"Whom have you so dreaded and feared[n]
that you have been false to me,
and have neither remembered[o] me
nor pondered[p] this in your hearts?
Is it not because I have long been silent[q]
that you do not fear me?
12I will expose your righteousness and your works,[r]
and they will not benefit you.
13When you cry out[s] for help,
let your collection ⌊of idols⌋ save[t] you!
The wind will carry all of them off,
a mere breath will blow[u] them away.
But the man who makes me his refuge[v]
will inherit the land[w]
and possess my holy mountain."[x]

Comfort for the Contrite

14And it will be said:

"Build up, build up, prepare the road![y]
Remove the obstacles out of the way of my people."[z]
15For this is what the high and lofty[a] One says—
he who lives forever,[b] whose name is holy:
"I live in a high[c] and holy place,
but also with him who is contrite[d] and lowly in spirit,[e]
to revive the spirit of the lowly
and to revive the heart of the contrite.[f]
16I will not accuse[g] forever,
nor will I always be angry,[h]
for then the spirit of man would grow faint before me—
the breath[i] of man that I have created.
17I was enraged by his sinful greed;[j]
I punished him, and hid[k] my face in anger,
yet he kept on in his willful ways.[l]
18I have seen his ways, but I will heal[m] him;
I will guide[n] him and restore comfort[o] to him,
19 creating praise on the lips[p] of the mourners in Israel.
Peace, peace,[q] to those far and near,"[r]
says the LORD. "And I will heal them."
20But the wicked[s] are like the tossing sea,[t]
which cannot rest,
whose waves cast up mire[u] and mud.
21"There is no peace,"[v] says my God,
"for the wicked."[w]

True Fasting

58 "Shout it aloud,[x] do not hold back.
Raise your voice like a trumpet.[y]
Declare to my people their rebellion[z]
and to the house of Jacob their sins.[a]
2For day after day they seek[b] me out;
they seem eager to know my ways,
as if they were a nation that does what is right
and has not forsaken[c] the commands of its God.
They ask me for just decisions

57:6 [a]Jer 7:18; 19:13; 44:18 [b]Jer 5:9,29; 9:9 **57:7** [c]Jer 3:6; Eze 6:3; 16:16; 20:29 [d]Isa 65:7; Jer 13:27; Eze 6:13; 20:27-28 **57:8** [e]Eze 16:26; 23:7 [f]Eze 16:15, 36; 23:18 **57:9** [g]S Lev 18:21; S 1Ki 11:5 [h]S SS 4:10 [i]Eze 23:16,40 [j]S Isa 8:19 **57:10** [k]S Isa 47:13 [l]Jer 2:25; 18:12; Mal 3:14 [m]S 1Sa 2:4 **57:11** [n]S 2Ki 1:15; Pr 29:25; Isa 7:2 [o]S Isa 17:10; Jer 2:32; 3:21; 13:25; 18:15; Eze 22:12 [p]S Isa 42:23 [q]S Est 4:14; S Ps 50:21; S 83:1 **57:12** [r]Isa 29:15; 58:1; 59:6,12; 65:7; 66:18; Eze 16:2; Mic 3:2-4,8 **57:13** [s]Jer 22:20; 30:15 [t]S Jdg 10:14 [u]Isa 40:7,24 [v]S Ps 118:8 [w]S Ps 37:9 [x]Isa 2:2-3; 56:7; 65:9-11 **57:14** [y]S Isa 11:16 [z]Isa 62:10; Jer 18:15 **57:15** [a]S Isa 52:13 [b]S Dt 33:27; S Ps 90:2 [c]S Job 16:19 [d]Ps 147:3 [e]Ps 34:18; 51:17; Isa 66:2; Mic 6:8; Mt 5:3 [f]S 2Ki 22:19; S Job 5:18; S Mt 23:12 **57:16** [g]S Ps 50:21; Isa 3:13-14 [h]S Ps 103:9; S Isa 54:9 [i]S Ge 2:7; Zec 12:1 **57:17** [j]S Isa 56:11; Jer 8:10 [k]S Isa 1:15 [l]Isa 1:4; S 30:15; S 53:6; 66:3 **57:18** [m]S Dt 32:39; S 2Ch 7:14; S Isa 30:26 [n]S Ps 48:14; S Isa 42:16; S 48:17 [o]Isa 49:13; 61:1-3 **57:19** [p]Isa 6:7; 51:16; 59:21; Heb 13:15 [q]S Isa 2:4; 26:3, 12; 32:17; S Lk 2:14 [r]Ac 2:39 **57:20** [s]Job 18:5-21 [t]S Ge 49:4; Eph 4:14; Jude 1:13 [u]Ps 69:14 **57:21** [v]S Isa 26:3; 59:8; Eze 13:16 [w]S Isa 48:22 **58:1** [x]Isa 40:6 [y]S Ex 20:18 [z]S Isa 24:20; S 48:8 [a]S Isa 57:12; Eze 3:17 **58:2** [b]S Isa 48:1; Tit 1:16; Jas 4:8 [c]S Dt 32:15; S Ps 119:87

l9 Or *to the king* m9 Or *idols* n9 Hebrew *Sheol*

and seem eager for God to come
near[a] them.
[3]"Why have we fasted,'[b] they say,
'and you have not seen it?
Why have we humbled[c] ourselves,
and you have not noticed?'[d]

"Yet on the day of your fasting, you
do as you please[e]
and exploit all your workers.
[4]Your fasting ends in quarreling and
strife,[f]
and in striking each other with
wicked fists.
You cannot fast as you do today
and expect your voice to be heard[g]
on high.
[5]Is this the kind of fast[h] I have
chosen,
only a day for a man to humble[i]
himself?
Is it only for bowing one's head like
a reed[j]
and for lying on sackcloth and
ashes?[k]
Is that what you call a fast,
a day acceptable to the LORD?

[6]"Is not this the kind of fasting[l] I
have chosen:
to loose the chains of injustice[m]
and untie the cords of the yoke,
to set the oppressed[n] free
and break every yoke?[o]
[7]Is it not to share your food with the
hungry[p]
and to provide the poor wanderer
with shelter[q]—
when you see the naked, to clothe[r]
him,
and not to turn away from your
own flesh and blood?[s]
[8]Then your light will break forth like
the dawn,[t]
and your healing[u] will quickly
appear;
then your righteousness[a][v] will go
before you,
and the glory of the LORD will be
your rear guard.[w]
[9]Then you will call,[x] and the LORD
will answer;[y]
you will cry for help, and he will
say: Here am I.

"If you do away with the yoke of
oppression,
with the pointing finger[z] and
malicious talk,[a]
[10]and if you spend yourselves in
behalf of the hungry
and satisfy the needs of the
oppressed,[b]
then your light[c] will rise in the
darkness,
and your night will become like
the noonday.[d]
[11]The LORD will guide[e] you always;
he will satisfy your needs[f] in a
sun-scorched land[g]
and will strengthen[h] your frame.
You will be like a well-watered
garden,[i]
like a spring[j] whose waters never
fail.
[12]Your people will rebuild the ancient
ruins[k]
and will raise up the age-old
foundations;[l]
you will be called Repairer of Broken
Walls,[m]
Restorer of Streets with Dwellings.

[13]"If you keep your feet from breaking
the Sabbath[n]
and from doing as you please on
my holy day,
if you call the Sabbath a delight[o]
and the LORD's holy day
honorable,
and if you honor it by not going
your own way
and not doing as you please or
speaking idle words,[p]
[14]then you will find your joy[q] in the
LORD,
and I will cause you to ride on the
heights[r] of the land
and to feast on the inheritance[s] of
your father Jacob."
The mouth of the LORD
has spoken.[t]

Sin, Confession and Redemption

59 Surely the arm[u] of the LORD is
not too short[v] to save,
nor his ear too dull to hear.[w]
[2]But your iniquities have separated[x]
you from your God;
your sins have hidden his face from
you,
so that he will not hear.[y]
[3]For your hands are stained with
blood,[z]
your fingers with guilt.[a]
Your lips have spoken lies,[b]
and your tongue mutters wicked
things.
[4]No one calls for justice;[c]
no one pleads his case with
integrity.

58:2 [a]Isa 29:13
58:3 [b]S Lev 16:29
[c]S Ex 10:3;
S 2Ch 6:37;
Jer 44:10
[d]Mal 3:14
[e]Isa 22:13;
Zec 7:5-6
58:4
[f]1Ki 21:9-13;
Isa 59:6; Jer 6:7;
Eze 7:11;
Mal 2:16
[g]S 1Sa 8:18;
Isa 59:2; La 3:44;
Eze 8:18; Mic 3:4
58:5 [h]Zec 7:5
[i]1Ki 21:27;
Mt 6:16
[j]S Isa 36:6
[k]S Job 2:8
58:6
[l]Joel 2:12-14
[m]Ne 5:10-11
[n]S Dt 14:29;
Isa 61:1; Jer 34:9;
Am 4:1;
S Lk 4:19
[o]S Isa 9:4
58:7 [p]S Job 22:7;
Eze 18:16;
Lk 3:11
[q]Isa 16:4;
Heb 13:2
[r]Job 31:19-20;
S Mt 25:36
[s]S Ge 29:14;
Lk 10:31-32
58:8
[t]S Job 11:17;
S Isa 9:2
[u]S Isa 1:5;
S 30:26
[v]S Isa 26:2
[w]S Ex 14:19
58:9 [x]S Ps 50:15
[y]S Job 8:6;
S Isa 30:19;
Da 9:20;
S Zec 10:6
[z]S Pr 6:13
[a]Ps 12:2;
Isa 59:13
58:10 [b]Dt 15:7-8
[c]S Isa 42:16
[d]S Job 11:17
58:11
[e]S Ps 48:14;
S Isa 42:16;
S 48:17
[f]S Ps 104:28;
S 107:9
[g]S Ps 68:6
[h]S Ps 72:16
[i]S SS 4:15
[j]S Isa 35:7;
Jn 4:14
58:12
[k]S Isa 49:8
[l]S Isa 44:28
[m]Ne 2:17
58:13
[n]S Ex 20:8
[o]Ps 37:4; 42:4;
84:2,10 [p]Isa 59:3
58:14
[q]S Job 22:26
[r]S Dt 32:13
[s]Ps 105:10-11
[t]S Isa 1:20
59:1
[u]S Isa 41:20
[v]S Isa 50:2
[w]Isa 30:19; 58:9;
65:24
59:2 [x]Jer 5:25;
Eze 39:23
[y]S Ps 18:41;
S Isa 58:4;
S Jer 11:11;
S Jn 9:31
59:3
[z]S 2Ki 21:16;
S Isa 1:15;
S Eze 22:9
[a]Ps 7:3 [b]S Isa 3:8 59:4 [c]S Isa 5:23

[a]8 *Or your righteous One*

They rely[a] on empty arguments and
speak lies;[b]
they conceive trouble and give
birth to evil.[c]
5They hatch the eggs of vipers[d]
and spin a spider's web.[e]
Whoever eats their eggs will die,
and when one is broken, an adder
is hatched.
6Their cobwebs are useless for
clothing;
they cannot cover themselves with
what they make.[f]
Their deeds are evil deeds,
and acts of violence[g] are in their
hands.
7Their feet rush into sin;
they are swift to shed innocent
blood.[h]
Their thoughts are evil thoughts;[i]
ruin and destruction mark their
ways.[j]
8The way of peace they do not
know;[k]
there is no justice in their paths.
They have turned them into crooked
roads;[l]
no one who walks in them will
know peace.[m]

9So justice is far from us,
and righteousness does not reach
us.
We look for light, but all is
darkness;[n]
for brightness, but we walk in
deep shadows.
10Like the blind[o] we grope along the
wall,
feeling our way like men without
eyes.
At midday we stumble[p] as if it were
twilight;
among the strong, we are like the
dead.[q]
11We all growl like bears;
we moan mournfully like doves.[r]
We look for justice, but find none;
for deliverance, but it is far away.

12For our offenses[s] are many in your
sight,
and our sins testify[t] against us.
Our offenses are ever with us,
and we acknowledge our
iniquities:[u]
13rebellion[v] and treachery against the
LORD,
turning our backs[w] on our God,
fomenting oppression[x] and revolt,
uttering lies[y] our hearts have
conceived.
14So justice[z] is driven back,
and righteousness[a] stands at a
distance;
truth[b] has stumbled in the streets,
honesty cannot enter.
15Truth[c] is nowhere to be found,
and whoever shuns evil becomes a
prey.

The LORD looked and was displeased
that there was no justice.[d]
16He saw that there was no one,[e]
he was appalled that there was no
one to intervene;[f]
so his own arm worked salvation[g]
for him,
and his own righteousness[h]
sustained him.
17He put on righteousness as his
breastplate,[i]
and the helmet[j] of salvation on
his head;
he put on the garments[k] of
vengeance[l]
and wrapped himself in zeal[m] as in
a cloak.
18According to what they have done,
so will he repay[n]
wrath to his enemies
and retribution to his foes;
he will repay the islands[o] their
due.
19From the west,[p] men will fear the
name of the LORD,
and from the rising of the sun,[q]
they will revere his glory.[r]
For he will come like a pent-up flood
that the breath[s] of the LORD drives
along.[p]
20"The Redeemer[t] will come to Zion,[u]
to those in Jacob who repent of
their sins,"[v]
declares the LORD.

21"As for me, this is my covenant[w]
with them," says the LORD. "My
Spirit,[x] who is on you, and my words
that I have put in your mouth[y] will not
depart from your mouth,[z] or from the
mouths of your children, or from the
mouths of their descendants from this
time on and forever," says the LORD.

The Glory of Zion

60 "Arise,[a] shine, for your light[b]
has come,

59:4 [a]S Job 15:31 [b]S Isa 44:20 [c]S Job 4:8; S Isa 29:20; Jas 1:15 **59:5** [d]S Isa 11:8; Mt 3:7 [e]S Job 8:14 **59:6** [f]Isa 28:20 [g]S Ps 55:9; S Pr 4:17; S Isa 58:4 **59:7** [h]S 2Ki 21:16; S Pr 6:17; S Mic 3:10 [i]S Pr 24:2; S Isa 26:10; Mk 7:21-22 [j]Ro 3:15-17* **59:8** [k]Ro 3:15-17* [l]S Jdg 5:6 [m]S Isa 57:21; Lk 1:79 **59:9** [n]S Job 19:8; S Ps 107:14; S Isa 5:30; S 8:20; S Lk 1:79 **59:10** [o]Dt 28:29; S Isa 6:9-10; 56:10; La 4:14; Zep 1:17 [p]S Job 3:23; S Isa 8:15; Jn 11:9-10 [q]La 3:6 **59:11** [r]S Ge 8:8; Ps 74:19; Isa 38:14; Jer 48:28; Eze 7:16; Na 2:7 **59:12** [s]S Ezr 9:6; S Isa 57:12 [t]S Ge 4:7; S Isa 3:9; S Jer 2:19 [u]Ps 51:3 **59:13** [v]Isa 46:8; 48:8 [w]S Nu 11:20; S Pr 30:9; Mt 10:33; Tit 1:16 [x]S Ps 12:5; S Isa 5:7 [y]S Isa 3:8; S 44:20; Mk 7:21-22 **59:14** [z]S Isa 29:21 [a]S Isa 1:21 [b]S Isa 48:1; S Jer 33:16 **59:15** [c]Jer 7:28; 9:5; Da 8:12 [d]S Isa 5:7 **59:16** [e]S Isa 41:28 [f]S Isa 53:12 [g]S Isa 51:5 [h]Isa 45:8,13; 46:13 **59:17** [i]Eph 6:14; 1Th 5:8 [j]Eph 6:17; 1Th 5:8 [k]S Job 27:6; Isa 63:3 [l]S Isa 1:24 [m]S Isa 9:7; Eze 5:13 **59:18** [n]S Lev 26:28; S Nu 10:35; S Isa 34:8; S Mt 16:27 [o]Isa 11:11; 41:5 **59:19** [p]S Isa 49:12; S Mt 8:11 [q]S Ps 113:3 [r]Ps 97:6; S Isa 24:15; 35:2; 40:5; 52:10; 66:18 [s]S Isa 11:4 **59:20** [t]S Job 19:25; Isa 60:16; 63:16 [u]S Isa 52:8; S Joel 3:21 [v]S Job 22:23; S Isa 1:27; S Jer 35:15; Ac 2:38-39; Ro 11:26-27* **59:21** [w]S Ge 9:16; S Dt 29:14; S Isa 42:6 [x]S Isa 11:2; S 44:3 [y]S Ex 4:15 [z]S Jos 1:8 **60:1** [a]Isa 52:2 [b]S Ps 36:9; S 118:27; S Isa 9:2; Jn 8:12; Eph 5:14

[p]19 Or *When the enemy comes in like a flood, / the Spirit of the LORD will put him to flight*

and the glory[a] of the LORD rises upon you.
2 See, darkness[b] covers the earth
and thick darkness[c] is over the peoples,
but the LORD rises upon you
and his glory appears over you.
3 Nations[d] will come to your light,[e]
and kings[f] to the brightness of your dawn.

4 "Lift up your eyes and look about you:
All assemble[g] and come to you;
your sons come from afar,[h]
and your daughters[i] are carried on the arm.[j]
5 Then you will look and be radiant,[k]
your heart will throb and swell with joy;[l]
the wealth[m] on the seas will be brought to you,
to you the riches of the nations will come.
6 Herds of camels[n] will cover your land,
young camels of Midian[o] and Ephah.[p]
And all from Sheba[q] will come,
bearing gold and incense[r]
and proclaiming the praise[s] of the LORD.
7 All Kedar's[t] flocks will be gathered to you,
the rams of Nebaioth will serve you;
they will be accepted as offerings[u] on my altar,[v]
and I will adorn my glorious temple.[w]

8 "Who are these[x] that fly along like clouds,[y]
like doves to their nests?
9 Surely the islands[z] look to me;
in the lead are the ships of Tarshish,[q][a]
bringing[b] your sons from afar,
with their silver and gold,[c]
to the honor[d] of the LORD your God,
the Holy One[e] of Israel,
for he has endowed you with splendor.[f]

10 "Foreigners[g] will rebuild your walls,
and their kings[h] will serve you.
Though in anger I struck you,
in favor[i] I will show you compassion.[j]
11 Your gates[k] will always stand open,
they will never be shut, day or night,
so that men may bring you the wealth of the nations[l] —
their kings[m] led in triumphal procession.
12 For the nation or kingdom that will not serve[n] you will perish;
it will be utterly ruined.[o]

13 "The glory of Lebanon[p] will come to you,
the pine, the fir and the cypress together,[q]
to adorn the place of my sanctuary;[r]
and I will glorify the place of my feet.[s]
14 The sons of your oppressors[t] will come bowing before you;
all who despise you will bow down[u] at your feet
and will call you the City[v] of the LORD,
Zion[w] of the Holy One[x] of Israel.

15 "Although you have been forsaken[y] and hated,
with no one traveling[z] through,
I will make you the everlasting pride[a]
and the joy[b] of all generations.
16 You will drink the milk of nations
and be nursed[c] at royal breasts.
Then you will know[d] that I, the LORD, am your Savior,[e]
your Redeemer,[f] the Mighty One of Jacob.[g]
17 Instead of bronze I will bring you gold,[h]
and silver in place of iron.
Instead of wood I will bring you bronze,
and iron in place of stones.
I will make peace[i] your governor
and righteousness your ruler.[j]
18 No longer will violence[k] be heard in your land,
nor ruin or destruction[l] within your borders,
but you will call your walls Salvation[m]
and your gates Praise.[n]
19 The sun will no more be your light by day,
nor will the brightness of the moon shine on you,
for the LORD will be your everlasting light,[o]

60:1 [a]S Ex 16:7; S Isa 4:5; Rev 21:11 60:2 [b]S 1Sa 2:9; S Ps 82:5; S 107:14; S Isa 8:20 [c]Jer 13:16; Col 1:13 60:3 [d]S Isa 44:5; S 45:14; Mt 2:1-11; Rev 21:24 [e]S Isa 9:2; 42:6 [f]S Isa 49:23 60:4 [g]S Isa 11:12 [h]S Isa 2:3; Jer 30:10 [i]S Isa 43:6 [j]Isa 49:20-22 60:5 [k]S Ex 34:29 [l]Isa 35:2; 65:13; 66:14; Zec 10:7 [m]S Dt 33:19; S Jdg 3:15; Rev 21:26 60:6 [n]S Jdg 6:5 [o]S Ge 25:2 [p]Ge 25:4 [q]S Ge 10:7,28 [r]Isa 43:23; Jer 6:20; Mt 2:11 [s]S 1Ki 5:7; S Isa 42:10 60:7 [t]S Ge 25:13 [u]Isa 18:7; Eze 20:40; 43:27; Zep 3:10 [v]S Isa 19:21 [w]ver 13; Hag 2:3,7,9 60:8 [x]Isa 49:21 [y]Isa 19:1 60:9 [z]S Isa 11:11 [a]S Ge 10:4; Isa 2:16 *fn* [b]S Isa 14:2; S 43:6 [c]S 1Ki 10:22 [d]S Ps 22:23 [e]ver 14; Isa 1:4; S 54:5 [f]S Isa 44:23; 55:5; Jer 30:19 60:10 [g]S Ex 1:11; S Isa 14:1-2; S 56:6 [h]S Ezr 1:2; Rev 21:24 [i]S Isa 49:8 [j]S Ps 102:13 60:11 [k]ver 18; S Ps 24:7; Isa 62:10; Mic 2:13; Rev 21:25 [l]S ver 5; Isa 61:6; Rev 21:26 [m]Ps 149:8; S Isa 2:12 60:12 [n]S Isa 11:14; S 14:2 [o]S Ge 27:29; S Ps 110:5; Da 2:34 60:13 [p]S Ezr 3:7 [q]Isa 41:19 [r]S ver 7 [s]S 1Ch 28:2 60:14 [t]S Isa 14:2 [u]S Ge 27:29; S Isa 2:3; Rev 3:9 [v]S Ge 32:28; S Isa 1:26 [w]Heb 12:22 [x]S ver 9 60:15 [y]Isa 1:7-9; S 6:12; S 54:6 [z]S Isa 33:8 [a]S Isa 4:2 [b]S Ps 126:5; Isa 65:18

60:16 [c]S Ex 6:2; Isa 49:23; 66:11,12 [d]S Ex 6:7 [e]S Ex 14:30; S Isa 25:9 [f]S Job 19:25; S Isa 59:20 [g]S Ge 49:24; S Ps 132:2 60:17 [h]1Ki 10:21 [i]S Ps 85:8; Isa 66:12; Hag 2:9 [j]S Isa 9:7 60:18 [k]S Lev 26:6; S 2Sa 7:10; S Isa 9:4 [l]S Isa 49:19; S 51:19 [m]S Isa 33:6 [n]Isa 61:11; 62:7; Jer 33:9; Zep 3:20 60:19 [o]S Ps 36:9; S 118:27; Rev 22:5

[q]9 Or *the trading ships*

and your God will be your glory.[a]
20Your sun[b] will never set again,
and your moon will wane no more;
the LORD will be your everlasting light,
and your days of sorrow[c] will end.
21Then will all your people be righteous[d]
and they will possess[e] the land forever.
They are the shoot I have planted,[f]
the work of my hands,[g]
for the display of my splendor.[h]
22The least of you will become a thousand,
the smallest a mighty nation.[i]
I am the LORD;
in its time I will do this swiftly."[j]

The Year of the LORD's Favor

61 The Spirit[k] of the Sovereign LORD[l] is on me,
because the LORD has anointed[m] me
to preach good news[n] to the poor.[o]
He has sent me to bind up[p] the brokenhearted,
to proclaim freedom[q] for the captives[r]
and release from darkness for the prisoners,[r]
2to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor[s]
and the day of vengeance[t] of our God,
to comfort[u] all who mourn,[v]
3 and provide for those who grieve in Zion—
to bestow on them a crown[w] of beauty
instead of ashes,[x]
the oil[y] of gladness
instead of mourning,[z]
and a garment of praise
instead of a spirit of despair.
They will be called oaks of righteousness,
a planting[a] of the LORD
for the display of his splendor.[b]

4They will rebuild the ancient ruins[c]
and restore the places long devastated;
they will renew the ruined cities
that have been devastated for generations.
5Aliens[d] will shepherd your flocks;
foreigners will work your fields
and vineyards.

60:19 [a]S Ps 85:9; S Isa 24:16,23; Rev 21:23 **60:20** [b]Isa 30:26 [c]S Isa 30:19; S 35:10; S Rev 7:17 **60:21** [d]S Isa 4:3; S 26:2; Rev 21:27 [e]Ps 37:11,22; Isa 49:8; 57:13; 61:7; 65:9; Zec 8:12 [f]S Ex 15:17; Ps 44:2; 80:8-11; Jer 32:41; Am 9:15; Mt 15:13 [g]S Job 10:3; S Ps 8:6; S Isa 19:25; Eph 2:10 [h]S Lev 10:3; S Isa 44:23 **60:22** [i]S Ge 12:2; S Dt 1:10 [j]Isa 5:19 **61:1** [k]S Isa 11:2; 2Co 3:17 [l]S Isa 50:4 [m]S Ps 45:7; S Da 9:24-26; S Ac 4:26 [n]S 2Sa 18:26; S Isa 40:9 [o]S Job 5:16; S Mt 11:5; Lk 7:22 [p]S 2Ki 22:19; S Job 5:18 [q]S Lev 25:10 [r]S Ps 68:6; S Isa 49:9 **61:2** [s]S Isa 49:8; S Lk 4:18-19* [t]S Isa 1:24 [u]S Isa 40:1; Mt 5:4 [v]S Job 5:11; Lk 6:21 **61:3** [w]S Isa 3:23 [x]S Job 2:8 [y]S Ru 3:3; S Isa 1:6; Heb 1:9 [z]Jer 31:13; Mt 5:4 [a]Ps 1:3; 92:12-13; Mt 15:13; 1Co 3:9 [b]S Isa 44:23 **61:4** [c]S Isa 44:26; 51:3; 65:21; Eze 36:33; Am 9:14; Zec 1:16-17 **61:5** [d]S Isa 14:1-2; S 56:6 **61:6** [e]S Ex 19:6; 1Pe 2:5 [f]Dt 33:19; S Isa 60:11 **61:7** [g]S Isa 29:22; S 41:11 [h]S Dt 21:17; S Isa 40:2 [i]S Isa 60:21 [j]S Ps 126:5; S Isa 25:9 **61:8** [k]S Ps 11:7; S Isa 1:17; S 5:16 [l]S Ge 9:16; S Isa 42:6; S Heb 13:20 **61:9** [m]S Isa 43:5; S 48:19 [n]S Ge 12:2; S Dt 28:3-12 **61:10** [o]S Ps 2:11; S Isa 7:13;

6And you will be called priests[e] of the LORD,
you will be named ministers of our God.
You will feed on the wealth[f] of nations,
and in their riches you will boast.

7Instead of their shame[g]
my people will receive a double[h] portion,
and instead of disgrace
they will rejoice in their inheritance;
and so they will inherit[i] a double portion in their land,
and everlasting joy[j] will be theirs.

8"For I, the LORD, love justice;[k]
I hate robbery and iniquity.
In my faithfulness I will reward them
and make an everlasting covenant[l] with them.
9Their descendants[m] will be known among the nations
and their offspring among the peoples.
All who see them will acknowledge
that they are a people the LORD has blessed."[n]

10I delight greatly in the LORD;
my soul rejoices[o] in my God.
For he has clothed me with garments of salvation
and arrayed me in a robe of righteousness,[p]
as a bridegroom adorns his head[q]
like a priest,
and as a bride[r] adorns herself
with her jewels.
11For as the soil makes the sprout come up
and a garden[s] causes seeds to grow,
so the Sovereign LORD will make
righteousness[t] and praise
spring up before all nations.

Zion's New Name

62 For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,[u]
for Jerusalem's sake I will not remain quiet,
till her righteousness[v] shines out like the dawn,[w]
her salvation[x] like a blazing torch.

S 25:9; Hab 3:18; S Lk 1:47 [p]S Job 27:6; S Ps 132:9; S Isa 52:1; Rev 19:8 [q]S Ex 39:28 [r]S Isa 49:18; Rev 21:2 **61:11** [s]S Ge 47:23; Isa 58:11 [t]S Isa 45:8 **62:1** [u]S Est 4:14; S Ps 50:21; S 83:1 [v]S Isa 1:26; S 45:8 [w]S Job 11:17 [x]S Ps 67:2

[r]1 Hebrew; Septuagint *the blind*

2The nations[a] will see your
righteousness,
and all kings your glory;
you will be called by a new name[b]
that the mouth of the LORD will
bestow.
3You will be a crown[c] of splendor in
the LORD's hand,
a royal diadem in the hand of your
God.
4No longer will they call you
Deserted,[d]
or name your land Desolate.[e]
But you will be called Hephzibah,[s][f]
and your land Beulah[t];
for the LORD will take delight[g] in
you,
and your land will be married.[h]
5As a young man marries a maiden,
so will your sons[u] marry you;
as a bridegroom[i] rejoices over his
bride,
so will your God rejoice[j] over
you.
6I have posted watchmen[k] on your
walls, O Jerusalem;
they will never be silent day or
night.
You who call on the LORD,
give yourselves no rest,[l]
7and give him no rest[m] till he
establishes Jerusalem
and makes her the praise[n] of the
earth.

8The LORD has sworn[o] by his right
hand
and by his mighty arm:
"Never again will I give your grain[p]
as food for your enemies,
and never again will foreigners drink
the new wine
for which you have toiled;
9but those who harvest it will eat[q] it
and praise the LORD,[r]
and those who gather the grapes will
drink it
in the courts of my sanctuary."[s]

10Pass through, pass through the
gates![t]
Prepare the way for the people.
Build up, build up the highway![u][v]
Remove the stones.
Raise a banner[w] for the nations.

11The LORD has made proclamation
to the ends of the earth:[x]
"Say to the Daughter of Zion,[y]
'See, your Savior comes![z]
See, his reward is with him,
and his recompense accompanies
him.'"[a]

62:2 [a]S Ps 67:2; S Isa 40:5; S 45:14; 52:10 [b]S Ge 32:28; S Isa 1:26; Rev 2:17; 3:12 **62:3** [c]S Isa 28:5; 1Th 2:19 **62:4** [d]S Lev 26:43; S Isa 6:12; S 54:6 [e]S Isa 49:19; S 51:19 [f]2Ki 21:1 [g]Isa 65:19; Jer 32:41; Zep 3:17; Mal 3:12 [h]Isa 54:5; Jer 3:14; Hos 2:19 **62:5** [i]S SS 3:11 [j]S Dt 28:63; Isa 65:19; Jer 31:12; Zep 3:17 **62:6** [k]S Isa 52:8; Heb 13:17 [l]Ps 132:4 **62:7** [m]Mt 15:21-28; Lk 18:1-8 [n]S Dt 26:19; S Isa 60:18 **62:8** [o]S Ge 22:16; S Isa 14:24; S 49:18 [p]Dt 28:30-33; S Isa 1:7 **62:9** [q]S Isa 1:19; Am 9:14 [r]S Dt 12:7; Joel 2:26 [s]Lev 23:39 **62:10** [t]S Ps 24:7; S Isa 60:11 [u]Isa 57:14 [v]S Isa 11:16 [w]S Isa 11:10 **62:11** [x]S Dt 30:4 [y]S Ps 9:14; Zec 9:9; Mt 21:5 [z]S Isa 35:4; Rev 22:12 [a]S Isa 40:10 **62:12** [b]S Ge 32:28 [c]S Ex 19:6; 1Pe 2:9 [d]S Ps 106:10; S Isa 35:9; S 44:23 [e]S Ps 27:9; Isa 42:16; S 54:6 **63:1** [f]S 2Ch 28:17; S Isa 11:14 [g]S Ge 36:33; Am 1:12 [h]Rev 19:13 [i]S Job 9:4; S Isa 45:24 [j]ver 5; Isa 46:13; S 51:5; Jer 42:11; Zep 3:17 **63:2** [k]S Ge 49:11 **63:3** [l]S Jdg 6:11; S Rev 14:20 [m]S Job 40:12; S Ps 108:13; S Isa 5:5 [n]S Isa 22:5 [o]Rev 19:13 **63:4** [p]S Isa 1:24; S Jer 50:15 **63:5** [q]S 2Ki 14:26; S Isa 41:28 [r]S Ps 44:3; S 98:1; S Isa 33:2 [s]Isa 59:16 **63:6** [t]S Job 40:12; S Ps 108:13 [u]S Isa 29:9; La 4:21 [v]S Isa 34:3 **63:7** [w]S Isa 54:8 [x]S Ex 18:9

12They will be called[b] the Holy
People,[c]
the Redeemed[d] of the LORD;
and you will be called Sought After,
the City No Longer Deserted.[e]

God's Day of Vengeance and Redemption

63 Who is this coming from
Edom,[f]
from Bozrah,[g] with his garments
stained crimson?[h]
Who is this, robed in splendor,
striding forward in the greatness
of his strength?[i]

"It is I, speaking in righteousness,
mighty to save."[j]

2Why are your garments red,
like those of one treading the
winepress?[k]

3"I have trodden the winepress[l]
alone;
from the nations no one was
with me.
I trampled[m] them in my anger
and trod them down in my
wrath;[n]
their blood spattered my garments,[o]
and I stained all my clothing.
4For the day of vengeance[p] was in
my heart,
and the year of my redemption
has come.
5I looked, but there was no one[q] to
help,
I was appalled that no one gave
support;
so my own arm[r] worked salvation
for me,
and my own wrath sustained me.[s]
6I trampled[t] the nations in my anger;
in my wrath I made them drunk[u]
and poured their blood[v] on the
ground."

Praise and Prayer

7I will tell of the kindnesses[w] of the
LORD,
the deeds for which he is to be
praised,
according to all the LORD has done
for us—
yes, the many good things[x] he has
done
for the house of Israel,

[s]4 *Hephzibah* means *my delight is in her.* [t]4 *Beulah* means *married.* [u]5 Or *Builder*

according to his compassion[a] and
many kindnesses.
8He said, "Surely they are my
people,[b]
sons who will not be false to
me";
and so he became their Savior.[c]
9In all their distress he too was
distressed,
and the angel[d] of his presence[e]
saved them.
In his love and mercy he redeemed[f]
them;
he lifted them up and carried[g]
them
all the days of old.[h]
10Yet they rebelled[i]
and grieved his Holy Spirit.[j]
So he turned and became their
enemy[k]
and he himself fought[l] against
them.

11Then his people recalled[v] the days
of old,
the days of Moses and his
people—
where is he who brought them
through the sea,[m]
with the shepherd of his flock?[n]
Where is he who set
his Holy Spirit[o] among them,
12who sent his glorious arm[p] of power
to be at Moses' right hand,
who divided the waters[q] before
them,
to gain for himself everlasting
renown,[r]
13who led[s] them through the
depths?[t]
Like a horse in open country,
they did not stumble;[u]
14like cattle that go down to the plain,
they were given rest[v] by the Spirit
of the LORD.
This is how you guided your people
to make for yourself a glorious
name.

15Look down from heaven[w] and see
from your lofty throne,[x] holy and
glorious.
Where are your zeal[y] and your
might?
Your tenderness and compassion[z]
are withheld[a] from us.
16But you are our Father,[b]
though Abraham does not know
us
or Israel acknowledge[c] us;
you, O LORD, are our Father,
our Redeemer[d] from of old is your
name.

63:7 [a]S Ps 51:1; Eph 2:4
63:8 [b]S Ps 100:3; S Isa 51:4 [c]S Ex 14:30; S Isa 25:9
63:9 [d]S Ex 14:19 [e]S Ex 33:14 [f]Dt 7:7-8; S Ezr 9:9; S Isa 48:20 [g]S Dt 1:31; S Ps 28:9 [h]S Dt 32:7; S Job 37:23
63:10 [i]S Ps 78:17; Eze 20:8; Ac 7:39-42 [j]S Ps 51:11; Ac 7:51; Eph 4:30 [k]Ps 106:40; S Isa 10:4 [l]S Jos 10:14
63:11 [m]S Ex 14:22,30 [n]S Ps 77:20 [o]S Nu 11:17
63:12 [p]S Ge 49:24; S Ex 3:20 [q]Ex 14:21-22; Isa 11:15 [r]S Ps 102:12; S Isa 55:13; S Jer 13:11
63:13 [s]S Dt 32:12 [t]S Ex 14:22 [u]S Ps 119:11; Jer 31:9
63:14 [v]S Ex 33:14; S Dt 12:9
63:15 [w]S Dt 26:15; La 3:50 [x]S 1Ki 22:19; S Ps 123:1 [y]S Isa 9:7; S 26:11 [z]S 1Ki 3:26; S Ps 25:6 [a]S Ge 43:31; Isa 64:12
63:16 [b]S Ex 4:22; S Jer 3:4; Jn 8:41 [c]S Job 14:21 [d]Isa 41:14; 44:6; S 59:20
63:17 [e]S Ge 20:13; La 3:9 [f]S Ex 4:21 [g]Isa 29:13 [h]S Nu 10:36 [i]S Ex 34:9
63:18 [j]Dt 4:26; 11:17 [k]S Isa 28:18; Da 8:13; S Lk 21:24 [l]S Lev 26:31; S 2Ki 25:9
63:19 [m]S Isa 43:7; S Jer 14:9
64:1 [n]Ps 18:9; 144:5 [o]ver 3; Mic 1:3 [p]S Ex 19:18
64:2 [q]S Isa 30:27 [r]Ps 99:1; 119:120; Jer 5:22; 33:9
64:3 [s]S Ps 65:5 [t]S Ps 18:7
64:4 [u]S Isa 43:10-11 [v]S Isa 30:18; 1Co 2:9*
64:5 [w]S Isa 26:8 [x]S Isa 10:4

17Why, O LORD, do you make us
wander[e] from your ways
and harden our hearts[f] so we do
not revere[g] you?
Return[h] for the sake of your
servants,
the tribes that are your
inheritance.[i]
18For a little while[j] your people
possessed your holy place,
but now our enemies have
trampled[k] down your
sanctuary.[l]
19We are yours from of old;
but you have not ruled over them,
they have not been called by your
name.[w][m]

64 Oh, that you would rend the
heavens[n] and come down,[o]
that the mountains[p] would
tremble before you!
2As when fire sets twigs ablaze
and causes water to boil,
come down to make your name[q]
known to your enemies
and cause the nations to quake[r]
before you!
3For when you did awesome[s] things
that we did not expect,
you came down, and the
mountains trembled[t] before
you.
4Since ancient times no one has
heard,
no ear has perceived,
no eye has seen any God besides
you,[u]
who acts on behalf of those who
wait for him.[v]
5You come to the help of those who
gladly do right,[w]
who remember your ways.
But when we continued to sin
against them,
you were angry.[x]
How then can we be saved?
6All of us have become like one who
is unclean,[y]
and all our righteous[z] acts are like
filthy rags;
we all shrivel up like a leaf,[a]
and like the wind our sins sweep
us away.[b]
7No one[c] calls on your name[d]
or strives to lay hold of you;

64:6 [y]S Lev 5:2; S 12:2 [z]Isa 46:12; 48:1 [a]S Ps 1:3; 90:5-6 [b]Ps 1:4; Jer 4:12 64:7 [c]S Isa 41:28; 59:4; 63:5; Jer 8:6; Eze 22:30 [d]S Ps 14:4

[v]11 *Or But may he recall* [w]19 *Or We are like those you have never ruled, / like those never called by your name*

for you have hidden[a] your face from
us
and made us waste away[b] because
of our sins.

8 Yet, O LORD, you are our Father.[c]
We are the clay, you are the
potter;[d]
we are all the work of your hand.[e]
9 Do not be angry[f] beyond measure,
O LORD;
do not remember our sins[g]
forever.
Oh, look upon us, we pray,
for we are all your people.[h]
10 Your sacred cities[i] have become a
desert;
even Zion is a desert, Jerusalem a
desolation.[j]
11 Our holy and glorious temple,[k]
where our fathers praised
you,
has been burned with fire,
and all that we treasured[l] lies in
ruins.
12 After all this, O LORD, will you hold
yourself back?[m]
Will you keep silent[n] and punish
us beyond measure?

Judgment and Salvation

65 "I revealed myself to those who
did not ask for me;
I was found by those who did not
seek me.[o]
To a nation[p] that did not call on my
name,[q]
I said, 'Here am I, here am I.'
2 All day long I have held out my
hands
to an obstinate people,[r]
who walk in ways not good,
pursuing their own
imaginations[s]—
3 a people who continually provoke
me
to my very face,[t]
offering sacrifices in gardens[u]
and burning incense[v] on altars of
brick;
4 who sit among the graves[w]
and spend their nights keeping
secret vigil;
who eat the flesh of pigs,[x]
and whose pots hold broth of
unclean meat;
5 who say, 'Keep away; don't come
near me,
for I am too sacred[y] for you!'
Such people are smoke[z] in my
nostrils,
a fire that keeps burning all day.

64:7 [a]Dt 31:18; Isa 1:15; 54:8 [b]S Isa 9:18; Eze 22:18-22 **64:8** [c]S Ex 4:22; S Jer 3:4 [d]S Isa 29:16; Ro 9:20-21 [e]S Job 10:3; S Isa 19:25 **64:9** [f]Isa 54:8; 57:17; 60:10; La 5:22 [g]S Isa 43:25 [h]S Ps 100:3; S Isa 51:4 **64:10** [i]Ps 78:54; S Isa 1:26 [j]S Dt 29:23 **64:11** [k]S Lev 26:31; S 2Ki 25:9; Ps 74:3-7; La 2:7 [l]ver 10-11; La 1:7,10 **64:12** [m]S Ge 43:31; Ps 74:10-11 [n]S Est 4:14; S Ps 50:21; S 83:1 **65:1** [o]Hos 1:10; Ro 9:24-26; 10:20* [p]Ro 9:30; Eph 2:12 [q]S Ps 14:4; S Isa 43:7 **65:2** [r]S Ps 78:8; S Isa 1:2,23; Ro 10:21* [s]Ps 81:11-12; S Pr 24:2; Isa 66:18 **65:3** [t]S Job 1:11 [u]S Isa 1:29 [v]S Lev 2:2; Jer 41:5; 44:17; Eze 23:41 **65:4** [w]S Lev 19:31; S Isa 8:19 [x]S Lev 11:7 **65:5** [y]S Ps 40:4; Mt 9:11; Lk 7:39; 18:9-12 [z]Pr 10:26 **65:6** [a]S Ps 50:3 [b]S 2Ch 6:23; Isa 59:18; Jer 16:18 [c]S Ps 79:12; Eze 9:10; Lk 6:38 **65:7** [d]S Isa 22:14 [e]Ex 20:5; Jer 32:18 [f]S Isa 57:7 [g]S Pr 10:24; S Isa 10:12 **65:8** [h]Isa 5:2 [i]S Isa 54:17 **65:9** [j]S Isa 45:19 [k]S Nu 34:13; S Isa 60:21; Jer 50:19; Am 9:11-15 [l]S Isa 14:1 [m]Isa 32:18 **65:10** [n]S 1Ch 27:29; S Isa 35:2; Ac 9:35 [o]Jer 31:12; 33:12; Eze 34:13-14 [p]S Jos 7:26 [q]S Isa 51:1 **65:11** [r]Dt 28:20; 29:24-25; S 32:15; Isa 1:28; Jer 2:13; 19:4 [s]S Dt 33:19; S Ps 137:5 [t]S Isa 5:22 **65:12** [u]S Isa 1:20; S 27:1 [v]S Isa 30:25 [w]S Pr 1:24-25;

6 "See, it stands written before me:
I will not keep silent[a] but will pay
back[b] in full;
I will pay it back into their laps[c]—
7 both your sins[d] and the sins of your
fathers,"[e]
says the LORD.
"Because they burned sacrifices on
the mountains
and defied me on the hills,[f]
I will measure into their laps
the full payment[g] for their former
deeds."

8 This is what the LORD says:

"As when juice is still found in a
cluster of grapes[h]
and men say, 'Don't destroy it,
there is yet some good in it,'
so will I do in behalf of my
servants;[i]
I will not destroy them all.
9 I will bring forth descendants[j] from
Jacob,
and from Judah those who will
possess[k] my mountains;
my chosen[l] people will inherit
them,
and there will my servants live.[m]
10 Sharon[n] will become a pasture for
flocks,[o]
and the Valley of Achor[p] a resting
place for herds,
for my people who seek[q] me.

11 "But as for you who forsake[r] the
LORD
and forget my holy mountain,[s]
who spread a table for Fortune
and fill bowls of mixed wine[t] for
Destiny,
12 I will destine you for the sword,[u]
and you will all bend down for the
slaughter;[v]
for I called but you did not answer,[w]
I spoke but you did not listen.[x]
You did evil in my sight
and chose what displeases me."[y]

13 Therefore this is what the Sovereign LORD says:

"My servants will eat,[z]
but you will go hungry;[a]
my servants will drink,[b]
but you will go thirsty;[c]
my servants will rejoice,[d]
but you will be put to shame.[e]
14 My servants will sing[f]
out of the joy of their hearts,

S Isa 41:28; 66:4; Jer 7:27 [x]2Ch 36:15-16; Jer 7:13; 13:11; 25:3; 26:5 [y]Ps 149:7; Isa 1:24; 66:4; Mic 5:15 **65:13** [z]S Isa 1:19 [a]S Job 18:12; Lk 6:25 [b]S Isa 33:16 [c]S Isa 3:1; 41:17 [d]S Isa 60:5; 61:7 [e]S Isa 44:9 **65:14** [f]S Ps 109:28; Zep 3:14-20; Jas 5:13

but you will cry out[a]
from anguish of heart
and wail in brokenness of spirit.
15You will leave your name
to my chosen ones as a curse;[b]
the Sovereign LORD will put you to
death,
but to his servants he will give
another name.[c]
16Whoever invokes a blessing[d] in the
land
will do so by the God of truth;[e]
he who takes an oath in the land
will swear[f] by the God of truth.
For the past troubles[g] will be
forgotten
and hidden from my eyes.

New Heavens and a New Earth

17"Behold, I will create
new heavens and a new earth.[h]
The former things will not be
remembered,[i]
nor will they come to mind.
18But be glad and rejoice[j] forever
in what I will create,
for I will create Jerusalem[k] to be a
delight
and its people a joy.
19I will rejoice[l] over Jerusalem
and take delight[m] in my people;
the sound of weeping and of crying[n]
will be heard in it no more.

20"Never again will there be in it
an infant[o] who lives but a few
days,
or an old man who does not live
out his years;[p]
he who dies at a hundred
will be thought a mere youth;
he who fails to reach[x] a hundred
will be considered accursed.
21They will build houses[q] and dwell in
them;
they will plant vineyards and eat
their fruit.[r]
22No longer will they build houses and
others live in them,[s]
or plant and others eat.
For as the days of a tree,[t]
so will be the days[u] of my people;
my chosen[v] ones will long enjoy
the works of their hands.
23They will not toil in vain[w]
or bear children doomed to
misfortune;[x]
for they will be a people blessed[y] by
the LORD,
they and their descendants[z] with
them.
24Before they call[a] I will answer;[b]
while they are still speaking[c] I will
hear.
25The wolf and the lamb[d] will feed
together,
and the lion will eat straw like the
ox,[e]
but dust will be the serpent's[f]
food.
They will neither harm nor destroy
on all my holy mountain,"[g]
says the LORD.

Judgment and Hope

66

This is what the LORD says:
"Heaven is my throne,[h]
and the earth is my footstool.[i]
Where is the house[j] you will build
for me?
Where will my resting place be?
2Has not my hand made all these
things,[k]
and so they came into being?"
declares the LORD.

"This is the one I esteem:
he who is humble and contrite in
spirit,[l]
and trembles at my word.[m]
3But whoever sacrifices a bull[n]
is like one who kills a man,
and whoever offers a lamb,
like one who breaks a dog's neck;
whoever makes a grain offering
is like one who presents pig's[o]
blood,
and whoever burns memorial
incense,[p]
like one who worships an idol.
They have chosen their own ways,[q]
and their souls delight in their
abominations;[r]
4so I also will choose harsh treatment
for them
and will bring upon them what
they dread.[s]
For when I called, no one
answered,[t]
when I spoke, no one listened.
They did evil[u] in my sight
and chose what displeases me."[v]

5Hear the word of the LORD,
you who tremble at his word:[w]
"Your brothers who hate[x] you,
and exclude you because of my
name, have said,
'Let the LORD be glorified,
that we may see your joy!'

65:14 [a]S Isa 15:2; Mt 8:12; Lk 13:28 **65:15** [b]S Nu 5:27; S Ps 102:8 [c]S Ge 32:28; Rev 2:17 **65:16** [d]S Dt 29:19 [e]Ps 31:5; Rev 3:14 [f]S Ps 63:11; S Isa 19:18 [g]S Job 11:16 **65:17** [h]S Isa 41:22; 66:22; 2Co 5:17; S 2Pe 3:13 [i]Isa 43:18; Jer 3:16; S Rev 7:17 **65:18** [j]S Dt 32:43; Ps 98:1-9; S Isa 25:9 [k]Rev 21:2 **65:19** [l]S Isa 35:10; S 62:5 [m]S Dt 30:9 [n]S Isa 25:8; Rev 7:17 **65:20** [o]Isa 11:8 [p]Ge 5:1-32; S 15:15; S Ecc 8:13; Zec 8:4 **65:21** [q]S Isa 32:18; S 61:4 [r]S 2Ki 19:29; S Isa 37:30; Eze 28:26; Am 9:14 **65:22** [s]S Dt 28:30 [t]Ps 1:3; 92:12-14 [u]Ps 21:4; 91:16 [v]S Isa 14:1 **65:23** [w]S Isa 49:4; 1Co 15:58 [x]Dt 28:32,41; Jer 16:3-4 [y]S Ge 12:2; S Dt 28:3-12 [z]S Isa 44:3; Ac 2:39 **65:24** [a]S Isa 55:6; Mt 6:8 [b]S Job 8:6; S Isa 30:19; S Zec 10:6 [c]Da 9:20-23; 10:12 **65:25** [d]Isa 11:6 [e]S Job 40:15 [f]Ge 3:14; Mic 7:17 [g]S Job 5:23; S Isa 2:4 **66:1** [h]S 2Ch 6:18; S Ps 2:4; S 9:7; Mt 23:22 [i]S 1Ki 8:27; Mt 5:34-35 [j]S 2Sa 7:7; Jn 4:20-21; Ac 7:48; 17:24 **66:2** [k]S Isa 40:26; Ac 7:50*; 17:24 [l]S Isa 57:15; Mt 5:3-4; Lk 18:13-14 [m]S Ezr 9:4 **66:3** [n]S Isa 1:11 [o]S Lev 11:7 [p]S Lev 2:2 [q]S Isa 57:17 [r]ver 17; S Dt 27:15; Eze 8:9-13

66:4 [s]S Pr 10:24; S Isa 10:12 [t]S 1Sa 8:19; S Isa 41:28 [u]2Ki 21:2,4,6; Isa 59:12 [v]S Isa 65:12 **66:5** [w]S Ezr 9:4 [x]Ps 38:20; Isa 60:15; Jn 15:21

[x]20 Or */ the sinner who reaches*

Yet they will be put to shame.[a]
6Hear that uproar from the city,
hear that noise from the temple!
It is the sound[b] of the LORD
repaying[c] his enemies all they
deserve.

7"Before she goes into labor,[d]
she gives birth;
before the pains come upon her,
she delivers a son.[e]
8Who has ever heard of such a
thing?
Who has ever seen[f] such things?
Can a country be born in a day[g]
or a nation be brought forth in a
moment?
Yet no sooner is Zion in labor
than she gives birth to her
children.[h]
9Do I bring to the moment of birth[i]
and not give delivery?" says the
LORD.
"Do I close up the womb
when I bring to delivery?" says
your God.
10"Rejoice[j] with Jerusalem and be
glad for her,
all you who love[k] her;
rejoice greatly with her,
all you who mourn[l] over her.
11For you will nurse[m] and be
satisfied
at her comforting breasts;[n]
you will drink deeply
and delight in her overflowing
abundance."[o]

12For this is what the LORD says:

"I will extend peace[p] to her like a
river,[q]
and the wealth[r] of nations like a
flooding stream;
you will nurse and be carried[s] on
her arm
and dandled on her knees.
13As a mother comforts her child,[t]
so will I comfort[u] you;
and you will be comforted over
Jerusalem."
14When you see this, your heart will
rejoice[v]
and you will flourish[w] like grass;
the hand[x] of the LORD will be made
known to his servants,[y]
but his fury[z] will be shown to his
foes.
15See, the LORD is coming with fire,[a]
and his chariots[b] are like a
whirlwind;[c]
he will bring down his anger with
fury,
and his rebuke[d] with flames of
fire.
16For with fire[e] and with his sword[f]
the LORD will execute judgment[g]
upon all men,
and many will be those slain[h] by
the LORD.

17"Those who consecrate and purify
themselves to go into the gardens,[i] fol-
lowing the one in the midst of[y] those
who eat the flesh of pigs[j] and rats[k]
and other abominable things—they
will meet their end[l] together," de-
clares the LORD.
18"And I, because of their actions and
their imaginations,[m] am about to
come[z] and gather all nations[n] and
tongues, and they will come and see
my glory.[o]
19"I will set a sign[p] among them, and
I will send some of those who survive[q]
to the nations—to Tarshish,[r] to the
Libyans[a] and Lydians[s] (famous as
archers), to Tubal[t] and Greece,[u] and
to the distant islands[v] that have not
heard of my fame or seen my glory.[w]
They will proclaim my glory among the
nations. 20And they will bring[x] all your
brothers, from all the nations, to my
holy mountain[y] in Jerusalem as an of-
fering to the LORD—on horses, in chari-
ots and wagons, and on mules and
camels," says the LORD. "They will
bring them, as the Israelites bring their
grain offerings, to the temple of the
LORD in ceremonially clean vessels.[a]
21And I will select some of them also to
be priests[b] and Levites," says the
LORD.
22"As the new heavens and the new
earth[c] that I make will endure before
me," declares the LORD, "so will your
name and descendants endure.[d]
23From one New Moon to another and
from one Sabbath[e] to another, all man-
kind will come and bow down[f] before
me," says the LORD. 24"And they will
go out and look upon the dead bodies[g]
of those who rebelled[h] against me;
their worm[i] will not die, nor will their
fire be quenched,[j] and they will be
loathsome to all mankind."

66:5 [a]S Isa 44:9; Lk 13:17 **66:6** [b]S 1Sa 2:10; S Ps 68:33 [c]S Lev 26:28; Isa 65:6; Joel 3:7 **66:7** [d]S Isa 54:1 [e]Rev 12:5 **66:8** [f]Isa 64:4; Jer 18:13 [g]S Isa 49:20 [h]S Isa 49:21 **66:9** [i]S Isa 37:3 **66:10** [j]S Dt 32:43; S Isa 25:9; Ro 15:10 [k]S Ps 26:8 [l]Isa 57:19; 61:2 **66:11** [m]S Nu 11:12; S Isa 60:16 [n]Ge 49:25 [o]S Nu 25:1; S Isa 25:6 **66:12** [p]S Ps 119:165; S Isa 9:6 [q]S Isa 33:21 [r]Ps 72:3; Isa 60:5; 61:6 [s]S Nu 11:12; Isa 60:4 **66:13** [t]S Isa 49:15; 1Th 2:7 [u]S Isa 40:1; S 2Co 1:4 **66:14** [v]S Isa 25:9; S 60:5; S Joel 2:23 [w]S Ps 72:16 [x]S Ezr 5:5; S Isa 41:20 [y]S Isa 54:17 [z]S Isa 10:5; S 30:27 **66:15** [a]S Isa 1:31; S 42:25 [b]S 2Ki 2:11; S Ps 68:17 [c]S 2Ki 2:1 [d]S Dt 28:20; S Ps 9:5; S 39:11 **66:16** [e]Isa 30:30; Am 7:4; Mal 4:1 [f]S Isa 1:20; S 27:1; S Eze 14:21 [g]S Isa 13:9,11; S Jer 2:35; S Eze 36:5 [h]S Isa 10:4 **66:17** [i]S Isa 1:29 [j]S Lev 11:7 [k]Lev 11:29 [l]Ps 37:20; Isa 1:28 **66:18** [m]S Pr 24:2; S Isa 65:2 [n]S Isa 2:3; S Zec 12:3 [o]S Ex 16:7; S Isa 59:19 **66:19** [p]Isa 11:10; 49:22; Mt 24:30 [q]S 2Ki 19:31 [r]S Isa 2:16 [s]Jer 46:9; Eze 27:10 [t]S Ge 10:2 [u]Jer 31:10; Da 11:18 [v]Isa 11:11 [w]S 1Ch 16:24; S Isa 24:15 **66:20** [x]S Isa 11:12; S Jer 25:22; Eze 34:13 [y]S Dt 33:19; S Isa 2:2; Jer 31:23 [z]S Ezr 2:66 [a]Isa 52:11 **66:21** [b]S Ex 19:6; 1Pe 2:5,9 **66:22** [c]S Isa 65:17; Heb 12:26-27; S 2Pe 3:13 [d]S Isa 48:19; Jn 10:27-29; 1Pe 1:4-5 **66:23** [e]Eze 46:1-3 [f]S Ps 22:29; S Isa 19:21; S 44:5; Rev 15:4 **66:24** [g]S Ps 110:6 [h]S Isa 1:2 [i]S Isa 14:11 [j]S Isa 1:31; S Mt 25:41; Mk 9:48*

[y]17 Or *gardens behind one of your temples, and*
[z]18 The meaning of the Hebrew for this clause is uncertain. [a]19 Some Septuagint manuscripts *Put* (Libyans); Hebrew *Pul*

Jeremiah

1 The words of Jeremiah son of Hil-
kiah, one of the priests at Ana-
thoth[a] in the territory of Benjamin.
2The word of the LORD came[b] to him in
the thirteenth year of the reign of Jo-
siah[c] son of Amon king of Judah, 3and
through the reign of Jehoiakim[d] son of
Josiah king of Judah, down to the fifth
month of the eleventh year of Zede-
kiah[e] son of Josiah king of Judah,
when the people of Jerusalem went
into exile.[f]

The Call of Jeremiah

4The word of the LORD came to me,
saying,

5"Before I formed you in the womb[g] I
knew[a][h] you,
before you were born[i] I set you
apart;[j]
I appointed you as a prophet to
the nations.[k]"

6"Ah, Sovereign LORD," I said, "I do
not know how to speak;[l] I am only a
child."[m]

7But the LORD said to me, "Do not
say, 'I am only a child.' You must go to
everyone I send you to and say what-
ever I command you. 8Do not be
afraid[n] of them, for I am with you[o]
and will rescue[p] you," declares the
LORD.[q]

9Then the LORD reached out his hand
and touched[r] my mouth and said to
me, "Now, I have put my words in
your mouth.[s] 10See, today I appoint
you over nations[t] and kingdoms to
uproot[u] and tear down, to destroy and
overthrow, to build and to plant."[v]

11The word of the LORD came to me:
"What do you see, Jeremiah?"[w]

"I see the branch of an almond tree,"
I replied.

12The LORD said to me, "You have
seen correctly, for I am watching[b][x] to
see that my word is fulfilled."

13The word of the LORD came to me
again: "What do you see?"[y]

"I see a boiling pot, tilting away from
the north," I answered.

14The LORD said to me, "From the
north[z] disaster will be poured out on
all who live in the land. 15I am about to
summon all the peoples of the northern
kingdoms," declares the LORD.

"Their kings will come and set up
their thrones
in the entrance of the gates of
Jerusalem;
they will come against all her
surrounding walls
and against all the towns of
Judah.[a]
16I will pronounce my judgments[b] on
my people
because of their wickedness[c] in
forsaking me,[d]
in burning incense to other gods[e]
and in worshiping[f] what their
hands have made.[g]

17"Get yourself ready! Stand up and
say[h] to them whatever I command
you. Do not be terrified[i] by them, or I
will terrify you before them. 18Today I
have made you[j] a fortified city, an iron
pillar and a bronze wall to stand
against the whole land—against the
kings of Judah, its officials, its priests
and the people of the land. 19They will
fight against you but will not over-
come[k] you, for I am with you[l] and will
rescue[m] you," declares the LORD.

Israel Forsakes God

2 The word[n] of the LORD came to me:
2"Go and proclaim in the hearing of
Jerusalem:

" 'I remember the devotion of your
youth,[o]
how as a bride you loved me
and followed me through the
desert,[p]
through a land not sown.
3Israel was holy[q] to the LORD,[r]
the firstfruits[s] of his harvest;

1:1 [a]S Jos 21:18
1:2 [b]Eze 1:3; Hos 1:1; Joel 1:1 [c]S 2Ki 22:1
1:3 [d]S 2Ki 23:34 [e]S 2Ki 24:17 [f]Ezr 5:12; Jer 52:15
1:5 [g]S Ps 139:13 [h]Ps 139:16 [i]S Isa 49:1 [j]Jn 10:36 [k]ver 10; Jer 25:15-26
1:6 [l]S Ex 3:11; S 6:12 [m]1Ki 3:7
1:8 [n]S Ge 15:1; S Jos 8:1 [o]S Ge 26:3; S Jos 1:5; Jer 15:20 [p]ver 19; Jer 15:21; 26:24; 36:26; 42:11 [q]Jer 20:11
1:9 [r]S Isa 6:7 [s]S Ex 4:12
1:10 [t]Jer 25:17; 46:1 [u]Jer 12:17 [v]Jer 18:7-10; 24:6; 31:4,28
1:11 [w]Jer 24:3; Am 7:8
1:12 [x]S Job 29:2; Jer 44:27
1:13 [y]Jer 24:3; Zec 4:2; 5:2
1:14 [z]S Isa 14:31
1:15 [a]Jer 4:16; 9:11; 10:22
1:16 [b]Jer 4:12 [c]S Ge 6:5; Jer 44:5 [d]Jer 2:13; 17:13 [e]S Ex 20:3; Jer 7:9; 19:4; 44:3 [f]S Nu 25:3 [g]Ps 115:4-8; S 135:15
1:17 [h]ver 7; Jer 7:27; 26:2,15; 42:4 [i]S Dt 31:6; S 2Ki 1:15
1:18 [j]S Isa 50:7
1:19 [k]S Ps 129:2 [l]S Ge 26:3; Isa 43:2; Jer 20:11 [m]S ver 8; S Pr 20:22; Ac 26:17
2:1 [n]Isa 38:4; Eze 1:3; Mic 1:1
2:2 [o]Ps 71:17; Isa 54:4; Jer 3:4; Eze 16:8-14,60; Hos 2:15; 11:1; Rev 2:4 [p]S Ex 13:21; S Dt 1:19
2:3 [q]S Dt 7:6 [r]S Ex 19:6; S Dt 7:6 [s]Lev 23:9-14; Jas 1:18; Rev 14:4

[a]5 *Or chose* [b]12 *The Hebrew for watching sounds like the Hebrew for almond tree.*

all who devoured[a] her were held
guilty,[b]
and disaster overtook them,' "
declares the LORD.

4Hear the word of the LORD, O house
of Jacob,
all you clans of the house of Israel.

5This is what the LORD says:

"What fault did your fathers find in
me,
that they strayed so far from me?
They followed worthless idols[c]
and became worthless[d]
themselves.
6They did not ask, 'Where is the
LORD,
who brought us up out of Egypt[e]
and led us through the barren
wilderness,
through a land of deserts[f] and
rifts,[g]
a land of drought and darkness,[c]
a land where no one travels[h] and
no one lives?'
7I brought you into a fertile land
to eat its fruit and rich produce.[i]
But you came and defiled my land
and made my inheritance
detestable.[j]
8The priests did not ask,
'Where is the LORD?'
Those who deal with the law did not
know me;[k]
the leaders[l] rebelled against me.
The prophets prophesied by Baal,[m]
following worthless idols.[n]

9"Therefore I bring charges[o] against
you again,"
declares the LORD.
"And I will bring charges against
your children's children.
10Cross over to the coasts of Kittim[d] [p]
and look,
send to Kedar[e] [q] and observe
closely;
see if there has ever been anything
like this:
11Has a nation ever changed its gods?
(Yet they are not gods[r] at all.)
But my people have exchanged
their[f] Glory[s]
for worthless idols.
12Be appalled at this, O heavens,
and shudder with great horror,"
declares the LORD.
13"My people have committed two
sins:
They have forsaken[t] me,
the spring of living water,[u]
and have dug their own cisterns,
broken cisterns that cannot hold
water.
14Is Israel a servant, a slave[v] by birth?
Why then has he become plunder?
15Lions[w] have roared;
they have growled at him.
They have laid waste[x] his land;
his towns are burned[y] and
deserted.[z]
16Also, the men of Memphis[g] [a] and
Tahpanhes[b]
have shaved the crown of your
head.[h]
17Have you not brought this on
yourselves[c]
by forsaking[d] the LORD your God
when he led you in the way?
18Now why go to Egypt[e]
to drink water from the Shihor[i] ?[f]
And why go to Assyria[g]
to drink water from the River[j] ?[h]
19Your wickedness will punish you;
your backsliding[i] will rebuke[j]
you.
Consider then and realize
how evil and bitter[k] it is for you
when you forsake[l] the LORD your
God
and have no awe[m] of me,"
declares the Lord,
the LORD Almighty.

20"Long ago you broke off your yoke[n]
and tore off your bonds;[o]
you said, 'I will not serve you!'[p]
Indeed, on every high hill[q]
and under every spreading tree[r]
you lay down as a prostitute.[s]
21I had planted[t] you like a choice
vine[u]
of sound and reliable stock.
How then did you turn against me
into a corrupt,[v] wild vine?
22Although you wash[w] yourself with
soda[x]
and use an abundance of soap,
the stain of your guilt is still before
me,"
declares the Sovereign LORD.[y]
23"How can you say, 'I am not
defiled;[z]
I have not run after the Baals'?[a]
See how you behaved in the valley;[b]
consider what you have done.
You are a swift she-camel

2:3 [a]Isa 41:11; Jer 10:25; 30:16 [b]Jer 50:7
2:5 [c]S Dt 32:21; S 1Sa 12:21; Ps 31:6 [d]2Ki 17:15
2:6 [e]S Ex 6:6; Hos 13:4 [f]S Dt 1:19 [g]S Dt 32:10 [h]Jer 51:43
2:7 [i]S Nu 13:27; Dt 8:7-9; 11:10-12 [j]Ps 106:34-39; Jer 3:9; 7:30; 16:18; Eze 11:21; 36:17
2:8 [k]S 1Sa 2:12; Jer 4:22 [l]Jer 3:15; 23:1; 25:34; 50:6 [m]S 1Ki 18:22 [n]ver 25; S Isa 40:19; S 56:10; Jer 5:19; 9:14; 16:19; 22:9
2:9 [o]Jer 25:31; Hos 4:1; Mic 6:2
2:10 [p]S Ge 10:4 [q]S Ge 25:13
2:11 [r]S Isa 37:19; Jer 16:20; Gal 4:8 [s]S 1Sa 4:21; Ro 1:23
2:13 [t]S Dt 31:16; S Isa 65:11 [u]S Isa 12:3; Jn 4:14
2:14 [v]Ex 4:22; Jer 31:9
2:15 [w]Jer 4:7; 50:17 [x]S Isa 1:7 [y]S 2Ki 25:9 [z]S Lev 26:43
2:16 [a]S Isa 19:13 [b]Jer 43:7-9
2:17 [c]Jer 4:18 [d]S Isa 1:28; Jer 17:13; 19:4
2:18 [e]S Isa 30:2 [f]S Jos 13:3 [g]S 2Ki 16:7; Hos 5:13; 7:11; 8:9 [h]S Isa 7:20
2:19 [i]Jer 3:11, 22; 7:24; 11:10; 14:7; Hos 14:4 [j]Isa 3:9; 59:12; Hos 5:5 [k]S Job 20:14; Am 8:10 [l]Jer 19:4 [m]S Ps 36:1
2:20 [n]S Lev 26:13 [o]Ps 2:3; Jer 5:5 [p]S Job 21:14 [q]Isa 57:7; Jer 3:23; 17:2 [r]S Dt 12:2 [s]S Isa 1:21; Eze 16:15
2:21 [t]S Ex 15:17 [u]S Ps 80:8 [v]S Isa 5:4
2:22 [w]S Ps 51:2; La 1:8,17 [x]S Job 9:30 [y]Jer 17:1
2:23 [z]S Pr 30:12 [a]ver 25; Jer 9:14; 23:27 [b]S 2Ki 23:10; Jer 7:31; 19:2; 31:40

[c]6 Or *and the shadow of death* [d]10 That is, Cyprus and western coastlands [e]10 The home of Bedouin tribes in the Syro-Arabian desert [f]11 Masoretic Text; an ancient Hebrew scribal tradition *my* [g]16 Hebrew *Noph* [h]16 Or *have cracked your skull* [i]18 That is, a branch of the Nile [j]18 That is, the Euphrates

running[a] here and there,
24 a wild donkey[b] accustomed to the desert,[c]
sniffing the wind in her craving—
in her heat who can restrain her?
Any males that pursue her need not tire themselves;
at mating time they will find her.
25 Do not run until your feet are bare
and your throat is dry.
But you said, 'It's no use![d]
I love foreign gods,[e]
and I must go after them.'[f]

26 "As a thief is disgraced[g] when he is caught,
so the house of Israel is disgraced—
they, their kings and their officials,
their priests[h] and their prophets.[i]
27 They say to wood,[j] 'You are my father,'
and to stone,[k] 'You gave me birth.'
They have turned their backs[l] to me
and not their faces;[m]
yet when they are in trouble,[n] they say,
'Come and save[o] us!'
28 Where then are the gods[p] you made for yourselves?
Let them come if they can save you
when you are in trouble![q]
For you have as many gods
as you have towns,[r] O Judah.

29 "Why do you bring charges against me?
You have all[s] rebelled against me,"
declares the LORD.
30 "In vain I punished your people;
they did not respond to correction.[t]
Your sword has devoured your prophets[u]
like a ravening lion.

31 "You of this generation, consider the word of the LORD:

"Have I been a desert to Israel
or a land of great darkness?[v]
Why do my people say, 'We are free to roam;
we will come to you no more'?[w]
32 Does a maiden forget her jewelry,
a bride her wedding ornaments?
Yet my people have forgotten[x] me,
days without number.
33 How skilled you are at pursuing[y] love!
Even the worst of women can learn from your ways.
34 On your clothes men find
the lifeblood[z] of the innocent poor,
though you did not catch them breaking in.[a]
Yet in spite of all this
35 you say, 'I am innocent;[b]
he is not angry with me.'
But I will pass judgment[c] on you
because you say, 'I have not sinned.'[d]
36 Why do you go about so much,
changing[e] your ways?
You will be disappointed by Egypt[f]
as you were by Assyria.
37 You will also leave that place
with your hands on your head,[g]
for the LORD has rejected those you trust;
you will not be helped[h] by them.

3 "If a man divorces[i] his wife
and she leaves him and marries another man,
should he return to her again?
Would not the land be completely defiled?[j]
But you have lived as a prostitute
with many lovers[k]—
would you now return to me?"[l]
declares the LORD.
2 "Look up to the barren heights[m] and see.
Is there any place where you have not been ravished?
By the roadside[n] you sat waiting for lovers,
sat like a nomad[k] in the desert.
You have defiled the land[o]
with your prostitution[p] and wickedness.
3 Therefore the showers have been withheld,[q]
and no spring rains[r] have fallen.
Yet you have the brazen[s] look of a prostitute;
you refuse to blush with shame.[t]
4 Have you not just called to me:
'My Father,[u] my friend from my youth,[v]
5 will you always be angry?[w]
Will your wrath continue forever?'
This is how you talk,
but you do all the evil you can."

Unfaithful Israel

6 During the reign of King Josiah,[x] the LORD said to me, "Have you seen

2:23 [a]ver 33; Jer 31:22
2:24 [b]S Ge 16:12; Jer 14:6 [c]S Job 39:6
2:25 [d]S Isa 57:10 [e]Dt 32:16; Jer 3:13; 14:10 [f]S ver 8,S 23
2:26 [g]Jer 48:27; La 1:7; Eze 16:54; 36:4 [h]Eze 22:26 [i]Jer 32:32; 44:17, 21
2:27 [j]Jer 10:8 [k]Jer 3:9 [l]S 1Ki 14:9; S 2Ch 29:6; Ps 14:3; Eze 8:16 [m]Jer 18:17; 32:33; Eze 7:22 [n]Jdg 10:10; Isa 26:16 [o]Isa 37:20; Hos 5:15
2:28 [p]S Isa 45:20 [q]S Dt 32:37; S Isa 40:19 [r]S 2Ki 17:29
2:29 [s]Jer 5:1; 6:13; Da 9:11; Mic 3:11; 7:2
2:30 [t]S Lev 26:23 [u]S Ne 9:26; S Jer 11:21; Ac 7:52; 1Th 2:15
2:31 [v]Isa 45:19 [w]S Job 21:14
2:32 [x]S Dt 32:18; S Isa 57:11
2:33 [y]S ver 23
2:34 [z]S 2Ki 21:16; S Pr 6:17 [a]S Ex 22:2
2:35 [b]S Pr 30:12 [c]Isa 66:16; Jer 25:31; 39:7; 45:5; Eze 17:20; 20:35; Joel 3:2 [d]S 2Sa 12:13; 1Jn 1:8,10
2:36 [e]Jer 31:22 [f]S Ps 108:12; S Isa 30:2,3,7; Jer 37:7
2:37 [g]2Sa 13:19 [h]Jer 37:7
3:1 [i]Dt 24:1-4 [j]S Ge 3:17 [k]S 2Ki 16:7; S Isa 1:21; Jer 2:25; 4:30; La 1:2; Eze 16:26,29; Hos 2:5,12; 3:1 [l]Hos 2:7
3:2 [m]ver 21 [n]Ge 38:14; Eze 16:25 [o]ver 9 [p]S Nu 15:39; S Isa 1:21
3:3 [q]Lev 26:19; Jer 5:25; Am 4:7 [r]S Dt 11:14; Jer 14:4; Joel 1:10 [s]Eze 3:7; 16:30 [t]Jer 6:15; 8:12; Zep 2:1; 3:5
3:4 [u]ver 19; S Dt 32:6; S Ps 89:26; Isa 63:16; 64:8; Jer 31:9 [v]S Jer 2:2
3:5 [w]S Ps 103:9; S Isa 57:16
3:6 [x]S 2Ch 34:1

[k]2 Or *an Arab*

what faithless[a] Israel has done? She
has gone up on every high hill and un-
der every spreading tree[b] and has com-
mitted adultery[c] there. 7 I thought that
after she had done all this she would
return to me but she did not, and her
unfaithful sister[d] Judah saw it.[e] 8 I gave
faithless Israel[f] her certificate of di-
vorce[g] and sent her away because of all
her adulteries. Yet I saw that her un-
faithful sister Judah had no fear;[h] she
also went out and committed adultery.
9 Because Israel's immorality mattered
so little to her, she defiled the land[i]
and committed adultery[j] with stone[k]
and wood.[l] 10 In spite of all this, her
unfaithful sister Judah did not return[m]
to me with all her heart, but only in
pretense,[n]" declares the LORD.[o]
11 The LORD said to me, "Faithless Is-
rael is more righteous[p] than unfaith-
ful[q] Judah.[r] 12 Go, proclaim this mes-
sage toward the north:[s]

" 'Return,[t] faithless[u] Israel,'
declares the LORD,
'I will frown on you no
longer,
for I am merciful,'[v] declares the
LORD,
'I will not be angry[w] forever.
13 Only acknowledge[x] your guilt—
you have rebelled against the LORD
your God,
you have scattered your favors to
foreign gods[y]
under every spreading tree,[z]
and have not obeyed[a] me,' "
declares the LORD.

14 "Return,[b] faithless people," de-
clares the LORD, "for I am your hus-
band.[c] I will choose you—one from a
town and two from a clan—and bring
you to Zion. 15 Then I will give you
shepherds[d] after my own heart,[e] who
will lead you with knowledge and
understanding. 16 In those days, when
your numbers have increased greatly in
the land," declares the LORD, "men will
no longer say, 'The ark[f] of the cov-
enant of the LORD.' It will never enter
their minds or be remembered;[g] it will
not be missed, nor will another one be
made. 17 At that time they will call
Jerusalem The Throne[h] of the LORD,
and all nations[i] will gather in Jerusa-
lem to honor[j] the name of the LORD.
No longer will they follow the stub-
bornness of their evil hearts.[k] 18 In
those days the house of Judah will join
the house of Israel,[l] and together[m]
they will come from a northern[n] land
to the land[o] I gave your forefathers as
an inheritance.
19 "I myself said,

" 'How gladly would I treat you like
sons
and give you a desirable land,[p]
the most beautiful inheritance[q] of
any nation.'
I thought you would call me
'Father'[r]
and not turn away from following
me.
20 But like a woman unfaithful to her
husband,
so you have been unfaithful[s] to
me, O house of Israel,"
declares the LORD.

21 A cry is heard on the barren
heights,[t]
the weeping[u] and pleading of the
people of Israel,
because they have perverted their
ways
and have forgotten[v] the LORD their
God.
22 "Return,[w] faithless people;
I will cure[x] you of backsliding."[y]

"Yes, we will come to you,
for you are the LORD our God.
23 Surely the ⌊idolatrous⌋ commotion on
the hills[z]
and mountains is a deception;
surely in the LORD our God
is the salvation[a] of Israel.
24 From our youth shameful[b] gods
have consumed
the fruits of our fathers' labor—
their flocks and herds,
their sons and daughters.
25 Let us lie down in our shame,[c]
and let our disgrace cover us.
We have sinned[d] against the LORD
our God,
both we and our fathers;[e]
from our youth[f] till this day
we have not obeyed[g] the LORD our
God."

4 "If you will return[h], O Israel,
return to me,"
declares the LORD.
"If you put your detestable idols[i]
out of my sight
and no longer go astray,
2 and if in a truthful, just and
righteous way

3:6 [a]ver 12,22; S Isa 24:16; Jer 31:22; 49:4 [b]S Dt 12:2; Jer 17:2; Eze 20:28; Hos 4:13 [c]S Lev 17:7; Jer 2:20 **3:7** [d]Eze 16:46; 23:2,11 [e]Am 4:8 **3:8** [f]Jer 11:10 [g]S Dt 4:27; S 24:1 [h]Eze 16:47; 23:11 **3:9** [i]ver 2 [j]S Lev 17:7; S Isa 1:21 [k]S Isa 57:6 [l]Jer 2:27 **3:10** [m]Isa 31:6; Am 4:9; Hag 2:17 [n]Jer 12:2; Eze 33:31 [o]S 2Ki 17:19 **3:11** [p]Eze 16:52; 23:11 [q]ver 7 [r]S Jer 2:19 **3:12** [s]2Ki 17:3-6 [t]ver 14; S Dt 4:30; Jer 31:21,22; Eze 14:6; 33:11; Hos 14:1 [u]S ver 6 [v]S 1Ki 3:26; S Ps 6:2 [w]S Ps 103:9; S Isa 54:9 **3:13** [x]Dt 30:1-3; Jer 14:20; 1Jn 1:9 [y]S Jer 2:25 [z]S Dt 12:2 [a]ver 25; Jer 22:21 **3:14** [b]S ver 12; S Job 22:23; Jer 4:1 [c]S Isa 54:5 **3:15** [d]S Isa 31:4 [e]Ac 13:22 **3:16** [f]S Nu 3:31; S 1Ch 15:25 [g]S Isa 65:17 **3:17** [h]S Ps 47:8; Jer 17:12; 33:16; Eze 1:26; 43:7; 48:35 [i]S Isa 2:3; Mic 4:1 [j]S Ps 22:23; Jer 13:11; 33:9 [k]Ps 81:12; Jer 7:24; 9:14; 11:8; 13:10; 16:12; 18:12 **3:18** [l]Jer 30:3; Eze 37:19 [m]S Isa 11:13; Jer 50:4 [n]Jer 16:15; 31:8 [o]Dt 31:7; S Isa 14:1; Eze 11:17; 37:22; Am 9:15 **3:19** [p]S Dt 8:7 [q]Ps 106:24; Eze 20:6 [r]S ver 4; S Ex 4:22; S 2Sa 7:14 **3:20** [s]S Isa 24:16 **3:21** [t]ver 2 [u]Jer 31:18 [v]S Isa 57:11 **3:22** [w]S ver 12; S Job 22:23 [x]S Isa 30:26; 57:18; Jer 33:6; Hos 6:1 [y]S Jer 2:19 **3:23** [z]S Jer 2:20 [a]Ps 3:8; Jer 17:14 **3:24** [b]Jer 11:13; Hos 9:10 **3:25** [c]S Ezr 9:6; Jer 31:19; Da 9:7 [d]S Jdg 10:10; S 1Ki 8:47 [e]Jer 14:20 [f]S Ps 25:7; S Jer 22:21 [g]S ver 13; Eze 2:3 **4:1** [h]S Dt 4:30; S 2Ki 17:13; S Hos 12:6 [i]S 2Ki 21:4; Jer 16:18; 35:15; Eze 8:5

you swear, 'As surely as the LORD
lives,'
then the nations will be blessed by
him
and in him they will glory."

3 This is what the LORD says to the men of Judah and to Jerusalem:

"Break up your unplowed ground
and do not sow among thorns.
4 Circumcise yourselves to the LORD,
circumcise your hearts,
you men of Judah and people of
Jerusalem,
or my wrath will break out and
burn like fire
because of the evil you have
done—
burn with no one to quench it.

Disaster From the North

5 "Announce in Judah and proclaim
in Jerusalem and say:
'Sound the trumpet throughout
the land!'
Cry aloud and say:
'Gather together!
Let us flee to the fortified cities!'
6 Raise the signal to go to Zion!
Flee for safety without delay!
For I am bringing disaster from the
north,
even terrible destruction."

7 A lion has come out of his lair;
a destroyer of nations has set
out.
He has left his place
to lay waste your land.
Your towns will lie in ruins
without inhabitant.
8 So put on sackcloth,
lament and wail,
for the fierce anger of the LORD
has not turned away from us.

9 "In that day," declares the LORD,
"the king and the officials will lose
heart,
the priests will be horrified,
and the prophets will be
appalled."

10 Then I said, "Ah, Sovereign LORD,
how completely you have deceived
this people and Jerusalem by saying,
'You will have peace,' when the
sword is at our throats."

11 At that time this people and Jerusa-
lem will be told, "A scorching wind
from the barren heights in the desert
blows toward my people, but not to
winnow or cleanse; 12 a wind too
strong for that comes from me.[1] Now I
pronounce my judgments against
them."

13 Look! He advances like the clouds,
his chariots come like a
whirlwind,
his horses are swifter than eagles.
Woe to us! We are ruined!
14 O Jerusalem, wash the evil from
your heart and be saved.
How long will you harbor wicked
thoughts?
15 A voice is announcing from Dan,
proclaiming disaster from the hills
of Ephraim.
16 "Tell this to the nations,
proclaim it to Jerusalem:
'A besieging army is coming from a
distant land,
raising a war cry against the cities
of Judah.
17 They surround her like men
guarding a field,
because she has rebelled against
me,'"
declares the LORD.
18 "Your own conduct and actions
have brought this upon you.
This is your punishment.
How bitter it is!
How it pierces to the heart!"

19 Oh, my anguish, my anguish!
I writhe in pain.
Oh, the agony of my heart!
My heart pounds within me,
I cannot keep silent.
For I have heard the sound of the
trumpet;
I have heard the battle cry.
20 Disaster follows disaster;
the whole land lies in ruins.
In an instant my tents are
destroyed,
my shelter in a moment.
21 How long must I see the battle
standard
and hear the sound of the
trumpet?

22 "My people are fools;
they do not know me.
They are senseless children;
they have no understanding.
They are skilled in doing evil;
they know not how to do good."

[illegible] 4:13 S 2Sa 22:10; Isa 19:1 Isa 66:15; Eze 26:10; Na 2:4 S 2Ki 2:11 Hab 3:8 S Dt 28:49; Hab 1:8 ver 20, 27; Isa 6:11; 24:3; Jer 7:34; 9:11,19; 12:11; 25:11; 44:6; Mic 2:4 4:14 S Ru 3:3; S Ps 51:2; Jas 4:8 Isa 45:22 S Ps 6:3 4:15 S Ge 30:6 Jer 31:6 4:16 S Dt 28:49 ver 19; Eze 21:22 S Jer 1:15 4:17 S 2Ki 25:1,4 S 1Sa 12:15; Jer 5:23 4:18 Ps 107:17; S Isa 1:28; Jer 5:25 Jer 2:17 Jer 2:19 4:19 Isa 22:4; Jer 6:24; 9:10; La 1:20 S Job 6:10; S 14:22; Jer 10:19 S Job 37:1; Jer 23:9 S Job 4:2; Jer 20:9 S ver 21; S Nu 10:2; S Job 39:24 S ver 16; Nu 10:9; Jer 49:2; Zep 1:16 4:20 S Dt 31:17 S ver 13 S Nu 24:5; Jer 10:20; La 2:4 4:21 S ver 6; S Nu 2:2; S Isa 18:3 ver 5,19; S Jos 6:20; Jer 6:1; Hos 5:8; Am 3:6; Zep 1:16 4:22 Jer 5:21; 10:8 S Isa 1:3; 27:11; Jer 2:8; 8:7; Hos 5:4; 6:6 S Ps 14:4; S 53:2 Jer 13:23; S 1Co 14:20 S Ps 36:3

[1] 12 Or *comes at my command*

23I looked at the earth,
and it was formless and empty;[a]
and at the heavens,
and their light[b] was gone.
24I looked at the mountains,
and they were quaking;[c]
all the hills were swaying.
25I looked, and there were no people;
every bird in the sky had flown
away.[d]
26I looked, and the fruitful land was a
desert;[e]
all its towns lay in ruins[f]
before the LORD, before his fierce
anger.[g]

27This is what the LORD says:

"The whole land will be ruined,[h]
though I will not destroy[i] it
completely.
28Therefore the earth will mourn[j]
and the heavens above grow
dark,[k]
because I have spoken and will not
relent,[l]
I have decided and will not turn
back.[m]"

29At the sound of horsemen and
archers[n]
every town takes to flight.[o]
Some go into the thickets;
some climb up among the rocks.[p]
All the towns are deserted;[q]
no one lives in them.

30What are you doing,[r] O devastated
one?
Why dress yourself in scarlet
and put on jewels[s] of gold?
Why shade your eyes with paint?[t]
You adorn yourself in vain.
Your lovers[u] despise you;
they seek your life.[v]

31I hear a cry as of a woman in
labor,[w]
a groan as of one bearing her first
child—
the cry of the Daughter of Zion[x]
gasping for breath,[y]
stretching out her hands[z] and
saying,
"Alas! I am fainting;
my life is given over to
murderers."[a]

Not One Is Upright

5 "Go up and down[b] the streets of
Jerusalem,
look around and consider,[c]
search through her squares.
If you can find but one person[d]
who deals honestly[e] and seeks the
truth,
I will forgive[f] this city.
2Although they say, 'As surely as the
LORD lives,'[g]
still they are swearing falsely.[h]"
3O LORD, do not your eyes[i] look for
truth?
You struck[j] them, but they felt no
pain;
you crushed them, but they
refused correction.[k]
They made their faces harder than
stone[l]
and refused to repent.[m]
4I thought, "These are only the poor;
they are foolish,[n]
for they do not know[o] the way of
the LORD,
the requirements of their God.
5So I will go to the leaders[p]
and speak to them;
surely they know the way of the
LORD,
the requirements of their God."
But with one accord they too had
broken off the yoke
and torn off the bonds.[q]
6Therefore a lion from the forest[r] will
attack them,
a wolf from the desert will ravage[s]
them,
a leopard[t] will lie in wait near their
towns
to tear to pieces any who venture
out,
for their rebellion is great
and their backslidings many.[u]

7"Why should I forgive you?
Your children have forsaken me
and sworn[v] by gods that are not
gods.[w]
I supplied all their needs,
yet they committed adultery[x]
and thronged to the houses of
prostitutes.[y]
8They are well-fed, lusty stallions,
each neighing for another man's
wife.[z]
9Should I not punish them for this?"[a]
declares the LORD.
"Should I not avenge[b] myself
on such a nation as this?

10"Go through her vineyards and
ravage them,
but do not destroy them
completely.[c]
Strip off her branches,
for these people do not belong to
the LORD.

4:23 [a] S Ge 1:2 [b] ver 28; S Job 9:7; 30:26; S Isa 5:30; 59:9; La 3:2 **4:24** [c] S Ex 19:18; S Job 9:6 **4:25** [d] Jer 7:20; 9:10; 12:4; Hos 4:3; Zep 1:3 **4:26** [e] S Ge 13:10; Jer 12:4; 23:10 [f] S Isa 6:11 [g] Jer 12:13; 25:38 **4:27** [h] S ver 13 [i] S Lev 26:44; Jer 5:10,18; 12:12; 30:11; 46:28; Eze 20:17; Am 9:8 **4:28** [j] Jer 12:4, 11; 14:2; Hos 4:3 [k] S ver 23 [l] S Nu 23:19 [m] ver 8; Jer 23:20; 30:24 **4:29** [n] S ver 13; Jer 6:23; 8:16 [o] 2Ki 25:4 [p] S Ex 33:22; S 1Sa 26:20 [q] S ver 7; S Isa 6:12 **4:30** [r] Isa 10:3-4 [s] Eze 16:11; 23:40 [t] S 2Ki 9:30 [u] Job 19:14; La 1:2; Eze 23:9, 22 [v] S Ps 35:4 **4:31** [w] S Ge 3:16; Jer 6:24; 13:21; 22:23; 30:6; Mic 4:10 [x] S Ps 9:14 [y] Isa 42:14 [z] Isa 1:15; La 1:17 [a] S Dt 32:25; La 2:21 **5:1** [b] 2Ch 16:9; Eze 22:30 [c] Ps 45:10 [d] Ge 18:32; S Jer 2:29 [e] ver 31; Jer 14:14; Eze 13:6 [f] S Ge 18:24 **5:2** [g] S Jer 4:2 [h] S Lev 19:12 **5:3** [i] 2Ch 16:9 [j] S Isa 9:13 [k] S Lev 26:23 [l] Jer 7:26; 19:15; Eze 3:8-9; 36:26; Zec 7:12 [m] S 2Ch 28:22; S Isa 1:5; Eze 2:4-5; Am 4:6; Zec 7:11 **5:4** [n] S ver 21; S Jer 4:22 [o] S Pr 10:21; S Isa 1:3 **5:5** [p] Mic 3:1,9 [q] S Jer 2:20 **5:6** [r] S Ps 17:12 [s] S Lev 26:22 [t] Hos 13:7 [u] Jer 14:7; 30:14 **5:7** [v] S Jos 23:7 [w] Dt 32:21; Jer 2:11; 16:20; Gal 4:8 [x] S Nu 25:1 [y] Jer 13:27 **5:8** [z] Jer 29:23; Eze 22:11; 33:26 **5:9** [a] ver 29; Jer 9:9 [b] S Isa 57:6 **5:10** [c] S Jer 4:27; Am 9:8

11 The house of Israel and the house of
Judah
have been utterly unfaithful[a] to
me,"
declares the LORD.

12 They have lied[b] about the LORD;
they said, "He will do nothing!
No harm will come to us;[c]
we will never see sword or
famine.[d]
13 The prophets[e] are but wind[f]
and the word is not in them;
so let what they say be done to
them."

14 Therefore this is what the LORD God
Almighty says:

"Because the people have spoken
these words,
I will make my words in your
mouth[g] a fire[h]
and these people the wood it
consumes.[i]
15 O house of Israel," declares the
LORD,
"I am bringing a distant nation[j]
against you—
an ancient and enduring nation,
a people whose language[k] you do
not know,
whose speech you do not
understand.
16 Their quivers[l] are like an open
grave;
all of them are mighty warriors.
17 They will devour[m n] your harvests
and food,
devour[o p] your sons and
daughters;
they will devour[q] your flocks and
herds,
devour your vines and fig trees.[r]
With the sword[s] they will destroy
the fortified cities[t] in which you
trust.[u]

18 "Yet even in those days," declares
the LORD, "I will not destroy[v] you com-
pletely. 19 And when the people ask,[w]
'Why has the LORD our God done all
this to us?' you will tell them, 'As you
have forsaken me and served foreign
gods[x] in your own land, so now you
will serve foreigners[y] in a land not
your own.'

20 "Announce this to the house of
Jacob
and proclaim[z] it in Judah:
21 Hear this, you foolish and senseless
people,[a]
who have eyes[b] but do not see,
who have ears but do not hear:[c]
22 Should you not fear[d] me?" declares
the LORD.
"Should you not tremble[e] in my
presence?
I made the sand a boundary for the
sea,[f]
an everlasting barrier it cannot
cross.
The waves may roll, but they cannot
prevail;
they may roar,[g] but they cannot
cross it.
23 But these people have stubborn and
rebellious[h] hearts;
they have turned aside[i] and gone
away.
24 They do not say to themselves,
'Let us fear[j] the LORD our God,
who gives autumn and spring rains[k]
in season,
who assures us of the regular
weeks of harvest.'[l]
25 Your wrongdoings have kept these
away;
your sins have deprived you of
good.[m]

26 "Among my people are wicked[n]
men
who lie in wait[o] like men who
snare birds
and like those who set traps[p] to
catch men.
27 Like cages full of birds,
their houses are full of deceit;[q]
they have become rich[r] and
powerful
28 and have grown fat[s] and sleek.
Their evil deeds have no limit;
they do not plead the case of the
fatherless[t] to win it,
they do not defend the rights of
the poor.[u]
29 Should I not punish them for this?"
declares the LORD.
"Should I not avenge[v] myself
on such a nation as this?

30 "A horrible[w] and shocking thing
has happened in the land:
31 The prophets prophesy lies,[x]
the priests[y] rule by their own
authority,
and my people love it this way.
But what will you do in the end?[z]

Jerusalem Under Siege

6 "Flee for safety, people of
Benjamin!
Flee from Jerusalem!
Sound the trumpet[a] in Tekoa![b]

5:11 [a]S 1Ki 19:10; S Ps 73:27; S Isa 24:16 **5:12** [b]Isa 28:15 [c]Jer 23:17 [d]Jer 14:13; 27:8 **5:13** [e]Jer 14:15 [f]S 2Ch 36:16; S Job 6:26 **5:14** [g]Hos 6:5 [h]S Ps 39:3; Jer 23:29 [i]S Isa 1:31 **5:15** [j]S Dt 28:49; S 2Ki 24:2 [k]S Ge 11:7; S Isa 28:11 **5:16** [l]S Job 39:23 **5:17** [m]S Isa 1:7; Jer 8:16; 30:16 [n]Lev 26:16 [o]Jer 50:7,17 [p]Dt 28:32 [q]Dt 28:31 [r]S Nu 16:14; Jer 8:13; Hos 2:12 [s]S Lev 26:25 [t]S Jos 10:20 [u]Dt 28:33 **5:18** [v]S Jer 4:27 **5:19** [w]S Dt 4:28; S 1Ki 9:9 [x]S Jer 2:8; 15:14; 16:13; 17:4 [y]Dt 28:48 **5:20** [z]S Jer 4:5 **5:21** [a]ver 4; S Dt 32:6; S Jer 4:22; Hab 2:18 [b]Isa 6:10; Eze 12:2 [c]S Dt 29:4; S Isa 42:20; S Mt 13:15; Mk 8:18 **5:22** [d]S Dt 28:58 [e]S Job 4:14; S Isa 64:2 [f]S Ge 1:9 [g]S Ps 46:3 **5:23** [h]S Dt 21:18 [i]Ps 14:3 **5:24** [j]Dt 6:24 [k]S Lev 26:4; S 2Sa 1:21; Jas 5:7 [l]S Ge 8:22; Ac 14:17 **5:25** [m]Ps 84:11 **5:26** [n]S Mt 7:15 [o]S Ps 10:8 [p]Ecc 9:12; Jer 9:8; Hos 5:1; Mic 7:2 **5:27** [q]Jer 8:5; 9:6 [r]Jer 12:1 **5:28** [s]S Dt 32:15 [t]Zec 7:10 [u]Ex 22:21-24; S Ps 82:3; S Isa 1:23; Jer 7:6; Eze 16:49; Am 5:12 **5:29** [v]S Isa 57:6 **5:30** [w]ver 30-31; Jer 18:13; 23:14; Hos 6:10 **5:31** [x]S ver 1; Mic 2:11 [y]La 4:13 [z]Hos 9:5 **6:1** [a]S Nu 10:7; S Jer 4:21 [b]2Ch 11:6; Am 1:1

Raise the signal over Beth
Hakkerem![a]
For disaster looms out of the north,[b]
even terrible destruction.
2I will destroy the Daughter of Zion,[c]
so beautiful and delicate.[d]
3Shepherds[e] with their flocks will
come against her;
they will pitch their tents around[f]
her,
each tending his own portion."

4"Prepare for battle against her!
Arise, let us attack at noon![g]
But, alas, the daylight is fading,
and the shadows of evening grow
long.
5So arise, let us attack at night
and destroy her fortresses!"

6This is what the LORD Almighty
says:

"Cut down the trees[h]
and build siege ramps[i] against
Jerusalem.
This city must be punished;
it is filled with oppression.[j]
7As a well pours out its water,
so she pours out her wickedness.
Violence[k] and destruction[l] resound
in her;
her sickness and wounds are ever
before me.
8Take warning, O Jerusalem,
or I will turn away[m] from you
and make your land desolate
so no one can live in it."

9This is what the LORD Almighty
says:

"Let them glean the remnant[n] of
Israel
as thoroughly as a vine;
pass your hand over the branches
again,
like one gathering grapes."

10To whom can I speak and give
warning?
Who will listen[o] to me?
Their ears are closed[m][p]
so they cannot hear.[q]
The word[r] of the LORD is offensive to
them;
they find no pleasure in it.
11But I am full of the wrath[s] of the
LORD,
and I cannot hold it in.[t]

"Pour it out on the children in the
street
and on the young men[u] gathered
together;
both husband and wife will be
caught in it,
and the old, those weighed down
with years.[v]
12Their houses will be turned over to
others,[w]
together with their fields and their
wives,[x]
when I stretch out my hand[y]
against those who live in the
land,"
declares the LORD.
13"From the least to the greatest,
all[z] are greedy for gain;[a]
prophets and priests alike,
all practice deceit.[b]
14They dress the wound of my people
as though it were not serious.
'Peace, peace,' they say,
when there is no peace.[c]
15Are they ashamed of their loathsome
conduct?
No, they have no shame at all;
they do not even know how to
blush.[d]
So they will fall among the fallen;
they will be brought down when I
punish[e] them,"
says the LORD.

16This is what the LORD says:

"Stand at the crossroads and look;
ask for the ancient paths,[f]
ask where the good way[g] is, and
walk in it,
and you will find rest[h] for your
souls.
But you said, 'We will not walk in
it.'
17I appointed watchmen[i] over you
and said,
'Listen to the sound of the
trumpet!'[j]
But you said, 'We will not listen.'[k]
18Therefore hear, O nations;
observe, O witnesses,
what will happen to them.
19Hear, O earth:[l]
I am bringing disaster[m] on this
people,
the fruit of their schemes,[n]
because they have not listened to my
words[o]
and have rejected my law.[p]
20What do I care about incense from
Sheba[q]
or sweet calamus[r] from a distant
land?
Your burnt offerings are not
acceptable;[s]

6:1 a Ne 3:14 b S Jer 4:6 **6:2** c S Ps 9:14 d La 4:5 **6:3** e Jer 12:10 f S 2Ki 25:4; Lk 19:43 **6:4** g Jer 15:8; 22:7 **6:6** h Dt 20:19-20 i S 2Sa 20:15; Jer 32:24; 52:4; Eze 26:8 j S Dt 28:33; Jer 22:17; Zep 3:1 **6:7** k S Ps 55:9; S Isa 58:4 l Jer 20:8 **6:8** m Eze 23:18 **6:9** n S Ge 45:7 **6:10** o Jer 7:13, 24; 35:15 p Jer 4:4; Ac 7:51 q S Isa 42:20 r Jer 15:10,15; 20:8 **6:11** s Jer 7:20; 15:17 t Job 32:20; Jer 20:9 u S 2Ch 36:17; S Isa 40:30 v La 2:21 **6:12** w S Dt 28:30; Mic 2:4 x 1Ki 11:4; Jer 8:10; 29:23; 38:22; 43:6; 44:9, 15 y Isa 5:25; Jer 21:5; 32:21; Eze 6:14; 35:3; Zep 1:4 **6:13** z S Jer 2:29 a S Isa 56:11 b La 4:13 **6:14** c S Isa 30:10; S Jer 4:10 **6:15** d Jer 3:3; 8:10-12; Mic 3:7; Zec 13:4 e 2Ch 25:16; Jer 27:15 **6:16** f Jer 18:15 g S 1Ki 8:36; S Ps 119:3 h S Jos 1:13; S Isa 11:10; Mt 11:29 **6:17** i S Isa 52:8 j S Ex 20:18 k Jer 11:7-8; Eze 33:4; Zec 1:4 **6:19** l S Dt 4:26; Jer 22:29; Mic 1:2 m S Jos 23:15; Jer 11:11; 19:3 n Pr 1:31 o Jer 29:19 p Jer 8:9; Eze 20:13; Am 2:4 **6:20** q S Ge 10:7 r S Ex 30:23 s Am 5:22; Mal 1:9

m10 Hebrew *uncircumcised*

your sacrifices[a] do not please
me."[b]

21 Therefore this is what the LORD
says:

"I will put obstacles before this
people.
Fathers and sons alike will
stumble[c] over them;
neighbors and friends will perish."

22 This is what the LORD says:

"Look, an army is coming
from the land of the north;[d]
a great nation is being stirred up
from the ends of the earth.[e]
23 They are armed with bow and spear;
they are cruel and show no
mercy.[f]
They sound like the roaring sea[g]
as they ride on their horses;[h]
they come like men in battle
formation
to attack you, O Daughter of
Zion."[i]

24 We have heard reports about them,
and our hands hang limp.[j]
Anguish[k] has gripped us,
pain like that of a woman in
labor.[l]
25 Do not go out to the fields
or walk on the roads,
for the enemy has a sword,
and there is terror on every side.[m]
26 O my people, put on sackcloth[n]
and roll in ashes;[o]
mourn with bitter wailing[p]
as for an only son,[q]
for suddenly the destroyer[r]
will come upon us.

27 "I have made you a tester[s] of metals
and my people the ore,
that you may observe
and test their ways.
28 They are all hardened rebels,[t]
going about to slander.[u]
They are bronze and iron;[v]
they all act corruptly.
29 The bellows blow fiercely
to burn away the lead with fire,
but the refining[w] goes on in vain;
the wicked are not purged out.
30 They are called rejected silver,[x]
because the LORD has rejected
them."[y]

False Religion Worthless

7 This is the word that came to Jere-
miah from the LORD: 2 "Stand[z] at
the gate of the LORD's house and there
proclaim this message:

" 'Hear the word of the LORD, all you
people of Judah who come through
these gates to worship the LORD. 3 This
is what the LORD Almighty, the God of
Israel, says: Reform your ways[a] and
your actions, and I will let you live[b] in
this place. 4 Do not trust[c] in deceptive[d]
words and say, "This is the temple of
the LORD, the temple of the LORD, the
temple of the LORD!" 5 If you really
change[e] your ways and your actions
and deal with each other justly,[f] 6 if
you do not oppress[g] the alien, the fa-
therless or the widow and do not shed
innocent blood[h] in this place, and if
you do not follow other gods[i] to your
own harm, 7 then I will let you live in
this place, in the land[j] I gave your
forefathers[k] for ever and ever. 8 But
look, you are trusting[l] in deceptive[m]
words that are worthless.

9 " 'Will you steal[n] and murder,[o]
commit adultery[p] and perjury,[n][q] burn
incense to Baal[r][s] and follow other
gods[t] you have not known, 10 and then
come and stand[u] before me in this
house,[v] which bears my Name, and
say, "We are safe"—safe to do all these
detestable things?[w] 11 Has this house,[x]
which bears my Name, become a den
of robbers[y] to you? But I have been
watching![z] declares the LORD.

12 " 'Go now to the place in Shiloh[a]
where I first made a dwelling[b] for my
Name,[c] and see what I did[d] to it be-
cause of the wickedness of my people
Israel. 13 While you were doing all these
things, declares the LORD, I spoke[e] to
you again and again,[f] but you did not
listen;[g] I called[h] you, but you did not
answer.[i] 14 Therefore, what I did to
Shiloh[j] I will now do to the house that
bears my Name,[k] the temple[l] you
trust in, the place I gave to you and
your fathers. 15 I will thrust you from
my presence,[m] just as I did all your
brothers, the people of Ephraim.'[n]

16 "So do not pray for this people nor
offer any plea[o] or petition for them; do
not plead with me, for I will not listen[p]
to you. 17 Do you not see what they are
doing in the towns of Judah and in the
streets of Jerusalem? 18 The children
gather wood, the fathers light the fire,
and the women knead the dough and
make cakes of bread for the Queen of

6:20 [a]Ps 50:8-10; Jer 7:21; Mic 6:7-8 [b]S Isa 1:11; Jer 14:12; Hos 8:13; 9:4 **6:21** [c]S Lev 26:37; S Isa 8:14 **6:22** [d]S Jer 4:6 [e]S Dt 28:49 **6:23** [f]S Isa 13:18 [g]S Ps 18:4; S 93:3 [h]S Jer 4:29 [i]S Isa 10:32 **6:24** [j]Isa 13:7 [k]S Jer 4:19 [l]S Jer 4:31; 50:41-43 **6:25** [m]S Job 15:21; S Ps 31:13; Jer 49:29 **6:26** [n]S Jer 4:8 [o]S Job 2:8; Jer 25:34; Eze 27:30; Jnh 3:6 [p]Jer 9:1; 18:22; 20:16; 25:36 [q]S Ge 21:16 [r]S Ex 12:23; S Jer 4:7 **6:27** [s]Jer 9:7; Zec 13:9 **6:28** [t]Jer 5:23 [u]S Lev 19:16 [v]Eze 22:18 **6:29** [w]Mal 3:3 **6:30** [x]Pr 17:3; Eze 22:18 [y]Ps 53:5; 119:119; Jer 7:29; La 5:22; Hos 9:17 **7:2** [z]Jer 17:19 **7:3** [a]Jer 18:11; 26:13; 35:15 [b]ver 7 **7:4** [c]S Job 15:31 [d]ver 8; Jer 28:15; Mic 3:11 **7:5** [e]ver 3; Jer 18:11; 26:13; 35:15 [f]S Ex 22:22; S Lev 25:17; S Isa 1:17 **7:6** [g]S Jer 5:28; Eze 22:7 [h]S 2Ki 21:16; Jer 2:34; 19:4; 22:3 [i]S Ex 20:3; S Dt 8:19 **7:7** [j]S Dt 4:40 [k]S Jos 1:6 **7:8** [l]S Job 15:31 [m]S ver 4 **7:9** [n]Ex 20:15 [o]Ex 20:13 [p]Ex 20:14; S Nu 25:1 [q]Ex 20:16; S Lev 19:12; Zec 8:17; Mal 3:5 [r]S Isa 1:13 [s]Jer 11:13,17; 32:29 [t]S Ex 20:3; Hos 2:13 **7:10** [u]S Isa 48:1 [v]ver 30; 2Ki 21:4-5; Jer 23:11; 32:34; Eze 23:38-39 [w]Eze 33:25 **7:11** [x]Isa 56:7 [y]Mt 21:13*; Mk 11:17*; Lk 19:46 [z]Ge 31:50; Jdg 11:10; Jer 29:23; 42:5 **7:12** [a]S Jos 18:1; S 1Sa 2:32 [b]S Ex 40:2; S Jos 18:10 [c]Da 9:18 [d]S 1Sa 4:10-11,22; Ps 78:60-64 **7:13** [e]Ps 71:17; Isa 48:17; Jer 32:33 [f]S 2Ch 36:15 [g]S ver 26; S Isa 65:12 [h]S Pr 1:24 [i]Jer 35:17 **7:14** [j]S Jdg 18:31; S 1Sa 2:32 [k]S 1Ki 9:7 [l]ver 4; Eze 24:21 **7:15** [m]S Ge 4:14; S Ex 33:15; S 2Ki 17:20; Jer 23:39 [n]S Ps 78:67 **7:16** [o]S Ex 32:10; Dt 9:14; Jer 15:1 [p]S Nu 23:19

[n]9 *Or and swear by false gods*

Heaven. They pour out drink offerings to other gods to provoke me to anger. 19But am I the one they are provoking? declares the LORD. Are they not rather harming themselves, to their own shame?

20"'Therefore this is what the Sovereign LORD says: My anger and my wrath will be poured out on this place, on man and beast, on the trees of the field and on the fruit of the ground, and it will burn and not be quenched.

21"'This is what the LORD Almighty, the God of Israel, says: Go ahead, add your burnt offerings to your other sacrifices and eat the meat yourselves! 22For when I brought your forefathers out of Egypt and spoke to them, I did not just give them commands about burnt offerings and sacrifices, 23but I gave them this command: Obey me, and I will be your God and you will be my people. Walk in all the ways I command you, that it may go well with you. 24But they did not listen or pay attention; instead, they followed the stubborn inclinations of their evil hearts. They went backward and not forward. 25From the time your forefathers left Egypt until now, day after day, again and again I sent you my servants the prophets. 26But they did not listen to me or pay attention. They were stiff-necked and did more evil than their forefathers.'

27"When you tell them all this, they will not listen to you; when you call to them, they will not answer. 28Therefore say to them, 'This is the nation that has not obeyed the LORD its God or responded to correction. Truth has perished; it has vanished from their lips. 29Cut off your hair and throw it away; take up a lament on the barren heights, for the LORD has rejected and abandoned this generation that is under his wrath.

The Valley of Slaughter

30"'The people of Judah have done evil in my eyes, declares the LORD. They have set up their detestable idols in the house that bears my Name and have defiled it. 31They have built the high places of Topheth in the Valley of Ben Hinnom to burn their sons and daughters in the fire—something I did not command, nor did it enter my mind. 32So beware, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when people will no longer call it Topheth or the Valley of Ben Hinnom, but the Valley of Slaughter, for they will bury the dead in Topheth until there is no more room. 33Then the carcasses of this people will become food for the birds of the air and the beasts of the earth, and there will be no one to frighten them away. 34I will bring an end to the sounds of joy and gladness and to the voices of bride and bridegroom in the towns of Judah and the streets of Jerusalem, for the land will become desolate.

8

"'At that time, declares the LORD, the bones of the kings and officials of Judah, the bones of the priests and prophets, and the bones of the people of Jerusalem will be removed from their graves. 2They will be exposed to the sun and the moon and all the stars of the heavens, which they have loved and served and which they have followed and consulted and worshiped. They will not be gathered up or buried, but will be like refuse lying on the ground. 3Wherever I banish them, all the survivors of this evil nation will prefer death to life, declares the LORD Almighty.'

Sin and Punishment

4"Say to them, 'This is what the LORD says:

"'When men fall down, do they not
get up?
When a man turns away, does he
not return?
5Why then have these people turned
away?
Why does Jerusalem always turn
away?
They cling to deceit;
they refuse to return.
6I have listened attentively,
but they do not say what is right.
No one repents of his wickedness,
saying, "What have I done?"
Each pursues his own course
like a horse charging into battle.
7Even the stork in the sky
knows her appointed seasons,
and the dove, the swift and the
thrush
observe the time of their
migration.
But my people do not know
the requirements of the LORD.

7:18 [illegible] 7:19 [illegible] 7:20 [illegible] 7:21 [illegible] 7:22 [illegible] 7:23 [illegible] 7:24 [illegible] 7:25 2Ch 36:15; Isa 20:3; Ne 11:25; Jer 25:4; 35:15 7:26 Jer 19:26; 2Ch 36:16; Ps 81:11; Jer 19:15; 22:21; 25:3; 35:15; Eze 20:8,21; Ex 32:9; Ac 7:51; Jer 16:12; Mal 3:7; Lk 11:47 7:27 Eze 2:7; Jer 13; Eze 3:7; Zec 7:13; Isa 65:12 7:28 Lev 26:23; Zep 3:7; Ps 78:2; Isa 59:15 7:29 Lev 21:5; Job 1:20; Jer 4:8; Eze 19:1; Jer 6:30; 12:7; Hos 11:8; Mic 5:3 7:30 ver 18; Lev 18:21; Jer 2:7; 3:4-5; Eze 7:20-22; Lev 20:3; Jer 32:34 7:31 2Ki 23:10; Jos 15:8; 2Ch 33:6; Lev 18:21; Eze 16:20; Jer 19:5; 32:35; Eze 20:31; Mic 6:7 7:32 Jer 19:6; Jer 19:11 7:33 Ge 15:11; Dt 28:26; Eze 29:5; Jer 6:11; 14:16 7:34 Isa 24:8; Rev 18:23; Isa 24:7-12; Jer 33:10; Lev 26:34; Zec 7:14; Mt 23:38 8:1 Ps 53:5; Isa 14:19 8:2 2Ki 23:5; Jer 19:13; Zep 1:5; Ac 7:42; Job 31:27; Jer 14:16; Eze 29:5; 37:1; 2Ki 9:37; Jer 31:40; 36:30 8:3 Dt 29:28; Job 3:22; Rev 9:6 8:4 Pr 24:16; Mic 7:8; Ps 119:67; Jer 31:19 8:5 Jer 3:27; Zec 7:11 8:6 Mal 3:16; Rev 9:20; Ps 14:1-3 8:7 Dt 32:28; Jer 4:22

8" 'How can you say, "We are wise,
for we have the law[a] of the LORD,"
when actually the lying pen of the
scribes
has handled it falsely?
9The wise[b] will be put to shame;
they will be dismayed[c] and
trapped.[d]
Since they have rejected the word[e]
of the LORD,
what kind of wisdom[f] do they
have?
10Therefore I will give their wives to
other men
and their fields to new owners.[g]
From the least to the greatest,
all are greedy for gain;[h]
prophets[i] and priests alike,
all practice deceit.[j]
11They dress the wound of my people
as though it were not serious.
"Peace, peace," they say,
when there is no peace.[k]
12Are they ashamed of their loathsome
conduct?
No, they have no shame[l] at all;
they do not even know how to
blush.
So they will fall among the fallen;
they will be brought down when
they are punished,[m]
says the LORD.[n]

13" 'I will take away their harvest,
declares the LORD.
There will be no grapes on the
vine.[o]
There will be no figs[p] on the tree,
and their leaves will wither.[q]
What I have given them
will be taken[r] from them.[o]' "

14"Why are we sitting here?
Gather together!
Let us flee to the fortified cities[s]
and perish there!
For the LORD our God has doomed us
to perish
and given us poisoned water[t] to
drink,
because we have sinned[u] against
him.
15We hoped for peace[v]
but no good has come,
for a time of healing
but there was only terror.[w]
16The snorting of the enemy's horses[x]
is heard from Dan;[y]
at the neighing of their stallions
the whole land trembles.[z]
They have come to devour[a]
the land and everything in it,
the city and all who live there."

17"See, I will send venomous snakes[b]
among you,
vipers that cannot be charmed,[c]
and they will bite you,"
declares the LORD.

18O my Comforter[p] in sorrow,
my heart is faint[d] within me.
19Listen to the cry of my people
from a land far away:[e]
"Is the LORD not in Zion?
Is her King[f] no longer there?"
"Why have they provoked[g] me to
anger with their images,
with their worthless[h] foreign
idols?"[i]

20"The harvest is past,
the summer has ended,
and we are not saved."

21Since my people are crushed,[j] I am
crushed;
I mourn,[k] and horror grips me.
22Is there no balm in Gilead?[l]
Is there no physician[m] there?
Why then is there no healing[n]
for the wound of my people?

9 1Oh, that my head were a spring of
water
and my eyes a fountain of tears![o]
I would weep[p] day and night
for the slain of my people.[q]
2Oh, that I had in the desert[r]
a lodging place for travelers,
so that I might leave my people
and go away from them;
for they are all adulterers,[s]
a crowd of unfaithful[t] people.

3"They make ready their tongue
like a bow, to shoot lies;[u]
it is not by truth
that they triumph[q] in the land.
They go from one sin to another;
they do not acknowledge[v] me,"
declares the LORD.
4"Beware of your friends;[w]
do not trust your brothers.[x]
For every brother is a deceiver,[r][y]
and every friend a slanderer.[z]
5Friend deceives friend,[a]
and no one speaks the truth.[b]
They have taught their tongues to
lie;[c]
they weary themselves with
sinning.
6You[s] live in the midst of deception;[d]

8:8 [a]Ro 2:17
8:9 [b]S Isa 29:14 [c]S 2Ki 19:26 [d]S Job 5:13 [e]S Jer 6:19 [f]Pr 1:7; 1Co 1:20
8:10 [g]S Jer 6:12 [h]S Isa 56:11 [i]Jer 14:14; La 2:14 [j]Jer 23:11,15
8:11 [k]ver 15; S Jer 4:10; Eze 7:25
8:12 [l]S Jer 3:3 [m]Ps 52:5-7; Isa 3:9 [n]S Jer 6:15
8:13 [o]Hos 2:12; Joel 1:7 [p]Lk 13:6 [q]Mt 21:19 [r]S Jer 5:17
8:14 [s]S Jos 10:20; Jer 35:11 [t]S Dt 29:18; Jer 9:15; 23:15 [u]Jer 14:7,20; Da 9:5
8:15 [v]S ver 11 [w]S Job 19:8; Jer 14:19
8:16 [x]S Jer 4:29 [y]S Ge 30:6 [z]Jer 51:29 [a]S Jer 5:17
8:17 [b]Nu 21:6; S Dt 32:24 [c]S Ps 58:5; S Isa 3:3
8:18 [d]La 5:17
8:19 [e]Dt 28:64; Jer 9:16 [f]Mic 4:9 [g]Jer 44:3 [h]S Isa 41:24 [i]S Dt 32:21
8:21 [j]S Ps 94:5 [k]Ps 78:40; Isa 43:24; Jer 4:19; 10:19; 14:17; 30:14; La 2:13; Eze 6:9
8:22 [l]S Ge 37:25 [m]Job 13:4 [n]S Isa 1:6; Jer 30:12
9:1 [o]S Ps 119:136 [p]Jer 13:17; 14:17; La 2:11,18; 3:48 [q]Isa 22:4
9:2 [r]Ps 55:7 [s]S Nu 25:1; Jer 23:10; Hos 4:2; 7:4 [t]S 1Ki 19:10; S Isa 24:16
9:3 [u]ver 8; S Ex 20:16; Ps 64:3; S Isa 44:20; Jer 18:18; Mic 6:12 [v]S Isa 1:3
9:4 [w]S 2Sa 15:12 [x]Mic 7:5-6 [y]S Ge 27:35 [z]S Ex 20:16; S Lev 19:16
9:5 [a]S Lev 6:2 [b]S Ps 15:2; S Isa 59:15 [c]S Ps 52:3
9:6 [d]S Jer 5:27

[o]13 The meaning of the Hebrew for this sentence is uncertain. [p]18 The meaning of the Hebrew for this word is uncertain. [q]3 Or *lies; / they are not valiant for truth* [r]4 Or *a deceiving Jacob* [s]6 That is, Jeremiah (the Hebrew is singular)

in their deceit they refuse to
acknowledge me,"
declares the LORD.

7 Therefore this is what the LORD Al-
mighty says:

"See, I will refine[a] and test[b] them,
for what else can I do
because of the sin of my people?
8 Their tongue[c] is a deadly arrow;
it speaks with deceit.
With his mouth each speaks
cordially to his neighbor,[d]
but in his heart he sets a trap[e] for
him.[f]
9 Should I not punish them for this?"
declares the LORD.
"Should I not avenge[g] myself
on such a nation as this?"

10 I will weep and wail for the
mountains
and take up a lament concerning
the desert pastures.[h]
They are desolate and untraveled,
and the lowing of cattle is not
heard.
The birds of the air[i] have fled
and the animals are gone.

11 "I will make Jerusalem a heap[j] of
ruins,
a haunt of jackals;[k]
and I will lay waste the towns of
Judah[l]
so no one can live there."[m]

12 What man is wise[n] enough to un-
derstand this? Who has been instructed
by the LORD and can explain it? Why
has the land been ruined and laid
waste like a desert that no one can
cross?
13 The LORD said, "It is because they
have forsaken my law, which I set be-
fore them; they have not obeyed me or
followed my law.[o] 14 Instead, they have
followed[p] the stubbornness of their
hearts;[q] they have followed the Baals,
as their fathers taught them." 15 There-
fore, this is what the LORD Almighty,
the God of Israel, says: "See, I will
make this people eat bitter food[r] and
drink poisoned water.[s] 16 I will scatter
them among nations[t] that neither they
nor their fathers have known,[u] and I
will pursue them with the sword[v] until
I have destroyed them."[w]

17 This is what the LORD Almighty
says:

"Consider now! Call for the wailing
women[x] to come;
send for the most skillful of them.
18 Let them come quickly
and wail over us
till our eyes overflow with tears
and water streams from our
eyelids.[y]
19 The sound of wailing is heard from
Zion:
'How ruined[z] we are!
How great is our shame!
We must leave our land
because our houses are in ruins.'"[a]

20 Now, O women, hear the word of
the LORD;
open your ears to the words of his
mouth.[b]
Teach your daughters how to wail;
teach one another a lament.[c]
21 Death has climbed in through our
windows[d]
and has entered our fortresses;
it has cut off the children from the
streets
and the young men[e] from the
public squares.

22 Say, "This is what the LORD de-
clares:

" 'The dead bodies of men will lie
like refuse[f] on the open field,
like cut grain behind the reaper,
with no one to gather them.' "

23 This is what the LORD says:

"Let not the wise man boast of his
wisdom[g]
or the strong man boast of his
strength[h]
or the rich man boast of his
riches,[i]
24 but let him who boasts boast[j] about
this:
that he understands and knows[k]
me,
that I am the LORD,[l] who exercises
kindness,[m]
justice and righteousness[n] on
earth,
for in these I delight,"
declares the LORD.

25 "The days are coming," declares
the LORD, "when I will punish all who
are circumcised only in the flesh[o]—
26 Egypt, Judah, Edom, Ammon, Moab
and all who live in the desert in distant
places.[p][a] For all these nations are
really uncircumcised,[q] and even the
whole house of Israel is uncircumcised
in heart.[r]"

9:7 [a]S Job 28:1; S Isa 1:25 [b]S Jer 6:27 **9:8** [c]S ver 3; S Ps 35:20 [d]S Isa 3:5 [e]S Jer 5:26 [f]ver 4 **9:9** [g]S Dt 32:43; S Isa 1:3 **9:10** [h]Jer 23:10; Joel 1:19 [i]S Jer 4:25; 12:4; Hos 4:3; Joel 1:18 **9:11** [j]Jer 26:18 [k]S Job 30:29; S Isa 34:13 [l]S Jer 1:15 [m]S Lev 26:31; Isa 25:2; S Jer 4:13; 26:9; 33:10; 50:3, 13; 51:62; La 1:4 **9:12** [n]S Ps 107:43 **9:13** [o]S 2Ch 7:19; S Ps 89:30-32 **9:14** [p]S Jer 2:8, 23; Am 2:4 [q]S Jer 3:17; S 7:24 **9:15** [r]La 3:15 [s]S Jer 8:14 **9:16** [t]S Lev 26:33 [u]S Dt 4:32; S Jer 8:19 [v]Jer 14:12; 24:10; Eze 5:2 [w]Jer 44:27; Eze 5:12 **9:17** [x]S Ecc 12:5 **9:18** [y]S Ps 119:136; La 3:48 **9:19** [z]S Jer 4:13 **9:20** [a]Jer 23:16 [b]Isa 32:9-13 **9:21** [c]Joel 2:9 [d]S 2Ch 36:17; S Isa 40:30; S Jer 16:6 **9:22** [e]S 2Ki 9:37 **9:23** [f]S Job 4:12; S Ecc 9:11 [g]S 1Ki 20:11 [h]Ps 62:10; S Pr 11:28; Jer 48:7; 49:4; Eze 28:4-5 **9:24** [i]S Ps 34:2; 1Co 1:31*; Gal 6:14 [j]S Ps 36:10 [k]2Co 10:17* [l]Ps 51:1 [m]Ps 36:6 **9:25** [n]S Lev 26:41; Ro 2:25 **9:26** [o]Jer 25:23; 49:32 [p]S 1Sa 14:6; Eze 31:18 [q]Ac 7:51

[a]26 *Or desert and who clip the hair by their foreheads*

God and Idols

10:12-16pp — Jer 51:15-19

10 Hear what the LORD says to you, O house of Israel. [2]This is what the LORD says:

"Do not learn the ways of the nations[a]
or be terrified by signs[b] in the sky,
though the nations are terrified by them.
[3]For the customs of the peoples are worthless;
they cut a tree out of the forest,
and a craftsman[c] shapes it with his chisel.[d]
[4]They adorn it with silver[e] and gold;
they fasten it with hammer and nails
so it will not totter.[f]
[5]Like a scarecrow in a melon patch,
their idols cannot speak;[g]
they must be carried
because they cannot walk.[h]
Do not fear them;
they can do no harm[i]
nor can they do any good."[j]

[6]No one is like you,[k] O LORD;
you are great,[l]
and your name is mighty in power.
[7]Who should not revere[m] you,
O King of the nations?[n]
This is your due.
Among all the wise men of the nations
and in all their kingdoms,
there is no one like you.
[8]They are all senseless[o] and foolish;[p]
they are taught by worthless wooden idols.[q]
[9]Hammered silver is brought from Tarshish[r]
and gold from Uphaz.
What the craftsman and goldsmith have made[s]
is then dressed in blue and purple—
all made by skilled workers.
[10]But the LORD is the true God;
he is the living God,[t] the eternal King.[u]
When he is angry,[v] the earth trembles;[w]
the nations cannot endure his wrath.[x]

[11]"Tell them this: 'These gods, who did not make the heavens and the earth, will perish[y] from the earth and from under the heavens.' "[a]

10:2 [a]S Ex 23:24; S Lev 20:23 [b]S Ge 1:14 **10:3** [c]S Isa 40:19 [d]S Jdg 8:27; S 1Ki 8:36; Jer 44:8; Eze 7:20 **10:4** [e]S Ps 135:15; [f]Isa 13:2; Hab 2:19; S Isa 5:5; Isa 41:7 **10:5** [g]S 1Ki 18:26; 1Co 12:2 [h]S Isa 45:20 [i]Isa 41:23 [j]S Isa 41:24; 44:9,20; 46:7; Ac 19:26 **10:6** [k]S Ex 8:10 [l]S 2Sa 7:22; S Ps 48:1 **10:7** [m]Jer 5:22 [n]Ps 22:28; S Isa 12:4; Rev 15:4 **10:8** [o]S Isa 44:18 [p]S Isa 40:19; S Jer 4:22 [q]S Dt 32:21 **10:9** [r]S Ge 10:4 [s]Ps 115:4; S Isa 40:19 **10:10** [t]S Jos 3:10; S Mt 16:16 [u]S Ge 21:33; Da 6:26 [v]S Ps 18:7 [w]S Jdg 5:4; S Job 9:6; Ps 29:8 [x]Ps 76:7; Jer 21:12; Na 1:6 **10:11** [y]S Isa 2:18

10:12 [z]S 1Sa 2:8 [a]S ver 16 [b]S Ge 1:31 [c]S Ge 1:1,8 **10:13** [d]S Job 36:29 [e]S Job 36:30 [f]S Ps 104:13; S 135:7 [g]S Dt 28:12 **10:14** [h]S Ps 97:7; S Isa 1:29 [i]S Isa 44:20 **10:15** [j]S Isa 41:24; S Jer 14:22 **10:16** [k]S Dt 32:9; S Ps 119:57 [l]ver 12; Jer 32:17; 33:2 [m]S Ex 34:9; Ps 74:2 [n]Jer 31:35; 32:18 **10:17** [o]Eze 12:3-12 **10:18** [p]S 1Sa 25:29; S Isa 22:17 [q]S Dt 28:52 **10:19** [r]Job 34:6; Jer 14:17; 15:18; 30:12,15; La 2:13; Mic 1:9; Na 3:19 [s]Mic 7:9 **10:20** [t]S Jer 4:20 [u]Jer 31:15; La 1:5 **10:21** [v]Jer 22:22; 23:1; 25:34; 50:6 [w]ver 8 [x]S Isa 56:10 [y]Jer 22:30 [z]Jer 23:2; Eze 34:6 **10:22** [a]Jer 6:22; 27:6; 49:28,30

[12]But God made[z] the earth[a] by his power;
he founded the world by his wisdom[b]
and stretched out the heavens[c] by his understanding.
[13]When he thunders,[d] the waters in the heavens roar;
he makes clouds rise from the ends of the earth.
He sends lightning[e] with the rain[f]
and brings out the wind from his storehouses.[g]
[14]Everyone is senseless and without knowledge;
every goldsmith is shamed[h] by his idols.
His images are a fraud;[i]
they have no breath in them.
[15]They are worthless,[j] the objects of mockery;
when their judgment comes, they will perish.
[16]He who is the Portion[k] of Jacob is not like these,
for he is the Maker of all things,[l]
including Israel, the tribe of his inheritance[m]—
the LORD Almighty is his name.[n]

Coming Destruction

[17]Gather up your belongings[o] to leave the land,
you who live under siege.
[18]For this is what the LORD says:
"At this time I will hurl[p] out
those who live in this land;
I will bring distress[q] on them
so that they may be captured."

[19]Woe to me because of my injury!
My wound[r] is incurable!
Yet I said to myself,
"This is my sickness, and I must endure[s] it."
[20]My tent[t] is destroyed;
all its ropes are snapped.
My sons are gone from me and are no more;[u]
no one is left now to pitch my tent
or to set up my shelter.
[21]The shepherds[v] are senseless[w]
and do not inquire of the LORD;[x]
so they do not prosper[y]
and all their flock is scattered.[z]
[22]Listen! The report is coming—
a great commotion from the land of the north![a]

[a]11 The text of this verse is in Aramaic.

It will make the towns of Judah
desolate,[a]
a haunt of jackals.[b]

Jeremiah's Prayer

23I know, O LORD, that a man's life is
not his own;
it is not for man to direct his
steps.[c]
24Correct me, LORD, but only with
justice—
not in your anger,[d]
lest you reduce me to nothing.[e][f]
25Pour out your wrath on the nations[g]
that do not acknowledge you,
on the peoples who do not call on
your name.[h]
For they have devoured[i] Jacob;
they have devoured him
completely
and destroyed his homeland.[j]

The Covenant Is Broken

11 This is the word that came to
Jeremiah from the LORD: 2"Listen
to the terms of this covenant[k] and tell
them to the people of Judah and to
those who live in Jerusalem. 3Tell them
that this is what the LORD, the God of
Israel, says: 'Cursed[l] is the man who
does not obey the terms of this cov-
enant— 4the terms I commanded your
forefathers when I brought them out of
Egypt,[m] out of the iron-smelting fur-
nace.[n]' I said, 'Obey[o] me and do
everything I command you, and you
will be my people,[p] and I will be your
God. 5Then I will fulfill the oath I
swore[q] to your forefathers, to give
them a land flowing with milk and
honey'[r]—the land you possess today."
I answered, "Amen,[s] LORD."
6The LORD said to me, "Proclaim[t] all
these words in the towns of Judah and
in the streets of Jerusalem: 'Listen to
the terms of this covenant and follow[u]
them. 7From the time I brought your
forefathers up from Egypt until today, I
warned them again and again,[v] say-
ing, "Obey me." 8But they did not lis-
ten or pay attention;[w] instead, they fol-
lowed the stubbornness of their evil
hearts.[x] So I brought on them all the
curses[y] of the covenant I had com-
manded them to follow but that they
did not keep.[z]'"
9Then the LORD said to me, "There is
a conspiracy[a] among the people of
Judah and those who live in Jerusalem.
10They have returned to the sins of
their forefathers,[b] who refused to lis-
ten to my words.[c] They have followed
other gods[d] to serve them.[e] Both the
house of Israel and the house of Judah
have broken the covenant[f] I made
with their forefathers. 11Therefore this
is what the LORD says: 'I will bring on
them a disaster[g] they cannot escape.[h]
Although they cry[i] out to me, I will
not listen[j] to them. 12The towns of
Judah and the people of Jerusalem will
go and cry out to the gods to whom
they burn incense,[k] but they will not
help them at all when disaster[l] strikes.
13You have as many gods[m] as you have
towns,[n] O Judah; and the altars you
have set up to burn incense[o] to that
shameful[p] god Baal are as many as the
streets of Jerusalem.'
14"Do not pray[q] for this people nor
offer any plea or petition for them, be-
cause I will not listen[r] when they call
to me in the time of their distress.

15"What is my beloved doing in my
temple
as she works out her evil schemes
with many?
Can consecrated meat[s] avert your
punishment?[t]
When you engage in your
wickedness,
then you rejoice.[v]"
16The LORD called you a thriving olive
tree[u]
with fruit beautiful in form.
But with the roar of a mighty storm
he will set it on fire,[v]
and its branches will be broken.[w]

17The LORD Almighty, who planted[x]
you, has decreed disaster[y] for you, be-
cause the house of Israel and the house
of Judah have done evil and provoked[z]
me to anger by burning incense to
Baal.[a]

Plot Against Jeremiah

18Because the LORD revealed their plot
to me, I knew it, for at that time he
showed me what they were doing. 19I
had been like a gentle lamb led to the
slaughter;[b] I did not realize that they
had plotted[c] against me, saying,

"Let us destroy the tree and its fruit;
let us cut him off from the land of
the living,[d]
that his name be remembered[e] no
more."

10:22 [a]Eze 12:19 [b]S Isa 34:13 **10:23** [c]S Job 33:29; S Pr 3:5-6; 20:24 **10:24** [d]Ps 6:1; 38:1; S Jer 7:20; 18:23 [e]Jer 46:28 [f]Jer 30:11 **10:25** [g]S Ps 69:24; Zep 2:2; 3:8 [h]S Ps 14:4 [i]S Ps 79:7; S Jer 2:3 [j]Ps 79:6-7 **11:2** [k]S Dt 5:2 **11:3** [l]Dt 11:26-28; 27:26; 28:15-68; Gal 3:10 **11:4** [m]ver 7 [n]S 1Ki 8:51 [o]S Ex 24:8; Jer 7:23 [p]Jer 7:23; 31:33; Eze 11:20 **11:5** [q]S Ex 6:8; 13:5; Dt 7:12; Ps 105:8-11 [r]S Ex 3:8 [s]S Dt 27:26 **11:6** [t]S Jer 4:5 [u]S Ex 15:26; S Dt 15:5; Jas 1:22 **11:7** [v]S 2Ch 36:15 **11:8** [w]S Jer 7:26 [x]S Ecc 9:3; S Jer 3:17 [y]Lev 26:14-43; Dt 28:15-68; S Jos 23:15 [z]S 2Ch 7:19; Ps 78:10; Jer 26:4; 32:23; 44:10 **11:9** [a]Eze 22:25 **11:10** [b]Dt 9:7; S 2Ch 30:7 [c]Zec 7:11 [d]S Jdg 2:12-13; S 10:13 [e]Jer 16:11; Eze 20:8 [f]Isa 24:5; Jer 34:18; Hos 6:7; 8:1 **11:11** [g]S 2Ki 22:16; S Jer 4:6 [h]S Job 11:20; La 2:22 [i]S Job 27:9; Jer 14:12; Eze 8:18; Mal 2:13 [j]ver 14; S Ps 66:18; Pr 1:28; S Isa 1:15; 59:2; Eze 8:8; Zec 7:13 **11:12** [k]S Dt 32:38; S Jer 44:17 [l]S Dt 32:37; S Jdg 10:14 **11:13** [m]S Ex 20:3; Jer 19:4 [n]S 2Ki 17:29 [o]S Jer 7:9; 44:21 [p]S Jer 3:24 **11:14** [q]S Ex 32:10 [r]S ver 11 **11:15** [s]Hag 2:12 [t]S Jer 7:9-10 **11:16** [u]S Ps 1:3; Hos 14:6 [v]S Jer 7:20; 21:14 [w]S Isa 27:11; Ro 11:17-24

11:17 [x]S Ex 15:17; Isa 5:2; Jer 12:2; 45:4 [y]ver 11 [z]Jer 7:18 [a]S Jer 7:9 **11:19** [b]S Ps 44:22 [c]ver 21; S Ps 44:16; 54:3; 71:10; Jer 18:18; 20:10 [d]S Job 28:13; S Ps 116:9; Isa 53:8 [e]Ps 83:4

[v]15 Or *Could consecrated meat avert your punishment? / Then you would rejoice*

20 But, O LORD Almighty, you who
judge righteously[a]
and test the heart[b] and mind,[c]
let me see your vengeance[d] upon
them,
for to you I have committed my
cause.

21 "Therefore this is what the LORD
says about the men of Anathoth[e] who
are seeking your life[f] and saying, 'Do
not prophesy[g] in the name of the LORD
or you will die[h] by our hands'—
22 therefore this is what the LORD Al-
mighty says: 'I will punish them. Their
young men[i] will die by the sword,
their sons and daughters by famine.
23 Not even a remnant[j] will be left to
them, because I will bring disaster on
the men of Anathoth in the year of
their punishment.[k]' "

Jeremiah's Complaint

12 You are always righteous,[l] O LORD,
when I bring a case[m] before you.
Yet I would speak with you about
your justice:[n]
Why does the way of the wicked
prosper?[o]
Why do all the faithless live at
ease?
2 You have planted[p] them, and they
have taken root;
they grow and bear fruit.[q]
You are always on their lips
but far from their hearts.[r]
3 Yet you know me, O LORD;
you see me and test[s] my thoughts
about you.
Drag them off like sheep[t] to be
butchered!
Set them apart for the day of
slaughter![u]
4 How long will the land lie
parched[w][v]
and the grass in every field be
withered?[w]
Because those who live in it are
wicked,
the animals and birds have
perished.[x]
Moreover, the people are saying,
"He will not see what happens to
us."

God's Answer

5 "If you have raced with men on foot
and they have worn you out,
how can you compete with
horses?
If you stumble in safe country,[x]
how will you manage in the
thickets[y] by[y] the Jordan?
6 Your brothers, your own family—
even they have betrayed you;
they have raised a loud cry against
you.[z]
Do not trust them,
though they speak well of you.[a]

7 "I will forsake[b] my house,
abandon[c] my inheritance;
I will give the one I love[d]
into the hands of her enemies.[e]
8 My inheritance has become to me
like a lion[f] in the forest.
She roars at me;
therefore I hate her.[g]
9 Has not my inheritance become
to me
like a speckled bird of prey
that other birds of prey surround
and attack?
Go and gather all the wild beasts;
bring them to devour.[h]
10 Many shepherds[i] will ruin my
vineyard
and trample down my field;
they will turn my pleasant field
into a desolate wasteland.[j]
11 It will be made a wasteland,[k]
parched and desolate before me;[l]
the whole land will be laid waste
because there is no one who cares.
12 Over all the barren heights in the
desert
destroyers will swarm,
for the sword[m] of the LORD[n] will
devour[o]
from one end of the land to the
other;[p]
no one will be safe.[q]
13 They will sow wheat but reap
thorns;
they will wear themselves out but
gain nothing.[r]
So bear the shame of your harvest
because of the LORD's fierce
anger."[s]

14 This is what the LORD says: "As for
all my wicked neighbors who seize the
inheritance[t] I gave my people Israel, I
will uproot[u] them from their lands and
I will uproot[v] the house of Judah from
among them. 15 But after I uproot them,
I will again have compassion[w] and will
bring[x] each of them back to his own
inheritance and his own country.
16 And if they learn[y] well the ways of
my people and swear by my name,

11:20 [a]Ps 7:11 [b]S 1Sa 2:3; S 1Ch 29:17 [c]S Ps 26:2 [d]S Ps 58:10; La 3:60 **11:21** [e]S Jos 21:18 [f]S ver 19; Jer 12:6; 21:7; 34:20 [g]S Isa 30:10 [h]Jer 2:30; 18:23; 26:8,11; 38:4 **11:22** [i]S Isa 9:17; Jer 18:21 **11:23** [j]Jer 6:9 [k]Jer 23:12 **12:1** [l]S Ezr 9:15; Job 8:3; Da 9:14 [m]S Job 5:8 [n]Eze 18:25 [o]S Job 21:7,13; Ps 37:7; Jer 5:27-28 **12:2** [p]S Jer 11:17 [q]S Job 5:3 [r]S Isa 29:13; S Jer 3:10; S Eze 22:27; Mt 15:8; Mk 7:6; Tit 1:16 **12:3** [s]Ps 7:9; 11:5; 139:1-4 [t]S Ps 44:11 [u]Jer 16:18; 17:18; 20:11 **12:4** [v]S Jer 4:28 [w]S ver 11; S Jer 4:26; Joel 1:10-12; Am 1:2 [x]Dt 28:15-18; S Jer 4:25; S 9:10 **12:5** [y]Jer 49:19; 50:44 **12:6** [z]S Pr 26:24-25; Jer 9:4 [a]Ps 12:2 **12:7** [b]S 2Ki 21:14 [c]S Jer 7:29 [d]Isa 5:1 [e]Jer 17:4 **12:8** [f]S Ps 17:12 [g]Ps 5:5; Hos 9:15; Am 6:8 **12:9** [h]S Dt 28:26; Isa 56:9; Jer 15:3; Eze 23:25; 39:17-20 **12:10** [i]Jer 23:1; 25:34; Eze 34:2-10 [j]Isa 5:1-7; Jer 9:10; 25:11 **12:11** [k]S Isa 5:6; S 24:4 [l]ver 4; Jer 9:12; 14:4; 23:10 **12:12** [m]Eze 21:3-4 [n]S Dt 32:41; Isa 31:8; Jer 46:10; 47:6; Eze 14:17; 21:28; 33:2 [o]S Dt 32:42 [p]Jer 3:2 [q]Jer 7:10 **12:13** [r]S Lev 26:20; S Dt 28:38 [s]S Ex 15:7; S Jer 4:26 **12:14** [t]S Dt 29:28; S 2Ch 7:20 [u]S Ps 9:6; Zec 2:7-9 [v]S Dt 28:63 **12:15** [w]S Ps 6:2 [x]S Dt 30:3; Am 9:14-15 **12:16** [y]Jer 18:8

[w]4 *Or land mourn* [x]5 *Or If you put your trust in a land of safety* [y]5 *Or the flooding of*

saying, 'As surely as the LORD
lives'[a]—even as they once taught my
people to swear by Baal[b]—then they
will be established among my people.[c]
17But if any nation does not listen, I will
completely uproot and destroy[d] it,"
declares the LORD.

A Linen Belt

13 This is what the LORD said to me:
"Go and buy a linen belt and put
it around your waist, but do not let it
touch water." 2So I bought a belt, as
the LORD directed, and put it around
my waist.
3Then the word of the LORD came to
me a second time:[e] 4"Take the belt you
bought and are wearing around your
waist, and go now to Perath[z][f] and
hide it there in a crevice in the rocks."
5So I went and hid it at Perath, as the
LORD told me.[g]
6Many days later the LORD said to me,
"Go now to Perath and get the belt I
told you to hide there." 7So I went to
Perath and dug up the belt and took it
from the place where I had hidden it,
but now it was ruined and completely
useless.
8Then the word of the LORD came to
me: 9"This is what the LORD says: 'In
the same way I will ruin the pride of
Judah and the great pride[h] of Jerusa-
lem. 10These wicked people, who
refuse to listen[i] to my words, who fol-
low the stubbornness of their hearts[j]
and go after other gods[k] to serve and
worship them,[l] will be like this belt—
completely useless![m] 11For as a belt is
bound around a man's waist, so I
bound the whole house of Israel and
the whole house of Judah to me,' de-
clares the LORD, 'to be my people for
my renown[n] and praise and honor.[o]
But they have not listened.'[p]

Wineskins

12"Say to them: 'This is what the
LORD, the God of Israel, says: Every
wineskin should be filled with wine.'
And if they say to you, 'Don't we know
that every wineskin should be filled
with wine?' 13then tell them, 'This is
what the LORD says: I am going to fill
with drunkenness[q] all who live in this
land, including the kings who sit on
David's throne, the priests, the proph-
ets and all those living in Jerusalem. 14I
will smash them one against the other,
fathers and sons alike, declares the
LORD. I will allow no pity[r] or mercy or
compassion[s] to keep me from destroy-
ing[t] them.'"

Threat of Captivity

15Hear and pay attention,
do not be arrogant,
for the LORD has spoken.[u]
16Give glory[v] to the LORD your God
before he brings the darkness,
before your feet stumble[w]
on the darkening hills.
You hope for light,
but he will turn it to thick
darkness
and change it to deep gloom.[x]
17But if you do not listen,[y]
I will weep in secret
because of your pride;
my eyes will weep bitterly,
overflowing with tears,[z]
because the LORD's flock[a] will be
taken captive.[b]

18Say to the king[c] and to the queen
mother,[d]
"Come down from your thrones,
for your glorious crowns[e]
will fall from your heads."
19The cities in the Negev will be shut
up,
and there will be no one to open
them.
All Judah[f] will be carried into exile,
carried completely away.

20Lift up your eyes and see
those who are coming from the
north.[g]
Where is the flock[h] that was
entrusted to you,
the sheep of which you boasted?
21What will you say when ⌊the LORD⌋
sets over you
those you cultivated as your
special allies?[i]
Will not pain grip you
like that of a woman in labor?[j]
22And if you ask yourself,
"Why has this happened to
me?"[k]—
it is because of your many sins[l]
that your skirts have been torn
off[m]
and your body mistreated.[n]
23Can the Ethiopian[a] change his skin
or the leopard its spots?
Neither can you do good
who are accustomed to doing
evil.[o]

12:16 [a]S Jer 4:2 [b]S Jos 23:7 [c]S Isa 26:18; 49:6; Jer 3:17 **12:17** [d]S Ge 27:29 **13:3** [e]Jer 33:1 **13:4** [f]S Ge 2:14 **13:5** [g]Ex 40:16 **13:9** [h]S Lev 26:19; S Mt 23:12; S Lk 1:51 **13:10** [i]Jer 22:21 [j]S Ecc 9:3; S Jer 3:17 [k]S Dt 8:19; Jer 9:14 [l]S Jdg 10:13 [m]Eze 15:3 **13:11** [n]Isa 63:12; Jer 32:20 [o]Ex 19:5-6; Isa 43:21; S Jer 3:17 [p]S Isa 65:12; S Jer 7:26 **13:13** [q]Ps 60:3; 75:8; S Isa 29:9; Jer 25:18; 51:57 **13:14** [r]Eze 7:4; 8:18; 9:5,10; 24:14; Zec 11:6 [s]S Isa 9:17; Jer 16:5 [t]Dt 29:20; Isa 9:19-21; S Jer 7:20; 49:32, 36; La 2:21; Eze 5:10 **13:15** [u]S Ex 23:21; Ps 95:7-8 **13:16** [v]S Jos 7:19 [w]S Lev 26:37; S Job 3:23; Isa 51:17; Jer 23:12 [x]S 1Sa 2:9; S Job 3:5; S Ps 82:5 **13:17** [y]Mal 2:2 [z]S Jer 9:1 [a]Ps 80:1; Jer 23:1 [b]Jer 14:18; 29:1 **13:18** [c]Jer 21:11; 22:1 [d]S 1Ki 2:19; S 2Ki 24:8; S Isa 22:17 [e]S 2Sa 12:30; La 5:16; Eze 16:12; 21:26 **13:19** [f]Jer 20:4; 52:30; La 1:3 **13:20** [g]Jer 6:22; Hab 1:6 [h]Jer 23:2 **13:21** [i]S Ps 41:9; Jer 4:30; 20:10; 38:22; Ob 1:7 [j]S Jer 4:31 **13:22** [k]S 1Ki 9:9 [l]Jer 9:2-6; 16:10-12 [m]S Isa 20:4 [n]La 1:8; Eze 16:37; 23:26; Na 3:5-6 **13:23** [o]S 2Ch 6:36

[z]4 Or possibly *the Euphrates*; also in verses 5-7
[a]23 Hebrew *Cushite* (probably a person from the upper Nile region)

24"I will scatter you like chaff[q]
driven by the desert wind.[r]
25This is your lot,
the portion[c] I have decreed for
you,"
declares the LORD,
"because you have forgotten[d] me
and trusted in false gods.[e]
26I will pull up your skirts over your
face
that your shame may be seen[f]—
27your adulteries and lustful
neighings,
your shameless prostitution![g]
I have seen your detestable acts
on the hills and in the fields.[h]
Woe to you, O Jerusalem!
How long will you be unclean?"[i]

Drought, Famine, Sword

14 This is the word of the LORD
to Jeremiah concerning the
drought:[j]

2"Judah mourns,[k]
her cities languish;
they wail for the land,
and a cry goes up from Jerusalem.
3The nobles send their servants for
water;
they go to the cisterns
but find no water.[l]
They return with their jars unfilled;
dismayed and despairing,
they cover their heads.[m]
4The ground is cracked
because there is no rain in the
land;[n]
the farmers are dismayed
and cover their heads.
5Even the doe in the field
deserts her newborn fawn
because there is no grass.[o]
6Wild donkeys stand on the barren
heights[p]
and pant like jackals;
their eyesight fails
for lack of pasture."[q]

7Although our sins testify[r] against
us,
O LORD, do something for the sake
of your name.[s]
For our backsliding[t] is great;
we have sinned[u] against you.
8O Hope[v] of Israel,
its Savior[w] in times of distress,[x]
why are you like a stranger in the
land,
like a traveler who stays only a
night?
9Why are you like a man taken by
surprise,
like a warrior powerless to save?[y]
You are among[z] us, O LORD,
and we bear your name;[a]
do not forsake[b] us!

10This is what the LORD says about
this people:

"They greatly love to wander;
they do not restrain their feet.[c]
So the LORD does not accept[d] them;
he will now remember[e] their
wickedness
and punish them for their sins."[f]

11Then the LORD said to me, "Do not
pray[g] for the well-being of this people.
12Although they fast, I will not listen to
their cry;[h] though they offer burnt of-
ferings[i] and grain offerings,[j] I will not
accept[k] them. Instead, I will destroy
them with the sword,[l] famine[m] and
plague."[n]

13But I said, "Ah, Sovereign LORD,
the prophets[o] keep telling them, 'You
will not see the sword or suffer fam-
ine.[p] Indeed, I will give you lasting
peace[q] in this place.' "

14Then the LORD said to me, "The
prophets are prophesying lies[r] in my
name. I have not sent[s] them or ap-
pointed them or spoken to them. They
are prophesying to you false visions,[b]
divinations,[u] idolatries[t] and the delu-
sions of their own minds. 15Therefore,
this is what the LORD says about the
prophets who are prophesying in my
name: I did not send them, yet they are
saying, 'No sword or famine will touch
this land.' Those same prophets will
perish[v] by sword and famine.[w] 16And
the people they are prophesying to will
be thrown out into the streets of Jerusa-
lem because of the famine and sword.
There will be no one to bury[x] them or
their wives, their sons or their daugh-
ters.[y] I will pour out on them the
calamity they deserve.[z]

17"Speak this word to them:

" 'Let my eyes overflow with tears[a]
night and day without ceasing;
for my virgin[b] daughter—my
people—
has suffered a grievous wound,
a crushing blow.[c]
18If I go into the country,
I see those slain by the sword;
if I go into the city,
I see the ravages of famine.[d]

13:24 [q]S Ps 1:4 [r]S Lev 26:33; S Job 1:19; S 27:21 **13:25** [c]S Job 20:29; Mt 24:51 [d]S Isa 17:10 [e]S Dt 31:20; S Ps 4:2; 106:19-21 **13:26** [f]La 1:8; Eze 16:37; Na 3:5 **13:27** [g]Eze 23:29 [h]S Isa 57:7; Eze 6:13 [i]Hos 8:5 **14:1** [j]S Dt 28:22; S Isa 5:6 **14:2** [k]S Isa 3:26 **14:3** [l]S Dt 28:48; S 2Ki 18:31; Job 6:19-20 [m]S Est 6:12 **14:4** [n]S Jer 3:3; S 12:11; Am 4:8; Zec 14:17 **14:5** [o]Isa 15:6 **14:6** [p]S Job 39:5-6; S Ps 104:11; S Jer 2:24 [q]S Ge 47:4 **14:7** [r]S Isa 3:9; Hos 5:5 [s]S 1Sa 12:22; S Ps 79:9 [t]S Jer 2:19; 5:6 [u]S Jer 8:14 **14:8** [v]S Ps 9:18; Jer 17:13; 50:7 [w]Ps 18:46; S Isa 25:9 [x]Ps 46:1 **14:9** [y]S Isa 50:2 [z]S Ge 17:7; Jer 8:19 [a]Isa 63:19; Jer 15:16 [b]S Ps 27:9 **14:10** [c]Ps 119:101; Jer 2:25 [d]Jer 6:20; Am 5:22 [e]Hos 7:2; 9:9; Am 8:7 [f]Jer 44:21-23; Hos 8:13; Am 3:2 **14:11** [g]S Ex 32:10; S 1Sa 2:25 **14:12** [h]S Dt 1:45; S 1Sa 8:18; S Jer 11:11 [i]Lev 1:1-17; Jer 7:21 [j]S Lev 2:1-16 [k]Am 5:22 [l]S Isa 51:19; S Jer 9:16 [m]Jer 15:2; 16:4 [n]Jer 21:6; 27:8, 13; 32:24; 34:17; Eze 14:21 **14:13** [o]Dt 18:22; Jer 27:14; 37:19 [p]S Jer 5:12 [q]S Isa 30:10; S Jer 4:10 **14:14** [r]S Jer 5:1; 23:25; 27:14; Eze 13:2 [s]Jer 23:21,32; 29:31; Eze 13:6 [t]Jer 23:16; La 2:9 [u]Eze 12:24 **14:15** [v]Jer 20:6; Eze 14:9 [w]Jer 5:12-13; 16:4; La 1:19 **14:16** [x]Ps 79:3 [y]S Jer 7:33 [z]S Pr 1:31; S Jer 17:10 **14:17** [a]S Ps 119:136 [b]S 2Ki 19:21; S Isa 23:12 [c]S Jer 8:21 **14:18** [d]Eze 7:15

[b]14 Or *visions, worthless divinations*

Both prophet and priest
have gone to a land they know
not.[a]' "

[19]Have you rejected Judah
completely?[b]
Do you despise Zion?
Why have you afflicted us
so that we cannot be healed?[c]
We hoped for peace
but no good has come,
for a time of healing
but there is only terror.[d]
[20]O LORD, we acknowledge[e] our
wickedness
and the guilt of our fathers;[f]
we have indeed sinned[g] against
you.
[21]For the sake of your name[h] do not
despise us;
do not dishonor your glorious
throne.[i]
Remember your covenant[j] with us
and do not break it.
[22]Do any of the worthless idols[k] of the
nations bring rain?[l]
Do the skies themselves send
down showers?
No, it is you, O LORD our God.
Therefore our hope is in you,
for you are the one who does all
this.[m]

15 Then the LORD said to me: "Even
if Moses[n] and Samuel[o] were to
stand before me, my heart would not
go out to this people.[p] Send them
away from my presence![q] Let them go!
[2]And if they ask you, 'Where shall we
go?' tell them, 'This is what the LORD
says:

" 'Those destined for death, to
death;
those for the sword, to the sword;[r]
those for starvation, to starvation;[s]
those for captivity, to captivity.'[t]

[3]"I will send four kinds of destroy-
ers[u] against them," declares the LORD,
"the sword[v] to kill and the dogs[w] to
drag away and the birds[x] of the air and
the beasts of the earth to devour and
destroy.[y] [4]I will make them abhorrent[z]
to all the kingdoms of the earth[a] be-
cause of what Manasseh[b] son of Heze-
kiah king of Judah did in Jerusalem.

[5]"Who will have pity[c] on you,
O Jerusalem?
Who will mourn for you?
Who will stop to ask how you are?
[6]You have rejected[d] me," declares
the LORD.
"You keep on backsliding.
So I will lay hands[e] on you and
destroy you;
I can no longer show
compassion.[f]
[7]I will winnow[g] them with a
winnowing fork
at the city gates of the land.
I will bring bereavement[h] and
destruction on my people,[i]
for they have not changed their
ways.[j]
[8]I will make their widows[k] more
numerous
than the sand of the sea.
At midday I will bring a destroyer[l]
against the mothers of their young
men;
suddenly I will bring down on them
anguish and terror.[m]
[9]The mother of seven will grow faint[n]
and breathe her last.[o]
Her sun will set while it is still day;
she will be disgraced[p] and
humiliated.
I will put the survivors to the
sword[q]
before their enemies,"[r]
declares the LORD.

[10]Alas, my mother, that you gave me
birth,[s]
a man with whom the whole land
strives and contends![t]
I have neither lent[u] nor borrowed,
yet everyone curses[v] me.

[11]The LORD said,

"Surely I will deliver you[w] for a
good purpose;
surely I will make your enemies
plead[x] with you
in times of disaster and times of
distress.

[12]"Can a man break iron—
iron from the north[y]—or bronze?
[13]Your wealth[z] and your treasures
I will give as plunder,[a] without
charge,[b]
because of all your sins
throughout your country.[c]
[14]I will enslave you to your enemies
in[c] a land you do not know,[d]
for my anger will kindle a fire[e]
that will burn against you."

[15]You understand, O LORD;
remember me and care for me.

14:18 [a]S 2Ch 36:10; S Jer 13:17 **14:19** [b]Jer 7:29 [c]S Isa 1:6; Jer 30:12-13 [d]S Job 19:8; S Jer 8:15 **14:20** [e]S Jer 3:13 [f]S Lev 26:40; S 1Ki 8:47; S Ezr 9:6 [g]S Jdg 10:10; Da 9:7-8 **14:21** [h]ver 7; S Jos 7:9 [i]Isa 62:7; Jer 3:17 [j]S Ex 2:24 **14:22** [k]S Isa 41:24; S 44:10; Jer 10:15; 16:19; Hab 2:18 [l]S 1Ki 8:36; S Ps 135:7 [m]S Isa 43:10 **15:1** [n]S Ex 32:11; Nu 14:13-20 [o]S 1Sa 1:20; S 7:8 [p]S 1Sa 2:25; S Jer 7:16 [q]S 2Ki 17:20; Jer 16:13 **15:2** [r]Jer 42:22; 43:11; 44:13 [s]S Dt 28:26; S Jer 14:12; La 4:9 [t]Eze 12:11; Rev 13:10 **15:3** [u]S Nu 33:4 [v]S Lev 26:25 [w]S 1Ki 21:19; S 2Ki 9:36 [x]S Dt 28:26 [y]S Lev 26:22; Eze 14:21; 33:27 **15:4** [z]Jer 24:9; 29:18; 34:17 [a]S Dt 28:25; S Job 17:6 [b]S 2Ki 21:2; 23:26-27 **15:5** [c]Isa 27:11; 51:19; S Jer 13:14; 16:13; 21:7; Na 3:7 **15:6** [d]S Dt 32:15; Jer 6:19 [e]Isa 31:3; Zep 1:4 [f]S Jer 7:20; Am 7:8 **15:7** [g]S Isa 41:16 [h]Isa 3:26 [i]Jer 18:21 [j]S 2Ch 28:22 **15:8** [k]S Isa 47:9 [l]S Jer 4:7; S 6:4 [m]S Job 18:11 **15:9** [n]1Sa 2:5 [o]S Job 8:13 [p]Jer 7:19 [q]Jer 21:7; 25:31 [r]2Ki 25:7; Jer 19:7 **15:10** [s]S Job 3:1; S 10:18-19 [t]Jer 1:19 [u]S Lev 25:36; Ne 5:1-12 [v]S Jer 6:10 **15:11** [w]ver 21; Jer 40:4 [x]Jer 21:1-2; 37:3; 42:1-3 **15:12** [y]S Dt 28:48; Jer 28:14; La 1:14; Hos 10:11

15:13 [z]S 2Ki 25:15 [a]S 2Ki 24:13; Eze 38:12-13 [b]S Ps 44:12 [c]Jer 17:3 **15:14** [d]S Dt 28:36; S Jer 5:19 [e]S Ps 21:9

c14 Some Hebrew manuscripts, Septuagint and Syriac (see also Jer. 17:4); most Hebrew manuscripts *I will cause your enemies to bring you / into*

Avenge me on my persecutors.[a]
You are long-suffering[b]—do not take
me away;
think of how I suffer reproach for
your sake.[c]
16When your words came, I ate[d] them;
they were my joy and my heart's
delight,[e]
for I bear your name,[f]
O LORD God Almighty.
17I never sat[g] in the company of
revelers,
never made merry with them;
I sat alone because your hand[h] was
on me
and you had filled me with
indignation.
18Why is my pain unending
and my wound grievous and
incurable?[i]
Will you be to me like a deceptive
brook,
like a spring that fails?[j]

19Therefore this is what the LORD
says:

"If you repent, I will restore you
that you may serve[k] me;
if you utter worthy, not worthless,
words,
you will be my spokesman.[l]
Let this people turn to you,
but you must not turn to them.
20I will make you a wall[m] to this
people,
a fortified wall of bronze;
they will fight against you
but will not overcome[n] you,
for I am with you
to rescue and save you,"[o]
declares the LORD.
21"I will save[p] you from the hands of
the wicked[q]
and redeem[r] you from the grasp
of the cruel."[s]

Day of Disaster

16 Then the word of the LORD came
to me: 2"You must not marry[t]
and have sons or daughters in this
place." 3For this is what the LORD says
about the sons and daughters born in
this land and about the women who
are their mothers and the men who are
their fathers:[u] 4"They will die of deadly
diseases. They will not be mourned or
buried[v] but will be like refuse lying on
the ground.[w] They will perish by
sword and famine,[x] and their dead
bodies will become food for the birds of
the air and the beasts of the earth."[y]
5For this is what the LORD says: "Do
not enter a house where there is a fu-
neral meal; do not go to mourn or show
sympathy, because I have withdrawn
my blessing, my love and my pity[z]
from this people," declares the LORD.
6"Both high and low will die in this
land.[a] They will not be buried or
mourned,[b] and no one will cut[c] him-
self or shave[d] his head for them. 7No
one will offer food[e] to comfort those
who mourn[f] for the dead—not even
for a father or a mother—nor will any-
one give them a drink to console[g]
them.
8"And do not enter a house where
there is feasting and sit down to eat
and drink.[h] 9For this is what the LORD
Almighty, the God of Israel, says: Be-
fore your eyes and in your days I will
bring an end to the sounds[i] of joy and
gladness and to the voices of bride[j]
and bridegroom in this place.[k]
10"When you tell these people all this
and they ask you, 'Why has the LORD
decreed such a great disaster against
us? What wrong have we done? What
sin have we committed against the
LORD our God?'[l] 11then say to them, 'It
is because your fathers forsook me,' de-
clares the LORD, 'and followed other
gods and served and worshiped[m]
them. They forsook me and did not
keep my law.[n] 12But you have behaved
more wickedly than your fathers.[o] See
how each of you is following the stub-
bornness of his evil heart[p] instead of
obeying me. 13So I will throw you out
of this land[q] into a land neither you
nor your fathers have known,[r] and
there you will serve other gods[s] day
and night, for I will show you no fa-
vor.'[t]
14"However, the days are coming,"[u]
declares the LORD, "when men will no
longer say, 'As surely as the LORD lives,
who brought the Israelites up out of
Egypt,'[v] 15but they will say, 'As surely
as the LORD lives, who brought the Isra-
elites up out of the land of the north[w]
and out of all the countries where he
had banished them.'[x] For I will re-
store[y] them to the land I gave their
forefathers.[z]
16"But now I will send for many fish-
ermen," declares the LORD, "and they
will catch them.[a] After that I will send
for many hunters, and they will hunt[b]
them down on every mountain and hill
and from the crevices of the rocks.[c]
17My eyes are on all their ways; they

15:15 [a]Jdg 16:28; S Ps 119:84 [b]S Ex 34:6 [c]Ps 44:22; 69:7-9; S Jer 6:10 **15:16** [d]Eze 2:8-3:3; Rev 10:10 [e]S Job 15:11; Ps 119:72,103 [f]S Isa 43:7; S Jer 14:9 **15:17** [g]Ru 1:1; Ps 1:1; 26:4-5; Jer 16:8 [h]S 2Ki 3:15 **15:18** [i]S Job 6:4; S Jer 10:19; 30:12; Mic 1:9 [j]S Job 6:15; S Ps 9:10 **15:19** [k]Zec 3:7 [l]S Ex 4:16 **15:20** [m]S Isa 50:7 [n]S Ps 129:2 [o]S Jer 1:8; 20:11; 42:11; Eze 3:8 **15:21** [p]S Jer 1:8 [q]S Ps 97:10 [r]Jer 50:34 [s]S Ge 48:16 **16:2** [t]Mt 19:12; 1Co 7:26-27 **16:3** [u]Jer 6:21 **16:4** [v]ver 6; Jer 25:33 [w]S Jer 9:22 [x]S Jer 14:15 [y]S Dt 28:26; Ps 79:1-3; S Jer 14:12; 19:7 **16:5** [z]S Jer 15:5 **16:6** [a]Jer 9:21; Eze 9:5-6 [b]S ver 4 [c]S Lev 19:28 [d]S Lev 21:5; S Job 1:20 **16:7** [e]S 2Sa 3:35 [f]Jer 22:10; Eze 24:17; Hos 9:4 [g]La 1:9, 16 **16:8** [h]S Ex 32:6; S Ecc 7:2-4; S Jer 15:17 **16:9** [i]S Isa 24:8; S 51:3; Eze 26:13; Am 6:4-7 [j]S Ps 78:63 [k]Isa 22:12-14; Rev 18:23 **16:10** [l]S Dt 29:24; Jer 5:19 **16:11** [m]S Job 31:27 [n]Dt 29:25-26; S 1Ki 9:9; Ps 106:35-43 **16:12** [o]S Ex 32:8; S Jer 7:26; Eze 20:30; Am 2:4 [p]S Ecc 9:3; S Jer 3:17 **16:13** [q]S 2Ch 7:20 [r]S Dt 28:36; S Jer 5:19 [s]S Dt 4:28; S 1Ki 9:9 [t]S Jer 15:5 **16:14** [u]Jer 29:10; 30:3; 31:27,38 [v]S Dt 15:15 **16:15** [w]S Jer 3:18 [x]S Isa 11:11; Jer 23:8 [y]Ps 53:6; S Isa 11:12; Jer 30:3; 32:44; Eze 38:14; Joel 3:1

[z]S Dt 30:3; S Isa 14:1 **16:16** [a]Am 4:2; Hab 1:14-15 [b]Am 9:3; Mic 7:2 [c]S 1Sa 26:20

are not hidden[g] from me, nor is their
sin concealed from my eyes.[h] 18I will
repay[i] them double[j] for their wicked-
ness and their sin, because they have
defiled my land[k] with the lifeless forms
of their vile images[l] and have filled my
inheritance with their detestable
idols.[m]"

19O LORD, my strength and my
fortress,
my refuge[n] in time of distress,
to you the nations will come
from the ends of the earth and
say,
"Our fathers possessed nothing but
false gods,[o]
worthless idols[p] that did them no
good.[q]
20Do men make their own gods?
Yes, but they are not gods!"[r]

21"Therefore I will teach them—
this time I will teach them
my power and might.
Then they will know
that my name[s] is the LORD.

17 "Judah's sin is engraved with an
iron tool,[t]
inscribed with a flint point,
on the tablets of their hearts[u]
and on the horns[v] of their altars.
2Even their children remember
their altars and Asherah poles[d][w]
beside the spreading trees
and on the high hills.[x]
3My mountain in the land
and your[e] wealth and all your
treasures
I will give away as plunder,[y]
together with your high places,[z]
because of sin throughout your
country.[a]
4Through your own fault you will
lose
the inheritance[b] I gave you.
I will enslave you to your enemies[c]
in a land[d] you do not know,
for you have kindled my anger,
and it will burn[e] forever."

5This is what the LORD says:

"Cursed is the one who trusts in
man,[b]
who depends on flesh for his
strength
and whose heart turns away from
the LORD.[c]
6He will be like a bush in the
wastelands;
he will not see prosperity when it
comes.
He will dwell in the parched places[d]
of the desert,
in a salt[e] land where no one lives.

7"But blessed[f] is the man who
trusts[g] in the LORD,
whose confidence is in him.
8He will be like a tree planted by the
water
that sends out its roots by the
stream.[h]
It does not fear when heat comes;
its leaves are always green.
It has no worries in a year of
drought[i]
and never fails to bear fruit."[j]

9The heart[k] is deceitful above all
things
and beyond cure.
Who can understand it?

10"I the LORD search the heart[l]
and examine the mind,[m]
to reward[n] a man according to his
conduct,
according to what his deeds
deserve."[o]

11Like a partridge that hatches eggs it
did not lay
is the man who gains riches by
unjust means.
When his life is half gone, they will
desert him,
and in the end he will prove to be
a fool.[p]

12A glorious throne,[q] exalted from the
beginning,
is the place of our sanctuary.
13O LORD, the hope[r] of Israel,
all who forsake[s] you will be put to
shame.
Those who turn away from you will
be written in the dust[t]
because they have forsaken the
LORD,
the spring of living water.[u]

14Heal me, O LORD, and I will be
healed;[v]
save[w] me and I will be saved,
for you are the one I praise.[x]
15They keep saying to me,
"Where is the word of the LORD?
Let it now be fulfilled!"[y]
16I have not run away from being your
shepherd;
you know I have not desired the
day of despair.

16:17 [illegible] **16:18** [illegible] **16:19** [illegible] **16:20** ⁿPs 115:4-7; S Jer 2:11; Ro 1:23 **16:21** ˢS Ex 3:15 **17:1** ᵗJob 19:24 ᵘS Dt 6:6; S 2Co 3:3 ᵛS Ex 27:2 **17:2** ʷS 2Ch 24:18 ˣS Jer 2:20 **17:3** ʸS 2Ki 24:13 ᶻJer 26:18; Mic 3:12 ᵃJer 15:13 **17:4** ᵇLa 5:2 ᶜDt 28:48; S Jer 12:7 ᵈJer 16:13; 22:28 ᵉS Jer 7:20 **17:5** ᵇS Ps 108:12; S Isa 2:22 ᶜ2Co 1:9 **17:6** ᵈJob 30:3 ᵉDt 29:23; S Job 39:6; Ps 107:34; Jer 48:9 **17:7** ᶠS Ps 146:5 ᵍS Ps 26:1; 34:8; 40:4; Pr 16:20; Jer 39:18 **17:8** ʰS Job 14:9 ⁱJer 14:1-6 ʲPs 1:3; 92:12-14; Eze 19:10; 47:12 **17:9** ᵏS Ecc 9:3; Mt 13:15; Mk 7:21-22 **17:10** ˡS Jos 22:22; S 2Ch 6:30; S Rev 2:23 ᵐPs 17:3; 139:23; Jer 11:20; 20:12; Eze 11:5; 38:10 ⁿS Lev 26:28; Ps 62:12; Jer 32:19; S Mt 16:27 ᵒJer 12:13; 14:16; 21:14; 32:19 **17:11** ᵖLk 12:20 **17:12** ᑫS Jer 3:17 **17:13** ʳPs 71:5; Jer 14:8 ˢS Jer 2:17 ᵗS Ps 69:28; 87:6; Eze 13:9; Da 12:1 ᵘS Isa 12:3; Jn 4:10 **17:14** ᵛS Isa 30:26; Jer 15:18 ʷS Ps 119:94 ˣS Ex 15:2; S Ps 109:1 **17:15** ʸS Isa 5:19; 2Pe 3:4

d2 That is, symbols of the goddess Asherah
e2,3 Or *hills* / ³*and the mountains of the land.* / Your

What passes my lips[a] is open
before you.
17 Do not be a terror[b] to me;
you are my refuge[c] in the day of
disaster.[d]
18 Let my persecutors be put to
shame,
but keep me from shame;
let them be terrified,
but keep me from terror.
Bring on them the day of
disaster;
destroy them with double
destruction.[e]

Keeping the Sabbath Holy

19 This is what the LORD said to me:
"Go and stand at the gate of the
people, through which the kings of
Judah go in and out; stand also at all
the other gates of Jerusalem.[f] 20 Say to
them, 'Hear the word of the LORD, O
kings of Judah and all people of Judah
and everyone living in Jerusalem[g] who
come through these gates.[h] 21 This is
what the LORD says: Be careful not to
carry a load on the Sabbath[i] day or
bring it through the gates of Jerusalem.
22 Do not bring a load out of your
houses or do any work on the Sabbath,
but keep the Sabbath day holy, as I
commanded your forefathers.[j] 23 Yet
they did not listen or pay attention;[k]
they were stiff-necked[l] and would not
listen or respond to discipline.[m] 24 But if
you are careful to obey me, declares the
LORD, and bring no load through the
gates of this city on the Sabbath, but
keep the Sabbath day holy[n] by not do-
ing any work on it, 25 then kings who sit
on David's throne[o] will come through
the gates of this city with their officials.
They and their officials will come riding
in chariots and on horses, accompanied
by the men of Judah and those living in
Jerusalem, and this city will be inhab-
ited forever.[p] 26 People will come from
the towns of Judah and the villages
around Jerusalem, from the territory of
Benjamin and the western foothills,
from the hill country and the Negev,[q]
bringing burnt offerings and sacrifices,
grain offerings, incense and thank of-
ferings to the house of the LORD. 27 But if
you do not obey[r] me to keep the Sab-
bath[s] day holy by not carrying any
load as you come through the gates of
Jerusalem on the Sabbath day, then I
will kindle an unquenchable fire[t] in
the gates of Jerusalem that will con-
sume her fortresses.'"[u]

17:16 [a]Ps 139:4
17:17 [b]Ps 88:15-16 [c]S Ps 46:1; Jer 16:19; Na 1:7 [d]S Ps 18:18
17:18 [e]Ps 35:1-8; S Isa 40:2; S Jer 12:3
17:19 [f]Jer 7:2; 26:2
17:20 [g]Jer 19:3 [h]Jer 22:2
17:21 [i]Nu 15:32-36; S Dt 5:14; Ne 13:15-21; Jn 5:10
17:22 [j]S Ge 2:3; S Ex 20:8; Isa 56:2-6
17:23 [k]Jer 7:26 [l]Jer 19:15 [m]S 2Ch 28:22; S Jer 7:28; Zec 7:11
17:24 [n]ver 22
17:25 [o]S 2Sa 7:13; Isa 9:7; Jer 22:2, 4; Lk 1:32 [p]Jer 30:10; 33:16; Eze 28:26
17:26 [q]Jer 32:44; 33:13; Zec 7:7
17:27 [r]S 1Ki 9:6; Jer 22:5 [s]S Ne 10:31 [t]S Jer 7:20 [u]S 2Ki 25:9; Hos 8:14; Am 2:5
18:6 [v]S Isa 29:16; 45:9; Ro 9:20-21 [w]S Ge 2:7
18:7 [x]Jer 1:10
18:8 [y]S Ex 32:14; Ps 25:11; Jer 26:13; 36:3; Jnh 3:8-10 [z]Jer 31:28; 42:10; Da 9:14; Hos 11:8-9; Joel 2:13; Jnh 4:2
18:9 [a]Jer 1:10; 31:28
18:10 [b]Eze 33:18 [c]1Sa 2:29-30; 13:13 [d]S Jer 1:10
18:11 [e]S 2Ki 22:16; S Jer 4:6 [f]ver 18 [g]S Dt 4:30; S 2Ki 17:13; Isa 1:16-19 [h]S Jer 7:3 [i]S Job 16:17
18:12 [j]S Isa 57:10 [k]S Jer 3:17
18:13 [l]S Isa 66:8 [m]S Jer 5:30 [n]S 2Ki 19:21
18:15 [o]S Isa 17:10 [p]S Isa 1:13; Jer 44:15,19 [q]Jer 10:15; 51:18; Hos 11:2 [r]Eze 44:12; Mal 2:8 [s]Jer 6:16

At the Potter's House

18 This is the word that came to
Jeremiah from the LORD: 2 "Go
down to the potter's house, and there I
will give you my message." 3 So I went
down to the potter's house, and I saw
him working at the wheel. 4 But the pot
he was shaping from the clay was
marred in his hands; so the potter
formed it into another pot, shaping it
as seemed best to him.
5 Then the word of the LORD came to
me: 6 "O house of Israel, can I not do
with you as this potter does?" declares
the LORD. "Like clay[v] in the hand of the
potter, so are you in my hand,[w] O
house of Israel. 7 If at any time I an-
nounce that a nation or kingdom is to
be uprooted,[x] torn down and de-
stroyed, 8 and if that nation I warned
repents of its evil, then I will relent[y]
and not inflict on it the disaster[z] I had
planned. 9 And if at another time I an-
nounce that a nation or kingdom is to
be built[a] up and planted, 10 and if it
does evil[b] in my sight and does not
obey me, then I will reconsider[c] the
good I had intended to do for it.[d]
11 "Now therefore say to the people of
Judah and those living in Jerusalem,
'This is what the LORD says: Look! I am
preparing a disaster[e] for you and de-
vising a plan[f] against you. So turn[g]
from your evil ways,[h] each one of you,
and reform your ways and your ac-
tions.'[i] 12 But they will reply, 'It's no
use.[j] We will continue with our own
plans; each of us will follow the stub-
bornness of his evil heart.[k]'"

13 Therefore this is what the LORD
says:

"Inquire among the nations:
Who has ever heard anything like
this?[l]
A most horrible[m] thing has been
done
by Virgin[n] Israel.
14 Does the snow of Lebanon
ever vanish from its rocky slopes?
Do its cool waters from distant
sources
ever cease to flow?[f]
15 Yet my people have forgotten[o] me;
they burn incense[p] to worthless
idols,[q]
which made them stumble[r] in their
ways
and in the ancient paths.[s]

[f]14 The meaning of the Hebrew for this sentence is uncertain.

They made them walk in bypaths
and on roads not built up.[a]
16 Their land will be laid waste,[b]
an object of lasting scorn;[c]
all who pass by will be appalled[d]
and will shake their heads.[e]
17 Like a wind[f] from the east,
I will scatter them before their
enemies;
I will show them my back and not
my face[g]
in the day of their disaster."

18 They said, "Come, let's make
plans[h] against Jeremiah; for the teach-
ing of the law by the priest[i] will not be
lost, nor will counsel from the wise,[j]
nor the word from the prophets.[k] So
come, let's attack him with our
tongues[l] and pay no attention to any-
thing he says."

19 Listen to me, O LORD;
hear what my accusers[m] are
saying!
20 Should good be repaid with evil?[n]
Yet they have dug a pit[o] for me.
Remember that I stood[p] before you
and spoke in their behalf[q]
to turn your wrath away from
them.
21 So give their children over to
famine;[r]
hand them over to the power of
the sword.[s]
Let their wives be made childless
and widows;[t]
let their men be put to death,
their young men[u] slain by the
sword in battle.
22 Let a cry[v] be heard from their
houses
when you suddenly bring invaders
against them,
for they have dug a pit[w] to capture
me
and have hidden snares[x] for my
feet.
23 But you know, O LORD,
all their plots to kill[y] me.
Do not forgive[z] their crimes
or blot out their sins from your
sight.
Let them be overthrown before you;
deal with them in the time of your
anger.[a]

19 This is what the LORD says: "Go
and buy a clay jar from a pot-
ter.[b] Take along some of the elders[c] of
the people and of the priests 2 and go
out to the Valley of Ben Hinnom,[d] near
the entrance of the Potsherd Gate.
There proclaim the words I tell you,
3 and say, 'Hear the word of the LORD, O
kings[e] of Judah and people of Jerusa-
lem. This is what the LORD Almighty,
the God of Israel, says: Listen! I am go-
ing to bring a disaster[f] on this place
that will make the ears of everyone
who hears of it tingle.[g] 4 For they have
forsaken[h] me and made this a place of
foreign gods[i]; they have burned sacri-
fices[j] in it to gods that neither they nor
their fathers nor the kings of Judah
ever knew, and they have filled this
place with the blood of the innocent.[k]
5 They have built the high places of Baal
to burn their sons[l] in the fire as offer-
ings to Baal—something I did not com-
mand or mention, nor did it enter my
mind.[m] 6 So beware, the days are com-
ing, declares the LORD, when people
will no longer call this place Topheth[n]
or the Valley of Ben Hinnom,[o] but the
Valley of Slaughter.[p]
7 "'In this place I will ruin[g] the
plans[q] of Judah and Jerusalem. I will
make them fall by the sword before
their enemies,[r] at the hands of those
who seek their lives, and I will give
their carcasses[s] as food[t] to the birds of
the air and the beasts of the earth. 8 I
will devastate this city and make it an
object of scorn;[u] all who pass by will be
appalled[v] and will scoff because of all
its wounds.[w] 9 I will make them eat[x]
the flesh of their sons and daughters,
and they will eat one another's flesh
during the stress of the siege imposed
on them by the enemies[y] who seek
their lives.'
10 "Then break the jar[z] while those
who go with you are watching, 11 and
say to them, 'This is what the LORD Al-
mighty says: I will smash[a] this nation
and this city just as this potter's jar is
smashed and cannot be repaired. They
will bury[b] the dead in Topheth until
there is no more room. 12 This is what I
will do to this place and to those who
live here, declares the LORD. I will make
this city like Topheth. 13 The houses[c] in
Jerusalem and those of the kings of
Judah will be defiled[d] like this place,
Topheth—all the houses where they
burned incense on the roofs[e] to all the
starry hosts[f] and poured out drink of-
ferings[g] to other gods.'"
14 Jeremiah then returned from

18:15 [a]S Isa 57:14; 62:10 **18:16** [b]S Dt 28:37; Jer 25:9; Eze 33:28-29 [c]Jer 19:8; 42:18 [d]S Lev 26:32 [e]S 2Ki 19:21; S Job 16:4; Ps 22:7; La 1:12 **18:17** [f]S Job 7:10; Jer 13:24 [g]S 2Ch 29:6; S Jer 2:27 **18:18** [h]ver 11; Jer 11:19 [i]Jer 2:8; Hag 2:11; Mal 2:7 [j]S Job 5:13; Eze 7:26 [k]Jer 5:13 [l]Ps 52:2; 64:2-8; S Jer 9:3 **18:19** [m]Ps 71:13 **18:20** [n]S Ge 44:4 [o]Ps 35:7; 57:6; S 119:85 [p]Jer 15:1 [q]S Ge 20:7; S Dt 9:19; Ps 106:23; Jer 14:7-9 **18:21** [r]Jer 11:22; 14:16 [s]S Ps 63:10 [t]S 1Sa 15:33; Ps 109:9; S Isa 47:9; La 5:3 [u]S Isa 9:17 **18:22** [v]S Jer 6:26 [w]S Ps 119:85 [x]Ps 35:15; 140:5; Jer 5:26; 20:10 **18:23** [y]S Jer 11:21; 37:15 [z]S Ne 4:5 [a]Ps 59:5; S Jer 10:24 **19:1** [b]Jer 18:2 [c]S Nu 11:17; 1Ki 8:1 **19:2** [d]S Jos 15:8 **19:3** [e]Jer 17:20 [f]S Jer 6:19 [g]S 1Sa 3:11 **19:4** [h]S Dt 31:16; S Isa 65:11 [i]S Ex 20:3; S Jer 1:16 [j]S Lev 18:21 [k]S 2Ki 21:16 **19:5** [l]S Lev 18:21; S 2Ki 3:27; Ps 106:37-38 [m]S Jer 7:31; Eze 16:36 **19:6** [n]S 2Ki 23:10 [o]S Jos 15:8 [p]Jer 7:32 **19:7** [q]Ps 33:10-11 [r]S ver 9; S Lev 26:17; S Dt 28:25 [s]S Jer 16:4; 34:20 [t]S Dt 28:26 **19:8** [u]S Dt 28:37; S Jer 18:16; 25:9 [v]S Lev 26:32; La 2:15-16 [w]S Dt 29:22 **19:9** [x]S Lev 26:29; Dt 28:49-57; La 4:10 [y]S ver 7; Jer 21:7; 34:20 **19:10** [z]ver 1; S Ps 2:9; Jer 13:14

19:11 [a]Ps 2:9; Isa 30:14 [b]Jer 7:32 **19:13** [c]Jer 32:29; 52:13; Eze 16:41 [d]Ps 74:7 [e]S 2Ki 23:12 [f]Dt 4:19; S 2Ki 17:16; S Job 38:32; Jer 8:2; Ac 7:42 [g]S Isa 57:6; Eze 20:28

[g]7 The Hebrew for *ruin* sounds like the Hebrew for *jar* (see verses 1 and 10).

Topheth, where the LORD had sent him to prophesy, and stood in the court[a] of the LORD's temple and said to all the people, 15"This is what the LORD Almighty, the God of Israel, says: 'Listen! I am going to bring on this city and the villages around it every disaster[b] I pronounced against them, because they were stiff-necked[c] and would not listen[d] to my words.' "

Jeremiah and Pashhur

20 When the priest Pashhur son of Immer,[e] the chief officer[f] in the temple of the LORD, heard Jeremiah prophesying these things, 2he had Jeremiah the prophet beaten[g] and put in the stocks[h] at the Upper Gate of Benjamin[i] at the LORD's temple. 3The next day, when Pashhur released him from the stocks, Jeremiah said to him, "The LORD's name[j] for you is not Pashhur, but Magor-Missabib.[h][k] 4For this is what the LORD says: 'I will make you a terror to yourself and to all your friends; with your own eyes[l] you will see them fall by the sword of their enemies. I will hand[m] all Judah over to the king of Babylon, who will carry[n] them away to Babylon or put them to the sword. 5I will hand over to their enemies all the wealth[o] of this city—all its products, all its valuables and all the treasures of the kings of Judah. They will take it away[p] as plunder and carry it off to Babylon. 6And you, Pashhur, and all who live in your house will go into exile to Babylon. There you will die and be buried, you and all your friends to whom you have prophesied[q] lies.' "

Jeremiah's Complaint

7O LORD, you deceived[i][r] me, and I
was deceived[i];
you overpowered[s] me and
prevailed.
I am ridiculed[t] all day long;
everyone mocks[u] me.
8Whenever I speak, I cry out
proclaiming violence and
destruction.[v]
So the word of the LORD has brought
me
insult and reproach[w] all day long.
9But if I say, "I will not mention him
or speak any more in his name,"[x]
his word is in my heart like a fire,[y]
a fire shut up in my bones.
I am weary of holding it in;[z]
indeed, I cannot.
10I hear many whispering,
"Terror[a] on every side!
Report[b] him! Let's report him!"
All my friends[c]
are waiting for me to slip,[d] saying,
"Perhaps he will be deceived;
then we will prevail[e] over him
and take our revenge[f] on him."
11But the LORD[g] is with me like a
mighty warrior;
so my persecutors[h] will stumble
and not prevail.[i]
They will fail and be thoroughly
disgraced;[j]
their dishonor will never be
forgotten.
12O LORD Almighty, you who examine
the righteous
and probe the heart and mind,[k]
let me see your vengeance[l] upon
them,
for to you I have committed[m] my
cause.
13Sing[n] to the LORD!
Give praise to the LORD!
He rescues[o] the life of the needy
from the hands of the wicked.[p]
14Cursed be the day I was born![q]
May the day my mother bore me
not be blessed!
15Cursed be the man who brought my
father the news,
who made him very glad, saying,
"A child is born to you—a son!"
16May that man be like the towns[r]
the LORD overthrew without pity.
May he hear wailing[s] in the
morning,
a battle cry at noon.
17For he did not kill me in the womb,[t]
with my mother as my grave,
her womb enlarged forever.
18Why did I ever come out of the
womb[u]
to see trouble[v] and sorrow
and to end my days in shame?[w]

God Rejects Zedekiah's Request

21 The word came to Jeremiah from the LORD when King Zedekiah[x] sent to him Pashhur[y] son of Malkijah and the priest Zephaniah[z] son of Maaseiah. They said: 2"Inquire[a] now of the LORD for us because Nebuchadnezzar[j][b] king of Babylon[c] is attacking us.

19:14 [a]2Ch 20:5; S Jer 7:2; 26:2 **19:15** [b]ver 3; Jer 11:11 [c]S Ne 9:16; Ac 7:51 [d]Jer 22:21 **20:1** [e]S 1Ch 24:14 [f]2Ki 25:18; Lk 22:52 **20:2** [g]Dt 25:2-3; S Jer 1:19; 15:15; 37:15; 2Co 11:24 [h]S Job 13:27; Jer 29:26; Ac 16:24; Heb 11:36 [i]S Job 29:7; Jer 37:13; 38:7; Zec 14:10 **20:3** [j]Hos 1:4 [k]S ver 10; S Ps 31:13 **20:4** [l]Jer 29:21 [m]Jer 21:10; 25:9 [n]Jer 13:19; 39:9; 52:27 **20:5** [o]S 2Ki 25:15; Jer 17:3 [p]S 2Ki 20:17 **20:6** [q]S Jer 14:15; La 2:14 **20:7** [r]S Ex 5:23; 22:16 [s]Isa 8:11; Am 3:8; 1Co 9:16 [t]Job 12:4 [u]S Job 17:2; S Ps 119:21 **20:8** [v]Jer 6:7; 28:8 [w]S 2Ch 36:16; S Jer 6:10 **20:9** [x]Jer 44:16 [y]S Ps 39:3; S Jer 4:19 [z]S Job 4:2; S Jer 6:11; Am 3:8; Ac 4:20

20:10 [a]Jer 6:25 [b]Ne 6:6-13; Isa 29:21 [c]S Job 19:14; S Jer 13:21 [d]S Ps 57:4; S Jer 18:22; Lk 11:53-54 [e]S 1Ki 19:2 [f]S 1Sa 18:25; S Jer 11:19 **20:11** [g]Jer 1:8; Ro 8:31 [h]Jer 15:15; 17:18 [i]S Ps 129:2 [j]S Jer 7:19; 23:40 **20:12** [k]S Ps 7:9; S Jer 17:10 [l]Dt 32:35; S Ro 12:19 [m]Ps 62:8; Jer 11:20 **20:13** [n]S Isa 12:6 [o]Ps 34:6; 35:10 [p]S Ps 97:10 **20:14** [q]S Job 3:8,16; Jer 15:10 **20:16** [r]S Ge 19:25 [s]S Jer 6:26 **20:17** [t]S Job 3:16; S 10:18-19 **20:18** [u]S Job 3:10-11; S Ecc 4:2 [v]S Ge 3:17; S Job 5:7 [w]S 1Ki 19:4; Ps 90:9; 102:3 **21:1** [x]2Ki 24:18; Jer 52:1 [y]S 1Ch 9:12 [z]S 2Ki 25:18 **21:2** [a]S Ge 25:22; S 2Ki 22:18 [b]S 2Ki 25:1 [c]S Ge 10:10

[h]3 *Magor-Missabib* means *terror on every side.* [i]7 Or *persuaded* [j]2 Hebrew *Nebuchadrezzar,* of which *Nebuchadnezzar* is a variant; here and often in Jeremiah and Ezekiel

Perhaps the LORD will perform won-
ders[a] for us as in times past so that he
will withdraw from us."
3But Jeremiah answered them, "Tell
Zedekiah, 4'This is what the LORD, the
God of Israel, says: I am about to turn[b]
against you the weapons of war that
are in your hands, which you are using
to fight the king of Babylon and the
Babylonians[k] who are outside the wall
besieging[c] you. And I will gather them
inside this city. 5I myself will fight[d]
against you with an outstretched
hand[e] and a mighty arm[f] in anger and
fury and great wrath. 6I will strike[g]
down those who live in this city—both
men and animals—and they will die of
a terrible plague.[h] 7After that, declares
the LORD, I will hand over Zedekiah[i]
king of Judah, his officials and the
people in this city who survive the
plague,[j] sword and famine, to Nebu-
chadnezzar king of Babylon[k] and to
their enemies[l] who seek their lives.[m]
He will put them to the sword;[n] he will
show them no mercy or pity or com-
passion.'[o]
8"Furthermore, tell the people, 'This
is what the LORD says: See, I am setting
before you the way of life[p] and the way
of death. 9Whoever stays in this city
will die by the sword, famine or
plague.[q] But whoever goes out and
surrenders[r] to the Babylonians who
are besieging you will live; he will es-
cape with his life.[s] 10I have determined
to do this city harm[t] and not good, de-
clares the LORD. It will be given into the
hands[u] of the king of Babylon, and he
will destroy it with fire.'[v]
11"Moreover, say to the royal house[w]
of Judah, 'Hear the word of the LORD;
12O house of David, this is what the
LORD says:

"'Administer justice[x] every
morning;
rescue from the hand of his
oppressor[y]
the one who has been robbed,
or my wrath will break out and burn
like fire[z]
because of the evil[a] you have
done—
burn with no one to quench[b] it.
13I am against[c] you, Jerusalem,
you who live above this valley[d]
on the rocky plateau,
declares the LORD—
you who say, "Who can come
against us?
Who can enter our refuge?"[e]
14I will punish you as your deeds[f]
deserve,
declares the LORD.
I will kindle a fire[g] in your forests[h]
that will consume everything
around you.'"

Judgment Against Evil Kings

22 This is what the LORD says: "Go
down to the palace of the king[i]
of Judah and proclaim this message
there: 2'Hear[j] the word of the LORD, O
king of Judah, you who sit on David's
throne[k]—you, your officials and your
people who come through these
gates.[l] 3This is what the LORD says: Do
what is just[m] and right. Rescue from
the hand of his oppressor[n] the one
who has been robbed. Do no wrong or
violence to the alien, the fatherless or
the widow,[o] and do not shed innocent
blood[p] in this place. 4For if you are
careful to carry out these commands,
then kings[q] who sit on David's throne
will come through the gates of this pal-
ace, riding in chariots and on horses,
accompanied by their officials and their
people. 5But if you do not obey[r] these
commands, declares the LORD, I swear[s]
by myself that this palace will become a
ruin.'"
6For this is what the LORD says about
the palace of the king of Judah:

"Though you are like Gilead[t] to me,
like the summit of Lebanon,[u]
I will surely make you like a desert,[v]
like towns not inhabited.
7I will send destroyers[w] against you,
each man with his weapons,
and they will cut[x] up your fine cedar
beams
and throw them into the fire.[y]

8"People from many nations will
pass by this city and will ask one an-
other, 'Why has the LORD done such a
thing to this great city?'[z] 9And the an-
swer will be: 'Because they have forsak-
en the covenant of the LORD their God
and have worshiped and served other
gods.[a]'"

10Do not weep for the dead[b] king, or
mourn[c] his loss;
rather, weep bitterly for him who
is exiled,
because he will never return[d]
nor see his native land again.

21:2 [a]Ps 44:1-4; Jer 32:17 **21:4** [b]Jer 32:5 [c]Jer 37:8-10 **21:5** [d]S Jos 10:14; Eze 5:8 [e]S 2Ki 22:13; S Jer 6:12 [f]S Ex 3:20 **21:6** [g]S Jer 7:20 [h]S Jer 14:12 **21:7** [i]S 2Ki 25:7; Jer 52:9; Eze 12:14 [j]Jer 14:12; 27:8 [k]S 2Ch 36:10; Jer 27:6; 32:4; 34:3; 37:17; 38:18; 39:5; Eze 29:19 [l]S Lev 26:17; S Jer 19:9 [m]S Jer 11:21 [n]S Jer 15:9 [o]S 2Ch 36:17; S Jer 15:5; Eze 7:9; Hab 1:6 **21:8** [p]S Dt 30:15 **21:9** [q]Jer 14:12; Eze 5:12 [r]Jer 27:11; 40:9 [s]Jer 27:12; 38:2; 17; 39:18; 45:5 **21:10** [t]Jer 44:27; Am 9:4 [u]S Jer 20:4; 32:28; 38:2-3 [v]S 2Ki 25:9; S 2Ch 36:19 **21:11** [w]S Jer 13:18 **21:12** [x]S Ex 22:22; S Lev 25:17 [y]S Ps 27:11 [z]S Isa 42:25; S Jer 10:10 [a]Jer 23:2 [b]S Isa 1:31 **21:13** [c]Jer 23:30; 50:31; 51:25; Eze 5:8; 13:8; 21:3; 29:10; 34:10; Na 2:13; 3:5 [d]Ps 125:2 [e]2Sa 5:6-7; Jer 49:4; La 4:12; Ob 1:3-4 **21:14** [f]S Pr 1:31; S Isa 3:10-11; S Jer 17:10 [g]S 2Ch 36:19; La 2:3 [h]S 2Ki 19:23; Eze 20:47 **22:1** [i]S Jer 13:18; 34:2 **22:2** [j]Am 7:16 [k]S Jer 17:25; Lk 1:32 [l]Jer 17:20 **22:3** [m]S Lev 25:17; Isa 56:1; Jer 5:1; Eze 33:14; 45:9; Hos 12:6; Am 5:24; Mic 6:8; Zec 7:9 [n]Ps 72:4; Jer 21:12 [o]S Ex 22:22; S Isa 1:17; Jer 5:28 [p]S Jer 7:6 **22:4** [q]S Jer 17:25 **22:5** [r]S Jer 17:27 [s]S Ge 22:16; Heb 6:13 **22:6** [t]S Ge 31:21; S SS 4:1 [u]S 1Ki 7:2; S Isa 33:9 [v]Mic 3:12 **22:7** [w]S Jer 4:7; S 6:4 [x]Ps 74:5; Isa 10:34 [y]S 2Ch 36:19; Zec 11:1 **22:8** [z]Dt 29:25-26; 1Ki 9:8-9; Jer 16:10-11 **22:9** [a]S 1Ki 9:9; Jer 16:11; Eze 39:23 **22:10** [b]S Ecc 4:2 [c]ver 18; Eze 24:16 [d]ver 27; Jer 24:9; 29:18; 42:18

k4 Or *Chaldeans*; also in verse 9

11 For this is what the LORD says about
Shallum[l][a] son of Josiah, who suc-
ceeded his father as king of Judah but
has gone from this place: "He will nev-
er return. 12 He will die[b] in the place
where they have led him captive; he
will not see this land again."

13 "Woe[c] to him who builds[d] his
palace by unrighteousness,
his upper rooms by injustice,
making his countrymen work for
nothing,
not paying[e] them for their labor.
14 He says, 'I will build myself a great
palace[f]
with spacious upper rooms.'
So he makes large windows in it,
panels it with cedar[g]
and decorates it in red.[h]

15 "Does it make you a king
to have more and more cedar?
Did not your father have food and
drink?
He did what was right and just,[i]
so all went well[j] with him.
16 He defended the cause of the poor
and needy,[k]
and so all went well.
Is that not what it means to know[l]
me?"
declares the LORD.
17 "But your eyes and your heart
are set only on dishonest gain,[m]
on shedding innocent blood[n]
and on oppression and
extortion."[o]

18 Therefore this is what the LORD says
about Jehoiakim son of Josiah king of
Judah:

"They will not mourn[p] for him:
'Alas, my brother! Alas, my sister!'
They will not mourn for him:
'Alas, my master! Alas, his
splendor!'
19 He will have the burial[q] of a
donkey—
dragged away and thrown[r]
outside the gates of Jerusalem."

20 "Go up to Lebanon and cry out,[s]
let your voice be heard in
Bashan,[t]
cry out from Abarim,[u]
for all your allies[v] are crushed.
21 I warned you when you felt
secure,[w]
but you said, 'I will not listen!'
This has been your way from your
youth;[x]
you have not obeyed[y] me.
22 The wind[z] will drive all your
shepherds[a] away,
and your allies[b] will go into exile.
Then you will be ashamed and
disgraced[c]
because of all your wickedness.
23 You who live in 'Lebanon,[m][d]'
who are nestled in cedar
buildings,
how you will groan when pangs
come upon you,
pain[e] like that of a woman in
labor!

24 "As surely as I live," declares the
LORD, "even if you, Jehoiachin[n][f] son of
Jehoiakim king of Judah, were a signet
ring[g] on my right hand, I would still
pull you off. 25 I will hand you over[h] to
those who seek your life, those you
fear—to Nebuchadnezzar king of Bab-
ylon and to the Babylonians.[o] 26 I will
hurl[i] you and the mother[j] who gave
you birth into another country, where
neither of you was born, and there you
both will die. 27 You will never come
back to the land you long to return[k]
to."

28 Is this man Jehoiachin[l] a despised,
broken pot,[m]
an object no one wants?
Why will he and his children be
hurled[n] out,
cast into a land[o] they do not
know?
29 O land,[p] land, land,
hear the word of the LORD!
30 This is what the LORD says:
"Record this man as if childless,[q]
a man who will not prosper[r] in
his lifetime,
for none of his offspring[s] will
prosper,
none will sit on the throne[t] of
David
or rule anymore in Judah."

The Righteous Branch

23 "Woe to the shepherds[u] who are
destroying and scattering[v] the
sheep of my pasture!"[w] declares the
LORD. 2 Therefore this is what the LORD,
the God of Israel, says to the shep-
herds[x] who tend my people: "Because
you have scattered my flock[y] and
driven them away and have not be-
stowed care on them, I will bestow
punishment on you for the evil[z] you

22:11 [a]S 2Ki 23:31
22:12 [b]2Ki 23:34
22:13 [c]S Isa 5:8 [d]Mic 3:10; Hab 2:9 [e]S Lev 19:13; Jas 5:4
22:14 [f]Isa 5:8-9 [g]S 2Sa 7:2 [h]Eze 23:14
22:15 [i]2Ki 23:25 [j]Ps 128:2; S Isa 3:10
22:16 [k]Ps 72:1-4,12-13; S 82:3; S Pr 24:23 [l]S Ps 36:10
22:17 [m]S Isa 56:11 [n]S 2Ki 24:4 [o]S Dt 28:33; Eze 18:12; Mic 2:2
22:18 [p]S 2Sa 1:26
22:19 [q]2Ki 24:6 [r]Jer 8:2; 36:30
22:20 [s]S Isa 57:13 [t]S Ps 68:15 [u]S Nu 27:12 [v]ver 22; Jer 30:14; La 1:19; Eze 16:33-34; Hos 8:9
22:21 [w]Zec 7:7 [x]Dt 9:7; Ps 25:7; Isa 54:4; Jer 3:25; 31:19; 32:30 [y]S Jer 3:13; 7:23-28; Zep 3:2
22:22 [z]S Dt 28:64; S Job 27:21 [a]S Jer 10:21 [b]S ver 20 [c]S Jer 7:19
22:23 [d]S 1Ki 7:2; Eze 17:3 [e]S Jer 4:31
22:24 [f]S 2Ki 24:6,8 [g]S Ge 38:18
22:25 [h]S 2Ki 24:16; S 2Ch 36:10
22:26 [i]S 1Sa 25:29; S 2Ki 24:8; 2Ch 36:10; S Isa 22:17; Eze 19:9-14 [j]S 1Ki 2:19
22:27 [k]S ver 10
22:28 [l]S 2Ki 24:6 [m]Ps 31:12; S Jer 19:10; 25:34; 48:38 [n]Jer 15:1 [o]S Jer 17:4
22:29 [p]S Jer 6:19
22:30 [q]1Ch 3:18; Jer 38:23; 52:10; Mt 1:12 [r]Jer 10:21 [s]S Job 18:19 [t]S Ps 94:20
23:1 [u]Jer 10:21; 12:10; 25:36; Eze 34:1-10; Zec 10:2; 11:15-17 [v]S Isa 56:11 [w]Ps 100:3; S Jer 13:17; Eze 34:31
23:2 [x]Jn 10:8 [y]S Jer 10:21; 13:20 [z]Jer 21:12; Eze 34:8-10

[l]11 Also called *Jehoahaz* [m]23 That is, the palace in Jerusalem (see 1 Kings 7:2) [n]24 Hebrew *Coniah*, a variant of *Jehoiachin*; also in verse 28 [o]25 Or *Chaldeans*

have done," declares the LORD. 3"I my-
self will gather the remnant[a] of my
flock out of all the countries where I
have driven them and will bring them
back to their pasture,[b] where they will
be fruitful and increase in number. 4I
will place shepherds[c] over them who
will tend them, and they will no longer
be afraid[d] or terrified, nor will any be
missing," declares the LORD.

5"The days are coming," declares the
LORD,
"when I will raise up to David[p][e] a
righteous Branch,[f]
a King[g] who will reign[h] wisely
and do what is just and right[i] in
the land.
6In his days Judah will be saved
and Israel will live in safety.[j]
This is the name[k] by which he will
be called:
The LORD Our Righteousness.[l]

7"So then, the days are coming,"[m] de-
clares the LORD, "when people will no
longer say, 'As surely as the LORD lives,
who brought the Israelites up out of
Egypt,'[n] 8but they will say, 'As surely
as the LORD lives, who brought the de-
scendants of Israel up out of the land of
the north and out of all the countries
where he had banished them.' Then
they will live in their own land."[o]

Lying Prophets

9Concerning the prophets:

My heart[p] is broken within me;
all my bones tremble.[q]
I am like a drunken man,
like a man overcome by wine,
because of the LORD
and his holy words.[r]
10The land is full of adulterers;[s]
because of the curse[q][t] the land
lies parched[r]
and the pastures[u] in the desert are
withered.[v]
The prophets follow an evil course
and use their power unjustly.

11"Both prophet and priest are
godless;[w]
even in my temple[x] I find their
wickedness,"
declares the LORD.
12"Therefore their path will become
slippery;[y]
they will be banished to darkness
and there they will fall.
I will bring disaster on them
in the year they are punished,[z]"
declares the LORD.

13"Among the prophets of Samaria
I saw this repulsive thing:
They prophesied by Baal[a]
and led my people Israel astray.[b]
14And among the prophets of
Jerusalem
I have seen something horrible:[c]
They commit adultery and live a
lie.[d]
They strengthen the hands of
evildoers,[e]
so that no one turns from his
wickedness.[f]
They are all like Sodom[g] to me;
the people of Jerusalem are like
Gomorrah."[h]

15Therefore, this is what the LORD Al-
mighty says concerning the prophets:

"I will make them eat bitter food
and drink poisoned water,[i]
because from the prophets of
Jerusalem
ungodliness[j] has spread
throughout the land."

16This is what the LORD Almighty
says:

"Do not listen[k] to what the prophets
are prophesying to you;
they fill you with false hopes.
They speak visions[l] from their own
minds,
not from the mouth[m] of the LORD.
17They keep saying[n] to those who
despise me,
'The LORD says: You will have
peace.'[o]
And to all who follow the
stubbornness[p] of their hearts
they say, 'No harm[q] will come to
you.'
18But which of them has stood in the
council[r] of the LORD
to see or to hear his word?
Who has listened and heard his
word?
19See, the storm[s] of the LORD
will burst out in wrath,
a whirlwind[t] swirling down
on the heads of the wicked.
20The anger[u] of the LORD will not turn
back[v]
until he fully accomplishes
the purposes of his heart.
In days to come
you will understand it clearly.
21I did not send[w] these prophets,

23:3 [a]Isa 11:10-12; Jer 32:37; Eze 34:11-16 [b]S 1Ki 8:48 **23:4** [c]S Ge 48:15; S Isa 31:4; Jer 31:10 [d]Jer 30:10; 46:27-28 [e]S Jn 6:39 **23:5** [f]S 2Ki 19:26; S Isa 4:2; Eze 17:22 [g]S Mt 2:2 [h]Isa 9:7; S Mt 1:1 [i]S Ge 18:19 **23:6** [j]S Lev 25:18; S Dt 32:8; Hos 2:18 [k]Ex 23:21; Jer 33:16; Mt 1:21-23 [l]S Ezr 9:15; S Isa 42:6; Ro 3:21-22; S 1Co 1:30 **23:7** [m]Jer 30:3 [n]S Dt 15:15 **23:8** [o]S Isa 14:1; S 43:5-6; Jer 30:10; Eze 20:42; 34:13; Am 9:14-15 **23:9** [p]S Jer 4:19 [q]S Job 4:14 [r]Jer 20:8-9 **23:10** [s]S Jer 9:2 [t]Dt 28:23-24 [u]Ps 107:34; S Jer 9:10 [v]S Jer 4:26; S 12:11 **23:11** [w]Jer 6:13; S 8:10; Zep 3:4 [x]S 2Ki 21:4; S Jer 7:10 **23:12** [y]S Dt 32:35; S Job 3:23; Jer 13:16 [z]Jer 11:23 **23:13** [a]S 1Ki 18:22 [b]ver 32; S Isa 3:12; Eze 13:10 **23:14** [c]S Jer 5:30; Hos 6:10 [d]Jer 29:23 [e]ver 22 [f]S Isa 5:18 [g]S Ge 18:20; Mt 11:24 [h]Jer 20:16; Am 4:11 **23:15** [i]S Jer 8:14; 9:15 [j]S Jer 8:10 **23:16** [k]Jer 27:9-10,14; S Mt 7:15 [l]S Jer 14:14; Eze 13:3 [m]Jer 9:20 **23:17** [n]ver 31 [o]S 1Ki 22:8; S Jer 4:10 [p]S Jer 13:10 [q]Jer 5:12; Am 9:10; Mic 3:11 **23:18** [r]S 1Ki 22:19; S Ro 11:34 **23:19** [s]Isa 30:30; Jer 25:32; 30:23 [t]Zec 7:14 **23:20** [u]S 2Ki 23:26 [v]S Jer 4:28

23:21 [w]S Jer 14:14; 27:15

[p]5 Or *up from David's line* [q]10 Or *because of these things* [r]10 Or *land mourns*

yet they have run with their
message;
I did not speak to them,
yet they have prophesied.
22 But if they had stood in my council,[a]
they would have proclaimed[b] my
words to my people
and would have turned[c] them from
their evil ways
and from their evil deeds.[d]

23 "Am I only a God nearby,[e]"
declares the LORD,
"and not a God far away?
24 Can anyone hide[f] in secret places
so that I cannot see him?"
declares the LORD.
"Do not I fill heaven and earth?"[g]
declares the LORD.

25 "I have heard what the prophets
say who prophesy lies[h] in my name.
They say, 'I had a dream![i] I had a
dream!' 26 How long will this continue
in the hearts of these lying prophets,
who prophesy the delusions[j] of their
own minds?[k] 27 They think the dreams
they tell one another will make my
people forget[l] my name, just as their
fathers forgot[m] my name through Baal
worship.[n] 28 Let the prophet who has a
dream[o] tell his dream, but let the one
who has my word[p] speak it faithfully.
For what has straw to do with grain?"
declares the LORD. 29 "Is not my word
like fire,"[q] declares the LORD, "and like
a hammer[r] that breaks a rock in
pieces?

30 "Therefore," declares the LORD, "I
am against[s] the prophets[t] who steal
from one another words supposedly
from me. 31 Yes," declares the LORD, "I
am against the prophets who wag their
own tongues and yet declare, 'The
LORD declares.'[u] 32 Indeed, I am against
those who prophesy false dreams,[v]"
declares the LORD. "They tell them and
lead my people astray[w] with their reck-
less lies,[x] yet I did not send[y] or ap-
point them. They do not benefit[z] these
people in the least," declares the LORD.

False Oracles and False Prophets

33 "When these people, or a prophet
or a priest, ask you, 'What is the ora-
cle[s][a] of the LORD?' say to them, 'What
oracle?'[t] I will forsake[b] you, declares
the LORD.' 34 If a prophet or a priest or
anyone else claims, 'This is the oracle[c]
of the LORD,' I will punish[d] that man
and his household. 35 This is what each
of you keeps on saying to his friend or
relative: 'What is the LORD's answer?'[e]

23:22 [a]S 1Ki 22:19 [b]S Dt 33:10 [c]S 2Ki 17:13; Jer 25:5; Zec 1:4 [d]ver 14; Am 3:7 **23:23** [e]Ps 139:1-10 **23:24** [f]S Ge 3:8; S Job 11:20; 22:12-14; S Ecc 12:14; S Isa 28:15; 1Co 4:5 [g]S 1Ki 8:27 **23:25** [h]ver 16; Jer 14:14; 27:10 [i]ver 28, 32; S Dt 13:1; Jer 27:9; 29:8 **23:26** [j]S Isa 30:10; 1Ti 4:1-2 [k]Jer 14:14; Eze 13:2 **23:27** [l]Dt 13:1-3; Jer 29:8 [m]S Jdg 3:7; S 8:33-34 [n]S Jer 2:23 **23:28** [o]S ver 25 [p]S 1Sa 3:17 **23:29** [q]S Ps 39:3; Jer 5:14; S 1Co 3:13 [r]Heb 4:12 **23:30** [s]S Ps 34:16 [t]ver 2; Dt 18:20; Jer 14:15; S 21:13 **23:31** [u]ver 17 **23:32** [v]S ver 25 [w]S ver 13; S Jer 50:6 [x]S Job 13:4; Eze 13:3; 22:28 [y]S Jer 14:14 [z]Jer 7:8; La 2:14 **23:33** [a]Mal 1:1 [b]S 2Ki 21:14 **23:34** [c]La 2:14 [d]Zec 13:3 **23:35** [e]Jer 33:3; 42:4 **23:36** [f]Gal 1:7-8; 2Pe 3:16 [g]S Jos 3:10 **23:39** [h]S Jer 7:15 **23:40** [i]S Jer 20:11; Eze 5:14-15 **24:1** [j]S 2Ki 24:16; S 2Ch 36:9 [k]Ex 23:19; Dt 26:2; Am 8:1-2 **24:2** [l]S SS 2:13 [m]S Isa 5:4 **24:3** [n]Jer 1:11; Am 8:2 **24:5** [o]Jer 29:4, 20 **24:6** [p]S Dt 30:3; Jer 27:22; 29:10; 30:3; Eze 11:17 [q]Jer 33:7; 42:10 [r]S Dt 30:9; S Jer 1:10; Am 9:14-15 **24:7** [s]S Isa 11:9 [t]S Lev 26:12; S Isa 51:16; S Zec 2:11; Heb 8:10 [u]Jer 32:40 [v]S 2Ch 6:37; Eze 11:19 **24:8** [w]Jer 29:17

or 'What has the LORD spoken?' 36 But
you must not mention 'the oracle of the
LORD' again, because every man's own
word becomes his oracle and so you
distort[f] the words of the living God,[g]
the LORD Almighty, our God. 37 This is
what you keep saying to a prophet:
'What is the LORD's answer to you?' or
'What has the LORD spoken?' 38 Al-
though you claim, 'This is the oracle of
the LORD,' this is what the LORD says:
You used the words, 'This is the oracle
of the LORD,' even though I told you
that you must not claim, 'This is the
oracle of the LORD.' 39 Therefore, I will
surely forget you and cast[h] you out of
my presence along with the city I gave
to you and your fathers. 40 I will bring
upon you everlasting disgrace[i]
—everlasting shame that will not be
forgotten."

Two Baskets of Figs

24 After Jehoiachin[u][j] son of Jehoia-
kim king of Judah and the offi-
cials, the craftsmen and the artisans of
Judah were carried into exile from
Jerusalem to Babylon by Nebuchadnez-
zar king of Babylon, the LORD showed
me two baskets of figs[k] placed in front
of the temple of the LORD. 2 One basket
had very good figs, like those that rip-
en early;[l] the other basket had very
poor[m] figs, so bad they could not be
eaten.

3 Then the LORD asked me, "What do
you see,[n] Jeremiah?"

"Figs," I answered. "The good ones
are very good, but the poor ones are so
bad they cannot be eaten."

4 Then the word of the LORD came to
me: 5 "This is what the LORD, the God of
Israel, says: 'Like these good figs, I re-
gard as good the exiles from Judah,
whom I sent[o] away from this place to
the land of the Babylonians.[v] 6 My eyes
will watch over them for their good,
and I will bring them back[p] to this
land. I will build[q] them up and not tear
them down; I will plant[r] them and not
uproot them. 7 I will give them a heart
to know[s] me, that I am the LORD. They
will be my people,[t] and I will be their
God, for they will return[u] to me with
all their heart.[v]

8 " 'But like the poor[w] figs, which are
so bad they cannot be eaten,' says the

[s]33 Or *burden* (see Septuagint and Vulgate)
[t]33 Hebrew; Septuagint and Vulgate '*You are the burden.* (The Hebrew for *oracle* and *burden* is the same.)
[u]1 Hebrew *Jeconiah*, a variant of *Jehoiachin*
[v]5 Or *Chaldeans*

LORD, 'so will I deal with Zedekiah[a]
king of Judah, his officials[b] and the
survivors[c] from Jerusalem, whether
they remain in this land or live in
Egypt.[d] 9I will make them abhorrent[e]
and an offense to all the kingdoms of
the earth, a reproach and a byword,[f]
an object of ridicule and cursing,[g]
wherever I banish[h] them. 10I will send
the sword,[i] famine[j] and plague[k]
against them until they are destroyed
from the land I gave to them and their
fathers.[l]' "

Seventy Years of Captivity

25 The word came to Jeremiah con-
cerning all the people of Judah in
the fourth year of Jehoiakim[m] son of Jo-
siah king of Judah, which was the first
year of Nebuchadnezzar[n] king of Bab-
ylon. 2So Jeremiah the prophet said to
all the people of Judah[o] and to all those
living in Jerusalem: 3For twenty-three
years—from the thirteenth year of Jo-
siah[p] son of Amon king of Judah until
this very day—the word of the LORD
has come to me and I have spoken to
you again and again,[q] but you have
not listened.[r]
4And though the LORD has sent all his
servants the prophets[s] to you again
and again, you have not listened or
paid any attention.[t] 5They said,
"Turn[u] now, each of you, from your
evil ways and your evil practices, and
you can stay in the land[v] the LORD gave
to you and your fathers for ever and
ever. 6Do not follow other gods[w] to
serve and worship them; do not pro-
voke me to anger with what your
hands have made. Then I will not harm
you."
7"But you did not listen to me," de-
clares the LORD, "and you have pro-
voked[x] me with what your hands have
made,[y] and you have brought harm[z]
to yourselves."
8Therefore the LORD Almighty says
this: "Because you have not listened to
my words, 9I will summon[a] all the peo-
ples of the north[b] and my servant[c]
Nebuchadnezzar[d] king of Babylon,"
declares the LORD, "and I will bring
them against this land and its inhabit-
ants and against all the surrounding
nations. I will completely destroy[w][e]
them and make them an object of hor-
ror and scorn,[f] and an everlasting
ruin.[g] 10I will banish from them the
sounds[h] of joy and gladness, the
voices of bride and bridegroom,[i] the
sound of millstones[j] and the light of
the lamp.[k] 11This whole country will
become a desolate wasteland,[l] and
these nations will serve[m] the king of
Babylon seventy years.[n]
12"But when the seventy years[o] are
fulfilled, I will punish the king of Bab-
ylon[p] and his nation, the land of the
Babylonians,[x] for their guilt," declares
the LORD, "and will make it desolate[q]
forever. 13I will bring upon that land all
the things I have spoken against it, all
that are written[r] in this book and
prophesied by Jeremiah against all the
nations. 14They themselves will be en-
slaved[s] by many nations[t] and great
kings; I will repay[u] them according to
their deeds and the work of their
hands."

The Cup of God's Wrath

15This is what the LORD, the God of
Israel, said to me: "Take from my hand
this cup[v] filled with the wine of my
wrath and make all the nations to
whom I send[w] you drink it. 16When
they drink[x] it, they will stagger[y] and
go mad[z] because of the sword[a] I will
send among them."
17So I took the cup from the LORD's
hand and made all the nations to
whom he sent[b] me drink it: 18Jerusa-
lem[c] and the towns of Judah, its kings
and officials, to make them a ruin[d] and
an object of horror and scorn[e] and
cursing,[f] as they are today;[g] 19Pharaoh
king[h] of Egypt,[i] his attendants, his of-
ficials and all his people, 20and all the
foreign people there; all the kings of
Uz;[j] all the kings of the Philistines[k]
(those of Ashkelon,[l] Gaza,[m] Ekron,
and the people left at Ashdod);
21Edom,[n] Moab[o] and Ammon;[p] 22all
the kings of Tyre[q] and Sidon;[r] the
kings of the coastlands[s] across the sea;
23Dedan,[t] Tema,[u] Buz[v] and all who
are in distant places[y];[w] 24all the kings
of Arabia[x] and all the kings of the for-
eign people[y] who live in the desert;
25all the kings of Zimri,[z] Elam[a] and
Media;[b] 26and all the kings of the
north,[c] near and far, one after the oth-

24:8 [a]Jer 32:4-5; 38:18,23; 39:5; 44:30 [b]Jer 39:6 [c]Jer 39:9 [d]Jer 44:1,26; 46:14 **24:9** [e]S Jer 15:4; 25:18 [f]S Dt 28:25; S 1Ki 9:7 [g]S 2Ki 22:19; S Jer 29:18 [h]S Dt 28:37; Da 9:7 **24:10** [i]S Isa 51:19; S Jer 9:16; Rev 6:8 [j]Jer 15:2 [k]Jer 27:8 [l]S Dt 28:21 **25:1** [m]S 2Ki 24:2 [n]S 2Ki 24:1 **25:2** [o]Jer 18:11 **25:3** [p]S 1Ch 3:14 [q]Jer 11:7; 26:5 [r]S Isa 65:12; S Jer 7:26 **25:4** [s]Jer 6:17; S 7:25; 29:19 [t]S Jer 7:26; 34:14; 44:5 **25:5** [u]S Jdg 6:8; S 2Ch 7:14; S 30:9; S Jer 23:22 [v]S Ge 12:7; S Dt 4:40 **25:6** [w]S Ex 20:3; S Dt 8:19 **25:7** [x]Jer 30:14; 32:35; 44:5 [y]Dt 32:21 [z]2Ki 17:20; 21:15 **25:9** [a]Isa 13:3-5 [b]S Isa 14:31 [c]S Isa 41:2; Jer 27:6 [d]S 2Ch 36:6 [e]S Nu 21:2 [f]S 2Ch 29:8 [g]S Jer 19:8; S 20:4; Eze 12:20 **25:10** [h]S Isa 24:8; Eze 26:13 [i]Jer 7:34; 33:11 [j]Ecc 12:3-4 [k]S Job 18:5; La 5:15; Rev 18:22-23 **25:11** [l]S Lev 26:31,32; Jer 4:26-27; 12:11-12 [m]Jer 28:14 [n]S 2Ch 36:21 **25:12** [o]Jer 27:7; 29:10 [p]S Ge 10:10; S Ps 137:8 [q]S Isa 13:19-22; 14:22-23 **25:13** [r]S Isa 30:8 **25:14** [s]Isa 14:6; Jer 27:7 [t]Jer 50:9; 51:27-28 [u]S Dt 32:41; S Job 21:19; S Jer 51:6 **25:15** [v]S Isa 51:17; Jer 49:12; La 4:21; Eze 23:31; Rev 14:10 [w]Jer 1:5 **25:16** [x]ver 26 [y]S Ps 60:3 [z]Jer 51:7 [a]ver 27-29 **25:17** [b]Jer 1:10; 27:3 **25:18** [c]S Jer 13:13 [d]S Job 12:19 [e]S 2Ch 29:8 [f]S Jer 24:9 [g]S Ge 19:13; Jer 44:22 **25:19** [h]S 2Ki 18:21 [i]Isa 19:1; 20:3; Jer 44:30; Eze 29:2 **25:20** [j]S Ge 10:23 [k]S Jos 13:3; S 2Ch 26:6; S 28:18; Zep 2:4-7 [l]Jer 47:5; Am 1:7-8 [m]S Ge 10:19 **25:21** [n]S Ge 25:30 [o]S Ge 19:37; S Dt 23:6 [p]S Ge 19:38; Jer 27:3; 49:1 **25:22** [q]S Jos 19:29 [r]S Ge 10:15 [s]Isa 11:11; 48:20; 66:20; Jer 31:10; Eze 27:15; 39:6; Da 11:18 **25:23** [t]S Ge 25:3 [u]S Ge 25:15 [v]S Ge 22:21 [w]Jer 9:26; 49:32 **25:24** [x]S 2Ch 9:14 [y]ver 20 **25:25** [z]Ge 25:2 [a]S Ge 10:22 [b]S Isa 21:2 **25:26** [c]ver 9; Jer 50:3,9; 51:11,48

[w]9 The Hebrew term refers to the irrevocable giving over of things or persons to the LORD, often by totally destroying them. [x]12 Or *Chaldeans* [y]23 Or *who clip the hair by their foreheads*

er—all the kingdoms[a] on the face of
the earth. And after all of them, the
king of Sheshach[*][b] will drink it too.
27 "Then tell them, 'This is what the
LORD Almighty, the God of Israel, says:
Drink, get drunk[c] and vomit, and fall
to rise no more because of the sword[d] I
will send among you.' 28 But if they
refuse to take the cup from your hand
and drink[e], tell them, 'This is what the
LORD Almighty says: You must drink it!
29 See, I am beginning to bring disaster[f]
on the city that bears my Name,[g] and
will you indeed go unpunished?[h] You
will not go unpunished, for I am calling
down a sword[i] upon all[j] who live on
the earth,[k] declares the LORD Almighty.'
30 "Now prophesy all these words
against them and say to them:

" 'The LORD will roar[l] from on
high;
he will thunder[m] from his holy
dwelling[n]
and roar mightily against his land.
He will shout like those who tread[o]
the grapes,
shout against all who live on the
earth.
31 The tumult[p] will resound to the
ends of the earth,
for the LORD will bring charges[q]
against the nations;
he will bring judgment[r] on all[s]
mankind
and put the wicked to the
sword,' "[t]
declares the LORD.

32 This is what the LORD Almighty
says:

"Look! Disaster[u] is spreading
from nation to nation;[v]
a mighty storm[w] is rising
from the ends of the earth."[x]

33 At that time those slain[y] by the LORD
will be everywhere—from one end of
the earth to the other. They will not be
mourned or gathered[z] up or buried,[a]
but will be like refuse lying on the
ground.

34 Weep and wail, you shepherds;[b]
roll[c] in the dust, you leaders of
the flock.
For your time to be slaughtered[d] has
come;
you will fall and be shattered like
fine pottery.[e]
35 The shepherds will have nowhere to
flee,
the leaders of the flock no place to
escape.[f]
36 Hear the cry[g] of the shepherds,[h]
the wailing of the leaders of the
flock,
for the LORD is destroying their
pasture.
37 The peaceful meadows will be laid
waste
because of the fierce anger of the
LORD.
38 Like a lion[i] he will leave his lair,
and their land will become
desolate[j]
because of the sword[*][k] of the
oppressor[*]
and because of the LORD's fierce
anger.[l]

Jeremiah Threatened With Death

26 Early in the reign of Jehoiakim[m]
son of Josiah king of Judah, this
word came from the LORD: 2 "This is
what the LORD says: Stand in the court-
yard[n] of the LORD's house and speak to
all the people of the towns of Judah
who come to worship in the house of
the LORD.[o] Tell[p] them everything I
command you; do not omit[q] a word.
3 Perhaps they will listen and each will
turn[r] from his evil way. Then I will re-
lent[s] and not bring on them the disas-
ter I was planning because of the evil
they have done. 4 Say to them, 'This is
what the LORD says: If you do not lis-
ten[t] to me and follow my law,[u] which
I have set before you, 5 and if you do
not listen to the words of my servants
the prophets, whom I have sent to you
again and again (though you have not
listened[v]), 6 then I will make this house
like Shiloh[w] and this city an object of
cursing[x] among all the nations of the
earth.' "
7 The priests, the prophets and all the
people heard Jeremiah speak these
words in the house of the LORD. 8 But as
soon as Jeremiah finished telling all the
people everything the LORD had com-
manded[y] him to say, the priests, the
prophets and all the people seized[z]
him and said, "You must die![a] 9 Why
do you prophesy in the LORD's name
that this house will be like Shiloh and
this city will be desolate and desert-
ed?"[b] And all the people crowded[c]

25:26 [a] Isa 23:17 [b] Jer 51:41 **25:27** [c] ver 16, 28; S Isa 29:9; S 49:26; Jer 51:57; Eze 23:32-34; Na 3:11; Hab 2:16 [d] S Jer 12:12; Eze 14:17; 21:4 **25:28** [e] S Isa 51:23 **25:29** [f] S 2Sa 5:7; Isa 10:12; Jer 13:12-14; 39:1 [g] S Dt 28:10; S Isa 37:17 [h] S Pr 11:31 [i] ver 27 [j] ver 30-31; Isa 34:2 [k] S Isa 24:1 **25:30** [l] Isa 16:10; S 42:13 [m] S Ps 46:6 [n] S Ps 68:5 [o] Isa 63:3; Joel 3:13; Rev 14:19-20 **25:31** [p] Jer 23:19 [q] S Jer 2:9 [r] S 1Sa 12:7; S Jer 2:35; S Eze 36:5 [s] S ver 29 [t] S Jer 15:9 **25:32** [u] S Isa 30:25 [v] Isa 34:2 [w] S Jer 23:19 [x] S Dt 28:49 **25:33** [y] Isa 66:16; Eze 39:17-20 [z] S Jer 8:2 [a] S Ps 79:3 **25:34** [b] S Jer 2:8; Zec 10:3 [c] S Jer 6:26 [d] S Ps 44:22; S Isa 34:6; Jer 50:27; 51:40; Zec 11:4,7 [e] S Jer 22:28 **25:35** [f] S Job 11:20 **25:36** [g] S Jer 6:26 [h] S Jer 23:1; Zec 11:3 **25:38** [i] S Job 10:16; S Jer 4:7 [j] Jer 44:22 [k] Jer 46:16; 50:16 [l] S Ex 15:7; S Jer 4:26 **26:1** [m] 2Ki 23:36 **26:2** [n] Jer 19:14 [o] S Jer 17:19 [p] S ver 12; S Jer 1:17; Mt 28:20; Ac 20:27 [q] Dt 4:2 **26:3** [r] Dt 30:2; 2Ch 33:12-13; Isa 55:7; Jer 35:15; 36:7 [s] S Jer 18:8 **26:4** [t] Lev 26:14; Jer 25:3 [u] Ex 20:1-23:33; S 1Ki 9:6; S Jer 11:8 **26:5** [v] S Pr 1:24; S Isa 65:12; Jer 25:4; 44:5 **26:6** [w] S Jos 18:1; S Jdg 18:31 [x] S Dt 28:25; S 2Ki 22:19 **26:8** [y] Jer 43:1 [z] Ac 6:12; 21:27 [a] Lev 24:15-16; S Ne 9:26; S Jer 11:21 **26:9** [b] S Lev 26:32; S Jer 9:11 [c] Ac 21:30

[*]26 Sheshach is a cryptogram for Babylon.
[*]38 Some Hebrew manuscripts and Septuagint (see also Jer. 46:16 and 50:16); most Hebrew manuscripts anger

around Jeremiah in the house of the
LORD.
10 When the officials[a] of Judah heard
about these things, they went up from
the royal palace to the house of the
LORD and took their places at the en-
trance of the New Gate[b] of the LORD's
house. 11 Then the priests and the
prophets said to the officials and all the
people, "This man should be sen-
tenced to death[c] because he has
prophesied against this city. You have
heard it with your own ears!"[d]
12 Then Jeremiah said to all the offi-
cials[e] and all the people: "The LORD
sent me to prophesy[f] against this
house and this city all the things you
have heard.[g] 13 Now reform[h] your
ways and your actions and obey[i] the
LORD your God. Then the LORD will re-
lent[j] and not bring the disaster he has
pronounced against you. 14 As for me, I
am in your hands;[k] do with me what-
ever you think is good and right. 15 Be
assured, however, that if you put me to
death, you will bring the guilt of inno-
cent blood[l] on yourselves and on this
city and on those who live in it, for in
truth the LORD has sent me to you to
speak all these words[m] in your hear-
ing."
16 Then the officials[n] and all the
people said to the priests and the
prophets, "This man should not be
sentenced to death![o] He has spoken
to us in the name of the LORD our
God."
17 Some of the elders of the land
stepped forward and said to the entire
assembly of people, 18 "Micah[p] of
Moresheth prophesied in the days of
Hezekiah king of Judah. He told all the
people of Judah, 'This is what the LORD
Almighty says:

" 'Zion[q] will be plowed like a
field,
Jerusalem will become a heap of
rubble,[r]
the temple hill[s] a mound
overgrown with thickets.'[b][t]

19 "Did Hezekiah king of Judah or any-
one else in Judah put him to death? Did
not Hezekiah[u] fear the LORD and seek[v]
his favor? And did not the LORD re-
lent,[w] so that he did not bring the
disaster[x] he pronounced against them?
We are about to bring a terrible disas-
ter[y] on ourselves!"
20 (Now Uriah son of Shemaiah from
Kiriath Jearim[z] was another man who
prophesied in the name of the LORD; he
prophesied the same things against
this city and this land as Jeremiah did.
21 When King Jehoiakim[a] and all his of-
ficers and officials[b] heard his words,
the king sought to put him to death.[c]
But Uriah heard of it and fled[d] in fear
to Egypt. 22 King Jehoiakim, however,
sent Elnathan[e] son of Acbor to Egypt,
along with some other men. 23 They
brought Uriah out of Egypt and took
him to King Jehoiakim, who had him
struck down with a sword[f] and his
body thrown into the burial place of
the common people.)[g]
24 Furthermore, Ahikam[h] son of Sha-
phan supported Jeremiah, and so he
was not handed over to the people to
be put to death.

Judah to Serve Nebuchadnezzar

27 Early in the reign of Zedekiah[c][i]
son of Josiah king of Judah, this
word came to Jeremiah from the LORD:
2 This is what the LORD said to me:
"Make a yoke[j] out of straps and cross-
bars and put it on your neck. 3 Then
send[k] word to the kings of Edom,
Moab, Ammon,[l] Tyre and Sidon[m]
through the envoys who have come to
Jerusalem to Zedekiah king of Judah.
4 Give them a message for their masters
and say, 'This is what the LORD Al-
mighty, the God of Israel, says: "Tell
this to your masters: 5 With my great
power and outstretched arm[n] I made[o]
the earth and its people and the ani-
mals[p] that are on it, and I give[q] it to
anyone I please. 6 Now I will hand all
your countries over to my servant[r]
Nebuchadnezzar[s] king of Babylon; I
will make even the wild animals sub-
ject to him.[t] 7 All nations will serve[u]
him and his son and his grandson until
the time[v] for his land comes; then
many nations and great kings will sub-
jugate[w] him.
8 " ' "If, however, any nation or king-
dom will not serve Nebuchadnezzar
king of Babylon or bow its neck under
his yoke, I will punish[x] that nation
with the sword,[y] famine[z] and
plague,[a] declares the LORD, until I de-
stroy it by his hand. 9 So do not listen to
your prophets,[b] your diviners,[c] your
interpreters of dreams,[d] your medi-
ums[e] or your sorcerers[f] who tell you,

26:10 [a]ver 16; Jer 34:19; Eze 22:27 [b]S Ge 23:10 **26:11** [c]Dt 18:20; S Jer 11:21; 18:23; Mt 26:66; Ac 6:11 [d]S Ps 44:1 **26:12** [e]Jer 1:18 [f]S Isa 6:8; Am 7:15; Ac 4:18-20; 5:29 [g]S ver 2,15 **26:13** [h]S Jer 7:5; Joel 2:12-14 [i]Jer 11:4 [j]S Jer 18:8 **26:14** [k]Jos 9:25; Jer 38:5 **26:15** [l]S Dt 19:10 [m]S ver 12; S Jer 1:17 **26:16** [n]S ver 10; S Ac 23:9 [o]Ac 23:29 **26:18** [p]Mic 1:1 [q]Isa 2:3 [r]S 2Ki 25:9; S Ne 4:2; Jer 9:11 [s]Mic 4:1; Zec 8:3 [t]S Jer 17:3 **26:19** [u]S 1Ch 3:13; 2Ch 32:24-26; Isa 37:14-20 [v]S 1Sa 13:12 [w]S Ex 32:14; S Jer 18:8 [x]Jer 44:7 [y]Hab 2:10 **26:20** [z]S Jos 9:17 **26:21** [a]S 1Ki 19:2 [b]ver 10 [c]Jer 2:30; Mt 23:37 [d]S Ge 31:21; Mt 10:23 **26:22** [e]Jer 36:12,25 **26:23** [f]Heb 11:37 [g]2Ki 23:6 **26:24** [h]S 2Ki 22:12 **27:1** [i]S 2Ch 36:11 **27:2** [j]S Lev 26:13; S 1Ki 22:11 **27:3** [k]S Jer 25:17 [l]S Jer 25:21 [m]S Ge 10:15; S Jer 25:22 **27:5** [n]S Dt 9:29 [o]S Ge 1:1 [p]S Ge 1:25 [q]Ps 115:16; Da 4:17 **27:6** [r]S Jer 25:9 [s]S Jer 21:7 [t]Jer 28:14; Da 2:37-38 **27:7** [u]S 2Ch 36:20; Da 5:18 [v]S Jer 25:12 [w]S Jer 25:14; 51:47; Da 5:28 **27:8** [x]Jer 9:16 [y]Jer 21:9 [z]S Jer 5:12 [a]S Jer 14:12 **27:9** [b]Eze 13:1-23 [c]S Ge 30:27; S Isa 44:25 [d]S Dt 13:1; S Jer 23:25 [e]S Dt 18:11 [f]S Ex 7:11

[b]*18* Micah 3:12 [c]*1* A few Hebrew manuscripts and Syriac (see also Jer. 27:3, 12 and 28:1); most Hebrew manuscripts *Jehoiakim* (Most Septuagint manuscripts do not have this verse.)

'You will not serve the king of Bab-
ylon.' 10They prophesy lies to you that
will only serve to remove you far from
your lands; I will banish you and you
will perish. 11But if any nation will bow
its neck under the yoke of the king of
Babylon and serve him, I will let that
nation remain in its own land to till it
and to live there, declares the
LORD.'"

12I gave the same message to Zede-
kiah king of Judah. I said, "Bow your
neck under the yoke of the king of
Babylon; serve him and his people, and
you will live. 13Why will you and your
people die by the sword, famine and
plague with which the LORD has
threatened any nation that will not
serve the king of Babylon? 14Do not lis-
ten to the words of the prophets
who say to you, 'You will not serve the
king of Babylon,' for they are prophe-
sying lies to you. 15'I have not sent
them,' declares the LORD. 'They are
prophesying lies in my name. There-
fore, I will banish you and you will per-
ish, both you and the prophets who
prophesy to you.'"

16Then I said to the priests and all
these people, "This is what the LORD
says: Do not listen to the prophets who
say, 'Very soon now the articles from
the LORD's house will be brought back
from Babylon.' They are prophesying
lies to you. 17Do not listen to them.
Serve the king of Babylon, and you will
live. Why should this city become a
ruin? 18If they are prophets and have
the word of the LORD, let them plead
with the LORD Almighty that the fur-
nishings remaining in the house of the
LORD and in the palace of the king of
Judah and in Jerusalem not be taken to
Babylon. 19For this is what the LORD Al-
mighty says about the pillars, the Sea,
the movable stands and the other fur-
nishings that are left in this city,
20which Nebuchadnezzar king of Bab-
ylon did not take away when he car-
ried Jehoiachin[a] son of Jehoiakim
king of Judah into exile from Jerusalem
to Babylon, along with all the nobles of
Judah and Jerusalem— 21yes, this is
what the LORD Almighty, the God of Is-
rael, says about the things that are left
in the house of the LORD and in the pal-
ace of the king of Judah and in Jerusa-
lem: 22'They will be taken to Babylon
and there they will remain until the
day I come for them,' declares the
LORD. 'Then I will bring them back
and restore them to this place.'"

The False Prophet Hananiah

28 In the fifth month of that same
year, the fourth year, early in the
reign of Zedekiah king of Judah, the
prophet Hananiah son of Azzur, who
was from Gibeon, said to me in the
house of the LORD in the presence of the
priests and all the people: 2"This is
what the LORD Almighty, the God of Is-
rael, says: 'I will break the yoke of the
king of Babylon. 3Within two years I
will bring back to this place all the arti-
cles of the LORD's house that Nebu-
chadnezzar king of Babylon removed
from here and took to Babylon. 4I will
also bring back to this place Jehoia-
chin[a] son of Jehoiakim king of Judah
and all the other exiles from Judah who
went to Babylon,' declares the LORD,
'for I will break the yoke of the king of
Babylon.'"

5Then the prophet Jeremiah replied
to the prophet Hananiah before the
priests and all the people who were
standing in the house of the LORD. 6He
said, "Amen! May the LORD do so! May
the LORD fulfill the words you have
prophesied by bringing the articles of
the LORD's house and all the exiles back
to this place from Babylon. 7Neverthe-
less, listen to what I have to say in your
hearing and in the hearing of all the
people: 8From early times the prophets
who preceded you and me have proph-
esied war, disaster and plague against
many countries and great kingdoms.
9But the prophet who prophesies peace
will be recognized as one truly sent by
the LORD only if his prediction comes
true."

10Then the prophet Hananiah took
the yoke off the neck of the prophet
Jeremiah and broke it, 11and he said
before all the people, "This is what the
LORD says: 'In the same way will I break
the yoke of Nebuchadnezzar king of
Babylon off the neck of all the nations
within two years.'" At this, the
prophet Jeremiah went on his way.

12Shortly after the prophet Hananiah
had broken the yoke off the neck of the
prophet Jeremiah, the word of the LORD
came to Jeremiah: 13"Go and tell Hana-
niah, 'This is what the LORD says: You
have broken a wooden yoke, but in its
place you will get a yoke of iron. 14This
is what the LORD Almighty, the God of
Israel, says: I will put an iron yoke on
the necks of all these nations to make
them serve Nebuchadnezzar king of

[a]20,4 Hebrew Jeconiah, a variant of Jehoiachin

Babylon, and they will serve him. I will even give him control over the wild animals.[e]' "

15 Then the prophet Jeremiah said to Hananiah the prophet, "Listen, Hananiah! The LORD has not sent[f] you, yet you have persuaded this nation to trust in lies.[g] 16 Therefore, this is what the LORD says: 'I am about to remove you from the face of the earth.[h] This very year you are going to die,[i] because you have preached rebellion[j] against the LORD.' "

17 In the seventh month of that same year, Hananiah the prophet died.[k]

A Letter to the Exiles

29 This is the text of the letter[l] that the prophet Jeremiah sent from Jerusalem to the surviving elders among the exiles and to the priests, the prophets and all the other people Nebuchadnezzar had carried into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon.[m] 2 (This was after King Jehoiachin[a][n] and the queen mother,[o] the court officials and the leaders of Judah and Jerusalem, the craftsmen and the artisans had gone into exile from Jerusalem.) 3 He entrusted the letter to Elasah son of Shaphan and to Gemariah son of Hilkiah, whom Zedekiah king of Judah sent to King Nebuchadnezzar in Babylon. It said:

4 This is what the LORD Almighty, the God of Israel, says to all those I carried[p] into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon: 5 "Build[q] houses and settle down; plant gardens and eat what they produce. 6 Marry and have sons and daughters; find wives for your sons and give your daughters in marriage, so that they too may have sons and daughters. Increase in number there; do not decrease.[r] 7 Also, seek[s] the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray[t] to the LORD for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper." 8 Yes, this is what the LORD Almighty, the God of Israel, says: "Do not let the prophets[u] and diviners among you deceive[v] you. Do not listen to the dreams[w] you encourage them to have.[x] 9 They are prophesying lies[y] to you in my name. I have not sent[z] them," declares the LORD.

10 This is what the LORD says: "When seventy years[a] are completed for Babylon, I will come to you[b] and fulfill my gracious promise[c] to bring you back[d] to this place. 11 For I know the plans[e] I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper[f] you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.[g] 12 Then you will call[h] upon me and come and pray[i] to me, and I will listen[j] to you. 13 You will seek[k] me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.[l] 14 I will be found by you," declares the LORD, "and will bring you back[m] from captivity.[b] I will gather you from all the nations and places where I have banished you," declares the LORD, "and will bring you back to the place from which I carried you into exile."[n]

15 You may say, "The LORD has raised up prophets for us in Babylon," 16 but this is what the LORD says about the king who sits on David's throne and all the people who remain in this city, your countrymen who did not go with you into exile— 17 yes, this is what the LORD Almighty says: "I will send the sword, famine and plague[o] against them and I will make them like poor figs[p] that are so bad they cannot be eaten. 18 I will pursue them with the sword, famine and plague and will make them abhorrent[q] to all the kingdoms of the earth and an object of cursing[r] and horror,[s] of scorn[t] and reproach, among all the nations where I drive them. 19 For they have not listened to my words,"[u] declares the LORD, "words that I sent to them again and again[v] by my servants the prophets.[w] And you exiles have not listened either," declares the LORD.

20 Therefore, hear the word of the LORD, all you exiles whom I have sent[x] away from Jerusalem to Babylon. 21 This is what the LORD Almighty, the God of Israel, says about Ahab son of Kolaiah and Zedekiah son of Maaseiah, who are prophesying lies[y] to you in my name: "I will hand them over to Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, and he will put them to death before your very eyes. 22 Because of them, all the exiles from Judah who are in Babylon will use this curse:

28:14 [e]S Jer 27:6
28:15 [f]Jer 29:31 [g]S Jer 7:4; 20:6; 29:21; La 2:14; Eze 13:6
28:16 [h]S Ge 7:4 [i]Dt 18:20; Zec 13:3 [j]Dt 13:5; Jer 29:32
28:17 [k]S 2Ki 1:17
29:1 [l]ver 28 [m]S 2Ch 36:10; S Jer 13:17
29:2 [n]S 2Ki 24:12 [o]S 2Ki 24:8
29:4 [p]S Jer 24:5
29:5 [q]ver 28
29:6 [r]Jer 30:19
29:7 [s]S Est 3:8 [t]1Ti 2:1-2
29:8 [u]1Jn 4:1 [v]Jer 37:9 [w]S Dt 13:1; S Jer 23:25 [x]S Jer 23:27
29:9 [y]S Jer 27:15; La 2:14; Eze 13:6 [z]Jer 23:21
29:10 [a]S 2Ch 36:21; S Da 9:2 [b]S Ru 1:6 [c]1Ki 8:56; Jer 32:42; 33:14 [d]S Jer 16:14; S 24:6
29:11 [e]Ps 40:5 [f]Isa 55:12 [g]S Job 8:7; Zec 8:15
29:12 [h]Hos 2:23; Zep 3:12; Zec 13:9 [i]S 1Ki 8:30 [j]Ps 145:19; S Isa 55:6
29:13 [k]Mt 7:7 [l]S Dt 4:29; S 2Ch 6:37
29:14 [m]S Dt 30:3; Jer 30:3; Eze 39:25; Am 9:14; Zep 3:20 [n]Jer 23:3-4; 30:10; 46:27; Eze 37:21
29:17 [o]Jer 27:8 [p]S Isa 5:4
29:18 [q]S Jer 15:4 [r]S Nu 5:27; S Jer 18:16; S 22:10; 44:12 [s]S Dt 28:25 [t]S Dt 28:37; S Isa 28:22; S Mic 2:6
29:19 [u]Jer 6:19 [v]Jer 7:25 [w]S Jer 25:4
29:20 [x]S Jer 24:5
29:21 [y]ver 9; Jer 14:14

[a]2 Hebrew *Jeconiah*, a variant of *Jehoiachin* [b]14 Or *will restore your fortunes*

The LORD treat you like Zedekiah
and Ahab, whom the king of Bab-
ylon burned[a] in the fire.' 23For they
have done outrageous things in Is-
rael; they have committed adul-
tery[b] with their neighbors' wives
and in my name have spoken lies,
which I did not tell them to do. I
know[c] it and am a witness[d] to it,"
declares the LORD.

Message to Shemaiah

24Tell Shemaiah the Nehelamite,
25"This is what the LORD Almighty, the
God of Israel, says: You sent letters in
your own name to all the people in
Jerusalem, to Zephaniah[e] son of Maa-
seiah the priest, and to all the other
priests. You said to Zephaniah, 26'The
LORD has appointed you priest in place
of Jehoiada to be in charge of the house
of the LORD; you should put any mad-
man[f] who acts like a prophet into the
stocks[g] and neck-irons. 27So why have
you not reprimanded Jeremiah from
Anathoth, who poses as a prophet
among you? 28He has sent this mes-
sage[h] to us in Babylon: It will be a long
time.[i] Therefore build[j] houses and
settle down; plant gardens and eat
what they produce.'"

29Zephaniah[k] the priest, however,
read the letter to Jeremiah the prophet.
30Then the word of the LORD came to
Jeremiah: 31"Send this message to all
the exiles: 'This is what the LORD says
about Shemaiah[l] the Nehelamite: Be-
cause Shemaiah has prophesied to you,
even though I did not send[m] him, and
has led you to believe a lie, 32this is
what the LORD says: I will surely punish
Shemaiah the Nehelamite and his de-
scendants.[n] He will have no one left
among this people, nor will he see the
good[o] things I will do for my people,
declares the LORD, because he has
preached rebellion[p] against me.'"

Restoration of Israel

30 This is the word that came to
Jeremiah from the LORD: 2"This is
what the LORD, the God of Israel, says:
'Write[q] in a book all the words I have
spoken to you. 3The days[r] are coming,'
declares the LORD, 'when I will bring[s]
my people Israel and Judah back from
captivity[g] and restore[t] them to the
land I gave their forefathers to pos-
sess,' says the LORD."

4These are the words the LORD spoke
concerning Israel and Judah: 5"This is
what the LORD says:

29:22 [a]Da 3:6
29:23 [b]S Jer 23:14 [c]S Heb 4:13 [d]S Ge 31:48; S Jer 7:11
29:25 [e]S 2Ki 25:18
29:26 [f]S 1Sa 10:11; Hos 9:7; S Jn 10:20 [g]Jer 20:2
29:28 [h]ver 1 [i]ver 10 [j]ver 5
29:29 [k]Jer 21:1
29:31 [l]ver 24 [m]S Jer 14:14
29:32 [n]S 1Sa 2:30-33 [o]ver 10 [p]S Jer 28:16
30:2 [q]S Isa 30:8; S Jer 36:2
30:3 [r]S Jer 16:14; S 24:6 [s]S Jer 29:14 [t]S Jer 16:15
30:5 [u]Jer 6:25
30:6 [v]S Jer 4:31 [w]S Isa 29:22
30:7 [x]S Isa 2:12 [y]S Isa 22:5; Zep 1:15 [z]ver 10; Jer 23:3
30:8 [a]S Isa 9:4 [b]Ps 107:14 [c]Jer 25:14; 27:7; Eze 34:27
30:9 [d]S Mt 1:1 [e]ver 21; S 1Sa 13:14; Jer 33:15; Eze 34:23-24, 37:24; Hos 1:11; 3:5
30:10 [f]S Isa 41:10 [g]S Isa 44:2 [h]S ver 7; S Jer 29:14 [i]Isa 35:9; S Jer 17:25 [j]S Isa 29:22; S 54:4; S Jer 23:4; Eze 34:25-28
30:11 [k]S Jos 1:5 [l]S Lev 26:44; S Jer 5:18; 46:28 [m]S Jer 10:24 [n]Hos 11:9; Am 9:8
30:12 [o]S Job 6:4; S Jer 10:19 [p]S Jer 8:22
30:13 [q]S Jdg 6:31 [r]S Jer 8:22; 14:19; 46:11; Na 3:19
30:14 [s]S Jer 22:20; La 1:2 [t]S Job 13:24 [u]S Job 30:21

" 'Cries of fear[u] are heard—
terror, not peace.
6Ask and see:
Can a man bear children?
Then why do I see every strong man
with his hands on his stomach like
a woman in labor,[v]
every face turned deathly pale?[w]
7How awful that day[x] will be!
None will be like it.
It will be a time of trouble[y] for Jacob,
but he will be saved[z] out of it.

8" 'In that day,' declares the LORD
Almighty,
'I will break the yoke[a] off their
necks
and will tear off their bonds;[b]
no longer will foreigners enslave
them.[c]
9Instead, they will serve the LORD
their God
and David[d] their king,[e]
whom I will raise up for them.

10" 'So do not fear,[f] O Jacob my
servant;[g]
do not be dismayed, O Israel,'
declares the LORD.
'I will surely save[h] you out of a
distant place,
your descendants from the land of
their exile.
Jacob will again have peace and
security,[i]
and no one will make him afraid.[j]
11I am with you[k] and will save you,'
declares the LORD.
'Though I completely destroy all the
nations
among which I scatter you,
I will not completely destroy[l] you.
I will discipline[m] you but only with
justice;
I will not let you go entirely
unpunished.'[n]

12"This is what the LORD says:

" 'Your wound[o] is incurable,
your injury beyond healing.[p]
13There is no one to plead your
cause,[q]
no remedy for your sore,
no healing[r] for you.
14All your allies[s] have forgotten you;
they care nothing for you.
I have struck you as an enemy[t]
would
and punished you as would the
cruel,[u]
because your guilt is so great

g3 *Or will restore the fortunes of my people Israel and Judah*

and your sins[a] so many.
15Why do you cry out over your wound,
your pain that has no cure?[b]
Because of your great guilt and many sins
I have done these things to you.[c]

16" 'But all who devour[d] you will be devoured;
all your enemies will go into exile.[e]
Those who plunder[f] you will be plundered;
all who make spoil of you I will despoil.
17But I will restore you to health
and heal[g] your wounds,
declares the LORD,
'because you are called an outcast,[h]
Zion for whom no one cares.'[i]

18"This is what the LORD says:

" 'I will restore the fortunes[j] of Jacob's tents[k]
and have compassion[l] on his dwellings;
the city will be rebuilt[m] on her ruins,
and the palace will stand in its proper place.
19From them will come songs[n] of thanksgiving[o]
and the sound of rejoicing.[p]
I will add to their numbers,[q]
and they will not be decreased;
I will bring them honor,[r]
and they will not be disdained.
20Their children[s] will be as in days of old,
and their community will be established[t] before me;
I will punish[u] all who oppress them.
21Their leader[v] will be one of their own;
their ruler will arise from among them.[w]
I will bring him near[x] and he will come close to me,
for who is he who will devote himself
to be close to me?'
declares the LORD.
22" 'So you will be my people,[y]
and I will be your God.[z]' "

23See, the storm[a] of the LORD
will burst out in wrath,
a driving wind swirling down
on the heads of the wicked.
24The fierce anger[b] of the LORD will not turn back[c]
until he fully accomplishes

30:14 [a]S Jer 25:7 **30:15** [b]S Jer 10:19 [c]S Pr 1:31; La 1:5 **30:16** [d]S Isa 29:8; S 33:1; S Jer 2:3 [e]S Isa 14:2; Joel 3:4-8 [f]Jer 49:2; 50:10 **30:17** [g]S Isa 1:5; Hos 6:1 [h]S Isa 6:12; Jer 33:24 [i]Ps 142:4 **30:18** [j]ver 3; S Dt 30:3; Jer 31:23; 32:44 [k]S Nu 24:5 [l]Ps 102:13; Jer 33:26; Eze 39:25 [m]Jer 31:4,24,38; 33:7; Eze 36:10, 33; Am 9:14 **30:19** [n]S Ps 9:2; Isa 35:10; S 51:11 [o]S Isa 51:3 [p]Ps 126:1-2; Jer 31:4 [q]S Ge 15:5; 22:17; Jer 33:22; Eze 37:26; Zec 2:4 [r]S Isa 44:23; S 60:9 **30:20** [s]Isa 54:13; Jer 31:17; Zec 8:5 [t]Isa 54:14 [u]S Ex 23:22 **30:21** [v]S ver 9; Jer 23:5-6 [w]Dt 17:15 [x]Nu 16:5 **30:22** [y]S Isa 19:25; Hos 2:23 [z]S Lev 26:12 **30:23** [a]S Jer 23:19 **30:24** [b]Jer 4:8; La 1:12 [c]S Jer 4:28 [d]Jer 23:19-20 **31:1** [e]S Lev 26:12 **31:2** [f]Nu 14:20 [g]S Ex 33:14; S Dt 12:9 **31:3** [h]S Dt 4:37 [i]Hos 11:4; Jn 6:44 **31:4** [j]S Jer 1:10; S 30:18 [k]S 2Ki 19:21 [l]S Ge 31:27 [m]S Ex 15:20 [n]S Jer 30:19 **31:5** [o]S Dt 20:6 [p]Jer 33:13; 50:19; Ob 1:19 [q]S Isa 37:30; Am 9:14 **31:6** [r]S Isa 52:8; S 56:10 [s]ver 12; S Dt 33:19; Jer 50:4-5; Mic 4:2 **31:7** [t]S Isa 12:6 [u]Dt 28:13; Isa 61:9 [v]Ps 14:7; 28:9 [w]S Isa 37:31 **31:8** [x]S Jer 3:18 [y]S Ge 33:13; S Dt 30:4; S Ps 106:47; Eze 34:12-14 [z]Isa 42:16 [a]Eze 34:16; Mic 4:6 **31:9** [b]S Ezr 3:12; Ps 126:5 [c]Isa 63:13 [d]S Nu 20:8; S Ps 1:3; S Isa 32:2 [e]S Isa 40:4; S 49:11

the purposes of his heart.
In days to come
you will understand[d] this.

31 "At that time," declares the LORD, "I will be the God[e] of all
the clans of Israel, and they will be my
people."
2This is what the LORD says:

"The people who survive the sword
will find favor[f] in the desert;
I will come to give rest[g] to Israel."

3The LORD appeared to us in the
past,[b] saying:

"I have loved[h] you with an everlasting love;
I have drawn[i] you with loving-kindness.
4I will build you up again
and you will be rebuilt,[j]
O Virgin[k] Israel.
Again you will take up your tambourines[l]
and go out to dance[m] with the joyful.[n]
5Again you will plant[o] vineyards
on the hills of Samaria;[p]
the farmers will plant them
and enjoy their fruit.[q]
6There will be a day when watchmen[r] cry out
on the hills of Ephraim,
'Come, let us go up to Zion,
to the LORD our God.' "[s]

7This is what the LORD says:

"Sing[t] with joy for Jacob;
shout for the foremost[u] of the nations.
Make your praises heard, and say,
'O LORD, save[v] your people,
the remnant[w] of Israel.'
8See, I will bring them from the land of the north[x]
and gather[y] them from the ends of the earth.
Among them will be the blind[z] and the lame,[a]
expectant mothers and women in labor;
a great throng will return.
9They will come with weeping;[b]
they will pray as I bring them back.
I will lead[c] them beside streams of water[d]
on a level[e] path where they will not stumble,

[b]3 *Or LORD has appeared to us from afar*

because I am Israel's father,[a]
and Ephraim is my firstborn son.

10"Hear the word of the LORD,
O nations;
proclaim it in distant coastlands:[b]
'He who scattered[c] Israel will
gather[d] them
and will watch over his flock like a
shepherd.'[e]
11For the LORD will ransom Jacob
and redeem[f] them from the hand
of those stronger[g] than they.
12They will come and shout for joy[h]
on the heights[i] of Zion;
they will rejoice in the bounty[j] of
the LORD—
the grain, the new wine and the
oil,[k]
the young of the flocks[l] and
herds.
They will be like a well-watered
garden,[m]
and they will sorrow[n] no more.
13Then maidens will dance and be
glad,
young men and old as well.
I will turn their mourning[o] into
gladness;
I will give them comfort[p] and joy[q]
instead of sorrow.
14I will satisfy[r] the priests[s] with
abundance,
and my people will be filled with
my bounty,[t]"
declares the LORD.

15This is what the LORD says:

"A voice is heard in Ramah,[u]
mourning and great weeping,
Rachel weeping for her children
and refusing to be comforted,[v]
because her children are no
more."[w]

16This is what the LORD says:

"Restrain your voice from weeping
and your eyes from tears,[x]
for your work will be rewarded,[y]"
declares the LORD.
"They will return[z] from the land
of the enemy.
17So there is hope[a] for your future,"
declares the LORD.
"Your children[b] will return to
their own land.

18"I have surely heard Ephraim's
moaning:
'You disciplined[c] me like an
unruly calf,[d]
and I have been disciplined.
Restore[e] me, and I will return,
because you are the LORD my God.
19After I strayed,[f]
I repented;
after I came to understand,
I beat[g] my breast.
I was ashamed[h] and humiliated
because I bore the disgrace of my
youth.'[i]
20Is not Ephraim my dear son,
the child[j] in whom I delight?
Though I often speak against him,
I still remember[k] him.
Therefore my heart yearns for him;
I have great compassion[l] for
him,"
declares the LORD.

21"Set up road signs;
put up guideposts.[m]
Take note of the highway,[n]
the road that you take.
Return,[o] O Virgin[p] Israel,
return to your towns.
22How long will you wander,[q]
O unfaithful[r] daughter?
The LORD will create a new thing[s] on
earth—
a woman will surround[i][t] a man."

23This is what the LORD Almighty, the
God of Israel, says: "When I bring
them back from captivity,[j][u] the people
in the land of Judah and in its towns
will once again use these words: 'The
LORD bless[v] you, O righteous dwell-
ing,[w] O sacred mountain.'[x] 24People
will live[y] together in Judah and all its
towns—farmers and those who move
about with their flocks.[z] 25I will refresh
the weary[a] and satisfy the faint."[b]
26At this I awoke[c] and looked
around. My sleep had been pleasant to
me.
27"The days are coming,"[d] declares
the LORD, "when I will plant[e] the
house of Israel and the house of Judah
with the offspring of men and of ani-
mals. 28Just as I watched[f] over them to
uproot[g] and tear down, and to over-
throw, destroy and bring disaster,[h] so I
will watch over them to build and to
plant,"[i] declares the LORD. 29"In those
days people will no longer say,

'The fathers[j] have eaten sour
grapes,
and the children's teeth are set on
edge.'[k]

31:9 [a]S Ex 4:22; S Jer 3:4 **31:10** [b]Isa 49:1; S 66:19; S Jer 25:22 [c]S Lev 26:33 [d]S Dt 30:4; S Isa 11:12; Jer 50:19 [e]Isa 40:11; Eze 34:12 **31:11** [f]S Ex 6:6; Zec 9:16 [g]Ps 142:6 **31:12** [h]S Ps 126:5 [i]Eze 17:23; 20:40; 40:2; Mic 4:1 [j]S Ps 36:8; Joel 3:18 [k]S Nu 18:12; Hos 2:21-22; Joel 2:19 [l]ver 24; S Isa 65:10 [m]S SS 4:15 [n]S Isa 30:19; S 62:5; Jn 16:22; S Rev 7:17 **31:13** [o]S Isa 61:3 [p]S Isa 40:1 [q]Ps 30:11; S Isa 51:11 **31:14** [r]ver 25 [s]Lev 7:35-36 [t]S Ps 36:8; S Isa 30:23 **31:15** [u]S Jos 18:25 [v]S Ge 37:35 [w]S Jer 10:20; Mt 2:17-18* **31:16** [x]S Ps 30:5; S Isa 25:8; 30:19 [y]S Ru 2:12; S 2Ch 15:7 [z]Jer 30:3; Eze 11:17 **31:17** [a]S Job 8:7; La 3:29 [b]S Jer 30:20 **31:18** [c]S Job 5:17 [d]Jer 50:11; Hos 4:16; 10:11 [e]S Ps 80:3 **31:19** [f]S Ps 95:10; S Jer 8:4; Eze 36:31 [g]Eze 21:12; Lk 18:13 [h]Ezr 9:6 [i]S Ps 25:7; S Jer 22:21 **31:20** [j]La 3:33 [k]S Isa 44:21 [l]S 1Ki 3:26; S Ps 6:2; Isa 55:7; Mic 7:18 **31:21** [m]Eze 21:19 [n]Isa 35:8; Jer 50:5 [o]Isa 52:11; S Jer 3:12 [p]ver 4 **31:22** [q]S Jer 2:23 [r]S Jer 3:6 [s]Isa 43:19 [t]S Dt 32:10 **31:23** [u]S Jer 30:18 [v]S Ge 28:3; S Nu 6:24 [w]S Isa 1:26 [x]S Ps 48:1; S Isa 2:2 **31:24** [y]S Jer 30:18; Zec 8:4-8 [z]S ver 12

31:25 [a]S Isa 40:29 [b]Jn 4:14 **31:26** [c]Zec 4:1 **31:27** [d]S Jer 16:14 [e]Hos 2:23 **31:28** [f]S Job 29:2 [g]S Dt 29:28 [h]S Jer 18:8 [i]S Dt 28:63; S 30:9; S Jer 1:10; Eze 36:10-11; Am 9:14 **31:29** [j]S Ge 9:25; Dt 24:16; La 5:7 [k]Eze 18:2

[i]22 *Or will go about seeking; or will protect* [j]23 *Or I restore their fortunes*

30 Instead, everyone will die for his own sin;[a] whoever eats sour grapes—his own teeth will be set on edge.

31 "The time is coming," declares the LORD,
"when I will make a new covenant[b]
with the house of Israel
and with the house of Judah.
32 It will not be like the covenant[c]
I made with their forefathers[d]
when I took them by the hand
to lead them out of Egypt,[e]
because they broke my covenant,
though I was a husband[f] to[k]
them,[l]"
declares the LORD.
33 "This is the covenant I will make
with the house of Israel
after that time," declares the LORD.
"I will put my law in their minds[g]
and write it on their hearts.[h]
I will be their God,
and they will be my people.[i]
34 No longer will a man teach[j] his
neighbor,
or a man his brother, saying,
'Know the LORD,'
because they will all know[k] me,
from the least of them to the
greatest,"
declares the LORD.
"For I will forgive[l] their wickedness
and will remember their sins[m] no
more."

35 This is what the LORD says,

he who appoints[n] the sun
to shine by day,
who decrees the moon and stars
to shine by night,[o]
who stirs up the sea[p]
so that its waves roar[q]—
the LORD Almighty is his name:[r]
36 "Only if these decrees[s] vanish from
my sight,"
declares the LORD,
"will the descendants[t] of Israel ever
cease
to be a nation before me."

37 This is what the LORD says:

"Only if the heavens above can be
measured[u]
and the foundations of the earth
below be searched out
will I reject[v] all the descendants of
Israel
because of all they have done,"
declares the LORD.

38 "The days are coming," declares
the LORD, "when this city will be re-
built[w] for me from the Tower of Hana-
nel[x] to the Corner Gate.[y] 39 The mea-
suring line[z] will stretch from there
straight to the hill of Gareb and then
turn to Goah. 40 The whole valley[a]
where dead bodies[b] and ashes are
thrown, and all the terraces out to the
Kidron Valley[c] on the east as far as the
corner of the Horse Gate,[d] will be
holy[e] to the LORD. The city will never
again be uprooted or demolished."

Jeremiah Buys a Field

32 This is the word that came to
Jeremiah from the LORD in the
tenth[f] year of Zedekiah king of Judah,
which was the eighteenth[g] year of
Nebuchadnezzar. 2 The army of the
king of Babylon was then besieging[h]
Jerusalem, and Jeremiah the prophet
was confined[i] in the courtyard of the
guard[j] in the royal palace of Judah.
3 Now Zedekiah king of Judah had
imprisoned him there, saying, "Why
do you prophesy[k] as you do? You say,
'This is what the LORD says: I am about
to hand this city over to the king of
Babylon, and he will capture[l] it.
4 Zedekiah[m] king of Judah will not es-
cape[n] out of the hands of the Babylo-
nians[m][o] but will certainly be handed
over to the king of Babylon, and will
speak with him face to face and see him
with his own eyes. 5 He will take[p]
Zedekiah to Babylon, where he will re-
main until I deal with him,[q] declares
the LORD. If you fight against the Bab-
ylonians, you will not succeed.'"[r]
6 Jeremiah said, "The word of the
LORD came to me: 7 Hanamel son of
Shallum your uncle is going to come to
you and say, 'Buy my field at Ana-
thoth,[s] because as nearest relative it is
your right and duty[t] to buy it.'
8 "Then, just as the LORD had said, my
cousin Hanamel came to me in the
courtyard of the guard and said, 'Buy
my field[u] at Anathoth in the territory
of Benjamin. Since it is your right to
redeem it and possess it, buy it for
yourself.'
"I knew that this was the word of the
LORD; 9 so I bought the field[v] at Ana-
thoth from my cousin Hanamel and
weighed out for him seventeen
shekels[n] of silver.[w] 10 I signed and
sealed the deed,[x] had it witnessed,[y]

31:30 [a]S 2Ki 14:6; S Isa 3:11; Gal 6:7
31:31 [b]S Dt 29:14; S Isa 42:6; S 54:10; S Lk 22:20; Heb 8:8-12*; 10:16-17
31:32 [c]S Ex 24:8 [d]Dt 5:3 [e]Jer 11:4 [f]S Isa 54:5
31:33 [g]S Ex 4:15 [h]S Dt 6:6; S 2Co 3:3 [i]S Jer 11:4; Heb 10:16
31:34 [j]1Jn 2:27 [k]S Isa 11:9; S Jn 6:45 [l]Ps 85:2; 130:4; Jer 33:8; 50:20 [m]S Job 7:21; S Isa 38:17; Mic 7:19; Heb 10:17*
31:35 [n]Ps 136:7-9 [o]S Ge 1:16 [p]S Ex 14:21 [q]S Ps 93:3 [r]S Jer 10:16
31:36 [s]S Job 38:33; Jer 33:20-26 [t]Ps 89:36-37
31:37 [u]S Job 38:5; Jer 33:22 [v]Jer 33:24-26; Ro 11:1-5
31:38 [w]S Jer 30:18 [x]S Ne 3:1 [y]S 2Ki 14:13; S 2Ch 25:23
31:39 [z]S 1Ki 7:23
31:40 [a]S Jer 2:23; 7:31-32 [b]S Jer 8:2 [c]S 2Sa 15:23; Jn 18:1 [d]S 2Ki 11:16 [e]S Isa 4:3; Joel 3:17; Zec 14:21
32:1 [f]2Ki 25:1 [g]Jer 25:1
32:2 [h]S 2Ki 25:1 [i]S Ps 88:8 [j]S Ne 3:25
32:3 [k]Jer 26:8-9 [l]ver 28; Jer 21:4; 34:2-3
32:4 [m]Jer 34:21; 44:30 [n]S Jer 21:7; 38:18,23; 39:5-7; 52:9 [o]ver 24
32:5 [p]Jer 39:7; Eze 12:13 [q]S 2Ki 25:7 [r]Jer 21:4; La 1:14
32:7 [s]S Jos 21:18 [t]Lev 25:24-25; S Ru 4:3-4; Mt 27:10*
32:8 [u]ver 25
32:9 [v]Jer 37:12 [w]S Ge 23:16
32:10 [x]Ge 23:20 [y]S Ru 4:9; S Isa 8:2

[k]32 Hebrew; Septuagint and Syriac / *and I turned away from* [l]32 Or *was their master* [m]4 Or *Chaldeans;* also in verses 5, 24, 25, 28, 29 and 43 [n]9 That is, about 7 ounces (about 200 grams)

17For this is what the LORD says: 'David
will never fail[a] to have a man to sit on
the throne of the house of Israel, 18nor
will the priests,[b] who are Levites,[c]
ever fail to have a man to stand before
me continually to offer burnt offerings,
to burn grain offerings and to present
sacrifices.[d]' "
19The word of the LORD came to Jere-
miah: 20"This is what the LORD says: 'If
you can break my covenant with the
day[e] and my covenant with the night,
so that day and night no longer come at
their appointed time,[f] 21then my cov-
enant[g] with David my servant—and
my covenant with the Levites[h] who are
priests ministering before me—can be
broken and David will no longer have a
descendant to reign on his throne.[i] 22I
will make the descendants of David my
servant and the Levites who minister
before me as countless[j] as the stars of
the sky and as measureless as the sand
on the seashore.' "
23The word of the LORD came to Jere-
miah: 24"Have you not noticed that
these people are saying, 'The LORD has
rejected the two kingdoms[t][k] he
chose'? So they despise[l] my people
and no longer regard them as a na-
tion.[m] 25This is what the LORD says: 'If I
have not established my covenant with
day and night[n] and the fixed laws[o] of
heaven and earth,[p] 26then I will reject[q]
the descendants of Jacob[r] and David
my servant and will not choose one of
his sons to rule over the descendants of
Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. For I will re-
store their fortunes[u][s] and have com-
passion[t] on them.' "

Warning to Zedekiah

34 While Nebuchadnezzar king of
Babylon and all his army and all
the kingdoms and peoples[u] in the em-
pire he ruled were fighting against
Jerusalem[v] and all its surrounding
towns, this word came to Jeremiah
from the LORD: 2"This is what the LORD,
the God of Israel, says: Go to Zede-
kiah[w] king of Judah and tell him, 'This
is what the LORD says: I am about to
hand this city over to the king of Bab-
ylon, and he will burn it down.[x] 3You
will not escape from his grasp but will
surely be captured and handed over[y]
to him. You will see the king of Bab-
ylon with your own eyes, and he will
speak with you face to face. And you
will go to Babylon.
4" 'Yet hear the promise of the LORD,
O Zedekiah king of Judah. This is what
the LORD says concerning you: You will
not die by the sword;[z] 5you will die
peacefully. As people made a funeral
fire[a] in honor of your fathers, the for-
mer kings who preceded you, so they
will make a fire in your honor and la-
ment, "Alas,[b] O master!" I myself
make this promise, declares the
LORD.' "
6Then Jeremiah the prophet told all
this to Zedekiah king of Judah, in
Jerusalem, 7while the army of the king
of Babylon was fighting against Jerusa-
lem and the other cities of Judah that
were still holding out—Lachish[c] and
Azekah.[d] These were the only fortified
cities left in Judah.

Freedom for Slaves

8The word came to Jeremiah from the
LORD after King Zedekiah had made a
covenant with all the people[e] in Jerusa-
lem to proclaim freedom[f] for the
slaves. 9Everyone was to free his He-
brew slaves, both male and female; no
one was to hold a fellow Jew in bond-
age.[g] 10So all the officials and people
who entered into this covenant agreed
that they would free their male and
female slaves and no longer hold them
in bondage. They agreed, and set them
free. 11But afterward they changed
their minds[h] and took back the slaves
they had freed and enslaved them
again.
12Then the word of the LORD came to
Jeremiah: 13"This is what the LORD, the
God of Israel, says: I made a covenant
with your forefathers[i] when I brought
them out of Egypt, out of the land of
slavery.[j] I said, 14'Every seventh year
each of you must free any fellow He-
brew who has sold himself to you. Af-
ter he has served you six years, you
must let him go free.'[v][k] Your fathers,
however, did not listen to me or pay
attention[l] to me. 15Recently you re-
pented and did what is right in my
sight: Each of you proclaimed freedom
to his countrymen.[m] You even made a
covenant before me in the house that
bears my Name.[n] 16But now you have
turned around[o] and profaned[p] my
name; each of you has taken back the
male and female slaves you had set free
to go where they wished. You have
forced them to become your slaves
again.
17"Therefore, this is what the LORD

33:17 [a]S 2Sa 7:13; S 2Ch 7:18; Ps 89:29-37; S Lk 1:33
33:18 [b]S Nu 25:11-13; Heb 7:17-22 [c]S Dt 18:1 [d]Heb 13:15
33:20 [e]Ps 89:36 [f]S Ge 1:14
33:21 [g]Ps 89:34 [h]S Dt 18:1 [i]S 2Sa 7:13; S 2Ch 7:18
33:22 [j]S Ge 12:2; S Jer 30:19; Hos 1:10
33:24 [k]Eze 37:22 [l]S Ne 4:4 [m]S Jer 30:17; Eze 36:20
33:25 [n]S Ge 1:18 [o]S Ps 148:6 [p]Ps 74:16-17
33:26 [q]S Lev 26:44 [r]S Isa 14:1 [s]ver 7; Ps 14:7 [t]S Jer 30:18
34:1 [u]Jer 27:7 [v]2Ki 25:1; Jer 39:1
34:2 [w]S 2Ch 36:11 [x]ver 22; Jer 32:29; 37:8
34:3 [y]S 2Ki 25:7; S Jer 21:7
34:4 [z]Jer 52:11
34:5 [a]S 2Ch 16:14 [b]Jer 22:18
34:7 [c]S Jos 10:3 [d]Jos 10:10; 2Ch 11:9
34:8 [e]S 2Ki 11:17 [f]S Ex 21:2; Lev 25:39-41; Ne 5:5-8
34:9 [g]Dt 15:12-18
34:11 [h]Ps 78:37
34:13 [i]S Ex 24:8 [j]S Dt 15:15
34:14 [k]S Ex 21:2 [l]2Ki 17:14; S Jer 7:26
34:15 [m]ver 8 [n]S Jer 32:34
34:16 [o]Eze 3:20; 18:24 [p]S Lev 19:12

[t]24 Or *families* [u]26 Or *will bring them back from captivity* [v]14 Deut. 15:12

says: You have not obeyed me; you
have not proclaimed freedom for your
fellow countrymen. So I now proclaim
'freedom' for you,[a] declares the LORD—
'freedom' to fall by the sword, plague[b]
and famine.[c] I will make you abhor-
rent to all the kingdoms of the earth.[d]
18 The men who have violated my cov-
enant[e] and have not fulfilled the terms
of the covenant they made before me, I
will treat like the calf they cut in two
and then walked between its pieces.[f]
19 The leaders of Judah and Jerusalem,
the court officials,[g] the priests and all
the people of the land who walked be-
tween the pieces of the calf, 20 I will
hand over[h] to their enemies who seek
their lives.[i] Their dead bodies will
become food for the birds of the air and
the beasts of the earth.[j]

21 "I will hand Zedekiah[k] king of
Judah and his officials[l] over to their
enemies[m] who seek their lives, to the
army of the king of Babylon,[n] which
has withdrawn[o] from you. 22 I am going
to give the order, declares the LORD,
and I will bring them back to this city.
They will fight against it, take[p] it and
burn[q] it down. And I will lay waste[r]
the towns of Judah so no one can live
there."

The Recabites

35 This is the word that came to
Jeremiah from the LORD during
the reign of Jehoiakim[s] son of Josiah
king of Judah: 2 "Go to the Recabite[t]
family and invite them to come to one
of the side rooms[u] of the house of the
LORD and give them wine to drink."

3 So I went to get Jaazaniah son of
Jeremiah, the son of Habazziniah, and
his brothers and all his sons—the
whole family of the Recabites. 4 I
brought them into the house of the
LORD, into the room of the sons of Ha-
nan son of Igdaliah the man of God.[v] It
was next to the room of the officials,
which was over that of Maaseiah son of
Shallum[w] the doorkeeper.[x] 5 Then I set
bowls full of wine and some cups be-
fore the men of the Recabite family and
said to them, "Drink some wine."

6 But they replied, "We do not drink
wine, because our forefather Jonadab[y]
son of Recab gave us this command:
'Neither you nor your descendants
must ever drink wine.[z] 7 Also you must
never build houses, sow seed or plant
vineyards; you must never have any of
these things; but must always live in
tents.[a] Then you will live a long time
in the land[b] where you are nomads.'
8 We have obeyed everything our fore-
father[c] Jonadab son of Recab com-
manded us. Neither we nor our wives
nor our sons and daughters have ever
drunk wine 9 or built houses to live in or
had vineyards, fields or crops.[d] 10 We
have lived in tents and have fully
obeyed everything our forefather Jona-
dab commanded us. 11 But when Nebu-
chadnezzar king of Babylon invaded[e]
this land, we said, 'Come, we must go
to Jerusalem[f] to escape the Babylo-
nian[w] and Aramean armies.' So we
have remained in Jerusalem."

12 Then the word of the LORD came to
Jeremiah, saying: 13 "This is what the
LORD Almighty, the God of Israel, says:
Go and tell[g] the men of Judah and the
people of Jerusalem, 'Will you not learn
a lesson[h] and obey my words?' de-
clares the LORD. 14 'Jonadab son of Recab
ordered his sons not to drink wine and
this command has been kept. To this
day they do not drink wine, because
they obey their forefather's com-
mand.[i] But I have spoken to you again
and again,[j] yet you have not obeyed[k]
me. 15 Again and again I sent all my ser-
vants the prophets[l] to you. They said,
"Each of you must turn[m] from your
wicked ways and reform[n] your actions;
do not follow other gods[o] to serve
them. Then you will live in the land[p] I
have given to you and your fathers."
But you have not paid attention or lis-
tened[q] to me. 16 The descendants of
Jonadab son of Recab have carried out
the command their forefather[r] gave
them, but these people have not
obeyed me.'

17 "Therefore, this is what the LORD
God Almighty, the God of Israel, says:
'Listen! I am going to bring on Judah
and on everyone living in Jerusalem
every disaster[s] I pronounced against
them. I spoke to them, but they did not
listen;[t] I called to them, but they did
not answer.'"[u]

18 Then Jeremiah said to the family of
the Recabites, "This is what the LORD
Almighty, the God of Israel, says: 'You
have obeyed the command of your
forefather[v] Jonadab and have followed
all his instructions and have done
everything he ordered.' 19 Therefore,
this is what the LORD Almighty, the
God of Israel, says: 'Jonadab son of
Recab will never fail[w] to have a man to
serve[x] me.'"

34:17 [a]S Mt 7:2; Gal 6:7 [b]Jer 21:7 [c]S Jer 14:12 [d]Jer 15:4; S 24:9; S 29:18 **34:18** [e]S Jer 11:10 [f]S Ge 15:10 **34:19** [g]S Jer 26:10; Zep 3:3-4 **34:20** [h]Jer 21:7; Eze 16:27; 23:28 [i]S Jer 11:21 [j]S Dt 28:26 **34:21** [k]S Jer 32:4 [l]2Ki 25:21; Jer 39:6; 52:24-27 [m]S Jer 21:7 [n]S 2Ch 36:10 [o]Jer 37:5 **34:22** [p]Jer 39:1-2 [q]S Ne 2:17; Jer 38:18; 39:8; Eze 23:47 [r]S Lev 26:32; S Isa 1:7 **35:1** [s]S 2Ch 36:5 **35:2** [t]S 2Ki 10:15 [u]S 1Ki 6:5 **35:4** [v]S Dt 33:1 [w]1Ch 9:19 [x]S 2Ki 12:9; S 23:4 **35:6** [y]S 2Ki 10:15 [z]S Lev 10:9; Nu 6:2-4; S Lk 1:15 **35:7** [a]Heb 11:9 [b]S Ex 20:12; Eph 6:2-3 **35:8** [c]Pr 1:8; Col 3:20 **35:9** [d]1Ti 6:6 **35:11** [e]2Ki 24:1 [f]S Jos 10:20; Jer 8:14 **35:13** [g]Jer 11:6 [h]Jer 6:10; 32:33 **35:14** [i]ver 6-10, 16 [j]S Jer 7:13 [k]Isa 30:9 **35:15** [l]S Jer 7:25 [m]S 2Ki 17:13; S Jer 26:3 [n]S Isa 1:16-17; S 59:20; Jer 4:1; 18:11; Eze 14:6; 18:30 [o]S Ex 20:3 [p]S Dt 4:40; Jer 25:5 [q]S Jer 6:10; S 7:26; 44:4-5 **35:16** [r]S Lev 20:9; Mal 1:6 **35:17** [s]S Jos 23:15; S 1Ki 13:34; Jer 21:4-7 [t]S Pr 1:24; Ro 10:21 [u]Jer 7:13 **35:18** [v]S Ge 31:35 **35:19** [w]S Isa 48:19; Jer 33:17 [x]Jer 15:19

[w]11 Or *Chaldean*

Jehoiakim Burns Jeremiah's Scroll

36 In the fourth year of Jehoiakim
son of Josiah king of Judah, this
word came to Jeremiah from the LORD:
2 "Take a scroll and write on it all the
words I have spoken to you concern-
ing Israel, Judah and all the other na-
tions from the time I began speaking to
you in the reign of Josiah till now.
3 Perhaps when the people of Judah
hear about every disaster I plan to in-
flict on them, each of them will turn
from his wicked way; then I will for-
give their wickedness and their sin."
4 So Jeremiah called Baruch son of
Neriah, and while Jeremiah dictated
all the words the LORD had spoken to
him, Baruch wrote them on the scroll.
5 Then Jeremiah told Baruch, "I am re-
stricted; I cannot go to the LORD's tem-
ple. 6 So you go to the house of the LORD
on a day of fasting and read to the
people from the scroll the words of the
LORD that you wrote as I dictated.
Read them to all the people of Judah
who come in from their towns. 7 Per-
haps they will bring their petition be-
fore the LORD, and each will turn from
his wicked ways, for the anger and
wrath pronounced against this people
by the LORD are great."
8 Baruch son of Neriah did everything
Jeremiah the prophet told him to do; at
the LORD's temple he read the words of
the LORD from the scroll. 9 In the ninth
month of the fifth year of Jehoiakim
son of Josiah king of Judah, a time of
fasting before the LORD was pro-
claimed for all the people in Jerusalem
and those who had come from the
towns of Judah. 10 From the room of
Gemariah son of Shaphan the secre-
tary, which was in the upper court-
yard at the entrance of the New Gate
of the temple, Baruch read to all the
people at the LORD's temple the words
of Jeremiah from the scroll.
11 When Micaiah son of Gemariah,
the son of Shaphan, heard all the
words of the LORD from the scroll, 12 he
went down to the secretary's room in
the royal palace, where all the officials
were sitting: Elishama the secretary,
Delaiah son of Shemaiah, Elnathan
son of Acbor, Gemariah son of Sha-
phan, Zedekiah son of Hananiah, and
all the other officials. 13 After Micaiah
told them everything he had heard Bar-
uch read to the people from the scroll,
14 all the officials sent Jehudi son of
Nethaniah, the son of Shelemiah, the
son of Cushi, to say to Baruch, "Bring
the scroll from which you have read
to the people and come." So Baruch
son of Neriah went to them with the
scroll in his hand. 15 They said to him,
"Sit down, please, and read it to us."
So Baruch read it to them. 16 When
they heard all these words, they looked
at each other in fear and said to Bar-
uch, "We must report all these words
to the king." 17 Then they asked Baruch,
"Tell us, how did you come to write
all this? Did Jeremiah dictate it?"
18 "Yes," Baruch replied, "he dic-
tated all these words to me, and I
wrote them in ink on the scroll."
19 Then the officials said to Baruch,
"You and Jeremiah, go and hide.
Don't let anyone know where you
are."
20 After they put the scroll in the
room of Elishama the secretary, they
went to the king in the courtyard and
reported everything to him. 21 The king
sent Jehudi to get the scroll, and Jehu-
di brought it from the room of Elisha-
ma the secretary and read it to the
king and all the officials standing be-
side him. 22 It was the ninth month and
the king was sitting in the winter apart-
ment, with a fire burning in the fire-
pot in front of him. 23 Whenever Jehudi
had read three or four columns of the
scroll, the king cut them off with a
scribe's knife and threw them into the
firepot, until the entire scroll was
burned in the fire. 24 The king and all
his attendants who heard all these
words showed no fear, nor did they
tear their clothes. 25 Even though Elna-
than, Delaiah and Gemariah urged
the king not to burn the scroll, he
would not listen to them. 26 Instead, the
king commanded Jerahmeel, a son of
the king, Seraiah son of Azriel and
Shelemiah son of Abdeel to arrest Bar-
uch the scribe and Jeremiah the
prophet. But the LORD had hidden
them.
27 After the king burned the scroll
containing the words that Baruch had
written at Jeremiah's dictation, the
word of the LORD came to Jeremiah:
28 "Take another scroll and write on it
all the words that were on the first
scroll, which Jehoiakim king of Judah
burned up. 29 Also tell Jehoiakim king of
Judah, 'This is what the LORD says: You
burned that scroll and said, "Why did
you write on it that the king of Babylon
would certainly come and destroy this
land and cut off both men and ani-

36:1 S 2Ch 36:5
36:2 ver 4; Ex 17:14; Ps 40:7; Jer 30:2; Hab 2:2; Isa 8:1 Jer 1:2; 25:3
36:3 ver 7; Eze 12:3; Am 5:15 Isa 6:9; Mk 4:12 S Jer 18:11 S Isa 44:22; S Jer 26:3; Ac 3:19; S Jer 16:8
36:4 S Jer 32:12 Jer 51:59 ver 18 ver 2; Eze 2:9; Da 7:1; Zec 5:1
36:6 ver 9 S Ex 4:16 2Ch 20:4
36:7 Jer 37:20; 42:2 S Jer 26:3 S Dt 31:17
36:9 ver 22 S 2Ch 20:3
36:10 ver 12, 25; Jer 29:3 Jer 26:24 Jer 52:25 S Ge 23:10
36:12 S 2Sa 8:17 S Jer 26:22 Jer 38:4
36:14 ver 21 ver 4
36:16 S Ps 36:1
36:17 Jer 30:2
36:18 ver 4
36:19 Jer 26:16 S 1Ki 17:3
36:21 ver 14 2Ki 22:10
36:22 Am 3:15
36:23 ver 2 1Ki 22:8
36:24 S Ps 36:1 S Ge 37:29; S Nu 14:6
36:25 ver 12 S ver 10
36:26 Mt 23:34 S 1Ki 17:3; Ps 11:1; S Jer 1:8; 15:21
36:27 ver 4
36:28 ver 2

make[p] from it?"[q] 30Therefore, this is
what the LORD says about Jehoiakim
king of Judah: He will have no one to
sit on the throne of David; his body will
be thrown out[r] and exposed[s] to the
heat by day and the frost by night.[t] 31I
will punish him and his children[u] and
his attendants for their wickedness; I
will bring on them and those living in
Jerusalem and the people of Judah
every disaster[v] I pronounced against
them, because they have not lis-
tened.[w]

32So Jeremiah took another scroll and
gave it to the scribe Baruch son of Ne-
riah, and as Jeremiah dictated,[x] Baruch
wrote[y] on it all the words of the scroll
that Jehoiakim king of Judah had
burned[z] in the fire. And many similar
words were added to them.

Jeremiah in Prison

37 Zedekiah[m] son of Josiah was
made king[n] of Judah by Nebu-
chadnezzar king of Babylon; he reigned
in place of Jehoiachin[o,*] son of Jehoia-
kim. 2Neither he nor his attendants nor
the people of the land paid any atten-
tion[p] to the words the LORD had
spoken through Jeremiah the prophet.
3King Zedekiah, however, sent[q]
Jehucal[r] son of Shelemiah with the
priest Zephaniah[s] son of Maaseiah to
Jeremiah the prophet with this mes-
sage: "Please pray[t] to the LORD our
God for us."
4Now Jeremiah was free to come and
go among the people, for he had not
yet been put in prison.[u] 5Pharaoh's
army had marched out of Egypt,[v] and
when the Babylonians[y] who were be-
sieging Jerusalem heard the report
about them, they withdrew[w] from
Jerusalem.[x]
6Then the word of the LORD came to
Jeremiah the prophet: 7"This is what
the LORD, the God of Israel, says: Tell
the king of Judah, who sent you to in-
quire[y] of me, 'Pharaoh's army, which
has marched[z] out to support you, will
go back to its own land, to Egypt.[a]
8Then the Babylonians will return and
attack this city; they will capture[b] it
and burn[c] it down.'
9"This is what the LORD says: Do not
deceive[d] yourselves, thinking, 'The
Babylonians will surely leave us.' They
will not! 10Even if you were to defeat
the entire Babylonian[z] army that is at-
tacking you and only wounded men
were left in their tents, they would
come out and burn[e] this city down."

11After the Babylonian army had
withdrawn[f] from Jerusalem because of
Pharaoh's army, 12Jeremiah started to
leave the city to go to the territory of
Benjamin to get his share of the prop-
erty[g] among the people there. 13But
when he reached the Benjamin Gate,[h]
the captain of the guard, whose name
was Irijah son of Shelemiah, the son of
Hananiah, arrested him and said, "You
are deserting to the Babylonians!"[i]
14"That's not true!" Jeremiah said. "I
am not deserting to the Babylonians."
But Irijah would not listen to him; in-
stead, he arrested[j] Jeremiah and
brought him to the officials. 15They
were angry with Jeremiah and had him
beaten[k] and imprisoned[l] in the
house[m] of Jonathan the secretary,
which they had made into a prison.
16Jeremiah was put into a vaulted cell
in a dungeon, where he remained a
long time. 17Then King Zedekiah sent[n]
for him and had him brought to the
palace, where he asked[o] him private-
ly,[p] "Is there any word from the
LORD?"
"Yes," Jeremiah replied, "you will be
handed over[q] to the king of Babylon."
18Then Jeremiah said to King Zede-
kiah, "What crime[r] have I committed
against you or your officials or this
people, that you have put me in pris-
on? 19Where are your prophets[s] who
prophesied to you, 'The king of Bab-
ylon will not attack you or this land'?
20But now, my lord the king, please lis-
ten. Let me bring my petition before
you: Do not send me back to the house
of Jonathan the secretary, or I will die
there."[t]
21King Zedekiah then gave orders for
Jeremiah to be placed in the courtyard
of the guard and given bread from the
street of the bakers each day until all
the bread[u] in the city was gone.[v] So
Jeremiah remained in the courtyard of
the guard.[w]

Jeremiah Thrown Into a Cistern

38 Shephatiah son of Mattan, Geda-
liah son of Pashhur[x], Jehucal[a,y]
son of Shelemiah, and Pashhur son of
Malkijah heard what Jeremiah was tell-
ing all the people when he said, 2"This
is what the LORD says: 'Whoever stays
in this city will die by the sword, fam-
ine or plague,[z] but whoever goes over

36:29 pJer 32:3 qS Isa 30:10
36:30 rJer 22:30 sS Isa 14:19 tS 2Ki 24:6 uS Jer 8:2
36:31 vEx 20:5 wS Ps 89:31 xS Pr 1:24
36:32 yver 4 zEx 34:1; Jer 30:2 aver 23
37:1 mS 2Ki 24:17 n1Sa 11:1; Eze 17:13 oS 2Ki 24:8,12; Jer 22:24
37:2 pS 2Ki 24:19
37:3 qver 15; Jer 38:14 rJer 38:1 sS 2Ki 25:18; Jer 29:25; 52:24 tS Ex 8:28; S Nu 21:7; 1Sa 12:19; 1Ki 13:6; 2Ki 19:4; Jer 42:2
37:4 uver 15; Jer 32:2
37:5 vS Ge 15:18; Isa 31:1; Eze 17:15 wJer 34:21 xS Isa 30:5; Jer 34:11
37:7 yS Ge 25:22; S 2Ki 22:18 zver 5 aS 2Ki 18:21; S Jer 2:36; La 1:7; 4:17
37:8 bJer 38:3 cJer 21:10; 38:18; 39:8
37:9 dJer 29:8; S Mk 13:5
37:10 eJer 21:10
37:11 fver 5
37:12 gS Jer 32:9
37:13 hS Jer 20:2 iJer 21:9
37:14 jIsa 58:6; Jer 40:4
37:15 kS Jer 20:2; Heb 11:36 lS 1Ki 22:27 mver 20; Jer 38:26
37:17 nS ver 3 oS Ge 25:22; Jer 15:11 pJer 38:16 qS Jer 21:7
37:18 rS 1Sa 26:18; Jn 10:32; Ac 25:8
37:19 sS Jer 14:13; Eze 13:2
37:20 tS ver 15
37:21 uS Lev 26:26; Isa 33:16; Jer 38:9; La 1:11 vS 2Ki 25:3 wJer 32:2; 38:6, 13,28; 39:13-14
38:1 xS 1Ch 9:12 yJer 37:3
38:2 zJer 34:17

*1 Hebrew *Coniah,* a variant of *Jehoiachin* y5 Or *Chaldeans;* also in verses 8, 9, 13 and 14 z10 Or *Chaldean;* also in verse 11 a1 Hebrew *Jucal,* a variant of *Jehucal*

to the Babylonians will live. He will
escape with his life; he will live.' 3And
this is what the LORD says: 'This city
will certainly be handed over to the
army of the king of Babylon, who will
capture it.' "

4Then the officials said to the king,
"This man should be put to death. He
is discouraging the soldiers who are
left in this city, as well as all the people,
by the things he is saying to them. This
man is not seeking the good of these
people but their ruin."

5"He is in your hands," King Zede-
kiah answered. "The king can do noth-
ing to oppose you."

6So they took Jeremiah and put him
into the cistern of Malkijah, the king's
son, which was in the courtyard of the
guard. They lowered Jeremiah by
ropes into the cistern; it had no water
in it, only mud, and Jeremiah sank
down into the mud.

7But Ebed-Melech, a Cushite, an
official in the royal palace, heard
that they had put Jeremiah into the cis-
tern. While the king was sitting in the
Benjamin Gate, 8Ebed-Melech went
out of the palace and said to him, 9"My
lord the king, these men have acted
wickedly in all they have done to Jere-
miah the prophet. They have thrown
him into a cistern, where he will
starve to death when there is no longer
any bread in the city."

10Then the king commanded Ebed-
Melech the Cushite, "Take thirty men
from here with you and lift Jeremiah
the prophet out of the cistern before he
dies."

11So Ebed-Melech took the men with
him and went to a room under the trea-
sury in the palace. He took some old
rags and worn-out clothes from there
and let them down with ropes to Jere-
miah in the cistern. 12Ebed-Melech the
Cushite said to Jeremiah, "Put these
old rags and worn-out clothes under
your arms to pad the ropes." Jeremiah
did so, 13and they pulled him up with
the ropes and lifted him out of the cis-
tern. And Jeremiah remained in the
courtyard of the guard.

Zedekiah Questions Jeremiah Again

14Then King Zedekiah sent for Jere-
miah the prophet and had him brought
to the third entrance to the temple of
the LORD. "I am going to ask you some-
thing," the king said to Jeremiah. "Do
not hide anything from me."

15Jeremiah said to Zedekiah, "If I
give you an answer, will you not kill
me? Even if I did give you counsel, you
would not listen to me."

16But King Zedekiah swore this oath
secretly to Jeremiah: "As surely as the
LORD lives, who has given us breath, I
will neither kill you nor hand you over
to those who are seeking your life."

17Then Jeremiah said to Zedekiah,
"This is what the LORD God Almighty,
the God of Israel, says: 'If you surren-
der to the officers of the king of Bab-
ylon, your life will be spared and this
city will not be burned down; you and
your family will live. 18But if you will
not surrender to the officers of the king
of Babylon, this city will be handed
over to the Babylonians and they will
burn it down; you yourself will not
escape from their hands.' "

19King Zedekiah said to Jeremiah, "I
am afraid of the Jews who have gone
over to the Babylonians, for the Bab-
ylonians may hand me over to them
and they will mistreat me."

20"They will not hand you over,"
Jeremiah replied. "Obey the LORD by
doing what I tell you. Then it will go
well with you, and your life will be
spared. 21But if you refuse to surren-
der, this is what the LORD has revealed
to me: 22All the women left in the pal-
ace of the king of Judah will be brought
out to the officials of the king of Bab-
ylon. Those women will say to you:

" 'They misled you and overcame
you—
those trusted friends of yours.
Your feet are sunk in the mud;
your friends have deserted you.'

23"All your wives and children will
be brought out to the Babylonians. You
yourself will not escape from their
hands but will be captured by the
king of Babylon; and this city will be
burned down."

24Then Zedekiah said to Jeremiah,
"Do not let anyone know about this
conversation, or you may die. 25If the
officials hear that I talked with you,
and they come to you and say, 'Tell us
what you said to the king and what the
king said to you; do not hide it from us
or we will kill you,' 26then tell them, 'I
was pleading with the king not to send
me back to Jonathan's house to die
there.' "

38:16 Jer 37:17 Isa 42:5; 57:16 ver 4
38:17 Jer 27:8 S Jer 21:9
38:18 ver 3 S Jer 37:8 S Jer 24:8; S 32:4
38:19 Isa 51:12; Jn 12:42 Jer 39:9; 52:15
38:20 Jer 11:4 S Dt 5:33; Jer 40:9 Isa 55:3
38:22 S Jer 6:12 S Job 19:14; S Jer 13:21 S Job 30:19; Ps 69:14
38:23 S 2Ki 25:6 S Jer 32:4; Eze 17:15 S Jer 24:8 Jer 21:10; 37:8
38:24 Jer 37:17
38:26 1Sa 16:2 S Jer 37:15

b2 Or *Chaldeans*; also in verses 18, 19 and 23 c7 Probably from the upper Nile region d7 Or *a eunuch* e23 Or *and you will cause this city to*

27All the officials did come to Jere-
miah and question him, and he told
them everything the king had ordered
him to say. So they said no more to
him, for no one had heard his conver-
sation with the king.
28And Jeremiah remained in the
courtyard of the guard[a] until the day
Jerusalem was captured.

The Fall of Jerusalem

39:1-10pp — 2Ki 25:1-12; Jer 52:4-16

39 This is how Jerusalem[b] was tak-
en: 1In the ninth year of Zede-
kiah[c] king of Judah, in the tenth
month, Nebuchadnezzar[d] king of Bab-
ylon marched against Jerusalem with
his whole army and laid siege[e] to it.
2And on the ninth day of the fourth[f]
month of Zedekiah's eleventh year, the
city wall[g] was broken through.[h] 3Then
all the officials[i] of the king of Babylon
came and took seats in the Middle
Gate: Nergal-Sharezer of Samgar,
Nebo-Sarsekim[f] a chief officer, Nergal-
Sharezer a high official and all the
other officials of the king of Babylon.
4When Zedekiah king of Judah and all
the soldiers saw them, they fled; they
left the city at night by way of the
king's garden, through the gate be-
tween the two walls,[j] and headed
toward the Arabah.[k][g]
5But the Babylonian[h] army pursued
them and overtook Zedekiah[l] in the
plains of Jericho. They captured[m] him
and took him to Nebuchadnezzar king
of Babylon at Riblah[n] in the land of
Hamath, where he pronounced sen-
tence on him. 6There at Riblah the king
of Babylon slaughtered the sons of
Zedekiah before his eyes and also
killed all the nobles[o] of Judah. 7Then
he put out Zedekiah's eyes[p] and
bound him with bronze shackles to
take him to Babylon.[q]
8The Babylonians[i] set fire[r] to the
royal palace and the houses of the
people and broke down the walls[s] of
Jerusalem. 9Nebuzaradan commander
of the imperial guard carried into exile
to Babylon the people who remained in
the city, along with those who had
gone over to him,[t] and the rest of the
people.[u] 10But Nebuzaradan the com-
mander of the guard left behind in the
land of Judah some of the poor people,
who owned nothing; and at that time
he gave them vineyards and fields.
11Now Nebuchadnezzar king of Bab-
ylon had given these orders about Jere-
miah through Nebuzaradan com-
mander of the imperial guard: 12"Take
him and look after him; don't harm[v]
him but do for him whatever he asks."
13So Nebuzaradan the commander of
the guard, Nebushazban a chief officer,
Nergal-Sharezer a high official and all
the other officers[w] of the king of Bab-
ylon 14sent and had Jeremiah taken out
of the courtyard of the guard.[x] They
turned him over to Gedaliah[y] son of
Ahikam,[z] the son of Shaphan,[a] to take
him back to his home. So he remained
among his own people.[b]
15While Jeremiah had been confined
in the courtyard of the guard, the word
of the LORD came to him: 16"Go and tell
Ebed-Melech[c] the Cushite, 'This is
what the LORD Almighty, the God of Is-
rael, says: I am about to fulfill my
words[d] against this city through disas-
ter,[e] not prosperity. At that time they
will be fulfilled before your eyes. 17But I
will rescue[f] you on that day, declares
the LORD; you will not be handed over
to those you fear. 18I will save[g] you;
you will not fall by the sword[h] but will
escape with your life,[i] because you
trust[j] in me, declares the LORD.' "[j]

Jeremiah Freed

40 The word came to Jeremiah from
the LORD after Nebuzaradan
commander of the imperial guard had
released him at Ramah.[k] He had found
Jeremiah bound in chains among all the
captives[l] from Jerusalem and Judah
who were being carried into exile to
Babylon. 2When the commander[m] of
the guard found Jeremiah, he said to
him, "The LORD your God decreed[n]
this disaster[o] for this place.[p] 3And now
the LORD has brought it about; he has
done just as he said he would. All this
happened because you people sinned[q]
against the LORD and did not obey[r]
him. 4But today I am freeing[s] you from
the chains[t] on your wrists. Come with
me to Babylon, if you like, and I will
look after you; but if you do not want
to, then don't come. Look, the whole
country lies before you; go wherever
you please."[u] 5However, before Jere-
miah turned to go,[j] Nebuzaradan
added, "Go back to Gedaliah[v] son of
Ahikam,[w] the son of Shaphan, whom
the king of Babylon has appointed[x]
over the towns[y] of Judah, and live

38:28 aS Jer 37:21 39:1 bS Jer 25:29 cS 2Ch 36:11 dS 2Ki 24:1; S Jer 28:14 eS 2Ki 25:1; Jer 52:4; Eze 4:2; 24:2 39:2 fZec 8:19 gS 2Ki 14:13 hEze 33:21 39:3 iver 13; Jer 21:4 39:4 jS Isa 22:11 kEze 12:12 39:5 lS Jer 24:8; S 32:4 mS Jer 21:7 nS Nu 34:11 39:6 oS Isa 34:12 39:7 pS Nu 16:14; Eze 12:13 qS Jer 2:35 39:8 rS Jer 34:22 sS Ne 1:3; S Ps 80:12; S Isa 22:5; La 2:8 39:9 tJer 21:9 uJer 40:1; La 1:5 39:12 vS Pr 16:7; Jer 15:20-21; 1Pe 3:13 39:13 wS ver 3 39:14 xS Ne 3:25; Jer 37:21 yS 2Ki 25:22 zS 2Ki 22:12 aS 2Ki 22:3 bJer 40:5 39:16 cJer 38:7 dPs 33:11; Isa 14:27; 40:8; Jer 44:28; La 2:17; S Mt 1:22 eS Jos 23:15; Jer 21:10 39:17 fPs 34:22; 41:1-2 39:18 gS 1Sa 17:47; Ac 16:31 hS Job 5:20 iS Jer 21:9; S 38:2 jS Jer 17:7; Ro 10:11 40:1 kS Jos 18:25; 1Sa 8:4; Mt 2:18 lS Dt 21:10; S 2Ki 24:1; S 2Ch 36:10; Na 3:10 40:2 mRo 13:4 nS Isa 10:22 oS 2Ch 34:24; S Ps 18:18; S Pr 8:36; Gal 6:7-8 pS Jos 23:15 40:3 qS Pr 13:21; Ro 6:23; Jas 1:15 rS Lev 26:33; Dt 28:45-52; 29:24-28; 31:17-18; S 1Ki 9:9; Jer 22:8-9; Da 9:14; Ac 7:39; Ro 2:8-9 40:4 sPs 105:18-20; S Jer 37:14 tLa 3:7 uS Ge 13:9 40:5 vS 2Ki 25:22 w2Ki 22:12-14 xNe 5:14; Jer 41:2 yJer 44:22; Zec 1:12

f3 Or *Nergal-Sharezer, Samgar-Nebo, Sarsekim* g4 Or *the Jordan Valley* h5 Or *Chaldean* i8 Or *Chaldeans* j5 Or *Jeremiah answered*

with him among the people, or go any-
where else you please."[a]
Then the commander gave him
provisions and a present[b] and let him
go. [6]So Jeremiah went to Gedaliah son
of Ahikam at Mizpah[c] and stayed with
him among the people who were left
behind in the land.

Gedaliah Assassinated

40:7-9; 41:1-3pp — 2Ki 25:22-24

[7]When all the army officers and their
men who were still in the open country
heard that the king of Babylon had ap-
pointed Gedaliah son of Ahikam as
governor[d] over the land and had put
him in charge of the men, women and
children who were the poorest[e] in the
land and who had not been carried into
exile to Babylon, [8]they came to Geda-
liah at Mizpah[f]—Ishmael[g] son of
Nethaniah, Johanan[h] and Jonathan the
sons of Kareah, Seraiah son of Tan-
humeth, the sons of Ephai the Netoph-
athite,[i] and Jaazaniah[k] the son of the
Maacathite,[j] and their men. [9]Gedaliah
son of Ahikam, the son of Shaphan,
took an oath to reassure them and their
men. "Do not be afraid to serve[k] the
Babylonians,[l]" he said. "Settle down
in the land and serve the king of Bab-
ylon, and it will go well with you.[m] [10]I
myself will stay at Mizpah[n] to repre-
sent you before the Babylonians who
come to us, but you are to harvest the
wine,[o] summer fruit and oil, and put
them in your storage jars,[p] and live in
the towns you have taken over."[q]
[11]When all the Jews in Moab,[r] Am-
mon, Edom[s] and all the other coun-
tries[t] heard that the king of Babylon
had left a remnant in Judah and had
appointed Gedaliah son of Ahikam, the
son of Shaphan, as governor over
them, [12]they all came back to the land
of Judah, to Gedaliah at Mizpah, from
all the countries where they had
been scattered.[u] And they harvested
an abundance of wine and summer
fruit.
[13]Johanan[v] son of Kareah and all the
army officers still in the open country
came to Gedaliah at Mizpah[w] [14]and
said to him, "Don't you know that
Baalis king of the Ammonites[x] has sent
Ishmael[y] son of Nethaniah to take your
life?" But Gedaliah son of Ahikam did
not believe them.
[15]Then Johanan[z] son of Kareah said
privately to Gedaliah in Mizpah, "Let
me go and kill[a] Ishmael son of Netha-
niah, and no one will know it. Why

40:5 [illegible]
40:6 [illegible]
40:7 [illegible]
40:8 [illegible]
40:9 [illegible]
40:10 [illegible]
40:11 [illegible]; 25:1; [illegible]; Jer 12:14
40:12 Jer 43:5
40:13 Jer 42:1; ver 8
40:14 S Ge 19:38; 2Sa 10:1-19; Jer 25:21; 41:10; 49:1; S ver 8
40:15 S ver 8; S 1Sa 26:8; S 1Ki 5:17; Mt 5:21-22
S Ge 11:4; S Lev 26:33; Mt 26:31; Jn 11:52; Jas 1:1; S 2Ki 21:14; S Isa 1:9; Ro 11:5
40:16 Jer 43:2
41:1 S Jer 40:8
41:2 Ps 41:9; 109:5; S Jos 11:10; Jer 40:15; Heb 11:37; S Jer 40:5; 2Sa 3:27; 20:9-10; S Jer 40:8
41:5 S Lev 19:27; Jer 47:5; 48:37; S Ge 37:29; S Lev 10:6; S Mk 14:63; S Lev 19:28; Ge 12:6; 33:18; Jdg 9:1-57; 1Ki 12:1; S Jos 18:1; 1Ki 16:24; S Nu 16:40; S Lk 1:9; 1Ki 3:2; 6:38; 2Ki 25:9
41:6 2Sa 3:16; Ps 5:9; Hos 7:11; Rev 20:10
41:7 S Ge 37:24; 2Ki 10:14
41:8 Isa 45:3
41:9 S 1Ki 15:22; S 2Ch 16:6; S Jdg 6:2; S 2Ch 16:1
41:10 Jer 40:7, 12; Jer 38:23

should he take your life and cause all
the Jews who are gathered around you
to be scattered[b] and the remnant[c] of
Judah to perish?"
[16]But Gedaliah son of Ahikam said to
Johanan[d] son of Kareah, "Don't do
such a thing! What you are saying
about Ishmael is not true."

41 In the seventh month Ishmael[e]
son of Nethaniah, the son of
Elishama, who was of royal blood and
had been one of the king's officers,
came with ten men to Gedaliah son of
Ahikam at Mizpah. While they were
eating together there, [2]Ishmael[f] son of
Nethaniah and the ten men who were
with him got up and struck down
Gedaliah son of Ahikam, the son of
Shaphan, with the sword,[g] killing the
one whom the king of Babylon had ap-
pointed[h] as governor over the land.[i]
[3]Ishmael also killed all the Jews who
were with Gedaliah at Mizpah, as well
as the Babylonian[m] soldiers who were
there.
[4]The day after Gedaliah's assassina-
tion, before anyone knew about it,
[5]eighty men who had shaved off their
beards,[j] torn their clothes[k] and cut[l]
themselves came from Shechem,[m] Shi-
loh[n] and Samaria,[o] bringing grain of-
ferings and incense[p] with them to the
house of the LORD.[q] [6]Ishmael son of
Nethaniah went out from Mizpah to
meet them, weeping[r] as he went.
When he met them, he said, "Come to
Gedaliah son of Ahikam."[s] [7]When
they went into the city, Ishmael son of
Nethaniah and the men who were with
him slaughtered them and threw them
into a cistern.[t] [8]But ten of them said to
Ishmael, "Don't kill us! We have wheat
and barley, oil and honey, hidden in a
field."[u] So he let them alone and did
not kill them with the others. [9]Now the
cistern where he threw all the bodies of
the men he had killed along with Geda-
liah was the one King Asa[v] had made
as part of his defense[w] against Baasha[x]
king of Israel. Ishmael son of Netha-
niah filled it with the dead.
[10]Ishmael made captives of all the
rest of the people[y] who were in Miz-
pah—the king's daughters[z] along with
all the others who were left there, over
whom Nebuzaradan commander of the
imperial guard had appointed Gedaliah
son of Ahikam. Ishmael son of Netha-

k8 *Hebrew* Jezaniah, *a variant of* Jaazaniah l9 *Or* Chaldeans; *also in verse 10* m3 *Or* Chaldean

niah took them captive and set out to
cross over to the Ammonites.[a]
11When Johanan[b] son of Kareah and
all the army officers who were with
him heard about all the crimes Ishmael
son of Nethaniah had committed,
12they took all their men and went to
fight[c] Ishmael son of Nethaniah. They
caught up with him near the great
pool[d] in Gibeon. 13When all the
people[e] Ishmael had with him saw
Johanan son of Kareah and the army
officers who were with him, they were
glad. 14All the people Ishmael had tak-
en captive at Mizpah[f] turned and went
over to Johanan son of Kareah. 15But
Ishmael son of Nethaniah and eight of
his men escaped[g] from Johanan and
fled to the Ammonites.

Flight to Egypt

16Then Johanan son of Kareah and all
the army officers[h] who were with him
led away all the survivors[i] from Miz-
pah whom he had recovered from Ish-
mael son of Nethaniah after he had as-
sassinated Gedaliah son of Ahikam: the
soldiers, women, children and court of-
ficials he had brought from Gibeon.
17And they went on, stopping at
Geruth Kimham[j] near Bethlehem[k] on
their way to Egypt[l] 18to escape the
Babylonians.[a] They were afraid[m] of
them because Ishmael son of Netha-
niah had killed Gedaliah[n] son of Ahi-
kam, whom the king of Babylon had
appointed as governor over the land.

42 Then all the army officers, in-
cluding Johanan[o] son of Kareah
and Jezaniah[b] son of Hoshaiah,[p] and
all the people from the least to the
greatest[q] approached 2Jeremiah the
prophet and said to him, "Please hear
our petition and pray[r] to the LORD your
God for this entire remnant.[s] For as
you now see, though we were once
many, now only a few[t] are left. 3Pray
that the LORD your God will tell us
where we should go and what we
should do."[u]
4"I have heard you," replied Jere-
miah the prophet. "I will certainly
pray[v] to the LORD your God as you
have requested; I will tell[w] you every-
thing the LORD says and will keep noth-
ing back from you."[x]
5Then they said to Jeremiah, "May
the LORD be a true[y] and faithful[z] wit-
ness[a] against us if we do not act in
accordance with everything the LORD
your God sends you to tell us.
6Whether it is favorable or unfavorable,
we will obey the LORD our God, to
whom we are sending you, so that it
will go well[b] with us, for we will obey[c]
the LORD our God."
7Ten days later the word of the LORD
came to Jeremiah. 8So he called to-
gether Johanan son of Kareah and all
the army officers[d] who were with him
and all the people from the least to the
greatest.[e] 9He said to them, "This is
what the LORD, the God of Israel, to
whom you sent me to present your pe-
tition,[f] says:[g] 10'If you stay in this
land,[h] I will build[i] you up and not tear
you down; I will plant[j] you and not
uproot you,[k] for I am grieved over the
disaster I have inflicted on you.[l] 11Do
not be afraid of the king of Babylon,[m]
whom you now fear.[n] Do not be afraid
of him, declares the LORD, for I am with
you and will save[o] you and deliver you
from his hands.[p] 12I will show you
compassion[q] so that he will have com-
passion on you and restore you to your
land.'[r]
13"However, if you say, 'We will not
stay in this land,' and so disobey[s] the
LORD your God, 14and if you say, 'No,
we will go and live in Egypt,[t] where
we will not see war or hear the trum-
pet[u] or be hungry for bread,'[v] 15then
hear the word of the LORD,[w] O remnant
of Judah. This is what the LORD Al-
mighty, the God of Israel, says: 'If you
are determined to go to Egypt and you
do go to settle there, 16then the sword[x]
you fear[y] will overtake you there, and
the famine[z] you dread will follow you
into Egypt, and there you will die.[a]
17Indeed, all who are determined to go
to Egypt to settle there will die by the
sword, famine and plague;[b] not one of
them will survive or escape the disaster
I will bring on them.' 18This is what the
LORD Almighty, the God of Israel, says:
'As my anger and wrath[c] have been
poured out on those who lived in
Jerusalem,[d] so will my wrath be
poured out on you when you go to
Egypt. You will be an object of curs-
ing[e] and horror,[f] of condemnation
and reproach;[g] you will never see this
place again.'[h]
19"O remnant[i] of Judah, the LORD

41:10 [a]S Jer 40:14 **41:11** [b]S Jer 40:8 **41:12** [c]S Ex 14:14; Jn 18:36 [d]S Jos 9:3; Jn 9:7 **41:13** [e]ver 10 **41:14** [f]Jer 40:6 **41:15** [g]Job 21:30; S Pr 28:17 **41:16** [h]Jer 42:1; 43:2 [i]Isa 1:9; Jer 43:4; Eze 7:16; 14:22; Zep 2:9 **41:17** [j]2Sa 19:37 [k]Ge 35:19; Mic 5:2 [l]Jer 42:14 **41:18** [m]S Nu 14:9; Isa 51:12; Jer 42:16; Lk 12:4-5 [n]S 2Ki 25:22 **42:1** [o]S Jer 40:13 [p]S Jer 41:16 [q]Jer 6:13; 44:12 **42:2** [r]S Ge 20:7; S Jer 36:7; Ac 8:24; Jas 5:16 [s]S Isa 1:9 [t]S Lev 26:22; La 1:1 **42:3** [u]ver 20; Ps 86:11; S Pr 3:6; S Jer 15:11 **42:4** [v]Ex 8:29; 1Sa 12:23 [w]S Jer 1:17 [x]S Nu 22:18; S 1Sa 3:17 **42:5** [y]1Ki 22:16; Ps 119:160; Ro 3:4 [z]S Dt 7:9; Jn 8:26; S 1Co 1:9 [a]S Ge 31:48; S Dt 4:26; S Isa 1:2; S Ro 1:9; Rev 1:5 **42:6** [b]Dt 5:29; 6:3; Jer 7:23; 22:15 [c]S ver 19; S Ex 24:7; S Jos 24:24 **42:8** [d]ver 1 [e]Jer 41:16; S Mk 9:35; Lk 7:28; Heb 8:11 **42:9** [f]ver 2 [g]2Ki 22:15 **42:10** [h]Jer 43:4 [i]S Jer 24:6 [j]S Dt 30:9 [k]S Dt 29:28; Ecc 3:2; Jer 45:4; Eze 36:36; Da 11:4 [l]S 2Ch 34:24; Isa 30:26; S Jer 18:8 **42:11** [m]Jer 27:11 [n]S Nu 14:9; S 1Sa 15:24; Ps 23:4; Mt 10:28; 2Ti 1:7 [o]Ps 18:27; 69:35; S 119:94; S Isa 63:1; Heb 7:25 [p]S Ps 3:7; S Pr 20:22; S Jer 1:8; Ro 8:31 **42:12** [q]S Ex 3:21; S 2Sa 24:14; 2Co 1:3 [r]S Ge 31:3; S Ne 1:9; Ps 106:44-46 **42:13** [s]S Dt 11:28 **42:14** [t]Nu 11:4-5; S Dt 17:16; S Isa [illegible] [u]S Jos 6:20; S Mt 24:31 [v]S Dt 8:3; 1Sa 2:5; Pr [illegible]; Isa [illegible]; Mt 4:2-4 **42:15** [w]Jer 44:24 **42:16** [x]S Lev 26:[illegible]; Eze [illegible]; 14:17 [y]S Jer 41:18 [z]S Ge 41:55 [a]S Ge 2:17; 2Ch 35:4; S Job 21:20; Eze 3:19; 18:4 **42:17** [b]ver 22; S Jer [illegible] **42:18** [c]Dt 29:18-20; S 2Ch 12:7 [d]S 2Ch 36:19; Jer 39:1-9 [e]S Nu 5:27; S Jer 25:18 [f]S Dt 28:25, 37 [g]S Ps 44:13 [h]S Jer 22:10 **42:19** [i]Jer 40:15

[a]18 Or *Chaldeans* [b]1 Hebrew; Septuagint (see also 43:2) *Azariah*

has told you, 'Do not go to Egypt.'[a] Be
sure of this: I warn you today 20that
you made a fatal mistake[p] when you
sent me to the LORD your God and said,
'Pray to the LORD our God for us; tell us
everything he says and we will do it.'[b]
21I have told you today, but you still
have not obeyed the LORD your God in
all he sent me to tell you.[c] 22So now, be
sure of this: You will die by the sword,
famine[d] and plague[e] in the place
where you want to go to settle."[f]

43 When Jeremiah finished telling
the people all the words of the
LORD their God—everything the LORD
had sent him to tell them[g]— 2Azariah
son of Hoshaiah[h] and Johanan[i] son of
Kareah and all the arrogant[j] men said
to Jeremiah, "You are lying![k] The LORD
our God has not sent you to say, 'You
must not go to Egypt to settle there.'[l]
3But Baruch[m] son of Neriah is inciting
you against us to hand us over to the
Babylonians,[q] so they may kill us or
carry us into exile to Babylon."[n]

4So Johanan son of Kareah and all
the army officers and all the people[o]
disobeyed the LORD's command[p] to
stay in the land of Judah.[q] 5Instead,
Johanan son of Kareah and all the army
officers led away all the remnant of
Judah who had come back to live in the
land of Judah from all the nations
where they had been scattered.[r] 6They
also led away all the men, women[s]
and children and the king's daughters
whom Nebuzaradan commander of the
imperial guard had left with Gedaliah
son of Ahikam, the son of Shaphan,
and Jeremiah the prophet and Baruch[t]
son of Neriah. 7So they entered Egypt[u]
in disobedience to the LORD and went
as far as Tahpanhes.[v]

8In Tahpanhes[w] the word of the LORD
came to Jeremiah: 9"While the Jews are
watching, take some large stones[x] with
you and bury them in clay in the brick[y]
pavement at the entrance to Pharaoh's
palace[z] in Tahpanhes. 10Then say to
them, 'This is what the LORD Almighty,
the God of Israel, says: I will send for
my servant[a] Nebuchadnezzar[b] king of
Babylon, and I will set his throne[c] over
these stones I have buried here; he will
spread his royal canopy[d] above them.
11He will come and attack Egypt,[e]
bringing death[f] to those destined[g] for
death, captivity to those destined for
captivity,[h] and the sword to those des-
tined for the sword.[i] 12He[r] will set
fire[j] to the temples[k] of the gods[l] of
Egypt; he will burn their temples and
take their gods captive.[m] As a shepherd
wraps[n] his garment around him, so
will he wrap Egypt around himself and
depart from there unscathed. 13There
in the temple of the sun[s][o] in Egypt he
will demolish the sacred pillars[p] and
will burn down the temples of the gods
of Egypt.' "

Disaster Because of Idolatry

44 This word came to Jeremiah con-
cerning all the Jews living in
Lower Egypt[q]—in Migdol,[r] Tahpan-
hes[s] and Memphis[t][t]—and in Upper
Egypt[u]:[u] 2"This is what the LORD Al-
mighty, the God of Israel, says: You
saw the great disaster[v] I brought on
Jerusalem and on all the towns of
Judah.[w] Today they lie deserted and in
ruins[x] 3because of the evil[y] they have
done. They provoked me to anger[z] by
burning incense[a] and by worshiping
other gods[b] that neither they nor you
nor your fathers[c] ever knew. 4Again
and again[d] I sent my servants the
prophets,[e] who said, 'Do not do this
detestable[f] thing that I hate!' 5But they
did not listen or pay attention;[g][h] they
did not turn from their wickedness[i] or
stop burning incense[j] to other gods.[k]
6Therefore, my fierce anger was poured
out;[l] it raged against the towns of
Judah and the streets of Jerusalem and
made them the desolate ruins[m] they are
today.

7"Now this is what the LORD God Al-
mighty, the God of Israel, says: Why
bring such great disaster[n] on your-
selves by cutting off from Judah the
men and women,[o] the children and in-
fants, and so leave yourselves without
a remnant?[p] 8Why provoke me to an-
ger with what your hands have made,[q]
burning incense[r] to other gods in
Egypt,[s] where you have come to live?[t]
You will destroy yourselves and make
yourselves an object of cursing and re-
proach[u] among all the nations on
earth. 9Have you forgotten the wicked-
ness committed by your fathers[v] and
by the kings[w] and queens[x] of Judah

42:19 [a]S ver 6; Dt 17:16; Isa 30:7; Jer 43:2; 44:16 **42:20** [b]ver 2; Eze 14:7-8 **42:21** [c]S Ex 24:7; Jer 40:3; Eze 2:7; 12:2; Zec 7:11-12 **42:22** [d]S Isa 1:28 [e]S ver 17; Jer 24:10; Eze 6:11 [f]S Jer 15:2; Hos 9:6 **43:1** [g]Jer 26:8; 42:9-22 **43:2** [h]S Jer 41:16 [i]Jer 40:16 [j]S Ne 9:29; 1Co 4:18-21 [k]S Ge 19:14; S Dt 13:3; Ro 9:1; 2Co 11:31; 1Ti 2:7 [l]S Ex 24:7; 2Ki 25:24; Jer 18:19; S 42:19; Eze 37:14 **43:3** [m]S Jer 32:12 [n]Jer 38:4; 41:18; 52:30 **43:4** [o]S Jer 41:16 [p]2Ch 25:16; Jer 42:5-6 [q]Jer 42:10 **43:5** [r]Jer 40:12 **43:6** [s]S Jer 6:12 [t]S Jer 32:12 **43:7** [u]S 2Ki 25:26 [v]Jer 2:16; 44:1; 46:14; Eze 30:18 **43:8** [w]Ps 139:7; Jer 2:16 **43:9** [x]Ge 31:45-53; Jos 4:1-7; 1Ki 18:31-32 [y]S Ge 11:3 [z]S Ge 47:14 **43:10** [a]Isa 44:28; 45:1; Jer 25:9; 27:6 [b]Jer 46:13 [c]Jer 49:38 [d]S Ps 18:11 **43:11** [e]Jer 46:13-26; Eze 29:19-20 [f]S Pr 11:19; Ro 6:23 [g]S Ps 49:14; Heb 9:27 [h]S Dt 28:64; Rev 13:10 [i]S Jer 15:2; Eze 32:11; Zec 11:9 **43:12** [j]S Jos 7:15 [k]S 1Ki 16:32 [l]ver 13; S Ex 12:12; S Isa 2:18; Jer 46:25; Eze 30:13; Zec 13:2

[m]Da 11:8 [n]S Ps 104:2; 109:18-19 **43:13** [o]S Ge 1:16; Isa 19:18 *fn*; S Dt 4:19 [p]Jer 52:17; Eze 26:11 **44:1** [q]S Dt 32:42; S Jer 24:8 [r]S Ex 14:2 [s]S Jer 43:7,8

[t]S Isa 19:13 [u]S Isa 11:11 **44:2** [v]S 2Ch 34:24 [w]S Jer 40:5 [x]S Lev 26:31; S Dt 29:23; S Isa 6:11 **44:3** [y]S Ex 32:22 [z]S Nu 11:33 [a]S Nu 16:40 [b]ver 8; S Nu 25:3; Dt 13:6-11; 29:26; Isa 19:1 [c]S Jdg 2:19 **44:4** [d]S Jer 7:13 [e]S Nu 11:29 [f]S Dt 18:9; S 1Ki 14:24; 1Pe 4:3 **44:5** [g]Da 9:6 [h]S Jer 25:4 [i]S Ge 6:5; Ro 1:18; 2Ti 2:19 [j]ver 21; Jer 1:16; Eze 8:11; 16:18; 23:41 [k]Jer 11:8-10; S 25:7 **44:6** [l]Eze 8:18; 20:34 [m]S Lev 26:31, 34; S Dt 29:23; La 1:13; Zec 7:14 **44:7** [n]Jer 26:19 [o]Jer 51:22 [p]S 2Ki 21:14 **44:8** [q]S Isa 40:18-20; S Jer 10:3; Ro 1:23 [r]ver 17-25; Jer 41:5 [s]S ver 3; S Ex 12:12 [t]S 1Co 10:22 [u]S Ps 44:13 **44:9** [v]S Jdg 2:19 [w]S 2Ki 23:11 [x]1Ki 21:25

[p]20 Or *you erred in your hearts* [q]3 Or *Chaldeans* [r]12 Or *I* [s]13 Or *in Heliopolis* [t]1 Hebrew *Noph* [u]1 Hebrew *in Pathros*

and the wickedness committed by you
and your wives[a] in the land of Judah
and the streets of Jerusalem?[b] 10To this
day they have not humbled[c] them-
selves or shown reverence,[d] nor have
they followed my law[e] and the de-
crees[f] I set before you and your fa-
thers.[g]
11"Therefore, this is what the LORD
Almighty,[h] the God of Israel, says: I
am determined to bring disaster[i] on
you and to destroy all Judah. 12I will
take away the remnant[j] of Judah who
were determined to go to Egypt to set-
tle there. They will all perish in Egypt;
they will fall by the sword or die from
famine. From the least to the greatest,[k]
they will die by sword or famine.[l]
They will become an object of cursing
and horror, of condemnation and re-
proach.[m] 13I will punish[n] those who
live in Egypt with the sword,[o] famine
and plague,[p] as I punished Jerusalem.
14None of the remnant of Judah who
have gone to live in Egypt will escape
or survive to return to the land of
Judah, to which they long to return
and live; none will return except a few
fugitives."[q]
15Then all the men who knew that
their wives[r] were burning incense[s] to
other gods, along with all the women[t]
who were present—a large assembly—
and all the people living in Lower and
Upper Egypt,[v][u] said to Jeremiah,
16"We will not listen[v] to the message
you have spoken to us in the name of
the LORD![w] 17We will certainly do every-
thing we said we would:[x] We will burn
incense[y] to the Queen of Heaven[z] and
will pour out drink offerings to her just
as we and our fathers, our kings and
our officials[a] did in the towns of Judah
and in the streets of Jerusalem.[b] At
that time we had plenty of food[c] and
were well off and suffered no harm.[d]
18But ever since we stopped burning in-
cense to the Queen of Heaven and
pouring out drink offerings[e] to her, we
have had nothing and have been per-
ishing by sword and famine.[f][g]"
19The women added, "When we
burned incense[h] to the Queen of
Heaven[i] and poured out drink offer-
ings to her, did not our husbands[j]
know that we were making cakes[k] like
her image[l] and pouring out drink of-
ferings to her?"
20Then Jeremiah said to all the
people, both men and women, who
were answering him, 21"Did not the
LORD remember[m] and think about the
incense[n] burned in the towns of Judah
and the streets of Jerusalem[o] by you
and your fathers,[p] your kings and your
officials and the people of the land?[q]
22When the LORD could no longer en-
dure[r] your wicked actions and the de-
testable things you did, your land
became an object of cursing[s] and a
desolate waste[t] without inhabitants,
as it is today.[u] 23Because you have
burned incense and have sinned
against the LORD and have not obeyed
him or followed[v] his law or his de-
crees[w] or his stipulations, this disaster[x]
has come upon you, as you now see."[y]
24Then Jeremiah said to all the
people, including the women,[z] "Hear
the word of the LORD, all you people of
Judah in Egypt.[a] 25This is what the
LORD Almighty, the God of Israel, says:
You and your wives[b] have shown by
your actions what you promised when
you said, 'We will certainly carry out
the vows we made to burn incense and
pour out drink offerings to the Queen
of Heaven.'[c]
"Go ahead then, do what you prom-
ised! Keep your vows![d] 26But hear the
word of the LORD, all Jews living in
Egypt:[e] 'I swear[f] by my great name,'
says the LORD, 'that no one from Judah
living anywhere in Egypt will ever
again invoke my name or swear, "As
surely as the Sovereign[g] LORD lives."[h]
27For I am watching[i] over them for
harm,[j] not for good; the Jews in Egypt
will perish[k] by sword and famine[l] un-
til they are all destroyed.[m] 28Those who
escape the sword[n] and return to the
land of Judah from Egypt will be very
few.[o] Then the whole remnant[p] of
Judah who came to live in Egypt will
know whose word will stand[q]—mine
or theirs.[r]
29" 'This will be the sign[s] to you that
I will punish[t] you in this place,' de-
clares the LORD, 'so that you will know
that my threats of harm against you
will surely stand.'[u] 30This is what the
LORD says: 'I am going to hand Phar-
aoh[v] Hophra king of Egypt over to his
enemies who seek his life, just as I
handed Zedekiah[w] king of Judah over
to Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon,

44:9 [a]S Pr 31:10; S Jer 6:12 [b]ver 17,21; Jer 11:12; 32:32 **44:10** [c]S Dt 8:3; S Mt 23:12; Php 2:8 [d]S Dt 6:13; S Ps 5:7 [e]S Jos 1:7; S Jer 11:8; Mt 5:17-20; Gal 3:19; 1Jn 3:4 [f]S Lev 18:4 [g]1Ki 9:6-9; 2Ki 17:17 **44:11** [h]Rev 4:8 [i]S 2Ch 34:24; Am 9:4 **44:12** [j]ver 7; Jer 40:15 [k]S Jer 42:1 [l]S Isa 1:28 [m]S Dt 28:25; S Jer 29:18 **44:13** [n]S Ex 32:34; Lev 26:14-17 [o]S Jer 15:2 [p]S Jer 42:17 **44:14** [q]Jer 22:24-27; 49:5; La 4:15; Eze 6:8; S Ro 9:27 **44:15** [r]S Pr 31:10; S Jer 6:12 [s]S Jer 18:15 [t]S Ge 3:6; 1Ti 2:14 [u]S Isa 11:11 **44:16** [v]S 1Sa 8:19; Job 15:25-26; Jer 11:8-10 [w]S Jer 42:19 **44:17** [x]ver 28; Dt 23:23; Zec 1:6 [y]S Isa 65:3 [z]ver 25; Jer 11:12 [a]Ne 9:34 [b]S ver 9; S Jer 2:26 [c]S Ex 16:3; Nu 11:4-6 [d]S Job 21:15; Isa 3:9; Hos 2:5-13; 9:1 **44:18** [e]Lev 23:18 [f]Mal 3:13-15 [g]Jer 42:16 **44:19** [h]S Jer 18:15 [i]Jer 7:18 [j]S Ge 3:6; Eph 5:22 [k]Lev 7:12 [l]S Lev 26:1; Ac 17:29 **44:21** [m]Isa 64:9; S Jer 14:10; Hos 8:13 [n]S Jer 11:13 [o]ver 9 [p]S Ps 79:8 [q]S Jer 2:26 **44:22** [r]S Isa 1:14 [s]S Jer 25:18 [t]S Lev 26:31,32 [u]S Ge 19:13; Ps 107:33-34; Eze 33:28-29 **44:23** [v]S 1Ki 9:6 [w]S Lev 18:4 [x]Jer 40:2 [y]S Lev 26:33; S 1Ki 9:9; Jer 7:13-15; Eze 39:23; Da 9:11-12 **44:24** [z]S Ge 3:6 [a]Jer 43:7 **44:25** [b]S Pr 31:10 [c]S ver 17; S Dt 32:38 [d]S Pr 20:25; Eze 20:39; Jas 1:13-15 **44:26** [e]S Jer 24:8 [f]S Ge 22:16; S Isa 48:1; Ac 19:13; Heb 6:13-17 [g]S Ge 15:2 [h]Dt 32:40; Ps 50:16; S Jer 4:2 **44:27** [i]S Jer 1:12 [j]S Jer 21:10 [k]S Lev 26:38; S Job 15:22; 2Pe 3:9 [l]S Ge 41:55 [m]S Jer 9:16; Da 9:14; Am 9:8 **44:28** [n]Jer 45:5; Eze 6:8 [o]ver 13-14; S Isa 10:19 [p]S 2Ki 21:14 [q]S Isa 7:9; S Jer 39:16; 42:15-18 [r]S ver 17,25-26 **44:29** [s]S Ge 24:14; S Ex 3:12; S Nu 16:38; S Mt 12:38; 24:3 [t]S Ex 32:34 [u]S Pr 19:21 **44:30** [v]S Jer 25:19; 46:26; Eze 30:21; 32:32 [w]2Ki 25:1-7; S Jer 24:8

[v]15 Hebrew *in Egypt and Pathros*

the enemy who was seeking his
life.' "[a]

A Message to Baruch

45 This is what Jeremiah the
prophet told Baruch[b] son of Ne-
riah[c] in the fourth year of Jehoiakim[d]
son of Josiah king of Judah, after Bar-
uch had written on a scroll[e] the words
Jeremiah was then dictating: 2"This is
what the LORD, the God of Israel, says
to you, Baruch: 3You said, 'Woe[f] to
me! The LORD has added sorrow[g] to my
pain;[h] I am worn out with groaning[i]
and find no rest.' "[j]

4⌞The LORD said,⌟ "Say this to him:
'This is what the LORD says: I will over-
throw what I have built and uproot[k]
what I have planted,[l] throughout the
land.[m] 5Should you then seek great[n]
things for yourself? Seek them not.[o]
For I will bring disaster[p] on all
people,[q] declares the LORD, but
wherever you go I will let you escape[r]
with your life.' "[s]

A Message About Egypt

46 This is the word of the LORD that
came to Jeremiah the prophet
concerning the nations:[t]

2Concerning Egypt:[u]

This is the message against the army
of Pharaoh Neco[v] king of Egypt, which
was defeated at Carchemish[w] on the
Euphrates[x] River by Nebuchadnezzar
king of Babylon in the fourth year of
Jehoiakim[y] son of Josiah king of Judah:

3"Prepare your shields,[z] both large
and small,
and march out for battle!
4Harness the horses,
mount the steeds!
Take your positions
with helmets on!
Polish[a] your spears,
put on your armor![b]
5What do I see?
They are terrified,
they are retreating,
their warriors are defeated.
They flee[c] in haste
without looking back,
and there is terror[d] on every
side,"
declares the LORD.
6"The swift cannot flee[e]
nor the strong escape.
In the north by the River Euphrates[f]
they stumble and fall.[g]

7"Who is this that rises like the Nile,
like rivers of surging waters?[h]
8Egypt rises like the Nile,[i]
like rivers of surging waters.
She says, 'I will rise and cover the
earth;
I will destroy cities and their
people.'[j]
9Charge, O horses!
Drive furiously, O charioteers![k]
March on, O warriors—
men of Cush[w][l] and Put who carry
shields,
men of Lydia[m] who draw the bow.
10But that day[n] belongs to the Lord,
the LORD Almighty—
a day of vengeance[o], for
vengeance on his foes.
The sword will devour[p] till it is
satisfied,
till it has quenched its thirst with
blood.[q]
For the Lord, the LORD Almighty,
will offer sacrifice[r]
in the land of the north by the
River Euphrates.[s]

11"Go up to Gilead and get balm,[t]
O Virgin[u] Daughter of Egypt.
But you multiply remedies in vain;
there is no healing[v] for you.
12The nations will hear of your shame;
your cries will fill the earth.
One warrior will stumble over
another;
both will fall[w] down together."

13This is the message the LORD spoke
to Jeremiah the prophet about the com-
ing of Nebuchadnezzar king of Bab-
ylon[x] to attack Egypt:[y]

14"Announce this in Egypt, and
proclaim it in Migdol;
proclaim it also in Memphis[x][z] and
Tahpanhes:[a]
'Take your positions and get ready,
for the sword devours[b] those
around you.'
15Why will your warriors be laid low?
They cannot stand, for the LORD
will push them down.[c]
16They will stumble[d] repeatedly;
they will fall[e] over each other.
They will say, 'Get up, let us go back
to our own people[f] and our native
lands,
away from the sword of the
oppressor.'[g]
17There they will exclaim,

44:30 [a]Jer 43:9-13
45:1 [b]S Jer 32:12 [c]Jer 51:59 [d]S 2Ch 36:5 [e]S Ex 17:14; S Ps 40:7
45:3 [f]S Isa 24:16; 1Co 9:16 [g]S Ps 119:28; Mk 14:34; Ro 9:2 [h]S Job 6:10 [i]S Job 23:2; Ps 69:3 [j]S Jos 1:13; Mt 11:28; Heb 4:3
45:4 [k]S Jer 42:10 [l]S Jer 11:17 [m]S Dt 28:63; S 30:9; Isa 5:5-7; Jer 18:7-10
45:5 [n]Ps 131:1 [o]Mt 6:25-27,33 [p]Jer 11:11; 40:2 [q]S Jer 2:35 [r]S Ps 68:20; S Jer 44:28 [s]S Jer 21:9
46:1 [t]S Jer 1:10
46:2 [u]S Ex 1:8 [v]S 2Ki 23:29 [w]S 2Ch 35:20 [x]S Ge 2:14 [y]Jer 1:3; 25:1; 35:1; 36:1; 45:1; Da 1:1
46:3 [z]S Isa 21:5
46:4 [a]Eze 21:9-11 [b]1Sa 17:5,38; 2Ch 26:14; Ne 4:16
46:5 [c]ver 21; Jer 48:44 [d]S Ps 31:13; S 48:5
46:6 [e]Isa 30:16 [f]Ge 2:14; 15:18 [g]ver 12,16; S Ps 20:8
46:7 [h]Jer 47:2
46:8 [i]Eze 29:3, 9; 30:12; Am 8:8 [j]Da 11:10
46:9 [k]Jer 47:3; Eze 26:10; Na 3:2 [l]S Ge 10:6 [m]S Isa 66:19
46:10 [n]Eze 32:10; Joel 1:15; Ob 1:15 [o]S Nu 31:3; S Dt 32:41; 2Ki 23:29-30 [p]S Dt 32:42; S 2Sa 2:26; Zep 2:12 [q]S Dt 32:42 [r]S Lev 3:9; Zep 1:7 [s]Ge 2:14; 15:18
46:11 [t]S Ge 37:25 [u]S 2Ki 19:21 [v]S Jer 30:13; S Mic 1:9
46:12 [w]S ver 6; Isa 19:4; Na 3:8-10
46:13 [x]ver 26; Eze 32:11 [y]Isa 19:1; Jer 27:7
46:14 [z]S Isa 19:13 [a]S Jer 43:8 [b]S Dt 32:42; S 2Sa 2:26; S Jer 24:8
46:15 [c]S Jos 23:5; Isa 66:15-16
46:16 [d]S Lev 26:37 [e]S ver 6 [f]S Isa 13:14 [g]S Jer 25:38

w9 That is, the upper Nile region x14 Hebrew *Noph;* also in verse 19

'Pharaoh king of Egypt is only a
loud noise;[a]
he has missed his opportunity.[b]'
[18]"As surely as I live," declares the
King,[c]
whose name is the LORD Almighty,
"one will come who is like Tabor[d]
among the mountains,
like Carmel[e] by the sea.
[19]Pack your belongings for exile,[f]
you who live in Egypt,
for Memphis[g] will be laid waste[h]
and lie in ruins without inhabitant.

[20]"Egypt is a beautiful heifer,
but a gadfly is coming
against her from the north.[i]
[21]The mercenaries[j] in her ranks
are like fattened calves.[k]
They too will turn and flee[l]
together,
they will not stand their ground,
for the day[m] of disaster is coming
upon them,
the time[n] for them to be punished.
[22]Egypt will hiss like a fleeing serpent
as the enemy advances in force;
they will come against her with axes,
like men who cut down trees.[o]
[23]They will chop down her forest,"
declares the LORD,
"dense though it be.
They are more numerous than
locusts,[p]
they cannot be counted.
[24]The Daughter of Egypt will be put to
shame,
handed over to the people of the
north.[q]"

[25]The LORD Almighty, the God of Is-
rael, says: "I am about to bring punish-
ment on Amon god of Thebes,[y][r] on
Pharaoh,[s] on Egypt and her gods[t] and
her kings, and on those who rely[u] on
Pharaoh. [26]I will hand them over[v] to
those who seek their lives, to Nebu-
chadnezzar king[w] of Babylon and his
officers. Later, however, Egypt will be
inhabited[x] as in times past," declares
the LORD.

[27]"Do not fear,[y] O Jacob[z] my
servant;[a]
do not be dismayed, O Israel.
I will surely save you out of a distant
place,
your descendants from the land of
their exile.[b]
Jacob will again have peace and
security,
and no one will make him afraid.
[28]Do not fear, O Jacob my servant,
for I am with you,"[c] declares the
LORD.
"Though I completely destroy[d] all
the nations
among which I scatter you,
I will not completely destroy you.
I will discipline you but only with
justice;
I will not let you go entirely
unpunished."

A Message About the Philistines

47 This is the word of the LORD that
came to Jeremiah the prophet
concerning the Philistines[e] before
Pharaoh attacked Gaza:[f]

[2]This is what the LORD says:

"See how the waters are rising in the
north;[g]
they will become an overflowing
torrent.
They will overflow the land and
everything in it,
the towns and those who live in
them.
The people will cry out;
all who dwell in the land will
wail[h]
[3]at the sound of the hoofs of
galloping steeds,
at the noise of enemy chariots[i]
and the rumble of their wheels.
Fathers will not turn to help their
children;
their hands will hang limp.[j]
[4]For the day has come
to destroy all the Philistines
and to cut off all survivors
who could help Tyre[k] and Sidon.[l]
The LORD is about to destroy the
Philistines,[m]
the remnant from the coasts of
Caphtor.[z][n]
[5]Gaza will shave[o] her head in
mourning;
Ashkelon[p] will be silenced.
O remnant on the plain,
how long will you cut[q]
yourselves?

[6]" 'Ah, sword[r] of the LORD,' you cry,
'how long till you rest?
Return to your scabbard;
cease and be still.'[s]
[7]But how can it rest
when the LORD has commanded it,
when he has ordered it
to attack Ashkelon and the
coast?"[t]

46:17 [a]1Ki 20:10-11 [b]Isa 19:11-16 **46:18** [c]Jer 48:15 [d]S Jos 19:22 [e]1Ki 18:42 **46:19** [f]S Isa 20:4 [g]S Isa 19:13 [h]Eze 29:10,12; 30:7 **46:20** [i]ver 24; S Isa 14:31; Jer 47:2 **46:21** [j]S 2Ki 7:6 [k]Lk 15:27 [l]S ver 5; S Job 20:24 [m]Ps 18:18; 37:13; Jer 18:17 [n]S Job 18:20 **46:22** [o]Ps 74:5 **46:23** [p]S Dt 28:42; S Jdg 7:12 **46:24** [q]S 2Ki 24:7 **46:25** [r]Eze 30:14; Na 3:8 [s]2Ki 24:7; Eze 30:22 [t]S Jer 43:12 [u]Isa 20:6 **46:26** [v]S Jer 44:30 [w]S ver 13; S Isa 19:4 [x]Eze 29:11-16 **46:27** [y]Isa 43:5; Jer 51:46 [z]Isa 41:8; 44:1; Mal 1:2 [a]S Isa 44:2 [b]S Isa 11:11; S Jer 29:14; 50:19 **46:28** [c]S Ex 14:22; S Nu 14:9; Isa 8:9-10 [d]S Jer 4:27 **47:1** [e]S Ge 10:14; S Jdg 3:31 [f]S Ge 10:19; Zec 9:5-7 **47:2** [g]S Isa 14:31 [h]S Isa 15:3 **47:3** [i]S Jer 46:9; S Eze 23:24 [j]Isa 13:7; Jer 50:43; Eze 7:17; 21:7 **47:4** [k]S Isa 23:1; Am 1:9-10; Zec 9:2-4 [l]S Ge 10:15; S Jer 25:22 [m]S Ge 10:14; Joel 3:4 [n]S Dt 2:23 **47:5** [o]S Jer 41:5 [p]S Jer 25:20 [q]S Lev 19:28 **47:6** [r]S Isa 34:5; Jer 12:12; 48:10; 50:35 [s]Eze 21:30 **47:7** [t]Eze 25:15-17

y25 Hebrew *No*   z4 That is, Crete

A Message About Moab

48:29-36pp — Isa 16:6-12

48 Concerning Moab:[a]

This is what the LORD Almighty, the God of Israel, says:

"Woe to Nebo,[b] for it will be
ruined.
Kiriathaim[c] will be disgraced and
captured;
the stronghold[a] will be disgraced
and shattered.
2Moab will be praised[d] no more;
in Heshbon[b][e] men will plot her
downfall:
'Come, let us put an end to that
nation.'[f]
You too, O Madmen,[c] will be
silenced;
the sword will pursue you.
3Listen to the cries from Horonaim,[g]
cries of great havoc and
destruction.
4Moab will be broken;
her little ones will cry out.[d]
5They go up the way to Luhith,[h]
weeping bitterly as they go;
on the road down to Horonaim[i]
anguished cries over the
destruction are heard.
6Flee![j] Run for your lives;
become like a bush[e] in the
desert.[k]
7Since you trust in your deeds and
riches,[l]
you too will be taken captive,
and Chemosh[m] will go into exile,[n]
together with his priests and
officials.[o]
8The destroyer[p] will come against
every town,
and not a town will escape.
The valley will be ruined
and the plateau[q] destroyed,
because the LORD has spoken.
9Put salt[r] on Moab,
for she will be laid waste[f];[s]
her towns will become desolate,
with no one to live in them.

10"A curse on him who is lax in doing
the LORD's work!
A curse on him who keeps his
sword[t] from bloodshed![u]

11"Moab has been at rest[v] from youth,
like wine left on its dregs,[w]
not poured from one jar to another—
she has not gone into exile.
So she tastes as she did,
and her aroma is unchanged.
12But days are coming,"
declares the LORD,
"when I will send men who pour
from jars,
and they will pour her out;
they will empty her jars
and smash her jugs.
13Then Moab will be ashamed[x] of
Chemosh,[y]
as the house of Israel was
ashamed
when they trusted in Bethel.[z]

14"How can you say, 'We are
warriors,[a]
men valiant in battle'?
15Moab will be destroyed and her
towns invaded;
her finest young men[b] will go
down in the slaughter,[c]"
declares the King,[d] whose name is
the LORD Almighty.[e]
16"The fall of Moab is at hand;[f]
her calamity will come quickly.
17Mourn for her, all who live around
her,
all who know her fame;[g]
say, 'How broken is the mighty
scepter,[h]
how broken the glorious staff!'

18"Come down from your glory[i]
and sit on the parched ground,[j]
O inhabitants of the Daughter of
Dibon,[k]
for he who destroys Moab
will come up against you
and ruin your fortified cities.[l]
19Stand by the road and watch,
you who live in Aroer.[l]
Ask the man fleeing and the woman
escaping,
ask them, 'What has happened?'
20Moab is disgraced, for she is
shattered.
Wail[m] and cry out!
Announce by the Arnon[n]
that Moab is destroyed.
21Judgment has come to the
plateau[o]—
to Holon,[p] Jahzah[q] and
Mephaath,[r]
22 to Dibon,[s] Nebo[t] and Beth
Diblathaim,
23 to Kiriathaim,[u] Beth Gamul and
Beth Meon,[v]
24 to Kerioth[w] and Bozrah[x]—
to all the towns[y] of Moab, far and
near.
25Moab's horn[g][z] is cut off;

48:1 aS Ge 19:37; S Dt 23:6 bS Nu 32:38 cS Nu 32:37; S Jos 13:19 48:2 dIsa 16:14 eS Nu 21:25; S Jos 13:26 fver 42 48:3 gS Isa 15:5 48:5 hIsa 15:5 iver 3 48:6 jS Ge 19:17 kJer 17:6 48:7 lS Ps 49:6; S Pr 11:28 mS Nu 21:29 nIsa 46:1-2; Jer 49:3 oAm 2:3 48:8 pS Ex 12:23; S Jer 6:7 qS Jos 13:9 48:9 rJdg 9:45 sJer 51:29 48:10 tS Jer 47:6 uS 1Sa 15:3; 1Ki 20:42; 2Ki 13:15-19 48:11 vZec 1:15 wZep 1:12 48:13 xHos 10:6 yver 7 zS Jos 7:2 48:14 aPs 33:16 48:15 bS Isa 9:17 cJer 51:40 dS Jer 46:18 eJer 51:57 48:16 fIsa 13:22 48:17 g2Ki 3:4-5 hS Ps 110:2 48:18 iIsa 47:1 jS Nu 21:30; S Jos 13:9 kver 8 48:19 lS Nu 32:34 48:20 mS Isa 16:7 nS Nu 21:13 48:21 oS Jos 13:9,21 pS Jos 15:51 qS Nu 21:23; S Isa 15:4 rS Jos 13:18 48:22 sS Nu 21:30; S Jos 13:9,17 tS Nu 32:38 48:23 uS Nu 32:37; S Jos 13:19 vS Jos 13:17 48:24 wAm 2:2 xJer 49:13 yS Isa 15:1 48:25 zPs 75:10

a1 Or / Misgab b2 The Hebrew for Heshbon sounds like the Hebrew for plot. c2 The name of the Moabite town Madmen sounds like the Hebrew for be silenced. d4 Hebrew; Septuagint / proclaim it to Zoar e6 Or like Aroer f9 Or Give wings to Moab, / for she will fly away g25 Horn here symbolizes strength.

her arm[a] is broken,"
declares the LORD.

26 "Make her drunk,[b]
for she has defied[c] the LORD.
Let Moab wallow in her vomit;[d]
let her be an object of ridicule.[e]
27 Was not Israel the object of your
ridicule?[f]
Was she caught among thieves,[g]
that you shake your head[h] in scorn[i]
whenever you speak of her?
28 Abandon your towns and dwell
among the rocks,
you who live in Moab.
Be like a dove[j] that makes its nest
at the mouth of a cave.[k]

29 "We have heard of Moab's pride[l] —
her overweening pride and
conceit,
her pride and arrogance
and the haughtiness[m] of her heart.
30 I know her insolence but it is futile,"
declares the LORD,
"and her boasts[n] accomplish
nothing.
31 Therefore I wail[o] over Moab,
for all Moab I cry out,
I moan for the men of Kir
Hareseth.[p]
32 I weep for you, as Jazer[q] weeps,
O vines of Sibmah.[r]
Your branches spread as far as the
sea;
they reached as far as the sea of
Jazer.
The destroyer has fallen
on your ripened fruit and grapes.
33 Joy and gladness are gone
from the orchards and fields of
Moab.
I have stopped the flow of wine[s]
from the presses;
no one treads them with shouts of
joy.[t]
Although there are shouts,
they are not shouts of joy.

34 "The sound of their cry rises
from Heshbon[u] to Elealeh[v] and
Jahaz,[w]
from Zoar[x] as far as Horonaim[y] and
Eglath Shelishiyah,
for even the waters of Nimrim are
dried up.[z]
35 In Moab I will put an end
to those who make offerings on
the high places[a]
and burn incense[b] to their gods,"
declares the LORD.
36 "So my heart laments[c] for Moab like
a flute;
it laments like a flute for the men
of Kir Hareseth.[d]
The wealth they acquired[e] is
gone.
37 Every head is shaved[f]
and every beard[g] cut off;
every hand is slashed
and every waist is covered with
sackcloth.[h]
38 On all the roofs in Moab
and in the public squares[i]
there is nothing but mourning,
for I have broken Moab
like a jar[j] that no one wants,"
declares the LORD.
39 "How shattered[k] she is! How they
wail!
How Moab turns her back in
shame!
Moab has become an object of
ridicule,[l]
an object of horror to all those
around her."

40 This is what the LORD says:

"Look! An eagle is swooping[m]
down,
spreading its wings[n] over Moab.
41 Kerioth[h][o] will be captured
and the strongholds taken.
In that day the hearts of Moab's
warriors[p]
will be like the heart of a woman
in labor.[q]
42 Moab will be destroyed[r] as a
nation[s]
because she defied[t] the LORD.
43 Terror[u] and pit and snare[v] await
you,
O people of Moab,"
declares the LORD.
44 "Whoever flees[w] from the terror
will fall into a pit,
whoever climbs out of the pit
will be caught in a snare;
for I will bring upon Moab
the year[x] of her punishment,"
declares the LORD.

45 "In the shadow of Heshbon
the fugitives stand helpless,
for a fire has gone out from
Heshbon,
a blaze from the midst of Sihon;[y]
it burns the foreheads of Moab,
the skulls[z] of the noisy boasters.
46 Woe to you, O Moab![a]
The people of Chemosh are
destroyed;
your sons are taken into exile
and your daughters into captivity.

48:25 [a]Ps 10:15; 37:17; Eze 30:21 **48:26** [b]Jer 25:16,27; 51:39 [c]ver 42; 1Sa 17:26 [d]S Isa 28:8 [e]ver 39 **48:27** [f]S Jer 2:26 [g]2Ki 17:3-6 [h]S Job 16:4; Ps 44:14; Jer 18:16 [i]S Dt 28:37; Mic 7:8-10; Zep 2:8,10 **48:28** [j]S Ge 8:8; S SS 1:15 [k]S Jdg 6:2 **48:29** [l]S Lev 26:19; S Job 40:12 [m]S Ps 10:5; S Pr 16:18 **48:30** [n]S Ps 10:3 **48:31** [o]ver 36; Isa 15:5-8 [p]S 2Ki 3:25 **48:32** [q]S Jos 13:25 [r]S Nu 32:3 **48:33** [s]S Isa 24:7 [t]Joel 1:12; Am 5:17 **48:34** [u]S Nu 21:25; S Jos 13:26 [v]S Nu 32:3 [w]S Nu 21:23; S Isa 15:4 [x]S Ge 13:10 [y]S Isa 15:5 [z]S Isa 15:6 **48:35** [a]S Isa 15:2 [b]Jer 11:13 **48:36** [c]S ver 31 [d]S 2Ki 3:25 [e]S Isa 15:7 **48:37** [f]Isa 15:2; S Jer 41:5; Eze 27:31; 29:18 [g]S Lev 19:27; S 2Sa 10:4 [h]S Ge 37:34; S Isa 3:24; Jer 16:6; Am 8:10 **48:38** [i]S Isa 15:3 [j]S Jer 22:28 **48:39** [k]Jer 50:23 [l]ver 26 **48:40** [m]S Dt 28:49; Hab 1:8 [n]S Isa 8:8 **48:41** [o]S Isa 15:1 [p]Am 2:16 [q]S Isa 21:3 **48:42** [r]S Isa 16:14 [s]ver 2 [t]S ver 26 **48:43** [u]Jer 49:5 [v]S Isa 24:17 **48:44** [w]1Ki 19:17; S Job 20:24; Isa 24:18; S Jer 46:5 [x]Jer 11:23; 23:12 **48:45** [y]S Nu 21:21, 26-28; S Jos 12:2 [z]Nu 24:17 **48:46** [a]S Nu 21:29

[h]41 Or *The cities*

47"Yet I will restore[z] the fortunes of
Moab
in days to come,"[a]
declares the LORD.

Here ends the judgment on Moab.

A Message About Ammon

49 Concerning the Ammonites:[b]
This is what the LORD says:

"Has Israel no sons?
Has she no heirs?
Why then has Molech[1][c] taken
possession of Gad?[d]
Why do his people live in its
towns?
2But the days are coming,"
declares the LORD,
"when I will sound the battle cry[e]
against Rabbah[f] of the
Ammonites;
it will become a mound of ruins,[g]
and its surrounding villages will
be set on fire.
Then Israel will drive out
those who drove her out,[h]"
says the LORD.
3"Wail, O Heshbon,[i] for Ai[j] is
destroyed!
Cry out, O inhabitants of Rabbah!
Put on sackcloth[k] and mourn;
rush here and there inside the
walls,
for Molech[l] will go into exile,[m]
together with his priests and
officials.
4Why do you boast of your valleys,
boast of your valleys so fruitful?
O unfaithful daughter,[n]
you trust in your riches[o] and say,
'Who will attack me?'[p]
5I will bring terror on you
from all those around you,"
declares the Lord,
the LORD Almighty.
"Every one of you will be driven
away,
and no one will gather the
fugitives.[q]
6"Yet afterward, I will restore[r] the
fortunes of the Ammonites,"
declares the LORD.

A Message About Edom

49:9-10pp — Ob 5-6
49:14-16pp — Ob 1-4

7Concerning Edom:[s]

This is what the LORD Almighty says:

"Is there no longer wisdom in
Teman?[t]
Has counsel perished from the
prudent?
Has their wisdom decayed?
8Turn and flee, hide in deep caves,[u]
you who live in Dedan,[v]
for I will bring disaster on Esau
at the time I punish him.
9If grape pickers came to you,
would they not leave a few
grapes?
If thieves came during the night,
would they not steal only as much
as they wanted?
10But I will strip Esau bare;
I will uncover his hiding places,[w]
so that he cannot conceal himself.
His children, relatives and neighbors
will perish,
and he will be no more.[x]
11Leave your orphans;[y] I will protect
their lives.
Your widows[z] too can trust in
me."

12This is what the LORD says: "If those
who do not deserve to drink the cup[a]
must drink it, why should you go un-
punished?[b] You will not go unpun-
ished, but must drink it. 13I swear[c] by
myself," declares the LORD, "that Boz-
rah[d] will become a ruin and an object
of horror,[e] of reproach[f] and of curs-
ing; and all its towns will be in ruins
forever."[g]

14I have heard a message from the
LORD:
An envoy was sent to the nations
to say,
"Assemble yourselves to attack it!
Rise up for battle!"

15"Now I will make you small among
the nations,
despised among men.
16The terror you inspire
and the pride[h] of your heart have
deceived you,
you who live in the clefts of the
rocks,[i]
who occupy the heights of the hill.
Though you build your nest[j] as high
as the eagle's,
from there I will bring you down,"
declares the LORD.
17"Edom will become an object of
horror;[k]
all who pass by will be appalled
and will scoff
because of all its wounds.[l]
18As Sodom[m] and Gomorrah[n] were
overthrown,

48:47 z Ps 14:7; Isa 11:11; Jer 12:15; 49:6, 39; Eze 16:53 a Da 11:41
49:1 b S Ge 19:38; S 1Sa 11:1-11; 2Sa 10:1-19 c S Lev 18:21 d Ge 30:11
49:2 e S Jer 4:19 f S Dt 3:11 g S Dt 13:16 h S Isa 14:2; S Jer 30:16; Eze 21:28-32; 25:2-11
49:3 i S Jos 13:26 j S Ge 12:8; S Jos 8:28 k S Ge 37:34 l Zep 1:5 m S Jer 48:7
49:4 n S Jer 3:6 o S Jer 9:23; 1Ti 6:17 p S Jer 21:13
49:5 q S Jer 48:44
49:6 r Jer 12:14-17; S 48:47
49:7 s S Ge 25:30; S Ps 83:6 t S Ge 36:11,15, 34
49:8 u S Jdg 6:2 v S Ge 10:7; S 25:3
49:10 w S Ge 3:8 x Isa 34:10-12; S Jer 11:23; Eze 35:4; Ob 1:18; Mal 1:2-5
49:11 y Hos 14:3 z S Dt 10:18; Jas 1:27
49:12 a S Isa 51:23; S Jer 25:15; Mt 20:22 b S Pr 11:31
49:13 c S Ge 22:16 d S Ge 36:33 e ver 17 f Jer 42:18 g S Jer 19:8; Eze 35:9
49:16 h Eze 35:13; Ob 1:12 i S Job 39:28 j S Job 39:27
49:17 k ver 13 l S Dt 29:22; Eze 35:7
49:18 m Jer 23:14 n S Ge 19:24

1 1 Or *their king;* Hebrew *malcam;* also in verse 3

along with their neighboring
towns,"
says the LORD,
"so no one will live there;
no man will dwell[a] in it.
19"Like a lion[b] coming up from
Jordan's thickets[c]
to a rich pastureland,
I will chase Edom from its land in an
instant.
Who is the chosen one I will
appoint for this?
Who is like[d] me and who can
challenge me?[e]
And what shepherd[f] can stand
against me?"
20Therefore, hear what the LORD has
planned against Edom,[g]
what he has purposed[h] against
those who live in Teman:[i]
The young of the flock[j] will be
dragged away;
he will completely destroy[k] their
pasture because of them.[l]
21At the sound of their fall the earth
will tremble;[m]
their cry[n] will resound to the Red
Sea.[j]
22Look! An eagle will soar and swoop[o]
down,
spreading its wings over Bozrah.[p]
In that day the hearts of Edom's
warriors[q]
will be like the heart of a woman
in labor.[r]

A Message About Damascus

23Concerning Damascus:[s]

"Hamath[t] and Arpad[u] are
dismayed,
for they have heard bad news.
They are disheartened,
troubled like[k] the restless sea.[v]
24Damascus has become feeble,
she has turned to flee
and panic has gripped her;
anguish and pain have seized her,
pain like that of a woman in
labor.[w]
25Why has the city of renown not been
abandoned,
the town in which I delight?
26Surely, her young men[x] will fall in
the streets;
all her soldiers will be silenced[y] in
that day,"
declares the LORD Almighty.
27"I will set fire[z] to the walls of
Damascus;[a]
it will consume[b] the fortresses of
Ben-Hadad.[c]"

49:18 [a]ver 33; S Isa 34:10
49:19 [b]S 1Sa 17:34 [c]S Jer 12:5 [d]S Ex 8:10; S 2Ch 20:6; S Isa 46:5 [e]S Job 9:19; Jer 50:44 [f]1Sa 17:35
49:20 [g]Isa 34:5 [h]Isa 14:27 [i]ver 7; S Ge 36:11 [j]Jer 50:45 [k]ver 10; Ob 1:10; Mal 1:3-4 [l]Jer 50:45
49:21 [m]Ps 114:7; Eze 26:15; 27:28; 31:16 [n]Jer 50:46; 51:29; Eze 26:18
49:22 [o]S Dt 28:49; Hos 8:1; Hab 1:8 [p]S Ge 36:33 [q]Jer 50:36; Na 3:13 [r]Isa 13:8
49:23 [s]S Ge 14:15; 2Ki 14:28; 2Ch 16:2; Ac 9:2 [t]1Ki 8:65; Isa 10:9; Eze 47:16; Am 6:2; Zec 9:2 [u]S 2Ki 18:34; S 19:13 [v]S Ge 49:4
49:24 [w]Jer 13:21
49:26 [x]S Isa 9:17; S 13:18 [y]Isa 17:12-14
49:27 [z]Jer 21:14; 43:12; 50:32; Eze 30:8; 39:6; Am 1:4 [a]S Ge 14:15 [b]Isa 17:1 [c]S 1Ki 15:18
49:28 [d]S Ge 25:13 [e]S Jos 11:1 [f]S Jer 10:22 [g]S Jdg 6:3
49:29 [h]ver 32 [i]S Jer 6:25
49:30 [j]S Jdg 6:2 [k]Jos 11:1 [l]S Jer 10:22
49:31 [m]Eze 38:11
49:32 [n]S Jdg 6:5 [o]ver 29 [p]ver 36; Jer 13:24 [q]S Jer 9:26
49:33 [r]S Jos 11:1 [s]S Isa 13:22 [t]Jer 48:9 [u]S ver 18; Jer 51:37
49:34 [v]S Ge 10:22 [w]2Ki 24:18
49:35 [x]S Ps 37:15; S Isa 22:6
49:36 [y]S ver 32 [z]Da 11:4

A Message About Kedar and Hazor

28Concerning Kedar[d] and the king-
doms of Hazor,[e] which Nebuchadnez-
zar[f] king of Babylon attacked:

This is what the LORD says:

"Arise, and attack Kedar
and destroy the people of the
East.[g]
29Their tents and their flocks[h] will be
taken;
their shelters will be carried off
with all their goods and camels.
Men will shout to them,
'Terror[i] on every side!'
30"Flee quickly away!
Stay in deep caves,[j] you who live
in Hazor,[k]"
declares the LORD.
"Nebuchadnezzar[l] king of Babylon
has plotted against you;
he has devised a plan against you.
31"Arise and attack a nation at ease,
which lives in confidence,"
declares the LORD,
"a nation that has neither gates nor
bars;[m]
its people live alone.
32Their camels[n] will become plunder,
and their large herds[o] will be
booty.
I will scatter to the winds[p] those
who are in distant places[l] [q]
and will bring disaster on them
from every side,"
declares the LORD.
33"Hazor[r] will become a haunt of
jackals,[s]
a desolate[t] place forever.
No one will live there;
no man will dwell[u] in it."

A Message About Elam

34This is the word of the LORD that
came to Jeremiah the prophet concern-
ing Elam,[v] early in the reign of Zede-
kiah[w] king of Judah:

35This is what the LORD Almighty
says:

"See, I will break the bow[x] of Elam,
the mainstay of their might.
36I will bring against Elam the four
winds[y]
from the four quarters of the
heavens;[z]
I will scatter them to the four winds,
and there will not be a nation

j21 Hebrew *Yam Suph;* that is, Sea of Reeds
k23 Hebrew *on* or *by*
l32 Or *who clip the hair by their foreheads*

where Elam's exiles do not go.
37 I will shatter Elam before their
foes,
before those who seek their lives;
I will bring disaster upon them,
even my fierce anger,"[a]
declares the LORD.
"I will pursue them with the sword[b]
until I have made an end of them.
38 I will set my throne in Elam
and destroy her king and
officials,"
declares the LORD.
39 "Yet I will restore[c] the fortunes of
Elam
in days to come,"
declares the LORD.

A Message About Babylon

51:15-19pp — Jer 10:12-16

50 This is the word the LORD spoke
through Jeremiah the prophet
concerning Babylon[d] and the land of
the Babylonians[m]:

2 "Announce and proclaim[e] among
the nations,
lift up a banner[f] and proclaim it;
keep nothing back, but say,
'Babylon will be captured;[g]
Bel[h] will be put to shame,[i]
Marduk[j] filled with terror.
Her images will be put to shame
and her idols[k] filled with terror.'
3 A nation from the north[l] will attack
her
and lay waste her land.
No one will live[m] in it;
both men and animals[n] will flee
away.

4 "In those days, at that time,"
declares the LORD,
"the people of Israel and the people
of Judah together[o]
will go in tears[p] to seek[q] the LORD
their God.
5 They will ask the way[r] to Zion
and turn their faces toward it.
They will come[s] and bind
themselves to the LORD
in an everlasting covenant[t]
that will not be forgotten.

6 "My people have been lost sheep;[u]
their shepherds[v] have led them
astray[w]
and caused them to roam on the
mountains.
They wandered over mountain and
hill[x]
and forgot their own resting
place.[y]

49:37 [a]Jer 30:24 [b]Jer 9:16; Eze 32:24 **49:39** [c]S Jer 48:47 **50:1** [d]S Ge 10:10; S Ps 137:8 **50:2** [e]S Dt 30:4; Jer 4:16 [f]S Ps 20:5; S Isa 13:2 [g]ver 9; Jer 51:31 [h]S Isa 21:9; S 46:1 [i]Ps 97:7; Jer 51:52 [j]ver 38; Isa 46:6; Jer 51:47 [k]S Lev 26:30 **50:3** [l]S ver 26; S Isa 41:25; S Jer 25:26 [m]S ver 13; S Isa 14:22-23; S Jer 9:11 [n]Zep 1:3 **50:4** [o]S Jer 3:18; Eze 37:22 [p]S Ezr 3:12 [q]S Isa 9:13; Eze 37:17; Hos 3:5 **50:5** [r]S Isa 11:16; S Jer 31:21 [s]S 1Sa 29:1; Jer 33:7 [t]S Dt 29:14; Isa 55:3; Jer 32:40; Heb 8:6-10 **50:6** [u]S Ps 119:176; Mt 9:36; 10:6 [v]S Jer 2:8; S 10:21 [w]S Ps 95:10; Jer 23:32; Eze 13:10 [x]Jer 3:6; Eze 34:6 [y]ver 19

50:7 [z]S Jer 5:17; 10:25; Eze 35:12 [a]Jer 2:3 [b]S Jer 14:8 **50:8** [c]S Isa 48:20 [d]ver 28 **50:9** [e]S Isa 13:17 [f]S Jer 25:14 [g]S Isa 41:25; S Jer 25:26 [h]S ver 2 [i]S Isa 13:18 **50:10** [j]Isa 47:11; S Jer 30:16 **50:11** [k]S Isa 47:6 [l]S Jer 31:18 **50:12** [m]Jer 51:47 [n]ver 13; S Isa 21:1; Jer 25:12; 51:26 **50:13** [o]ver 3, S 12; S Jer 9:11; 48:9; 51:62 [p]Jer 51:41 [q]S Jer 18:16; 51:37; Eze 27:36; Hab 2:6 [r]S Dt 29:22 **50:14** [s]ver 29, 42 [t]S Isa 13:18 **50:15** [u]Jer 51:14 [v]S 2Ki 25:4; S Jer 51:44 [w]ver 28; S Isa 10:3; 63:4; Jer 51:6

7 Whoever found them devoured[z]
them;
their enemies said, 'We are not
guilty,[a]
for they sinned against the LORD,
their true pasture,
the LORD, the hope[b] of their
fathers.'

8 "Flee[c] out of Babylon;[d]
leave the land of the Babylonians,
and be like the goats that lead the
flock.
9 For I will stir[e] up and bring against
Babylon
an alliance of great nations[f] from
the land of the north.[g]
They will take up their positions
against her,
and from the north she will be
captured.[h]
Their arrows[i] will be like skilled
warriors
who do not return empty-handed.
10 So Babylonia[n] will be plundered;[j]
all who plunder her will have their
fill,"
declares the LORD.

11 "Because you rejoice and are glad,
you who pillage my inheritance,[k]
because you frolic like a heifer[l]
threshing grain
and neigh like stallions,
12 your mother will be greatly
ashamed;
she who gave you birth will be
disgraced.[m]
She will be the least of the nations—
a wilderness, a dry land, a
desert.[n]
13 Because of the LORD's anger she will
not be inhabited
but will be completely desolate.[o]
All who pass Babylon will be
horrified[p] and scoff[q]
because of all her wounds.[r]

14 "Take up your positions around
Babylon,
all you who draw the bow.[s]
Shoot at her! Spare no arrows,[t]
for she has sinned against the
LORD.
15 Shout[u] against her on every side!
She surrenders, her towers fall,
her walls[v] are torn down.
Since this is the vengeance[w] of the
LORD,
take vengeance on her;

m1 Or *Chaldeans;* also in verses 8, 25, 35 and 45
n10 Or *Chaldea*

do to her[a] as she has done to
others.[b]
16Cut off from Babylon the sower,
and the reaper with his sickle at
harvest.
Because of the sword[c] of the
oppressor
let everyone return to his own
people,[d]
let everyone flee to his own
land.[e]

17"Israel is a scattered flock[f]
that lions[g] have chased away.
The first to devour[h] him
was the king[i] of Assyria;
the last to crush his bones[j]
was Nebuchadnezzar[k] king[l] of
Babylon."

18Therefore this is what the LORD Al-
mighty, the God of Israel, says:

"I will punish the king of Babylon
and his land
as I punished the king[m] of
Assyria.[n]
19But I will bring[o] Israel back to his
own pasture
and he will graze on Carmel and
Bashan;
his appetite will be satisfied[p]
on the hills[q] of Ephraim and
Gilead.[r]
20In those days, at that time,"
declares the LORD,
"search will be made for Israel's
guilt,
but there will be none,[s]
and for the sins[t] of Judah,
but none will be found,
for I will forgive[u] the remnant[v] I
spare.

21"Attack the land of Merathaim
and those who live in Pekod.[w]
Pursue, kill and completely destroy[a]
them,"
declares the LORD.
"Do everything I have
commanded you.
22The noise[x] of battle is in the land,
the noise of great destruction!
23How broken and shattered
is the hammer[y] of the whole
earth![z]
How desolate[a] is Babylon
among the nations!
24I set a trap[b] for you, O Babylon,
and you were caught before you
knew it;
you were found and captured[c]
because you opposed[d] the LORD.
25The LORD has opened his arsenal
and brought out the weapons[e] of
his wrath,
for the Sovereign LORD Almighty has
work to do
in the land of the Babylonians.[f]
26Come against her from afar.[g]
Break open her granaries;
pile her up like heaps of grain.[h]
Completely destroy[i] her
and leave her no remnant.
27Kill all her young bulls;[j]
let them go down to the
slaughter![k]
Woe to them! For their day[l] has
come,
the time[m] for them to be punished.
28Listen to the fugitives[n] and refugees
from Babylon
declaring in Zion[o]
how the LORD our God has taken
vengeance,[p]
vengeance for his temple.[q]

29"Summon archers against Babylon,
all those who draw the bow.[r]
Encamp all around her;
let no one escape.[s]
Repay[t] her for her deeds;[u]
do to her as she has done.
For she has defied[v] the LORD,
the Holy One[w] of Israel.
30Therefore, her young men[x] will fall
in the streets;
all her soldiers will be silenced in
that day,"
declares the LORD.
31"See, I am against[y] you, O arrogant
one,"
declares the Lord, the LORD
Almighty,
"for your day[z] has come,
the time for you to be punished.
32The arrogant[a] one will stumble and
fall[b]
and no one will help her up;[c]
I will kindle a fire[d] in her towns
that will consume all who are
around her."

33This is what the LORD Almighty
says:

"The people of Israel are
oppressed,[e]
and the people of Judah as well.
All their captors hold them fast,
refusing to let them go.[f]
34Yet their Redeemer[g] is strong;

50:15 [a]ver 29; Ps 137:8; Rev 18:6 [b]Jer 51:24; Hab 2:7-8 **50:16** [c]S Jer 25:38 [d]S Isa 13:14 [e]Jer 51:9 **50:17** [f]S Lev 26:33; S Ps 119:176 [g]S 2Ki 24:1; S Jer 2:15 [h]S Jer 5:17 [i]S Dt 4:27; S 2Ki 15:29 [j]S Nu 24:8; La 3:4 [k]Jer 51:34 [l]S 2Ki 24:17; S 25:7 **50:18** [m]S Isa 10:12 [n]Eze 31:3; Zep 2:13 **50:19** [o]S Jer 31:10; Eze 34:13 [p]Jer 31:14 [q]S Jer 31:5 [r]Mic 7:14; Zec 10:10 **50:20** [s]S Ps 17:3 [t]Ps 103:12; S Isa 38:17; Eze 33:16; Mic 7:18,19; Zec 3:4,9 [u]S Isa 33:24 [v]S Ge 45:7; Isa 1:9; 10:20-22; S Ro 9:27 **50:21** [w]Eze 23:23 **50:22** [x]Jer 4:19-21; 51:54 **50:23** [y]S Isa 10:5 [z]Jer 51:25 [a]S Isa 14:16 **50:24** [b]Jer 51:12 [c]Jer 51:31 [d]Job 9:4 **50:25** [e]S Isa 13:5 [f]Jer 51:25,55 **50:26** [g]ver 3,41; Jer 51:11 [h]S Ru 3:7 [i]S Isa 14:22-23 **50:27** [j]S Ps 68:30; Jer 48:15 [k]S Isa 30:25; S Jer 25:34 [l]S Job 18:20 [m]Jer 51:6 **50:28** [n]ver 8 [o]Isa 48:20; Jer 51:10 [p]S ver 15 [q]2Ki 24:13; Jer 51:11; 52:13 **50:29** [r]S ver 14 [s]S Isa 13:18; Jer 51:3 [t]S Dt 32:41; S Job 21:19; S Jer 51:6; Rev 18:6 [u]Eze 35:11; Ob 1:15 [v]S Isa 14:13-14; 47:10; Da 5:23 [w]Ps 78:41; Isa 41:20; Jer 51:5 **50:30** [x]S Isa 13:18 **50:31** [y]S Jer 21:13 [z]S Job 18:20; Rev 18:7-8 **50:32** [a]S Ps 119:21 [b]S Ps 20:8 [c]Am 5:2 [d]S Jer 49:27 **50:33** [e]Isa 58:6 [f]S Isa 14:17 **50:34** [g]S Ex 6:6; S Job 19:25

[a]21 The Hebrew term refers to the irrevocable giving over of things or persons to the LORD, often by totally destroying them; also in verse 26.

the LORD Almighty is his name.
He will vigorously defend their cause
so that he may bring rest to their land,
but unrest to those who live in Babylon.

35"A sword against the Babylonians!"
declares the LORD—
"against those who live in Babylon
and against her officials and wise men!
36A sword against her false prophets!
They will become fools.
A sword against her warriors!
They will be filled with terror.
37A sword against her horses and chariots
and all the foreigners in her ranks!
They will become women.
A sword against her treasures!
They will be plundered.
38A drought on her waters!
They will dry up.
For it is a land of idols,
idols that will go mad with terror.

39"So desert creatures and hyenas will live there,
and there the owl will dwell.
It will never again be inhabited
or lived in from generation to generation.
40As God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah
along with their neighboring towns,"
declares the LORD,
"so no one will live there;
no man will dwell in it.

41"Look! An army is coming from the north;
a great nation and many kings
are being stirred up from the ends of the earth.
42They are armed with bows and spears;
they are cruel and without mercy.
They sound like the roaring sea
as they ride on their horses;
they come like men in battle formation
to attack you, O Daughter of Babylon.
43The king of Babylon has heard reports about them,
and his hands hang limp.
Anguish has gripped him,
pain like that of a woman in labor.
44Like a lion coming up from Jordan's thickets
to a rich pastureland,
I will chase Babylon from its land in an instant.
Who is the chosen one I will appoint for this?
Who is like me and who can challenge me?
And what shepherd can stand against me?"
45Therefore, hear what the LORD has planned against Babylon,
what he has purposed against the land of the Babylonians:
The young of the flock will be dragged away;
he will completely destroy their pasture because of them.
46At the sound of Babylon's capture
the earth will tremble;
its cry will resound among the nations.

51 This is what the LORD says:
"See, I will stir up the spirit of a destroyer
against Babylon and the people of Leb Kamai.
2I will send foreigners to Babylon
to winnow her and to devastate her land;
they will oppose her on every side
in the day of her disaster.
3Let not the archer string his bow,
nor let him put on his armor.
Do not spare her young men;
completely destroy her army.
4They will fall down slain in Babylon,
fatally wounded in her streets.
5For Israel and Judah have not been forsaken
by their God, the LORD Almighty,
though their land is full of guilt
before the Holy One of Israel.

6"Flee from Babylon!
Run for your lives!
Do not be destroyed because of her sins.
It is time for the LORD's vengeance;
he will pay her what she deserves.

50:34 Jer 31:35; 50:39 · Ps 119:154 · Isa 49:25; Jer 15:21; 51:36 · Isa 14:7
50:35 Jer 47:6 · Isa 45:1 · Da 5:7
50:36 Jer 49:22 · Jer 51:30,32
50:37 2Ki 19:23; Jer 51:21 · Isa 19:16 · Isa 45:3
50:38 Ps 137:1; Jer 51:13 · Isa 11:15; Jer 51:36 · ver 2
50:39 Ps 74:14 · Isa 13:19-22; 34:13-15; Jer 51:29; Rev 18:2
50:40 Ge 19:24; Dt 29:23 · Jer 51:62
50:41 ver 26; Isa 41:25 · Isa 13:27 · Isa 13:4; Jer 51:22-28
50:42 ver 14 · Job 30:21 · Isa 13:18 · Isa 5:30 · Isa 47:1
50:43 Jer 47:3 · Jer 6:22-24
50:44 Jer 12:5 · Nu 16:5 · Job 41:10; Isa 46:9 · Jer 49:19
50:45 Ps 33:11; Jer 51:11 · Isa 48:14
50:46 Jdg 5:4; Jer 49:21 · Job 24:12; Rev 18:9-10
51:1 Isa 13:17 · Jer 25:12
51:2 Isa 13:5 · Isa 41:16; Mt 3:12 · Isa 13:9
51:3 Jer 50:29 · Jer 46:4
51:4 Isa 13:15 · Isa 13:18
51:5 Lev 26:44; Isa 54:6-8 · Hos 4:1
51:6 Isa 48:20 · Nu 16:26; Rev 18:4 · Jer 50:27 · Isa 1:24; Jer 50:15 · ver 24,56; Dt 32:35; Job 21:19; Jer 25:14; 50:29; La 3:64

35 Or A sword against 1 Leb Kamai is a cryptogram for Chaldea, that is, Babylonia. 3 The Hebrew term refers to the irrevocable giving over of things or persons to the LORD, often by totally destroying them. 4 Or Chaldea 5 Or / and the land of the Babylonians,

7Babylon was a gold cup[a] in the
LORD's hand;
she made the whole earth
drunk.
The nations drank her wine;
therefore they have now gone
mad.
8Babylon will suddenly fall[b] and be
broken.
Wail over her!
Get balm[c] for her pain;
perhaps she can be healed.

9" 'We would have healed Babylon,
but she cannot be healed;
let us leave[d] her and each go to his
own land,
for her judgment[e] reaches to the
skies,
it rises as high as the clouds.'

10" 'The LORD has vindicated[f] us;
come, let us tell in Zion
what the LORD our God has
done.'[g]

11"Sharpen the arrows,[h]
take up the shields![i]
The LORD has stirred up the kings[j]
of the Medes,[k]
because his purpose[l] is to destroy
Babylon.
The LORD will take vengeance,[m]
vengeance for his temple.[n]
12Lift up a banner[o] against the walls
of Babylon!
Reinforce the guard,
station the watchmen,[p]
prepare an ambush![q]
The LORD will carry out his
purpose,[r]
his decree against the people of
Babylon.
13You who live by many waters[s]
and are rich in treasures,[t]
your end has come,
the time for you to be cut off.[u]
14The LORD Almighty has sworn by
himself:[v]
I will surely fill you with men, as
with a swarm of locusts,[w]
and they will shout[x] in triumph
over you.

15"He made the earth by his power;
he founded the world by his
wisdom[y]
and stretched[z] out the heavens by
his understanding.[a]
16When he thunders,[b] the waters in
the heavens roar;
he makes clouds rise from the
ends of the earth.
He sends lightning with the rain[c]
and brings out the wind from his
storehouses.[d]

17"Every man is senseless and without
knowledge;
every goldsmith is shamed by his
idols.
His images are a fraud;[e]
they have no breath in them.
18They are worthless,[f] the objects of
mockery;
when their judgment comes, they
will perish.
19He who is the Portion[g] of Jacob is
not like these,
for he is the Maker of all things,
including the tribe of his
inheritance[h]—
the LORD Almighty is his name.

20"You are my war club,[i]
my weapon for battle—
with you I shatter[j] nations,[k]
with you I destroy kingdoms,
21with you I shatter horse and rider,[l]
with you I shatter chariot[m] and
driver,
22with you I shatter man and woman,
with you I shatter old man and
youth,
with you I shatter young man and
maiden,[n]
23with you I shatter shepherd and
flock,
with you I shatter farmer and
oxen,
with you I shatter governors and
officials.[o]

24"Before your eyes I will repay[p]
Babylon[q] and all who live in Babylo-
nia[a] for all the wrong they have done
in Zion," declares the LORD.

25"I am against[r] you, O destroying
mountain,
you who destroy the whole
earth,"[s]
declares the LORD.
"I will stretch out my hand[t] against
you,
roll you off the cliffs,
and make you a burned-out
mountain.[u]
26No rock will be taken from you for a
cornerstone,
nor any stone for a foundation,
for you will be desolate[v] forever,"
declares the LORD.

27"Lift up a banner[w] in the land!
Blow the trumpet among the
nations!

51:7 [a]S Isa 51:22; Jer 25:15-16; 49:12; Rev 14:8-10
51:8 [b]S Isa 14:15; S 21:9; S Rev 14:8 [c]Jer 8:22; 46:11
51:9 [d]S Isa 13:14; S 31:9; Jer 50:16 [e]Rev 18:4-5
51:10 [f]Mic 7:9 [g]Ps 64:9; S Jer 50:28
51:11 [h]Jer 50:9 [i]S Isa 21:5 [j]S Isa 41:2 [k]ver 28; S Isa 13:3; S 41:25 [l]S Jer 50:45 [m]S Lev 26:25 [n]S Jer 50:28
51:12 [o]ver 27; S Ps 20:5 [p]2Sa 18:24; Eze 33:2 [q]Jer 50:24 [r]S Ps 33:11
51:13 [s]S Jer 50:38 [t]S Isa 45:3; Eze 22:27; Hab 2:9 [u]Jer 50:3
51:14 [v]S Ge 22:16; Am 6:8 [w]ver 27; Am 7:1; Na 3:15 [x]Jer 50:15
51:15 [y]Ps 104:24 [z]S Ge 1:1; S Ps 104:2 [a]S Ps 136:5
51:16 [b]Ps 18:11-13 [c]S Job 28:26 [d]S Dt 28:12; S Ps 135:7; Jnh 1:4
51:17 [e]S Isa 44:20; Hab 2:18-19
51:18 [f]S Jer 18:15
51:19 [g]S Ps 119:57 [h]S Ex 34:9
51:20 [i]S Isa 10:5; Zec 9:13 [j]S Job 34:24; Mic 4:13 [k]S Isa 45:1
51:21 [l]S Ex 15:1 [m]S Isa 43:17; S Jer 50:37
51:22 [n]S 2Ch 36:17; Isa 13:17-18
51:23 [o]ver 57
51:24 [p]S ver 6, 35; S Dt 32:41; S Jer 50:15; La 3:64 [q]S Isa 45:1
51:25 [r]S Jer 21:13 [s]Jer 50:23 [t]S Ex 3:20 [u]Zec 4:7
51:26 [v]ver 29; S Isa 13:19-22; S Jer 50:12
51:27 [w]S Ps 20:5; S Isa 13:2

[a]24 Or *Chaldea*; also in verse 35

Prepare the nations for battle against
her;
summon against her these
kingdoms:[a]
Ararat,[b] Minni and Ashkenaz.[c]
Appoint a commander against her;
send up horses like a swarm of
locusts.[d]
28 Prepare the nations for battle against
her—
the kings of the Medes,[e]
their governors and all their officials,
and all the countries they rule.[f]
29 The land trembles[g] and writhes,
for the LORD's purposes[h] against
Babylon stand—
to lay waste[i] the land of Babylon
so that no one will live there.[j]
30 Babylon's warriors[k] have stopped
fighting;
they remain in their strongholds.
Their strength is exhausted;
they have become like women.[l]
Her dwellings are set on fire;[m]
the bars[n] of her gates are broken.
31 One courier[o] follows another
and messenger follows messenger
to announce to the king of Babylon
that his entire city is captured,[p]
32 the river crossings seized,
the marshes set on fire,[q]
and the soldiers terrified."[r]

33 This is what the LORD Almighty, the God of Israel, says:

"The Daughter of Babylon[s] is like a
threshing floor[t]
at the time it is trampled;
the time to harvest[u] her will soon
come."[v]

34 "Nebuchadnezzar[w] king of Babylon
has devoured[x] us,[y]
he has thrown us into confusion,
he has made us an empty jar.
Like a serpent he has swallowed us
and filled his stomach with our
delicacies,
and then has spewed[z] us out.
35 May the violence[a] done to our
flesh[a] be upon Babylon,"
say the inhabitants of Zion.
"May our blood be on those who
live in Babylonia,"
says Jerusalem.[b]

36 Therefore, this is what the LORD says:

"See, I will defend your cause[c]
and avenge[d] you;
I will dry up[e] her sea
and make her springs dry.

51:27 a S Jer 25:14 b S Ge 8:4 c Ge 10:3 d S ver 14
51:28 e S ver 11 f ver 48
51:29 g S Jdg 5:4; S Jer 49:21 h S Ps 33:11 i Jer 48:9 j ver 43; S Isa 13:20
51:30 k S Jer 50:36 l S Isa 19:16 m S Isa 47:14 n S Isa 45:2
51:31 o 2Sa 18:19-31 p S Jer 50:2; Da 5:30
51:32 q S Isa 47:14 r S Jer 50:36
51:33 s S Isa 47:1 t S Isa 21:10 u S Isa 17:5 v S Isa 13:22
51:34 w S Jer 50:17 x Na 2:12 y Hos 8:8 z ver 44; S Lev 18:25
51:35 a Joel 3:19; Hab 2:17 b S ver 24; Ps 137:8
51:36 c Ps 140:12; Jer 50:34; La 3:58 d ver 6; Jer 20:12; S Ro 12:19 e S Isa 11:15; S 19:5; Hos 13:15
51:37 f S Isa 13:22; Rev 18:2 g Na 3:6; Mal 2:9 h S Jer 50:13,39
51:38 i S Isa 5:29
51:39 j S Isa 21:5 k S Ps 13:3 l ver 57; S Jer 50:24
51:40 m Eze 39:18
51:41 n S Jer 25:26 o Isa 13:19 p Jer 50:13
51:42 q S Ps 18:4; Isa 8:7
51:43 r S Isa 21:1 s S ver 29,62; S Isa 13:20; Jer 2:6
51:44 t S Isa 21:9; S 46:1 u S ver 34 v ver 58; S 2Ki 25:4; Isa 25:12; Jer 50:15
51:45 w ver 50 x S Isa 48:20 y Ps 76:10; 79:6
51:46 z Ps 18:45 a S Jer 46:27 b S 2Ki 19:7
51:47 c S Isa 46:1-2; S Jer 50:2 d Jer 50:12 e S Jer 27:7
51:48 f S Job 3:7; S Ps 149:2; Rev 18:20 g ver 11; S Isa 41:25; S Jer 25:26 h ver 53,56

37 Babylon will be a heap of ruins,
a haunt[f] of jackals,
an object of horror and scorn,[g]
a place where no one lives.[h]
38 Her people all roar like young
lions,[i]
they growl like lion cubs.
39 But while they are aroused,
I will set out a feast for them
and make them drunk,[j]
so that they shout with laughter—
then sleep forever[k] and not
awake,"
declares the LORD.[l]
40 "I will bring them down
like lambs to the slaughter,
like rams and goats.[m]

41 "How Sheshach[b][n] will be
captured,[o]
the boast of the whole earth
seized!
What a horror[p] Babylon will be
among the nations!
42 The sea will rise over Babylon;
its roaring waves[q] will cover her.
43 Her towns will be desolate,
a dry and desert[r] land,
a land where no one lives,
through which no man travels.[s]
44 I will punish Bel[t] in Babylon
and make him spew out[u] what he
has swallowed.
The nations will no longer stream to
him.
And the wall[v] of Babylon will fall.

45 "Come out[w] of her, my people!
Run[x] for your lives!
Run from the fierce anger[y] of the
LORD.
46 Do not lose heart[z] or be afraid[a]
when rumors[b] are heard in the
land;
one rumor comes this year, another
the next,
rumors of violence in the land
and of ruler against ruler.
47 For the time will surely come
when I will punish the idols[c] of
Babylon;
her whole land will be disgraced[d]
and her slain will all lie fallen
within her.[e]
48 Then heaven and earth and all that
is in them
will shout[f] for joy over Babylon,
for out of the north[g]
destroyers[h] will attack her,"
declares the LORD.

a35 *Or done to us and to our children* b41 *Sheshach* is a cryptogram for Babylon.

49 "Babylon must fall because of Israel's
slain,
just as the slain in all the earth
have fallen because of Babylon.[a]
50 You who have escaped the sword,
leave[b] and do not linger!
Remember[c] the LORD in a distant
land,[d]
and think on Jerusalem."

51 "We are disgraced,[e]
for we have been insulted
and shame covers our faces,
because foreigners have entered
the holy places of the LORD's
house."[f]

52 "But days are coming," declares the
LORD,
"when I will punish her idols,[g]
and throughout her land
the wounded will groan.[h]
53 Even if Babylon reaches the sky[i]
and fortifies her lofty stronghold,
I will send destroyers[j] against
her,"
declares the LORD.

54 "The sound of a cry[k] comes from
Babylon,
the sound of great destruction[l]
from the land of the Babylonians.[x]
55 The LORD will destroy Babylon;
he will silence[m] her noisy din.
Waves[n] ⌞of enemies⌟ will rage like
great waters;
the roar of their voices will
resound.
56 A destroyer[o] will come against
Babylon;
her warriors will be captured,
and their bows will be broken.[p]
For the LORD is a God of retribution;
he will repay[q] in full.
57 I will make her officials[r] and wise[s]
men drunk,[t]
her governors, officers and
warriors as well;
they will sleep[u] forever and not
awake,"
declares the King,[v] whose name is
the LORD Almighty.

58 This is what the LORD Almighty
says:

"Babylon's thick wall[w] will be
leveled
and her high gates[x] set on fire;
the peoples[y] exhaust[z] themselves
for nothing,
the nations' labor is only fuel for
the flames."[a]

59 This is the message Jeremiah gave
to the staff officer Seraiah son of Ne-
riah,[b] the son of Mahseiah, when he
went to Babylon with Zedekiah[c] king
of Judah in the fourth[d] year of his
reign. 60 Jeremiah had written on a
scroll[e] about all the disasters that
would come upon Babylon—all that
had been recorded concerning Bab-
ylon. 61 He said to Seraiah, "When you
get to Babylon, see that you read all
these words aloud. 62 Then say, 'O
LORD, you have said you will destroy
this place, so that neither man nor ani-
mal will live in it; it will be desolate[f]
forever.' 63 When you finish reading
this scroll, tie a stone to it and throw it
into the Euphrates.[g] 64 Then say, 'So
will Babylon sink to rise no more[h] be-
cause of the disaster I will bring upon
her. And her people[i] will fall.'"[j]

The words of Jeremiah end[k] here.

The Fall of Jerusalem

52:1-3pp — 2Ki 24:18-20; 2Ch 36:11-16
52:4-16pp — Jer 39:1-10
52:4-21pp — 2Ki 25:1-21; 2Ch 36:17-20

52 Zedekiah[l] was twenty-one years
old when he became king, and
he reigned in Jerusalem eleven years.
His mother's name was Hamutal
daughter of Jeremiah; she was from
Libnah.[m] 2 He did evil in the eyes of the
LORD, just as Jehoiakim[n] had done. 3 It
was because of the LORD's anger that all
this happened to Jerusalem and
Judah,[o] and in the end he thrust them
from his presence.[p]

Now Zedekiah rebelled[q] against the
king of Babylon.

4 So in the ninth year of Zedekiah's
reign, on the tenth[r] day of the tenth
month, Nebuchadnezzar king of Bab-
ylon marched against Jerusalem[s] with
his whole army. They camped outside
the city and built siege works[t] all
around it.[u] 5 The city was kept under
siege until the eleventh year of King
Zedekiah.

6 By the ninth day of the fourth
month the famine in the city had
become so severe that there was no
food for the people to eat.[v] 7 Then the
city wall was broken through, and the
whole army fled.[w] They left the city at
night through the gate between the
two walls near the king's garden,
though the Babylonians[y] were sur-
rounding the city. They fled toward the
Arabah,[z] 8 but the Babylonian[a] army

51:49 [a]Ps 137:8; S Jer 50:29
51:50 [b]ver 45 [c]S Ps 137:6 [d]Jer 23:23
51:51 [e]Ps 44:13-16; 79:4 [f]La 1:10
51:52 [g]ver 47 [h]S Job 24:12
51:53 [i]S Ge 11:4; S Isa 14:13-14 [j]S ver 48; S Job 15:21
51:54 [k]S Job 24:12 [l]S Jer 50:22
51:55 [m]Isa 25:5 [n]S Ps 18:4
51:56 [o]S ver 48; S Job 15:21 [p]Ps 46:9 [q]S ver 6; S Ge 4:24; S Dt 32:41; Ps 94:1-2; Hab 2:8
51:57 [r]S ver 23 [s]S Job 5:13 [t]S Isa 21:5 [u]S ver 39; Ps 76:5; S Jer 25:27 [v]S Isa 6:5
51:58 [w]S ver 44; S 2Ki 25:4; S Isa 15:1 [x]S Isa 13:2 [y]ver 64 [z]S Isa 47:13 [a]S Isa 47:14
51:59 [b]Jer 36:4 [c]Jer 52:1 [d]Jer 28:1
51:60 [e]S Ex 17:14; Jer 30:2; 36:2
51:62 [f]S Isa 13:20; S Jer 9:11; S 50:13
51:63 [g]S Ge 2:14
51:64 [h]Eze 26:21; 28:19 [i]S ver 58 [j]Rev 18:21 [k]S Job 31:40
52:1 [l]S 2Ki 24:17 [m]S Nu 33:20; Jos 10:29; 2Ki 8:22
52:2 [n]S Jer 36:30
52:3 [o]Isa 3:1 [p]S Ge 4:14; S Ex 33:15 [q]Eze 17:12-16
52:4 [r]Zec 8:19 [s]Jer 34:1 [t]S Jer 6:6 [u]Eze 24:1-2
52:6 [v]S Lev 26:26; S Isa 3:1; La 1:11
52:7 [w]La 4:19

[x]54 Or *Chaldeans* [y]7 Or *Chaldeans*; also in verse 17 [z]7 Or *the Jordan Valley* [a]8 Or *Chaldean*; also in verse 14

pursued King Zedekiah and overtook
him in the plains of Jericho. All his sol-
diers were separated from him and
scattered, 9and he was captured.[a]
He was taken to the king of Babylon
at Riblah[b] in the land of Hamath,[c]
where he pronounced sentence on
him. 10There at Riblah the king of Bab-
ylon slaughtered the sons[d] of Zedekiah
before his eyes; he also killed all the
officials of Judah. 11Then he put out
Zedekiah's eyes, bound him with
bronze shackles and took him to Bab-
ylon, where he put him in prison till
the day of his death.[e]
12On the tenth day of the fifth[f]
month, in the nineteenth year of Nebu-
chadnezzar king of Babylon, Nebuzar-
adan[g] commander of the imperial
guard, who served the king of Babylon,
came to Jerusalem. 13He set fire[h] to the
temple[i] of the LORD, the royal palace
and all the houses[j] of Jerusalem. Every
important building he burned down.
14The whole Babylonian army under
the commander of the imperial guard
broke down all the walls[k] around
Jerusalem. 15Nebuzaradan the com-
mander of the guard carried into exile[l]
some of the poorest people and those
who remained in the city, along with
the rest of the craftsmen[b] and those
who had gone over[m] to the king of Bab-
ylon. 16But Nebuzaradan left behind[n]
the rest of the poorest people of the
land to work the vineyards and fields.
17The Babylonians broke up the
bronze pillars,[o] the movable stands[p]
and the bronze Sea[q] that were at the
temple of the LORD and they carried all
the bronze to Babylon.[r] 18They also
took away the pots, shovels, wick trim-
mers, sprinkling bowls,[s] dishes and all
the bronze articles used in the temple
service.[t] 19The commander of the im-
perial guard took away the basins, cen-
sers,[u] sprinkling bowls, pots, lamp-
stands,[v] dishes[w] and bowls used for
drink offerings[x]—all that were made of
pure gold or silver.[y]
20The bronze from the two pillars,
the Sea and the twelve bronze bulls[z]
under it, and the movable stands,
which King Solomon had made for the
temple of the LORD, was more than
could be weighed.[a] 21Each of the pillars
was eighteen cubits high and twelve
cubits in circumference[c]; each was four
fingers thick, and hollow.[b] 22The
bronze capital[c] on top of the one pillar
was five cubits[d] high and was decorat-
ed with a network and pomegranates[d]
of bronze all around. The other pillar,
with its pomegranates, was similar.
23There were ninety-six pomegranates
on the sides; the total number of pome-
granates[e] above the surrounding net-
work was a hundred.[f]
24The commander of the guard took
as prisoners Seraiah[g] the chief priest,
Zephaniah[h] the priest next in rank and
the three doorkeepers.[i] 25Of those still
in the city, he took the officer in charge
of the fighting men, and seven royal
advisers. He also took the secretary[j]
who was chief officer in charge of con-
scripting the people of the land and six-
ty of his men who were found in the
city. 26Nebuzaradan[k] the commander
took them all and brought them to the
king of Babylon at Riblah. 27There at
Riblah,[l] in the land of Hamath, the
king had them executed.
So Judah went into captivity, away[m]
from her land. 28This is the number of
the people Nebuchadnezzar carried
into exile:[n]

in the seventh year, 3,023 Jews;
29in Nebuchadnezzar's eighteenth
year,
832 people from Jerusalem;
30in his twenty-third year,
745 Jews taken into exile[o] by
Nebuzaradan
the commander of the imperial
guard.
There were 4,600 people in all.[p]

Jehoiachin Released

52:31-34pp — 2Ki 25:27-30

31In the thirty-seventh year of the ex-
ile of Jehoiachin[q] king of Judah, in the
year Evil-Merodach[e] became king of
Babylon, he released Jehoiachin king of
Judah and freed him from prison on
the twenty-fifth day of the twelfth
month. 32He spoke kindly to him and
gave him a seat of honor higher than
those of the other kings who were with
him in Babylon. 33So Jehoiachin put
aside his prison clothes and for the rest
of his life ate regularly at the king's ta-
ble.[r] 34Day by day the king of Babylon
gave Jehoiachin a regular allowance[s]
as long as he lived, till the day of his
death.

52:9 [a]S Jer 21:7; S 32:4 [b]S Nu 34:11 [c]S Nu 13:21
52:10 [d]S Jer 22:30
52:11 [e]Jer 34:4; Eze 12:13; 17:16
52:12 [f]Zec 7:5; 8:19 [g]ver 26
52:13 [h]S 2Ch 36:19; S Ps 74:8; La 2:6 [i]S Dt 29:24; Ps 79:1; Mic 3:12 [j]S Dt 13:16; S Jer 19:13
52:14 [k]S Ne 1:3; La 2:8
52:15 [l]S 2Ki 24:1; S Jer 1:3 [m]S Jer 38:19
52:16 [n]Jer 40:6
52:17 [o]S 1Ki 7:15 [p]1Ki 7:27-37 [q]S 1Ki 7:23 [r]Jer 27:19-22
52:18 [s]S Nu 4:14 [t]S Ex 27:3; 1Ki 7:45
52:19 [u]S Lev 10:1; S 1Ki 7:50 [v]S Nu 3:31 [w]Ex 25:29 [x]S Nu 4:7 [y]S Ezr 1:7; Da 5:2
52:20 [z]1Ki 7:25 [a]S 1Ki 7:47
52:21 [b]S 1Ki 7:15
52:22 [c]S 1Ki 7:16 [d]S Ex 28:33
52:23 [e]1Ki 7:20 [f]S ver 17; S Jer 27:19
52:24 [g]S 2Ki 25:18 [h]S 2Ki 25:18; S Jer 37:3 [i]S 2Ki 12:9
52:25 [j]Jer 36:10
52:26 [k]S ver 12
52:27 [l]S Nu 34:11 [m]S Jer 20:4
52:28 [n]S Dt 28:36; S 2Ch 36:20; S Ne 1:2
52:30 [o]S Jer 43:3 [p]S Jer 13:19
52:31 [q]S 2Ch 36:9
52:33 [r]S 2Sa 9:7
52:34 [s]2Sa 9:10

[b]15 Or *populace* [c]21 That is, about 27 feet (about 8.1 meters) high and 18 feet (about 5.4 meters) in circumference [d]22 That is, about 7 1/2 feet (about 2.3 meters) [e]31 Also called *Amel-Marduk*

Lamentations

1[a] How deserted[a] lies the city,
once so full of people![b]
How like a widow[c] is she,
who once was great[d] among the nations!
She who was queen among the provinces
has now become a slave.[e]

2 Bitterly she weeps[f] at night,
tears are upon her cheeks.
Among all her lovers[g]
there is none to comfort her.
All her friends have betrayed[h] her;
they have become her enemies.[i]

3 After affliction and harsh labor,
Judah has gone into exile.[j]
She dwells among the nations;
she finds no resting place.[k]
All who pursue her have overtaken her[l]
in the midst of her distress.

4 The roads to Zion mourn,[m]
for no one comes to her appointed feasts.
All her gateways are desolate,[n]
her priests groan,
her maidens grieve,
and she is in bitter anguish.[o]

5 Her foes have become her masters;
her enemies are at ease.
The LORD has brought her grief[p]
because of her many sins.[q]
Her children have gone into exile,[r]
captive before the foe.[s]

6 All the splendor has departed
from the Daughter of Zion.[t]
Her princes are like deer
that find no pasture;
in weakness they have fled[u]
before the pursuer.

7 In the days of her affliction and wandering
Jerusalem remembers all the treasures
that were hers in days of old.
When her people fell into enemy hands,
there was no one to help her.[v]
Her enemies looked at her
and laughed[w] at her destruction.

8 Jerusalem has sinned[x] greatly
and so has become unclean.[y]
All who honored her despise her,
for they have seen her nakedness;[z]
she herself groans[a]
and turns away.

9 Her filthiness clung to her skirts;
she did not consider her future.[b]
Her fall[c] was astounding;
there was none to comfort[d] her.
"Look, O LORD, on my affliction,[e]
for the enemy has triumphed."

10 The enemy laid hands
on all her treasures;[f]
she saw pagan nations
enter her sanctuary[g]—
those you had forbidden[h]
to enter your assembly.

11 All her people groan[i]
as they search for bread;[j]
they barter their treasures for food
to keep themselves alive.
"Look, O LORD, and consider,
for I am despised."

12 "Is it nothing to you, all you who pass by?[k]
Look around and see.
Is any suffering like my suffering[l]
that was inflicted on me,
that the LORD brought on me
in the day of his fierce anger?[m]

13 "From on high he sent fire,
sent it down into my bones.[n]
He spread a net[o] for my feet
and turned me back.
He made me desolate,[p]
faint[q] all the day long.

14 "My sins have been bound into a yoke[b];[r]
by his hands they were woven together.

1:1 [a]S Lev 26:43 [b]S Jer 42:2 [c]S Isa 47:8 [d]S 1Ki 4:21 [e]Isa 3:26; S Jer 40:9; Eze 5:5 **1:2** [f]Ps 6:6 [g]S Jer 3:1 [h]S Jer 4:30; Mic 7:5 [i]ver 16; S Jer 30:14 **1:3** [j]S Jer 13:19 [k]Dt 28:65 [l]S Ex 15:9 **1:4** [m]S Ps 137:1 [n]S Isa 27:10; S Jer 9:11 [o]ver 21; Joel 1:8-13 **1:5** [p]S Isa 22:5; S Jer 30:15 [q]S Ps 5:10 [r]S Jer 10:20; S 39:9; 52:28-30 [s]S Ps 137:3; La 2:17 **1:6** [t]S Ps 9:14; Jer 13:18 [u]S Lev 26:36 **1:7** [v]S 2Ki 14:26; S Jer 37:7; La 4:17 [w]S Jer 2:26 **1:8** [x]ver 20; Isa 59:2-13 [y]S Jer 2:22 [z]S Jer 13:22,26 [a]ver 21,22; S Ps 6:6; S 38:8 **1:9** [b]Dt 32:28-29; Eze 24:13 [c]Jer 13:18 [d]S Ecc 4:1; S Jer 16:7 [e]Ps 25:18 **1:10** [f]S Isa 64:11 [g]Ps 74:7-8; 79:1; Jer 51:51 [h]Dt 23:3 **1:11** [i]S Ps 6:6; S 38:8 [j]S Jer 37:21; S 52:6 **1:12** [k]S Jer 18:16 [l]ver 18 [m]S Isa 10:4; 13:13; S Jer 30:24 **1:13** [n]S Job 30:30; Ps 102:3 [o]S Job 18:8 [p]S Jer 44:6 [q]Hab 3:16 **1:14** [r]S Dt 28:48; S Isa 47:6; S Jer 15:12

[a]This chapter is an acrostic poem, the verses of which begin with the successive letters of the Hebrew alphabet. [b]14 Most Hebrew manuscripts; Septuagint *He kept watch over my sins*

They have come upon my neck
and the Lord has sapped my
strength.
He has handed me over[a]
to those I cannot withstand.

15"The Lord has rejected
all the warriors in my midst;[b]
he has summoned an army[c]
against me
to[c] crush my young men.[d]
In his winepress[e] the Lord has
trampled[f]
the Virgin Daughter[g] of Judah.

16"This is why I weep
and my eyes overflow with tears.[h]
No one is near to comfort[i] me,
no one to restore my spirit.
My children are destitute
because the enemy has
prevailed."[j]

17Zion stretches out her hands,[k]
but there is no one to comfort her.
The LORD has decreed for Jacob
that his neighbors become his
foes;[l]
Jerusalem has become
an unclean[m] thing[n] among them.

18"The LORD is righteous,[o]
yet I rebelled[p] against his
command.
Listen, all you peoples;
look upon my suffering.[q]
My young men and maidens
have gone into exile.[r]

19"I called to my allies[s]
but they betrayed me.
My priests and my elders
perished[t] in the city
while they searched for food
to keep themselves alive.

20"See, O LORD, how distressed[u] I am!
I am in torment[v] within,
and in my heart I am disturbed,[w]
for I have been most rebellious.[x]
Outside, the sword bereaves;
inside, there is only death.[y]

21"People have heard my groaning,[z]
but there is no one to comfort
me.[a]
All my enemies have heard of my
distress;
they rejoice[b] at what you have
done.
May you bring the day[c] you have
announced
so they may become like me.

22"Let all their wickedness come
before you;
deal with them
as you have dealt with me
because of all my sins.[d]
My groans[e] are many
and my heart is faint."

2 How[d] the Lord has covered the
Daughter of Zion
with the cloud of his anger[e]![f]
He has hurled down the splendor of
Israel
from heaven to earth;
he has not remembered his
footstool[g]
in the day of his anger.[h]

2Without pity[i] the Lord has
swallowed[j] up
all the dwellings of Jacob;
in his wrath he has torn down
the strongholds[k] of the Daughter
of Judah.
He has brought her kingdom and its
princes
down to the ground[l] in dishonor.

3In fierce anger he has cut off
every horn[f][m] of Israel.
He has withdrawn his right hand[n]
at the approach of the enemy.
He has burned in Jacob like a
flaming fire
that consumes everything
around it.[o]

4Like an enemy he has strung his
bow;[p]
his right hand is ready.
Like a foe he has slain
all who were pleasing to the eye;[q]
he has poured out his wrath[r] like
fire[s]
on the tent[t] of the Daughter of
Zion.

5The Lord is like an enemy;[u]
he has swallowed up Israel.
He has swallowed up all her palaces
and destroyed her strongholds.[v]
He has multiplied mourning and
lamentation[w]
for the Daughter of Judah.[x]

6He has laid waste his dwelling like a
garden;
he has destroyed[y] his place of
meeting.[z]
The LORD has made Zion forget
her appointed feasts and her
Sabbaths;[a]

1:14 [a]S Jer 32:5 **1:15** [b]Jer 37:10 [c]Isa 41:2 [d]Isa 28:18; S Jer 18:21 [e]S Jdg 6:11 [f]S Isa 5:5 [g]Jer 14:17 **1:16** [h]S Job 7:3; S Ps 119:136; S Isa 22:4; La 2:11,18; 3:48-49 [i]S Ps 69:20; Ecc 4:1; S Jer 16:7 [j]S ver 2; Jer 13:17; 14:17 **1:17** [k]S Jer 4:31 [l]S Ex 23:21 [m]Jer 2:22 [n]S Lev 18:25-28 **1:18** [o]S Ex 9:27; S Ezr 9:15 [p]S 1Sa 12:14 [q]ver 12 [r]Dt 28:32,41 **1:19** [s]S Jer 22:20 [t]S Jer 14:15; La 2:20 **1:20** [u]S Jer 4:19 [v]La 2:11 [w]S Job 20:2 [x]S ver 8 [y]S Dt 32:25; Eze 7:15 **1:21** [z]S ver 8; S Ps 6:6; S 38:8 [a]ver 4 [b]La 2:15 [c]Isa 47:11; Jer 30:16 **1:22** [d]Ne 4:5 [e]S ver 8; S Ps 6:6 **2:1** [f]La 3:44 [g]Ps 99:5; 132:7 [h]S Jer 12:7 **2:2** [i]ver 17; La 3:43 [j]Ps 21:9 [k]Ps 89:39-40; Mic 5:11 [l]S Isa 25:12 **2:3** [m]Ps 75:5,10 [n]Ps 74:11 [o]S Isa 42:25; Jer 21:4-5,14 **2:4** [p]S Job 3:23; 16:13; La 3:12-13 [q]S Ps 48:2; Eze 24:16,25 [r]S 2Ch 34:21; Eze 20:34 [s]Isa 42:25; S Jer 7:20 [t]S Jer 4:20 **2:5** [u]S Job 13:24 [v]ver 2 [w]S Isa 29:2 [x]S Jer 7:20; 9:17-20 **2:6** [y]2Ch 36:19 [z]S Jer 52:13 [a]Zep 3:18

[c]15 Or *has set a time for me / when he will* [d]This chapter is an acrostic poem, the verses of which begin with the successive letters of the Hebrew alphabet. [e]1 Or *How the Lord in his anger / has treated the Daughter of Zion with contempt* [f]3 Or / *all the strength;* or *every king; horn* here symbolizes strength.

in his fierce anger he has
spurned
both king and priest.[a]

7The Lord has rejected his altar
and abandoned his sanctuary.[b]
He has handed over to the enemy
the walls of her palaces;[c]
they have raised a shout in the
house of the LORD
as on the day of an appointed
feast.[d]

8The LORD determined to tear down
the wall around the Daughter of
Zion.[e]
He stretched out a measuring line[f]
and did not withhold his hand
from destroying.
He made ramparts[g] and walls
lament;
together they wasted away.[h]

9Her gates[i] have sunk into the
ground;
their bars[j] he has broken and
destroyed.
Her king and her princes are exiled[k]
among the nations,
the law[l] is no more,
and her prophets[m] no longer find
visions[n] from the LORD.

10The elders of the Daughter of Zion
sit on the ground in silence;[o]
they have sprinkled dust[p] on their
heads[q]
and put on sackcloth.[r]
The young women of Jerusalem
have bowed their heads to the
ground.[s]

11My eyes fail from weeping,[t]
I am in torment within,[u]
my heart[v] is poured out[w] on the
ground
because my people are
destroyed,[x]
because children and infants faint[y]
in the streets of the city.

12They say to their mothers,
"Where is bread and wine?"[z]
as they faint like wounded men
in the streets of the city,
as their lives ebb away[a]
in their mothers' arms.[b]

13What can I say for you?[c]
With what can I compare you,
O Daughter[d] of Jerusalem?
To what can I liken you,
that I may comfort you,
O Virgin Daughter of Zion?[e]
Your wound is as deep as the sea.[f]
Who can heal you?

2:6 [illegible] 2:7 [illegible] 2:8 [illegible] 2:9 [illegible] 2:10 [illegible] 2:11 [illegible] 2:12 [illegible] 2:13 [illegible] 2:14 gS Jer 28:15 hJer 8:11 iJer 2:8; S 20:6; 23:25-32, 33-40; S 29:9; Eze 13:3; 22:28 2:15 jS Nu 24:10; Eze 25:6 kS Dt 28:37; S Isa 29:22; Jer 19:8; S Na 3:19 lS Job 16:4 mS La 1:21 nPs 45:11; S 48:2; 50:2; Eze 16:14 oPs 48:2 2:16 pPs 22:13; La 3:46 qS Job 16:9 rS Ps 35:25 sEze 36:3; Mic 4:11 2:17 tS Jer 39:16 uDt 28:15-45 vS ver 2; Eze 5:11; 7:9; 8:18 wS Ps 22:17 xPs 89:42; S Isa 44:26; yS La 1:5; Zec 1:6 2:18 zS Ps 119:145 aver 8 bS La 1:16 cS Jer 9:1 dLa 3:49 2:19 e1Sa 1:15 fS ver 11; Isa 26:9 gS Ps 28:2 hS Isa 51:20 2:20 iS Dt 28:53; Jer 19:9; Eze 5:10

14The visions of your prophets
were false[g] and worthless;
they did not expose your sin
to ward off your captivity.[h]
The oracles they gave you
were false and misleading.[i]

15All who pass your way
clap their hands[j] at you;
they scoff[k] and shake their heads[l]
at the Daughter of Jerusalem:[m]
"Is this the city that was called
the perfection of beauty,[n]
the joy of the whole earth?"[o]

16All your enemies open their mouths
wide against you;[p]
they scoff and gnash their teeth[q]
and say, "We have swallowed
her up.[r]
This is the day we have waited for;
we have lived to see it."[s]

17The LORD has done what he planned;
he has fulfilled[t] his word,
which he decreed long ago.[u]
He has overthrown you without
pity,[v]
he has let the enemy gloat over
you,[w]
he has exalted the horn[a] of your
foes.[x]

18The hearts of the people
cry out to the Lord.[z]
O wall of the Daughter of Zion,[a]
let your tears[b] flow like a river
day and night;[c]
give yourself no relief,
your eyes no rest.[d]

19Arise, cry out in the night,
as the watches of the night begin;
pour out your heart[e] like water
in the presence of the Lord.[f]
Lift up your hands[g] to him
for the lives of your children,
who faint[h] from hunger
at the head of every street.

20"Look, O LORD, and consider:
Whom have you ever treated like
this?
Should women eat their offspring,[i]
the children they have cared for?[j]
Should priest and prophet be killed[k]
in the sanctuary of the Lord?[l]

21"Young and old lie together
in the dust of the streets;
my young men and maidens
have fallen by the sword.[m]

jLa 4:10 kPs 78:64; S Jer 14:15; 23:11-12 lS La 1:19 2:21 mS Dt 32:25; S 2Ch 36:17; Ps 78:62-63; Jer 6:11

a17 Horn here symbolizes strength.

You have slain them in the day of your anger;
you have slaughtered them without pity.[a]

22"As you summon to a feast day,
so you summoned against me terrors[b] on every side.
In the day of the LORD's anger
no one escaped[c] or survived;
those I cared for and reared,[d]
my enemy has destroyed."

3 I[h] am the man who has seen affliction[e]
by the rod of his wrath.[f]
2He has driven me away and made me walk
in darkness[g] rather than light;
3indeed, he has turned his hand against me[h]
again and again, all day long.
4He has made my skin and my flesh grow old[i]
and has broken my bones.[j]
5He has besieged me and surrounded me
with bitterness[k] and hardship.[l]
6He has made me dwell in darkness
like those long dead.[m]

7He has walled me in so I cannot escape;[n]
he has weighed me down with chains.[o]
8Even when I call out or cry for help,[p]
he shuts out my prayer.[q]
9He has barred[r] my way with blocks of stone;
he has made my paths crooked.[s]

10Like a bear lying in wait,
like a lion[t] in hiding,[u]
11he dragged me from the path and mangled[v] me
and left me without help.
12He drew his bow[w]
and made me the target[x] for his arrows.[y]

13He pierced[z] my heart
with arrows from his quiver.[a]
14I became the laughingstock[b] of all my people;[c]
they mock me in song[d] all day long.
15He has filled me with bitter herbs
and sated me with gall.[e]

16He has broken my teeth with gravel;[f]
he has trampled me in the dust.[g]
17I have been deprived of peace;
I have forgotten what prosperity is.
18So I say, "My splendor is gone
and all that I had hoped from the LORD."[h]

19I remember my affliction and my wandering,
the bitterness[i] and the gall.[j]
20I well remember them,
and my soul is downcast[k] within me.[l]
21Yet this I call to mind
and therefore I have hope:

22Because of the LORD's great love[m] we are not consumed,[n]
for his compassions never fail.[o]
23They are new every morning;
great is your faithfulness.[p]
24I say to myself, "The LORD is my portion;[q]
therefore I will wait for him."

25The LORD is good to those whose hope is in him,
to the one who seeks him;[r]
26it is good to wait quietly[s]
for the salvation of the LORD.[t]
27It is good for a man to bear the yoke
while he is young.

28Let him sit alone in silence,[u]
for the LORD has laid it on him.
29Let him bury his face in the dust[v]—
there may yet be hope.[w]
30Let him offer his cheek to one who would strike him,[x]
and let him be filled with disgrace.[y]

31For men are not cast off
by the Lord forever.[z]
32Though he brings grief, he will show compassion,
so great is his unfailing love.[a]
33For he does not willingly bring affliction
or grief to the children of men.[b]

34To crush underfoot
all prisoners in the land,
35to deny a man his rights
before the Most High,[c]
36to deprive a man of justice—
would not the Lord see such things?[d]

37Who can speak and have it happen
if the Lord has not decreed it?[e]

2:21 [a]S Jer 13:14; La 3:43; Zec 11:6 **2:22** [b]S Ps 31:13; S Jer 20:10 [c]S Jer 11:11 [d]Job 27:14; Hos 9:13 **3:1** [e]Jer 15:17-18 [f]S Job 19:21; Ps 88:7 **3:2** [g]S Job 19:8; S Ps 82:5; S Jer 4:23 **3:3** [h]Ps 38:2; Isa 5:25 **3:4** [i]S Job 30:30; La 4:8 [j]Ps 51:8; S Isa 38:13; S Jer 50:17 **3:5** [k]ver 19 [l]Jer 23:15 **3:6** [m]Ps 88:5-6; 143:3; Isa 59:10 **3:7** [n]S Job 3:23 [o]Jer 40:4 **3:8** [p]Ps 5:2 [q]ver 44; S Dt 1:45; S Job 30:20; Ps 22:2 **3:9** [r]S Job 19:8 [s]S Job 9:24; S Isa 63:17; Hos 2:6 **3:10** [t]S Job 10:16 [u]Hos 13:8; Am 5:18-19 **3:11** [v]Hos 6:1 **3:12** [w]S La 2:4 [x]Job 7:20 [y]S Job 16:12; Ps 7:12-13; 38:2 **3:13** [z]S Job 16:13 [a]Job 6:4 **3:14** [b]S Ge 38:23; Ps 22:6-7; Jer 20:7 [c]S Job 17:2 [d]S Job 30:9 **3:15** [e]ver 19; Jer 9:15 **3:16** [f]S Pr 20:17 [g]S Ps 7:5 **3:18** [h]S ver 54; S Job 17:15 **3:19** [i]ver 5 [j]S ver 15 **3:20** [k]S Ps 42:5 [l]Ps 42:11; 43:5 **3:22** [m]S Ps 103:11 [n]S Job 34:15; S Hos 11:9 [o]Ps 78:38; 130:7 **3:23** [p]S Ex 34:6; Zep 3:5 **3:24** [q]S Ps 119:57 **3:25** [r]S Ps 33:18; Isa 25:9; S 30:18 **3:26** [s]S Isa 7:4 [t]Ps 37:7; 40:1 **3:28** [u]Jer 15:17; La 2:10 **3:29** [v]S Job 2:8 [w]S Jer 31:17 **3:30** [x]S Job 16:10; S Isa 50:6 [y]Mic 5:1 **3:31** [z]Ps 94:14; Isa 54:7 **3:32** [a]Ps 78:38; 106:43-45; Hos 11:8; Na 1:12 **3:33** [b]S Job 37:23; S Jer 31:20; Eze 18:23; 33:11 **3:35** [c]Ge 14:18,19,20,22 **3:36** [d]Ps 140:12; S Pr 17:15; S Jer 22:3; Hab 1:13 **3:37** [e]Ps 33:9-11; S Pr 19:21; S 21:30

[h]This chapter is an acrostic poem; the verses of each stanza begin with the successive letters of the Hebrew alphabet, and the verses within each stanza begin with the same letter.

38 Is it not from the mouth of the Most
High
that both calamities and good
things come?[a]
39 Why should any living man
complain
when punished for his sins?[b]

40 Let us examine our ways and test
them,[c]
and let us return to the LORD.[d]
41 Let us lift up our hearts and our
hands
to God in heaven,[e] and say:
42 "We have sinned and rebelled[f]
and you have not forgiven.[g]

43 "You have covered yourself with
anger and pursued[h] us;
you have slain without pity.[i]
44 You have covered yourself with a
cloud[j]
so that no prayer[k] can get
through.[l]
45 You have made us scum[m] and
refuse
among the nations.

46 "All our enemies have opened their
mouths
wide[n] against us.[o]
47 We have suffered terror and
pitfalls,[p]
ruin and destruction."[q]
48 Streams of tears[r] flow from my
eyes[s]
because my people are
destroyed.[t]

49 My eyes will flow unceasingly,
without relief,[u]
50 until the LORD looks down
from heaven and sees.[v]
51 What I see brings grief to my soul
because of all the women of my
city.

52 Those who were my enemies
without cause
hunted me like a bird.[w]
53 They tried to end my life in a pit[x]
and threw stones at me;
54 the waters closed over my head,[y]
and I thought I was about to be
cut off.[z]

55 I called on your name, O LORD,
from the depths[a] of the pit.[b]
56 You heard my plea:[c] "Do not close
your ears
to my cry for relief."
57 You came near[d] when I called you,
and you said, "Do not fear."[e]

58 O Lord, you took up my case;[f]
you redeemed my life.[g]

3:38 [a]S Job 2:10; S Isa 45:7; Jer 32:42
3:39 [b]S Jer 30:15; Mic 7:9
3:40 [c]2Co 13:5 [d]Ps 119:59; 139:23-24
3:41 [e]S Ps 25:1; S 28:2
3:42 [f]Jer 14:20; Da 9:5 [g]S 2Ki 24:4; Jer 5:7-9
3:43 [h]ver 66; Ps 35:6 [i]S La 2:2, 17,21
3:44 [j]Ps 97:2; La 2:1 [k]S ver 8; Zec 7:13 [l]S Isa 58:4
3:45 [m]1Co 4:13
3:46 [n]Ps 22:13 [o]La 2:16
3:47 [p]Jer 48:43 [q]S Isa 24:17-18; S 51:19
3:48 [r]S Ps 119:136 [s]S Jer 9:1,18; La 1:16 [t]La 2:11
3:49 [u]Jer 14:17; S La 2:18
3:50 [v]S Ps 14:2; 80:14; S Isa 63:15
3:52 [w]Ps 35:7
3:53 [x]Jer 37:16; S 38:6
3:54 [y]Ps 69:2; Jnh 2:3-5 [z]ver 18; Ps 88:5; Eze 37:11
3:55 [a]S Ps 88:6 [b]Ps 130:1; Jnh 2:2
3:56 [c]S Ps 55:1; 116:1-2
3:57 [d]S Ps 46:1 [e]Isa 41:10
3:58 [f]S Jer 51:36 [g]Ps 34:22; S Jer 50:34
3:59 [h]Jer 18:19-20 [i]Ps 35:23; 43:1
3:60 [j]S Jer 11:20; 18:18
3:61 [k]Ps 89:50; Zep 2:8
3:62 [l]Eze 36:3
3:63 [m]S Job 30:9
3:64 [n]S Ps 28:4; S Jer 51:6
3:65 [o]Ex 14:8; Dt 2:30; Isa 6:10
3:66 [p]S ver 43
4:1 [q]Eze 7:19
4:2 [r]Isa 51:18
4:3 [s]S Job 39:16
4:4 [t]S Dt 28:48; S 2Ki 18:31 [u]S Ps 22:15 [v]La 2:11,12
4:5 [w]Jer 6:2 [x]S Isa 3:26; Am 6:3-7
4:6 [y]S Ge 19:25
4:8 [z]S Job 30:28

59 You have seen, O LORD, the wrong
done to me.[h]
Uphold my cause![i]
60 You have seen the depth of their
vengeance,
all their plots against me.[j]

61 O LORD, you have heard their
insults,[k]
all their plots against me—
62 what my enemies whisper and
mutter
against me all day long.[l]
63 Look at them! Sitting or standing,
they mock me in their songs.[m]

64 Pay them back what they deserve,
O LORD,
for what their hands have done.[n]
65 Put a veil over their hearts,[o]
and may your curse be on them!
66 Pursue[p] them in anger and destroy
them
from under the heavens of the
LORD.

4[i] How the gold has lost its luster,
the fine gold become dull!
The sacred gems are scattered
at the head of every street.[q]

2 How the precious sons of Zion,[r]
once worth their weight in gold,
are now considered as pots of clay,
the work of a potter's hands!

3 Even jackals offer their breasts
to nurse their young,
but my people have become
heartless
like ostriches in the desert.[s]

4 Because of thirst[t] the infant's tongue
sticks to the roof of its mouth;[u]
the children beg for bread,
but no one gives it to them.[v]

5 Those who once ate delicacies
are destitute in the streets.
Those nurtured in purple[w]
now lie on ash heaps.[x]

6 The punishment of my people
is greater than that of Sodom,[y]
which was overthrown in a moment
without a hand turned to help her.

7 Their princes were brighter than
snow
and whiter than milk,
their bodies more ruddy than rubies,
their appearance like sapphires.[j]

8 But now they are blacker[z] than soot;

[i] This chapter is an acrostic poem, the verses of which begin with the successive letters of the Hebrew alphabet. [j]7 Or *lapis lazuli*

they are not recognized in the streets.
Their skin has shriveled on their bones;[a]
it has become as dry as a stick.

9Those killed by the sword are better off
than those who die of famine;[b]
racked with hunger, they waste away
for lack of food from the field.[c]

10With their own hands compassionate women
have cooked their own children,[d]
who became their food
when my people were destroyed.

11The LORD has given full vent to his wrath;[e]
he has poured out[f] his fierce anger.[g]
He kindled a fire[h] in Zion
that consumed her foundations.[i]

12The kings of the earth did not believe,
nor did any of the world's people,
that enemies and foes could enter
the gates of Jerusalem.[j]

13But it happened because of the sins of her prophets
and the iniquities of her priests,[k]
who shed within her
the blood[l] of the righteous.

14Now they grope through the streets
like men who are blind.[m]
They are so defiled with blood[n]
that no one dares to touch their garments.

15"Go away! You are unclean!" men cry to them.
"Away! Away! Don't touch us!"
When they flee and wander[o] about,
people among the nations say,
"They can stay here no longer."[p]

16The LORD himself has scattered them;
he no longer watches over them.[q]
The priests are shown no honor,
the elders[r] no favor.[s]

17Moreover, our eyes failed,
looking in vain[t] for help;[u]
from our towers we watched
for a nation[v] that could not save us.

18Men stalked us at every step,
so we could not walk in our streets.
Our end was near, our days were numbered,
for our end had come.[w]

19Our pursuers were swifter
than eagles[x] in the sky;
they chased us[y] over the mountains
and lay in wait for us in the desert.[z]

20The LORD's anointed,[a] our very life breath,
was caught in their traps.[b]
We thought that under his shadow[c]
we would live among the nations.

21Rejoice and be glad, O Daughter of Edom,
you who live in the land of Uz.[d]
But to you also the cup[e] will be passed;
you will be drunk and stripped naked.[f]

22O Daughter of Zion, your punishment will end;[g]
he will not prolong your exile.
But, O Daughter of Edom, he will punish your sin
and expose your wickedness.[h]

5 Remember, O LORD, what has happened to us;
look, and see our disgrace.[i]
2Our inheritance[j] has been turned over to aliens,[k]
our homes[l] to foreigners.[m]
3We have become orphans and fatherless,
our mothers like widows.[n]
4We must buy the water we drink;[o]
our wood can be had only at a price.[p]
5Those who pursue us are at our heels;
we are weary[q] and find no rest.[r]
6We submitted to Egypt and Assyria[s]
to get enough bread.
7Our fathers[t] sinned and are no more,
and we bear their punishment.[u]
8Slaves[v] rule over us,
and there is none to free us from their hands.[w]
9We get our bread at the risk of our lives
because of the sword in the desert.
10Our skin is hot as an oven,
feverish from hunger.[x]
11Women have been ravished[y] in Zion,
and virgins in the towns of Judah.
12Princes have been hung up by their hands;
elders[z] are shown no respect.[a]

4:8 [a]Ps 102:3-5; S La 3:4 **4:9** [b]S 2Ki 25:3 [c]S Jer 15:2; S 16:4; La 5:10 **4:10** [d]S Lev 26:29; Dt 28:53-57; Jer 19:9; La 2:20; Eze 5:10 **4:11** [e]S Job 20:23 [f]S 2Ch 34:21 [g]Na 1:6; Zep 2:2; 3:8 [h]Jer 17:27 [i]S Dt 32:22; S Jer 7:20; Eze 22:31 **4:12** [j]S 1Ki 9:9; S Jer 21:13 **4:13** [k]Jer 5:31; 6:13; Eze 22:28; Mic 3:11 [l]S 2Ki 21:16 **4:14** [m]S Isa 59:10 [n]Jer 19:4 **4:15** [o]S Jer 44:14 [p]Lev 13:46; Mic 2:10 **4:16** [q]Isa 9:14-16 [r]La 5:12 [s]S La 2:6 **4:17** [t]S Ge 15:18; S Isa 20:5; Eze 29:16 [u]S La 1:7 [v]Jer 37:7 **4:18** [w]Eze 7:2-12; Am 8:2 **4:19** [x]S Dt 28:49 [y]S Lev 26:36; Isa 5:26-28 [z]Jer 52:7 **4:20** [a]S 1Sa 26:9; 2Sa 19:21 [b]Jer 39:5; Eze 12:12-13; 19:4,8 [c]S Ps 91:1 **4:21** [d]S Ge 10:23 [e]S Ps 16:5; S Jer 25:15 [f]Isa 34:6-10; S 63:6; Eze 35:15; Am 1:11-12; Ob 1:16; Hab 2:16 **4:22** [g]Isa 40:2; Jer 33:8 [h]S Ps 137:7; Eze 25:12-14; Mal 1:4 **5:1** [i]Ps 44:13-16; 89:50 **5:2** [j]Ps 79:1 [k]S Ps 109:11 [l]Zep 1:13 [m]Jer 17:4 **5:3** [n]S Ex 22:24; Jer 15:8; S 18:21 **5:4** [o]S Isa 55:1; Eze 4:16-17 [p]Isa 3:1 **5:5** [q]S Ne 9:37; Isa 47:6 [r]S Jos 1:13 **5:6** [s]Jer 2:36; Hos 5:13; 7:11; 9:3 **5:7** [t]S Jer 31:29 [u]Jer 14:20; 16:12 **5:8** [v]Ne 5:15 [w]Zec 11:6 **5:10** [x]S Job 30:30; S La 4:8-9 **5:11** [y]S Ge 34:29; Zec 14:2

5:12 [z]S Lev 19:32 [a]S La 2:6; 4:16

13 Young men toil at the millstones;
boys stagger under loads of wood.
14 The elders are gone from the city gate;
the young men have stopped their music.[a]
15 Joy is gone from our hearts;
our dancing has turned to mourning.[b]
16 The crown[c] has fallen from our head.[d]
Woe to us, for we have sinned![e]
17 Because of this our hearts[f] are faint,[g]
because of these things our eyes[h] grow dim[i]
18 for Mount Zion,[j] which lies desolate,[k]
with jackals prowling over it.

19 You, O LORD, reign forever;[l]
your throne endures[m] from generation to generation.
20 Why do you always forget us?[n]
Why do you forsake[o] us so long?
21 Restore[p] us to yourself, O LORD, that we may return;
renew our days as of old
22 unless you have utterly rejected us[q]
and are angry with us beyond measure.[r]

5:14 [a]S Isa 24:8; Jer 7:34 **5:15** [b]S Jer 25:10; Am 8:10 **5:16** [c]Ps 89:39; S Jer 13:18 [d]S Job 19:9 [e]S Isa 3:11; Jer 14:20 **5:17** [f]S Isa 1:5 [g]S Jer 8:18 [h]Ps 6:7 [i]S Job 16:8 **5:18** [j]Ps 74:2-3 [k]S Isa 27:10; Mic 3:12 **5:19** [l]S 1Ch 16:31 [m]S Ps 45:6; 102:12,24-27 **5:20** [n]S Ps 13:1; 44:24 [o]S Ps 71:11 **5:21** [p]S Ps 80:3; Isa 60:20-22 **5:22** [q]S Ps 53:5; 60:1-2; S Jer 6:30 [r]S Isa 64:9

Ezekiel

The Living Creatures and the Glory of the LORD

1 In the[a] thirtieth year, in the fourth
month on the fifth day, while I was
among the exiles[a] by the Kebar River,[b]
the heavens were opened[c] and I saw
visions[d] of God.
2 On the fifth of the month—it was
the fifth year of the exile of King Jehoia-
chin[e]— 3 the word of the LORD came to
Ezekiel[f] the priest, the son of Buzi,[b]
by the Kebar River in the land of the
Babylonians.[c] There the hand of the
LORD was upon him.[g]
4 I looked, and I saw a windstorm[h]
coming out of the north[i]—an immense
cloud with flashing lightning and sur-
rounded by brilliant light. The center of
the fire looked like glowing metal,[j]
5 and in the fire was what looked like
four living creatures.[k] In appearance
their form was that of a man,[l] 6 but
each of them had four faces[m] and four
wings. 7 Their legs were straight; their
feet were like those of a calf and
gleamed like burnished bronze.[n] 8 Un-
der their wings on their four sides they
had the hands of a man.[o] All four of
them had faces and wings, 9 and their
wings touched one another. Each one
went straight ahead; they did not turn
as they moved.[p]
10 Their faces looked like this: Each of
the four had the face of a man, and on
the right side each had the face of a
lion, and on the left the face of an ox;
each also had the face of an eagle.[q]
11 Such were their faces. Their wings[r]
were spread out upward; each had two
wings, one touching the wing of an-
other creature on either side, and two
wings covering its body. 12 Each one
went straight ahead. Wherever the
spirit would go, they would go, with-
out turning as they went.[s] 13 The ap-
pearance of the living creatures was
like burning coals[t] of fire or like
torches. Fire moved back and forth
among the creatures; it was bright, and
lightning[u] flashed out of it. 14 The crea-
tures sped back and forth like flashes of
lightning.[v]
15 As I looked at the living creatures,[w]
I saw a wheel[x] on the ground beside
each creature with its four faces. 16 This
was the appearance and structure of
the wheels: They sparkled like chryso-
lite,[y] and all four looked alike. Each
appeared to be made like a wheel inter-
secting a wheel. 17 As they moved, they
would go in any one of the four direc-
tions the creatures faced; the wheels
did not turn[z] about[d] as the creatures
went. 18 Their rims were high and awe-
some, and all four rims were full of
eyes[a] all around.
19 When the living creatures moved,
the wheels beside them moved; and
when the living creatures rose from the
ground, the wheels also rose.
20 Wherever the spirit would go, they
would go,[b] and the wheels would rise
along with them, because the spirit of
the living creatures was in the wheels.
21 When the creatures moved, they also
moved; when the creatures stood still,
they also stood still; and when the crea-
tures rose from the ground, the wheels
rose along with them, because the
spirit of the living creatures was in the
wheels.[c]
22 Spread out above the heads of the
living creatures was what looked like
an expanse,[d] sparkling like ice, and
awesome. 23 Under the expanse their
wings were stretched out one toward
the other, and each had two wings
covering its body. 24 When the creatures
moved, I heard the sound of their
wings, like the roar of rushing[e] waters,
like the voice[f] of the Almighty,[e] like
the tumult of an army.[g] When they
stood still, they lowered their wings.
25 Then there came a voice from above
the expanse over their heads as they
stood with lowered wings. 26 Above the
expanse over their heads was what

1:1 [a]S Dt 21:10; Eze 11:24-25 [b]S Ps 137:1 [c]S Mt 3:16 [d]S Ex 24:10 **1:2** [e]S 2Ki 24:15 **1:3** [f]Eze 24:24 [g]S 2Ki 3:15; Isa 8:11; Eze 3:14,22; 8:1; 33:22; 37:1; 40:1 **1:4** [h]S Job 38:1 [i]Jer 1:14 [j]Eze 8:2 **1:5** [k]S Isa 6:2; Rev 4:6 [l]ver 26; Da 7:13 **1:6** [m]Eze 10:14 **1:7** [n]Eze 40:3; Da 10:6; S Rev 1:15 **1:8** [o]Eze 10:8 **1:9** [p]Eze 10:22 **1:10** [q]Eze 10:14; Rev 4:7 **1:11** [r]Isa 6:2 **1:12** [s]Eze 10:16-19 **1:13** [t]S 2Sa 22:9 [u]Rev 4:5
1:14 [v]S Ps 29:7 **1:15** [w]Eze 3:13 [x]Eze 10:2; Da 7:9 **1:16** [y]S Ex 28:20 **1:17** [z]ver 9 **1:18** [a]Rev 4:6 **1:20** [b]ver 12 **1:21** [c]Eze 10:9-12 **1:22** [d]Eze 10:1 **1:24** [e]S Ps 46:3; Eze 3:13 [f]Eze 10:5; 43:2; Da 10:6; Rev 1:15; 14:2; 19:6 [g]S 2Ki 7:6

[a]1 Or *my* [b]3 Or *Ezekiel son of Buzi the priest* [c]3 Or *Chaldeans* [d]17 Or *aside* [e]24 Hebrew *Shaddai*

looked like a throne[a] of sapphire,[a] [b]
and high above on the throne was a
figure like that of a man.[c] 27I saw that
from what appeared to be his waist up
he looked like glowing metal, as if full
of fire, and that from there down he
looked like fire; and brilliant light sur-
rounded him.[d] 28Like the appearance
of a rainbow[e] in the clouds on a rainy
day, so was the radiance around him.[f]
This was the appearance of the like-
ness of the glory[g] of the LORD. When I
saw it, I fell facedown,[h] and I heard
the voice of one speaking.

Ezekiel's Call

2 He said to me, "Son of man,[i]
stand[j] up on your feet and I will
speak to you.[k]" 2As he spoke, the
Spirit came into me and raised me[l] to
my feet, and I heard him speaking to
me.

3He said: "Son of man, I am sending
you to the Israelites, to a rebellious na-
tion that has rebelled against me; they
and their fathers have been in revolt
against me to this very day.[m] 4The
people to whom I am sending you are
obstinate and stubborn.[n] Say to them,
'This is what the Sovereign LORD
says.'[o] 5And whether they listen or fail
to listen[p]—for they are a rebellious
house[q]—they will know that a prophet
has been among them.[r] 6And you, son
of man, do not be afraid[s] of them or
their words. Do not be afraid, though
briers and thorns[t] are all around you
and you live among scorpions. Do not
be afraid of what they say or terrified
by them, though they are a rebellious
house.[u] 7You must speak[v] my words
to them, whether they listen or fail to
listen, for they are rebellious.[w] 8But
you, son of man, listen to what I say to
you. Do not rebel[x][y] like that rebellious
house;[z] open your mouth and eat[a]
what I give you."

9Then I looked, and I saw a hand[b]
stretched out to me. In it was a scroll,[c]
10which he unrolled before me. On
both sides of it were written words of
lament and mourning and woe.[d]

3 And he said to me, "Son of man,
eat what is before you, eat this
scroll; then go and speak to the house
of Israel." 2So I opened my mouth, and
he gave me the scroll to eat.

3Then he said to me, "Son of man,
eat this scroll I am giving you and fill
your stomach with it." So I ate[e] it, and
it tasted as sweet as honey[f] in my
mouth.

1:26 [a]S 1Ki 22:19; Isa 6:1; S Jer 3:17 [b]S Ex 24:10 [c]S ver 5; S Eze 2:1; S Rev 1:13
1:27 [d]Eze 8:2
1:28 [e]S Ge 9:13; Rev 10:1 [f]S Rev 4:2 [g]S Ex 16:7; S 24:16; Lk 2:9 [h]S Ge 17:3; S Nu 14:5
2:1 [i]S Job 25:6; Ps 8:4; S Eze 1:26; Da 7:13; 8:15 [j]Da 10:11; Ac 14:10; 26:16 [k]Ac 9:6
2:2 [l]Eze 3:24; Da 8:18
2:3 [m]S Jer 3:25; Eze 5:6; 20:8-24; 24:3
2:4 [n]S Ex 32:9; S Isa 9:9; Eze 3:7 [o]Am 7:15
2:5 [p]Eze 3:11 [q]Eze 3:27 [r]S Jer 5:3; Eze 33:33; Jn 15:22
2:6 [s]S Dt 31:6; S 2Ki 1:15 [t]S Nu 33:55; Isa 9:18; Mic 7:4 [u]S Isa 1:2; 30:9; Eze 24:3; 44:6
2:7 [v]Jer 7:27 [w]Jer 1:7; S 42:21; Eze 3:10-11
2:8 [x]Nu 20:10-13 [y]Isa 8:11 [z]S Isa 50:5 [a]Ps 81:10; S Jer 15:16; Rev 10:9
2:9 [b]Eze 8:3 [c]S Ps 40:7; S Jer 36:4; Rev 5:1-5; 10:8-10
2:10 [d]Isa 3:11; Rev 8:13
3:3 [e]S Jer 15:16 [f]S Ps 19:10; Rev 10:9-10
3:4 [g]Eze 11:4,25
3:5 [h]S Isa 28:11; Jnh 1:2
3:6 [i]Jnh 3:5-10; Mt 11:21-23; Ac 13:46-48
3:7 [j]S Jer 7:27 [k]Isa 48:4; Jer 3:3; S Eze 2:4; Jn 15:20-23
3:8 [l]Jer 1:18; S 15:20
3:9 [m]S Isa 48:4 [n]S Jer 5:3 [o]Isa 50:7; Eze 2:6; 44:6; Mic 3:8
3:10 [p]S Job 22:22
3:11 [q]S Isa 6:9 [r]ver 27 [s]Eze 2:4-5,7; 11:24-25
3:12 [t]ver 14; Eze 8:3; 43:5
3:13 [u]Eze 1:15 [v]Eze 1:24; 10:5, 16-17
3:14 [w]S 1Ki 18:12 [x]S ver 12 [y]ver 22; S Isa 8:11; Eze 37:1
3:15 [z]S Ps 137:1 [a]S Ge 50:10

4He then said to me: "Son of man, go
now to the house of Israel and speak
my words to them.[g] 5You are not being
sent to a people of obscure speech and
difficult language,[h] but to the house of
Israel— 6not to many peoples of ob-
scure speech and difficult language,
whose words you cannot understand.
Surely if I had sent you to them, they
would have listened to you.[i] 7But the
house of Israel is not willing to listen[j]
to you because they are not willing to
listen to me, for the whole house of Is-
rael is hardened and obstinate.[k] 8But I
will make you as unyielding and hard-
ened as they are.[l] 9I will make your
forehead[m] like the hardest stone, hard-
er than flint.[n] Do not be afraid of them
or terrified by them, though they are a
rebellious house.[o]"

10And he said to me, "Son of man,
listen carefully and take to heart[p] all
the words I speak to you. 11Go[q] now to
your countrymen in exile and speak to
them. Say to them, 'This is what the
Sovereign LORD says,'[r] whether they
listen or fail to listen.[s]"

12Then the Spirit lifted me up,[t] and I
heard behind me a loud rumbling
sound—May the glory of the LORD be
praised in his dwelling place!— 13the
sound of the wings of the living crea-
tures[u] brushing against each other and
the sound of the wheels beside them, a
loud rumbling sound.[v] 14The Spirit[w]
then lifted me up[x] and took me away,
and I went in bitterness and in the an-
ger of my spirit, with the strong hand
of the LORD[y] upon me. 15I came to the
exiles who lived at Tel Abib near the
Kebar River.[z] And there, where they
were living, I sat among them for seven
days[a]—overwhelmed.

Warning to Israel

16At the end of seven days the word
of the LORD came to me:[b] 17"Son of
man, I have made you a watchman[c]
for the house of Israel; so hear the
word I speak and give them warning
from me.[d] 18When I say to a wicked
man, 'You will surely die,'[e] and you
do not warn him or speak out to dis-
suade him from his evil ways in order
to save his life, that wicked man will
die for[b] his sin, and I will hold you ac-
countable for his blood.[f] 19But if you
do warn the wicked man and he does

3:16 [b]Jer 42:7 3:17 [c]S Isa 52:8 [d]S Isa 56:10; Jer 6:17; Eze 33:7-9; Hab 2:1 3:18 [e]S Ge 2:17; Jn 8:21,24 [f]ver 20

[a]26 Or *lapis lazuli*   [b]18 Or *in*; also in verses 19 and 20

not turn[a] from his wickedness[b] or
from his evil ways, he will die[c] for his
sin; but you will have saved yourself.[d]
20 "Again, when a righteous man
turns[e] from his righteousness and
does evil, and I put a stumbling block[f]
before him, he will die. Since you did
not warn him, he will die for his sin.
The righteous things he did will not be
remembered, and I will hold you ac-
countable for his blood.[g] 21 But if you
do warn the righteous man not to sin
and he does not sin, he will surely live
because he took warning, and you will
have saved yourself.[h]"
22 The hand of the LORD[i] was upon
me there, and he said to me, "Get up
and go[j] out to the plain,[k] and there I
will speak to you." 23 So I got up and
went out to the plain. And the glory of
the LORD was standing there, like the
glory I had seen by the Kebar River,[l]
and I fell facedown.[m]
24 Then the Spirit came into me and
raised me[n] to my feet. He spoke to me
and said: "Go, shut yourself inside
your house.[o] 25 And you, son of man,
they will tie with ropes; you will be
bound so that you cannot go out
among the people.[p] 26 I will make your
tongue stick to the roof[q] of your mouth
so that you will be silent and unable to
rebuke them, though they are a rebel-
lious house.[r] 27 But when I speak to
you, I will open your mouth and you
shall say to them, 'This is what the Sov-
ereign LORD says.'[s] Whoever will listen
let him listen, and whoever will refuse
let him refuse; for they are a rebellious
house.[t]

Siege of Jerusalem Symbolized

4 "Now, son of man, take a clay tab-
let, put it in front of you and draw
the city of Jerusalem on it. 2 Then lay
siege to it: Erect siege works against it,
build a ramp[u] up to it, set up camps
against it and put battering rams
around it.[v] 3 Then take an iron pan,[w]
place it as an iron wall between you
and the city and turn your face
toward[x] it. It will be under siege, and
you shall besiege it. This will be a sign[y]
to the house of Israel.[z]
4 "Then lie on your left side and put
the sin of the house of Israel upon
yourself.[a] You are to bear their sin for
the number of days you lie on your
side. 5 I have assigned you the same
number of days as the years of their
sin. So for 390 days you will bear the
sin of the house of Israel.

3:19 a S Ps 7:12 b S Ge 6:5 c S Jer 42:16 d S 2Ki 17:13; Eze 14:14,20; Ac 18:6; 20:26; 1Ti 4:14-16
3:20 e S Jer 34:16 f S Lev 26:37; S Isa 8:14; S Eze 7:19 g ver 18; Ps 125:5; Eze 18:24; 33:12, 18
3:21 h Ac 20:31
3:22 i S ver 14; S Eze 1:3 j Ac 9:6 k Eze 8:4
3:23 l Eze 1:1 m S Ge 17:3
3:24 n S Eze 2:2 o Jer 15:17
3:25 p Eze 4:8
3:26 q S Ps 22:15 r Eze 2:5; 24:27; 33:22; Hos 4:4
3:27 s ver 11 t Eze 2:5; 12:3; 24:27; 29:21; 33:22; Rev 22:11
4:2 u S Jer 6:6; Eze 17:17; Da 11:15 v S Jer 33:4; Eze 21:22
4:3 w S Lev 2:5 x ver 7; Eze 20:46; 21:2 y S Isa 8:18; S 20:3; Jer 13:1-7; 18:1-4; 19:1-2; Eze 5:1-4; 12:3-6 z S Jer 39:1
4:6 b S Ex 28:38 c Nu 14:34; Da 9:24-26; 12:11-12
4:7 d S ver 3; Eze 6:2; S 13:17
4:8 e Eze 3:25
4:9 f S Isa 28:25
4:10 g S Ex 30:13
4:11 h ver 16
4:12 i S Isa 36:12
4:13 j Hos 9:3; Am 7:17
4:14 k Jer 1:6; Eze 9:8; 20:49 l S Lev 11:39 m S Ex 22:31; Dt 14:3; 32:37-38; Da 1:8; Hos 9:3-4
4:16 n S Ps 105:16 o ver 10-11; S Lev 26:26; Isa 3:1; Eze 12:19
4:17 p La 5:4; Eze 5:16; 12:18-19; Am 4:8 q S Lev 26:39; Eze 24:23; 33:10
5:1 r S Nu 6:5 s Eze 44:20 t S Lev 21:5; S 2Sa 10:4
5:2 u Zec 13:8 v Jer 21:10; Eze 15:7 w ver 10; Jer 13:24 x ver 12; S Lev 26:33; S Jer 9:16; S 39:1-2
5:3 y 2Ki 25:12; S Ps 74:11; Jer 39:10
5:4 z Eze 10:7; 15:7

6 "After you have finished this, lie
down again, this time on your right
side, and bear the sin[b] of the house of
Judah. I have assigned you 40 days, a
day for each year.[c] 7 Turn your face[d]
toward the siege of Jerusalem and with
bared arm prophesy against her. 8 I will
tie you up with ropes so that you can-
not turn from one side to the other un-
til you have finished the days of your
siege.[e]
9 "Take wheat and barley, beans and
lentils, millet and spelt;[f] put them in a
storage jar and use them to make bread
for yourself. You are to eat it during the
390 days you lie on your side. 10 Weigh
out twenty shekels[g][i] of food to eat
each day and eat it at set times. 11 Also
measure out a sixth of a hin[j] of water
and drink it at set times.[h] 12 Eat the
food as you would a barley cake; bake
it in the sight of the people, using hu-
man excrement[i] for fuel." 13 The LORD
said, "In this way the people of Israel
will eat defiled food among the nations
where I will drive them."[j]
14 Then I said, "Not so, Sovereign
LORD![k] I have never defiled myself.
From my youth until now I have never
eaten anything found dead[l] or torn by
wild animals. No unclean meat has
ever entered my mouth.[m]"
15 "Very well," he said, "I will let you
bake your bread over cow manure in-
stead of human excrement."
16 He then said to me: "Son of man, I
will cut off[n] the supply of food in
Jerusalem. The people will eat rationed
food in anxiety and drink rationed
water in despair,[o] 17 for food and water
will be scarce.[p] They will be appalled
at the sight of each other and will waste
away because of[k] their sin.[q]
5 "Now, son of man, take a sharp
sword and use it as a barber's ra-
zor[r] to shave[s] your head and your
beard.[t] Then take a set of scales and
divide up the hair. 2 When the days of
your siege come to an end, burn a
third[u] of the hair with fire[v] inside the
city. Take a third and strike it with the
sword all around the city. And scatter a
third to the wind.[w] For I will pursue
them with drawn sword.[x] 3 But take a
few strands of hair and tuck them away
in the folds of your garment.[y] 4 Again,
take a few of these and throw them
into the fire[z] and burn them up. A fire

h4 *Or your side* i10 That is, about 8 ounces (about 0.2 kilogram) j11 That is, about 2/3 quart (about 0.6 liter) k17 *Or away in*

will spread from there to the whole
house of Israel.
5 “This is what the Sovereign LORD
says: This is Jerusalem, which I have
set in the center of the nations, with
countries all around her.[a] 6 Yet in her
wickedness she has rebelled against
my laws and decrees more than the na-
tions and countries around her. She
has rejected my laws and has not fol-
lowed my decrees.[b]
7 “Therefore this is what the Sover-
eign LORD says: You have been more
unruly than the nations around you
and have not followed my decrees or
kept my laws. You have not even[f] con-
formed to the standards of the nations
around you.[c]
8 “Therefore this is what the Sover-
eign LORD says: I myself am against
you, Jerusalem, and I will inflict pun-
ishment on you in the sight of the na-
tions.[d] 9 Because of all your detestable
idols, I will do to you what I have never
done before and will never do again.[e]
10 Therefore in your midst fathers will
eat their children, and children will eat
their fathers.[f] I will inflict punishment
on you and will scatter all your survi-
vors to the winds.[g] 11 Therefore as sure-
ly as I live,[h] declares the Sovereign[i]
LORD, because you have defiled my
sanctuary[j] with all your vile images[k]
and detestable practices,[l] I myself will
withdraw my favor; I will not look on
you with pity or spare you.[m] 12 A third
of your people will die of the plague or
perish by famine inside you; a third
will fall by the sword outside your
walls; and a third I will scatter to the
winds[n] and pursue with drawn
sword.[o]
13 “Then my anger will cease and my
wrath[p] against them will subside, and I
will be avenged.[q] And when I have
spent my wrath upon them, they will
know that I the LORD have spoken in
my zeal.[r]
14 “I will make you a ruin and a re-
proach among the nations around you,
in the sight of all who pass by.[s] 15 You
will be a reproach[t] and a taunt, a
warning[u] and an object of horror to the
nations around you when I inflict pun-
ishment on you in anger and in wrath
and with stinging rebuke.[v] I the LORD
have spoken.[w] 16 When I shoot at you
with my deadly and destructive arrows
of famine, I will shoot to destroy you. I
will bring more and more famine upon
you and cut off your supply of food.[x]
17 I will send famine and wild beasts[y]
against you, and they will leave you
childless. Plague and bloodshed[z] will
sweep through you, and I will bring
the sword against you. I the LORD have
spoken.[a]”

A Prophecy Against the Mountains of Israel

6 The word of the LORD came to me:
2 “Son of man, set your face[b]
against the mountains[c] of Israel;
prophesy against them[d] 3 and say: ‘O
mountains of Israel, hear the word of
the Sovereign LORD. This is what the
Sovereign LORD says to the mountains
and hills, to the ravines and valleys:[e] I
am about to bring a sword against you,
and I will destroy your high places.[f]
4 Your altars will be demolished and
your incense altars[g] will be smashed;
and I will slay your people in front of
your idols.[h] 5 I will lay the dead bodies
of the Israelites in front of their idols,
and I will scatter your bones[i] around
your altars.[j] 6 Wherever you live,[k] the
towns will be laid waste and the high
places[l] demolished, so that your altars
will be laid waste and devastated, your
idols[m] smashed and ruined, your in-
cense altars[n] broken down, and what
you have made wiped out.[o] 7 Your
people will fall slain[p] among you, and
you will know that I am the LORD.[q]
8 “ ‘But I will spare some, for some of
you will escape[r] the sword when you
are scattered among the lands and na-
tions.[s] 9 Then in the nations where they
have been carried captive, those who
escape will remember[t] me—how I
have been grieved[u] by their adulterous
hearts, which have turned away from
me, and by their eyes, which have lust-
ed after their idols.[v] They will loathe
themselves for the evil[w] they have
done and for all their detestable prac-
tices.[x] 10 And they will know that I am
the LORD;[y] I did not threaten in vain to
bring this calamity on them.[z]
11 “ ‘This is what the Sovereign LORD
says: Strike your hands together and
stamp your feet and cry out “Alas!” be-
cause of all the wicked and detestable
practices of the house of Israel, for they
will fall by the sword, famine and

5:5 [a]S Dt 4:6; S La 1:1; Eze 16:14 **5:6** [b]S 2Ki 17:15; Ne 9:17; Jer 11:10; S Eze 2:3; 16:47-51; Zec 7:11 **5:7** [c]S 2Ki 21:9; S 2Ch 33:9; Jer 2:10-11; Eze 16:47 **5:8** [d]S Jer 21:5, 13; 24:9; Eze 11:9; 15:7; Zec 14:2 **5:9** [e]Da 9:12; S Mt 24:21 **5:10** [f]S Lev 26:29; S La 2:20 [g]S Lev 26:33; S Ps 44:11; S Jer 13:14; Eze 12:14 **5:11** [h]S Nu 14:21 [i]S Ge 15:2 [j]S Lev 15:31 [k]Eze 7:20; 11:18 [l]2Ch 36:14; Eze 8:6 [m]S Job 27:22; S Jer 16:18; S La 2:17; Eze 7:4,9; 8:18; 9:5 **5:12** [n]ver 10; Jer 13:24 [o]S ver 2,17; S Ps 107:39; S Jer 15:2; S 21:9; Eze 6:11-12; 7:15; 12:14; Am 9:4; Zec 13:8; Rev 6:8 **5:13** [p]S 2Ch 12:7; S Job 20:23; Eze 21:17; 24:13 [q]S Isa 1:24 [r]S Isa 59:17; Eze 16:42; 38:19; Hos 10:10; Zec 6:8 **5:14** [s]S Lev 26:32; Ne 2:17; Ps 74:3-10; 79:1-4; Isa 64:11; Eze 6:6; 22:4; Da 9:16; Mic 3:12 **5:15** [t]S Isa 43:28 [u]S Dt 28:46 [v]S Dt 28:20; S 1Ki 9:7; S Jer 22:8-9; 24:9; Eze 14:8 [w]S Jer 23:40 **5:16** [x]S Lev 26:26; S Dt 32:24 **5:17** [y]Eze 14:15 [z]Eze 38:22 [a]S ver 12; S Lev 26:25; Eze 14:21; 28:23 **6:2** [b]S Eze 4:7 [c]Eze 18:6; Mic 6:1 [d]ver 13 **6:3** [e]Eze 36:4 [f]S Lev 26:30 **6:4** [g]S 2Ch 14:5 [h]Eze 9:6; 14:3; 20:16 **6:5** [i]S Nu 19:16; S Ps 53:5; Jer 8:1-2 [j]ver 13; S Lev 26:30 **6:6** [k]S Ex 12:20 [l]Hos 10:8 [m]Eze 30:13; Mic 1:7; Zec 13:2 [n]S Lev 26:30 [o]S 1Sa 5:4; Isa 6:11; S Eze 5:14 **6:7** [p]Eze 9:7 [q]ver 10,13,14; Eze 11:10-12 **6:8** [r]S Ps 68:20; S Jer 44:28 [s]S Ge 11:4; S Ps 44:11; Isa 6:13; S Jer 44:14; Eze 7:16; 12:16; 14:22 **6:9** [t]S Ps 137:6; Zec 10:9 [u]S Isa 7:13; S Jer 8:21 [v]S Ex 22:20; Eze 20:7,24; Mic 5:13 [w]S Ex 32:22 [x]S Job 42:6; Eze 20:43; 23:14-16; 36:31 **6:10** [y]S ver 7 [z]S Dt 28:52; Jer 40:2

[f]7 Most Hebrew manuscripts; some Hebrew manuscripts and Syriac *You have*

plague.[z] 12 He that is far away will die
of the plague, and he that is near will
fall by the sword, and he that survives
and is spared will die of famine. So will
I spend my wrath[b] upon them.[c] 13 And
they will know that I am the LORD,
when their people lie slain among their
idols[d] around their altars, on every
high hill and on all the mountaintops,
under every spreading tree and every
leafy oak[e]—places where they offered
fragrant incense to all their idols.[f]
14 And I will stretch out my hand[g]
against them and make the land a
desolate waste from the desert to Di-
blah[m]—wherever they live. Then they
will know that I am the LORD.[h]' "

The End Has Come

7 The word of the LORD came to me:
2 "Son of man, this is what the Sov-
ereign LORD says to the land of Israel:
The end![i] The end has come upon the
four corners[j] of the land. 3 The end is
now upon you and I will unleash my
anger against you. I will judge you ac-
cording to your conduct[k] and repay
you for all your detestable practices.[l] 4 I
will not look on you with pity[m] or spare
you; I will surely repay you for your
conduct and the detestable practices
among you. Then you will know that I
am the LORD.[n]
5 "This is what the Sovereign LORD
says: Disaster![o] An unheard-of[n] disas-
ter is coming. 6 The end[p] has come! The
end has come! It has roused itself
against you. It has come! 7 Doom has
come upon you—you who dwell in the
land. The time has come, the day[q] is
near;[r] there is panic, not joy, upon the
mountains. 8 I am about to pour out my
wrath[s] on you and spend my anger
against you; I will judge you according
to your conduct and repay you for all
your detestable practices.[t] 9 I will not
look on you with pity or spare you;[u] I
will repay you in accordance with your
conduct and the detestable practices
among you.[v] Then you will know that
it is I the LORD who strikes the blow.[w]
10 "The day is here! It has come!
Doom has burst forth, the rod[x] has
budded, arrogance has blossomed!
11 Violence[y] has grown into[o] a rod to
punish wickedness; none of the people
will be left, none of that crowd—no
wealth, nothing of value.[z] 12 The time
has come, the day has arrived. Let not
the buyer[a] rejoice nor the seller grieve,
for wrath is upon the whole crowd.[b]
13 The seller will not recover the land he
has sold as long as both of them live,
for the vision concerning the whole
crowd will not be reversed. Because of
their sins, not one of them will pre-
serve his life.[c] 14 Though they blow the
trumpet[d] and get everything ready, no
one will go into battle, for my wrath[e] is
upon the whole crowd.
15 "Outside is the sword, inside are
plague and famine; those in the coun-
try will die by the sword, and those in
the city will be devoured by famine and
plague.[f] 16 All who survive[g] and es-
cape will be in the mountains, moaning
like doves[h] of the valleys, each because
of his sins.[i] 17 Every hand will go
limp,[j] and every knee will become as
weak as water.[k] 18 They will put on
sackcloth[l] and be clothed with terror.[m]
Their faces will be covered with shame
and their heads will be shaved.[n] 19 They
will throw their silver into the streets,[o]
and their gold will be an unclean thing.
Their silver and gold will not be able to
save them in the day of the LORD's
wrath.[p] They will not satisfy[q] their
hunger or fill their stomachs with it, for
it has made them stumble[r] into sin.[s]
20 They were proud of their beautiful
jewelry and used it to make[t] their de-
testable idols and vile images.[u] There-
fore I will turn these into an unclean
thing for them.[v] 21 I will hand it all over
as plunder[w] to foreigners and as loot to
the wicked of the earth, and they will
defile it.[x] 22 I will turn my face[y] away
from them, and they will desecrate my
treasured place; robbers will enter it
and desecrate it.[z]
23 "Prepare chains, because the land
is full of bloodshed[a] and the city is full
of violence.[b] 24 I will bring the most
wicked of the nations to take posses-
sion of their houses; I will put an end to
the pride of the mighty, and their sanc-
tuaries[c] will be desecrated.[d] 25 When
terror comes, they will seek peace, but
there will be none.[e] 26 Calamity upon
calamity[f] will come, and rumor upon
rumor. They will try to get a vision
from the prophet;[g] the teaching of the
law by the priest will be lost, as will the
counsel of the elders.[h] 27 The king will
mourn, the prince will be clothed with

6:11 [z]S Jer 42:22; Eze 21:14,17; 22:13; 25:6 **6:12** [b]S Job 20:23 [c]S Eze 5:12; 7:15 **6:13** [d]S Lev 26:30 [e]S Isa 1:29 [f]S 1Ki 14:23; S Jer 2:20; Eze 18:6; 20:28; Hos 4:13 **6:14** [g]S Ex 7:5; S Job 30:21; S Jer 6:12; 51:25; Eze 20:34 [h]Eze 12:19; 14:13 **7:2** [i]Am 8:2,10 [j]Rev 7:1; 20:8 **7:3** [k]Eze 18:30 [l]S Ge 6:13 **7:4** [m]S Jer 13:14; S Eze 5:11 [n]S Eze 5:11; 23:49 **7:5** [o]S 2Ki 21:12 **7:6** [p]Eze 39:8 **7:7** [q]S Job 18:20; S Isa 2:12; Am 5:18-20 [r]Eze 12:23; 30:3; Zep 1:14; Mal 3:2 **7:8** [s]Isa 42:25; Eze 9:8; 14:19; 22:22; Hos 5:10; Na 1:6 [t]Eze 20:8, 21; 36:19 **7:9** [u]S Jer 21:7; S Eze 5:11 [v]Eze 22:31 [w]Dt 32:35; S Ps 39:10; S Isa 9:13 **7:10** [x]Ps 89:32; Isa 10:5 **7:11** [y]S Ps 55:9; S Isa 58:4 [z]Jer 16:6; Zep 1:18 **7:12** [a]S Isa 24:2 [b]ver 7; Isa 5:13-14; Eze 30:3 **7:13** [c]Lev 25:24-28 **7:14** [d]S Job 39:24 [e]Jer 25:38 **7:15** [f]S Dt 32:25; Jer 14:18; S La 1:20; S Eze 5:12; 33:27 **7:16** [g]S Isa 10:20; S Jer 41:16; 42:17 [h]S Ge 8:8; S Isa 59:11 [i]S Ezr 9:15; Jer 9:19; S Eze 6:8 **7:17** [j]S 2Ki 19:26; S Jer 47:3; Eze 21:7; 22:14 [k]Da 5:6 **7:18** [l]S Jer 4:8; 48:37; 49:3 [m]S Ps 55:5 [n]S Isa 15:2-3; Eze 27:31; Am 8:10 **7:19** [o]S La 4:1 [p]Isa 42:25; Eze 13:5; 30:3; Joel 1:15; 2:1; Zep 1:7,18; 2:2 [q]Isa 55:2 [r]Eze 3:20; 14:3; Hos 4:5 [s]S Pr 11:4 **7:20** [t]S Jer 10:3 [u]S Eze 5:11 [v]S Isa 2:20; 30:22; Eze 16:17 **7:21** [w]S Nu 14:3 [x]S 2Ki 24:13 **7:22** [y]S Jer 2:27; Eze 39:23-24 [z]Ps 74:7-8; Jer 19:13; S La 2:7 **7:23** [a]S 2Ki 21:16; S Isa 1:15; S Eze 22:9 [b]S Ge 6:11; Eze 11:6 **7:24** [c]La 2:7; Eze 24:21 [d]2Ch 7:20; Eze 28:7 **7:25** [e]Jer 6:14; S 8:11; Eze 13:10,16 **7:26** [f]S Dt 29:21; S 31:17 [g]S 1Sa 3:1 [h]Isa 47:11; S Jer 18:18; Eze 20:1-3; Am 8:11; Mic 3:6

[m]14 Most Hebrew manuscripts; a few Hebrew manuscripts *Riblah* [n]5 Most Hebrew manuscripts; some Hebrew manuscripts and Syriac *Disaster after* [o]11 Or *The violent one has become*

despair,[a] and the hands of the people of the land will tremble. I will deal with them according to their conduct,[b] and by their own standards I will judge them. Then they will know that I am the LORD.[c]"

Idolatry in the Temple

8 In the sixth year, in the sixth month on the fifth day, while I was sitting in my house and the elders[d] of Judah were sitting before[e] me, the hand of the Sovereign LORD came upon me there.[f] 2I looked, and I saw a figure like that of a man.[p] From what appeared to be his waist down he was like fire, and from there up his appearance was as bright as glowing metal.[g] 3He stretched out what looked like a hand[h] and took me by the hair of my head. The Spirit lifted me up[i] between earth and heaven and in visions[j] of God he took me to Jerusalem, to the entrance to the north gate of the inner court,[k] where the idol that provokes to jealousy[l] stood. 4And there before me was the glory[m] of the God of Israel, as in the vision I had seen in the plain.[n]

5Then he said to me, "Son of man, look toward the north." So I looked, and in the entrance north of the gate of the altar I saw this idol[o] of jealousy.

6And he said to me, "Son of man, do you see what they are doing—the utterly detestable[p] things the house of Israel is doing here, things that will drive me far from my sanctuary?[q] But you will see things that are even more detestable."

7Then he brought me to the entrance to the court. I looked, and I saw a hole in the wall. 8He said to me, "Son of man, now dig into the wall." So I dug into the wall and saw a doorway there.

9And he said to me, "Go in and see the wicked and detestable things they are doing here." 10So I went in and looked, and I saw portrayed all over the walls[r] all kinds of crawling things and detestable[s] animals and all the idols of the house of Israel.[t] 11In front of them stood seventy elders[u] of the house of Israel, and Jaazaniah son of Shaphan was standing among them. Each had a censer[v] in his hand, and a fragrant cloud of incense[w] was rising.[x]

12He said to me, "Son of man, have you seen what the elders of the house of Israel are doing in the darkness,[y] each at the shrine of his own idol? They say, 'The LORD does not see[z] us; the LORD has forsaken the land.'" 13Again, he said, "You will see them doing things that are even more detestable."

14Then he brought me to the entrance to the north gate of the house of the LORD, and I saw women sitting there, mourning for Tammuz.[a] 15He said to me, "Do you see this, son of man? You will see things that are even more detestable than this."

16He then brought me into the inner court[b] of the house of the LORD, and there at the entrance to the temple, between the portico and the altar,[c] were about twenty-five men. With their backs toward the temple of the LORD and their faces toward the east, they were bowing down to the sun[d] in the east.[e]

17He said to me, "Have you seen this, son of man? Is it a trivial matter for the house of Judah to do the detestable things[f] they are doing here? Must they also fill the land with violence[g] and continually provoke me to anger?[h] Look at them putting the branch to their nose! 18Therefore I will deal with them in anger;[i] I will not look on them with pity[j] or spare them. Although they shout in my ears, I will not listen[k] to them."

Idolaters Killed

9 Then I heard him call out in a loud voice, "Bring the guards of the city here, each with a weapon in his hand." 2And I saw six men coming from the direction of the upper gate, which faces north, each with a deadly weapon in his hand. With them was a man clothed in linen[l] who had a writing kit at his side. They came in and stood beside the bronze altar.

3Now the glory[m] of the God of Israel went up from above the cherubim,[n] where it had been, and moved to the threshold of the temple. Then the LORD called to the man clothed in linen who had the writing kit at his side 4and said to him, "Go throughout the city of Jerusalem[o] and put a mark[p] on the foreheads of those who grieve and lament[q] over all the detestable things that are done in it.[r]"

5As I listened, he said to the others, "Follow him through the city and kill, without showing pity[s] or compassion.[t] 6Slaughter[u] old men, young men and maidens, women and children,[v] but do not touch anyone who has the mark.[w] Begin at my sanctu-

7:27 [a]S Ps 109:19; Eze 26:16 [b]S Isa 3:11; Eze 18:20 [c]S ver 4
8:1 [d]S 2Ki 6:32; Eze 14:1 [e]Eze 33:31 [f]Eze 1:1-3; 24:1; 40:1
8:2 [g]Eze 1:4, 26-27
8:3 [h]S Eze 2:9 [i]S Eze 3:12; 11:1 [j]S Ex 24:10 [k]ver 16 [l]ver 5; Ex 20:5; Dt 32:16
8:4 [m]S Ex 24:16 [n]Eze 3:22
8:5 [o]Ps 78:58; S Jer 4:1; 32:34
8:6 [p]Ps 78:60; S Eze 5:11 [q]Hos 5:6
8:10 [r]S Jdg 17:4-5; Eze 23:14 [s]Jer 44:4 [t]Ex 20:4; Dt 4:15-18; S Jer 16:18; Eze 11:12
8:11 [u]S Ex 3:16 [v]S Lev 10:1; Nu 16:17 [w]Nu 16:35; S Jer 44:5 [x]Eze 11:1-2
8:12 [y]S Job 22:13 [z]S 2Ki 21:16; Ps 10:11; S Isa 29:15; Eze 9:9; Zep 1:12
8:14 [a]Eze 11:12
8:16 [b]ver 3 [c]Joel 2:17 [d]S Ge 1:16 [e]Dt 4:19; S 17:3; S Job 31:28; S Jer 2:27; Eze 9:6; 11:1,12; 40:6; 43:1
8:17 [f]Eze 16:2 [g]S Ge 6:11 [h]S Nu 11:33; S 1Ki 14:9; Eze 16:26
8:18 [i]S Jer 44:6 [j]S Jer 13:14; S Eze 5:11; 9:10; 24:14 [k]S 1Sa 8:18; S Isa 58:4; S Jer 11:11
9:2 [l]S Lev 16:4; Eze 10:2; Da 10:5; 12:6; Rev 15:6
9:3 [m]S 1Sa 4:21; Eze 10:4 [n]Eze 11:22
9:4 [o]Jer 25:29 [p]S Ge 4:15; Ex 12:7; 2Co 1:22; S Rev 7:3 [q]Ps 119:136; Jer 7:29; 13:17; Eze 21:6; Am 6:6 [r]Ps 119:53
9:5 [s]S Jer 13:14; S Eze 5:11 [t]S Ex 32:27; Isa 13:18
9:6 [u]Jer 7:32 [v]S Jer 16:6 [w]S Ge 4:15; S Ex 12:7

p2 Or *saw a fiery figure*

any." So they began with the elders
who were in front of the temple.
7Then he said to them, "Defile the
temple and fill the courts with the
slain. Go!" So they went out and be-
gan killing throughout the city. 8While
they were killing and I was left alone, I
fell facedown, crying out, "Ah, Sover-
eign LORD! Are you going to destroy
the entire remnant of Israel in this out-
pouring of your wrath on Jerusa-
lem?"

9He answered me, "The sin of the
house of Israel and Judah is exceeding-
ly great; the land is full of bloodshed
and the city is full of injustice. They
say, 'The LORD has forsaken the land;
the LORD does not see.' 10So I will not
look on them with pity or spare them,
but I will bring down on their own
heads what they have done."

11Then the man in linen with the
writing kit at his side brought back
word, saying, "I have done as you
commanded."

The Glory Departs From the Temple

10 I looked, and I saw the likeness
of a throne of sapphire[a]
above the expanse that was over the
heads of the cherubim. 2The LORD said
to the man clothed in linen, "Go in
among the wheels beneath the cher-
ubim. Fill your hands with burning
coals from among the cherubim and
scatter them over the city." And as I
watched, he went in.

3Now the cherubim were standing
on the south side of the temple when
the man went in, and a cloud filled the
inner court. 4Then the glory of the
LORD rose from above the cherubim
and moved to the threshold of the tem-
ple. The cloud filled the temple, and
the court was full of the radiance of the
glory of the LORD. 5The sound of the
wings of the cherubim could be heard
as far away as the outer court, like the
voice of God Almighty[b] when he
speaks.

6When the LORD commanded the
man in linen, "Take fire from among
the wheels, from among the cher-
ubim," the man went in and stood be-
side a wheel. 7Then one of the cher-
ubim reached out his hand to the fire
that was among them. He took up
some of it and put it into the hands of
the man in linen, who took it and went
out. 8(Under the wings of the cherubim
could be seen what looked like the
hands of a man.)

9I looked, and I saw beside the cher-
ubim four wheels, one beside each of
the cherubim; the wheels sparkled like
chrysolite. 10As for their appearance,
the four of them looked alike; each was
like a wheel intersecting a wheel. 11As
they moved, they would go in any one
of the four directions the cherubim
faced; the wheels did not turn about[c]
as the cherubim went. The cherubim
went in whatever direction the head
faced, without turning as they went.
12Their entire bodies, including their
backs, their hands and their wings,
were completely full of eyes, as were
their four wheels. 13I heard the wheels
being called "the whirling wheels."
14Each of the cherubim had four
faces: One face was that of a cherub,
the second the face of a man, the third
the face of a lion, and the fourth the
face of an eagle.

15Then the cherubim rose upward.
These were the living creatures I had
seen by the Kebar River. 16When the
cherubim moved, the wheels beside
them moved; and when the cherubim
spread their wings to rise from the
ground, the wheels did not leave their
side. 17When the cherubim stood still,
they also stood still; and when the
cherubim rose, they rose with them,
because the spirit of the living creatures
was in them.

18Then the glory of the LORD de-
parted from over the threshold of the
temple and stopped above the cher-
ubim. 19While I watched, the cher-
ubim spread their wings and rose from
the ground, and as they went, the
wheels went with them. They
stopped at the entrance to the east gate
of the LORD's house, and the glory of
the God of Israel was above them.

20These were the living creatures I
had seen beneath the God of Israel by
the Kebar River, and I realized that
they were cherubim. 21Each had four
faces and four wings, and under
their wings was what looked like the
hands of a man. 22Their faces had the
same appearance as those I had seen
by the Kebar River. Each one went
straight ahead.

Judgment on Israel's Leaders

11 Then the Spirit lifted me up and
brought me to the gate of the
house of the LORD that faces east. There

[a]1 Or lapis lazuli [b]5 Hebrew El-Shaddai [c]11 Or aside

at the entrance to the gate were
twenty-five men, and I saw among
them Jaazaniah son of Azzur and Pela-
tiah[a] son of Benaiah, leaders[b] of the
people.[c] 2The LORD said to me, "Son of
man, these are the men who are plot-
ting evil[d] and giving wicked advice in
this city.[e] 3They say, 'Will it not soon
be time to build houses?[t] This city is a
cooking pot,[f] and we are the meat.'[g]
4Therefore prophesy[h] against them;
prophesy, son of man."
5Then the Spirit of the LORD came
upon me, and he told me to say: "This
is what the LORD says: That is what you
are saying, O house of Israel, but I
know what is going through your
mind.[i] 6You have killed many people
in this city and filled its streets with the
dead.[j]
7"Therefore this is what the Sover-
eign LORD says: The bodies you have
thrown there are the meat and this city
is the pot,[k] but I will drive you out of
it.[l] 8You fear the sword,[m] and the
sword is what I will bring against you,
declares the Sovereign LORD.[n] 9I will
drive you out of the city and hand you
over[o] to foreigners and inflict punish-
ment on you.[p] 10You will fall by the
sword, and I will execute judgment on
you at the borders of Israel.[q] Then you
will know that I am the LORD. 11This city
will not be a pot[r] for you, nor will you
be the meat in it; I will execute judg-
ment on you at the borders of Israel.
12And you will know that I am the
LORD,[s] for you have not followed my
decrees[t] or kept my laws but have con-
formed to the standards of the nations
around you.[u]"
13Now as I was prophesying, Pela-
tiah[v] son of Benaiah died. Then I fell
facedown and cried out in a loud voice,
"Ah, Sovereign LORD! Will you com-
pletely destroy the remnant of Is-
rael?[w]"
14The word of the LORD came to me:
15"Son of man, your brothers—your
brothers who are your blood relatives[u]
and the whole house of Israel—are
those of whom the people of Jerusalem
have said, 'They are[v] far away from the
LORD; this land was given to us as our
possession.'[x]

Promised Return of Israel

16"Therefore say: 'This is what the
Sovereign LORD says: Although I sent
them far away among the nations and
scattered them among the countries,
yet for a little while I have been a sanc-
tuary[y] for them in the countries where
they have gone.'
17"Therefore say: 'This is what the
Sovereign LORD says: I will gather you
from the nations and bring you back
from the countries where you have
been scattered, and I will give you back
the land of Israel again.'[z]
18"They will return to it and remove
all its vile images[a] and detestable
idols.[b] 19I will give them an undivided
heart[c] and put a new spirit in them; I
will remove from them their heart of
stone[d] and give them a heart of flesh.[e]
20Then they will follow my decrees and
be careful to keep my laws.[f] They will
be my people,[g] and I will be their
God.[h] 21But as for those whose hearts
are devoted to their vile images and de-
testable idols,[i] I will bring down on
their own heads what they have done,
declares the Sovereign LORD.[j]"
22Then the cherubim, with the
wheels beside them, spread their
wings, and the glory[k] of the God of
Israel was above them.[l] 23The glory[m]
of the LORD went up from within the
city and stopped above the mountain[n]
east of it. 24The Spirit[o] lifted me up and
brought me to the exiles in Babylonia[w]
in the vision[p] given by the Spirit of
God.
Then the vision I had seen went up
from me, 25and I told the exiles every-
thing the LORD had shown me.[q]

The Exile Symbolized

12 The word of the LORD came to
me: 2"Son of man, you are living
among a rebellious people.[r] They have
eyes to see but do not see and ears to
hear but do not hear, for they are a re-
bellious people.[s]
3"Therefore, son of man, pack your
belongings for exile and in the daytime,
as they watch, set out and go from
where you are to another place. Per-
haps[t] they will understand,[u] though
they are a rebellious house.[v] 4During
the daytime, while they watch, bring
out your belongings packed for exile.
Then in the evening, while they are
watching, go out like those who go into
exile.[w] 5While they watch, dig through
the wall[x] and take your belongings out
through it. 6Put them on your shoulder
as they are watching and carry them
out at dusk. Cover your face so that

11:1 [a]ver 13 [b]Jer 5:5 [c]S Eze 8:16; S 10:19; 43:4-5 **11:2** [d]S Isa 29:20; Na 1:11 [e]Eze 8:11 **11:3** [f]Jer 1:13; Eze 24:3 [g]ver 7, 11; Eze 12:22,27; Mic 3:3 **11:4** [h]S Eze 3:4, 17 **11:5** [i]S Ps 26:2; S Jer 17:10 **11:6** [j]S Eze 7:23; 22:6 **11:7** [k]Jer 1:13 [l]ver 3; Eze 24:3-13; Mic 3:2-3 **11:8** [m]S Lev 26:25; S Jer 42:16 [n]S Pr 10:24; Isa 66:4 **11:9** [o]Ps 106:41 [p]Dt 28:36; S Eze 5:8 **11:10** [q]2Ki 14:25 **11:11** [r]ver 3; Eze 24:6 **11:12** [s]S Eze 6:7 [t]S Lev 18:4; Eze 18:9 [u]Eze 8:10 **11:13** [v]ver 1 [w]S Eze 9:8; Am 7:2 **11:15** [x]Eze 33:24 **11:16** [y]Ps 31:20; 90:1; 91:9; S Isa 4:6 **11:17** [z]S Ne 1:9; S Jer 3:18; 24:5-6; S 31:16; Eze 20:41; 28:25; 34:13; 36:28 **11:18** [a]S Eze 5:11 [b]Eze 37:23 **11:19** [c]S 2Ch 30:12; S Ps 86:11 [d]Zec 7:12; Ro 2:5 [e]Eze 18:31; S 2Co 3:3 **11:20** [f]S Ps 1:2 [g]S Jer 11:4; 32:38 [h]S Ex 6:7; Eze 14:11; 34:30; 36:26-28; Hos 1:9; Zec 8:8; Heb 8:10 **11:21** [i]Jer 16:18 [j]Jer 16:11; S Eze 9:10; 16:43 **11:22** [k]S Ex 24:16 [l]Eze 9:3; S 10:19 **11:23** [m]Eze 1:28; S 10:4 [n]Zec 14:4 **11:24** [o]Eze 37:1; 43:5 [p]2Co 12:2-4 **11:25** [q]S Eze 3:4,11 **12:2** [r]Ps 78:40; S Jer 42:21 [s]S Isa 6:10; S Mt 13:15; Mk 4:12; 8:18 **12:3** [t]S Jer 36:3 [u]Jer 26:3 [v]ver 11; S Eze 3:27; 2Ti 2:25-26 **12:4** [w]ver 12; 2Ki 25:4; S Jer 39:4 **12:5** [x]Jer 52:7; Am 4:3

[t]3 Or *This is not the time to build houses.* [u]15 Or *are in exile with you* (see Septuagint and Syriac) [v]15 Or *those to whom the people of Jerusalem have said, 'Stay* [w]24 Or *Chaldea*

you cannot see the land, for I have
made you a sign[a] to the house of Is-
rael."
7So I did as I was commanded.[b] Dur-
ing the day I brought out my things
packed for exile. Then in the evening I
dug through the wall with my hands. I
took my belongings out at dusk, carry-
ing them on my shoulders while they
watched.
8In the morning the word of the LORD
came to me: 9"Son of man, did not that
rebellious house of Israel ask you,
'What are you doing?'[c]
10"Say to them, 'This is what the Sov-
ereign LORD says: This oracle concerns
the prince in Jerusalem and the whole
house of Israel who are there.' 11Say to
them, 'I am a sign[d] to you.'
"As I have done, so it will be done to
them. They will go into exile as cap-
tives.[e]
12"The prince among them will put
his things on his shoulder at dusk[f] and
leave, and a hole will be dug in the wall
for him to go through. He will cover his
face so that he cannot see the land.[g] 13I
will spread my net[h] for him, and he
will be caught in my snare;[i] I will bring
him to Babylonia, the land of the Chal-
deans,[j] but he will not see[k] it, and
there he will die.[l] 14I will scatter to the
winds all those around him—his staff
and all his troops—and I will pursue
them with drawn sword.[m]
15"They will know that I am the
LORD, when I disperse them among the
nations[n] and scatter them through the
countries. 16But I will spare a few of
them from the sword, famine and
plague, so that in the nations where
they go they may acknowledge all their
detestable practices. Then they will
know that I am the LORD.[o]"
17The word of the LORD came to me:
18"Son of man, tremble as you eat your
food,[p] and shudder in fear as you
drink your water. 19Say to the people of
the land: 'This is what the Sovereign
LORD says about those living in Jerusa-
lem and in the land of Israel: They will
eat their food in anxiety and drink their
water in despair, for their land will be
stripped of everything[q] in it because of
the violence of all who live there.[r]
20The inhabited towns will be laid
waste and the land will be desolate.
Then you will know that I am the
LORD.[s]'"
21The word of the LORD came to me:
22"Son of man, what is this proverb[t]
you have in the land of Israel: 'The

12:6 [a]ver 12; S Isa 8:18; S 20:3 **12:7** [b]Eze 24:18; 37:10 **12:9** [c]Eze 17:12; 20:49; 24:19 **12:11** [d]Isa 8:18; Zec 3:8 [e]S 2Ki 25:7; S Jer 15:2; 52:15 **12:12** [f]S Jer 39:4 [g]Jer 52:7 **12:13** [h]Eze 17:20; 19:8; 32:3; Hos 7:12 [i]S Isa 24:17-18 [j]Eze 1:3 [k]S Jer 39:7 [l]S Jer 24:8; S 52:11; S La 4:20; Eze 17:16 **12:14** [m]S 2Ki 25:5; S Jer 21:7; S Eze 5:10,12; 17:21 **12:15** [n]S Lev 26:33 **12:16** [o]S Jer 22:8-9; Eze 6:8-10; 14:22; 36:20 **12:18** [p]La 5:9 **12:19** [q]Jer 10:22; S Eze 6:6-14; Mic 7:13; Zec 7:14 [r]S Eze 4:16; 23:33 **12:20** [s]Isa 7:23-24; S Jer 4:7; S 25:9 **12:22** [t]S Ps 49:4 [u]S Isa 5:19; Eze 11:3; Am 6:3; 2Pe 3:4 **12:23** [v]S Eze 7:7 [w]S Ps 37:13; Eze 18:3; Joel 2:1; Zep 1:14 **12:24** [x]Jer 14:14; Eze 13:23; Mic 3:6; Zec 13:2-4 **12:25** [y]Hab 2:3 [z]S Nu 11:23; Eze 13:6 [a]Nu 14:28-34; S Isa 14:24; S 55:11; Jer 16:9; Hab 1:5 **12:27** [b]S Eze 11:3; Da 10:14; Mt 24:48-50; 2Pe 3:4 **13:2** [c]S Isa 9:15 [d]Jer 28:15 [e]ver 17; S Jer 23:16; S 37:19; Eze 22:28 **13:3** [f]S La 2:14; Hos 9:7 [g]S Jer 23:25-32 **13:5** [h]Isa 58:12; Eze 22:30 [i]S Eze 7:19; 30:3 **13:6** [j]S Jer 5:1; 23:16 [k]S Jer 14:14 [l]S Jer 28:15; S 29:9; Eze 12:24-25; 22:28 **13:7** [m]S Isa 30:10 **13:8** [n]S Jer 21:13 **13:9** [o]S Dt 13:3 [p]S Ex 32:32; S Jer 17:13

days go by and every vision comes to
nothing'?[u] 23Say to them, 'This is what
the Sovereign LORD says: I am going to
put an end to this proverb, and they
will no longer quote it in Israel.' Say to
them, 'The days are near[v] when every
vision will be fulfilled.[w] 24For there will
be no more false visions or flattering
divinations[x] among the people of Is-
rael. 25But I the LORD will speak what I
will, and it shall be fulfilled without
delay.[y] For in your days, you rebel-
lious house, I will fulfill[z] whatever I
say, declares the Sovereign LORD.[a]'"
26The word of the LORD came to me:
27"Son of man, the house of Israel is
saying, 'The vision he sees is for many
years from now, and he prophesies
about the distant future.'[b]
28"Therefore say to them, 'This is
what the Sovereign LORD says: None of
my words will be delayed any longer;
whatever I say will be fulfilled, declares
the Sovereign LORD.'"

False Prophets Condemned

13 The word of the LORD came to
me: 2"Son of man, prophesy
against the prophets[c] of Israel who are
now prophesying. Say to those who
prophesy out of their own imagina-
tion:[d] 'Hear the word of the LORD![e]
3This is what the Sovereign LORD says:
Woe to the foolish* prophets[f] who fol-
low their own spirit and have seen
nothing![g] 4Your prophets, O Israel, are
like jackals among ruins. 5You have not
gone up to the breaks in the wall to
repair[h] it for the house of Israel so that
it will stand firm in the battle on the
day of the LORD.[i] 6Their visions are
false[j] and their divinations a lie. They
say, "The LORD declares," when the
LORD has not sent[k] them; yet they ex-
pect their words to be fulfilled.[l] 7Have
you not seen false visions[m] and uttered
lying divinations when you say, "The
LORD declares," though I have not
spoken?
8" 'Therefore this is what the Sover-
eign LORD says: Because of your false
words and lying visions, I am against
you,[n] declares the Sovereign LORD. 9My
hand will be against the prophets who
see false visions and utter lying[o] divi-
nations. They will not belong to the
council of my people or be listed in the
records[p] of the house of Israel, nor will
they enter the land of Israel. Then you

*3 *Or wicked*

will know that I am the Sovereign
LORD.[a]

10" 'Because they lead my people
astray,[b] saying, "Peace,"[c] when there
is no peace, and because, when a
flimsy wall is built, they cover it with
whitewash,[d] 11therefore tell those who
cover it with whitewash that it is going
to fall. Rain will come in torrents, and I
will send hailstones[e] hurtling down,[f]
and violent winds will burst forth.[g]
12When the wall collapses, will people
not ask you, "Where is the whitewash
you covered it with?"

13" 'Therefore this is what the Sover-
eign LORD says: In my wrath I will un-
leash a violent wind, and in my anger
hailstones[h] and torrents of rain[i] will
fall with destructive fury.[j] 14I will tear
down the wall[k] you have covered with
whitewash and will level it to the
ground so that its foundation[l] will be
laid bare. When it[y] falls,[m] you will be
destroyed in it; and you will know that
I am the LORD. 15So I will spend my
wrath against the wall and against
those who covered it with whitewash. I
will say to you, "The wall is gone and
so are those who whitewashed it,
16those prophets of Israel who prophe-
sied to Jerusalem and saw visions of
peace for her when there was no peace,
declares the Sovereign LORD."[n] '

17"Now, son of man, set your face[o]
against the daughters[p] of your people
who prophesy out of their own imagi-
nation. Prophesy against them[q] 18and
say, 'This is what the Sovereign LORD
says: Woe to the women who sew mag-
ic charms on all their wrists and make
veils of various lengths for their heads
in order to ensnare people. Will you
ensnare the lives of my people but pre-
serve your own? 19You have profaned[r]
me among my people for a few hand-
fuls of barley and scraps of bread.[s] By
lying to my people, who listen to lies,
you have killed those who should not
have died and have spared those who
should not live.[t]

20" 'Therefore this is what the Sover-
eign LORD says: I am against your magic
charms with which you ensnare people
like birds and I will tear them from
your arms; I will set free the people
that you ensnare like birds.[u] 21I will
tear off your veils and save my people
from your hands, and they will no
longer fall prey to your power. Then
you will know that I am the LORD.[v]
22Because you disheartened the right-
eous with your lies,[w] when I had
brought them no grief, and because
you encouraged the wicked not to turn
from their evil ways and so save their
lives,[x] 23therefore you will no longer
see false visions[y] or practice divina-
tion.[z] I will save[a] my people from
your hands. And then you will know
that I am the LORD.[b] ' "

Idolaters Condemned

14 Some of the elders of Israel came
to me and sat down in front of
me.[c] 2Then the word of the LORD came
to me: 3"Son of man, these men have
set up idols in their hearts[d] and put
wicked stumbling blocks[e] before their
faces. Should I let them inquire of me
at all?[f] 4Therefore speak to them and
tell them, 'This is what the Sovereign
LORD says: When any Israelite sets up
idols in his heart and puts a wicked
stumbling block before his face and
then goes to a prophet, I the LORD will
answer him myself in keeping with his
great idolatry. 5I will do this to recap-
ture the hearts of the people of Israel,
who have all deserted[g] me for their
idols.'[h]

6"Therefore say to the house of Is-
rael, 'This is what the Sovereign LORD
says: Repent![i] Turn from your idols
and renounce all your detestable prac-
tices![j]

7" 'When any Israelite or any alien[k]
living in Israel separates himself from
me and sets up idols in his heart and
puts a wicked stumbling block[l] before
his face and then goes to a prophet to
inquire[m] of me, I the LORD will answer
him myself. 8I will set my face against[n]
that man and make him an example[o]
and a byword.[p] I will cut him off from
my people. Then you will know that I
am the LORD.[q]

9" 'And if the prophet[r] is enticed[s] to
utter a prophecy, I the LORD have en-
ticed that prophet, and I will stretch
out my hand against him and destroy
him from among my people Israel.[t]
10They will bear their guilt—the
prophet will be as guilty as the one
who consults him. 11Then the people of
Israel will no longer stray[u] from me,
nor will they defile themselves any-
more with all their sins. They will be
my people,[v] and I will be their God,
declares the Sovereign LORD.[w] ' "

Judgment Inescapable

12The word of the LORD came to me:

13:9 [a]S Ex 6:2; Jer 20:3-6; Eze 20:38
13:10 [b]S Jer 23:13; S 50:6 [c]S Jer 4:10 [d]S Eze 7:25; 22:28
13:11 [e]S Jos 10:11 [f]S Job 38:23 [g]Ps 11:6; Eze 38:22
13:13 [h]S Jos 10:11; Rev 11:19; 16:21 [i]Job 14:19 [j]S Ex 9:25; S Job 38:23; Isa 30:30
13:14 [k]S Isa 22:5 [l]Mic 1:6 [m]Jer 6:15
13:16 [n]S Isa 57:21; Jer 6:14; S Eze 7:25
13:17 [o]S Eze 4:7; 25:2; 28:21 [p]S Ex 15:20; Rev 2:20 [q]S ver 2
13:19 [r]Jer 44:26; Eze 20:39; 22:26; 36:20; 39:7 [s]S Isa 56:11 [t]Pr 28:21; Mic 3:11
13:20 [u]Ps 124:7
13:21 [v]Ps 91:3
13:22 [w]S Isa 9:15 [x]Jer 23:14; Eze 18:21; 33:14-16
13:23 [y]Ne 6:12 [z]S Eze 12:24 [a]S Ps 72:14 [b]Mic 3:6
14:1 [c]S Eze 8:1; 20:1
14:3 [d]S Eze 6:4 [e]S ver 7; S Eze 7:19 [f]Isa 1:15; Eze 20:31
14:5 [g]S Dt 32:15; Eze 16:45; Hos 5:7; Zec 11:8 [h]Jer 2:11
14:6 [i]Ne 1:9; S Jer 3:12; S 35:15 [j]S Isa 2:20; S 30:22
14:7 [k]Ex 12:48; 20:10 [l]ver 3; S Isa 8:14; Hos 4:5; 5:5 [m]S Ge 25:22
14:8 [n]Eze 15:7 [o]S Nu 16:38 [p]S Ps 102:8; S Eze 5:15 [q]S Jer 42:20
14:9 [r]S Jer 14:15 [s]Isa 63:17; Jer 4:10 [t]1Ki 22:23; S 2Ch 18:22; Zec 13:3
14:11 [u]Eze 48:11 [v]S Isa 51:16 [w]S Eze 11:19-20; 37:23

y14 *Or the city*

13"Son of man, if a country sins[a]
against me by being unfaithful and I
stretch out my hand against it to cut off
its food supply[b] and send famine upon
it and kill its men and their animals,[c]
14even if these three men—Noah,[d]
Daniel[a][e] and Job[f]—were in it, they
could save only themselves by their
righteousness,[g] declares the Sovereign
LORD.
15"Or if I send wild beasts[h] through
that country and they leave it childless
and it becomes desolate so that no one
can pass through it because of the
beasts,[i] 16as surely as I live, declares
the Sovereign LORD, even if these three
men were in it, they could not save
their own sons or daughters. They
alone would be saved, but the land
would be desolate.[j]
17"Or if I bring a sword[k] against that
country and say, 'Let the sword pass
throughout the land,' and I kill its men
and their animals,[l] 18as surely as I live,
declares the Sovereign LORD, even if
these three men were in it, they could
not save their own sons or daughters.
They alone would be saved.
19"Or if I send a plague into that land
and pour out my wrath[m] upon it
through bloodshed,[n] killing its men
and their animals,[o] 20as surely as I live,
declares the Sovereign LORD, even if
Noah, Daniel and Job were in it, they
could save neither son nor daughter.
They would save only themselves by
their righteousness.[p]
21"For this is what the Sovereign
LORD says: How much worse will it be
when I send against Jerusalem my four
dreadful judgments[q]—sword[r] and
famine[s] and wild beasts and
plague[t]—to kill its men and their ani-
mals![u] 22Yet there will be some survi-
vors[v]—sons and daughters who will
be brought out of it.[w] They will come to
you, and when you see their conduct[x]
and their actions, you will be con-
soled[y] regarding the disaster I have
brought upon Jerusalem—every disas-
ter I have brought upon it. 23You will
be consoled when you see their con-
duct and their actions, for you will
know that I have done nothing in it
without cause, declares the Sovereign
LORD.[z]"

Jerusalem, A Useless Vine

15 The word of the LORD came to
me: 2"Son of man, how is the
wood of a vine[a] better than that of a
branch on any of the trees in the forest?
3Is wood ever taken from it to make
anything useful?[b] Do they make pegs[c]
from it to hang things on? 4And after it
is thrown on the fire as fuel and the fire
burns both ends and chars the middle,
is it then useful for anything?[d] 5If it
was not useful for anything when it
was whole, how much less can it be
made into something useful when the
fire has burned it and it is charred?
6"Therefore this is what the Sover-
eign LORD says: As I have given the
wood of the vine among the trees of
the forest as fuel for the fire, so will I
treat the people living in Jerusalem. 7I
will set my face against[e] them. Al-
though they have come out of the
fire[f][g], the fire will yet consume them.
And when I set my face against them,
you will know that I am the LORD.[h] 8I
will make the land desolate[i] because
they have been unfaithful,[j] declares
the Sovereign LORD."

An Allegory of Unfaithful Jerusalem

16 The word of the LORD came to
me: 2"Son of man, confront[k]
Jerusalem with her detestable prac-
tices[l] 3and say, 'This is what the Sover-
eign LORD says to Jerusalem: Your
ancestry[m] and birth were in the land of
the Canaanites; your father[n] was an
Amorite[o] and your mother a Hittite.[p]
4On the day you were born[q] your cord
was not cut, nor were you washed with
water to make you clean, nor were you
rubbed with salt or wrapped in cloths.
5No one looked on you with pity or had
compassion enough to do any of these
things for you. Rather, you were
thrown out into the open field, for on
the day you were born you were de-
spised.
6" 'Then I passed by and saw you
kicking about in your blood, and as
you lay there in your blood I said to
you, "Live!"[b][r] 7I made you grow[s] like
a plant of the field. You grew up and
developed and became the most
beautiful of jewels.[c] Your breasts were
formed and your hair grew, you who
were naked and bare.[t]
8" 'Later I passed by, and when I
looked at you and saw that you were
old enough for love, I spread the cor-
ner of my garment[u] over you and

14:13 [a]S Pr 13:21 [b]S Lev 26:26 [c]S Eze 5:16; 6:14; 15:8
14:14 [d]Ge 6:8 [e]ver 20; Eze 28:3; Da 1:6; 6:13 [f]S Job 1:1 [g]S Ge 6:9; S Job 42:9; Jer 15:1; S Eze 3:19; 18:20
14:15 [h]Eze 5:17 [i]S Lev 26:22
14:16 [j]S Ge 19:29; Eze 18:20
14:17 [k]S Lev 26:25; S Jer 25:27; S 42:16 [l]Eze 25:13; Zep 1:3
14:19 [m]S Eze 7:8 [n]S Isa 34:3 [o]Jer 14:12; Eze 38:22
14:20 [p]S ver 14
14:21 [q]S Nu 33:4 [r]Isa 31:8; 34:6; 66:16; Eze 21:3, 19 [s]S 2Sa 24:13 [t]S Jer 14:12; 27:8 [u]S Jer 15:3; S Eze 5:17; 33:27; Am 4:6-10; Rev 6:8
14:22 [v]S Jer 41:16 [w]S Eze 12:16 [x]Eze 20:43 [y]Eze 31:16; 32:31
14:23 [z]S Jer 22:8-9; Eze 8:6-18; S 9:9
15:2 [a]Ps 80:8-16; Isa 5:1-7; 27:2-6; Jer 2:21; Hos 10:1; S Jn 15:2
15:3 [b]Jer 13:10 [c]S Isa 22:23
15:4 [d]Eze 17:3-10; 19:14; Jn 15:6
15:7 [e]S Lev 26:17; Ps 34:16; Eze 14:8 [f]S Eze 5:2 [g]S Eze 5:4 [h]Isa 24:18; Am 9:1-4
15:8 [i]S Eze 14:13 [j]Eze 17:20; 18:24
16:2 [k]S Isa 57:12; Eze 23:36 [l]Eze 8:17; 20:4; 22:2
16:3 [m]Ge 11:25-29; Eze 21:30 [n]S Ge 12:18 [o]S Ge 15:16 [p]ver 45; S Ge 10:15; S Dt 7:1; Jos 24:14-15
16:4 [q]Hos 2:3
16:6 [r]ver 22; S Ex 19:4; Eze 18:23, 32
16:7 [s]S Dt 1:10 [t]S Ex 1:7
16:8 [u]Ru 3:9

[a]14 Or *Danel;* the Hebrew spelling may suggest a person other than the prophet Daniel; also in verse 20. [b]6 A few Hebrew manuscripts, Septuagint and Syriac; most Hebrew manuscripts *"Live!" And as you lay there in your blood I said to you, "Live!"* [c]7 Or *became mature*

covered your nakedness. I gave you
my solemn oath and entered into a cov-
enant[a] with you, declares the Sover-
eign LORD, and you became mine.[b]
9[c] “I bathed[c] you with water and
washed[c] the blood from you and put
ointments on you. 10I clothed you with
an embroidered[d] dress and put leather
sandals on you. I dressed you in fine
linen[e] and covered you with costly gar-
ments.[f] 11I adorned you with jewelry:[g]
I put bracelets[h] on your arms and a
necklace[i] around your neck, 12and I
put a ring on your nose,[j] earrings[k] on
your ears and a beautiful crown[l] on
your head.[m] 13So you were adorned
with gold and silver; your clothes[n]
were of fine linen and costly fabric and
embroidered cloth. Your food was fine
flour, honey and olive oil.[o] You
became very beautiful and rose to be a
queen.[p] 14And your fame[q] spread
among the nations on account of your
beauty,[r] because the splendor I had
given you made your beauty perfect,
declares the Sovereign LORD.[s]
15“ ‘But you trusted in your beauty
and used your fame to become a prosti-
tute. You lavished your favors on any-
one who passed by[t] and your beauty
became his.[d][u] 16You took some of your
garments to make gaudy high places,[v]
where you carried on your prostitu-
tion.[w] Such things should not happen,
nor should they ever occur. 17You also
took the fine jewelry I gave you, the
jewelry made of my gold and silver,
and you made for yourself male idols
and engaged in prostitution with
them.[x] 18And you took your embroi-
dered clothes to put on them, and you
offered my oil and incense[y] before
them. 19Also the food I provided for
you—the fine flour, olive oil and honey
I gave you to eat—you offered as fra-
grant incense before them. That is what
happened, declares the Sovereign
LORD.[z]
20“ ‘And you took your sons and
daughters[a] whom you bore to me[b]
and sacrificed them as food to the
idols. Was your prostitution not
enough?[c] 21You slaughtered my chil-
dren and sacrificed them[e] to the
idols.[d] 22In all your detestable practices
and your prostitution you did not
remember the days of your youth,[e]
when you were naked and bare,[f] kick-
ing about in your blood.[g]
23“ ‘Woe![h] Woe to you, declares the
Sovereign LORD. In addition to all your
other wickedness, 24you built a mound

16:8 [a]ver 59; S Jer 11:10; Mal 2:14 [b]Jer 2:2; Hos 2:7, 19-20
16:9 [c]S Ru 3:3
16:10 [d]S Ex 26:36; S Isa 19:9 [e]Eze 27:16 [f]ver 18; S Isa 3:23
16:11 [g]S Jer 4:30; Eze 23:40 [h]Isa 3:19; Eze 23:42 [i]S Ge 41:42; S Ps 73:6
16:12 [j]Isa 3:21 [k]S Ge 35:4 [l]S Isa 28:5; S Jer 13:18 [m]Pr 1:9; S Isa 3:19
16:13 [n]Est 5:1 [o]1Sa 10:1 [p]Dt 32:13-14; S 1Ki 4:21; S Est 2:9,17
16:14 [q]1Ki 10:24 [r]S Est 1:11; S Ps 48:2; S La 2:15 [s]S Eze 5:5
16:15 [t]ver 25 [u]S Isa 57:8; S Jer 2:20; Eze 23:3; 27:3
16:16 [v]S Isa 57:7 [w]S 2Ki 23:7
16:17 [x]S Eze 7:20; Hos 2:13
16:18 [y]S Jer 44:5
16:19 [z]Hos 2:8
16:20 [a]S Jer 7:31 [b]Ex 13:2 [c]Ps 106:37-38; S Isa 57:5; Eze 23:37
16:21 [d]S 2Ki 17:17; S Jer 19:5
16:22 [e]S Ps 25:7; S 88:15; Jer 2:2; Hos 2:15; 11:1 [f]Hos 2:3 [g]ver 6
16:23 [h]Eze 24:6
16:24 [i]ver 31; Isa 57:7 [j]Ps 78:58; S Jer 2:20; 3:2; S 44:21; Eze 20:28
16:25 [k]S Jer 3:2 [l]ver 15; S Pr 9:14
16:26 [m]S Isa 23:17 [n]S Jer 3:1 [o]S 1Ki 14:9; S Eze 8:17 [p]S Isa 57:8; Jer 11:15; Eze 20:8; 23:19-21
16:27 [q]Eze 20:33; 25:13 [r]S Jer 34:20 [s]S 2Ch 28:18
16:28 [t]S 2Ki 16:7 [u]Isa 57:8
16:29 [v]S Jer 3:1; Eze 23:14-17 [w]Na 3:4
16:30 [x]S Jer 3:3
16:31 [y]S ver 24
16:33 [z]S Ge 30:15 [a]Isa 30:6; 57:9 [b]Hos 8:9-10

for yourself and made a lofty shrine[i] in
every public square.[j] 25At the head of
every street[k] you built your lofty
shrines and degraded your beauty, of-
fering your body with increasing pro-
miscuity to anyone who passed by.[l]
26You engaged in prostitution[m] with
the Egyptians,[n] your lustful neighbors,
and provoked[o] me to anger with your
increasing promiscuity.[p] 27So I
stretched out my hand[q] against you
and reduced your territory; I gave you
over[r] to the greed of your enemies, the
daughters of the Philistines,[s] who
were shocked by your lewd conduct.
28You engaged in prostitution with the
Assyrians[t] too, because you were insa-
tiable; and even after that, you still
were not satisfied.[u] 29Then you in-
creased your promiscuity to include
Babylonia,[f][v] a land of merchants, but
even with this you were not satisfied.[w]
30“ ‘How weak-willed you are, de-
clares the Sovereign LORD, when you
do all these things, acting like a brazen
prostitute![x] 31When you built your
mounds at the head of every street and
made your lofty shrines[y] in every pub-
lic square, you were unlike a prostitute,
because you scorned payment.
32“ ‘You adulterous wife! You prefer
strangers to your own husband!
33Every prostitute receives a fee,[z] but
you give gifts[a] to all your lovers, brib-
ing them to come to you from every-
where for your illicit favors.[b] 34So in
your prostitution you are the opposite
of others; no one runs after you for
your favors. You are the very opposite,
for you give payment and none is giv-
en to you.
35“ ‘Therefore, you prostitute, hear
the word of the LORD! 36This is what the
Sovereign LORD says: Because you
poured out your wealth[g] and exposed
your nakedness in your promiscuity
with your lovers, and because of all
your detestable idols, and because you
gave them your children's blood,[c]
37therefore I am going to gather all your
lovers, with whom you found plea-
sure, those you loved as well as those
you hated. I will gather them against
you from all around and will strip[d] you
in front of them, and they will see all

16:36 [c]S Jer 19:5; Eze 23:10 16:37 [d]Hos 2:3

[c]9 Or *I had bathed* [d]15 Most Hebrew manuscripts; one Hebrew manuscript (see some Septuagint manuscripts) *by. Such a thing should not happen* [e]21 Or *and made them pass through the fire,* [f]29 Or *Chaldea* [g]36 Or *lust*

your nakedness.[a] 38I will sentence you
to the punishment of women who com-
mit adultery and who shed blood;[b] I
will bring upon you the blood ven-
geance of my wrath and jealous an-
ger.[c] 39Then I will hand you over[d] to
your lovers, and they will tear down
your mounds and destroy your lofty
shrines. They will strip you of your
clothes and take your fine jewelry and
leave you naked and bare.[e] 40They will
bring a mob against you, who will
stone[f] you and hack you to pieces with
their swords. 41They will burn down[g]
your houses and inflict punishment on
you in the sight of many women.[h] I
will put a stop[i] to your prostitution,
and you will no longer pay your lovers.
42Then my wrath against you will sub-
side and my jealous anger will turn
away from you; I will be calm and no
longer angry.[j]

43" 'Because you did not remember[k]
the days of your youth but enraged me
with all these things, I will surely bring
down[l] on your head what you have
done, declares the Sovereign LORD. Did
you not add lewdness to all your other
detestable practices?[m]

44" 'Everyone who quotes proverbs[n]
will quote this proverb about you:
"Like mother, like daughter." 45You
are a true daughter of your mother,
who despised[o] her husband[p] and her
children; and you are a true sister of
your sisters, who despised their hus-
bands and their children. Your mother
was a Hittite and your father an Amo-
rite.[q] 46Your older sister[r] was Samaria,
who lived to the north of you with her
daughters; and your younger sister,
who lived to the south of you with her
daughters, was Sodom.[s] 47You not
only walked in their ways and copied
their detestable practices, but in all
your ways you soon became more de-
praved than they.[t] 48As surely as I live,
declares the Sovereign[u] LORD, your sis-
ter Sodom[v] and her daughters never
did what you and your daughters have
done.[w]

49" 'Now this was the sin of your sis-
ter Sodom:[x] She and her daughters
were arrogant,[y] overfed and uncon-
cerned;[z] they did not help the poor
and needy.[a] 50They were haughty[b]
and did detestable things before me.
Therefore I did away with them as you
have seen.[c] 51Samaria did not commit
half the sins you did. You have done
more detestable things than they, and
have made your sisters seem righteous
by all these things you have done.[d]
52Bear your disgrace, for you have fur-
nished some justification for your sis-
ters. Because your sins were more vile
than theirs, they appear more right-
eous[e] than you. So then, be ashamed
and bear[f] your disgrace, for you have
made your sisters appear righteous.

53" 'However, I will restore[g] the for-
tunes of Sodom and her daughters and
of Samaria and her daughters, and
your fortunes along with them,[h] 54so
that you may bear your disgrace[i] and
be ashamed of all you have done in giv-
ing them comfort. 55And your sisters,
Sodom with her daughters and Sa-
maria with her daughters, will return
to what they were before; and you and
your daughters will return to what you
were before.[j] 56You would not even
mention your sister Sodom in the day
of your pride, 57before your wickedness
was uncovered. Even so, you are now
scorned[k] by the daughters of Edom[h,l]
and all her neighbors and the daugh-
ters of the Philistines—all those around
you who despise you. 58You will bear
the consequences of your lewdness
and your detestable practices, declares
the LORD.[m]

59" 'This is what the Sovereign LORD
says: I will deal with you as you de-
serve, because you have despised my
oath by breaking the covenant.[n] 60Yet I
will remember the covenant[o] I made
with you in the days of your youth,[p]
and I will establish an everlasting cov-
enant[q] with you. 61Then you will
remember your ways and be ashamed[r]
when you receive your sisters, both
those who are older than you and
those who are younger. I will give
them to you as daughters,[s] but not on
the basis of my covenant with you. 62So
I will establish my covenant[t] with you,
and you will know that I am the LORD.[u]
63Then, when I make atonement[v] for
you for all you have done, you will
remember and be ashamed[w] and never
again open your mouth[x] because of
your humiliation, declares the Sover-
eign LORD.[y] ' "

Two Eagles and a Vine

17 The word of the LORD came to
me: 2"Son of man, set forth an
allegory and tell the house of Israel a

16:37 [a]S Isa 47:3; S Jer 13:22; Eze 23:22; Hos 2:10; 8:10; Rev 17:16
16:38 [b]S Ge 38:24 [c]S Lev 20:10; Ps 79:3,5; Eze 23:25; Zep 1:17
16:39 [d]S 2Ki 18:11 [e]Eze 21:31; Hos 2:3
16:40 [f]Jn 8:5,7
16:41 [g]S Dt 13:16; S Jer 19:13 [h]Eze 23:10 [i]Eze 22:15; 23:27,48
16:42 [j]2Sa 24:25; Isa 40:1-2; 54:9; S Eze 5:13; 39:29
16:43 [k]S Ex 15:24; Ps 78:42 [l]Eze 22:31 [m]Eze 11:21
16:44 [n]S Ps 49:4
16:45 [o]S Eze 14:5 [p]Jer 44:19 [q]ver 3; Eze 23:2
16:46 [r]S Jer 3:7 [s]Ge 13:10-13; S 18:20; Jer 3:8-11; Eze 23:4; Rev 11:8
16:47 [t]S Eze 5:7
16:48 [u]S Ge 15:2 [v]S Ge 19:25 [w]Mt 10:15; 11:23-24
16:49 [x]S Isa 1:10 [y]Ps 138:6; Eze 28:2 [z]Isa 22:13 [a]S Ge 13:13; 19:9; S Jer 5:28; Eze 18:7,12,16; Am 6:4-6; Lk 12:16-20; 16:19; Jas 5:5
16:50 [b]Ps 18:27 [c]Ge 18:20-21; S 19:5
16:51 [d]Jer 3:8-11; Eze 5:6-7; 23:11
16:52 [e]S Jer 3:11 [f]Eze 23:35
16:53 [g]S Dt 30:3; Isa 19:24-25; S Jer 48:47 [h]Eze 39:25
16:54 [i]S Jer 2:26
16:55 [j]Eze 36:11; Mal 3:4
16:57 [k]S Ps 137:3 [l]2Ki 16:6
16:58 [m]Eze 23:49
16:59 [n]S ver 8; Eze 17:19
16:60 [o]S Ge 6:18; S 9:15 [p]S Ps 25:7; S Jer 2:2 [q]S Ge 9:16; Eze 37:26
16:61 [r]ver 63; Eze 20:43; 43:10; 44:13 [s]S Isa 43:6
16:62 [t]S Dt 29:14 [u]S Jer 24:7; Eze 20:37,43-44; 34:25; 37:26; Hos 2:19-20
16:63 [v]Ps 65:3; 78:38; 79:9 [w]Eze 36:31-32 [x]Ro 3:19 [y]Ps 39:9; Da 9:7-8

[h]57 Many Hebrew manuscripts and Syriac; most Hebrew manuscripts, Septuagint and Vulgate *Aram*

parable.[a] 3Say to them, 'This is what
the Sovereign LORD says: A great eagle[b]
with powerful wings, long feathers and
full plumage of varied colors came to
Lebanon.[c] Taking hold of the top of a
cedar, 4he broke off[d] its topmost shoot
and carried it away to a land of mer-
chants, where he planted it in a city of
traders.

5" 'He took some of the seed of your
land and put it in fertile soil. He
planted it like a willow by abundant
water,[e] 6and it sprouted and became a
low, spreading vine. Its branches[f]
turned toward him, but its roots re-
mained under it. So it became a vine
and produced branches and put out
leafy boughs.[g]

7" 'But there was another great eagle
with powerful wings and full plumage.
The vine now sent out its roots toward
him from the plot where it was planted
and stretched out its branches to him
for water.[h] 8It had been planted in
good soil by abundant water so that it
would produce branches,[i] bear fruit
and become a splendid vine.'

9"Say to them, 'This is what the Sov-
ereign LORD says: Will it thrive? Will it
not be uprooted and stripped of its
fruit so that it withers? All its new
growth will wither. It will not take a
strong arm or many people to pull it up
by the roots.[j] 10Even if it[k] is trans-
planted, will it thrive? Will it not wither
completely when the east wind strikes
it—wither away in the plot where it
grew?[l] ' "

11Then the word of the LORD came to
me: 12"Say to this rebellious house, 'Do
you not know what these things
mean?[m]' Say to them: 'The king of Bab-
ylon went to Jerusalem and carried off
her king and her nobles,[n] bringing
them back with him to Babylon.[o]
13Then he took a member of the royal
family and made a treaty[p] with him,
putting him under oath.[q] He also car-
ried away the leading men[r] of the
land, 14so that the kingdom would be
brought low,[s] unable to rise again, sur-
viving only by keeping his treaty. 15But
the king rebelled[t] against him by send-
ing his envoys to Egypt[u] to get horses
and a large army.[v] Will he succeed?
Will he who does such things escape?
Will he break the treaty and yet es-
cape?[w]

16" 'As surely as I live, declares the
Sovereign LORD, he shall die[x] in Bab-
ylon, in the land of the king who put
him on the throne, whose oath he de-
spised and whose treaty he broke.[y]
17Pharaoh[z] with his mighty army and
great horde will be of no help to him in
war, when ramps[a] are built and siege
works erected to destroy many lives.[b]
18He despised the oath by breaking the
covenant. Because he had given his
hand in pledge[c] and yet did all these
things, he shall not escape.

19" 'Therefore this is what the Sover-
eign LORD says: As surely as I live, I will
bring down on his head my oath that
he despised and my covenant that he
broke.[d] 20I will spread my net[e] for
him, and he will be caught in my snare.
I will bring him to Babylon and execute
judgment[f] upon him there because he
was unfaithful[g] to me. 21All his fleeing
troops will fall by the sword,[h] and the
survivors[i] will be scattered to the
winds.[j] Then you will know that I the
LORD have spoken.[k]

22" 'This is what the Sovereign LORD
says: I myself will take a shoot[l] from
the very top of a cedar and plant it; I
will break off a tender sprig from its
topmost shoots and plant it on a high
and lofty mountain.[m] 23On the moun-
tain heights[n] of Israel I will plant it; it
will produce branches and bear fruit[o]
and become a splendid cedar. Birds of
every kind will nest in it; they will find
shelter in the shade of its branches.[p]
24All the trees of the field[q] will know
that I the LORD bring down[r] the tall tree
and make the low tree grow tall. I dry
up the green tree and make the dry tree
flourish.[s]

" 'I the LORD have spoken, and I will
do it.[t] ' "

The Soul Who Sins Will Die

18 The word of the LORD came to
me: 2"What do you people mean
by quoting this proverb about the land
of Israel:

" 'The fathers eat sour grapes,
and the children's teeth are set on
edge'?[u]

3"As surely as I live, declares the
Sovereign LORD, you will no longer
quote this proverb[v] in Israel. 4For
every living soul belongs to me, the fa-
ther as well as the son—both alike be-
long to me. The soul who sins[w] is the
one who will die.[x]

5"Suppose there is a righteous man
who does what is just and right.

17:2 [a]S Jdg 14:12; S Eze 20:49 **17:3** [b]S Dt 28:49; Jer 49:22; Da 7:4; Hos 8:1 [c]S Jer 22:23 **17:4** [d]S Isa 10:33 **17:5** [e]Dt 8:7-9; Ps 1:3; Isa 44:4; Eze 31:5 **17:6** [f]S Isa 18:5 [g]S Job 5:3 **17:7** [h]Eze 31:4 **17:8** [i]Job 18:19; Mal 4:1 **17:9** [j]Jer 42:10; Am 2:9 **17:10** [k]S Job 1:19; Hos 12:1; 13:15 [l]S Eze 15:4 **17:12** [m]S Eze 12:9 [n]S 2Ki 24:15 [o]S Dt 21:10; S 2Ch 36:10; Eze 24:19 **17:13** [p]S Ex 23:32; S Jer 37:1 [q]2Ch 36:13 [r]Isa 3:2 **17:14** [s]Eze 29:14 **17:15** [t]Jer 52:3 [u]S Isa 30:2; S Jer 37:5 [v]S Dt 17:16 [w]S Ps 56:7; S Isa 30:5; Jer 34:3; 38:18; Eze 29:16 **17:16** [x]S Jer 52:11; Eze 12:13 [y]S 2Ki 24:17 **17:17** [z]Jer 37:7 [a]S Eze 4:2 [b]S Isa 36:6; Jer 37:5; Eze 29:6-7 **17:18** [c]S 2Ki 10:15; 1Ch 29:24 **17:19** [d]Jer 7:9; S Eze 16:59; 21:23; Hos 10:4 **17:20** [e]S Eze 12:13; 32:3 [f]S Jer 2:35 [g]S Eze 15:8 **17:21** [h]S Eze 12:14 [i]2Ki 25:11 [j]S Lev 26:33; S 2Ki 25:5; Zec 2:6 [k]S Jer 27:8 **17:22** [l]S 2Ki 19:30; S Isa 4:2 [m]ver 23; Isa 2:2; S Jer 23:5; Eze 20:40; 36:1, 36; 37:22; 40:2; 43:12 **17:23** [n]S ver 22; S Jer 31:12 [o]S Isa 27:6 [p]Ps 92:12; S Isa 2:2; Eze 31:6; Da 4:12; Hos 14:5-7; S Mt 13:32 **17:24** [q]S Ps 96:12; Isa 2:13 [r]S Ps 52:5 [s]S Nu 17:8; Da 5:21 [t]S 1Sa 2:7-8; Eze 19:12; 21:26; 22:14; 37:13; Am 9:11 **18:2** [u]S Job 21:19; Isa 3:15; Jer 31:29 **18:3** [v]S Ps 49:4 **18:4** [w]S 2Ki 14:6; S Pr 13:21 [x]ver 20; S Ge 18:23; S Ex 17:14; S Job 21:20; Isa 42:5; Eze 33:8; S Ro 6:23

6He does not eat at the mountain[a]
shrines
or look to the idols[b] of the house
of Israel.
He does not defile his neighbor's
wife
or lie with a woman during her
period.[c]
7He does not oppress[d] anyone,
but returns what he took in
pledge[e] for a loan.
He does not commit robbery[f]
but gives his food to the
hungry[g]
and provides clothing for the
naked.[h]
8He does not lend at usury
or take excessive interest.[a] [i]
He withholds his hand from doing
wrong
and judges fairly[j] between man
and man.
9He follows my decrees[k]
and faithfully keeps my laws.
That man is righteous;[l]
he will surely live,[m]
declares the Sovereign LORD.

10"Suppose he has a violent son, who
sheds blood[n] or does any of these
other things[b] 11(though the father has
done none of them):

"He eats at the mountain shrines.[o]
He defiles his neighbor's wife.
12He oppresses the poor[p] and needy.
He commits robbery.
He does not return what he took in
pledge.[q]
He looks to the idols.
He does detestable things.[r]
13He lends at usury and takes
excessive interest.[s]

Will such a man live? He will not! Be-
cause he has done all these detestable
things, he will surely be put to death
and his blood will be on his own
head.[t]
14"But suppose this son has a son
who sees all the sins his father com-
mits, and though he sees them, he
does not do such things:[u]

15"He does not eat at the mountain
shrines[v]
or look to the idols[w] of the house
of Israel.
He does not defile his neighbor's
wife.
16He does not oppress anyone
or require a pledge for a loan.
He does not commit robbery
but gives his food to the hungry[x]
and provides clothing for the
naked.[y]
17He withholds his hand from sin[c]
and takes no usury or excessive
interest.
He keeps my laws[z] and follows my
decrees.

He will not die for his father's sin; he
will surely live. 18But his father will die
for his own sin, because he practiced
extortion, robbed his brother and did
what was wrong among his people.
19"Yet you ask, 'Why does the son
not share the guilt of his father?' Since
the son has done what is just and right
and has been careful to keep all my de-
crees, he will surely live.[a] 20The soul
who sins is the one who will die.[b] The
son will not share the guilt of the fa-
ther, nor will the father share the guilt
of the son. The righteousness of the
righteous man will be credited to him,
and the wickedness of the wicked will
be charged against him.[c]
21"But if[d] a wicked man turns away
from all the sins he has committed and
keeps all my decrees[e] and does what is
just and right, he will surely live; he
will not die.[f] 22None of the offenses he
has committed will be remembered
against him. Because of the righteous
things he has done, he will live.[g] 23Do I
take any pleasure in the death of the
wicked? declares the Sovereign LORD.
Rather, am I not pleased[h] when they
turn from their ways and live?[i]
24"But if a righteous man turns[j] from
his righteousness and commits sin and
does the same detestable things the
wicked man does, will he live? None of
the righteous things he has done will
be remembered. Because of the un-
faithfulness[k] he is guilty of and be-
cause of the sins he has committed, he
will die.[l]
25"Yet you say, 'The way of the Lord
is not just.'[m] Hear, O house of Israel: Is
my way unjust?[n] Is it not your ways
that are unjust? 26If a righteous man
turns from his righteousness and com-
mits sin, he will die for it; because of
the sin he has committed he will die.
27But if a wicked man turns away from
the wickedness he has committed and
does what is just and right, he will save
his life.[o] 28Because he considers all the

18:6 aS Eze 6:2 bDt 4:19; S Eze 6:13; 20:24; Am 5:26 cS Lev 12:2; S 15:24 18:7 dEx 22:21; Mal 3:5; Jas 5:4 eS Ex 22:26 fS Ex 20:15 gS Job 22:7 hDt 15:11; S Eze 16:49; S Mt 25:36; Lk 3:11 18:8 iS Ex 18:21; 22:25; S Lev 25:35-37; Dt 23:19-20 jS Jer 22:3; Zec 8:16 18:9 kS Lev 19:37 lHab 2:4 mS Lev 18:5; S Eze 11:12; 20:11; Am 5:4 18:10 nEx 21:12; Eze 22:6 18:11 oEze 22:9 18:12 pS Ex 22:22; S Job 24:9; Am 4:1 qS Ex 22:27 r2Ki 21:11; Isa 59:6-7; S Jer 22:17; S Eze 16:49; Hab 2:6 18:13 sEx 22:25 tS Lev 20:9; Eze 33:4-5; Hos 12:14 18:14 u2Ch 34:21; S Pr 23:24 18:15 vEze 22:9 wS Ps 24:4 18:16 xIsa 58:7 yS Ex 22:27; Ps 41:1; Isa 58:10; S Eze 16:49 18:17 zS Ps 1:2 18:19 aEx 20:5; Dt 5:9; Jer 15:4; Zec 1:3-6 18:20 bS Nu 15:31 cDt 24:16; S 1Ki 8:32; 2Ki 14:6; Isa 3:11; S Eze 7:27; S 14:14; S Mt 16:27; Jn 9:2 18:21 dJer 18:8 eS Ge 26:5 fS Eze 13:22; 36:27 18:22 gPs 18:20-24; S Isa 43:25; Da 4:27; Mic 7:19 18:23 hPs 147:11 iS Job 37:23; S La 3:33; S Eze 16:6; Mic 7:18; S 1Ti 2:4 18:24 jS Jer 34:16 kS Eze 15:8 lS 1Sa 15:11; 2Ch 24:17-20; S Job 35:8; Pr 21:16; S Eze 3:20; 20:27; 2Pe 2:20-22 18:25 mJer 2:29 nS Ge 18:25; Jer 12:1; Eze 33:17; Zep 3:5; Mal 2:17; 3:13-15 18:27 oS Isa 1:18; S Eze 13:22

a8 Or take interest; similarly in verses 13 and 17 b10 Or things to a brother c17 Septuagint (see also verse 8); Hebrew from the poor

offenses he has committed and turns
away from them, he will surely live; he
will not die.[a] 29Yet the house of Israel
says, 'The way of the Lord is not just.'
Are my ways unjust, O house of Israel?
Is it not your ways that are unjust?
30"Therefore, O house of Israel, I will
judge you, each one according to his
ways, declares the Sovereign LORD. Re-
pent![b] Turn away from all your of-
fenses; then sin will not be your down-
fall.[c] 31Rid[d] yourselves of all the of-
fenses you have committed, and get a
new heart[e] and a new spirit. Why[f]
will you die, O house of Israel?[g] 32For I
take no pleasure in the death of any-
one, declares the Sovereign LORD. Re-
pent[h] and live![i]

A Lament for Israel's Princes

19 "Take up a lament[j] concerning
the princes[k] of Israel 2and say:

"'What a lioness[l] was your mother
among the lions!
She lay down among the young lions
and reared her cubs.[m]
3She brought up one of her cubs,
and he became a strong lion.
He learned to tear the prey
and he devoured men.
4The nations heard about him,
and he was trapped in their pit.
They led him with hooks[n]
to the land of Egypt.[o]

5"'When she saw her hope
unfulfilled,
her expectation gone,
she took another of her cubs[p]
and made him a strong lion.[q]
6He prowled among the lions,
for he was now a strong lion.
He learned to tear the prey
and he devoured men.[r]
7He broke down[l] their strongholds
and devastated[s] their towns.
The land and all who were in it
were terrified by his roaring.
8Then the nations[t] came against him,
those from regions round about.
They spread their net[u] for him,
and he was trapped in their pit.[v]
9With hooks[w] they pulled him into a
cage
and brought him to the king of
Babylon.[x]
They put him in prison,
so his roar[y] was heard no longer
on the mountains of Israel.[z]

10"'Your mother was like a vine in
your vineyard[m][a]

18:28 [a]S Isa 55:7 **18:30** [b]S Isa 1:27; S Jer 35:15; Mt 3:2 [c]Eze 7:3; 24:14; 33:20; Hos 12:6; 1Pe 1:17 **18:31** [d]S Jdg 6:8 [e]Ps 51:10 [f]Jer 27:13 [g]S Isa 1:16-17; S Eze 11:19; 36:26 **18:32** [h]S Job 22:23; Isa 55:7; Mal 3:7 [i]S 2Ch 7:14; S Job 37:23; S Eze 16:6; 33:11 **19:1** [j]ver 14; Jer 7:29; 9:10,20; Eze 26:17; 27:2, 32; 28:12; 32:2, 16; Am 5:1 [k]S 2Ki 24:6 **19:2** [l]S Nu 23:24 [m]S Ge 49:9 **19:4** [n]S Job 41:2 [o]2Ki 23:33-34; 2Ch 36:4; S La 4:20 **19:5** [p]S Ge 49:9 [q]2Ki 23:34 **19:6** [r]2Ki 24:9; 2Ch 36:9 **19:7** [s]Eze 29:10; 30:12 **19:8** [t]2Ki 24:2 [u]S Eze 12:13 [v]2Ki 24:11; S La 4:20 **19:9** [w]S 2Ki 19:28 [x]S 2Ki 25:7; S 2Ch 36:6 [y]Zec 11:3 [z]S 2Ki 24:15 **19:10** [a]S Ge 49:22 [b]S Jer 17:8 [c]Ps 80:8-11 **19:11** [d]Eze 31:3; Da 4:11 **19:12** [e]S Dt 29:28 [f]S Ge 41:6 [g]S Isa 27:11; S Eze 17:24; 28:17; Hos 13:15 **19:13** [h]Eze 20:35; Hos 2:14 [i]Hos 2:3 **19:14** [j]Eze 20:47 [k]S Eze 15:4 [l]S ver 1 **20:1** [m]S Ge 25:22 [n]Eze 1:1-2; S 8:1; 21:1 **20:3** [o]S Eze 7:26 [p]S Ge 25:22; Eze 14:3 [q]S 1Sa 28:6; Isa 1:15; Am 8:12; Mic 3:7 **20:4** [r]S Eze 16:2; 22:2; Mt 23:32 **20:5** [s]S Dt 7:6 [t]S Ge 14:22; S Nu 14:30 [u]S Lev 11:44 **20:6** [v]S Ex 6:8 [w]S Ex 3:8 [x]S Dt 8:7; Da 8:9; 11:41; Mal 3:12 **20:7** [y]Ex 20:4 [z]S Eze 6:9 [a]S Ex 20:2; Lev 18:3; Dt 29:18

planted by the water;[b]
it was fruitful and full of branches
because of abundant water.[c]
11Its branches were strong,
fit for a ruler's scepter.
It towered high
above the thick foliage,
conspicuous for its height
and for its many branches.[d]
12But it was uprooted[e] in fury
and thrown to the ground.
The east wind[f] made it shrivel,
it was stripped of its fruit;
its strong branches withered
and fire consumed them.[g]
13Now it is planted in the desert,[h]
in a dry and thirsty land.[i]
14Fire spread from one of its main[n]
branches
and consumed[j] its fruit.
No strong branch is left on it
fit for a ruler's scepter.'[k]

This is a lament[l] and is to be used as a
lament."

Rebellious Israel

20 In the seventh year, in the fifth
month on the tenth day, some of
the elders of Israel came to inquire[m] of
the LORD, and they sat down in front of
me.[n]
2Then the word of the LORD came to
me: 3"Son of man, speak to the elders[o]
of Israel and say to them, 'This is what
the Sovereign LORD says: Have you
come to inquire[p] of me? As surely as I
live, I will not let you inquire of me,
declares the Sovereign LORD.[q]'
4"Will you judge them? Will you
judge them, son of man? Then confront
them with the detestable practices of
their fathers[r] 5and say to them: 'This is
what the Sovereign LORD says: On the
day I chose[s] Israel, I swore with uplift-
ed hand[t] to the descendants of the
house of Jacob and revealed myself to
them in Egypt. With uplifted hand I
said to them, "I am the LORD your
God.[u]" 6On that day I swore[v] to them
that I would bring them out of Egypt
into a land I had searched out for them,
a land flowing with milk and honey,[w]
the most beautiful of all lands.[x] 7And I
said to them, "Each of you, get rid of
the vile images[y] you have set your
eyes on, and do not defile yourselves
with the idols[z] of Egypt. I am the LORD
your God.[a]"

[l]7 Targum (see Septuagint); Hebrew *He knew*
[m]10 Two Hebrew manuscripts; most Hebrew
manuscripts *your blood* [n]14 Or *from under its*

[8]“ ‘But they rebelled against me and
would not listen to me;[a] they did not
get rid of the vile images they had set
their eyes on, nor did they forsake the
idols of Egypt.[b] So I said I would pour
out my wrath on them and spend my
anger against them in Egypt.[c] [9]But for
the sake of my name I did what would
keep it from being profaned[d] in the
eyes of the nations they lived among
and in whose sight I had revealed my-
self to the Israelites by bringing them
out of Egypt.[e] [10]Therefore I led them
out of Egypt and brought them into the
desert.[f] [11]I gave them my decrees and
made known to them my laws, for the
man who obeys them will live by
them.[g] [12]Also I gave them my Sab-
baths[h] as a sign[i] between us,[j] so they
would know that I the LORD made them
holy.[k]

[13]“ ‘Yet the people of Israel rebelled[l]
against me in the desert. They did not
follow my decrees but rejected my
laws[m]—although the man who obeys
them will live by them—and they utter-
ly desecrated my Sabbaths.[n] So I said I
would pour out my wrath[o] on them
and destroy[p] them in the desert.[q] [14]But
for the sake of my name I did what
would keep it from being profaned[r] in
the eyes of the nations in whose sight I
had brought them out.[s] [15]Also with
uplifted hand I swore[t] to them in the
desert that I would not bring them into
the land I had given them—a land
flowing with milk and honey, most
beautiful of all lands[u]— [16]because they
rejected my laws[v] and did not follow
my decrees and desecrated my Sab-
baths. For their hearts[w] were devoted
to their idols.[x] [17]Yet I looked on them
with pity and did not destroy[y] them or
put an end to them in the desert. [18]I
said to their children in the desert, “Do
not follow the statutes of your fathers[z]
or keep their laws or defile yourselves[a]
with their idols. [19]I am the LORD your
God;[b] follow my decrees and be careful
to keep my laws.[c] [20]Keep my Sab-
baths[d] holy, that they may be a sign[e]
between us. Then you will know that I
am the LORD your God.[f]”

[21]“ ‘But the children rebelled against
me: They did not follow my decrees,
they were not careful to keep my
laws[g]—although the man who obeys
them will live by them—and they dese-
crated my Sabbaths. So I said I would
pour out my wrath on them and spend
my anger[h] against them in the desert.[i]
[22]But I withheld[j] my hand, and for the
sake of my name[k] I did what would
keep it from being profaned in the eyes
of the nations in whose sight I had
brought them out. [23]Also with uplifted
hand I swore to them in the desert that
I would disperse them among the na-
tions and scatter[l] them through the
countries, [24]because they had not
obeyed my laws but had rejected my
decrees[m] and desecrated my Sab-
baths,[n] and their eyes lusted after[o]
their fathers' idols.[p] [25]I also gave them
over[q] to statutes that were not good
and laws they could not live by;[r] [26]I let
them become defiled through their
gifts—the sacrifice[s] of every first-
born[o]—that I might fill them with hor-
ror so they would know that I am the
LORD.[t]’

[27]“Therefore, son of man, speak to
the people of Israel and say to them,
‘This is what the Sovereign LORD says:
In this also your fathers[u] blasphemed[v]
me by forsaking me:[w] [28]When I brought
them into the land[x] I had sworn to give
them and they saw any high hill or any
leafy tree, there they offered their sacri-
fices, made offerings that provoked me
to anger, presented their fragrant in-
cense and poured out their drink offer-
ings.[y] [29]Then I said to them: What is
this high place[z] you go to?’ ” (It is
called Bamah[p] to this day.)

Judgment and Restoration

[30]“Therefore say to the house of Is-
rael: ‘This is what the Sovereign LORD
says: Will you defile yourselves[a] the
way your fathers did and lust after
their vile images?[b] [31]When you offer
your gifts—the sacrifice of your sons[c]
in[q] the fire—you continue to defile
yourselves with all your idols to this
day. Am I to let you inquire of me, O
house of Israel? As surely as I live, de-
clares the Sovereign LORD, I will not let
you inquire of me.[d]

[32]“ ‘You say, “We want to be like the
nations, like the peoples of the world,
who serve wood and stone.” But what
you have in mind will never happen.
[33]As surely as I live, declares the Sover-
eign LORD, I will rule over you with a
mighty hand and an outstretched arm[e]
and with outpoured wrath.[f] [34]I will
bring you from the nations[g] and gath-

20:8 aS Jer 7:26 bS Jer 11:10; S Eze 7:8; S 16:26 cS Ex 32:7; Dt 9:7; S Isa 63:10
20:9 dS Isa 48:11 eEze 36:22; 39:7
20:10 fS Ex 13:18; 19:1
20:11 gEx 20:1-23; Lev 18:5; Dt 4:7-8; S Eze 18:9; S Ro 10:5
20:12 hS Ex 20:10 iS Ex 31:13 jJer 17:22 kS Lev 20:8
20:13 lPs 78:40 mS Jer 6:19; 11:8 nver 24 oS Dt 9:8 pS Ex 32:10 qLev 26:15,43; S Nu 14:29; Ps 95:8-10; Isa 56:6
20:14 rS Isa 48:11 sEze 36:23
20:15 tS Dt 1:34 uNu 14:22-23; Ps 95:11; 106:26; Heb 3:11
20:16 vJer 11:8; Am 2:4 wS Nu 15:39 xver 24; S Eze 6:4; Am 5:26
20:17 yS Jer 4:27
20:18 zS 2Ch 30:7; Zec 1:4 aS Ps 106:39
20:19 bS Ex 20:2 cDt 5:32-33; 6:1-2; S 8:1; 11:1; S 12:1
20:20 dS Ex 20:10 eS Ex 31:13 fJer 17:22
20:21 gS Jer 7:26 hNu 25:3 iS Eze 7:8
20:22 jPs 78:38 kS Isa 48:11
20:23 lS Lev 26:33; S Ps 9:11
20:24 mAm 2:4 nver 13 oS Eze 6:9 pS ver 16; S Eze 2:3; S 18:6
20:25 qS Ps 81:12; Ro 1:28 rIsa 66:4; 2Th 2:11
20:26 sS Lev 18:21 tLev 20:2-5; 2Ki 17:17
20:27 uS Ps 78:57 vS Nu 15:30; Ro 2:24 wS Eze 18:24
20:28 xNe 9:23; Ps 78:55,58 yS Jer 2:7; S 3:6; S 19:13; S Eze 6:13
20:29 zEze 16:16; 43:7
20:30 aver 43 bS Jdg 2:16-19; S Jer 16:12
20:31 cS Eze 16:20 dPs 106:37-39; S Jer 7:31; S Eze 14:3; Am 8:12; Zec 7:13
20:33 eS Eze 16:27 fJer 21:5; Eze 25:16
20:34 g2Co 6:17*

o26 Or *—making every firstborn pass through the fire,*
p29 *Bamah* means *high place.*
q31 Or *—making your sons pass through*

er[a] you from the countries where you
have been scattered—with a mighty
hand[b] and an outstretched arm and
with outpoured wrath.[c] 35I will bring
you into the desert[d] of the nations and
there, face to face, I will execute judg-
ment[e] upon you. 36As I judged your
fathers in the desert of the land of
Egypt, so I will judge you, declares the
Sovereign LORD.[f] 37I will take note of
you as you pass under my rod,[g] and I
will bring you into the bond of the cov-
enant.[h] 38I will purge[i] you of those
who revolt and rebel against me. Al-
though I will bring them out of the land
where they are living, yet they will not
enter the land of Israel. Then you will
know that I am the LORD.[j]
39" 'As for you, O house of Israel,
this is what the Sovereign LORD says:
Go and serve your idols,[k] every one of
you! But afterward you will surely lis-
ten to me and no longer profane my
holy name[l] with your gifts and idols.[m]
40For on my holy mountain, the high
mountain of Israel,[n] declares the Sov-
ereign LORD, there in the land the entire
house of Israel will serve me, and there
I will accept them. There I will require
your offerings[o] and your choice gifts,[r]
along with all your holy sacrifices.[p] 41I
will accept you as fragrant incense[q]
when I bring you out from the nations
and gather[r] you from the countries
where you have been scattered, and I
will show myself holy[s] among you in
the sight of the nations.[t] 42Then you
will know that I am the LORD,[u] when I
bring you into the land of Israel,[v] the
land I had sworn with uplifted hand to
give to your fathers.[w] 43There you will
remember your conduct[x] and all the
actions by which you have defiled
yourselves, and you will loathe your-
selves[y] for all the evil you have done.[z]
44You will know that I am the LORD,
when I deal with you for my name's
sake[a] and not according to your evil
ways and your corrupt practices, O
house of Israel, declares the Sovereign
LORD.[b] ' "

Prophecy Against the South

45The word of the LORD came to me:
46"Son of man, set your face toward[c]
the south; preach against the south and
prophesy against[d] the forest of the
southland.[e] 47Say to the southern for-
est:[f] 'Hear the word of the LORD. This
is what the Sovereign LORD says: I am
about to set fire to you, and it will con-
sume[g] all your trees, both green and

20:34 [a]S Dt 30:4; S Ps 106:47 [b]S Isa 31:3 [c]Isa 27:12-13; S Jer 44:6; S La 2:4; S Eze 6:14 **20:35** [d]S Eze 19:13 [e]S 1Sa 12:7; S Job 22:4; S Jer 2:35 **20:36** [f]Nu 11:1-35; 14:28-30; 1Co 10:5-10 **20:37** [g]S Lev 27:32 [h]S Eze 16:62 **20:38** [i]Eze 34:17-22; Am 9:9-10 [j]Ps 95:11; Jer 44:14; S Eze 13:9; 23:49; Hos 2:14; Zec 13:8-9; Mal 3:3; 4:1-3; Heb 4:3 **20:39** [k]S Jer 44:25 [l]S Ex 20:7; S Eze 13:19 [m]Eze 43:7; Am 4:4 **20:40** [n]S Eze 17:22; 34:14 [o]S Isa 60:7 [p]S Isa 56:7; Mal 3:4 **20:41** [q]S 2Co 2:14 [r]S Dt 30:4 [s]Eze 28:25; 36:23 [t]S Isa 5:16; S Eze 11:17; 2Co 6:17 **20:42** [u]Eze 38:23 [v]S Jer 23:8; Eze 34:13; 36:24 [w]Jer 30:3; Eze 34:27; 37:21 **20:43** [x]Eze 14:22 [y]S Lev 26:41 [z]S Eze 6:9; S 16:61; Hos 5:15 **20:44** [a]Ps 109:21; Isa 43:25; Eze 36:22 [b]S Eze 16:62; 36:32 **20:46** [c]S Eze 4:3; S 13:17 [d]Eze 21:2; Am 7:16 [e]Isa 30:6; Jer 13:19 **20:47** [f]S 2Ki 19:23 [g]Eze 19:14 [h]Eze 21:4 [i]Isa 9:18-19; S 13:8 **20:48** [j]S Jer 7:20; Eze 21:5,32; 23:25 **20:49** [k]S Eze 4:14 [l]S Jdg 14:12; S Ps 78:2; S Eze 12:9; Mt 13:13; S Jn 16:25 **21:1** [m]S Eze 20:1 **21:2** [n]S Eze 13:17 [o]Eze 9:6 [p]Jer 26:11-12; S Eze 20:46

dry. The blazing flame will not be
quenched, and every face from south
to north[h] will be scorched by it.[i]
48Everyone will see that I the LORD have
kindled it; it will not be quenched.[j] ' "
49Then I said, "Ah, Sovereign LORD![k]
They are saying of me, 'Isn't he just
telling parables?[l] ' "

Babylon, God's Sword of Judgment

21 The word of the LORD came to
me:[m] 2"Son of man, set your face
against[n] Jerusalem and preach against
the sanctuary.[o] Prophesy against[p] the
land of Israel 3and say to her: 'This is
what the LORD says: I am against you.[q]
I will draw my sword[r] from its scab-
bard and cut off from you both the
righteous and the wicked.[s] 4Because I
am going to cut off the righteous and
the wicked, my sword[t] will be un-
sheathed against everyone from south
to north.[u] 5Then all people will know
that I the LORD have drawn my sword[v]
from its scabbard; it will not return[w]
again.'[x]
6"Therefore groan, son of man!
Groan before them with broken heart
and bitter grief.[y] 7And when they ask
you, 'Why are you groaning?'[z] you
shall say, 'Because of the news that is
coming. Every heart will melt[a] and
every hand go limp;[b] every spirit will
become faint[c] and every knee become
as weak as water.'[d] It is coming! It will
surely take place, declares the Sover-
eign LORD."
8The word of the LORD came to me:
9"Son of man, prophesy and say, 'This
is what the Lord says:

" 'A sword, a sword,
  sharpened and polished—
10sharpened for the slaughter,[e]
  polished to flash like lightning!

" 'Shall we rejoice in the scepter of
my son ⌞Judah⌟? The sword despises
every such stick.[f]

11" 'The sword is appointed to be
    polished,[g]
  to be grasped with the hand;
it is sharpened and polished,
  made ready for the hand of the
    slayer.
12Cry out and wail, son of man,

21:3 [q]S Jer 21:13 [r]S Isa 27:1; S Eze 14:21 [s]ver 9-11; S Job 9:22; S Isa 57:1; Jer 47:6-7 **21:4** [t]S Lev 26:25; S Jer 25:27 [u]Eze 20:47 **21:5** [v]S Isa 34:5 [w]ver 30 [x]S Eze 20:47-48; Na 1:9 **21:6** [y]ver 12; S Isa 22:4; Jer 30:6; S Eze 9:4 **21:7** [z]S Job 23:2 [a]S Jos 7:5 [b]S Jer 47:3; Eze 22:14 [c]S Ps 6:2 [d]S Lev 26:36; S Job 11:16 **21:10** [e]Ps 110:5-6; Isa 34:5-6 [f]Dt 32:41 **21:11** [g]Jer 46:4

[r]40 *Or and the gifts of your firstfruits*

for it is against my people;
it is against all the princes of
Israel.
They are thrown to the sword
along with my people.
Therefore beat your breast.[a]

13"'Testing will surely come. And
what if the scepter of Judah, which the
sword despises, does not continue? de-
clares the Sovereign LORD.'

14"So then, son of man, prophesy
and strike your hands[b] together.
Let the sword strike twice,
even three times.
It is a sword for slaughter—
a sword for great slaughter,
closing in on them from every
side.[c]
15So that hearts may melt[d]
and the fallen be many,
I have stationed the sword for
slaughter[a]
at all their gates.
Oh! It is made to flash like lightning,
it is grasped for slaughter.[e]
16O sword, slash to the right,
then to the left,
wherever your blade is turned.
17I too will strike my hands[f] together,
and my wrath[g] will subside.
I the LORD have spoken.[h]"

18The word of the LORD came to me:
19"Son of man, mark out two roads for
the sword[i] of the king of Babylon to
take, both starting from the same coun-
try. Make a signpost[j] where the road
branches off to the city. 20Mark out one
road for the sword to come against
Rabbah of the Ammonites[k] and an-
other against Judah and fortified
Jerusalem. 21For the king of Babylon
will stop at the fork in the road, at the
junction of the two roads, to seek an
omen: He will cast lots[l] with arrows,
he will consult his idols,[m] he will exam-
ine the liver.[n] 22Into his right hand will
come the lot for Jerusalem, where he is
to set up battering rams, to give the
command to slaughter, to sound the
battle cry,[o] to set battering rams
against the gates, to build a ramp[p] and
to erect siege works.[q] 23It will seem like
a false omen to those who have sworn
allegiance to him, but he will remind[r]
them of their guilt[s] and take them cap-
tive.

24"Therefore this is what the Sover-
eign LORD says: 'Because you people
have brought to mind your guilt by
your open rebellion, revealing your

21:12 [a]Jer 31:19
21:14 [b]ver 17; S Nu 24:10 [c]S Eze 6:11; 30:24
21:15 [d]S 2Sa 17:10 [e]Ps 22:14
21:17 [f]ver 14; Eze 22:13 [g]S Eze 5:13 [h]S Eze 6:11; S 16:42
21:19 [i]S Eze 14:21; 32:11 [j]Jer 31:21
21:20 [k]S Dt 3:11
21:21 [l]S Pr 16:33 [m]Zec 10:2 [n]Nu 22:7; S 23:23
21:22 [o]S Jer 4:16 [p]Jer 32:24 [q]S 2Ki 25:1; S Eze 4:2; 26:9
21:23 [r]S Nu 5:15 [s]S Eze 17:19
21:25 [t]Eze 22:4 [u]Eze 35:5
21:26 [v]S Isa 28:5; S Jer 13:18 [w]S Ps 75:7; Isa 40:4; S Eze 17:24; S Mt 23:12
21:27 [x]Ge 49:10 [y]Ps 2:6; Jer 23:5-6; Eze 37:24; Hag 2:21-22
21:28 [z]S Ge 19:38; Zep 2:8 [a]S Jer 12:12
21:29 [b]Jer 27:9 [c]ver 25; Eze 22:28; 35:5
21:30 [d]ver 5; Jer 47:6 [e]S Eze 16:3
21:31 [f]Ps 18:15; S Isa 11:4 [g]Ps 79:6; Eze 22:20-21 [h]S Jer 4:7; 51:20-23; S Eze 16:39
21:32 [i]S Eze 20:47-48; Mal 4:1 [j]Eze 25:10
22:2 [k]Eze 24:6, 9; Hos 4:2; Na 3:1; Hab 2:12 [l]S Eze 16:2; 23:36
22:3 [m]ver 6,13, 27; Eze 23:37,45; 24:6
22:4 [n]S 2Ki 21:16

sins in all that you do—because you
have done this, you will be taken cap-
tive.

25"'O profane and wicked prince of
Israel, whose day has come,[t] whose
time of punishment has reached its cli-
max,[u] 26this is what the Sovereign LORD
says: Take off the turban, remove the
crown.[v] It will not be as it was: The
lowly will be exalted and the exalted
will be brought low.[w] 27A ruin! A ruin! I
will make it a ruin! It will not be re-
stored until he comes to whom it right-
fully belongs;[x] to him I will give it.'[y]

28"And you, son of man, prophesy
and say, 'This is what the Sovereign
LORD says about the Ammonites[z] and
their insults:

"'A sword,[a] a sword,
drawn for the slaughter,
polished to consume
and to flash like lightning!
29Despite false visions concerning you
and lying divinations[b] about you,
it will be laid on the necks
of the wicked who are to be slain,
whose day has come,
whose time of punishment has
reached its climax.[c]
30Return the sword to its scabbard.[d]
In the place where you were
created,
in the land of your ancestry,[e]
I will judge you.
31I will pour out my wrath upon you
and breathe[f] out my fiery anger[g]
against you;
I will hand you over to brutal men,
men skilled in destruction.[h]
32You will be fuel for the fire,[i]
your blood will be shed in your
land,
you will be remembered[j] no more;
for I the LORD have spoken.'"

Jerusalem's Sins

22 The word of the LORD came to
me: 2"Son of man, will you judge
her? Will you judge this city of blood-
shed?[k] Then confront her with all her
detestable practices[l] 3and say: 'This is
what the Sovereign LORD says: O city
that brings on herself doom by shed-
ding blood[m] in her midst and defiles
herself by making idols, 4you have
become guilty because of the blood you
have shed[n] and have become defiled
by the idols you have made. You have
brought your days to a close, and the

[a]15 Septuagint; the meaning of the Hebrew for this word is uncertain.

end of your years has come.[a] There-
fore I will make you an object of scorn[b]
to the nations and a laughingstock to
all the countries.[c] 5Those who are near
and those who are far away will mock
you, O infamous city, full of turmoil.[d]
6" 'See how each of the princes of Is-
rael who are in you uses his power to
shed blood.[e] 7In you they have treated
father and mother with contempt;[f] in
you they have oppressed the alien[g]
and mistreated the fatherless and the
widow.[h] 8You have despised my holy
things and desecrated my Sabbaths.[i]
9In you are slanderous men[j] bent on
shedding blood;[k] in you are those who
eat at the mountain shrines[l] and com-
mit lewd acts.[m] 10In you are those who
dishonor their fathers' bed;[n] in you are
those who violate women during their
period,[o] when they are ceremonially
unclean.[p] 11In you one man commits a
detestable offense with his neighbor's
wife,[q] another shamefully defiles his
daughter-in-law,[r] and another violates
his sister,[s] his own father's daughter.[t]
12In you men accept bribes[u] to shed
blood; you take usury[v] and excessive
interest[t] and make unjust gain from
your neighbors[w] by extortion. And you
have forgotten[x] me, declares the Sov-
ereign LORD.[y]
13" 'I will surely strike my hands[z] to-
gether at the unjust gain[a] you have
made and at the blood[b] you have shed
in your midst.[c] 14Will your courage en-
dure[d] or your hands[e] be strong in the
day I deal with you? I the LORD have
spoken,[f] and I will do it.[g] 15I will dis-
perse you among the nations and scat-
ter[h] you through the countries; and I
will put an end to[i] your uncleanness.[j]
16When you have been defiled[u] in the
eyes of the nations, you will know that
I am the LORD.' "
17Then the word of the LORD came to
me: 18"Son of man, the house of Israel
has become dross[k] to me; all of them
are the copper, tin, iron and lead left
inside a furnace.[l] They are but the
dross of silver.[m] 19Therefore this is
what the Sovereign LORD says: 'Because
you have all become dross,[n] I will
gather you into Jerusalem. 20As men
gather silver, copper, iron, lead and tin
into a furnace to melt it with a fiery
blast, so will I gather you in my anger
and my wrath and put you inside the
city and melt you.[o] 21I will gather you
and I will blow[p] on you with my fiery
wrath, and you will be melted inside
her.[q] 22As silver is melted[r] in a fur-
nace, so you will be melted inside her,
and you will know that I the LORD have
poured out my wrath[s] upon you.' "[t]
23Again the word of the LORD came to
me: 24"Son of man, say to the land,
'You are a land that has had no rain or
showers[v] in the day of wrath.'[u]
25There is a conspiracy[v] of her princes[w]
within her like a roaring lion[w] tearing
its prey; they devour people,[x] take
treasures and precious things and
make many widows[y] within her. 26Her
priests do violence to my law[z] and pro-
fane my holy things; they do not distin-
guish between the holy and the com-
mon;[a] they teach that there is no dif-
ference between the unclean and the
clean;[b] and they shut their eyes to the
keeping of my Sabbaths, so that I am
profaned[c] among them.[d] 27Her offi-
cials[e] within her are like wolves[f] tear-
ing their prey; they shed blood and kill
people[g] to make unjust gain.[h] 28Her
prophets whitewash[i] these deeds for
them by false visions and lying divina-
tions.[j] They say, 'This is what the Sov-
ereign LORD says'—when the LORD has
not spoken.[k] 29The people of the land
practice extortion and commit rob-
bery;[l] they oppress the poor and
needy and mistreat the alien,[m] denying
them justice.[n]
30"I looked for a man among them
who would build up the wall[o] and
stand before me in the gap on behalf of
the land so I would not have to destroy
it, but I found none.[p] 31So I will pour
out my wrath on them and consume
them with my fiery anger,[q] bringing
down[r] on their own heads all they
have done, declares the Sovereign
LORD.[s] "

Two Adulterous Sisters

23 The word of the LORD came to
me: 2"Son of man, there were
two women, daughters of the same
mother.[t] 3They became prostitutes in
Egypt,[u] engaging in prostitution[v] from
their youth.[w] In that land their breasts
were fondled and their virgin bosoms
caressed.[x] 4The older was named Oho-

22:4 [a]Eze 21:25 [b]S Ps 137:3 [c]Ps 44:13-14; S Eze 5:14 **22:5** [d]S Isa 22:2 **22:6** [e]S Eze 11:6; 18:10; 33:25 **22:7** [f]S Dt 5:16; Mic 7:6 [g]S Ex 23:9 [h]S Ex 22:21-22 **22:8** [i]S Ex 20:8; Eze 23:38-39 **22:9** [j]S Lev 19:16 [k]Isa 59:3; S Eze 11:6; Hos 4:2; 6:9 [l]Eze 18:11 [m]Eze 23:29; Hos 4:10,14 **22:10** [n]Lev 18:7 [o]S Lev 12:2 [p]S Lev 18:8,19 **22:11** [q]S Jer 5:8 [r]S Ge 11:31; Lev 18:15 [s]S Lev 18:9; S 2Sa 13:14 [t]Eze 18:6 **22:12** [u]S Ex 18:21; Dt 27:25; Ps 26:10; Isa 5:23; Am 5:12; Mic 7:3 [v]S Eze 18:8 [w]Lev 19:13 [x]Ps 106:21; S Isa 17:10; S 57:11 [y]S Eze 11:6 **22:13** [z]S Nu 24:10; S Eze 21:17 [a]S ver 27; S Isa 33:15 [b]S ver 3 [c]S Eze 6:11 **22:14** [d]Ps 76:7; Joel 2:11; Na 1:6; Mal 3:2 [e]S Eze 7:17 [f]Eze 24:14 [g]S Eze 17:24 **22:15** [h]S Lev 26:33; Dt 4:27; Zec 7:14 [i]S Eze 16:41 [j]Eze 24:11 **22:18** [k]S Ps 119:119 [l]Isa 48:10 [m]Jer 6:28-30 **22:19** [n]S Ps 119:119 **22:20** [o]Hos 8:10; Mal 3:2 **22:21** [p]Isa 40:7; Hag 1:9 [q]Ps 68:2; Eze 21:31 **22:22** [r]S Isa 1:25 [s]S Eze 7:8 [t]S Isa 64:7 **22:24** [u]Eze 24:13 **22:25** [v]Jer 11:9 [w]S Ps 22:13 [x]Hos 6:9 [y]Jer 15:8; 18:21 **22:26** [z]Hos 9:7-8; Zep 3:4; Mal 2:7-8 [a]Eze 42:20; 44:23 [b]S Lev 20:25 [c]S Lev 18:21; S Eze 13:19 [d]ver 8; S 1Sa 2:12-17; Jer 2:8,26; Hag 2:11-14 **22:27** [e]S Jer 26:10; Zep 3:3 [f]Mt 7:15 [g]S ver 3; S Eze 11:6; 33:25; 34:2-3; Mic 3:2, 10 [h]ver 13; S Ge 37:24; S Isa 1:23; S Jer 12:2; S 51:13; Eze 33:31 **22:28** [i]S Eze 13:10 [j]S La 2:14; S 4:13; S Eze 21:29 [k]S Eze 13:2,6-7 **22:29** [l]S Ps 62:10 [m]S Ex 22:21 [n]S Isa 5:7 **22:30** [o]S Eze 13:5 [p]Ps 106:23; S Isa 64:7; Jer 5:1 **22:31** [q]S Isa 30:27; S La 4:11 [r]Eze 16:43 [s]Eze 7:8-9; Ro 2:8 **23:2** [t]S Jer 3:7; S Eze 16:45 **23:3** [u]Jos 24:14 [v]S Lev 17:7; S Isa 1:21 [w]S Ps 25:7 [x]S Eze 16:15

[t]12 Or *usury and interest* [u]16 Or *When I have allotted you your inheritance* [v]24 Septuagint; Hebrew *has not been cleansed or rained on* [w]25 Septuagint; Hebrew *prophets*

lah, and her sister was Oholibah. They
were mine and gave birth to sons and
daughters. Oholah is Samaria, and
Oholibah is Jerusalem.
5 "Oholah engaged in prostitution
while she was still mine; and she lusted
after her lovers, the Assyr-
ians—warriors 6 clothed in blue, gov-
ernors and commanders, all of them
handsome young men, and mounted
horsemen. 7 She gave herself as a pros-
titute to all the elite of the Assyrians
and defiled herself with all the idols of
everyone she lusted after. 8 She did
not give up the prostitution she began
in Egypt, when during her youth men
slept with her, caressed her virgin bo-
som and poured out their lust upon
her.
9 "Therefore I handed her over to
her lovers, the Assyrians, for whom
she lusted. 10 They stripped her
naked, took away her sons and daugh-
ters and killed her with the sword. She
became a byword among women, and
punishment was inflicted on her.
11 "Her sister Oholibah saw this, yet
in her lust and prostitution she was
more depraved than her sister. 12 She
too lusted after the Assyrians—gover-
nors and commanders, warriors in full
dress, mounted horsemen, all hand-
some young men. 13 I saw that she too
defiled herself; both of them went the
same way.
14 "But she carried her prostitution
still further. She saw men portrayed on
a wall, figures of Chaldeans[a] por-
trayed in red, 15 with belts around
their waists and flowing turbans on
their heads; all of them looked like Bab-
ylonian chariot officers, natives of
Chaldea.[b] 16 As soon as she saw them,
she lusted after them and sent messen-
gers to them in Chaldea. 17 Then the
Babylonians came to her, to the bed of
love, and in their lust they defiled her.
After she had been defiled by them,
she turned away from them in dis-
gust. 18 When she carried on her pros-
titution openly and exposed her naked-
ness, I turned away from her in dis-
gust, just as I had turned away from
her sister. 19 Yet she became more and
more promiscuous as she recalled the
days of her youth, when she was a
prostitute in Egypt. 20 There she lusted
after her lovers, whose genitals were
like those of donkeys and whose emis-
sion was like that of horses. 21 So you
longed for the lewdness of your youth,
when in Egypt your bosom was ca-
ressed and your young breasts fon-
dled.[c]
22 "Therefore, Oholibah, this is what
the Sovereign LORD says: I will stir up
your lovers against you, those you
turned away from in disgust, and I will
bring them against you from every
side— 23 the Babylonians and all the
Chaldeans, the men of Pekod and
Shoa and Koa, and all the Assyrians
with them, handsome young men, all
of them governors and commanders,
chariot officers and men of high rank,
all mounted on horses. 24 They will
come against you with weapons,[d]
chariots and wagons and with a
throng of people; they will take up po-
sitions against you on every side with
large and small shields and with hel-
mets. I will turn you over to them for
punishment, and they will punish
you according to their standards. 25 I
will direct my jealous anger against
you, and they will deal with you in
fury. They will cut off your noses and
your ears, and those of you who are
left will fall by the sword. They will
take away your sons and daughters,
and those of you who are left will be
consumed by fire. 26 They will also
strip you of your clothes and take
your fine jewelry. 27 So I will put a
stop to the lewdness and prostitution
you began in Egypt. You will not look
on these things with longing or remem-
ber Egypt anymore.
28 "For this is what the Sovereign
LORD says: I am about to hand you
over to those you hate, to those you
turned away from in disgust. 29 They
will deal with you in hatred and take
away everything you have worked for.
They will leave you naked and bare,
and the shame of your prostitution will
be exposed. Your lewdness and pro-
miscuity 30 have brought this upon
you, because you lusted after the na-
tions and defiled yourself with their
idols. 31 You have gone the way of
your sister; so I will put her cup into
your hand.
32 "This is what the Sovereign LORD
says:

"You will drink your sister's cup,
a cup large and deep;
it will bring scorn and derision,
for it holds so much.

[a]14 Or *Babylonians* [b]15 Or *Babylonia*; also in verse 16 [c]21 Syriac (see also verse 3); Hebrew *caressed because of your young breasts* [d]24 The meaning of the Hebrew for this word is uncertain.

33You will be filled with drunkenness
and sorrow,
the cup of ruin and desolation,
the cup of your sister Samaria.[a]
34You will drink it[b] and drain it dry;
you will dash it to pieces
and tear your breasts.

I have spoken, declares the Sovereign
LORD.[c]

35"Therefore this is what the Sover-
eign LORD says: Since you have forgot-
ten[d] me and thrust me behind your
back,[e] you must bear[f] the conse-
quences of your lewdness and prostitu-
tion."
36The LORD said to me: "Son of man,
will you judge Oholah and Oholibah?
Then confront[g] them with their detest-
able practices,[h] 37for they have commit-
ted adultery and blood is on their
hands. They committed adultery with
their idols; they even sacrificed their
children, whom they bore to me,[b] as
food for them.[i] 38They have also done
this to me: At that same time they
defiled my sanctuary[j] and desecrated
my Sabbaths.[k] 39On the very day they
sacrificed their children to their idols,
they entered my sanctuary and dese-
crated[l] it. That is what they did in my
house.[m]
40"They even sent messengers for
men who came from far away,[n] and
when they arrived you bathed yourself
for them, painted your eyes[o] and put
on your jewelry.[p] 41You sat on an ele-
gant couch,[q] with a table[r] spread be-
fore it on which you had placed the in-
cense[s] and oil that belonged to me.[t]
42"The noise of a carefree[u] crowd
was around her; Sabeans[c][v] were
brought from the desert along with
men from the rabble, and they put
bracelets[w] on the arms of the woman
and her sister and beautiful crowns on
their heads.[x] 43Then I said about the
one worn out by adultery, 'Now let
them use her as a prostitute,[y] for that
is all she is.' 44And they slept with her.
As men sleep with a prostitute, so they
slept with those lewd women, Oholah
and Oholibah. 45But righteous men will
sentence them to the punishment of
women who commit adultery and shed
blood,[z] because they are adulterous
and blood is on their hands.[a]
46"This is what the Sovereign LORD
says: Bring a mob[b] against them and
give them over to terror and plunder.[c]
47The mob will stone them and cut
them down with their swords; they will

23:33 [a]Jer 25:15-16; S Eze 12:19 **23:34** [b]S Ps 16:5 [c]S Jer 25:27 **23:35** [d]S Dt 32:18; S Isa 17:10 [e]S 1Ki 14:9; S 2Ch 29:6 [f]Eze 16:52 **23:36** [g]S Eze 16:2 [h]Isa 58:1; S Eze 22:2; Mic 3:8 **23:37** [i]S Eze 16:36 **23:38** [j]S Lev 15:31 [k]S Ne 10:31 **23:39** [l]S 2Ki 21:4 [m]S Jer 7:10; Eze 22:8 **23:40** [n]S Isa 57:9 [o]2Ki 9:30 [p]S Jer 4:30; Eze 16:13-19; Hos 2:13 **23:41** [q]S Est 1:6; S Pr 7:17 [r]Isa 65:11; Eze 41:22; 44:16; Mal 1:7,12 [s]Isa 57:9; S 65:3; S Jer 44:5 [t]S Nu 18:12 **23:42** [u]S Ps 73:5 [v]S 2Ch 9:1 [w]S Ge 24:30 [x]S Eze 16:11-12 **23:43** [y]ver 3 **23:45** [z]S Eze 22:3 [a]S Lev 20:10; S Eze 16:38; Hos 2:2; 6:5 **23:46** [b]Eze 16:40 [c]S Dt 28:25; S Jer 25:9

23:47 [d]S ver 25 [e]2Ch 36:19; S Jer 34:22 [f]S 2Ch 36:17 **23:48** [g]Eze 16:41 [h]2Pe 2:6 **23:49** [i]Eze 24:13 [j]S Eze 7:4; S 9:10; 16:58; S 20:38 **24:1** [k]S Eze 8:1; 26:1; 29:17 **24:2** [l]Isa 30:8; Hab 2:2 [m]2Ki 25:1; S Jer 39:1 **24:3** [n]S Isa 1:2; S Eze 2:3,6 [o]S Eze 20:49 [p]S Eze 11:3 **24:4** [q]S Eze 11:7 **24:5** [r]S Isa 34:12; Jer 52:10 [s]Jer 52:24-27; Mic 3:2-3 **24:6** [t]S Eze 16:23 [u]S Eze 22:2 [v]S Job 6:27; Joel 3:3; Ob 1:11; Na 3:10 [w]S Eze 11:11 **24:7** [x]S Lev 17:13

kill their sons and daughters[d] and
burn[e] down their houses.[f]
48"So I will put an end[g] to lewdness
in the land, that all women may take
warning and not imitate you.[h] 49You
will suffer the penalty for your lewd-
ness and bear the consequences of your
sins of idolatry.[i] Then you will know
that I am the Sovereign LORD.[j]"

The Cooking Pot

24 In the ninth year, in the tenth
month on the tenth day, the
word of the LORD came to me:[k] 2"Son of
man, record[l] this date, this very date,
because the king of Babylon has laid
siege to Jerusalem this very day.[m] 3Tell
this rebellious house[n] a parable[o] and
say to them: 'This is what the Sover-
eign LORD says:

" 'Put on the cooking pot;[p] put it on
and pour water into it.
4Put into it the pieces of meat,
all the choice pieces—the leg and
the shoulder.
Fill it with the best of these bones;[q]
5 take the pick of the flock.[r]
Pile wood beneath it for the bones;
bring it to a boil
and cook the bones in it.[s]

6" 'For this is what the Sovereign LORD
says:

" 'Woe[t] to the city of bloodshed,[u]
to the pot now encrusted,
whose deposit will not go away!
Empty it piece by piece
without casting lots[v] for them.[w]

7" 'For the blood she shed is in her
midst:
She poured it on the bare rock;
she did not pour it on the ground,
where the dust would cover it.[x]
8To stir up wrath and take revenge[y]
I put her blood on the bare rock,
so that it would not be covered.

9" 'Therefore this is what the Sovereign
LORD says:

" 'Woe to the city of bloodshed!
I, too, will pile the wood high.
10So heap on the wood
and kindle the fire.
Cook the meat well,
mixing in the spices;
and let the bones be charred.
11Then set the empty pot on the coals
till it becomes hot and its copper
glows

b37 *Or even made the children they bore to me pass through the fire* c42 *Or drunkards*

so its impurities may be melted
and its deposit burned away.[a]
12 It has frustrated all efforts;
its heavy deposit has not been
removed,
not even by fire.

13 "'Now your impurity is lewdness.
Because I tried to cleanse you but you
would not be cleansed[b] from your im-
purity, you will not be clean again until
my wrath against you has subsided.[c]

14 "'I the LORD have spoken.[d] The
time has come for me to act.[e] I will not
hold back; I will not have pity,[f] nor
will I relent.[g] You will be judged ac-
cording to your conduct and your ac-
tions,[h] declares the Sovereign
LORD.[i]'"

Ezekiel's Wife Dies

15 The word of the LORD came to me:
16 "Son of man, with one blow[j] I am
about to take away from you the de-
light of your eyes.[k] Yet do not lament
or weep or shed any tears.[l] 17 Groan
quietly;[m] do not mourn for the dead.
Keep your turban[n] fastened and your
sandals[o] on your feet; do not cover the
lower part of your face[p] or eat the cus-
tomary food ⌊of mourners⌋.[q]"

18 So I spoke to the people in the
morning, and in the evening my wife
died. The next morning I did as I had
been commanded.[r]

19 Then the people asked me, "Won't
you tell us what these things have to
do with us?[s]"

20 So I said to them, "The word of the
LORD came to me: 21 Say to the house of
Israel, 'This is what the Sovereign LORD
says: I am about to desecrate my sanc-
tuary[t]—the stronghold in which you
take pride,[u] the delight of your eyes,[v]
the object of your affection. The sons
and daughters[w] you left behind will fall
by the sword.[x] 22 And you will do as I
have done. You will not cover the low-
er part of your face[y] or eat the custom-
ary food ⌊of mourners⌋.[z] 23 You will
keep your turbans[a] on your heads and
your sandals[b] on your feet. You will
not mourn[c] or weep but will waste
away[d] because of[d] your sins and groan
among yourselves.[e] 24 Ezekiel[f] will be
a sign[g] to you; you will do just as he
has done. When this happens, you will
know that I am the Sovereign LORD.'

25 "And you, son of man, on the day I
take away their stronghold, their joy
and glory, the delight of their eyes,[h]
their heart's desire,[i] and their sons
and daughters[j] as well— 26 on that day
a fugitive will come to tell you[k] the
news. 27 At that time your mouth will
be opened; you will speak with him
and will no longer be silent.[l] So you
will be a sign to them, and they will
know that I am the LORD.[m]"

A Prophecy Against Ammon

25 The word of the LORD came to
me: 2 "Son of man, set your face
against[n] the Ammonites[o] and prophe-
sy against them.[p] 3 Say to them, 'Hear
the word of the Sovereign LORD. This is
what the Sovereign LORD says: Because
you said "Aha!"[q] over my sanctuary
when it was desecrated[r] and over the
land of Israel when it was laid waste
and over the people of Judah when
they went into exile,[s] 4 therefore I am
going to give you to the people of the
East[t] as a possession. They will set up
their camps[u] and pitch their tents
among you; they will eat your fruit and
drink your milk.[v] 5 I will turn Rabbah[w]
into a pasture for camels and Ammon
into a resting place for sheep.[x] Then
you will know that I am the LORD. 6 For
this is what the Sovereign LORD says:
Because you have clapped your hands[y]
and stamped your feet, rejoicing with
all the malice of your heart against the
land of Israel,[z] 7 therefore I will stretch
out my hand[a] against you and give
you as plunder[b] to the nations. I will
cut you off from the nations and exter-
minate you from the countries. I will
destroy[c] you, and you will know that I
am the LORD.[d]'"

A Prophecy Against Moab

8 "This is what the Sovereign LORD
says: 'Because Moab[e] and Seir[f] said,
"Look, the house of Judah has become
like all the other nations," 9 therefore I
will expose the flank of Moab, begin-
ning at its frontier towns—Beth Jeshi-
moth[g], Baal Meon[h] and Kiria-
thaim[i]—the glory of that land. 10 I will
give Moab along with the Ammonites
to the people of the East as a posses-
sion, so that the Ammonites will not be
remembered[j] among the nations;
11 and I will inflict punishment on
Moab. Then they will know that I am
the LORD.'"[k]

24:11 [a]Jer 21:10 **24:13** [b]S Isa 22:14 [c]Jer 6:28-30; La 1:9; S Eze 16:42; 22:24; 23:36-49; Hos 7:1; Zec 6:8 **24:14** [d]Eze 22:14 [e]S Nu 11:23 [f]S Eze 8:18 [g]S Job 27:22 [h]Eze 36:19; Zec 8:14 [i]S Isa 3:11; S Eze 18:30 **24:16** [j]S Ps 39:10 [k]ver 21; Ps 84:1; S La 2:4 [l]Jer 13:17; 16:5; S 22:10 **24:17** [m]Ps 39:9 [n]S Ex 28:39; S Isa 3:20 [o]S Isa 20:2 [p]S Lev 13:45 [q]ver 22; S Jer 16:7 **24:18** [r]S Eze 12:7 **24:19** [s]Eze 12:9; 37:18 **24:21** [t]S Lev 26:31; S Eze 7:24 [u]S Lev 26:19 [v]S ver 16; Ps 27:4 [w]S Eze 23:25 [x]Jer 7:14,15; Hos 9:12,16; Mal 2:12 **24:22** [y]S Lev 13:45 [z]Jer 16:7 **24:23** [a]S Ex 28:39; S Isa 3:20 [b]S Isa 20:2 [c]Ex 33:4 [d]S Lev 26:16 [e]Ps 78:64 **24:24** [f]Eze 1:3 [g]S Isa 20:3; Eze 12:11 **24:25** [h]S La 2:4 [i]S Ps 20:4 [j]Dt 28:32; Jer 11:22 **24:26** [k]S 1Sa 4:12; Job 1:15-19 **24:27** [l]Da 10:15 [m]S Eze 3:26; 33:22 **25:2** [n]S Eze 13:17; 29:2 [o]S Eze 21:28 [p]Jer 49:1-6 **25:3** [q]S Ps 35:21; Eze 26:2; 36:2 [r]Zep 2:8 [s]S Pr 17:5 **25:4** [t]S Ge 25:6; S Jdg 6:3 [u]S Nu 31:10 [v]Dt 28:33,51; S Jdg 6:33 **25:5** [w]S Dt 3:11 [x]S Isa 17:2 **25:6** [y]S Nu 24:10 [z]S Eze 6:11; Ob 1:12; Zep 2:8 **25:7** [a]Zep 1:4 [b]S Nu 14:3 [c]Eze 21:31 [d]ver 13-14,17; Am 1:14-15 **25:8** [e]S Ge 19:37; S Dt 23:6; S Isa 16:6 [f]S Ge 14:6

25:9 [g]S Nu 33:49 [h]S Nu 32:3; S Jos 13:17 [i]S Nu 32:37; S Jos 13:19 **25:10** [j]Eze 21:32 **25:11** [k]Isa 15:9; 16:1-14; Jer 48:1; Am 2:1-3

[d]23 Or *away in*

A Prophecy Against Edom

12"This is what the Sovereign LORD
says: 'Because Edom[a] took revenge on
the house of Judah and became very
guilty by doing so, 13therefore this is
what the Sovereign LORD says: I will
stretch out my hand[b] against Edom
and kill its men and their animals.[c] I
will lay it waste, and from Teman[d] to
Dedan[e] they will fall by the sword.[f] 14I
will take vengeance on Edom by the
hand of my people Israel, and they will
deal with Edom in accordance with my
anger[g] and my wrath; they will know
my vengeance, declares the Sovereign
LORD.' "[h]

A Prophecy Against Philistia

15"This is what the Sovereign LORD
says: 'Because the Philistines[i] acted in
vengeance and took revenge with mal-
ice[j] in their hearts, and with ancient
hostility sought to destroy Judah,
16therefore this is what the Sovereign
LORD says: I am about to stretch out my
hand against the Philistines,[k] and I will
cut off the Kerethites[l] and destroy
those remaining along the coast.[m] 17I
will carry out great vengeance[n] on
them and punish[o] them in my wrath.
Then they will know that I am the
LORD,[p] when I take vengeance on
them.[q r]' "

A Prophecy Against Tyre

26 In the eleventh year, on the first
day of the month, the word of
the LORD came to me:[s] 2"Son of man,
because Tyre[t] has said of Jerusalem,
'Aha![u] The gate to the nations is bro-
ken, and its doors have swung open to
me; now that she lies in ruins I will
prosper,' 3therefore this is what the
Sovereign LORD says: I am against you,
O Tyre, and I will bring many nations
against you, like the sea[v] casting up its
waves. 4They will destroy[w] the walls of
Tyre[x] and pull down her towers; I will
scrape away her rubble and make her a
bare rock. 5Out in the sea[y] she will
become a place to spread fishnets,[z] for
I have spoken, declares the Sovereign
LORD. She will become plunder[a] for the
nations,[b] 6and her settlements on the
mainland will be ravaged by the sword.
Then they will know that I am the
LORD.
7"For this is what the Sovereign LORD
says: From the north I am going to
bring against Tyre Nebuchadnezzar[e c]
king of Babylon, king of kings,[d] with
horses and chariots,[e] with horsemen
and a great army. 8He will ravage your
settlements on the mainland with the
sword; he will set up siege works[f]
against you, build a ramp[g] up to your
walls and raise his shields against you.
9He will direct the blows of his batter-
ing rams against your walls and demol-
ish your towers with his weapons.[h]
10His horses will be so many that they
will cover you with dust. Your walls
will tremble at the noise of the war
horses, wagons and chariots[i] when he
enters your gates as men enter a city
whose walls have been broken
through. 11The hoofs[j] of his horses will
trample all your streets; he will kill
your people with the sword, and your
strong pillars[k] will fall to the ground.[l]
12They will plunder your wealth and
loot your merchandise; they will break
down your walls and demolish your
fine houses and throw your stones,
timber and rubble into the sea.[m] 13I will
put an end[n] to your noisy songs,[o] and
the music of your harps[p] will be heard
no more.[q] 14I will make you a bare
rock, and you will become a place to
spread fishnets. You will never be re-
built,[r] for I the LORD have spoken, de-
clares the Sovereign LORD.
15"This is what the Sovereign LORD
says to Tyre: Will not the coastlands[s]
tremble[t] at the sound of your fall,
when the wounded groan[u] and the
slaughter takes place in you? 16Then all
the princes of the coast will step down
from their thrones and lay aside their
robes and take off their embroidered[v]
garments. Clothed[w] with terror, they
will sit on the ground,[x] trembling[y]
every moment, appalled[z] at you.
17Then they will take up a lament[a] con-
cerning you and say to you:

" 'How you are destroyed, O city of
renown,
peopled by men of the sea!
You were a power on the seas,
you and your citizens;
you put your terror
on all who lived there.[b]
18Now the coastlands tremble[c]
on the day of your fall;
the islands in the sea
are terrified at your collapse.'[d]

19"This is what the Sovereign LORD
says: When I make you a desolate city,

25:12 [a]S 2Sa 8:13-14; S 2Ch 28:17; S Isa 11:14 **25:13** [b]S Ex 7:5; S Eze 16:27 [c]Eze 29:8 [d]S Ge 36:11, 15, 34 [e]Jer 25:23 [f]S Jer 49:10; S Eze 14:17 **25:14** [g]Eze 35:11 [h]S Ps 137:7; Eze 32:29; 35:2-3; 36:5; Am 1:11; Ob 1:1, 10-16; Mal 1:4 **25:15** [i]S Jos 13:3; S 2Ch 28:18 [j]S Ps 73:8 **25:16** [k]S 2Ch 26:6; Am 1:8 [l]S 1Sa 30:14 [m]S Eze 20:33 **25:17** [n]S Nu 31:3 [o]Jer 44:13 [p]S Ex 6:2; S 8:22 [q]S Isa 11:14 [r]S Isa 14:30; Jer 47:7; Joel 3:4 **26:1** [s]S Eze 24:1; 29:1; 30:20 **26:2** [t]S Jos 19:29; 2Sa 5:11 [u]S Eze 25:3 **26:3** [v]ver 19; Isa 5:30; Jer 50:42; 51:42 **26:4** [w]S Isa 23:1, 11 [x]Am 1:10 **26:5** [y]Eze 27:32 [z]Eze 47:10 [a]S Nu 14:3; Eze 29:19 [b]Zec 9:2-4 **26:7** [c]Jer 27:6; 39:1 [d]S Ezr 7:12 [e]S Eze 23:24; Na 2:3-4 **26:8** [f]S Jer 6:6 [g]S Jer 33:4 **26:9** [h]S Eze 21:22 **26:10** [i]S Jer 4:13; S 46:9; S Eze 23:24 **26:11** [j]Isa 5:28 [k]S Jer 43:13 [l]S Isa 26:5 **26:12** [m]Isa 23:8; S Jer 4:7; Eze 27:3-27; 28:8; Hab 1:8 **26:13** [n]S Jer 7:34 [o]S Isa 23:7 [p]S Ps 137:2; S Isa 14:11 [q]S Job 30:31; S Jer 16:9; S 25:10; Rev 18:22 **26:14** [r]S Job 12:14; Mal 1:4 **26:15** [s]Isa 41:5; Eze 27:35 [t]S Jer 49:21 [u]S Job 24:12 **26:16** [v]S Ex 26:36 [w]S Job 8:22 [x]S Job 2:8, 13 [y]Hos 11:10 [z]S Lev 26:32; Eze 32:10 **26:17** [a]S Eze 19:1 [b]Isa 14:12 **26:18** [c]S Ps 46:6; S Jer 49:21 [d]Isa 23:5; S 41:5; Eze 27:35

[e]7 Hebrew *Nebuchadrezzar*, of which *Nebuchadnezzar* is a variant; here and often in Ezekiel and Jeremiah

like cities no longer inhabited, and
when I bring the ocean depths[a] over
you and its vast waters cover you,[b]
20 then I will bring you down with those
who go down to the pit,[c] to the people
of long ago. I will make you dwell in
the earth below, as in ancient ruins,
with those who go down to the pit, and
you will not return or take your place[f]
in the land of the living.[d] 21 I will bring
you to a horrible end and you will be
no more.[e] You will be sought, but you
will never again be found, declares the
Sovereign LORD."[f]

A Lament for Tyre

27 The word of the LORD came to
me: 2 "Son of man, take up a la-
ment[g] concerning Tyre. 3 Say to Tyre,[h]
situated at the gateway to the sea,[i]
merchant of peoples on many coasts,
'This is what the Sovereign LORD says:

"'You say, O Tyre,
"I am perfect in beauty.[j]"
4 Your domain was on the high seas;
your builders brought your beauty
to perfection.[k]
5 They made all your timbers
of pine trees from Senir[g];[l]
they took a cedar from Lebanon[m]
to make a mast for you.
6 Of oaks[n] from Bashan
they made your oars;
of cypress wood[h] from the coasts of
Cyprus[i][o]
they made your deck, inlaid with
ivory.
7 Fine embroidered linen[p] from Egypt
was your sail
and served as your banner;
your awnings were of blue and
purple[q]
from the coasts of Elishah.[r]
8 Men of Sidon and Arvad[s] were your
oarsmen;
your skilled men, O Tyre, were
aboard as your seamen.[t]
9 Veteran craftsmen of Gebal[j][u] were
on board
as shipwrights to caulk your
seams.
All the ships of the sea[v] and their
sailors
came alongside to trade for your
wares.

10 "'Men of Persia,[w] Lydia[x] and Put[y]
served as soldiers in your army.
They hung their shields[z] and
helmets on your walls,
bringing you splendor.
11 Men of Arvad and Helech
manned your walls on every side;
men of Gammad
were in your towers.
They hung their shields around your
walls;
they brought your beauty to
perfection.[a]

12 "'Tarshish[b] did business with you
because of your great wealth of
goods;[c] they exchanged silver, iron,
tin and lead for your merchandise.
13 "'Greece,[d] Tubal and Meshech[e]
traded with you; they exchanged
slaves[f] and articles of bronze for your
wares.
14 "'Men of Beth Togarmah[g] ex-
changed work horses, war horses and
mules for your merchandise.
15 "'The men of Rhodes[k][h] traded
with you, and many coastlands[i] were
your customers; they paid you with
ivory[j] tusks and ebony.
16 "'Aram[l][k] did business with you
because of your many products; they
exchanged turquoise,[l] purple fabric,
embroidered work, fine linen,[m] coral[n]
and rubies for your merchandise.
17 "'Judah and Israel traded with you;
they exchanged wheat[o] from Minnith[p]
and confections,[m] honey, oil and
balm[q] for your wares.[r]
18 "'Damascus,[s] because of your
many products and great wealth of
goods,[t] did business with you in wine
from Helbon and wool from Zahar.
19 "'Danites and Greeks[u] from Uzal[v]
bought your merchandise; they ex-
changed wrought iron, cassia[w] and
calamus for your wares.
20 "'Dedan[x] traded in saddle blan-
kets with you.
21 "'Arabia[y] and all the princes of Ke-
dar[z] were your customers; they did
business with you in lambs, rams and
goats.
22 "'The merchants of Sheba[a] and
Raamah traded with you; for your mer-
chandise they exchanged the finest of
all kinds of spices[b] and precious
stones, and gold.[c]
23 "'Haran,[d] Canneh and Eden[e] and
merchants of Sheba, Asshur[f] and Kil-
mad traded with you. 24 In your market-

26:19 [a]S Ge 7:11 [b]S ver 3; Isa 8:7-8
26:20 [c]Nu 16:30; Ps 28:1; 88:6; Eze 31:14; 32:18; Am 9:2; Jnh 2:2, 6 [d]S Job 28:13; S Isa 14:9-10; Eze 32:24,30
26:21 [e]S Jer 51:64; Da 11:19 [f]Jer 20:4; Eze 27:36; 28:19; Rev 18:21
27:2 [g]S Eze 19:1
27:3 [h]S Ps 93:7 [i]ver 33; Hos 9:13 [j]S Isa 23:9; S Eze 16:15
27:4 [k]Eze 28:12
27:5 [l]S Dt 3:9 [m]S Isa 2:13
27:6 [n]Nu 21:33; S Ps 29:9; Jer 22:20; Zec 11:2 [o]S Ge 10:4; Isa 23:12
27:7 [p]S Ex 26:36; S Isa 19:9 [q]Ex 25:4; Jer 10:9 [r]Ge 10:4
27:8 [s]Ge 10:18 [t]1Ki 9:27
27:9 [u]S Jos 13:5 [v]S Ps 104:26
27:10 [w]2Ch 36:20; Ezr 1:1; Eze 38:5; Da 8:20 [x]S Isa 66:19 [y]S Ge 10:6; Eze 30:5; Na 3:9 [z]SS 4:4
27:11 [a]ver 27
27:12 [b]S Ge 10:4 [c]ver 18,33
27:13 [d]Joel 3:6 [e]Ge 10:2; Isa 66:19; Eze 32:26; 38:2; 39:1 [f]Rev 18:13
27:14 [g]S Ge 10:3
27:15 [h]S Ge 10:7 [i]S Jer 25:22 [j]1Ki 10:22; Rev 18:12
27:16 [k]Jdg 10:6; Isa 7:1-8 [l]Ex 28:18; 39:11; Eze 28:13 [m]S Eze 16:10 [n]Job 28:18
27:17 [o]S 1Ki 5:9 [p]Jdg 11:33 [q]S Ge 43:11 [r]Ac 12:20
27:18 [s]S Ge 14:15; Eze 47:16-18 [t]S ver 12
27:19 [u]S Ge 10:2 [v]Ge 10:27 [w]S Ex 30:24
27:20 [x]S Ge 10:7
27:21 [y]S 2Ch 9:14 [z]S Ge 25:13; Isa 21:17
27:22 [a]S Ge 10:7,28 [b]S Ge 43:11 [c]Rev 18:12
27:23 [d]S Ge 11:26 [e]S Isa 37:12 [f]S Ge 10:22; S Nu 24:24

[f]20 Septuagint; Hebrew *return, and I will give glory*
[g]5 That is, Hermon [h]6 Targum; the Masoretic Text has a different division of the consonants.
[i]6 Hebrew *Kittim* [j]9 That is, Byblos
[k]15 Septuagint; Hebrew *Dedan* [l]16 Most Hebrew manuscripts; some Hebrew manuscripts and Syriac *Edom* [m]17 The meaning of the Hebrew for this word is uncertain.

place they traded with you beautiful
garments, blue fabric, embroidered
work and multicolored rugs with cords
twisted and tightly knotted.

25" 'The ships of Tarshish[a] serve
as carriers for your wares.
You are filled with heavy cargo
in the heart of the sea.[b]
26Your oarsmen take you
out to the high seas.
But the east wind[c] will break you to
pieces
in the heart of the sea.
27Your wealth,[d] merchandise and
wares,
your mariners, seamen and
shipwrights,
your merchants and all your
soldiers,
and everyone else on board
will sink into the heart of the sea[e]
on the day of your shipwreck.
28The shorelands will quake[f]
when your seamen cry out.
29All who handle the oars
will abandon their ships;
the mariners and all the seamen
will stand on the shore.
30They will raise their voice
and cry bitterly over you;
they will sprinkle dust[g] on their
heads
and roll[h] in ashes.[i]
31They will shave their heads[j] because
of you
and will put on sackcloth.
They will weep[k] over you with
anguish of soul
and with bitter mourning.[l]
32As they wail and mourn over
you,
they will take up a lament[m]
concerning you:
"Who was ever silenced like Tyre,
surrounded by the sea?[n]"
33When your merchandise went out
on the seas,[o]
you satisfied many nations;
with your great wealth[p] and your
wares
you enriched the kings of the
earth.
34Now you are shattered by the sea
in the depths of the waters;
your wares and all your company
have gone down with you.[q]
35All who live in the coastlands[r]
are appalled[s] at you;
their kings shudder with horror
and their faces are distorted with
fear.[t]
36The merchants among the nations
hiss at you;[u]
you have come to a horrible end
and will be no more.[v]' "

A Prophecy Against the King of Tyre

28 The word of the LORD came to
me: 2"Son of man[w], say to the
ruler of Tyre, 'This is what the Sover-
eign LORD says:

" 'In the pride of your heart
you say, "I am a god;
I sit on the throne[x] of a god
in the heart of the seas."[y]
But you are a man and not a god,
though you think you are as wise
as a god.[z]
3Are you wiser than Daniel[a]?[a]
Is no secret hidden from you?
4By your wisdom and understanding
you have gained wealth for
yourself
and amassed gold and silver
in your treasuries.[b]
5By your great skill in trading[c]
you have increased your wealth,[d]
and because of your wealth
your heart has grown proud.[e]

6" 'Therefore this is what the Sover-
eign LORD says:

" 'Because you think you are wise,
as wise as a god,
7I am going to bring foreigners
against you,
the most ruthless of nations;[f]
they will draw their swords against
your beauty and wisdom[g]
and pierce your shining
splendor.[h]
8They will bring you down to the
pit,[i]
and you will die a violent death[j]
in the heart of the seas.[k]
9Will you then say, "I am a god,"
in the presence of those who kill
you?
You will be but a man, not a god,[l]
in the hands of those who slay
you.[m]
10You will die the death of the
uncircumcised[n]
at the hands of foreigners.

I have spoken, declares the Sovereign
LORD.' "

11The word of the LORD came to me:
12"Son of man, take up a lament[o] con-
cerning the king of Tyre and say to

a3 Or *Danel*; the Hebrew spelling may suggest a
person other than the prophet Daniel.

27:25 a S Ge 10:4; Isa 2:16 fn; b Rev 18:3 **27:26** c S Ge 41:6; Jer 18:17 **27:27** d Pr 11:4; e Eze 26:8 **27:28** f S Jer 49:21 **27:30** g S Jos 7:6; S 2Sa 1:2; h S Jer 6:26; i Rev 18:18-19 **27:31** j S Lev 13:40; S Job 1:20; S Isa 3:17; S Jer 48:37; k S Isa 16:9; Rev 18:15; l S Est 4:1; Job 3:20; Isa 22:12; Jer 6:26; S La 2:10; S Eze 7:18 **27:32** m S Eze 19:1; n Isa 23:1-6; Eze 26:5 **27:33** o S ver 3; p S ver 12; Eze 28:4-5 **27:34** q Zec 9:4 **27:35** r S Eze 26:15; s S Lev 26:32; S Job 18:20; t S Eze 26:17-18; 32:10 **27:36** u Jer 19:8; S 49:17; S 50:13; Zep 2:15; v S Ps 37:10,36; S Eze 26:21 **28:2** w S Isa 13:11; x S Isa 14:13; y Zep 2:15; z S Ge 3:5; S Ps 9:20; 82:6-7; S Eze 16:49; 2Th 2:4 **28:3** a S Eze 14:14; Da 1:20; 2:20-23, 28; 5:11-12 **28:4** b Isa 10:13; Zec 9:3 **28:5** c S Isa 23:8; d S Jer 9:23; S Eze 27:33; e S Job 31:25; Ps 52:7; 62:10; Hos 12:8; 13:6 **28:7** f Eze 30:11; 31:12; 32:12; Hab 1:6; g Jer 9:23; h S Eze 7:24 **28:8** i S Ps 55:23; Eze 32:30; j Rev 18:7; k S Eze 26:12; 27:27 **28:9** l S Isa 31:3; m S Eze 16:49 **28:10** n S 1Sa 14:6; S Jer 9:26; Eze 32:19,24 **28:12** o S Eze 19:1

him: 'This is what the Sovereign LORD says:

" 'You were the model of perfection,
full of wisdom and perfect in beauty.[a]
13You were in Eden,[b]
the garden of God;[c]
every precious stone[d] adorned you:
ruby, topaz and emerald,
chrysolite, onyx and jasper,
sapphire,[o] turquoise[e] and beryl.[p]
Your settings and mountings[q] were made of gold;
on the day you were created they were prepared.[f]
14You were anointed[g] as a guardian cherub,[h]
for so I ordained you.
You were on the holy mount of God;
you walked among the fiery stones.
15You were blameless in your ways
from the day you were created
till wickedness was found in you.
16Through your widespread trade
you were filled with violence,[i]
and you sinned.
So I drove you in disgrace from the mount of God,
and I expelled you, O guardian cherub,[j]
from among the fiery stones.
17Your heart became proud[k]
on account of your beauty,
and you corrupted your wisdom
because of your splendor.
So I threw you to the earth;
I made a spectacle of you before kings.[l]
18By your many sins and dishonest trade
you have desecrated your sanctuaries.
So I made a fire[m] come out from you,
and it consumed you,
and I reduced you to ashes[n] on the ground
in the sight of all who were watching.[o]
19All the nations who knew you
are appalled[p] at you;
you have come to a horrible end
and will be no more.[q]' "

A Prophecy Against Sidon

20The word of the LORD came to me:
21"Son of man, set your face against[r]
Sidon;[s] prophesy against her 22and
say: 'This is what the Sovereign LORD
says:

" 'I am against you, O Sidon,
and I will gain glory[t] within you.
They will know that I am the LORD,
when I inflict punishment[u] on her
and show myself holy[v] within her.
23I will send a plague upon her
and make blood flow in her streets.
The slain will fall within her,
with the sword against her on every side.
Then they will know that I am the LORD.[w]

24" 'No longer will the people of Is-
rael have malicious neighbors who are
painful briers and sharp thorns.[x] Then
they will know that I am the Sovereign
LORD.

25" 'This is what the Sovereign LORD
says: When I gather[y] the people of Is-
rael from the nations where they have
been scattered,[z] I will show myself
holy[a] among them in the sight of the
nations. Then they will live in their
own land, which I gave to my servant
Jacob.[b] 26They will live there in safety[c]
and will build houses and plant[d] vine-
yards; they will live in safety when I
inflict punishment[e] on all their neigh-
bors who maligned them. Then they
will know that I am the LORD their
God.[f]' "

A Prophecy Against Egypt

29 In the tenth year, in the tenth
month on the twelfth day, the
word of the LORD came to me:[g] 2"Son of
man, set your face against[h] Pharaoh
king of Egypt[i] and prophesy against
him and against all Egypt.[j] 3Speak to
him and say: 'This is what the Sover-
eign LORD says:

" 'I am against you, Pharaoh[k] king of Egypt,
you great monster[l] lying among your streams.
You say, "The Nile[m] is mine;
I made it for myself."
4But I will put hooks[n] in your jaws
and make the fish of your streams stick to your scales.
I will pull you out from among your streams,
with all the fish sticking to your scales.[o]
5I will leave you in the desert,

28:12 [a]Eze 27:2-4 **28:13** [b]S Ge 2:8 [c]Eze 31:8-9 [d]Rev 17:4 [e]S Eze 27:16 [f]Isa 14:11; Rev 21:20 **28:14** [g]Ex 30:26; 40:9 [h]Ex 25:17-20 **28:16** [i]S Ge 6:11; Hab 2:17 [j]S Ge 3:24 **28:17** [k]Isa 10:12; Eze 16:49; 31:10 [l]S Eze 19:12 **28:18** [m]Ob 1:18 [n]Mal 4:3 [o]Zec 9:2-4 **28:19** [p]S Lev 26:32 [q]S Jer 51:64; S Eze 26:21 **28:21** [r]S Eze 13:17 [s]S Ge 10:15; S Jer 25:22 **28:22** [t]Eze 39:13 [u]Eze 30:19 [v]S Lev 10:3 **28:23** [w]S Eze 5:17; 38:22 **28:24** [x]S Isa 5:6; S Eze 2:6 **28:25** [y]Ps 106:47; Jer 32:37 [z]S Isa 11:12 [a]S Eze 20:41 [b]Jer 12:15; 23:8; S Eze 11:17; 34:27; 37:25 **28:26** [c]S Lev 25:18; S 1Ki 4:25; S Jer 17:25 [d]S Dt 20:6 [e]S Ps 149:9 [f]S Isa 65:21; S Jer 32:15; Eze 38:8; 39:26-27; Hos 2:15; 11:11; Am 9:14-15 **29:1** [g]ver 17; S Eze 26:1 **29:2** [h]S Eze 25:2 [i]S Jer 25:19 [j]Isa 19:1-17; Jer 46:2; Eze 30:1-26; 31:1-18; 32:1-32 **29:3** [k]Jer 44:30 [l]S Ps 68:30; S 74:13; Eze 32:2 [m]S Jer 46:8 **29:4** [n]S 2Ki 19:28; S Job 41:2 [o]Eze 38:4

[o]13 Or *lapis lazuli* [p]13 The precise identification of some of these precious stones is uncertain. [q]13 The meaning of the Hebrew for this phrase is uncertain.

you and all the fish of your
streams.
You will fall on the open field
and not be gathered[a] or picked
up.
I will give you as food
to the beasts of the earth and the
birds of the air.[b]

6Then all who live in Egypt will know
that I am the LORD.

" 'You have been a staff of reed[c] for
the house of Israel. 7When they
grasped you with their hands, you
splintered[d] and you tore open their
shoulders; when they leaned on you,
you broke and their backs were
wrenched.[r] [e]
8" 'Therefore this is what the Sover-
eign LORD says: I will bring a sword
against you and kill your men and their
animals.[f] 9Egypt will become a deso-
late wasteland. Then they will know
that I am the LORD.
" 'Because you said, "The Nile[g] is
mine; I made it,[h]" 10therefore I am
against you[i] and against your streams,
and I will make the land of Egypt[j] a
ruin and a desolate waste[k] from Mig-
dol[l] to Aswan,[m] as far as the border of
Cush.[s] [n] 11No foot of man or animal
will pass through it; no one will live
there for forty years.[o] 12I will make the
land of Egypt desolate[p] among devas-
tated lands, and her cities will lie deso-
late forty years among ruined cities.
And I will disperse the Egyptians
among the nations and scatter them
through the countries.[q]
13" 'Yet this is what the Sovereign
LORD says: At the end of forty years I
will gather the Egyptians from the na-
tions where they were scattered. 14I will
bring them back from captivity and re-
turn them to Upper Egypt,[t] the land
of their ancestry. There they will be a
lowly[s] kingdom.[t] 15It will be the lowli-
est of kingdoms and will never again
exalt itself above the other nations.[u] I
will make it so weak that it will never
again rule over the nations. 16Egypt will
no longer be a source of confidence[v]
for the people of Israel but will be a
reminder[w] of their sin in turning to her
for help.[x] Then they will know that I
am the Sovereign LORD.[y]' "

17In the twenty-seventh year, in the
first month on the first day, the word
of the LORD came to me:[z] 18"Son of
man, Nebuchadnezzar[a] king of Bab-
ylon drove his army in a hard cam-
paign against Tyre; every head was
rubbed bare[b] and every shoulder made
raw.[c] Yet he and his army got no re-
ward from the campaign he led against
Tyre. 19Therefore this is what the Sov-
ereign LORD says: I am going to give
Egypt to Nebuchadnezzar king[d] of
Babylon, and he will carry off its
wealth. He will loot and plunder[e] the
land as pay for his army.[f] 20I have giv-
en him Egypt[g] as a reward for his ef-
forts because he and his army did it for
me, declares the Sovereign LORD.[h]
21"On that day I will make a horn[u] [i]
grow for the house of Israel, and I will
open your mouth[j] among them. Then
they will know that I am the LORD.[k]"

A Lament for Egypt

30 The word of the LORD came to
me: 2"Son of man, prophesy and
say: 'This is what the Sovereign LORD
says:

" 'Wail[l] and say,
"Alas for that day!"
3For the day is near,[m]
the day of the LORD[n] is near—
a day of clouds,
a time of doom for the nations.
4A sword will come against Egypt,[o]
and anguish will come upon
Cush.[v] [p]
When the slain fall in Egypt,
her wealth will be carried away
and her foundations torn down.[q]

5Cush and Put,[r] Lydia and all Arabia,[s]
Libya[w] and the people[t] of the cov-
enant land will fall by the sword along
with Egypt.[u]
6" 'This is what the LORD says:

" 'The allies of Egypt will fall
and her proud strength will fail.
From Migdol to Aswan[v]
they will fall by the sword within
her,
declares the Sovereign LORD.
7" 'They will be desolate
among desolate lands,
and their cities will lie
among ruined cities.[w]
8Then they will know that I am the
LORD,
when I set fire[x] to Egypt
and all her helpers are crushed.[y]

29:5 [a]S Jer 8:2 [b]S Jer 7:33; 34:20; Eze 31:13; 32:4-6; 39:4 **29:6** [c]S 2Ki 18:21 **29:7** [d]2Ki 18:21; Isa 36:6 [e]Jer 17:5; Eze 17:15-17 **29:8** [f]Eze 25:13; 32:11-13 **29:9** [g]S Jer 46:8 [h]Eze 30:7-8, 13-19 **29:10** [i]S Jer 21:13 [j]S Ex 3:22 [k]S Jer 46:19 [l]S Ex 14:2 [m]Eze 30:6 [n]Isa 18:1; Eze 30:4 **29:11** [o]Eze 32:13 **29:12** [p]S Isa 34:10 [q]S Jer 46:19; Eze 30:7,23,26 **29:14** [r]S Isa 11:11; Eze 30:14 [s]Eze 17:14 [t]S Isa 19:22; Jer 46:26 **29:15** [u]Zec 10:11 **29:16** [v]2Ch 32:10 [w]S Nu 5:15 [x]S La 4:17 [y]Isa 20:5; S 30:2; Hos 8:13 **29:17** [z]S ver 1; S Eze 24:1; 30:20; 40:1 **29:18** [a]Jer 27:6; 39:1 [b]S Lev 13:40; S Job 1:20; S Jer 48:37 [c]Ge 49:15 **29:19** [d]S Isa 19:4 [e]S Eze 26:5 [f]Jer 43:10-13; Eze 30:4,10, 24-25; 32:11 **29:20** [g]S Isa 43:3 [h]Isa 10:6-7; 45:1; S Jer 25:9 **29:21** [i]S Ps 132:17; S Lk 1:69 [j]Eze 33:22 [k]S Eze 3:27 **30:2** [l]S Isa 13:6; Jas 5:1 **30:3** [m]S Eze 7:7; Joel 1:15; 2:1,11; Ob 1:15 [n]ver 18; S Eze 7:12,19; 32:7; 34:12 **30:4** [o]Jer 25:19; Da 11:43 [p]S Ge 10:6; S Eze 29:10 [q]S Eze 29:19 **30:5** [r]S Eze 27:10 [s]S 2Ch 9:14 [t]Jer 25:20 [u]Na 3:9 **30:6** [v]Eze 29:10 **30:7** [w]S Eze 29:12 **30:8** [x]S Jer 49:27; Eze 39:6; Am 1:4,7,10; Na 1:6 [y]S Eze 29:9

[r]7 Syriac (see also Septuagint and Vulgate); Hebrew *and you caused their backs to stand* [s]10 That is, the upper Nile region [t]14 Hebrew *to Pathros* [u]21 *Horn* here symbolizes strength. [v]4 That is, the upper Nile region; also in verses 5 and 9 [w]5 Hebrew *Cub*

9" 'On that day messengers will go
out from me in ships to frighten Cush[a]
out of her complacency. Anguish[b] will
take hold of them on the day of Egypt's
doom, for it is sure to come.[c]

10" 'This is what the Sovereign LORD
says:

" 'I will put an end to the hordes of
Egypt
by the hand of Nebuchadnezzar[d]
king of Babylon.[e]
11He and his army—the most ruthless
of nations[f] —
will be brought in to destroy the
land.
They will draw their swords against
Egypt
and fill the land with the slain.[g]
12I will dry up[h] the streams of the
Nile[i]
and sell the land to evil men;
by the hand of foreigners
I will lay waste[j] the land and
everything in it.

I the LORD have spoken.

13" 'This is what the Sovereign LORD
says:

" 'I will destroy the idols[k]
and put an end to the images in
Memphis.[x] [l]
No longer will there be a prince in
Egypt,[m]
and I will spread fear throughout
the land.
14I will lay[n] waste Upper Egypt,[y]
set fire to Zoan[o]
and inflict punishment on
Thebes.[z] [p]
15I will pour out my wrath on
Pelusium,[a]
the stronghold of Egypt,
and cut off the hordes of Thebes.
16I will set fire[q] to Egypt;
Pelusium will writhe in agony.
Thebes will be taken by storm;
Memphis[r] will be in constant
distress.
17The young men of Heliopolis[b] [s] and
Bubastis[c]
will fall by the sword,
and the cities themselves will go
into captivity.
18Dark will be the day at Tahpanhes[t]
when I break the yoke of Egypt;[u]
there her proud strength will come
to an end.
She will be covered with clouds,
and her villages will go into
captivity.[v]
19So I will inflict punishment[w] on
Egypt,
and they will know that I am the
LORD.' "

20In the eleventh year, in the first
month on the seventh day, the word of
the LORD came to me:[x] 21"Son of man, I
have broken the arm[y] of Pharaoh[z]
king of Egypt. It has not been bound
up for healing[a] or put in a splint so as
to become strong enough to hold a
sword. 22Therefore this is what the Sov-
ereign LORD says: I am against Pharaoh
king of Egypt.[b] I will break both his
arms, the good arm as well as the bro-
ken one, and make the sword fall from
his hand.[c] 23I will disperse the Egyp-
tians among the nations and scatter
them through the countries.[d] 24I will
strengthen[e] the arms of the king of
Babylon and put my sword[f] in his
hand, but I will break the arms of Phar-
aoh, and he will groan[g] before him like
a mortally wounded man. 25I will
strengthen the arms of the king of Bab-
ylon, but the arms of Pharaoh will fall
limp. Then they will know that I am
the LORD, when I put my sword[h] into
the hand of the king of Babylon and he
brandishes it against Egypt.[i] 26I will
disperse the Egyptians among the na-
tions and scatter them through the
countries. Then they will know that I
am the LORD.[j] "

A Cedar in Lebanon

31 In the eleventh year,[k] in the
third month on the first day, the
word of the LORD came to me:[l] 2"Son of
man, say to Pharaoh king of Egypt and
to his hordes:

" 'Who can be compared with you in
majesty?
3Consider Assyria,[m] once a cedar in
Lebanon,[n]
with beautiful branches
overshadowing the forest;
it towered on high,
its top above the thick foliage.[o]
4The waters[p] nourished it,
deep springs made it grow tall;
their streams flowed
all around its base
and sent their channels
to all the trees of the field.[q]
5So it towered higher[r]
than all the trees of the field;

30:9 [a]S Ge 10:6 [b]Isa 23:5 [c]Eze 32:9-10; Zep 2:12 **30:10** [d]Jer 39:1 [e]S Eze 29:19 **30:11** [f]S Eze 28:7 [g]ver 24-25 **30:12** [h]S Isa 19:6 [i]S Jer 46:8; Eze 29:9 [j]S Eze 19:7 **30:13** [k]S Jer 43:12; S Eze 6:6 [l]S Isa 19:13 [m]Zec 10:11 **30:14** [n]S Eze 29:14 [o]S Nu 13:22 [p]S Jer 46:25 **30:16** [q]S Jos 7:15 [r]S Isa 19:13 **30:17** [s]Ge 41:45 **30:18** [t]S Jer 43:7 [u]S Lev 26:13; S Isa 9:4 [v]S ver 3 **30:19** [w]Eze 28:22 **30:20** [x]S Eze 26:1; S 29:17; 31:1; 32:1 **30:21** [y]S Jer 48:25 [z]S Jer 44:30 [a]Jer 30:13; 46:11 **30:22** [b]S Ge 15:18; S Jer 46:25 [c]Ps 37:17; Zec 11:17 **30:23** [d]S Eze 29:12 **30:24** [e]Zec 10:6, 12; 12:5 [f]S Eze 21:14; Zep 2:12 [g]Jer 51:52 **30:25** [h]1Ch 21:12 [i]S Isa 10:5; 45:1, 5; S Eze 29:19 **30:26** [j]S Eze 29:12 **31:1** [k]Jer 52:5 [l]S Eze 30:20; 32:17 **31:3** [m]S Jer 50:18 [n]S 2Ki 19:23; Hab 2:17; Zec 11:1 [o]Isa 10:34; S Eze 19:11 **31:4** [p]Eze 17:7 [q]Da 4:10 **31:5** [r]ver 10

[x]*13* Hebrew *Noph;* also in verse 16 [y]*14* Hebrew *waste Pathros* [z]*14* Hebrew *No;* also in verses 15 and 16 [a]*15* Hebrew *Sin;* also in verse 16 [b]*17* Hebrew *Awen* (or *On*) [c]*17* Hebrew *Pi Beseth*

its boughs increased
and its branches grew long,
spreading because of abundant
waters.[a]
6All the birds of the air
nested in its boughs,
all the beasts of the field
gave birth[b] under its branches;
all the great nations
lived in its shade.[c]
7It was majestic in beauty,
with its spreading boughs,
for its roots went down
to abundant waters.[d]
8The cedars[e] in the garden of God
could not rival it,
nor could the pine trees
equal its boughs,
nor could the plane trees[f]
compare with its branches—
no tree in the garden of God
could match its beauty.[g]
9I made it beautiful
with abundant branches,
the envy of all the trees of Eden[h]
in the garden of God.[i]

10" 'Therefore this is what the Sover-
eign LORD says: Because it towered on
high, lifting its top above the thick foli-
age, and because it was proud[j] of its
height, 11I handed it over to the ruler of
the nations, for him to deal with ac-
cording to its wickedness. I cast it
aside,[k] 12and the most ruthless of for-
eign nations[l] cut it down and left it. Its
boughs fell on the mountains and in all
the valleys;[m] its branches lay broken in
all the ravines of the land. All the na-
tions of the earth came out from under
its shade and left it.[n] 13All the birds of
the air settled on the fallen tree, and all
the beasts of the field were among its
branches.[o] 14Therefore no other trees
by the waters are ever to tower proudly
on high, lifting their tops above the
thick foliage. No other trees so well-
watered are ever to reach such a
height; they are all destined[p] for
death,[q] for the earth below, among
mortal men, with those who go down
to the pit.[r]

15" 'This is what the Sovereign LORD
says: On the day it was brought down
to the grave[d] I covered the deep
springs with mourning for it; I held
back its streams, and its abundant wa-
ters were restrained. Because of it I
clothed Lebanon with gloom, and all
the trees of the field withered away.[s]
16I made the nations tremble[t] at the
sound of its fall when I brought it
down to the grave with those who go
down to the pit. Then all the trees[u] of
Eden,[v] the choicest and best of Leba-
non, all the trees that were well-
watered, were consoled[w] in the earth
below.[x] 17Those who lived in its shade,
its allies among the nations, had also
gone down to the grave with it, joining
those killed by the sword.[y]

18" 'Which of the trees of Eden can be
compared with you in splendor and
majesty? Yet you, too, will be brought
down with the trees of Eden to the
earth below; you will lie among the un-
circumcised,[z] with those killed by the
sword.

" 'This is Pharaoh and all his hordes,
declares the Sovereign LORD.' "

A Lament for Pharaoh

32 In the twelfth year, in the twelfth
month on the first day, the word
of the LORD came to me:[a] 2"Son of man,
take up a lament[b] concerning Pharaoh
king of Egypt and say to him:

" 'You are like a lion[c] among the
nations;
you are like a monster[d] in the
seas[e]
thrashing about in your streams,
churning the water with your feet
and muddying the streams.[f]

3" 'This is what the Sovereign LORD
says:

" 'With a great throng of people
I will cast my net over you,
and they will haul you up in my
net.[g]
4I will throw you on the land
and hurl you on the open field.
I will let all the birds of the air settle
on you
and all the beasts of the earth
gorge themselves on you.[h]
5I will spread your flesh on the
mountains
and fill the valleys[i] with your
remains.
6I will drench the land with your
flowing blood[j]
all the way to the mountains,
and the ravines will be filled with
your flesh.[k]
7When I snuff you out, I will cover
the heavens
and darken their stars;
I will cover the sun with a cloud,
and the moon will not give its
light.[l]

31:5 [a]S Nu 24:6; S Eze 17:5
31:6 [b]S Ge 31:7-9 [c]S Eze 17:23; S Mt 13:32
31:7 [d]S Job 14:9
31:8 [e]Ps 80:10 [f]S Ge 30:37 [g]Ge 2:8-9
31:9 [h]S Ge 2:8 [i]S Ge 13:10; Eze 28:13
31:10 [j]S Isa 2:11; S 14:13-14; S Eze 28:17
31:11 [k]Da 5:20
31:12 [l]S Eze 28:7 [m]Eze 32:5; 35:8 [n]Eze 32:11-12; Da 4:14
31:13 [o]S Isa 18:6; S Eze 29:5; 32:4
31:14 [p]S Ps 49:14 [q]S Ps 82:7 [r]S Nu 14:11; Ps 63:9; S Eze 26:20; 32:24
31:15 [s]S 2Sa 1:21
31:16 [t]S Jer 49:21 [u]S Isa 14:8 [v]S Ge 2:8 [w]S Eze 14:22 [x]S Isa 14:15; Eze 32:18
31:17 [y]Ps 9:17
31:18 [z]S Jer 9:26
32:1 [a]S Eze 31:1; 33:21
32:2 [b]2Sa 1:17; 3:33; 2Ch 35:25; S Eze 19:1 [c]S 2Ki 24:1; Na 2:11-13 [d]S Job 3:8; S Ps 74:13 [e]S Ge 1:21 [f]ver 13; Job 41:31; S Eze 29:3; 34:18
32:3 [g]S Eze 12:13; Hab 1:15
32:4 [h]S Isa 18:6; Eze 31:12-13; 39:4-5,17
32:5 [i]S Eze 31:12
32:6 [j]S Isa 34:3 [k]S Eze 29:5
32:7 [l]S Isa 13:10; 34:4; S Eze 30:3; Joel 2:2,31; 3:15; S Mt 24:29; Rev 8:12

[d]15 Hebrew *Sheol;* also in verses 16 and 17

[8]All the shining lights in the heavens
I will darken[a] over you;
I will bring darkness over your
land,[b]
declares the Sovereign LORD.
[9]I will trouble the hearts of many
peoples
when I bring about your
destruction among the
nations,
among[e] lands you have not
known.
[10]I will cause many peoples to be
appalled at you,
and their kings will shudder with
horror because of you
when I brandish my sword[c]
before them.
On the day[d] of your downfall
each of them will tremble
every moment for his life.[e]

[11]" 'For this is what the Sovereign
LORD says:

" 'The sword[f] of the king of
Babylon[g]
will come against you.[h]
[12]I will cause your hordes to fall
by the swords of mighty men—
the most ruthless of all nations.[i]
They will shatter the pride of Egypt,
and all her hordes will be
overthrown.[j]
[13]I will destroy all her cattle
from beside abundant waters
no longer to be stirred by the foot of
man
or muddied by the hoofs of
cattle.[k]
[14]Then I will let her waters settle
and make her streams flow like oil,
declares the Sovereign LORD.
[15]When I make Egypt desolate
and strip the land of everything
in it,
when I strike down all who live
there,
then they will know that I am the
LORD.[l] '

[16]"This is the lament[m] they will chant
for her. The daughters of the nations
will chant it; for Egypt and all her
hordes they will chant it, declares the
Sovereign LORD."

[17]In the twelfth year, on the fifteenth
day of the month, the word of the LORD
came to me:[n] [18]"Son of man, wail for
the hordes of Egypt and consign[o] to
the earth below both her and the
daughters of mighty nations, with
those who go down to the pit.[p] [19]Say to

32:8 [a]S Ps 102:26 [b]S Job 9:7; S Jer 4:23; Joel 2:10
32:10 [c]S Isa 30:32 [d]S Jer 46:10 [e]S Eze 26:16; S 27:35; 30:9; Rev 18:9-10
32:11 [f]S Eze 21:19 [g]S Isa 19:4; S Jer 46:13 [h]S Eze 29:19
32:12 [i]S Eze 28:7 [j]Eze 31:11-12
32:13 [k]S ver 2; S Eze 29:8,11
32:15 [l]Ex 7:5; S 14:4,18; Ps 107:33-34
32:16 [m]S Ge 50:10; S Eze 19:1
32:17 [n]S ver 1
32:18 [o]Jer 1:10 [p]Eze 26:20; S 31:14,16; Mic 1:8
32:19 [q]ver 29-30; S Eze 28:10
32:20 [r]Ps 28:3 [s]Eze 31:17-18
32:21 [t]S Isa 14:9 [u]Eze 28:10
32:23 [v]S Isa 14:15 [w]Na 1:14
32:24 [x]S Ge 10:22 [y]S Jer 49:37 [z]S Job 28:13 [a]S Eze 26:20
32:25 [b]Eze 28:10
32:26 [c]S Eze 27:13
32:27 [d]Eze 28:10
32:29 [e]S Ps 137:7; Isa 34:5-15; Jer 49:7; Eze 35:15; Ob 1:1 [f]Eze 25:12-14
32:30 [g]S Isa 14:31; Jer 25:26; Eze 38:6; 39:2 [h]S Ge 10:15; S Jer 25:22 [i]Eze 28:10

them, 'Are you more favored than oth-
ers? Go down and be laid among the
uncircumcised.'[q] [20]They will fall
among those killed by the sword. The
sword is drawn; let her be dragged[r] off
with all her hordes.[s] [21]From within the
grave[f][t] the mighty leaders will say of
Egypt and her allies, 'They have come
down and they lie with the uncircum-
cised,[u] with those killed by the sword.'
[22]"Assyria is there with her whole
army; she is surrounded by the graves
of all her slain, all who have fallen by
the sword. [23]Their graves are in the
depths of the pit[v] and her army lies
around her grave.[w] All who had spread
terror in the land of the living are slain,
fallen by the sword.
[24]"Elam[x] is there, with all her hordes
around her grave. All of them are slain,
fallen by the sword.[y] All who had
spread terror in the land of the living[z]
went down uncircumcised to the earth
below. They bear their shame with
those who go down to the pit.[a] [25]A bed
is made for her among the slain, with
all her hordes around her grave. All of
them are uncircumcised,[b] killed by the
sword. Because their terror had spread
in the land of the living, they bear their
shame with those who go down to the
pit; they are laid among the slain.
[26]"Meshech and Tubal[c] are there,
with all their hordes around their
graves. All of them are uncircumcised,
killed by the sword because they
spread their terror in the land of the
living. [27]Do they not lie with the other
uncircumcised[d] warriors who have
fallen, who went down to the grave
with their weapons of war, whose
swords were placed under their heads?
The punishment for their sins rested on
their bones, though the terror of these
warriors had stalked through the land
of the living.
[28]"You too, O Pharaoh, will be bro-
ken and will lie among the uncircum-
cised, with those killed by the sword.
[29]"Edom[e] is there, her kings and all
her princes; despite their power, they
are laid with those killed by the sword.
They lie with the uncircumcised, with
those who go down to the pit.[f]
[30]"All the princes of the north[g] and
all the Sidonians[h] are there; they went
down with the slain in disgrace despite
the terror caused by their power. They
lie uncircumcised[i] with those killed by

[e]9 Hebrew; Septuagint *bring you into captivity among the nations,* / to [f]21 Hebrew *Sheol;* also in verse 27

the sword and bear their shame with
those who go down to the pit.[a]
31"Pharaoh—he and all his army—
will see them and he will be consoled[b]
for all his hordes that were killed by the
sword, declares the Sovereign LORD.
32Although I had him spread terror in
the land of the living, Pharaoh[c] and all
his hordes will be laid among the uncir-
cumcised, with those killed by the
sword, declares the Sovereign LORD."[d]

Ezekiel a Watchman

33 The word of the LORD came to
me: 2"Son of man, speak to your
countrymen and say to them: 'When I
bring the sword[e] against a land, and
the people of the land choose one of
their men and make him their watch-
man,[f] 3and he sees the sword coming
against the land and blows the trum-
pet[g] to warn the people, 4then if any-
one hears the trumpet but does not
take warning[h] and the sword comes
and takes his life, his blood will be on
his own head.[i] 5Since he heard the
sound of the trumpet but did not take
warning, his blood will be on his own
head.[j] If he had taken warning, he
would have saved himself.[k] 6But if the
watchman sees the sword coming and
does not blow the trumpet to warn the
people and the sword comes and takes
the life of one of them, that man will be
taken away because of his sin, but I will
hold the watchman accountable for his
blood.'[l]
7"Son of man, I have made you a
watchman[m] for the house of Israel; so
hear the word I speak and give them
warning from me.[n] 8When I say to the
wicked, 'O wicked man, you will sure-
ly die,'[o] and you do not speak out to
dissuade him from his ways, that
wicked man will die for[g] his sin, and I
will hold you accountable for his
blood.[p] 9But if you do warn the wicked
man to turn from his ways and he does
not do so,[q] he will die for his sin, but
you will have saved yourself.[r]
10"Son of man, say to the house of
Israel, 'This is what you are saying:
"Our offenses and sins weigh us
down, and we are wasting away[s] be-
cause of[h] them. How then can we
live?"'[t] 11Say to them, 'As surely as I
live, declares the Sovereign LORD, I take
no pleasure in the death of the wicked,
but rather that they turn from their
ways and live.[u] Turn![v] Turn from your
evil ways! Why will you die, O house
of Israel?'[w]

32:30 [a]S Eze 26:20; S 28:8 **32:31** [b]S Eze 14:22 **32:32** [c]S Jer 44:30 [d]S Job 3:14 **33:2** [e]S Lev 26:25; S Jer 12:12 [f]S 1Sa 14:16; Isa 21:6-9; S Jer 51:12 **33:3** [g]S Ex 20:18; S Nu 10:7; Hos 5:8; 8:1 **33:4** [h]2Ch 25:16 [i]S Lev 20:9; S Jer 6:17; Zec 1:4; Ac 18:6 **33:5** [j]S Lev 20:9 [k]S Ex 9:21 **33:6** [l]Isa 56:10-11; S Eze 3:18 **33:7** [m]S Isa 52:8 [n]Jer 1:17; 26:2 **33:8** [o]ver 14 [p]S Isa 3:11; S Eze 18:4 **33:9** [q]S Ps 7:12 [r]Eze 3:17-19 **33:10** [s]S Lev 26:16 [t]S Lev 26:39; S Eze 4:17 **33:11** [u]S La 3:33 [v]S 2Ch 30:9; S Isa 19:22; S Jer 3:12 [w]Jer 44:7-8; S Eze 18:23; Hos 11:8; Joel 2:12; S 1Ti 2:4 **33:12** [x]ver 2 [y]2Ch 7:14; S Eze 3:20; S 18:21 **33:13** [z]Heb 10:38; 2Pe 2:20-21 **33:14** [a]S Jer 22:3 **33:15** [b]S Ex 22:26 [c]Ex 22:1-4; S Lev 6:2-5 [d]Isa 55:7; Jer 18:7-8; S Lk 19:8 **33:16** [e]S Jer 50:20 [f]S Isa 43:25 **33:18** [g]Jer 18:10 [h]S Eze 3:20 **33:19** [i]S ver 14-15 **33:20** [j]S Job 34:11 **33:21** [k]Eze 24:26 [l]S 2Ki 25:4,10; Jer 39:1-2; 52:4-7; S Eze 32:1 **33:22** [m]S Eze 1:3 [n]Eze 29:21; Lk 1:64 [o]Eze 3:26-27; S 24:27 **33:24** [p]Eze 36:4 [q]S Dt 1:10 [r]Isa 51:2; Jer 40:7; Eze 11:15; Lk 3:8; Ac 7:5 **33:25** [s]Jer 7:21 [t]S Ge 9:4

12"Therefore, son of man, say to your
countrymen,[x] 'The righteousness of
the righteous man will not save him
when he disobeys, and the wickedness
of the wicked man will not cause him
to fall when he turns from it. The right-
eous man, if he sins, will not be al-
lowed to live because of his former
righteousness.'[y] 13If I tell the righteous
man that he will surely live, but then
he trusts in his righteousness and does
evil, none of the righteous things he
has done will be remembered; he will
die for the evil he has done.[z] 14And if I
say to the wicked man, 'You will surely
die,' but he then turns away from his
sin and does what is just[a] and right—
15if he gives back what he took in
pledge[b] for a loan, returns what he has
stolen,[c] follows the decrees that give
life, and does no evil, he will surely
live; he will not die.[d] 16None of the
sins[e] he has committed will be remem-
bered against him. He has done what is
just and right; he will surely live.[f]
17"Yet your countrymen say, 'The
way of the Lord is not just.' But it is
their way that is not just. 18If a right-
eous man turns from his righteousness
and does evil,[g] he will die for it.[h]
19And if a wicked man turns away from
his wickedness and does what is just
and right, he will live by doing so.[i]
20Yet, O house of Israel, you say, 'The
way of the Lord is not just.' But I will
judge each of you according to his own
ways."[j]

Jerusalem's Fall Explained

21In the twelfth year of our exile, in
the tenth month on the fifth day, a man
who had escaped[k] from Jerusalem
came to me and said, "The city has
fallen!"[l] 22Now the evening before the
man arrived, the hand of the LORD was
upon me,[m] and he opened my mouth[n]
before the man came to me in the
morning. So my mouth was opened
and I was no longer silent.[o]
23Then the word of the LORD came to
me: 24"Son of man, the people living in
those ruins[p] in the land of Israel are
saying, 'Abraham was only one man,
yet he possessed the land. But we are
many;[q] surely the land has been given
to us as our possession.'[r] 25Therefore
say to them, 'This is what the Sover-
eign LORD says: Since you eat[s] meat
with the blood[t] still in it and look to
your idols and shed blood, should you

g8 Or *in*; also in verse 9 h10 Or *away in*

then possess the land?[a] 26 You rely on
your sword, you do detestable things,[b]
and each of you defiles his neighbor's
wife.[c] Should you then possess the
land?'
27 "Say this to them: 'This is what the
Sovereign LORD says: As surely as I live,
those who are left in the ruins will fall
by the sword, those out in the country I
will give to the wild animals to be de-
voured, and those in strongholds and
caves will die of a plague.[d] 28 I will
make the land a desolate waste, and
her proud strength will come to an
end, and the mountains[e] of Israel will
become desolate so that no one will
cross them.[f] 29 Then they will know
that I am the LORD, when I have made
the land a desolate[g] waste because of
all the detestable things they have
done.'[h]
30 "As for you, son of man, your
countrymen are talking together about
you by the walls and at the doors of the
houses, saying to each other, 'Come
and hear the message that has come
from the LORD.' 31 My people come to
you, as they usually do, and sit before[i]
you to listen to your words, but they
do not put them into practice. With
their mouths they express devotion,
but their hearts are greedy[j] for unjust
gain.[k] 32 Indeed, to them you are noth-
ing more than one who sings love
songs[l] with a beautiful voice and plays
an instrument well, for they hear your
words but do not put them into prac-
tice.[m]
33 "When all this comes true—and it
surely will—then they will know that a
prophet has been among them.[n]"

Shepherds and Sheep

34 The word of the LORD came to
me: 2 "Son of man, prophesy
against the shepherds of Israel;
prophesy and say to them: 'This is
what the Sovereign LORD says: Woe to
the shepherds of Israel who only take
care of themselves! Should not shep-
herds take care of the flock?[o] 3 You eat
the curds, clothe yourselves with the
wool and slaughter the choice animals,
but you do not take care of the flock.[p]
4 You have not strengthened the weak
or healed[q] the sick or bound up[r] the
injured. You have not brought back the
strays or searched for the lost. You
have ruled them harshly and brutally.[s]
5 So they were scattered because there
was no shepherd,[t] and when they
were scattered they became food for all
the wild animals.[u] 6 My sheep wan-
dered over all the mountains and on
every high hill.[v] They were scattered[w]
over the whole earth, and no one
searched or looked for them.[x]
7 "'Therefore, you shepherds, hear
the word of the LORD: 8 As surely as I
live, declares the Sovereign LORD, be-
cause my flock lacks a shepherd and so
has been plundered[y] and has become
food for all the wild animals,[z] and be-
cause my shepherds did not search for
my flock but cared for themselves
rather than for my flock,[a] 9 therefore, O
shepherds, hear the word of the LORD:
10 This is what the Sovereign LORD says:
I am against[b] the shepherds and will
hold them accountable for my flock. I
will remove them from tending the
flock so that the shepherds can no
longer feed themselves. I will rescue[c]
my flock from their mouths, and it will
no longer be food for them.[d]
11 "'For this is what the Sovereign
LORD says: I myself will search for my
sheep[e] and look after them. 12 As a
shepherd[f] looks after his scattered
flock when he is with them, so will I
look after my sheep. I will rescue them
from all the places where they were
scattered on a day of clouds and dark-
ness.[g] 13 I will bring them out from the
nations and gather[h] them from the
countries, and I will bring them into
their own land.[i,j,k,l] I will pasture
them on the mountains of Israel, in the
ravines and in all the settlements in the
land.[m,n,o] 14 I will tend them in a good
pasture, and the mountain heights of
Israel[p] will be their grazing land. There
they will lie down in good grazing
land, and there they will feed in a rich
pasture[q] on the mountains of Israel.[r]
15 I myself will tend my sheep and have
them lie down,[s] declares the Sovereign
LORD.[t] 16 I will search for the lost and
bring back the strays. I will bind up[u]
the injured and strengthen the weak,[v]
but the sleek and the strong I will de-
stroy.[w] I will shepherd the flock with
justice.[x]
17 "'As for you, my flock, this is what
the Sovereign LORD says: I will judge
between one sheep and another, and
between rams and goats.[y] 18 Is it not
enough[z] for you to feed on the good
pasture? Must you also trample the rest
of your pasture with your feet?[a] Is it

33:25 [a] Jer 7:9-10; S Eze 22:6,27 **33:26** [b] Jer 41:7 [c] Eze 22:11 **33:27** [d] 1Sa 13:6; Isa 2:19; S Jer 42:22; S Eze 7:15; S 14:21; 39:4 **33:28** [e] S Isa 41:15 [f] S Ge 6:7; Jer 9:10 **33:29** [g] S Lev 26:34 [h] S Jer 18:16; S 44:22; Eze 36:4; Mic 7:13 **33:31** [i] S Eze 8:1 [j] Ps 119:36 [k] Ps 78:36-37; S Isa 29:13; S 33:15; S Jer 3:10; S 6:17; S Eze 22:27; Mt 13:22; 1Jn 3:18 **33:32** [l] S 1Ki 4:32 [m] Mk 6:20 **33:33** [n] S 1Sa 3:20; S Jer 28:9; S Eze 2:5 **34:2** [o] Ps 78:70-72; Isa 40:11; Jer 3:15; S 23:1; Mic 3:11; Jn 10:11; 21:15-17; Jude 1:12 **34:3** [p] Isa 56:11; S Eze 22:27; Am 6:4; Zec 11:5 **34:4** [q] S Isa 3:7 [r] S Isa 1:6 [s] ver 16; S Lev 25:43; Mic 3:3; Zec 11:15-17 **34:5** [t] S Nu 27:17 [u] ver 28; S Isa 56:9; Ac 20:29 **34:6** [v] S Jer 50:6 [w] S Lev 26:33; S Ps 95:10; S Jer 10:21 [x] 2Ch 18:16; Ps 142:4; Hos 7:13; S Mt 9:36; 18:12-13; Lk 15:5; 1Pe 2:25 **34:8** [y] S Jdg 2:14 [z] S Isa 56:9 [a] Jude 1:12 **34:10** [b] S Jer 21:13 [c] S Ps 72:14 [d] 1Sa 2:29-30; S Jer 23:2; Zec 10:3 **34:11** [e] S Ps 119:176 **34:12** [f] Isa 40:11; S Jer 31:10; Zec 10:3; Lk 19:10 [g] S Eze 32:7 **34:13** [h] S Ge 48:21; S Dt 30:4 [i] Mic 4:6 [j] S Eze 11:17 [k] S Jer 23:8 [l] S Isa 66:20 [m] S Eze 28:25; 36:24 [n] S Jer 50:19 [o] Jer 23:3 **34:14** [p] S Eze 20:40 [q] Ps 23:2; S 37:3

[r] S Isa 65:10; Eze 36:29-30; 37:22; Am 9:14; Mic 7:14 **34:15** [s] Zep 3:13 [t] Ps 23:1-2; S Jer 33:12; Mic 5:4 **34:16** [u] S Ps 147:3 [v] Mic 4:6; Zep 3:19 [w] Lk 19:10 [x] Isa 10:16; S Jer 31:8; Lk 5:32 **34:17** [y] Mt 25:32-33 **34:18** [z] S Ge 30:15 [a] S Eze 32:2

not enough for you to drink clear water? Must you also muddy the rest with your feet? 19Must my flock feed on what you have trampled and drink what you have muddied with your feet?

20"Therefore this is what the Sovereign LORD says to them: See, I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. 21Because you shove with flank and shoulder, butting all the weak sheep with your horns until you have driven them away, 22I will save my flock, and they will no longer be plundered. I will judge between one sheep and another. 23I will place over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he will tend them; he will tend them and be their shepherd. 24I the LORD will be their God, and my servant David will be prince among them. I the LORD have spoken.

25"'I will make a covenant of peace with them and rid the land of wild beasts so that they may live in the desert and sleep in the forests in safety. 26I will bless them and the places surrounding my hill. I will send down showers in season; there will be showers of blessing. 27The trees of the field will yield their fruit and the ground will yield its crops; the people will be secure in their land. They will know that I am the LORD, when I break the bars of their yoke and rescue them from the hands of those who enslaved them. 28They will no longer be plundered by the nations, nor will wild animals devour them. They will live in safety, and no one will make them afraid. 29I will provide for them a land renowned for its crops, and they will no longer be victims of famine in the land or bear the scorn of the nations. 30Then they will know that I, the LORD their God, am with them and that they, the house of Israel, are my people, declares the Sovereign LORD. 31You my sheep, the sheep of my pasture, are people, and I am your God, declares the Sovereign LORD.'"

A Prophecy Against Edom

35 The word of the LORD came to me: 2"Son of man, set your face against Mount Seir; prophesy against it 3and say: 'This is what the Sovereign LORD says: I am against you, Mount Seir, and I will stretch out my hand against you and make you a desolate waste. 4I will turn your towns into ruins and you will be desolate. Then you will know that I am the LORD.

5"'Because you harbored an ancient hostility and delivered the Israelites over to the sword at the time of their calamity, the time their punishment reached its climax, 6therefore as surely as I live, declares the Sovereign LORD, I will give you over to bloodshed and it will pursue you. Since you did not hate bloodshed, bloodshed will pursue you. 7I will make Mount Seir a desolate waste and cut off from it all who come and go. 8I will fill your mountains with the slain; those killed by the sword will fall on your hills and in your valleys and in all your ravines. 9I will make you desolate forever; your towns will not be inhabited. Then you will know that I am the LORD.

10"'Because you have said, "These two nations and countries will be ours and we will take possession of them," even though I the LORD was there, 11therefore as surely as I live, declares the Sovereign LORD, I will treat you in accordance with the anger and jealousy you showed in your hatred of them and I will make myself known among them when I judge you. 12Then you will know that I the LORD have heard all the contemptible things you have said against the mountains of Israel. You said, "They have been laid waste and have been given over to us to devour." 13You boasted against me and spoke against me without restraint, and I heard it. 14This is what the Sovereign LORD says: While the whole earth rejoices, I will make you desolate. 15Because you rejoiced when the inheritance of the house of Israel became desolate, that is how I will treat you. You will be desolate, O Mount Seir, you and all of Edom. Then they will know that I am the LORD.'"

A Prophecy to the Mountains of Israel

36 "Son of man, prophesy to the mountains of Israel and say, 'O mountains of Israel, hear the word of the LORD. 2This is what the Sovereign LORD says: The enemy said of you, "Aha! The ancient heights have become our possession."' 3Therefore prophesy and say, 'This is what the

34:20 S Mt 25:32 **34:21** S Dt 33:17 **34:22** Ps 72:12-14; Jer 23:2-3; Eze 20:37-38 **34:23** Isa 40:11 S Isa 31:4; Mic 5:4 **34:24** Eze 36:28 Ps 89:49 S Isa 53:4; Zec 13:7 Jer 23:4-5; S 30:9; S 33:14; Jn 10:16; Rev 7:17 **34:25** S Eze 16:62 S Nu 25:12 Lev 26:6 S Lev 25:18; Isa 11:6-9; Hos 2:18 **34:26** S Ge 12:2 Ps 68:9; Joel 2:23 Dt 11:13-15; S 28:12; Isa 44:3 **34:27** S Ps 72:16 S Job 14:9; S Ps 67:6 S Nu 24:21 S Lev 26:13 S Jer 30:8; S Eze 20:42; S 28:25 **34:28** S Jer 32:37 S Jer 30:10; S Eze 28:26; 39:26; Hos 11:11; Am 9:15; Zep 3:13; Zec 14:11 **34:29** S Isa 4:2 Eze 36:29 S Ps 137:3; Eze 36:6; Joel 2:19 Eze 36:15 **34:30** S Eze 14:11; 37:27 **34:31** S Ps 28:9 S Jer 23:1 **35:2** S Ge 14:6 **35:3** S Jer 6:12 S Isa 34:10; Eze 25:12-14 **35:4** Jer 44:2 ver 9; S Jer 49:10 **35:5** S Ps 63:10 Ob 1:13 Ps 137:7; S Eze 21:29 **35:6** S Isa 34:3 Isa 63:2-6 **35:7** S Jer 46:19 S Jer 49:17 **35:8** S Eze 31:12 **35:9** Ob 1:10 S Isa 34:5-6; S Jer 49:13 **35:10** S Ps 83:12; Eze 36:2,5 **35:11** Eze 25:14 S Ps 9:16; Ob 1:15; S Mt 7:2 **35:12** S Jer 50:7 **35:13** S Jer 49:16 Da 11:36 **35:14** Jer 51:48 **35:15** Eze 36:5; Ob 1:12 ver 3 S Isa 34:5-6,11; Jer 50:11-13; S La 4:21; S Eze 32:29 **36:1** S Eze 17:22 **36:2** Eze 6:2-3 S Eze 25:3 S Dt 32:13 S Eze 35:10

26 Or I will make them and the places surrounding my hill a blessing

Sovereign LORD says: Because they
ravaged[a] and hounded you from every
side so that you became the possession
of the rest of the nations and the object
of people's malicious talk and slan-
der,[b] 4therefore, O mountains of Israel,
hear the word of the Sovereign LORD:
This is what the Sovereign LORD says to
the mountains and hills, to the ravines
and valleys,[c] to the desolate ruins[d]
and the deserted[e] towns that have
been plundered and ridiculed[f] by the
rest of the nations around you[g]— 5this
is what the Sovereign LORD says: In my
burning[h] zeal I have spoken against
the rest of the nations, and against all
Edom, for with glee and with malice in
their hearts they made my land their
own possession so that they might
plunder its pastureland.'[i] 6Therefore
prophesy concerning the land of Israel
and say to the mountains and hills, to
the ravines and valleys: 'This is what
the Sovereign LORD says: I speak in my
jealous wrath because you have suf-
fered the scorn of the nations.[j] 7There-
fore this is what the Sovereign LORD
says: I swear with uplifted hand[k] that
the nations around you will also suffer
scorn.[l]

8" 'But you, O mountains of Israel,
will produce branches and fruit[m] for
my people Israel, for they will soon
come home. 9I am concerned for you
and will look on you with favor; you
will be plowed and sown,[n] 10and I will
multiply the number of people upon
you, even the whole house of Israel.
The towns will be inhabited and the
ruins[o] rebuilt.[p] 11I will increase the
number of men and animals upon you,
and they will be fruitful[q] and become
numerous. I will settle people[r] on you
as in the past[s] and will make you pros-
per more than before.[t] Then you will
know that I am the LORD. 12I will cause
people, my people Israel, to walk upon
you. They will possess you, and you
will be their inheritance;[u] you will nev-
er again deprive them of their children.

13" 'This is what the Sovereign LORD
says: Because people say to you, "You
devour men[v] and deprive your nation
of its children," 14therefore you will no
longer devour men or make your na-
tion childless, declares the Sovereign
LORD. 15No longer will I make you hear
the taunts of the nations, and no longer
will you suffer the scorn of the peoples
or cause your nation to fall, declares
the Sovereign LORD.[w]' "

16Again the word of the LORD came to
me: 17"Son of man, when the people of
Israel were living in their own land,
they defiled it by their conduct and
their actions. Their conduct was like a
woman's monthly uncleanness[x] in my
sight.[y] 18So I poured out[z] my wrath on
them because they had shed blood in
the land and because they had defiled
it with their idols. 19I dispersed them
among the nations, and they were scat-
tered[a] through the countries; I judged
them according to their conduct and
their actions.[b] 20And wherever they
went among the nations they pro-
faned[c] my holy name, for it was said of
them, 'These are the LORD's people,
and yet they had to leave his land.'[d] 21I
had concern for my holy name, which
the house of Israel profaned among the
nations where they had gone.[e]

22"Therefore say to the house of Is-
rael, 'This is what the Sovereign LORD
says: It is not for your sake, O house of
Israel, that I am going to do these
things, but for the sake of my holy
name,[f] which you have profaned[g]
among the nations where you have
gone.[h] 23I will show the holiness of my
great name,[i] which has been pro-
faned[j] among the nations, the name
you have profaned among them. Then
the nations will know that I am the
LORD,[k] declares the Sovereign LORD,
when I show myself holy[l] through you
before their eyes.[m]

24" 'For I will take you out of the na-
tions; I will gather you from all the
countries and bring you back into your
own land.[n] 25I will sprinkle[o] clean
water on you, and you will be clean; I
will cleanse[p] you from all your impuri-
ties[q] and from all your idols.[r] 26I will
give you a new heart[s] and put a new
spirit in you; I will remove from you
your heart of stone[t] and give you a
heart of flesh.[u] 27And I will put my
Spirit[v] in you and move you to follow
my decrees[w] and be careful to keep my
laws.[x] 28You will live in the land I gave
your forefathers; you will be my
people,[y] and I will be your God.[z] 29I
will save you from all your unclean-
ness. I will call for the grain and make
it plentiful and will not bring famine[a]
upon you. 30I will increase the fruit of
the trees and the crops of the field, so
that you will no longer suffer disgrace
among the nations because of famine.[b]

36:3 a Ob 1:13 b Ps 44:13-14; S La 2:16; 3:62 **36:4** c Eze 6:3 d Eze 33:24 e S Lev 26:43 f S Jer 2:26 g Dt 11:11; S Ps 79:4; S Eze 33:28-29 **36:5** h S Dt 29:20 i Isa 66:16; Jer 25:31; 50:11; Eze 25:12-14; S 35:10,15; 38:22; Joel 3:2,14 **36:6** j Ps 123:3-4; Eze 34:29 **36:7** k S Nu 14:30 l S Jer 25:9 **36:8** m S Isa 4:2; S 27:6; Eze 47:12 **36:9** n ver 34-36; Jer 31:27 **36:10** o S Isa 49:8 p Isa 49:17-23; S Jer 30:18 **36:11** q S Ge 1:22 r S Isa 49:19 s Mic 7:14 t Lev 26:9; Job 42:13; S Jer 31:28; S Eze 16:55; Zec 10:8 **36:12** u Eze 47:14,22 **36:13** v S Nu 13:32 **36:15** w Ps 89:50-51; Isa 54:4; S Eze 34:29

36:17 x S Lev 5:2; S 12:2 y Ps 106:37-38; S Jer 2:7 **36:18** z S 2Ch 34:21 **36:19** a Dt 28:64 b Lev 18:24-28; S Eze 7:8; S 24:14; 39:24 **36:20** c S Lev 18:21; S Eze 13:19; Ro 2:24 d Isa 52:5; S Jer 33:24; S Eze 12:16 **36:21** e Ps 74:18; Isa 48:9 **36:22** f S Isa 37:35; S Eze 20:44 g Ro 2:24* h Dt 9:5-6; Ps 106:8; S Eze 20:9 **36:23** i S Nu 6:27 j S Isa 37:23 k S Ps 46:10 l S Eze 20:41 m Ps 126:2; S Isa 5:16; Eze 20:14; 38:23; 39:7,27-28 **36:24** n S Isa 43:5-6; S Eze 34:13; 37:21 **36:25** o S Lev 14:7; S 16:14-15; Heb 9:13 p S Ps 51:2,7 q S Ezr 6:21 r Isa 2:18; Joel 3:21; Zec 3:4; 13:2; S Ac 22:16

36:26 s Jer 24:7 t S Jer 5:3 u S Ps 51:10; S Eze 18:31; S 2Co 3:3 **36:27** v S Isa 44:3; Joel 2:29; Jn 3:5 w S Eze 18:21 x Jer 50:20; 1Th 4:8 **36:28** y Jer 30:22; 31:33 z S Eze 11:17; S 14:11; 34:24; 37:14,27; Zec 8:8 **36:29** a Eze 34:29 **36:30** b Lev 26:4-5; S Eze 34:13-14; Hos 2:21-22

31Then you will remember your evil
ways and wicked deeds, and you will
loathe yourselves for your sins and de-
testable practices.[a] 32I want you to
know that I am not doing this for your
sake, declares the Sovereign LORD. Be
ashamed[b] and disgraced for your con-
duct, O house of Israel![c]
33" 'This is what the Sovereign LORD
says: On the day I cleanse[d] you from
all your sins, I will resettle your towns,
and the ruins[e] will be rebuilt.[f] 34The
desolate land will be cultivated instead
of lying desolate in the sight of all who
pass through it. 35They will say, "This
land that was laid waste has become
like the garden of Eden;[g] the cities that
were lying in ruins, desolate and de-
stroyed, are now fortified and inhab-
ited."[h] 36Then the nations around you
that remain will know that I the LORD
have rebuilt what was destroyed and
have replanted what was desolate. I
the LORD have spoken, and I will do
it.'[i]
37"This is what the Sovereign LORD
says: Once again I will yield to the
plea[j] of the house of Israel and do this
for them: I will make their people as
numerous as sheep,[k] 38as numerous as
the flocks for offerings[l] at Jerusalem
during her appointed feasts. So will the
ruined cities be filled with flocks of
people. Then they will know that I am
the LORD."[m]

The Valley of Dry Bones

37 The hand of the LORD was upon
me,[n] and he brought me out by
the Spirit[o] of the LORD and set me in
the middle of a valley;[p] it was full of
bones.[q] 2He led me back and forth
among them, and I saw a great many
bones on the floor of the valley, bones
that were very dry. 3He asked me,
"Son of man, can these bones live?"
I said, "O Sovereign LORD, you alone
know.[r]"
4Then he said to me, "Prophesy to
these bones and say to them, 'Dry
bones, hear the word of the LORD![s]
5This is what the Sovereign LORD says
to these bones: I will make breath[1] en-
ter you, and you will come to life.[t] 6I
will attach tendons to you and make
flesh come upon you and cover you
with skin; I will put breath in you, and
you will come to life. Then you will
know that I am the LORD.[u]' "
7So I prophesied as I was com-
manded. And as I was prophesying,
there was a noise, a rattling sound, and
the bones came together, bone to bone.
8I looked, and tendons and flesh ap-
peared on them and skin covered
them, but there was no breath in them.
9Then he said to me, "Prophesy to
the breath;[v] prophesy, son of man,
and say to it, 'This is what the Sover-
eign LORD says: Come from the four
winds,[w] O breath, and breathe into
these slain, that they may live.' " 10So I
prophesied as he commanded[x] me,
and breath entered them; they came to
life and stood up on their feet—a vast
army.[y]
11Then he said to me: "Son of man,
these bones are the whole house of Is-
rael. They say, 'Our bones are dried up
and our hope is gone; we are cut off.'[z]
12Therefore prophesy and say to them:
'This is what the Sovereign LORD says:
O my people, I am going to open your
graves and bring you up from them; I
will bring you back to the land of Is-
rael.[a] 13Then you, my people, will
know that I am the LORD,[b] when I open
your graves and bring you up from
them.[c] 14I will put my Spirit[d] in you
and you will live, and I will settle[e] you
in your own land. Then you will know
that I the LORD have spoken, and I have
done it, declares the LORD.[f]' "

One Nation Under One King

15The word of the LORD came to me:
16"Son of man, take a stick of wood and
write on it, 'Belonging to Judah and the
Israelites[g] associated with him.'[h] Then
take another stick of wood, and write
on it, 'Ephraim's stick, belonging to Jo-
seph and all the house of Israel asso-
ciated with him.' 17Join them together
into one stick so that they will become
one in your hand.[i]
18"When your countrymen ask you,
'Won't you tell us what you mean by
this?'[j] 19say to them, 'This is what the
Sovereign LORD says: I am going to take
the stick of Joseph—which is in
Ephraim's hand—and of the Israelite
tribes associated with him, and join it
to Judah's stick, making them a single
stick of wood, and they will become
one in my hand.'[k] 20Hold before their
eyes the sticks you have written on
21and say to them, 'This is what the
Sovereign LORD says: I will take the Is-
raelites out of the nations where they
have gone. I will gather them from all
around and bring them back into their

36:31 [a]Isa 6:5; S Jer 31:19; S Eze 6:9
36:32 [b]Eze 16:63 [c]Dt 9:5
36:33 [d]S Lev 16:30 [e]S Lev 26:31 [f]S Isa 49:8
36:35 [g]S Ge 2:8 [h]Am 9:14
36:36 [i]S Jer 42:10; S Eze 17:22; 37:14; 39:27-28
36:37 [j]Zec 10:6; 13:9 [k]Ps 102:17; Jer 29:12-14
36:38 [l]1Ki 8:63; 2Ch 35:7-9 [m]S Ex 6:2
37:1 [n]S Eze 1:3 [o]S Eze 11:24; Lk 4:1; Ac 8:39 [p]Jer 7:32 [q]S Jer 8:2; Eze 40:1
37:3 [r]Dt 32:39; S 1Sa 2:6; Isa 26:19; 1Co 15:35
37:4 [s]Jer 22:29
37:5 [t]S Ge 2:7; Ps 104:29-30; Rev 11:11
37:6 [u]S Ex 6:2; Eze 38:23
37:9 [v]ver 14; Ps 104:30; Isa 32:15; Eze 39:29; Zec 12:10 [w]Jer 49:36; Da 7:2; 8:8; 11:4; Zec 2:6; 6:5; Rev 7:1
37:10 [x]S Eze 12:7 [y]Rev 11:11
37:11 [z]S Job 17:15; S La 3:54
37:12 [a]ver 21; Dt 32:39; 1Sa 2:6; Isa 26:19; Jer 29:14; Hos 13:14; Am 9:14-15; Zep 3:20; Zec 8:8
37:13 [b]S Ex 6:2 [c]S Eze 17:24; Hos 13:14
37:14 [d]S ver 9; S Isa 11:2; Joel 2:28-29 [e]S Jer 43:2 [f]Eze 36:27-28,36; Rev 11:11
37:16 [g]S 1Ki 12:20; 2Ch 10:17-19 [h]Nu 17:2-3; 2Ch 15:9
37:17 [i]ver 24; Isa 11:13; S Jer 50:4; Hos 1:11
37:18 [j]S Eze 24:19
37:19 [k]Zec 10:6

[1]5 The Hebrew for this word can also mean *wind* or *spirit* (see verses 6-14).

own land. 22 I will make them one nation in the land, on the mountains of Israel. There will be one king over all of them and they will never again be two nations or be divided into two kingdoms. 23 They will no longer defile themselves with their idols and vile images or with any of their offenses, for I will save them from all their sinful backsliding,[a] and I will cleanse them. They will be my people, and I will be their God.

24 "'My servant David will be king over them, and they will all have one shepherd. They will follow my laws and be careful to keep my decrees. 25 They will live in the land I gave to my servant Jacob, the land where your fathers lived. They and their children and their children's children will live there forever, and David my servant will be their prince forever. 26 I will make a covenant of peace with them; it will be an everlasting covenant. I will establish them and increase their numbers, and I will put my sanctuary among them forever. 27 My dwelling place will be with them; I will be their God, and they will be my people. 28 Then the nations will know that I the LORD make Israel holy, when my sanctuary is among them forever.'"

A Prophecy Against Gog

38 The word of the LORD came to me: 2 "Son of man, set your face against Gog, of the land of Magog, the chief prince of[b] Meshech and Tubal; prophesy against him 3 and say: 'This is what the Sovereign LORD says: I am against you, O Gog, chief prince of[c] Meshech and Tubal. 4 I will turn you around, put hooks in your jaws and bring you out with your whole army—your horses, your horsemen fully armed, and a great horde with large and small shields, all of them brandishing their swords. 5 Persia, Cush[d] and Put will be with them, all with shields and helmets, 6 also Gomer with all its troops, and Beth Togarmah from the far north with all its troops—the many nations with you.

7 "'Get ready; be prepared, you and all the hordes gathered about you, and take command of them. 8 After many days you will be called to arms. In future years you will invade a land that has recovered from war, whose people were gathered from many nations to the mountains of Israel, which had long been desolate. They had been brought out from the nations, and now all of them live in safety. 9 You and all your troops and the many nations with you will go up, advancing like a storm; you will be like a cloud covering the land.

10 "'This is what the Sovereign LORD says: On that day thoughts will come into your mind and you will devise an evil scheme. 11 You will say, "I will invade a land of unwalled villages; I will attack a peaceful and unsuspecting people—all of them living without walls and without gates and bars. 12 I will plunder and loot and turn my hand against the resettled ruins and the people gathered from the nations, rich in livestock and goods, living at the center of the land." 13 Sheba and Dedan and the merchants of Tarshish and all her villages[e] will say to you, "Have you come to plunder? Have you gathered your hordes to loot, to carry off silver and gold, to take away livestock and goods and to seize much plunder?"'

14 "Therefore, son of man, prophesy and say to Gog: 'This is what the Sovereign LORD says: In that day, when my people Israel are living in safety, will you not take notice of it? 15 You will come from your place in the far north, you and many nations with you, all of them riding on horses, a great horde, a mighty army. 16 You will advance against my people Israel like a cloud that covers the land. In days to come, O Gog, I will bring you against my land, so that the nations may know me when I show myself holy through you before their eyes.

17 "'This is what the Sovereign LORD says: Are you not the one I spoke of in former days by my servants the prophets of Israel? At that time they prophesied for years that I would bring you against them. 18 This is what will happen in that day: When Gog attacks the land of Israel, my hot anger will be aroused, declares the Sovereign LORD. 19 In my zeal and fiery wrath I declare that at that time there shall be a great earthquake in the land of Israel. 20 The fish of the sea, the birds of the air, the beasts of the field, every crea-

a23 Many Hebrew manuscripts (see also Septuagint); most Hebrew manuscripts all their dwelling places where they sinned b2 Or the prince of Rosh, c3 Or Gog, prince of Rosh, d5 That is, the upper Nile region e13 Or her strong lions

ture that moves along the ground, and
all the people on the face of the earth
will tremble[a] at my presence. The
mountains will be overturned,[b] the
cliffs will crumble[c] and every wall will
fall to the ground.[d] 21I will summon a
sword[e] against Gog on all my moun-
tains, declares the Sovereign LORD.
Every man's sword will be against his
brother.[f] 22I will execute judgment[g]
upon him with plague and blood-
shed;[h] I will pour down torrents of
rain, hailstones[i] and burning sulfur[j]
on him and on his troops and on the
many nations with him.[k] 23And so I
will show my greatness and my holi-
ness, and I will make myself known in
the sight of many nations. Then they
will know that I am the LORD.[l]'

39 "Son of man, prophesy against
Gog[m] and say: 'This is what the
Sovereign LORD says: I am against you,
O Gog, chief prince of[p] Meshech[n] and
Tubal.[o] 2I will turn you around and
drag you along. I will bring you from
the far north[p] and send you against the
mountains of Israel.[q] 3Then I will strike
your bow[r] from your left hand and
make your arrows[s] drop from your
right hand. 4On the mountains of Israel
you will fall, you and all your troops
and the nations with you. I will give
you as food to all kinds of carrion
birds[t] and to the wild animals.[u] 5You
will fall in the open field, for I have
spoken, declares the Sovereign LORD.[v]
6I will send fire[w] on Magog[x] and on
those who live in safety in the coast-
lands,[y] and they will know[z] that I am
the LORD.

7" 'I will make known my holy name
among my people Israel. I will no
longer let my holy name be profaned,[a]
and the nations will know[b] that I the
LORD am the Holy One in Israel.[c] 8It is
coming! It will surely take place, de-
clares the Sovereign LORD. This is the
day[d] I have spoken of.

9" 'Then those who live in the towns
of Israel will go out and use the weap-
ons for fuel and burn them up—the
small and large shields, the bows and
arrows,[e] the war clubs and spears. For
seven years they will use them for
fuel.[f] 10They will not need to gather
wood from the fields or cut it from the
forests, because they will use the weap-
ons for fuel. And they will plunder[g]
those who plundered them and loot
those who looted them, declares the
Sovereign LORD.[h]

11" 'On that day I will give Gog a
burial place in Israel, in the valley of
those who travel east toward[q] the
Sea.[r] It will block the way of travelers,
because Gog and all his hordes will be
buried[i] there. So it will be called the
Valley of Hamon Gog.[s][j]

12" 'For seven months the house of
Israel will be burying them in order to
cleanse the land.[k] 13All the people of
the land will bury them, and the day I
am glorified[l] will be a memorable day
for them, declares the Sovereign LORD.

14" 'Men will be regularly employed
to cleanse the land. Some will go
throughout the land and, in addition to
them, others will bury those that re-
main on the ground. At the end of the
seven months they will begin their
search. 15As they go through the land
and one of them sees a human bone,
he will set up a marker beside it until
the gravediggers have buried it in the
Valley of Hamon Gog. 16(Also a town
called Hamonah[t] will be there.) And
so they will cleanse the land.'

17"Son of man, this is what the Sov-
ereign LORD says: Call out to every kind
of bird[m] and all the wild animals: 'As-
semble and come together from all
around to the sacrifice I am preparing
for you, the great sacrifice on the
mountains of Israel. There you will eat
flesh and drink blood.[n] 18You will eat
the flesh of mighty men and drink the
blood of the princes of the earth as if
they were rams and lambs, goats and
bulls—all of them fattened animals
from Bashan.[o] 19At the sacrifice[p] I am
preparing for you, you will eat fat till
you are glutted and drink blood till you
are drunk. 20At my table you will eat
your fill of horses and riders, mighty
men and soldiers of every kind,' de-
clares the Sovereign LORD.[q]

21"I will display my glory among the
nations, and all the nations will see the
punishment I inflict and the hand I lay
upon them.[r] 22From that day forward
the house of Israel will know that I am
the LORD their God. 23And the nations
will know that the people of Israel
went into exile for their sin, because
they were unfaithful to me. So I hid my
face from them and handed them over
to their enemies, and they all fell by the
sword.[s] 24I dealt with them according
to their uncleanness and their offenses,
and I hid my face from them.[t]

25"Therefore this is what the Sover-

38:20 [a]S Ex 15:14 [b]Isa 42:15 [c]Job 14:18 [d]S Ps 76:8; Hos 4:3; Na 1:5 **38:21** [e]Isa 66:16; Jer 25:29 [f]S 1Sa 14:20; S 2Ch 20:23; Hag 2:22 **38:22** [g]Isa 66:16; Jer 25:31; S Eze 36:5 [h]S Eze 14:19; S 28:23 [i]S Ex 9:18; Ps 18:12; Rev 16:21 [j]S Ge 19:24; S Rev 9:17 [k]S Eze 13:11 **38:23** [l]Eze 20:42; S 36:23; S 37:6 **39:1** [m]Rev 20:8 [n]S Ge 10:2 [o]S Eze 27:13; S 38:2,3 **39:2** [p]S Eze 32:30 [q]S Eze 38:4,15 **39:3** [r]Hos 1:5; Am 2:15 [s]Ps 76:3 **39:4** [t]S Ge 40:19 [u]ver 17-20; S Jer 25:33; S Eze 29:5; S 33:27 **39:5** [v]S Eze 32:4 **39:6** [w]S Eze 30:8; Rev 20:9 [x]S Ge 10:2 [y]S Jer 25:22 [z]S Ex 6:7 **39:7** [a]S Ex 20:7; S Eze 13:19 [b]S Isa 49:26 [c]S Isa 12:6; S 54:5; S Eze 20:9; S 36:23 **39:8** [d]Eze 7:6 **39:9** [e]Ps 76:3 [f]S Ps 46:9 **39:10** [g]S Ex 3:22 [h]S Isa 14:2; S 33:1; Hab 2:8 **39:11** [i]S Isa 34:3 [j]S Eze 38:2 **39:12** [k]Dt 21:23 **39:13** [l]Eze 28:22 **39:17** [m]S Job 15:23 [n]S Eze 32:4 **39:18** [o]S Ps 22:12; Jer 51:40 **39:19** [p]S Lev 3:9 **39:20** [q]S Isa 56:9; S Jer 12:9; Rev 19:17-18 **39:21** [r]Ex 9:16; Isa 37:20; S Eze 38:16 **39:23** [s]Isa 1:15; 59:2; S Jer 22:8-9; S 44:23 **39:24** [t]2Ki 17:23; Jer 2:17,19; 4:18; S Eze 7:22; Da 9:7

[p]1 Or *Gog, prince of Rosh,* [q]11 Or *of* [r]11 That is, the Dead Sea [s]11 *Hamon Gog* means *hordes of Gog* [t]16 *Hamonah* means *horde*.

eign LORD says: I will now bring Jacob back from captivity[u][a] and will have compassion[b] on all the people of Israel, and I will be zealous for my holy name.[c] 26 They will forget their shame and all the unfaithfulness they showed toward me when they lived in safety[d] in their land with no one to make them afraid.[e] 27 When I have brought them back from the nations and have gathered them from the countries of their enemies, I will show myself holy through them in the sight of many nations.[f] 28 Then they will know that I am the LORD their God, for though I sent them into exile among the nations, I will gather them[g] to their own land, not leaving any behind.[h] 29 I will no longer hide my face[i] from them, for I will pour out my Spirit[j] on the house of Israel, declares the Sovereign LORD.[k]"

The New Temple Area

40 In the twenty-fifth year of our exile, at the beginning of the year, on the tenth of the month, in the fourteenth year after the fall of the city[l]—on that very day the hand of the LORD was upon me[m] and he took me there. 2 In visions[n] of God he took me to the land of Israel and set me on a very high mountain,[o] on whose south side were some buildings that looked like a city. 3 He took me there, and I saw a man whose appearance was like bronze;[p] he was standing in the gateway with a linen cord and a measuring rod[q] in his hand. 4 The man said to me, "Son of man, look with your eyes and hear with your ears and pay attention to everything I am going to show you,[r] for that is why you have been brought here. Tell[s] the house of Israel everything you see.[t]"

The East Gate to the Outer Court

5 I saw a wall completely surrounding the temple area. The length of the measuring rod in the man's hand was six long cubits, each of which was a cubit[v] and a handbreadth.[w] He measured[u] the wall; it was one measuring rod thick and one rod high.

6 Then he went to the gate facing east.[v] He climbed its steps and measured the threshold of the gate; it was one rod deep.[x] 7 The alcoves[w] for the guards were one rod long and one rod wide, and the projecting walls between the alcoves were five cubits thick. And the threshold of the gate next to the portico facing the temple was one rod deep.

8 Then he measured the portico of the gateway; 9 it[y] was eight cubits deep and its jambs were two cubits thick. The portico of the gateway faced the temple.

10 Inside the east gate were three alcoves on each side; the three had the same measurements, and the faces of the projecting walls on each side had the same measurements. 11 Then he measured the width of the entrance to the gateway; it was ten cubits and its length was thirteen cubits. 12 In front of each alcove was a wall one cubit high, and the alcoves were six cubits square. 13 Then he measured the gateway from the top of the rear wall of one alcove to the top of the opposite one; the distance was twenty-five cubits from one parapet opening to the opposite one. 14 He measured along the faces of the projecting walls all around the inside of the gateway—sixty cubits. The measurement was up to the portico[z] facing the courtyard.[a][x] 15 The distance from the entrance of the gateway to the far end of its portico was fifty cubits. 16 The alcoves and the projecting walls inside the gateway were surmounted by narrow parapet openings all around, as was the portico; the openings all around faced inward. The faces of the projecting walls were decorated with palm trees.[y]

The Outer Court

17 Then he brought me into the outer court.[z] There I saw some rooms and a pavement that had been constructed all around the court; there were thirty rooms[a] along the pavement.[b] 18 It abutted the sides of the gateways and was as wide as they were long; this was the lower pavement. 19 Then he measured the distance from the inside of the lower gateway to the outside of the inner court;[c] it was a hundred cubits[d] on the east side as well as on the north.

The North Gate

20 Then he measured the length and width of the gate facing north, leading

39:25 [a]S Jer 33:7 [b]S Jer 30:18 [c]Isa 27:12-13; S Eze 16:53 **39:26** [d]S 1Ki 4:25; S Jer 32:37; S Eze 38:8 [e]Isa 17:2; Eze 34:28; Mic 4:4 **39:27** [f]S Eze 37:21 **39:28** [g]Ps 147:2 [h]S Eze 36:23,36 **39:29** [i]S Dt 31:17 [j]S Isa 11:2; S Eze 37:9; S Ac 2:17 [k]S Eze 16:42 **40:1** [l]S 2Ki 25:7; Jer 39:1-10; 52:4-11 [m]S Eze 1:3; S 29:17 **40:2** [n]S Ex 24:10; Da 7:1,7 [o]S Jer 31:12; S Eze 17:22; Rev 21:10 **40:3** [p]S Eze 1:7; Rev 1:15 [q]Eze 47:3; Zec 2:1-2; Rev 11:1; 21:15 **40:4** [r]S Dt 6:6 [s]Jer 26:2 [t]Eze 44:5 **40:5** [u]Eze 42:20 **40:6** [v]S Eze 8:16 **40:7** [w]ver 36 **40:14** [x]S Ex 27:9 **40:16** [y]ver 21-22; 2Ch 3:5; Eze 41:26 **40:17** [z]Rev 11:2 [a]Eze 41:6 [b]Eze 42:1 **40:19** [c]Eze 46:1 [d]ver 23,27

[u]25 Or *now restore the fortunes of Jacob* [v]5 The common cubit was about 1 1/2 feet (about 0.5 meter). [w]5 That is, about 3 inches (about 8 centimeters) [x]6 Septuagint; Hebrew *deep, the first threshold, one rod deep* [y]8,9 Many Hebrew manuscripts, Septuagint, Vulgate and Syriac; most Hebrew manuscripts *gateway facing the temple; it was one rod deep. 9Then he measured the portico of the gateway; it* [z]14 Septuagint; Hebrew *projecting wall* [a]14 The meaning of the Hebrew for this verse is uncertain.

into the outer court. [21]Its alcoves[a]—three on each side—its projecting walls and its portico[b] had the same measurements as those of the first gateway. It was fifty cubits long and twenty-five cubits wide. [22]Its openings, its portico[c] and its palm tree decorations had the same measurements as those of the gate facing east. Seven steps led up to it, with its portico opposite them.[d] [23]There was a gate to the inner court facing the north gate, just as there was on the east. He measured from one gate to the opposite one; it was a hundred cubits.[e]

The South Gate

[24]Then he led me to the south side and I saw a gate facing south. He measured its jambs and its portico, and they had the same measurements[f] as the others. [25]The gateway and its portico had narrow openings all around, like the openings of the others. It was fifty cubits long and twenty-five cubits wide.[g] [26]Seven steps led up to it, with its portico opposite them; it had palm tree decorations on the faces of the projecting walls on each side.[h] [27]The inner court[i] also had a gate facing south, and he measured from this gate to the outer gate on the south side; it was a hundred cubits.[j]

Gates to the Inner Court

[28]Then he brought me into the inner court through the south gate, and he measured the south gate; it had the same measurements[k] as the others. [29]Its alcoves,[l] its projecting walls and its portico had the same measurements as the others. The gateway and its portico had openings all around. It was fifty cubits long and twenty-five cubits wide.[m] [30](The porticoes[n] of the gateways around the inner court were twenty-five cubits wide and five cubits deep.) [31]Its portico[o] faced the outer court; palm trees decorated its jambs, and eight steps led up to it.[p]

[32]Then he brought me to the inner court on the east side, and he measured the gateway; it had the same measurements[q] as the others. [33]Its alcoves,[r] its projecting walls and its portico had the same measurements as the others. The gateway and its portico had openings all around. It was fifty cubits long and twenty-five cubits wide. [34]Its portico[s] faced the outer court; palm trees decorated the jambs on either side, and eight steps led up to it.

[35]Then he brought me to the north gate[t] and measured it. It had the same measurements[u] as the others, [36]as did its alcoves,[v] its projecting walls and its portico, and it had openings all around. It was fifty cubits long and twenty-five cubits wide. [37]Its portico[w][b] faced the outer court; palm trees decorated the jambs on either side, and eight steps led up to it.[x]

The Rooms for Preparing Sacrifices

[38]A room with a doorway was by the portico in each of the inner gateways, where the burnt offerings[y] were washed. [39]In the portico of the gateway were two tables on each side, on which the burnt offerings,[z] sin offerings[a] and guilt offerings[b] were slaughtered.[c] [40]By the outside wall of the portico of the gateway, near the steps at the entrance to the north gateway were two tables, and on the other side of the steps were two tables. [41]So there were four tables on one side of the gateway and four on the other—eight tables in all—on which the sacrifices were slaughtered. [42]There were also four tables of dressed stone[d] for the burnt offerings, each a cubit and a half long, a cubit and a half wide and a cubit high. On them were placed the utensils for slaughtering the burnt offerings and the other sacrifices.[e] [43]And double-pronged hooks, each a handbreadth long, were attached to the wall all around. The tables were for the flesh of the offerings.

Rooms for the Priests

[44]Outside the inner gate, within the inner court, were two rooms, one[c] at the side of the north gate and facing south, and another at the side of the south[d] gate and facing north. [45]He said to me, "The room facing south is for the priests who have charge of the temple,[f] [46]and the room facing north[g] is for the priests who have charge of the altar.[h] These are the sons of Zadok,[i] who are the only Levites who may draw near to the LORD to minister before him.[j]"

[47]Then he measured the court: It was square—a hundred cubits long and a hundred cubits wide. And the altar was in front of the temple.[k]

40:21 [a]ver 7 [b]ver 30 40:22 [c]ver 49 [d]S ver 16,26 40:23 [e]S ver 19 40:24 [f]ver 32,35 40:25 [g]ver 33 40:26 [h]S ver 22 40:27 [i]ver 32 [j]S ver 19 40:28 [k]ver 35 40:29 [l]ver 7 [m]ver 25 40:30 [n]ver 21 40:31 [o]ver 22 [p]ver 34,37 40:32 [q]S ver 24 40:33 [r]ver 7 40:34 [s]ver 22 40:35 [t]Eze 44:4; 47:2 [u]S ver 24 40:36 [v]ver 7 40:37 [w]ver 22 [x]ver 34 40:38 [y]S 2Ch 4:6; Eze 42:13 40:39 [z]Eze 46:2 [a]Lev 4:3,28 [b]S Lev 7:1 [c]ver 42 40:42 [d]Ex 20:25 [e]ver 39 40:45 [f]1Ch 9:23 40:46 [g]Eze 42:13 [h]Nu 18:5 [i]S 2Sa 8:17; S Ezr 7:2 [j]Nu 16:5; Eze 43:19; 44:15; 45:4; 48:11 40:47 [k]Eze 41:13-14

[b]37 Septuagint (see also verses 31 and 34); Hebrew *jambs* [c]44 Septuagint; Hebrew *were rooms for singers, which were* [d]44 Septuagint; Hebrew *east*

The Temple

48He brought me to the portico of the temple[a] and measured the jambs of the portico; they were five cubits wide on either side. The width of the entrance was fourteen cubits and its projecting walls were[a] three cubits wide on either side. 49The portico[b] was twenty cubits wide, and twelve[b] cubits from front to back. It was reached by a flight of stairs,[c] and there were pillars[c] on each side of the jambs.

41 Then the man brought me to the outer sanctuary[d] and measured the jambs; the width of the jambs was six cubits[d] on each side.[e] 2The entrance was ten cubits wide, and the projecting walls on each side of it were five cubits wide. He also measured the outer sanctuary; it was forty cubits long and twenty cubits wide.[e]

3Then he went into the inner sanctuary and measured the jambs of the entrance; each was two cubits wide. The entrance was six cubits wide, and the projecting walls on each side of it were seven cubits wide. 4And he measured the length of the inner sanctuary; it was twenty cubits, and its width was twenty cubits across the end of the outer sanctuary.[f] He said to me, "This is the Most Holy Place.[g]"

5Then he measured the wall of the temple; it was six cubits thick, and each side room around the temple was four cubits wide. 6The side rooms were on three levels, one above another, thirty[h] on each level. There were ledges all around the wall of the temple to serve as supports for the side rooms, so that the supports were not inserted into the wall of the temple.[i] 7The side rooms all around the temple were wider at each successive level. The structure surrounding the temple was built in ascending stages, so that the rooms widened as one went upward. A stairway[i] went up from the lowest floor to the top floor through the middle floor.

8I saw that the temple had a raised base all around it, forming the foundation of the side rooms. It was the length of the rod, six long cubits. 9The outer wall of the side rooms was five cubits thick. The open area between the side rooms of the temple 10and the priests' rooms was twenty cubits wide all around the temple. 11There were entrances to the side rooms from the open area, one on the north and another on the south; and the base adjoining the open area was five cubits wide all around.

12The building facing the temple courtyard on the west side was seventy cubits wide. The wall of the building was five cubits thick all around, and its length was ninety cubits.

13Then he measured the temple; it was a hundred cubits long, and the temple courtyard and the building with its walls were also a hundred cubits long. 14The width of the temple courtyard on the east, including the front of the temple, was a hundred cubits.[k]

15Then he measured the length of the building facing the courtyard at the rear of the temple, including its galleries[l] on each side; it was a hundred cubits.

The outer sanctuary, the inner sanctuary and the portico facing the court, 16as well as the thresholds and the narrow windows[m] and galleries around the three of them—everything beyond and including the threshold was covered with wood. The floor, the wall up to the windows, and the windows were covered.[n] 17In the space above the outside of the entrance to the inner sanctuary and on the walls at regular intervals all around the inner and outer sanctuary 18were carved[o] cherubim[p] and palm trees.[q] Palm trees alternated with cherubim. Each cherub had two faces:[r] 19the face of a man toward the palm tree on one side and the face of a lion toward the palm tree on the other. They were carved all around the whole temple.[s] 20From the floor to the area above the entrance, cherubim and palm trees were carved on the wall of the outer sanctuary.

21The outer sanctuary[t] had a rectangular doorframe, and the one at the front of the Most Holy Place was similar. 22There was a wooden altar[u] three cubits high and two cubits square[f]; its corners, its base[g] and its sides were of wood. The man said to me, "This is the table[v] that is before the LORD." 23Both the outer sanctuary[w] and the Most Holy Place had double doors.[x] 24Each door had two leaves—two hinged leaves[y] for each door. 25And on the doors of the outer sanctuary were

40:48 [a]1Ki 6:2
40:49 [b]ver 22; 1Ki 6:3; [c]S 1Ki 7:15
41:1 [d]ver 23
41:2 [e]2Ch 3:3
41:4 [f]1Ki 6:20; [g]S Ex 26:33; Heb 9:3-8
41:6 [h]Eze 40:17; S 1Ki 6:5
41:7 [i]1Ki 6:8
41:14 [k]Eze 40:47
41:15 [l]Eze 42:3
41:16 [m]1Ki 6:4; [n]ver 25-26; 1Ki 6:15; Eze 42:3
41:18 [o]S 1Ki 6:18; [p]Ex 37:7; S 2Ch 3:7; [q]S 1Ki 6:29; 7:36; [r]Eze 10:21
41:19 [s]S Eze 10:14
41:21 [t]ver 1
41:22 [u]S Ex 30:1; [v]S Ex 25:23; S Eze 23:41
41:23 [w]ver 1; [x]1Ki 6:32
41:24 [y]1Ki 6:34

[a]48 Septuagint; Hebrew *entrance was*
[b]49 Septuagint; Hebrew *eleven*
[c]49 Hebrew; Septuagint *Ten steps led up to it*
[d]1 The common cubit was about 1 1/2 feet (about 0.5 meter).
[e]1 One Hebrew manuscript and Septuagint; most Hebrew manuscripts *side, the width of the tent*
[f]22 Septuagint; Hebrew *long*
[g]22 Septuagint; Hebrew *length*

carved cherubim and palm trees like
those carved on the walls, and there
was a wooden overhang on the front of
the portico. 26On the sidewalls of the
portico were narrow windows with
palm trees carved on each side. The
side rooms of the temple also had over-
hangs.[a]

Rooms for the Priests

42 Then the man led me northward
into the outer court and brought
me to the rooms[b] opposite the temple
courtyard[c] and opposite the outer wall
on the north side.[d] 2The building
whose door faced north was a hundred
cubits[l] long and fifty cubits wide.
3Both in the section twenty cubits from
the inner court and in the section oppo-
site the pavement of the outer court,
gallery[e] faced gallery at the three lev-
els.[f] 4In front of the rooms was an in-
ner passageway ten cubits wide and a
hundred cubits[m] long. Their doors
were on the north.[g] 5Now the upper
rooms were narrower, for the galleries
took more space from them than from
the rooms on the lower and middle
floors of the building. 6The rooms on
the third floor had no pillars, as the
courts had; so they were smaller in
floor space than those on the lower and
middle floors. 7There was an outer wall
parallel to the rooms and the outer
court; it extended in front of the rooms
for fifty cubits. 8While the row of rooms
on the side next to the outer court was
fifty cubits long, the row on the side
nearest the sanctuary was a hundred
cubits long. 9The lower rooms had an
entrance[h] on the east side as one en-
ters them from the outer court.
10On the south side[n] along the
length of the wall of the outer court,
adjoining the temple courtyard[i] and
opposite the outer wall, were rooms[j]
11with a passageway in front of them.
These were like the rooms on the
north; they had the same length and
width, with similar exits and dimen-
sions. Similar to the doorways on the
north 12were the doorways of the
rooms on the south. There was a door-
way at the beginning of the passage-
way that was parallel to the corre-
sponding wall extending eastward, by
which one enters the rooms.
13Then he said to me, "The north[k]
and south rooms[l] facing the temple
courtyard[m] are the priests' rooms,
where the priests who approach the
LORD will eat the most holy offerings.
There they will put the most holy offer-
ings—the grain offerings,[n] the sin of-
ferings[o] and the guilt offerings[p]—for
the place is holy.[q] 14Once the priests
enter the holy precincts, they are not to
go into the outer court until they leave
behind the garments[r] in which they
minister, for these are holy. They are to
put on other clothes before they go
near the places that are for the
people.[s]"
15When he had finished measuring
what was inside the temple area, he led
me out by the east gate[t] and measured
the area all around: 16He measured the
east side with the measuring rod; it
was five hundred cubits.[o] 17He mea-
sured the north side; it was five hun-
dred cubits[p] by the measuring rod.
18He measured the south side; it was
five hundred cubits by the measuring
rod. 19Then he turned to the west side
and measured; it was five hundred cu-
bits by the measuring rod. 20So he mea-
sured[u] the area[v] on all four sides. It
had a wall around it,[w] five hundred cu-
bits long and five hundred cubits
wide,[x] to separate the holy from the
common.[y]

The Glory Returns to the Temple

43 Then the man brought me to the
gate facing east,[z] 2and I saw the
glory of the God of Israel coming from
the east. His voice was like the roar of
rushing waters,[a] and the land was
radiant with his glory.[b] 3The vision I
saw was like the vision I had seen
when he[q] came to destroy the city and
like the visions I had seen by the Kebar
River, and I fell facedown. 4The glory[c]
of the LORD entered the temple through
the gate facing east.[d] 5Then the Spirit[e]
lifted me up[f] and brought me into the
inner court, and the glory[g] of the LORD
filled the temple.[h]
6While the man was standing beside
me, I heard someone speaking to me
from inside the temple. 7He said: "Son
of man, this is the place of my throne[i]
and the place for the soles of my feet.
This is where I will live among the Isra-
elites forever. The house of Israel will
never again defile[j] my holy name—
neither they nor their kings—by their

41:26 [a]ver 15-16; Eze 40:16
42:1 [b]ver 13
[c]S Ex 27:9; Eze 41:12-14
[d]Eze 40:17
42:3 [e]Eze 41:15
[f]Eze 41:16
42:4 [g]Eze 46:19
42:9 [h]Eze 44:5; 46:19
42:10 [i]Eze 41:12-14
[j]ver 1
42:13 [k]Eze 40:46 [l]ver 1
[m]Eze 41:12-14
[n]Jer 41:5
[o]S Lev 10:17
[p]Lev 14:13
[q]S Ex 29:31; S Lev 6:29; 7:6; 10:12-13; Nu 18:9-10
42:14 [r]Lev 16:23; Eze 44:19
[s]Ex 29:9; S Lev 8:7-9
42:15 [t]Eze 43:1
42:20 [u]Eze 40:5
[v]Eze 43:12
[w]Zec 2:5
[x]Eze 45:2; Rev 21:16
[y]S Eze 22:26
43:1 [z]S 1Ch 9:18; S Eze 8:16; 42:15; 44:1
43:2 [a]S Ps 18:4; S Rev 1:15
[b]Isa 6:3; Rev 18:1; 21:11
43:4 [c]Eze 1:28
[d]Eze 10:19; 44:2
43:5 [e]S Eze 11:24
[f]S Eze 3:12
[g]S Ex 16:7
[h]S Isa 6:4
43:7 [i]S Jer 3:17
[j]S Eze 37:23

[l]2 The common cubit was about 1 1/2 feet (about 0.5 meter). [m]4 Septuagint and Syriac; Hebrew *and one cubit* [n]10 Septuagint; Hebrew *Eastward* [o]16 See Septuagint of verse 17; Hebrew *rods*; also in verses 18 and 19. [p]17 Septuagint; Hebrew *rods* [q]3 Some Hebrew manuscripts and Vulgate; most Hebrew manuscripts *I*

prostitution and the lifeless idols of
their kings at their high places. 8 When
they placed their threshold next to my
threshold and their doorposts beside
my doorposts, with only a wall be-
tween me and them, they defiled my
holy name by their detestable practices.
So I destroyed them in my anger. 9 Now
let them put away from me their prosti-
tution and the lifeless idols of their
kings, and I will live among them for-
ever.

10 "Son of man, describe the temple to
the people of Israel, that they may be
ashamed of their sins. Let them con-
sider the plan, 11 and if they are
ashamed of all they have done, make
known to them the design of the tem-
ple—its arrangement, its exits and en-
trances—its whole design and all its
regulations and laws. Write these
down before them so that they may be
faithful to its design and follow all its
regulations.

12 "This is the law of the temple: All
the surrounding area on top of the
mountain will be most holy. Such is
the law of the temple.

The Altar

13 "These are the measurements of
the altar in long cubits, that cubit be-
ing a cubit and a handbreadth: Its
gutter is a cubit deep and a cubit wide,
with a rim of one span around the
edge. And this is the height of the altar:
14 From the gutter on the ground up to
the lower ledge it is two cubits high
and a cubit wide, and from the smaller
ledge up to the larger ledge it is four
cubits high and a cubit wide. 15 The al-
tar hearth is four cubits high, and four
horns project upward from the
hearth. 16 The altar hearth is square,
twelve cubits long and twelve cubits
wide. 17 The upper ledge also is
square, fourteen cubits long and four-
teen cubits wide, with a rim of half a
cubit and a gutter of a cubit all around.
The steps of the altar face east."

18 Then he said to me, "Son of man,
this is what the Sovereign LORD says:
These will be the regulations for sacri-
ficing burnt offerings and sprinkling
blood upon the altar when it is built:
19 You are to give a young bull as a sin
offering to the priests, who are Levites,
of the family of Zadok, who come
near to minister before me, declares
the Sovereign LORD. 20 You are to take
some of its blood and put it on the four
horns of the altar and on the four cor-

43:7 S Lev 26:30; S Eze 20:29,39
43:9 Eze 37:26-28
43:10 S Eze 16:61
43:11 Eze 44:5
43:12 Eze 42:20; S Eze 17:22
43:13 S Ex 20:26; 2Ch 4:1
43:15 Isa 29:2; S Ex 27:2
43:16 Rev 21:16
43:17 ver 20; Eze 45:19; Ex 20:26; S Ex 27:1
43:18 Ex 40:29; Lev 1:5,11; Heb 9:21-22
43:19 S Lev 4:3; S 2Sa 8:17; S Ezr 7:2; Nu 16:40; S Eze 40:46
43:20 S Lev 4:7; S ver 17; Lev 16:19
43:21 Ex 29:14; Heb 13:11
43:23 Ex 29:1; S Lev 22:20
43:24 S Lev 2:13; Mk 9:49-50
43:25 S Lev 8:33; S Ex 29:37
43:27 Lev 9:1; S Isa 60:7; S Ex 32:6; S Lev 17:5
44:1 S Eze 43:1
44:2 Eze 43:4-5
44:3 S Ex 24:9-11; Eze 46:2,8
44:4 S Eze 40:35; S Isa 6:4; S Eze 10:4; Rev 15:8; Da 8:17

ners of the upper ledge and all
around the rim, and so purify the al-
tar and make atonement for it. 21 You
are to take the bull for the sin offering
and burn it in the designated part of
the temple area outside the sanctuary.

22 "On the second day you are to offer
a male goat without defect for a sin of-
fering, and the altar is to be purified as
it was purified with the bull. 23 When
you have finished purifying it, you are
to offer a young bull and a ram from
the flock, both without defect. 24 You
are to offer them before the LORD, and
the priests are to sprinkle salt on them
and sacrifice them as a burnt offering to
the LORD.

25 "For seven days you are to pro-
vide a male goat daily for a sin offering;
you are also to provide a young bull
and a ram from the flock, both without
defect. 26 For seven days they are to
make atonement for the altar and
cleanse it; thus they will dedicate it.
27 At the end of these days, from the
eighth day on, the priests are to
present your burnt offerings and fel-
lowship offerings on the altar. Then
I will accept you, declares the Sover-
eign LORD."

The Prince, the Levites, the Priests

44 Then the man brought me back
to the outer gate of the sanctu-
ary, the one facing east, and it was
shut. 2 The LORD said to me, "This gate
is to remain shut. It must not be
opened; no one may enter through it.
It is to remain shut because the LORD,
the God of Israel, has entered through
it. 3 The prince himself is the only one
who may sit inside the gateway to eat
in the presence of the LORD. He is to
enter by way of the portico of the gate-
way and go out the same way."

4 Then the man brought me by way of
the north gate to the front of the tem-
ple. I looked and saw the glory of the
LORD filling the temple of the LORD,
and I fell facedown.

5 The LORD said to me, "Son of man,
look carefully, listen closely and give
attention to everything I tell you con-
cerning all the regulations regarding
the temple of the LORD. Give attention

a7 Or *their spiritual adultery;* also in verse 9
b7 Or *the corpses;* also in verse 9
c11 Some Hebrew manuscripts and Septuagint; most Hebrew manuscripts *regulations and its whole design*
d13 The common cubit was about 1 1/2 feet (about 0.5 meter).
e13 That is, about 3 inches (about 8 centimeters)
f13 That is, about 9 inches (about 22 centimeters)
g27 Traditionally *peace offerings*

to the entrance[a] of the temple and all the exits of the sanctuary.[b] 6Say to the rebellious house[c] of Israel, 'This is what the Sovereign LORD says: Enough of your detestable practices, O house of Israel! 7In addition to all your other detestable practices, you brought foreigners uncircumcised in heart[d] and flesh into my sanctuary, desecrating my temple while you offered me food, fat and blood, and you broke my covenant.[e] 8Instead of carrying out your duty in regard to my holy things, you put others in charge of my sanctuary.[f] 9This is what the Sovereign LORD says: No foreigner uncircumcised in heart and flesh is to enter my sanctuary, not even the foreigners who live among the Israelites.[g]

10" 'The Levites who went far from me when Israel went astray[h] and who wandered from me after their idols must bear the consequences of their sin.[i] 11They may serve in my sanctuary, having charge of the gates of the temple and serving in it; they may slaughter the burnt offerings[j] and sacrifices for the people and stand before the people and serve them.[k] 12But because they served them in the presence of their idols and made the house of Israel fall[l] into sin, therefore I have sworn with uplifted hand[m] that they must bear the consequences of their sin, declares the Sovereign LORD.[n] 13They are not to come near to serve me as priests or come near any of my holy things or my most holy offerings; they must bear the shame[o] of their detestable practices.[p] 14Yet I will put them in charge of the duties of the temple and all the work that is to be done in it.[q]

15" 'But the priests, who are Levites and descendants of Zadok[r] and who faithfully carried out the duties of my sanctuary when the Israelites went astray from me, are to come near to minister before me; they are to stand before me to offer sacrifices of fat[s] and blood, declares the Sovereign LORD.[t] 16They alone are to enter my sanctuary; they alone are to come near my table[u] to minister before me and perform my service.[v]

17" 'When they enter the gates of the inner court, they are to wear linen clothes;[w] they must not wear any woolen garment while ministering at the gates of the inner court or inside the temple. 18They are to wear linen turbans[x] on their heads and linen undergarments[y] around their waists. They must not wear anything that makes them perspire.[z] 19When they go out into the outer court where the people are, they are to take off the clothes they have been ministering in and are to leave them in the sacred rooms, and put on other clothes, so that they do not consecrate[a] the people by means of their garments.[b]

20" 'They must not shave[c] their heads or let their hair grow long, but they are to keep the hair of their heads trimmed.[d] 21No priest is to drink wine when he enters the inner court.[e] 22They must not marry widows or divorced women; they may marry only virgins of Israelite descent or widows of priests.[f] 23They are to teach my people the difference between the holy and the common[g] and show them how to distinguish between the unclean and the clean.[h]

24" 'In any dispute, the priests are to serve as judges[i] and decide it according to my ordinances. They are to keep my laws and my decrees for all my appointed feasts,[j] and they are to keep my Sabbaths holy.[k]

25" 'A priest must not defile himself by going near a dead person; however, if the dead person was his father or mother, son or daughter, brother or unmarried sister, then he may defile himself.[l] 26After he is cleansed, he must wait seven days.[m] 27On the day he goes into the inner court of the sanctuary[n] to minister in the sanctuary, he is to offer a sin offering[o] for himself, declares the Sovereign LORD.

28" 'I am to be the only inheritance[p] the priests have. You are to give them no possession in Israel; I will be their possession. 29They will eat[q] the grain offerings, the sin offerings and the guilt offerings; and everything in Israel devoted[y] to the LORD[r] will belong to them.[s] 30The best of all the firstfruits[t] and of all your special gifts will belong to the priests. You are to give them the first portion of your ground meal[u] so that a blessing[v] may rest on your household.[w] 31The priests must not eat anything, bird or animal, found dead[x] or torn by wild animals.[y]

Division of the Land

45 " 'When you allot the land as an inheritance,[z] you are to present

44:5 [a]S Eze 42:9 [b]Eze 40:4; 43:10-11 **44:6** [c]S Eze 3:9 **44:7** [d]S Lev 26:41 [e]Ge 17:14; Ex 12:48; Lev 22:25 **44:8** [f]Lev 22:2; Nu 18:7 **44:9** [g]Joel 3:17; Zec 14:21 **44:10** [h]Ps 95:10 [i]Nu 18:23 **44:11** [j]2Ch 29:34 [k]Nu 3:5-37; S 16:9; S 1Ch 26:12-19 **44:12** [l]S Jer 18:15 [m]Ps 106:26 [n]2Ki 16:10-16; Jer 14:10 **44:13** [o]S Eze 16:61 [p]Nu 18:3; Hos 5:1 **44:14** [q]1Sa 2:36; 2Ki 23:9; S 1Ch 23:28-32 **44:15** [r]S 2Sa 8:17; S Ezr 7:2 [s]S Ex 29:13 [t]S Jer 33:18; S Eze 40:46; Zec 3:7 **44:16** [u]S Eze 41:22 [v]Lev 3:16-17; 17:5-6; Nu 18:5; S 1Sa 2:35; Zec 3:7 **44:17** [w]Rev 19:8 **44:18** [x]S Ex 28:39; S Isa 3:20 [y]S Ex 28:42 [z]S Lev 16:4 **44:19** [a]S Lev 6:27 [b]Ex 39:27-29; Lev 6:10-11; S Eze 42:14 **44:20** [c]Eze 5:1 [d]S Lev 21:5; Nu 6:5 **44:21** [e]S Lev 10:9 **44:22** [f]Lev 21:7 **44:23** [g]S Eze 22:26 [h]S Ge 7:2; Lev 13:50; 15:31; Jer 15:19; Hag 2:11-13 **44:24** [i]Dt 17:8-9; 19:17; 21:5; S 1Ch 23:4 [j]S Lev 23:2 [k]2Ch 19:8 **44:25** [l]Lev 21:1-4 **44:26** [m]Nu 19:14 **44:27** [n]S Nu 3:28 [o]S Lev 4:28; Nu 6:11 **44:28** [p]S Nu 18:20; Dt 18:1-2; S Jos 13:33 **44:29** [q]Lev 6:16 [r]S Lev 27:21 [s]Nu 18:9,14; S Jos 13:14 **44:30** [t]Nu 18:12-13; S 2Ch 31:5 [u]S Nu 15:18-21 [v]S Lev 25:21 [w]S 2Ch 31:10; Ne 10:35-37 **44:31** [x]S Lev 11:39 [y]S Ex 22:31; S Lev 11:40 **45:1** [z]S Nu 34:13

y29 The Hebrew term refers to the irrevocable giving over of things or persons to the LORD.

to the LORD a portion of the land as a
sacred district, 25,000 cubits long and
20,000[x] cubits wide; the entire area will
be holy.[a] [2]Of this, a section 500 cubits
square[b] is to be for the sanctuary, with
50 cubits around it for open land. [3]In
the sacred district, measure off a sec-
tion 25,000 cubits[a] long and 10,000 cu-
bits[b] wide. In it will be the sanctuary,
the Most Holy Place. [4]It will be the sa-
cred portion of the land for the
priests,[c] who minister in the sanctuary
and who draw near to minister before
the LORD. It will be a place for their
houses as well as a holy place for the
sanctuary.[d] [5]An area 25,000 cubits long
and 10,000 cubits wide will belong to
the Levites, who serve in the temple,
as their possession for towns to live
in.[c e]

[6]" 'You are to give the city as its
property an area 5,000 cubits wide and
25,000 cubits long, adjoining the sacred
portion; it will belong to the whole
house of Israel.[f]

[7]" 'The prince will have the land bor-
dering each side of the area formed by
the sacred district and the property of
the city. It will extend westward from
the west side and eastward from the
east side, running lengthwise from the
western to the eastern border parallel
to one of the tribal portions.[g] [8]This
land will be his possession in Israel.
And my princes will no longer oppress
my people but will allow the house of
Israel to possess the land according to
their tribes.[h]

[9]" 'This is what the Sovereign LORD
says: You have gone far enough, O
princes of Israel! Give up your violence
and oppression[i] and do what is just
and right.[j] Stop dispossessing my
people, declares the Sovereign LORD.
[10]You are to use accurate scales,[k] an ac-
curate ephah[d l] and an accurate bath.[e]
[11]The ephah[m] and the bath are to be the
same size, the bath containing a tenth
of a homer[f] and the ephah a tenth of a
homer; the homer is to be the standard
measure for both. [12]The shekel[g] is to
consist of twenty gerahs.[n] Twenty
shekels plus twenty-five shekels plus
fifteen shekels equal one mina.[h]

Offerings and Holy Days

[13]" 'This is the special gift you are to
offer: a sixth of an ephah from each ho-
mer of wheat and a sixth of an ephah
from each homer of barley. [14]The pre-
scribed portion of oil, measured by the
bath, is a tenth of a bath from each cor
(which consists of ten baths or one ho-
mer, for ten baths are equivalent to a
homer). [15]Also one sheep is to be taken
from every flock of two hundred from
the well-watered pastures of Israel.
These will be used for the grain offer-
ings, burnt offerings[o] and fellowship
offerings[i p] to make atonement[q] for the
people, declares the Sovereign LORD.
[16]All the people of the land will partici-
pate in this special gift for the use of
the prince in Israel. [17]It will be the duty
of the prince to provide the burnt offer-
ings, grain offerings and drink offer-
ings at the festivals, the New Moons[r]
and the Sabbaths[s]—at all the ap-
pointed feasts of the house of Israel.
He will provide the sin offerings, grain
offerings, burnt offerings and fellow-
ship offerings to make atonement for
the house of Israel.[t]

[18]" 'This is what the Sovereign LORD
says: In the first month[u] on the first
day you are to take a young bull with-
out defect[v] and purify the sanctuary.[w]
[19]The priest is to take some of the blood
of the sin offering and put it on the
doorposts of the temple, on the four
corners of the upper ledge[x] of the al-
tar[y] and on the gateposts of the inner
court. [20]You are to do the same on the
seventh day of the month for anyone
who sins unintentionally[z] or through
ignorance; so you are to make atone-
ment for the temple.

[21]" 'In the first month on the four-
teenth day you are to observe the Pass-
over,[a] a feast lasting seven days, dur-
ing which you shall eat bread made
without yeast. [22]On that day the prince
is to provide a bull as a sin offering for
himself and for all the people of the
land.[b] [23]Every day during the seven
days of the Feast he is to provide seven
bulls and seven rams[c] without defect
as a burnt offering to the LORD, and a
male goat for a sin offering.[d] [24]He is to
provide as a grain offering[e] an ephah
for each bull and an ephah for each
ram, along with a hin[j] of oil for each
ephah.[f]

[25]" 'During the seven days of the

45:1 [a]Eze 48:8-9,29
45:2 [b]Eze 42:20
45:4 [c]S Eze 40:46 [d]Eze 48:10-11
45:5 [e]Eze 48:13
45:6 [f]Eze 48:15-18
45:7 [g]Eze 48:21
45:8 [h]S Nu 26:53; Eze 46:18
45:9 [i]Ps 12:5 [j]S Jer 22:3; Zec 7:9-10; 8:16
45:10 [k]Dt 25:15; S Pr 11:1; Am 8:4-6; Mic 6:10-11 [l]S Lev 19:36
45:11 [m]Isa 5:10
45:12 [n]Ex 30:13; Lev 27:25; Nu 3:47
45:15 [o]S Lev 1:4 [p]Lev 6:30
45:17 [q]S Nu 10:10 [r]S Lev 23:38; Isa 66:23 [s]S 1Ki 8:62; S 2Ch 31:3; Eze 46:4-12
45:18 [t]Ex 12:2 [u]S Lev 22:20; Heb 9:14 [v]S Lev 16:33
45:19 [w]S Eze 43:17 [x]Lev 16:18-19
45:20 [y]Lev 4:27
45:21 [z]S Ex 12:11
45:22 [a]Lev 4:14
45:23 [b]S Nu 22:40; S Job 42:8 [c]Nu 28:16-25
45:24 [d]Nu 28:12-13 [e]Eze 46:5-7

[x]1 Septuagint (see also verses 3 and 5 and 48:9); Hebrew 10,000 [a]3 That is, about 7 miles (about 12 kilometers) [b]3 That is, about 3 miles (about 5 kilometers) [c]5 Septuagint; Hebrew *temple; they will have as their possession 20 rooms* [d]10 An ephah was a dry measure. [e]10 A bath was a liquid measure. [f]11 A homer was a dry measure. [g]12 A shekel weighed about 2/5 ounce (about 11.5 grams). [h]12 That is, 60 shekels; the common mina was 50 shekels. [i]15 Traditionally *peace offerings;* also in verse 17 [j]24 That is, probably about 4 quarts (about 4 liters)

Feast,[a] which begins in the seventh
month on the fifteenth day, he is to
make the same provision for sin offer-
ings, burnt offerings, grain offerings
and oil.[b]

46 "'This is what the Sovereign
LORD says: The gate of the inner
court[c] facing east[d] is to be shut on the
six working days, but on the Sabbath
day and on the day of the New Moon[e]
it is to be opened. 2The prince is to en-
ter from the outside through the por-
tico[f] of the gateway and stand by the
gatepost. The priests are to sacrifice his
burnt offering[g] and his fellowship of-
ferings.[k] He is to worship at the
threshold of the gateway and then go
out, but the gate will not be shut until
evening.[h] 3On the Sabbaths[i] and New
Moons the people of the land are to
worship in the presence of the LORD at
the entrance to that gateway.[j] 4The
burnt offering the prince brings to the
LORD on the Sabbath day is to be six
male lambs and a ram, all without de-
fect. 5The grain offering given with the
ram is to be an ephah,[l] and the grain
offering with the lambs is to be as
much as he pleases, along with a hin[m]
of oil for each ephah.[k] 6On the day of
the New Moon[l] he is to offer a young
bull, six lambs and a ram, all without
defect.[m] 7He is to provide as a grain of-
fering one ephah with the bull, one
ephah with the ram, and with the
lambs as much as he wants to give,
along with a hin of oil with each
ephah.[n] 8When the prince enters, he is
to go in through the portico[o] of the
gateway, and he is to come out the
same way.[p]
9"'When the people of the land
come before the LORD at the appointed
feasts,[q] whoever enters by the north
gate to worship is to go out the south
gate; and whoever enters by the south
gate is to go out the north gate. No one
is to return through the gate by which
he entered, but each is to go out the
opposite gate. 10The prince is to be
among them, going in when they go in
and going out when they go out.[r]
11"'At the festivals and the ap-
pointed feasts, the grain offering is to
be an ephah with a bull, an ephah with
a ram, and with the lambs as much as
one pleases, along with a hin of oil for
each ephah.[s] 12When the prince pro-
vides[t] a freewill offering[u] to the
LORD—whether a burnt offering or fel-
lowship offerings—the gate facing east
is to be opened for him. He shall offer
his burnt offering or his fellowship of-
ferings as he does on the Sabbath day.
Then he shall go out, and after he has
gone out, the gate will be shut.[v]
13"'Every day you are to provide a
year-old lamb without defect for a
burnt offering to the LORD; morning by
morning[w] you shall provide it.[x] 14You
are also to provide with it morning by
morning a grain offering, consisting of
a sixth of an ephah with a third of a hin
of oil[y] to moisten the flour. The pre-
senting of this grain offering to the
LORD is a lasting ordinance.[z] 15So the
lamb and the grain offering and the oil
shall be provided morning by morning
for a regular[a] burnt offering.[b]
16"'This is what the Sovereign LORD
says: If the prince makes a gift from his
inheritance to one of his sons, it will
also belong to his descendants; it is to
be their property by inheritance.[c] 17If,
however, he makes a gift from his in-
heritance to one of his servants, the
servant may keep it until the year of
freedom;[d] then it will revert to the
prince. His inheritance belongs to his
sons only; it is theirs. 18The prince must
not take[e] any of the inheritance[f] of the
people, driving them off their prop-
erty. He is to give his sons their inheri-
tance out of his own property, so that
none of my people will be separated
from his property.'"
19Then the man brought me through
the entrance[g] at the side of the gate to
the sacred rooms facing north,[h] which
belonged to the priests, and showed
me a place at the western end. 20He
said to me, "This is the place where the
priests will cook the guilt offering and
the sin offering and bake the grain of-
fering, to avoid bringing them into the
outer court and consecrating[i] the
people."[j]
21He then brought me to the outer
court and led me around to its four cor-
ners, and I saw in each corner another
court. 22In the four corners of the outer
court were enclosed[n] courts, forty cu-
bits long and thirty cubits wide; each of
the courts in the four corners was the
same size. 23Around the inside of each
of the four courts was a ledge of stone,
with places for fire built all around un-
der the ledge. 24He said to me, "These
are the kitchens where those who min-

45:25 [a]Dt 16:13 [b]Lev 23:34-43; Nu 29:12-38
46:1 [c]S Eze 40:19 [d]S 1Ch 9:18 [e]ver 6; Isa 66:23
46:2 [f]ver 8 [g]Eze 40:39 [h]ver 12; S Eze 44:3
46:3 [i]S Isa 66:23 [j]Lk 1:10
46:5 [k]ver 11
46:6 [l]ver 1; S Nu 10:10 [m]S Lev 22:20
46:7 [n]Eze 45:24
46:8 [o]ver 2 [p]Eze 44:3
46:9 [q]S Ex 23:14; S 34:20
46:10 [r]2Sa 6:14-15; Ps 42:4
46:11 [s]ver 5
46:12 [t]S Eze 45:17 [u]S Lev 7:16 [v]ver 2
46:13 [w]S Ps 5:3 [x]Ex 29:38; S Nu 28:3
46:14 [y]Nu 15:6 [z]Da 8:11
46:15 [a]S Ex 29:42 [b]S Ex 29:38; Nu 28:5-6
46:16 [c]2Ch 21:3
46:17 [d]S Lev 25:10
46:18 [e]1Sa 8:14 [f]S Lev 25:23; Eze 45:8; Mic 2:1-2
46:19 [g]S Eze 42:9 [h]Eze 42:4
46:20 [i]S Lev 6:27 [j]ver 24; Zec 14:20

[k]2 Traditionally *peace offerings*; also in verse 12
[l]5 That is, probably about 3/5 bushel (about 22 liters)
[m]5 That is, probably about 4 quarts (about 4 liters)
[n]22 The meaning of the Hebrew for this word is uncertain.

ister at the temple will cook the sacrifices of the people."

The River From the Temple

47 The man brought me back to the entrance of the temple, and I saw water[a] coming out from under the threshold of the temple toward the east (for the temple faced east). The water was coming down from under the south side of the temple, south of the altar.[b] [2]He then brought me out through the north gate[c] and led me around the outside to the outer gate facing east, and the water was flowing from the south side.

[3]As the man went eastward with a measuring line[d] in his hand, he measured off a thousand cubits[a] and then led me through water that was ankle-deep. [4]He measured off another thousand cubits and led me through water that was knee-deep. He measured off another thousand and led me through water that was up to the waist. [5]He measured off another thousand, but now it was a river[e] that I could not cross, because the water had risen and was deep enough to swim in—a river that no one could cross.[f] [6]He asked me, "Son of man, do you see this?"

Then he led me back to the bank of the river. [7]When I arrived there, I saw a great number of trees on each side of the river.[g] [8]He said to me, "This water flows toward the eastern region and goes down into the Arabah,[b][h] where it enters the Sea.[c] When it empties into the Sea,[c] the water there becomes fresh.[i] [9]Swarms of living creatures will live wherever the river flows. There will be large numbers of fish, because this water flows there and makes the salt water fresh; so where the river flows everything will live.[j] [10]Fishermen[k] will stand along the shore; from En Gedi[l] to En Eglaim there will be places for spreading nets.[m] The fish will be of many kinds[n]—like the fish of the Great Sea.[d][o] [11]But the swamps and marshes will not become fresh; they will be left for salt.[p] [12]Fruit trees of all kinds will grow on both banks of the river.[q] Their leaves will not wither, nor will their fruit[r] fail. Every month they will bear, because the water from the sanctuary[s] flows to them. Their fruit will serve for food and their leaves for healing.[t]"

The Boundaries of the Land

[13]This is what the Sovereign LORD says: "These are the boundaries[u] by which you are to divide the land for an inheritance among the twelve tribes of Israel, with two portions for Joseph.[v] [14]You are to divide it equally among them. Because I swore with uplifted hand to give it to your forefathers, this land will become your inheritance.[w]

[15]"This is to be the boundary of the land:[x]

"On the north side it will run from the Great Sea[y] by the Hethlon road[z] past Lebo[e] Hamath to Zedad, [16]Berothah[f][a] and Sibraim (which lies on the border between Damascus and Hamath),[b] as far as Hazer Hatticon, which is on the border of Hauran. [17]The boundary will extend from the sea to Hazar Enan,[g] along the northern border of Damascus, with the border of Hamath to the north. This will be the north boundary.[c]

[18]"On the east side the boundary will run between Hauran and Damascus, along the Jordan between Gilead and the land of Israel, to the eastern sea and as far as Tamar.[h] This will be the east boundary.[d]

[19]"On the south side it will run from Tamar as far as the waters of Meribah Kadesh,[e] then along the Wadi of Egypt[f] to the Great Sea.[g] This will be the south boundary.

[20]"On the west side, the Great Sea will be the boundary to a point opposite Lebo[i] Hamath.[h] This will be the west boundary.[i]

[21]"You are to distribute this land among yourselves according to the tribes of Israel. [22]You are to allot it as an inheritance[j] for yourselves and for the aliens[k] who have settled among you and who have children. You are to consider them as native-born Israelites; along with you they are to be allotted an inheritance among the tribes of Israel.[l] [23]In whatever tribe the alien settles, there you are to give him his in-

47:1 [a]S Isa 55:1 [b]Ps 46:4; Joel 3:18; Rev 22:1 **47:2** [c]S Eze 40:35 **47:3** [d]S Eze 40:3 **47:5** [e]S Ge 2:10 [f]Isa 11:9; Hab 2:14 **47:7** [g]ver 12; Rev 22:2 **47:8** [h]S Dt 1:1; S 3:17 [i]Isa 41:18 **47:9** [j]Isa 12:3; 55:1; Jn 4:14; 7:37-38 **47:10** [k]S Isa 19:8; Mt 4:19 [l]S Jos 15:62 [m]Eze 26:5 [n]S Ps 104:25; Mt 13:47 [o]S Nu 34:6 **47:11** [p]S Dt 29:23 **47:12** [q]ver 7; Rev 22:2 [r]S Ps 1:3 [s]S Isa 55:1 [t]S Ge 2:9; S Jer 17:8; Eze 36:8 **47:13** [u]Nu 34:2-12 [v]S Ge 48:16; S 49:26 **47:14** [w]S Ge 12:7; S Dt 1:8; S Eze 36:12 **47:15** [x]Nu 34:2 [y]ver 19; S Nu 34:6 [z]Eze 48:1 **47:16** [a]2Sa 8:8 [b]Nu 13:21; S Jer 49:23; Eze 48:1 **47:17** [c]Eze 48:1 **47:18** [d]S Eze 27:18 **47:19** [e]Dt 32:51 [f]S Ge 15:18; Isa 27:12 [g]S ver 15; Eze 48:28 **47:20** [h]S Nu 13:21; Eze 48:1 [i]Nu 34:6 **47:22** [j]S Eze 36:12 [k]S Dt 24:19; S Isa 14:1; Mal 3:5 [l]S Lev 24:22; Nu 15:29; 26:55-56; Isa 56:6-7; Ro 10:12; Eph 2:12-16; 3:6; Col 3:11

[a]3 That is, about 1,500 feet (about 450 meters) [b]8 *Or the Jordan Valley* [c]8 That is, the Dead Sea [d]10 That is, the Mediterranean; also in verses 15, 19 and 20 [e]15 *Or past the entrance to* [f]15,16 See Septuagint and Ezekiel 48:1; Hebrew *road to go into Zedad, [16]Hamath, Berothah* [g]17 Hebrew *Enon,* a variant of *Enan* [h]18 Septuagint and Syriac; Hebrew *Israel. You will measure to the eastern sea* [i]20 *Or opposite the entrance to*

heritance," declares the Sovereign LORD.[a]

The Division of the Land

48 "These are the tribes, listed by name: At the northern frontier, Dan[b] will have one portion; it will follow the Hethlon road[c] to Lebo[x] Hamath;[d] Hazar Enan and the northern border of Damascus next to Hamath will be part of its border from the east side to the west side.

2 "Asher[e] will have one portion; it will border the territory of Dan from east to west.

3 "Naphtali[f] will have one portion; it will border the territory of Asher from east to west.

4 "Manasseh[g] will have one portion; it will border the territory of Naphtali from east to west.

5 "Ephraim[h] will have one portion; it will border the territory of Manasseh[i] from east to west.[j]

6 "Reuben[k] will have one portion; it will border the territory of Ephraim from east to west.

7 "Judah[l] will have one portion; it will border the territory of Reuben from east to west.

8 "Bordering the territory of Judah from east to west will be the portion you are to present as a special gift. It will be 25,000 cubits[y] wide, and its length from east to west will equal one of the tribal portions; the sanctuary will be in the center of it.[m]

9 "The special portion you are to offer to the LORD will be 25,000 cubits long
and 10,000 cubits[z] wide.[n] 10 This will be
the sacred portion for the priests. It will be 25,000 cubits long on the north side, 10,000 cubits wide on the west side, 10,000 cubits wide on the east side and 25,000 cubits long on the south side. In the center of it will be the sanctuary of
the LORD.[o] 11 This will be for the conse-
crated priests, the Zadokites,[p] who were faithful in serving me[q] and did not go astray as the Levites did when
the Israelites went astray.[r] 12 It will be a
special gift to them from the sacred portion of the land, a most holy portion, bordering the territory of the Levites.

13 "Alongside the territory of the priests, the Levites will have an allotment 25,000 cubits long and 10,000 cubits wide. Its total length will be 25,000 cubits and its width 10,000 cubits.[s]
14 They must not sell or exchange any of
it. This is the best of the land and must not pass into other hands, because it is holy to the LORD.[t]

15 "The remaining area, 5,000 cubits wide and 25,000 cubits long, will be for the common use of the city, for houses and for pastureland. The city will be in
the center of it 16 and will have these
measurements: the north side 4,500 cubits, the south side 4,500 cubits, the east side 4,500 cubits, and the west side
4,500 cubits.[u] 17 The pastureland for the
city will be 250 cubits on the north, 250 cubits on the south, 250 cubits on the east, and 250 cubits on the west.
18 What remains of the area, bordering
on the sacred portion and running the length of it, will be 10,000 cubits on the east side and 10,000 cubits on the west side. Its produce will supply food for
the workers of the city.[v] 19 The workers
from the city who farm it will come
from all the tribes of Israel. 20 The entire
portion will be a square, 25,000 cubits on each side. As a special gift you will set aside the sacred portion, along with the property of the city.

21 "What remains on both sides of the area formed by the sacred portion and the city property will belong to the prince. It will extend eastward from the 25,000 cubits of the sacred portion to the eastern border, and westward from the 25,000 cubits to the western border. Both these areas running the length of the tribal portions will belong to the prince, and the sacred portion with the temple sanctuary will be in the center
of them.[w] 22 So the property of the Le-
vites and the property of the city will lie in the center of the area that belongs to the prince. The area belonging to the prince will lie between the border of Judah and the border of Benjamin.

23 "As for the rest of the tribes: Benjamin[x] will have one portion; it will extend from the east side to the west side.

24 "Simeon[y] will have one portion; it will border the territory of Benjamin from east to west.

25 "Issachar[z] will have one portion; it will border the territory of Simeon from east to west.

26 "Zebulun[a] will have one portion; it will border the territory of Issachar from east to west.

27 "Gad[b] will have one portion; it will border the territory of Zebulun from east to west.

47:23 [a]S Dt 10:19
48:1 [b]S Ge 30:6 [c]Eze 47:15-17 [d]S Eze 47:20
48:2 [e]Jos 19:24-31
48:3 [f]Jos 19:32-39
48:4 [g]Jos 17:1-11
48:5 [h]Jos 16:5-9 [i]Jos 17:7-10 [j]Jos 17:17
48:6 [k]Jos 13:15-21
48:7 [l]Jos 15:1-63
48:8 [m]ver 21
48:9 [n]S Eze 45:1
48:10 [o]ver 21; S Eze 45:3-4
48:11 [p]S 2Sa 8:17 [q]S Lev 8:35 [r]Eze 14:11; S 44:15
48:13 [s]Eze 45:5
48:14 [t]S Lev 25:34; 27:10,28
48:16 [u]Rev 21:16
48:18 [v]Eze 45:6
48:21 [w]ver 8, 10; Eze 45:7
48:23 [x]Jos 18:11-28
48:24 [y]S Ge 29:33; Jos 19:1-9
48:25 [z]Jos 19:17-23
48:26 [a]Jos 19:10-16
48:27 [b]Jos 13:24-28

[x]1 Or *to the entrance to*
[y]8 That is, about 7 miles (about 12 kilometers)
[z]9 That is, about 3 miles (about 5 kilometers)

[28]"The southern boundary of Gad
will run south from Tamar[a] to the wa-
ters of Meribah Kadesh, then along the
Wadi of Egypt to the Great Sea.[a] [b]
[29]"This is the land you are to allot as
an inheritance to the tribes of Israel,
and these will be their portions," de-
clares the Sovereign LORD.[c]

The Gates of the City

[30]"These will be the exits of the city:
Beginning on the north side, which is
4,500 cubits long, [31]the gates of the city
will be named after the tribes of Israel.
The three gates on the north side will
be the gate of Reuben, the gate of
Judah and the gate of Levi.
[32]"On the east side, which is 4,500
cubits long, will be three gates: the gate
of Joseph, the gate of Benjamin and the
gate of Dan.
[33]"On the south side, which mea-
sures 4,500 cubits, will be three gates:
the gate of Simeon, the gate of Issachar
and the gate of Zebulun.
[34]"On the west side, which is 4,500
cubits long, will be three gates: the gate
of Gad, the gate of Asher and the gate
of Naphtali.[d]
[35]"The distance all around will be
18,000 cubits.
"And the name of the city from that
time on will be:

THE LORD IS THERE.[e]"

48:28 [a]S Ge 14:7 [b]S Nu 34:6; Eze 47:19 **48:29** [c]S Eze 45:1 **48:34** [d]S 2Ch 4:4; Rev 21:12-13 **48:35** [e]S Isa 12:6; S 24:23; S Jer 3:17; 14:9; Joel 3:21; Rev 3:12; S 21:3

[a]*28* That is, the Mediterranean

Daniel

Daniel's Training in Babylon

1 In the third year of the reign of
Jehoiakim[a] king of Judah, Nebu-
chadnezzar[b] king of Babylon[c] came to
Jerusalem and besieged it.[d] 2And the
Lord delivered Jehoiakim king of Judah
into his hand, along with some of the
articles from the temple of God. These
he carried[e] off to the temple of his god
in Babylonia[a] and put in the treasure
house of his god.[f]
3Then the king ordered Ashpenaz,
chief of his court officials, to bring in
some of the Israelites from the royal
family and the nobility[g]— 4young men
without any physical defect, hand-
some,[h] showing aptitude for every
kind of learning,[i] well informed, quick
to understand, and qualified to serve in
the king's palace. He was to teach them
the language[j] and literature of the Bab-
ylonians.[b] 5The king assigned them a
daily amount of food and wine[k] from
the king's table.[l] They were to be
trained for three years,[m] and after that
they were to enter the king's service.[n]
6Among these were some from
Judah: Daniel,[o] Hananiah, Mishael
and Azariah.[p] 7The chief official gave
them new names: to Daniel, the name
Belteshazzar;[q] to Hananiah, Shadrach;
to Mishael, Meshach; and to Azariah,
Abednego.[r]
8But Daniel resolved not to defile[s]
himself with the royal food and wine,
and he asked the chief official for per-
mission not to defile himself this way.
9Now God had caused the official to
show favor[t] and sympathy[u] to Daniel,
10but the official told Daniel, "I am
afraid of my lord the king, who has as-
signed your[c] food and drink.[v] Why
should he see you looking worse than
the other young men your age? The
king would then have my head because
of you."
11Daniel then said to the guard
whom the chief official had appointed
over Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and
Azariah, 12"Please test[w] your servants
for ten days: Give us nothing but vege-
tables to eat and water to drink. 13Then
compare our appearance with that of
the young men who eat the royal food,
and treat your servants in accordance
with what you see."[x] 14So he agreed to
this and tested[y] them for ten days.
15At the end of the ten days they
looked healthier and better nourished
than any of the young men who ate the
royal food.[z] 16So the guard took away
their choice food and the wine they
were to drink and gave them vegeta-
bles instead.[a]
17To these four young men God gave
knowledge and understanding[b] of all
kinds of literature and learning.[c] And
Daniel could understand visions and
dreams of all kinds.[d]
18At the end of the time[e] set by the
king to bring them in, the chief official
presented them to Nebuchadnezzar.
19The king talked with them, and he
found none equal to Daniel, Hananiah,
Mishael and Azariah; so they entered
the king's service.[f] 20In every matter of
wisdom and understanding about
which the king questioned them, he
found them ten times better than all
the magicians[g] and enchanters in his
whole kingdom.[h]
21And Daniel remained there until
the first year of King Cyrus.[i]

Nebuchadnezzar's Dream

2 In the second year of his reign,
Nebuchadnezzar had dreams;[j] his
mind was troubled[k] and he could not
sleep.[l] 2So the king summoned the
magicians,[m] enchanters, sorcerers[n]
and astrologers[d][o] to tell him what he
had dreamed.[p] When they came in and
stood before the king, 3he said to them,
"I have had a dream that troubles[q] me
and I want to know what it means.[e]"
4Then the astrologers answered the

1:1 aS Jer 46:2 bS 2Ki 24:1; S Jer 28:14 cJer 50:1 d2Ki 24:1; S 2Ch 36:6; Jer 35:11 **1:2** eS 2Ki 24:13 fS 2Ch 36:7; Jer 27:19-20; Zec 5:5-11 **1:3** gS 2Ki 20:18; S 24:15; Isa 39:7 **1:4** hS Ge 39:6 iver 17 jS Ezr 4:7 **1:5** kver 8,10 lS Est 2:9 mver 18 nver 19; S Est 2:5-6 **1:6** oS Eze 14:14 pDa 2:17,25 **1:7** qDa 2:26; 4:8; 5:12; 10:1 rS Isa 39:7; Da 2:49; 3:12 **1:8** sS Eze 4:13-14 **1:9** tS Ge 39:21; S Pr 16:7 uS 1Ki 8:50 **1:10** vver 5 **1:12** wRev 2:10 **1:13** xver 16 **1:14** yRev 2:10 **1:15** zEx 23:25 **1:16** aver 12-13 **1:17** bS Job 12:13 cDa 2:23; Col 1:9; Jas 1:5 dDa 2:19,30; 5:11; 7:1; 8:1 **1:18** ever 5 **1:19** fS Ge 41:46 **1:20** gS Ge 41:8 hS 1Ki 4:30; Est 2:15; S Eze 28:3; Da 2:13,28; 4:18; 6:3 **1:21** iS 2Ch 36:22; Da 6:28; 10:1 **2:1** jver 3; S Ge 20:3; S Job 33:15,18; Da 4:5 kGe 41:8 lS Est 6:1 **2:2** mS Ge 41:8 nEx 7:11; Jer 27:9 oS ver 10; S Isa 19:3; S 44:25 pDa 4:6 **2:3** qDa 4:5

a2 Hebrew *Shinar* b4 Or *Chaldeans* c10 The Hebrew for *your* and *you* in this verse is plural. d2 Or *Chaldeans*; also in verses 4, 5 and 10 e3 Or *was*

king in Aramaic,[f a] "O king, live for-
ever![g] Tell your servants the dream,
and we will interpret it."
5 The king replied to the astrologers,
"This is what I have firmly decided:[h] If
you do not tell me what my dream was
and interpret it, I will have you cut into
pieces[i] and your houses turned into
piles of rubble.[j] 6 But if you tell me the
dream and explain it, you will receive
from me gifts and rewards and great
honor.[k] So tell me the dream and inter-
pret it for me."
7 Once more they replied, "Let the
king tell his servants the dream, and
we will interpret it."
8 Then the king answered, "I am cer-
tain that you are trying to gain time,
because you realize that this is what I
have firmly decided: 9 If you do not tell
me the dream, there is just one pen-
alty[l] for you. You have conspired to
tell me misleading and wicked things,
hoping the situation will change. So
then, tell me the dream, and I will
know that you can interpret it for
me."[m]
10 The astrologers[n] answered the
king, "There is not a man on earth who
can do what the king asks! No king,
however great and mighty, has ever
asked such a thing of any magician or
enchanter or astrologer.[o] 11 What the
king asks is too difficult. No one can
reveal it to the king except the gods,[p]
and they do not live among men."
12 This made the king so angry and
furious[q] that he ordered the execu-
tion[r] of all the wise men of Babylon.
13 So the decree was issued to put the
wise men to death, and men were sent
to look for Daniel and his friends to put
them to death.[s]
14 When Arioch, the commander of
the king's guard, had gone out to put
to death the wise men of Babylon, Dan-
iel spoke to him with wisdom and tact.
15 He asked the king's officer, "Why did
the king issue such a harsh decree?"
Arioch then explained the matter to
Daniel. 16 At this, Daniel went in to the
king and asked for time, so that he
might interpret the dream for him.
17 Then Daniel returned to his house
and explained the matter to his friends
Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah.[t] 18 He
urged them to plead for mercy[u] from
the God of heaven[v] concerning this
mystery,[w] so that he and his friends
might not be executed with the rest of
the wise men of Babylon. 19 During the
night the mystery[x] was revealed to

2:4 f S Ezr 4:7 g S Ne 2:3
2:5 h S Ge 41:32 i ver 12 j Ezr 6:11; Da 3:29
2:6 k ver 48; Da 5:7,16
2:9 l S Est 4:11 m Isa 41:22-24
2:10 n ver 2; Da 3:8; 4:7 o ver 27; Da 5:8
2:11 p S Ge 41:39
2:12 q Da 3:13,19 r ver 5
2:13 s S Da 1:20; 5:19
2:17 t S Da 1:6
2:18 u S Isa 37:4 v Ezr 1:2; Ne 1:4; Jnh 1:9; Rev 11:13 w ver 23; Jer 33:3
2:19 x ver 28 y S Job 33:15; S Da 1:17 z S Jer 22:30
2:20 a S Ps 113:2; 145:1-2 b S Job 9:4; S Jer 32:19
2:21 c Da 7:25 d Da 4:17 e S Job 12:19; Ps 75:6-7; Ro 13:1 f S Ps 119:34; Jas 1:5 g S 2Sa 14:17
2:22 h S Ge 40:8; S Job 12:22; Da 5:11; 1Co 2:10 i Job 12:22; Ps 139:11-12; Jer 23:24; S Heb 4:13 j Isa 45:7; Jas 1:17
2:23 k S Ge 31:5; S Ex 3:15 l S Da 1:17 m S Est 28:3
2:24 n ver 14
2:25 o S Dt 21:10 p S Da 1:6; 5:13; 6:13
2:26 q S Da 1:7
2:27 r S ver 10; S Ge 41:8
2:28 s S Ge 40:8; Jer 10:7; Am 4:13 t S Ge 49:1; Da 10:14; Mt 24:6; Rev 1:1 u S Da 4:5
2:29 v S Ge 41:25
2:30 w Isa 45:3; S Da 1:17; Am 4:13

Daniel in a vision.[y] Then Daniel
praised the God of heaven[z] 20 and said:

"Praise be to the name of God for
ever and ever;[a]
wisdom and power[b] are his.
21 He changes times and seasons;[c]
he sets up kings[d] and deposes[e]
them.
He gives wisdom[f] to the wise
and knowledge to the discerning.[g]
22 He reveals deep and hidden things;[h]
he knows what lies in darkness,[i]
and light[j] dwells with him.
23 I thank and praise you, O God of my
fathers:[k]
You have given me wisdom[l] and
power,
you have made known to me what
we asked of you,
you have made known to us the
dream of the king."[m]

Daniel Interprets the Dream

24 Then Daniel went to Arioch,[n]
whom the king had appointed to exe-
cute the wise men of Babylon, and said
to him, "Do not execute the wise men
of Babylon. Take me to the king, and I
will interpret his dream for him."
25 Arioch took Daniel to the king at
once and said, "I have found a man
among the exiles[o] from Judah[p] who
can tell the king what his dream
means."
26 The king asked Daniel (also called
Belteshazzar),[q] "Are you able to tell
me what I saw in my dream and inter-
pret it?"
27 Daniel replied, "No wise man, en-
chanter, magician or diviner can ex-
plain to the king the mystery he has
asked about,[r] 28 but there is a God in
heaven who reveals mysteries.[s] He
has shown King Nebuchadnezzar what
will happen in days to come.[t] Your
dream and the visions that passed
through your mind[u] as you lay on your
bed[v] are these:[w]
29 "As you were lying there, O king,
your mind turned to things to come,
and the revealer of mysteries showed
you what is going to happen.[x] 30 As for
me, this mystery has been revealed[y] to
me, not because I have greater wisdom
than other living men, but so that you,
O king, may know the interpretation
and that you may understand what
went through your mind.
31 "You looked, O king, and there be-

a 4 The text from here through chapter 7 is in Aramaic.

fore you stood a large statue—an enor-
mous, dazzling statue,[a] awesome[b] in
appearance. 32The head of the statue
was made of pure gold, its chest and
arms of silver, its belly and thighs of
bronze, 33its legs of iron, its feet partly
of iron and partly of baked clay.
34While you were watching, a rock was
cut out, but not by human hands.[c] It
struck the statue on its feet of iron and
clay and smashed[d] them.[e] 35Then the
iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver
and the gold were broken to pieces at
the same time and became like chaff on
a threshing floor in the summer. The
wind swept them away[f] without leav-
ing a trace. But the rock that struck the
statue became a huge mountain[g] and
filled the whole earth.[h]

36"This was the dream, and now we
will interpret it to the king.[i] 37You, O
king, are the king of kings.[j] The God
of heaven has given you dominion[k]
and power and might and glory; 38in
your hands he has placed mankind and
the beasts of the field and the birds of
the air. Wherever they live, he has
made you ruler over them all.[l] You are
that head of gold.

39"After you, another kingdom will
rise, inferior to yours. Next, a third
kingdom, one of bronze, will rule over
the whole earth.[m] 40Finally, there will
be a fourth kingdom, strong as iron—
for iron breaks and smashes every-
thing—and as iron breaks things to
pieces, so it will crush and break all the
others.[n] 41Just as you saw that the feet
and toes were partly of baked clay and
partly of iron, so this will be a divided
kingdom; yet it will have some of the
strength of iron in it, even as you saw
iron mixed with clay. 42As the toes
were partly iron and partly clay, so this
kingdom will be partly strong and part-
ly brittle. 43And just as you saw the
iron mixed with baked clay, so the
people will be a mixture and will not
remain united, any more than iron
mixes with clay.

44"In the time of those kings, the
God of heaven will set up a kingdom
that will never be destroyed, nor will it
be left to another people. It will crush[o]
all those kingdoms[p] and bring them to
an end, but it will itself endure for-
ever.[q] 45This is the meaning of the vi-
sion of the rock[r] cut out of a mountain,
but not by human hands[s]—a rock that
broke the iron, the bronze, the clay, the
silver and the gold to pieces.

"The great God has shown the king
what will take place in the future.[t] The
dream is true[u] and the interpretation is
trustworthy."

46Then King Nebuchadnezzar fell
prostrate[v] before Daniel and paid him
honor and ordered that an offering[w]
and incense be presented to him. 47The
king said to Daniel, "Surely your God
is the God of gods[x] and the Lord of
kings[y] and a revealer of mysteries,[z] for
you were able to reveal this mystery.[a]"

48Then the king placed Daniel in a
high[b] position and lavished many gifts
on him. He made him ruler over the
entire province of Babylon and placed
him in charge of all its wise men.[c]
49Moreover, at Daniel's request the
king appointed Shadrach, Meshach
and Abednego administrators over the
province of Babylon,[d] while Daniel
himself remained at the royal court.[e]

The Image of Gold and the Fiery Furnace

3 King Nebuchadnezzar made an im-
age[f] of gold, ninety feet high and
nine feet[g] wide, and set it up on the
plain of Dura in the province of Bab-
ylon. 2He then summoned the sa-
traps,[g] prefects, governors, advisers,
treasurers, judges, magistrates and all
the other provincial officials[h] to come
to the dedication of the image he had
set up. 3So the satraps, prefects, gover-
nors, advisers, treasurers, judges,
magistrates and all the other provincial
officials assembled for the dedication of
the image that King Nebuchadnezzar
had set up, and they stood before it.

4Then the herald loudly proclaimed,
"This is what you are commanded to
do, O peoples, nations and men of
every language:[i] 5As soon as you hear
the sound of the horn, flute, zither,
lyre, harp,[j] pipes and all kinds of mu-
sic, you must fall down and worship
the image[k] of gold that King Nebu-
chadnezzar has set up.[l] 6Whoever
does not fall down and worship will
immediately be thrown into a blazing
furnace."[m]

7Therefore, as soon as they heard the
sound of the horn, flute, zither, lyre,
harp and all kinds of music, all the peo-
ples, nations and men of every lan-
guage fell down and worshiped the im-
age of gold that King Nebuchadnezzar
had set up.[n]

8At this time some astrologers[h][o]

[g]1 Aramaic *sixty cubits high and six cubits wide* (about 27 meters high and 2.7 meters wide) [h]8 Or *Chaldeans*

2:31 [a]Hab 1:7 [b]Isa 25:3-5
2:34 [c]S Job 12:19; Zec 4:6 [d]S Job 34:24 [e]ver 44-45; Ps 2:9; S Isa 60:12; Da 8:25
2:35 [f]Ps 1:4; 37:10; S Isa 17:13; 41:15-16 [g]Isa 2:3; Mic 4:1 [h]Zec 12:3
2:36 [i]S Ge 40:12
2:37 [j]S Ezr 7:12 [k]S Jer 27:7; Da 4:26
2:38 [l]S Jer 27:6; Da 4:21-22; 5:18
2:39 [m]Da 7:5
2:40 [n]Da 7:7,23
2:44 [o]S Ge 27:29; Ps 2:9; S 110:5; Mt 21:43-44; 1Co 15:24 [p]S 1Sa 9:20; Hag 2:22 [q]Ps 145:13; S Isa 9:7; Da 4:34; 6:26; 7:14,27; Ob 1:21; Mic 4:7,13; S Lk 1:33; Rev 11:15
2:45 [r]S Isa 28:16 [s]Da 8:25 [t]S Ge 41:25 [u]Rev 22:6
2:46 [v]Da 8:17; Ac 10:25 [w]Ac 14:13
2:47 [x]S Dt 10:17; Da 11:36 [y]Da 4:25; 1Ti 6:15 [z]S ver 22,28 [a]Da 4:9; 1Co 14:25
2:48 [b]S 2Ki 25:28 [c]S ver 6; S Est 8:2; S Da 1:20; 4:9; 5:11; 8:27
2:49 [d]S Da 1:7; 3:30 [e]Da 6:2
3:1 [f]ver 14; S Isa 46:6; Jer 16:20; Hab 2:19
3:2 [g]S Est 1:1 [h]ver 27; Da 6:7
3:4 [i]Da 4:1; 6:25; Rev 10:11
3:5 [j]S Ge 4:21 [k]Rev 13:12 [l]ver 10,15
3:6 [m]ver 11,15, 21; Jer 29:22; Da 5:19; 6:7; Mt 13:42,50; Rev 13:15
3:7 [n]S ver 5
3:8 [o]S Isa 19:3; S Da 2:10

came forward and denounced the
Jews. 9They said to King Nebuchadnez-
zar, "O king, live forever![e] 10You have
issued a decree,[f] O king, that every-
one who hears the sound of the horn,
flute, zither, lyre, harp, pipes and all
kinds of music must fall down and
worship the image of gold,[g] 11and that
whoever does not fall down and wor-
ship will be thrown into a blazing fur-
nace. 12But there are some Jews whom
you have set over the affairs of the
province of Babylon—Shadrach, Me-
shach and Abednego[h]—who pay no
attention[i] to you, O king. They neither
serve your gods nor worship the image
of gold you have set up."[j]
13Furious[k] with rage, Nebuchadnez-
zar summoned Shadrach, Meshach
and Abednego. So these men were
brought before the king, 14and Nebu-
chadnezzar said to them, "Is it true,
Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego,
that you do not serve my gods[l] or wor-
ship the image[m] of gold I have set up?
15Now when you hear the sound of the
horn, flute, zither, lyre, harp, pipes
and all kinds of music, if you are ready
to fall down and worship the image I
made, very good. But if you do not
worship it, you will be thrown immedi-
ately into a blazing furnace. Then what
god[n] will be able to rescue[o] you from
my hand?"
16Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-
nego[p] replied to the king, "O Nebu-
chadnezzar, we do not need to defend
ourselves before you in this matter. 17If
we are thrown into the blazing furnace,
the God we serve is able to save[q] us
from it, and he will rescue[r] us from
your hand, O king. 18But even if he
does not, we want you to know, O
king, that we will not serve your gods
or worship the image of gold you have
set up.[s]"
19Then Nebuchadnezzar was furious
with Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-
nego, and his attitude toward them
changed. He ordered the furnace heat-
ed seven[t] times hotter than usual
20and commanded some of the strong-
est soldiers in his army to tie up Sha-
drach, Meshach and Abednego[u] and
throw them into the blazing furnace.
21So these men, wearing their robes,
trousers, turbans and other clothes,
were bound and thrown into the blaz-
ing furnace. 22The king's command was
so urgent and the furnace so hot that
the flames of the fire killed the soldiers
who took up Shadrach, Meshach and

3:9 e S 1Ki 1:31; Da 5:10; 6:6
3:10 f Da 6:12 g ver 4-6
3:12 h S Da 2:49 i Da 6:13 j S Est 3:3
3:13 k S Da 2:12
3:14 l Isa 46:1; Jer 50:2 m S ver 1
3:15 n S Isa 36:18-20 o S 2Ch 32:15
3:16 p S Da 1:7
3:17 q S Ge 48:16; S Ps 18:48; 27:1-2 r S Job 5:19; Jer 1:8; Da 6:20
3:18 s ver 28; S Ex 1:17; S Jos 24:15
3:19 t Lev 26:18-28
3:20 u S Da 1:7
3:22 v S Da 1:7
3:26 w Da 4:2,34
3:27 x ver 2; Da 6:7 y Ps 91:3-11; S Isa 43:2; Heb 11:32-34 z Da 6:23
3:28 a S Ps 34:7; Da 6:22; Ac 5:19 b S Ps 97:10; Ac 12:11 c S Dt 31:26; S Job 13:15; S Ps 26:1; 84:12 d S ver 18
3:29 e Da 6:26 f S Ezr 6:11 g Da 6:27
3:30 h S Da 2:49
4:1 i S Da 3:4 j Da 6:25
4:2 k Ps 74:9 l S Da 3:26
4:3 m S Ps 105:27; Da 6:27 n Da 2:44

Abednego,[v] 23and these three men,
firmly tied, fell into the blazing fur-
nace.
24Then King Nebuchadnezzar leaped
to his feet in amazement and asked his
advisers, "Weren't there three men
that we tied up and threw into the
fire?"
They replied, "Certainly, O king."
25He said, "Look! I see four men
walking around in the fire, unbound
and unharmed, and the fourth looks
like a son of the gods."
26Nebuchadnezzar then approached
the opening of the blazing furnace and
shouted, "Shadrach, Meshach and
Abednego, servants of the Most High
God,[w] come out! Come here!"
So Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-
nego came out of the fire, 27and the sa-
traps, prefects, governors and royal ad-
visers[x] crowded around them.[y] They
saw that the fire[z] had not harmed their
bodies, nor was a hair of their heads
singed; their robes were not scorched,
and there was no smell of fire on them.
28Then Nebuchadnezzar said,
"Praise be to the God of Shadrach, Me-
shach and Abednego, who has sent his
angel[a] and rescued[b] his servants! They
trusted[c] in him and defied the king's
command and were willing to give up
their lives rather than serve or worship
any god except their own God.[d]
29Therefore I decree[e] that the people of
any nation or language who say any-
thing against the God of Shadrach, Me-
shach and Abednego be cut into pieces
and their houses be turned into piles of
rubble,[f] for no other god can save[g] in
this way."
30Then the king promoted Shadrach,
Meshach and Abednego in the prov-
ince of Babylon.[h]

Nebuchadnezzar's Dream of a Tree

4 King Nebuchadnezzar,
To the peoples, nations and
men of every language,[i] who live
in all the world:

May you prosper greatly![j]

2It is my pleasure to tell you
about the miraculous signs[k] and
wonders that the Most High God[l]
has performed for me.

3How great are his signs,
how mighty his wonders![m]
His kingdom is an eternal kingdom;[n]
his dominion endures[o] from
generation to generation.

4 I, Nebuchadnezzar, was at
home in my palace, contented[a]
and prosperous. 5 I had a dream[b]
that made me afraid. As I was lying
in my bed,[c] the images and visions
that passed through my mind[d] ter-
rified me.[e] 6 So I commanded that
all the wise men of Babylon be
brought before me to interpret[f] the
dream for me. 7 When the magi-
cians,[g] enchanters, astrologers[i]
and diviners[h] came, I told them the
dream, but they could not interpret
it for me.[i] 8 Finally, Daniel came
into my presence and I told him the
dream. (He is called Belteshazzar,[j]
after the name of my god, and the
spirit of the holy gods[k] is in him.)
9 I said, "Belteshazzar, chief[l] of
the magicians, I know that the
spirit of the holy gods[m] is in you,
and no mystery is too difficult for
you. Here is my dream; interpret it
for me. 10 These are the visions I
saw while lying in my bed:[n] I
looked, and there before me stood
a tree in the middle of the land. Its
height was enormous.[o] 11 The tree
grew large and strong and its top
touched the sky; it was visible to
the ends of the earth.[p] 12 Its leaves
were beautiful, its fruit abundant,
and on it was food for all. Under it
the beasts of the field found shel-
ter, and the birds of the air lived in
its branches;[q] from it every crea-
ture was fed.
13 "In the visions I saw while ly-
ing in my bed,[r] I looked, and there
before me was a messenger,[j] a
holy one,[s] coming down from
heaven. 14 He called in a loud voice:
'Cut down the tree[t] and trim off its
branches; strip off its leaves and
scatter its fruit. Let the animals flee
from under it and the birds from its
branches.[u] 15 But let the stump and
its roots, bound with iron and
bronze, remain in the ground, in
the grass of the field.
"'Let him be drenched with the
dew of heaven, and let him live
with the animals among the plants
of the earth. 16 Let his mind be
changed from that of a man and let
him be given the mind of an ani-
mal, till seven times[k] pass by for
him.[v]
17 "'The decision is announced
by messengers, the holy ones de-
clare the verdict, so that the living
may know that the Most High[w] is
sovereign[x] over the kingdoms of
men and gives them to anyone he
wishes and sets over them the
lowliest[y] of men.'
18 "This is the dream that I, King
Nebuchadnezzar, had. Now, Belte-
shazzar, tell me what it means, for
none of the wise men in my king-
dom can interpret it for me.[z] But
you can,[a] because the spirit of the
holy gods[b] is in you."[c]

Daniel Interprets the Dream

19 Then Daniel (also called Belte-
shazzar) was greatly perplexed for
a time, and his thoughts terrified[d]
him. So the king said, "Beltesha-
zar, do not let the dream or its
meaning alarm you."[e]
Belteshazzar answered, "My
lord, if only the dream applied to
your enemies and its meaning to
your adversaries! 20 The tree you
saw, which grew large and strong,
with its top touching the sky, visi-
ble to the whole earth, 21 with
beautiful leaves and abundant
fruit, providing food for all, giving
shelter to the beasts of the field,
and having nesting places in its
branches for the birds of the air[f] —
22 you, O king, are that tree![g] You
have become great and strong;
your greatness has grown until it
reaches the sky, and your domin-
ion extends to distant parts of the
earth.[h]
23 "You, O king, saw a messen-
ger, a holy one,[i] coming down
from heaven and saying, 'Cut
down the tree and destroy it, but
leave the stump, bound with iron
and bronze, in the grass of the
field, while its roots remain in the
ground. Let him be drenched with
the dew of heaven; let him live like
the wild animals, until seven times
pass by for him.'[j] [k]
24 "This is the interpretation, O
king, and this is the decree[l] the
Most High has issued against my
lord the king: 25 You will be driven
away from people and will live
with the wild animals; you will eat
grass like cattle and be drenched[m]
with the dew of heaven. Seven
times will pass by for you until you
acknowledge that the Most High[n]
is sovereign over the kingdoms of

4:4 [a]Ps 30:6; S Isa 32:9
4:5 [b]S Da 2:1 [c]Ps 4:4 [d]Da 2:28 [e]ver 19; S Ge 41:8; S Job 3:26; Da 2:3; 5:6
4:6 [f]Da 2:2
4:7 [g]S Ge 41:8 [h]S Isa 44:25; S Da 2:2 [i]S Da 2:10
4:8 [j]S Da 1:7 [k]S Ge 41:38
4:9 [l]Da 2:48 [m]Da 5:11-12
4:10 [n]S ver 5; Ps 4:4 [o]Eze 31:3-4
4:11 [p]S Eze 19:11; 31:5
4:12 [q]S Eze 17:23; S Mt 13:32
4:13 [r]ver 10; Da 7:1 [s]S ver 23; S Dt 33:2
4:14 [t]S Job 24:20 [u]S Eze 31:12; S Mt 3:10
4:16 [v]ver 23,32
4:17 [w]ver 2,25; Ps 83:18 [x]S Ps 103:19; Jer 27:5-7; Da 2:21; 5:18-21; Ro 13:1 [y]Da 11:21; Mt 23:12
4:18 [z]S Ge 41:8; Da 5:8,15 [a]S Ge 41:15 [b]S Ge 41:38 [c]ver 7-9; S Da 1:20
4:19 [d]S ver 5; S Ge 41:8; Da 7:15,28; 8:27; 10:16-17 [e]S Ge 40:12
4:21 [f]S Eze 31:6
4:22 [g]S 2Sa 12:7 [h]Jer 27:7; Da 5:18-19
4:23 [i]ver 13; Da 8:13 [j]Da 5:21 [k]S Eze 31:3-4
4:24 [l]Job 40:12; Ps 107:40; Jer 40:2
4:25 [m]S Job 24:8 [n]S ver 17

[i]7 Or *Chaldeans* [j]13 Or *watchman;* also in verses 17 and 23 [k]16 Or *years;* also in verses 23, 25 and 32

men and gives them to anyone he
wishes.[a] 26The command to leave
the stump of the tree with its
roots[b] means that your kingdom
will be restored to you when you
acknowledge that Heaven rules.[c]
27Therefore, O king, be pleased to
accept my advice: Renounce your
sins by doing what is right, and
your wickedness by being kind to
the oppressed.[d] It may be that then
your prosperity[e] will continue.[f]"

The Dream Is Fulfilled

28All this happened[g] to King
Nebuchadnezzar. 29Twelve months
later, as the king was walking on
the roof of the royal palace of Bab-
ylon, 30he said, "Is not this the
great Babylon I have built as the
royal residence, by my mighty
power and for the glory[h] of my
majesty?"[i]

31The words were still on his lips
when a voice came from heaven,
"This is what is decreed for you,
King Nebuchadnezzar: Your royal
authority has been taken from
you.[j] 32You will be driven away
from people and will live with the
wild animals; you will eat grass like
cattle. Seven times will pass by for
you until you acknowledge that the
Most High is sovereign over the
kingdoms of men and gives them
to anyone he wishes."[k]

33Immediately what had been
said about Nebuchadnezzar was
fulfilled. He was driven away from
people and ate grass like cattle. His
body was drenched[l] with the dew
of heaven until his hair grew like
the feathers of an eagle and his
nails like the claws of a bird.[m]

34At the end of that time, I,
Nebuchadnezzar, raised my eyes
toward heaven, and my sanity[n]
was restored. Then I praised the
Most High; I honored and glorified
him who lives forever.[o]

His dominion is an eternal
dominion;
his kingdom[p] endures from
generation to generation.[q]
35All the peoples of the earth
are regarded as nothing.[r]
He does as he pleases[s]
with the powers of heaven
and the peoples of the earth.
No one can hold back[t] his
hand[u]
or say to him: "What have you
done?"[v]

36At the same time that my sanity
was restored, my honor and splen-
dor were returned to me for the
glory of my kingdom.[w] My advis-
ers and nobles sought me out, and
I was restored to my throne and
became even greater than before.
37Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise
and exalt[x] and glorify[y] the King of
heaven, because everything he
does is right and all his ways are
just.[z] And those who walk in
pride[a] he is able to humble.[b]

The Writing on the Wall

5 King Belshazzar[c] gave a great ban-
quet[d] for a thousand of his nobles[e]
and drank wine with them. 2While Bel-
shazzar was drinking[f] his wine, he
gave orders to bring in the gold and
silver goblets[g] that Nebuchadnezzar
his father[l] had taken from the temple
in Jerusalem, so that the king and his
nobles, his wives and his concubines[h]
might drink from them.[i] 3So they
brought in the gold goblets that had
been taken from the temple of God in
Jerusalem, and the king and his nobles,
his wives and his concubines drank
from them. 4As they drank the wine,
they praised the gods[j] of gold and sil-
ver, of bronze, iron, wood and stone.[k]

5Suddenly the fingers of a human
hand appeared and wrote on the plas-
ter of the wall, near the lampstand in
the royal palace. The king watched the
hand as it wrote. 6His face turned pale[l]
and he was so frightened[m] that his
knees knocked[n] together and his legs
gave way.[o]

7The king called out for the enchant-
ers,[p] astrologers[m][q] and diviners[r] to be
brought and said to these wise[s] men of
Babylon, "Whoever reads this writing
and tells me what it means will be
clothed in purple and have a gold chain
placed around his neck,[t] and he will
be made the third[u] highest ruler in the
kingdom."[v]

8Then all the king's wise men[w] came
in, but they could not read the writing
or tell the king what it meant.[x] 9So
King Belshazzar became even more ter-
rified[y] and his face grew more pale.
His nobles were baffled.

10The queen,[n] hearing the voices of

4:25 [a]Jer 27:5; S Da 2:47; 5:21 **4:26** [b]ver 15 [c]S Da 2:37 **4:27** [d]Isa 55:6-7 [e]Jer 29:7 [f]S Dt 24:13; 1Ki 21:29; S Ps 41:3; S Pr 28:13; S Eze 18:22 **4:28** [g]Nu 23:19 **4:30** [h]Isa 13:19 [i]S Isa 10:13; S 37:24-25; Da 5:20; Hab 1:11; 2:4 **4:31** [j]S 2Sa 22:28; Da 5:20 **4:32** [k]S Job 9:12 **4:33** [l]S Job 24:8 [m]Da 5:20-21 **4:34** [n]S Job 12:20 [o]Da 12:7 [p]Isa 37:16 [q]Ps 145:13; S Da 2:44; 5:21; 6:26; Lk 1:33 **4:35** [r]S Isa 40:17 [s]Dt 21:8; Ps 115:3; S 135:6; Jnh 1:14 [t]S Isa 14:27 [u]S Dt 32:39 [v]S Job 9:4; S Isa 14:24; S 45:9; Da 5:21; Ro 9:20 **4:36** [w]S Pr 22:4; Da 5:18 **4:37** [x]S Ex 15:2 [y]S Ps 34:3 [z]Dt 32:4; Ps 33:4-5 [a]Ps 18:27; S 119:21 [b]S Job 31:4; 40:11-12; S Isa 13:11; Da 5:23; Mt 23:12 **5:1** [c]ver 30; Da 7:1; 8:1 [d]S 1Ki 3:15 [e]Jer 50:35 **5:2** [f]S Isa 21:5 [g]S 2Ki 24:13; S 2Ch 36:10; S Jer 52:19 [h]S Est 2:14 [i]S Est 1:7; Da 1:2 **5:4** [j]Jdg 16:24 [k]S Est 1:10; Ps 135:15-18; Hab 2:19; Rev 9:20 **5:6** [l]S Job 4:15 [m]S Da 4:5 [n]S Isa 7:2 [o]S Ps 22:14; Eze 7:17 **5:7** [p]S Ge 41:8 [q]S Isa 19:3 [r]Isa 44:25 [s]Jer 50:35; Da 4:6-7 [t]S Ge 41:42 [u]Est 10:3 [v]Da 2:5-6,48 **5:8** [w]S Ex 8:18 [x]S Da 2:10; S 4:18 **5:9** [y]S Ps 48:5; S Isa 21:4

l2 Or *ancestor;* or *predecessor;* also in verses 11, 13 and 18 m7 Or *Chaldeans;* also in verse 11 n10 Or *queen mother*

the king and his nobles, came into the banquet hall. "O king, live forever!"[a] she said. "Don't be alarmed! Don't look so pale! 11There is a man in your kingdom who has the spirit of the holy gods[b] in him. In the time of your father he was found to have insight and intelligence and wisdom[c] like that of the gods.[d] King Nebuchadnezzar your father—your father the king, I say—appointed him chief of the magicians, enchanters, astrologers and diviners.[e] 12This man Daniel, whom the king called Belteshazzar,[f] was found to have a keen mind and knowledge and understanding, and also the ability to interpret dreams, explain riddles[g] and solve difficult problems.[h] Call for Daniel, and he will tell you what the writing means.[i]"

13So Daniel was brought before the king, and the king said to him, "Are you Daniel, one of the exiles my father the king brought from Judah?[j] 14I have heard that the spirit of the gods[k] is in you and that you have insight, intelligence and outstanding wisdom.[l] 15The wise men and enchanters were brought before me to read this writing and tell me what it means, but they could not explain it.[m] 16Now I have heard that you are able to give interpretations and to solve difficult problems.[n] If you can read this writing and tell me what it means, you will be clothed in purple and have a gold chain placed around your neck,[o] and you will be made the third highest ruler in the kingdom."[p]

17Then Daniel answered the king, "You may keep your gifts for yourself and give your rewards to someone else.[q] Nevertheless, I will read the writing for the king and tell him what it means.

18"O king, the Most High God gave your father Nebuchadnezzar[r] sovereignty and greatness and glory and splendor.[s] 19Because of the high position he gave him, all the peoples and nations and men of every language dreaded and feared him. Those the king wanted to put to death, he put to death;[t] those he wanted to spare, he spared; those he wanted to promote, he promoted; and those he wanted to humble, he humbled.[u] 20But when his heart became arrogant and hardened with pride,[v] he was deposed from his royal throne[w] and stripped[x] of his glory.[y] 21He was driven away from people and given the mind of an animal; he lived with the wild donkeys and ate grass like cattle; and his body was drenched with the dew of heaven, until he acknowledged that the Most High God is sovereign[z] over the kingdoms of men and sets over them anyone he wishes.[a]

22"But you his son,[o] O Belshazzar, have not humbled[b] yourself, though you knew all this. 23Instead, you have set yourself up against[c] the Lord of heaven. You had the goblets from his temple brought to you, and you and your nobles, your wives[d] and your concubines drank wine from them. You praised the gods of silver and gold, of bronze, iron, wood and stone, which cannot see or hear or understand.[e] But you did not honor the God who holds in his hand your life[f] and all your ways.[g] 24Therefore he sent the hand that wrote the inscription.

25"This is the inscription that was written:

MENE, MENE, TEKEL, PARSIN[p]

26"This is what these words mean:

Mene[q]: God has numbered the days[h] of your reign and brought it to an end.[i]

27*Tekel*[r]: You have been weighed on the scales[j] and found wanting.[k]

28*Peres*[s]: Your kingdom is divided and given to the Medes[l] and Persians."[m]

29Then at Belshazzar's command, Daniel was clothed in purple, a gold chain was placed around his neck,[n] and he was proclaimed the third highest ruler in the kingdom.[o]

30That very night Belshazzar,[p] king[q] of the Babylonians,[t] was slain,[r] 31and Darius[s] the Mede[t] took over the kingdom, at the age of sixty-two.

Daniel in the Den of Lions

6 It pleased Darius[u] to appoint 120 satraps[v] to rule throughout the kingdom, 2with three administrators over them, one of whom was Daniel.[w] The satraps were made accountable[x] to them so that the king might not suffer loss. 3Now Daniel so distinguished himself among the administrators and the satraps by his exceptional qualities that the king planned to set him over

5:10 [a]S Ne 2:3; S Da 3:9
5:11 [b]S Ge 41:38 [c]ver 14; S Da 1:17 [d]S Da 2:22 [e]Da 2:47-48
5:12 [f]S Da 1:7 [g]S Nu 12:8 [h]ver 14-16; Da 6:3 [i]S Eze 28:3
5:13 [j]S Est 2:5-6; Da 6:13
5:14 [k]S Ge 41:38 [l]S Da 2:22
5:15 [m]S Da 4:18
5:16 [n]S Ge 41:15 [o]S Ge 41:42 [p]S Est 5:3; S Da 2:6
5:17 [q]S 2Ki 5:16
5:18 [r]S Jer 28:14 [s]S Jer 27:7; S Da 2:37-38; S 4:36
5:19 [t]Da 2:12-13; S 3:6 [u]S Da 4:22
5:20 [v]Da 4:30 [w]Jer 43:10 [x]Jer 13:18; S Da 4:31 [y]S Job 40:12; Isa 14:13-15; Eze 31:10-11; Da 8:8
5:21 [z]S Eze 17:24 [a]Da 4:16-17,35
5:22 [b]S Ex 10:3
5:23 [c]S Isa 14:13; S Jer 50:29 [d]Jer 44:9 [e]Ps 115:4-8; Hab 2:19; Rev 9:20 [f]Job 12:10; Ac 17:28 [g]S Job 31:4; S Isa 13:11; Jer 10:23; S 48:26
5:26 [h]Jer 27:7 [i]Isa 13:6
5:27 [j]S Job 6:2 [k]Ps 62:9
5:28 [l]Isa 13:17 [m]S Jer 27:7; 50:41-43; Da 6:28
5:29 [n]S Ge 41:42 [o]S Da 2:6
5:30 [p]S ver 1 [q]Jer 50:35 [r]S Isa 21:9; S Jer 51:31
5:31 [s]Jer 50:41; Da 6:1; 9:1; 11:1 [t]S Isa 13:3
6:1 [u]S Da 5:31 [v]S Est 1:1
6:2 [w]Da 2:48-49 [x]Ezr 4:22

[o]22 Or *descendant*; or *successor* [p]25 Aramaic *UPARSIN* (that is, *AND PARSIN*) [q]26 *Mene* can mean *numbered* or *mina* (a unit of money). [r]27 *Tekel* can mean *weighed* or *shekel*. [s]28 *Peres* (the singular of *Parsin*) can mean *divided* or *Persia* or *a half mina* or *a half shekel*. [t]30 Or *Chaldeans*

the whole kingdom.[a] 4 At this, the ad-
ministrators and the satraps tried to
find grounds for charges[b] against Dan-
iel in his conduct of government af-
fairs, but they were unable to do so.
They could find no corruption in him,
because he was trustworthy and
neither corrupt nor negligent. 5 Finally
these men said, "We will never find
any basis for charges against this man
Daniel unless it has something to do
with the law of his God."[c]

6 So the administrators and the sa-
traps went as a group to the king and
said: "O King Darius, live forever![d]
7 The royal administrators, prefects, sa-
traps, advisers and governors[e] have all
agreed that the king should issue an
edict and enforce the decree that any-
one who prays to any god or man dur-
ing the next thirty days, except to you,
O king, shall be thrown into the lions'
den.[f] 8 Now, O king, issue the decree
and put it in writing so that it cannot be
altered—in accordance with the laws of
the Medes and Persians, which cannot
be repealed."[g] 9 So King Darius put the
decree in writing.

10 Now when Daniel learned that the
decree had been published, he went
home to his upstairs room where the
windows opened toward[h] Jerusalem.
Three times a day he got down on his
knees[i] and prayed, giving thanks to
his God, just as he had done before.[j]
11 Then these men went as a group and
found Daniel praying and asking God
for help.[k] 12 So they went to the king
and spoke to him about his royal de-
cree: "Did you not publish a decree
that during the next thirty days anyone
who prays to any god or man except to
you, O king, would be thrown into the
lions' den?"

The king answered, "The decree
stands—in accordance with the laws of
the Medes and Persians, which cannot
be repealed."[l]

13 Then they said to the king, "Daniel,
who is one of the exiles from Judah,[m]
pays no attention[n] to you, O king, or
to the decree you put in writing. He
still prays three times a day." 14 When
the king heard this, he was greatly dis-
tressed;[o] he was determined to rescue
Daniel and made every effort until sun-
down to save him.

15 Then the men went as a group to
the king and said to him, "Remember,
O king, that according to the law of the
Medes and Persians no decree or edict
that the king issues can be changed."[p]

6:3 [a]S Ge 41:41; S Est 10:3; S Da 1:20; 5:12-14
6:4 [b]Jer 20:10
6:5 [c]Ac 24:13-16
6:6 [d]S Ne 2:3
6:7 [e]S Da 3:2 [f]Ps 59:3; 64:2-6; S Da 3:6
6:8 [g]S Est 1:19
6:10 [h]S 1Ki 8:29 [i]Ps 95:6 [j]Mt 6:6; Ac 5:29
6:11 [k]1Ki 8:48-50; Ps 55:17; 1Th 5:17-18
6:12 [l]S Est 1:19; Da 3:8-12
6:13 [m]S Eze 14:14; Da 2:25 [n]S Est 3:8
6:14 [o]Mk 6:26
6:15 [p]S Est 8:8
6:16 [q]S ver 7 [r]S Job 5:19; Ps 37:39-40; S 97:10
6:17 [s]Mt 27:66
6:18 [t]S 2Sa 12:17; Da 10:3 [u]S Est 6:1
6:20 [v]S Da 3:17
6:21 [w]S Ne 2:3; Da 3:9
6:22 [x]S Ge 32:1; S Da 3:28 [y]ver 27; Ps 91:11-13; Heb 11:33 [z]Ac 12:11; 2Ti 4:17
6:23 [a]Da 3:27 [b]S 1Ch 5:20; S Isa 12:2
6:24 [c]Dt 19:18-19; Est 7:9-10; Ps 54:5 [d]Dt 24:16; 2Ki 14:6 [e]S Isa 38:13
6:25 [f]S Da 3:4 [g]Da 4:1
6:26 [h]S Ps 5:7 [i]S Est 8:17; Ps 99:1-3; Da 3:29 [j]S Jos 2:11; S 3:10 [k]S Jer 10:10; Da 12:7; Rev 1:18 [l]S Da 2:44
6:27 [m]Da 3:29 [n]S Da 4:3 [o]S ver 22

16 So the king gave the order, and
they brought Daniel and threw him
into the lions' den.[q] The king said to
Daniel, "May your God, whom you
serve continually, rescue[r] you!"

17 A stone was brought and placed
over the mouth of the den, and the
king sealed[s] it with his own signet ring
and with the rings of his nobles, so that
Daniel's situation might not be
changed. 18 Then the king returned to
his palace and spent the night without
eating[t] and without any entertainment
being brought to him. And he could
not sleep.[u]

19 At the first light of dawn, the king
got up and hurried to the lions' den.
20 When he came near the den, he called
to Daniel in an anguished voice, "Dan-
iel, servant of the living God, has your
God, whom you serve continually,
been able to rescue you from the
lions?"[v]

21 Daniel answered, "O king, live for-
ever![w] 22 My God sent his angel,[x] and
he shut the mouths of the lions.[y] They
have not hurt me, because I was found
innocent in his sight.[z] Nor have I ever
done any wrong before you, O king."

23 The king was overjoyed and gave
orders to lift Daniel out of the den. And
when Daniel was lifted from the den,
no wound[a] was found on him, because
he had trusted[b] in his God.

24 At the king's command, the men
who had falsely accused Daniel were
brought in and thrown into the lions'
den,[c] along with their wives and chil-
dren.[d] And before they reached the
floor of the den, the lions overpowered
them and crushed all their bones.[e]

25 Then King Darius wrote to all the
peoples, nations and men of every lan-
guage[f] throughout the land:

"May you prosper greatly![g]

26 "I issue a decree that in every
part of my kingdom people must
fear and reverence[h] the God of
Daniel.[i]

"For he is the living God[j]
and he endures forever;[k]
his kingdom will not be
destroyed,
his dominion will never end.[l]
27 He rescues and he saves;[m]
he performs signs and wonders[n]
in the heavens and on the earth.
He has rescued Daniel
from the power of the lions."[o]

28 So Daniel prospered during the

reign of Darius and the reign of
Cyrus[a][z] the Persian.[a]

Daniel's Dream of Four Beasts

7 In the first year of Belshazzar[b] king
of Babylon, Daniel had a dream,
and visions[d] passed through his
mind[e] as he was lying on his bed.[f] He
wrote[g] down the substance of his
dream.
2Daniel said: "In my vision at night I
looked, and there before me were the
four winds of heaven[h] churning up the
great sea. 3Four great beasts,[i] each dif-
ferent from the others, came up out of
the sea.
4"The first was like a lion,[j] and it
had the wings of an eagle.[k] I watched
until its wings were torn off and it was
lifted from the ground so that it stood
on two feet like a man, and the heart of
a man was given to it.
5"And there before me was a second
beast, which looked like a bear. It was
raised up on one of its sides, and it had
three ribs in its mouth between its
teeth. It was told, 'Get up and eat your
fill of flesh!'[l]
6"After that, I looked, and there be-
fore me was another beast, one that
looked like a leopard.[m] And on its back
it had four wings like those of a bird.
This beast had four heads, and it was
given authority to rule.
7"After that, in my vision[n] at night I
looked, and there before me was a
fourth beast—terrifying and frighten-
ing and very powerful. It had large
iron[o] teeth; it crushed and devoured its
victims and trampled[p] underfoot what-
ever was left.[q] It was different from all
the former beasts, and it had ten
horns.[r]
8"While I was thinking about the
horns, there before me was another
horn, a little[s] one, which came up
among them; and three of the first
horns were uprooted before it. This
horn had eyes like the eyes of a man[t]
and a mouth that spoke boastfully.[u]
9"As I looked,

"thrones were set in place,
and the Ancient of Days[v] took his
seat.[w]
His clothing was as white as snow;[x]
the hair of his head was white like
wool.[y]
His throne was flaming with fire,
and its wheels[z] were all ablaze.
10A river of fire[a] was flowing,
coming out from before him.[b]

6:28 S 2Ch 36:22 S Da 1:21 S Da 5:28
7:1 S Da 5:1 S Eze 40:2 S Da 1:17 Ps 4:4 S Da 4:13 S Jer 36:4
7:2 S Eze 37:9; Da 8:8; 11:4; Rev 7:1
7:3 Rev 13:1
7:4 S 2Ki 24:1; Ps 7:2; Jer 4:7; Rev 13:2 S Eze 17:3
7:5 Da 2:39
7:6 Rev 13:2
7:7 S Eze 40:2 S Da 2:40 Da 8:10 Da 8:7 S Rev 12:3
7:8 Da 8:9 Rev 9:7 S Ps 12:3; Rev 13:5-6
7:9 ver 22 S 1Ki 22:19; 2Ch 18:18; Mt 19:28; Rev 4:2; 20:4 S Mt 28:3 Rev 1:14 S Eze 1:15; 10:6
7:10 Ps 50:3; 97:3; Isa 30:27 S Dt 33:2; Ps 68:17; Jude 1:14; Rev 5:11 S Ex 32:32; S Ps 56:8; Rev 20:11-15
7:11 Rev 13:5-6 Rev 19:20
7:13 S Eze 1:26; S 2:1; Mt 8:20*; Rev 1:13*; 14:14* Isa 13:6; Zep 1:14; Mal 3:2; 4:1 S Dt 33:26; S Rev 1:7
7:14 S Mt 28:18 Ps 72:11; 102:22 S Isa 16:5 S Da 2:44; Heb 12:28; Rev 11:15
7:15 S Job 4:15; S Da 4:19
7:16 Da 8:16; 9:22; Zec 1:9
7:18 S Ps 16:3 S Ps 49:14 Isa 60:12-14; Lk 12:32; Heb 12:28; Rev 2:26; 20:4
7:20 Rev 17:12 Rev 13:5-6
7:21 Rev 13:7
7:22 Mk 8:35

Thousands upon thousands attended
him;
ten thousand times ten thousand
stood before him.
The court was seated,
and the books[c] were opened.

11"Then I continued to watch be-
cause of the boastful words the horn
was speaking.[d] I kept looking until the
beast was slain and its body destroyed
and thrown into the blazing fire.[e]
12(The other beasts had been stripped
of their authority, but were allowed to
live for a period of time.)
13"In my vision at night I looked, and
there before me was one like a son of
man,[f] coming[g] with the clouds of
heaven.[h] He approached the Ancient
of Days and was led into his presence.
14He was given authority,[i] glory and
sovereign power; all peoples, nations
and men of every language worshiped
him.[j] His dominion is an everlasting
dominion that will not pass away, and
his kingdom[k] is one that will never be
destroyed.[l]

The Interpretation of the Dream

15"I, Daniel, was troubled in spirit,
and the visions that passed through my
mind disturbed me.[m] 16I approached
one of those standing there and asked
him the true meaning of all this.
"So he told me and gave me the in-
terpretation[n] of these things: 17'The
four great beasts are four kingdoms
that will rise from the earth. 18But the
saints[o] of the Most High will receive
the kingdom[p] and will possess it forev-
er—yes, for ever and ever.'[q]
19"Then I wanted to know the true
meaning of the fourth beast, which was
different from all the others and most
terrifying, with its iron teeth and
bronze claws—the beast that crushed
and devoured its victims and trampled
underfoot whatever was left. 20I also
wanted to know about the ten horns[r]
on its head and about the other horn
that came up, before which three of
them fell—the horn that looked more
imposing than the others and that had
eyes and a mouth that spoke boastful-
ly.[s] 21As I watched, this horn was wag-
ing war against the saints and defeat-
ing them,[t] 22until the Ancient of Days
came and pronounced judgment in fa-
vor of the saints of the Most High, and
the time came when they possessed the
kingdom.[u]

a28 *Or Darius, that is, the reign of Cyrus*

23"He gave me this explanation: 'The
fourth beast is a fourth kingdom that
will appear on earth. It will be different
from all the other kingdoms and will
devour the whole earth, trampling it
down and crushing it.[a]
24The ten
horns[b] are ten kings who will come
from this kingdom. After them another
king will arise, different from the ear-
lier ones; he will subdue three kings.
25He will speak against the Most High[c]
and oppress his saints[d] and try to
change the set times[e] and the laws.
The saints will be handed over to him
for a time, times and half a time.[a][f]
26" 'But the court will sit, and his
power will be taken away and com-
pletely destroyed[g] forever.
27Then the
sovereignty, power and greatness of
the kingdoms[h] under the whole
heaven will be handed over to the
saints,[i] the people of the Most High.[j]
His kingdom will be an everlasting[k]
kingdom, and all rulers will worship[l]
and obey him.'
28"This is the end of the matter. I,
Daniel, was deeply troubled[m] by my
thoughts,[n] and my face turned pale,[o]
but I kept the matter to myself."

Daniel's Vision of a Ram and a Goat

8 In the third year of King Belshaz-
zar's[p] reign, I, Daniel, had a vi-
sion,[q] after the one that had already
appeared to me.
2In my vision I saw
myself in the citadel of Susa[r] in the
province of Elam;[s] in the vision I was
beside the Ulai Canal.
3I looked up,[t]
and there before me was a ram[u] with
two horns, standing beside the canal,
and the horns were long. One of the
horns was longer than the other but
grew up later.
4I watched the ram as he
charged toward the west and the north
and the south. No animal could stand
against him, and none could rescue
from his power.[v] He did as he
pleased[w] and became great.
5As I was thinking about this, sud-
denly a goat with a prominent horn be-
tween his eyes came from the west,
crossing the whole earth without
touching the ground.
6He came toward
the two-horned ram I had seen stand-
ing beside the canal and charged at him
in great rage.
7I saw him attack the ram
furiously, striking the ram and shatter-
ing his two horns. The ram was power-
less to stand against him; the goat
knocked him to the ground and tram-
pled on him,[x] and none could rescue
the ram from his power.[y]
8The goat
became very great, but at the height of
his power his large horn was broken
off,[z] and in its place four prominent
horns grew up toward the four winds
of heaven.[a]
9Out of one of them came another
horn, which started small[b] but grew in
power to the south and to the east and
toward the Beautiful Land.[c]
10It grew
until it reached[d] the host of the heav-
ens, and it threw some of the starry
host down to the earth[e] and trampled[f]
on them.
11It set itself up to be as great
as the Prince[g] of the host;[h] it took
away the daily sacrifice[i] from him, and
the place of his sanctuary was brought
low.[j]
12Because of rebellion, the host
of the saints[b] and the daily sacrifice
were given over to it. It prospered in
everything it did, and truth was
thrown to the ground.[k]
13Then I heard a holy one[l] speaking,
and another holy one said to him,
"How long will it take for the vision to
be fulfilled[m]—the vision concerning the
daily sacrifice, the rebellion that causes
desolation, and the surrender of the
sanctuary and of the host that will be
trampled[n] underfoot?"
14He said to me, "It will take 2,300
evenings and mornings; then the sanc-
tuary will be reconsecrated."[o]

The Interpretation of the Vision

15While I, Daniel, was watching the
vision[p] and trying to understand it,
there before me stood one who looked
like a man.[q]
16And I heard a man's
voice from the Ulai[r] calling, "Gabriel,[s]
tell this man the meaning of the vi-
sion."[t]
17As he came near the place where I
was standing, I was terrified and fell
prostrate.[u] "Son of man," he said to
me, "understand that the vision con-
cerns the time of the end."[v]
18While he was speaking to me, I was
in a deep sleep, with my face to the
ground.[w] Then he touched me and
raised me to my feet.[x]
19He said: "I am going to tell you
what will happen later in the time of
wrath,[y] because the vision concerns
the appointed time[z] of the end.[c][a]
20The two-horned ram that you saw
represents the kings of Media and
Persia.[b]
21The shaggy goat is the king
of Greece,[c] and the large horn between
his eyes is the first king.[d]
22The four

7:23 [a] S Da 2:40
7:24 [b] Rev 17:12
7:25 [c] S Isa 37:23; Da 11:36 [d] Rev 16:6 [e] Da 2:21; Mk 1:15; Lk 21:8; Ac 1:6-7 [f] Da 8:24; 12:7; S Rev 11:2
7:26 [g] Rev 19:20
7:27 [h] S Isa 14:2 [i] 1Co 6:2 [j] Ge 14:18 [k] S 2Sa 7:13; Ps 145:13; S Da 2:44; S 4:34; S Lk 1:33; Rev 11:15; 22:5 [l] S Ps 22:27; 72:11; 86:9
7:28 [m] S Isa 21:3; S Da 4:19 [n] S Ps 13:2 [o] S Job 4:15
8:1 [p] S Da 5:1 [q] S Da 1:17
8:2 [r] S Ezr 4:9; S Est 2:8 [s] S Ge 10:22
8:3 [t] Da 10:5 [u] Rev 13:11
8:4 [v] Isa 41:3 [w] Da 11:3,16
8:7 [x] S Da 7:7 [y] Da 11:11,16
8:8 [z] 2Ch 26:16-21; S Da 5:20 [a] S Da 7:2; Rev 7:1
8:9 [b] Da 7:8 [c] S Eze 20:6; Da 11:16
8:10 [d] S Isa 14:13 [e] Rev 8:10; 12:4 [f] S Da 7:7
8:11 [g] ver 25 [h] Da 11:36-37 [i] Eze 46:13-14 [j] Da 11:31; 12:11
8:12 [k] S Isa 48:1
8:13 [l] S Dt 33:2; S Da 4:23 [m] Da 12:6 [n] S Isa 28:18; S Lk 21:24; Rev 11:2
8:14 [o] Da 12:11-12
8:15 [p] ver 1 [q] S Eze 2:1; Da 10:16-18
8:16 [r] ver 2 [s] Da 9:21; S Lk 1:19 [t] S Da 7:16
8:17 [u] Eze 1:28; 44:4; S Da 2:46; Rev 1:17 [v] ver 19; Hab 2:3
8:18 [w] Da 10:9 [x] S Eze 2:2; Da 10:16-18; Zec 4:1
8:19 [y] S Isa 10:25 [z] S Ps 102:13 [a] Hab 2:3
8:20 [b] S Eze 27:10
8:21 [c] Da 10:20 [d] Da 11:3

[a] 25 *Or for a year, two years and half a year* [b] 12 *Or rebellion, the armies* [c] 19 *Or because the end will be at the appointed time*

horns that replaced the one that was
broken off represent four kingdoms
that will emerge from his nation but
will not have the same power.
23"In the latter part of their reign,
when rebels have become completely
wicked, a stern-faced king, a master of
intrigue, will arise. 24He will become
very strong, but not by his own power.
He will cause astounding devastation
and will succeed in whatever he does.
He will destroy the mighty men and
the holy people.[a] 25He will cause de-
ceit[b] to prosper, and he will consider
himself superior. When they feel se-
cure, he will destroy many and take his
stand against the Prince of princes.[c]
Yet he will be destroyed, but not by
human power.[d]
26"The vision of the evenings and
mornings that has been given you is
true,[e] but seal[f] up the vision, for it
concerns the distant future."[g]
27I, Daniel, was exhausted and lay
ill[h] for several days. Then I got up and
went about the king's business.[i] I was
appalled[j] by the vision; it was beyond
understanding.

Daniel's Prayer

9 In the first year of Darius[k] son of
Xerxes[y][l] (a Mede by descent), who
was made ruler over the Babylonian[z]
kingdom— 2in the first year of his
reign, I, Daniel, understood from the
Scriptures, according to the word of the
LORD given to Jeremiah the prophet,
that the desolation of Jerusalem would
last seventy[m] years. 3So I turned to the
Lord God and pleaded with him in
prayer and petition, in fasting,[n] and in
sackcloth and ashes.[o]
4I prayed to the LORD my God and
confessed:[p]

"O Lord, the great and awesome
God,[q] who keeps his covenant of
love[r] with all who love him and
obey his commands, 5we have
sinned[s] and done wrong.[t] We
have been wicked and have re-
belled; we have turned away[u] from
your commands and laws.[v] 6We
have not listened[w] to your servants
the prophets,[x] who spoke in your
name to our kings, our princes and
our fathers,[y] and to all the people
of the land.
7"Lord, you are righteous,[z] but
this day we are covered with
shame[a]—the men of Judah and
people of Jerusalem and all Israel,
both near and far, in all the coun-
tries where you have scattered[b] us
because of our unfaithfulness[c] to
you.[d] 8O LORD, we and our kings,
our princes and our fathers are
covered with shame because we
have sinned against you.[e] 9The
Lord our God is merciful and for-
giving,[f] even though we have re-
belled against him;[g] 10we have not
obeyed the LORD our God or kept
the laws he gave us through his
servants the prophets.[h] 11All Israel
has transgressed[i] your law[j] and
turned away, refusing to obey you.
"Therefore the curses[k] and
sworn judgments[l] written in the
Law of Moses, the servant of God,
have been poured out on us, be-
cause we have sinned[m] against
you. 12You have fulfilled[n] the
words spoken against us and
against our rulers by bringing upon
us great disaster.[o] Under the
whole heaven nothing has ever
been done like[p] what has been
done to Jerusalem.[q] 13Just as it is
written in the Law of Moses, all
this disaster has come upon us, yet
we have not sought the favor of the
LORD[r] our God by turning from our
sins and giving attention to your
truth.[s] 14The LORD did not hesitate
to bring the disaster[t] upon us, for
the LORD our God is righteous in
everything he does;[u] yet we have
not obeyed him.[v]
15"Now, O Lord our God, who
brought your people out of Egypt
with a mighty hand[w] and who
made for yourself a name[x] that en-
dures to this day, we have sinned,
we have done wrong. 16O Lord, in
keeping with all your righteous
acts,[y] turn away[z] your anger and
your wrath[a] from Jerusalem,[b]
your city, your holy hill.[c] Our sins
and the iniquities of our fathers
have made Jerusalem and your
people an object of scorn[d] to all
those around us.
17"Now, our God, hear the
prayers and petitions of your ser-
vant. For your sake, O Lord, look
with favor[e] on your desolate sanc-
tuary. 18Give ear,[f] O God, and
hear;[g] open your eyes and see[h] the
desolation of the city that bears

8:24 aS Da 7:25; 11:36 **8:25** bDa 11:23 cDa 11:36 dS Da 2:34; 11:21 **8:26** eDa 10:1 fS Isa 8:16; S 29:11; Rev 10:4; 22:10 gDa 10:14 **8:27** hDa 10:8 iS Da 2:48 jS Isa 21:3; S Da 4:19 **9:1** kS Da 5:31 lS Ezr 4:6 **9:2** mS 2Ch 36:21; Jer 29:10; Zec 1:12; 7:5 **9:3** nS 2Ch 20:3 oS 2Sa 13:19; S Ne 1:4; Jer 29:12; Da 10:12; Jnh 3:6 **9:4** pS 1Ki 8:30 qS Dt 7:21 rDt 7:9; S 1Ki 8:23 **9:5** sS Jer 8:14 tPs 106:6 uIsa 53:6 vver 11; La 1:20; S 3:42 **9:6** wS 2Ki 18:12 xS 2Ch 36:16; S Jer 44:5; Jas 5:10; Rev 10:7 yS 2Ch 29:6 **9:7** zS Ezr 9:15; S Isa 42:6 aEzr 9:7; Ps 44:15 bDt 4:27; Am 9:9 cS Dt 7:3 dS Jer 3:25; S 24:9; S Eze 39:23-24 **9:8** eS Ne 9:33; S Jer 14:20; S Eze 16:63 **9:9** fS Ex 34:7; S 2Sa 24:14; Jer 42:12 gS Ne 9:17; Jer 14:7 **9:10** h2Ki 17:13-15; S 18:12; Rev 10:7 **9:11** iS Jer 2:29 j2Ki 22:16 kS Dt 11:26; S 13:15; S 28:15 l2Ki 17:23 mIsa 1:4-6; Jer 8:5-10 **9:12** nS Isa 44:26; Zec 1:6 oS Jer 44:23 pJer 30:7 qJer 44:2-6; Eze 5:9; Da 12:1; Joel 2:2; Zec 7:12 **9:13** rS Dt 4:29; S Isa 31:1 sS Isa 9:13; Jer 2:30 **9:14** tS Jer 18:8; S 44:27 uS Ge 18:25; S 2Ch 12:6; S Jer 12:1 vS Ne 9:33; S Jer 32:23; S 40:3 **9:15** wS Ex 3:20; S Jer 32:21 xS Ne 9:10 **9:16** yS Jdg 5:11; Ps 31:1 zS Isa 5:25 aS Ps 85:3 bJer 32:32 cS Ex 15:17; S Ps 48:1 dS Ps 39:8; S Eze 5:14 **9:17** eNu 6:24-26; Ps 80:19 **9:18** fS Ps 5:1 gPs 116:1 hPs 80:14

y1 Hebrew *Ahasuerus* z1 Or *Chaldean*

your Name." We do not make re-
quests of you because we are right-
eous, but because of your great
mercy.
19O Lord, listen! O Lord,
forgive! O Lord, hear and act! For
your sake, O my God, do not
delay, because your city and your
people bear your Name."

The Seventy "Sevens"

20While I was speaking and praying,
confessing my sin and the sin of my
people Israel and making my request to
the LORD my God for his holy hill—
21while I was still in prayer, Gabriel,
the man I had seen in the earlier vision,
came to me in swift flight about the
time of the evening sacrifice.
22He in-
structed me and said to me, "Daniel, I
have now come to give you insight and
understanding.
23As soon as you be-
gan to pray, an answer was given,
which I have come to tell you, for you
are highly esteemed. Therefore, con-
sider the message and understand the
vision:
24"Seventy 'sevens'[a] are decreed for
your people and your holy city to fin-
ish[b] transgression, to put an end to
sin, to atone for wickedness, to bring
in everlasting righteousness, to seal
up vision and prophecy and to anoint
the most holy.[c]
25"Know and understand this: From
the issuing of the decree[d] to restore
and rebuild Jerusalem until the
Anointed One,[e] the ruler, comes,
there will be seven 'sevens,' and sixty-
two 'sevens.' It will be rebuilt with
streets and a trench, but in times of
trouble.
26After the sixty-two 'sevens,'
the Anointed One will be cut off and
will have nothing.[f] The people of the
ruler who will come will destroy the
city and the sanctuary. The end will
come like a flood: War will continue
until the end, and desolations have
been decreed.
27He will confirm a cov-
enant with many for one 'seven.'[g] In
the middle of the 'seven'[h] he will put
an end to sacrifice and offering. And
on a wing of the temple he will set up
an abomination that causes desolation,
until the end that is decreed is poured
out on him.[i]"

Daniel's Vision of a Man

10 In the third year of Cyrus king
of Persia, a revelation was given
to Daniel (who was called Belteshaz-
zar). Its message was true[j] and it
concerned a great war. The under-
standing of the message came to him in
a vision.
2At that time I, Daniel, mourned for
three weeks.
3I ate no choice food; no
meat or wine touched my lips; and I
used no lotions at all until the three
weeks were over.
4On the twenty-fourth day of the first
month, as I was standing on the bank
of the great river, the Tigris,
5I looked
up and there before me was a man
dressed in linen, with a belt of the fin-
est gold around his waist.
6His body
was like chrysolite, his face like light-
ning, his eyes like flaming torches,
his arms and legs like the gleam of bur-
nished bronze, and his voice like the
sound of a multitude.
7I, Daniel, was the only one who saw
the vision; the men with me did not see
it, but such terror overwhelmed them
that they fled and hid themselves.
8So I
was left alone, gazing at this great vi-
sion; I had no strength left, my face
turned deathly pale and I was help-
less.
9Then I heard him speaking, and
as I listened to him, I fell into a deep
sleep, my face to the ground.
10A hand touched me and set me
trembling on my hands and knees.
11He said, "Daniel, you who are highly
esteemed, consider carefully the
words I am about to speak to you, and
stand up, for I have now been sent to
you." And when he said this to me, I
stood up trembling.
12Then he continued, "Do not be
afraid, Daniel. Since the first day that
you set your mind to gain understand-
ing and to humble yourself before
your God, your words were heard,
and I have come in response to them.
13But the prince of the Persian king-
dom resisted me twenty-one days.
Then Michael, one of the chief
princes, came to help me, because I
was detained there with the king of
Persia.
14Now I have come to explain
to you what will happen to your people
in the future, for the vision concerns a
time yet to come."
15While he was saying this to me, I
bowed with my face toward the ground
and was speechless.
16Then one who

a24 Or 'weeks'; also in verses 25 and 26 b24 Or restrain c24 Or Most Holy Place; or most holy One d25 Or word e25 Or an anointed one; also in verse 26 f26 Or off and will have no one; or off, but not for himself g27 Or 'week' h27 Or it i27 Or And one who causes desolation will come upon the pinnacle of the abominable temple, until the end that is decreed is poured out on the desolated city j1 Or true and burdensome

looked like a man[k] touched my lips, and I opened my mouth and began to speak.[a] I said to the one standing before me, "I am overcome with anguish[b] because of the vision, my lord, and I am helpless. 17How can I, your servant, talk with you, my lord? My strength is gone and I can hardly breathe."[c]

18Again the one who looked like a man touched[d] me and gave me strength.[e] 19"Do not be afraid, O man highly esteemed,"[f] he said. "Peace![g] Be strong now; be strong."[h]

When he spoke to me, I was strengthened and said, "Speak, my lord, since you have given me strength."[i]

20So he said, "Do you know why I have come to you? Soon I will return to fight against the prince of Persia, and when I go, the prince of Greece[j] will come; 21but first I will tell you what is written in the Book of Truth.[k] (No one supports me against them except Michael,[l] your prince.

11 1And in the first year of Darius[m] the Mede, I took my stand to support and protect him.)

The Kings of the South and the North

2"Now then, I tell you the truth:[n] Three more kings will appear in Persia, and then a fourth, who will be far richer than all the others. When he has gained power by his wealth, he will stir up everyone against the kingdom of Greece.[o] 3Then a mighty king will appear, who will rule with great power and do as he pleases.[p] 4After he has appeared, his empire will be broken up and parceled out toward the four winds of heaven.[q] It will not go to his descendants, nor will it have the power he exercised, because his empire will be uprooted[r] and given to others.

5"The king of the South will become strong, but one of his commanders will become even stronger than he and will rule his own kingdom with great power. 6After some years, they will become allies. The daughter of the king of the South will go to the king of the North to make an alliance, but she will not retain her power, and he and his power[l] will not last. In those days she will be handed over, together with her royal escort and her father[m] and the one who supported her.

7"One from her family line will arise to take her place. He will attack the forces of the king of the North[s] and enter his fortress; he will fight against them and be victorious. 8He will also seize their gods,[t] their metal images and their valuable articles of silver and gold and carry them off to Egypt.[u] For some years he will leave the king of the North alone. 9Then the king of the North will invade the realm of the king of the South but will retreat to his own country. 10His sons will prepare for war and assemble a great army, which will sweep on like an irresistible flood[v] and carry the battle as far as his fortress.

11"Then the king of the South will march out in a rage and fight against the king of the North, who will raise a large army, but it will be defeated.[w] 12When the army is carried off, the king of the South will be filled with pride and will slaughter many thousands, yet he will not remain triumphant. 13For the king of the North will muster another army, larger than the first; and after several years, he will advance with a huge army fully equipped.

14"In those times many will rise against the king of the South. The violent men among your own people will rebel in fulfillment of the vision, but without success. 15Then the king of the North will come and build up siege ramps[x] and will capture a fortified city. The forces of the South will be powerless to resist; even their best troops will not have the strength to stand. 16The invader will do as he pleases;[y] no one will be able to stand against him.[z] He will establish himself in the Beautiful Land and will have the power to destroy it.[a] 17He will determine to come with the might of his entire kingdom and will make an alliance with the king of the South. And he will give him a daughter in marriage in order to overthrow the kingdom, but his plans[n] will not succeed[b] or help him. 18Then he will turn his attention to the coastlands[c] and will take many of them, but a commander will put an end to his insolence and will turn his insolence back upon him.[d] 19After this, he will turn back toward the fortresses of his own country but will stumble and fall,[e] to be seen no more.[f]

20"His successor will send out a tax collector to maintain the royal splendor.[g] In a few years, however, he will

10:16 [a]S Isa 6:7; Jer 1:9; Da 8:15-18 [b]S Isa 21:3
10:17 [c]S Da 4:19
10:18 [d]ver 16 [e]S Da 8:18
10:19 [f]S Da 9:23 [g]Jdg 6:23; S Isa 35:4 [h]Jos 1:9 [i]Isa 6:1-8
10:20 [j]Da 8:21; 11:2
10:21 [k]Da 11:2 [l]S ver 13; S Jude 1:9
11:1 [m]S Da 5:31
11:2 [n]Da 10:21 [o]S Da 10:20
11:3 [p]S Da 8:4, 21
11:4 [q]S Da 7:2; 8:22 [r]S Jer 42:10
11:7 [s]ver 6
11:8 [t]Isa 37:19; S 46:1-2 [u]Jer 43:12
11:10 [v]Isa 8:8; Jer 46:8; S Da 9:26
11:11 [w]Da 8:7-8
11:15 [x]S Eze 4:2
11:16 [y]S Da 8:4 [z]S Jos 1:5; S Da 8:7 [a]S Da 8:9
11:17 [b]S Ps 20:4
11:18 [c]S Isa 66:19; S Jer 25:22 [d]Hos 12:14
11:19 [e]S Ps 27:2; S 46:2 [f]S Ps 37:36; S Eze 26:21
11:20 [g]Isa 60:17

[k]16 Most manuscripts of the Masoretic Text; one manuscript of the Masoretic Text, Dead Sea Scrolls and Septuagint *Then something that looked like a man's hand* [l]6 Or *offspring* [m]6 Or *child* (see Vulgate and Syriac) [n]17 Or *but she*

be destroyed, yet not in anger or in battle.

21"He will be succeeded by a contemptible[a] person who has not been given the honor of royalty.[b] He will invade the kingdom when its people feel secure, and he will seize it through intrigue. 22Then an overwhelming army will be swept away[c] before him; both it and a prince of the covenant will be destroyed.[d] 23After coming to an agreement with him, he will act deceitfully,[e] and with only a few people he will rise to power. 24When the richest provinces feel secure, he will invade them and will achieve what neither his fathers nor his forefathers did. He will distribute plunder, loot and wealth among his followers.[f] He will plot the overthrow of fortresses—but only for a time.

25"With a large army he will stir up his strength and courage against the king of the South. The king of the South will wage war with a large and very powerful army, but he will not be able to stand because of the plots devised against him. 26Those who eat from the king's provisions will try to destroy him; his army will be swept away, and many will fall in battle. 27The two kings, with their hearts bent on evil,[g] will sit at the same table and lie[h] to each other, but to no avail, because an end will still come at the appointed time.[i] 28The king of the North will return to his own country with great wealth, but his heart will be set against the holy covenant. He will take action against it and then return to his own country.

29"At the appointed time he will invade the South again, but this time the outcome will be different from what it was before. 30Ships of the western coastlands[a][j] will oppose him, and he will lose heart.[k] Then he will turn back and vent his fury[l] against the holy covenant. He will return and show favor to those who forsake the holy covenant.

31"His armed forces will rise up to desecrate the temple fortress and will abolish the daily sacrifice.[m] Then they will set up the abomination that causes desolation.[n] 32With flattery he will corrupt those who have violated the covenant, but the people who know their God will firmly resist[o] him.

33"Those who are wise will instruct[p] many, though for a time they will fall by the sword or be burned or captured or plundered.[q] 34When they fall, they will receive a little help, and many who are not sincere[r] will join them. 35Some of the wise will stumble, so that they may be refined,[s] purified and made spotless until the time of the end, for it will still come at the appointed time.

The King Who Exalts Himself

36"The king will do as he pleases. He will exalt and magnify himself[t] above every god and will say unheard-of things[u] against the God of gods.[v] He will be successful until the time of wrath[w] is completed, for what has been determined must take place.[x] 37He will show no regard for the gods of his fathers or for the one desired by women, nor will he regard any god, but will exalt himself above them all. 38Instead of them, he will honor a god of fortresses; a god unknown to his fathers he will honor with gold and silver, with precious stones and costly gifts. 39He will attack the mightiest fortresses with the help of a foreign god and will greatly honor those who acknowledge him. He will make them rulers over many people and will distribute the land at a price.[b]

40"At the time of the end the king of the South[y] will engage him in battle, and the king of the North will storm[z] out against him with chariots and cavalry and a great fleet of ships. He will invade many countries and sweep through them like a flood.[a] 41He will also invade the Beautiful Land.[b] Many countries will fall, but Edom,[c] Moab[d] and the leaders of Ammon will be delivered from his hand. 42He will extend his power over many countries; Egypt will not escape. 43He will gain control of the treasures of gold and silver and all the riches of Egypt,[e] with the Libyans[f] and Nubians in submission. 44But reports from the east and the north will alarm him, and he will set out in a great rage to destroy and annihilate many. 45He will pitch his royal tents between the seas at[c] the beautiful holy mountain.[g] Yet he will come to his end, and no one will help him.

The End Times

12 1"At that time Michael,[h] the great prince who protects your people, will arise. There will be a time of distress[i] such as has not happened from the beginning of nations until

11:21 a Da 4:17; b S Da 8:25
11:22 c S Isa 28:15; d Da 8:10-11
11:23 e Da 8:25
11:24 f Ne 9:25
11:27 g Ps 64:6; h Ps 12:2; Jer 9:5; i Hab 2:3
11:30 j S Ge 10:4; k S 1Sa 17:32; S Job 15:13
11:31 m Hos 3:4; n S Jer 19:4; Da 8:11-13; S 9:27; Mt 24:15*; Mk 13:14*
11:32 o Mic 5:7-9
11:33 p Da 12:3; Mal 2:7; q Mt 24:9; Jn 16:2; Heb 11:32-38
11:34 r Mt 7:15; Ro 16:18
11:35 s S Job 28:1; S Ps 78:38; S Isa 48:10; Da 12:10; Zec 13:9; Jn 15:2
11:36 t Jude 1:16; u Rev 13:5-6; v S Dt 10:17; S Isa 14:13-14; S Da 7:25; 8:11-12,25; 2Th 2:4; w S Isa 10:25; 26:20; x Eze 35:13; S Da 8:24
11:40 y S Isa 21:1; z Isa 5:28; a S Isa 8:7; S Eze 38:4
11:41 b S Eze 20:6; Mal 3:12; c S Isa 11:14; d S Jer 48:47
11:43 e S Eze 30:4; f 2Ch 12:3; Na 3:9
11:45 g S Isa 2:2-4; Da 8:9
12:1 h S Da 10:13; Jude 1:9; i S Da 9:12; S Mt 24:21; Mk 13:19; Rev 16:18

a30 Hebrew of Kittim b39 Or land for a reward c45 Or the sea and

then. But at that time your people—
everyone whose name is found written
in the book[a]—will be delivered.[b] 2Mul-
titudes who sleep in the dust of the
earth will awake:[c] some to everlasting
life, others to shame and everlasting
contempt.[d] 3Those who are wise[r][e]
will shine[f] like the brightness of the
heavens, and those who lead many to
righteousness,[g] like the stars for ever
and ever.[h] 4But you, Daniel, close up
and seal[i] the words of the scroll until
the time of the end.[j] Many will go here
and there[k] to increase knowledge."

5Then I, Daniel, looked, and there
before me stood two others, one on
this bank of the river and one on the
opposite bank.[l] 6One of them said to
the man clothed in linen,[m] who was
above the waters of the river, "How
long will it be before these astonishing
things are fulfilled?"[n]
7The man clothed in linen, who was
above the waters of the river, lifted his
right hand[o] and his left hand toward
heaven, and I heard him swear by him
who lives forever,[p] saying, "It will be
for a time, times and half a time.[s][q]
When the power of the holy people[r]
has been finally broken, all these things
will be completed.[s]"
8I heard, but I did not understand.
So I asked, "My lord, what will the out-
come of all this be?"
9He replied, "Go your way, Daniel,
because the words are closed up and
sealed[t] until the time of the end.[u]
10Many will be purified, made spotless
and refined,[v] but the wicked will con-
tinue to be wicked.[w] None of the
wicked will understand, but those who
are wise will understand.[x]
11"From the time that the daily sacri-
fice[y] is abolished and the abomination
that causes desolation[z] is set up, there
will be 1,290 days.[a] 12Blessed is the one
who waits[b] for and reaches the end of
the 1,335 days.[c]
13"As for you, go your way till the
end.[d] You will rest,[e] and then at the
end of the days you will rise to receive
your allotted inheritance.[f][g]"

12:1 [a]S Ex 32:32; S Ps 56:8; S Jer 17:13; S Lk 10:20 [b]Jer 30:7 12:2 [c]Jn 11:24 [d]S Isa 26:19; Mt 25:46 12:3 [e]S Da 11:33 [f]Mt 13:43; Jn 5:35; Php 2:15 [g]S Isa 6:7 [h]S Pr 4:18; 1Co 15:42 12:4 [i]S Isa 8:16 [j]ver 9,13; Rev 22:10 [k]Jer 5:1 12:5 [l]Da 10:4 12:6 [m]S Eze 9:2 [n]Da 8:13 12:7 [o]S Ge 14:22 [p]S Da 6:26; Rev 10:5-6 [q]S Da 7:25; S Rev 11:2 [r]S Da 8:24 [s]Lk 21:24; Rev 10:7 12:9 [t]S Isa 29:11 [u]S ver 4 12:10 [v]S Isa 1:25; S Da 11:35 [w]S Isa 32:7; Rev 22:11 [x]Hos 14:9 12:11 [y]S Ex 29:38 [z]S Da 8:11; S 9:27; Mt 24:15*; Mk 13:14* [a]Rev 11:2 12:12 [b]S Isa 30:18 [c]S Eze 4:5-6; Da 8:14 12:13 [d]S ver 4 [e]Isa 57:2 [f]Ps 16:5; Rev 14:13 [g]Mt 10:22; Jas 1:12

[r]3 Or *who impart wisdom* [s]7 Or *a year, two years and half a year*

Hosea

1 The word of the LORD that came[a] to
Hosea son of Beeri during the
reigns of Uzziah,[b] Jotham,[c] Ahaz[d]
and Hezekiah,[e] kings of Judah,[f] and
during the reign of Jeroboam[g] son of
Jehoash[a] king of Israel:[h]

Hosea's Wife and Children

2When the LORD began to speak
through Hosea, the LORD said to him,
"Go, take to yourself an adulterous[i]
wife and children of unfaithfulness, be-
cause the land is guilty of the vilest
adultery[j] in departing from the LORD."
3So he married Gomer[k] daughter of
Diblaim, and she conceived and bore
him a son.

4Then the LORD said to Hosea, "Call
him Jezreel,[l] because I will soon pun-
ish the house of Jehu for the massacre
at Jezreel, and I will put an end to the
kingdom of Israel. 5In that day I will
break Israel's bow in the Valley of Jez-
reel.[m]"

6Gomer[n] conceived again and gave
birth to a daughter. Then the LORD said
to Hosea, "Call her Lo-Ruhamah,[b][o]
for I will no longer show love to the
house of Israel,[p] that I should at all for-
give them. 7Yet I will show love to the
house of Judah; and I will save them—
not by bow,[q] sword or battle, or by
horses and horsemen, but by the LORD
their God.[r]"

8After she had weaned Lo-
Ruhamah,[s] Gomer had another son.
9Then the LORD said, "Call him Lo-
Ammi,[c] for you are not my people,
and I am not your God.[t]

10"Yet the Israelites will be like the
sand on the seashore, which cannot be
measured or counted.[u] In the place
where it was said to them, 'You are not
my people,' they will be called 'sons of
the living God.'[v][w] 11The people of
Judah and the people of Israel will be
reunited,[x] and they will appoint one
leader[y] and will come up out of the
land,[z] for great will be the day of Jez-
reel.[a]

2 "Say of your brothers, 'My people,'
and of your sisters, 'My loved
one.'[b]

Israel Punished and Restored

2"Rebuke your mother,[c] rebuke her,
for she is not my wife,
and I am not her husband.
Let her remove the adulterous[d] look
from her face
and the unfaithfulness from
between her breasts.
3Otherwise I will strip[e] her naked
and make her as bare as on the
day she was born;[f]
I will make her like a desert,[g]
turn her into a parched land,
and slay her with thirst.
4I will not show my love to her
children,[h]
because they are the children of
adultery.[i]
5Their mother has been unfaithful
and has conceived them in
disgrace.
She said, 'I will go after my lovers,[j]
who give me my food and my
water,
my wool and my linen, my oil and
my drink.'[k]
6Therefore I will block her path with
thornbushes;
I will wall her in so that she
cannot find her way.[l]
7She will chase after her lovers but
not catch them;
she will look for them but not find
them.[m]
Then she will say,
'I will go back to my husband[n] as
at first,[o]
for then I was better off[p] than
now.'
8She has not acknowledged[q] that I
was the one
who gave her the grain, the new
wine and oil,[r]

1:1 [a]S Jer 1:2 [b]S 2Ki 14:21 [c]S 1Ch 3:12 [d]S 1Ch 3:13 [e]S 1Ch 3:13 [f]Isa 1:1; Mic 1:1 [g]S 2Ki 13:13 [h]Am 1:1 **1:2** [i]S Jer 3:1; Hos 2:2,5; 3:1 [j]Dt 31:16; Jer 3:14; Eze 23:3-21; Hos 5:3 **1:3** [k]ver 6 **1:4** [l]ver 11; S 1Sa 29:1; 1Ki 18:45; 2Ki 10:1-14; Hos 2:22 **1:5** [m]S Jos 15:56; S 1Sa 29:1; 2Ki 15:29 **1:6** [n]ver 3 [o]ver 8; Hos 2:23 [p]Hos 2:4 **1:7** [q]S Ps 44:6 [r]Zec 4:6 **1:8** [s]S ver 6 **1:9** [t]ver 10; S Eze 11:19-20; 1Pe 2:10 **1:10** [u]S Ge 22:17; S Jer 33:22 [v]S ver 9; Hos 2:23; Ro 9:26* [w]S Jos 3:10 **1:11** [x]S Isa 11:12,13 [y]Jer 23:5-8; 30:9 [z]S Eze 37:15-28 [a]S ver 4 **2:1** [b]ver 23; 1Pe 2:10 **2:2** [c]ver 5; S Isa 50:1; S Hos 1:2; 4:5 [d]S Isa 1:21; S Eze 23:45 **2:3** [e]S Eze 16:37 [f]Eze 16:4,22 [g]Isa 32:13-14 **2:4** [h]S Eze 8:18; Hos 1:6 [i]Hos 5:7 **2:5** [j]S Jer 3:6; S Hos 1:2 [k]Jer 44:17-18 **2:6** [l]S Job 3:23; S 19:8; S La 3:9 **2:7** [m]Hos 5:13 [n]S Isa 54:5 [o]Jer 2:2; S 3:1 [p]S Eze 16:8 **2:8** [q]S Isa 1:3 [r]S Nu 18:12

[a]1 Hebrew *Joash,* a variant of *Jehoash*
[b]6 *Lo-Ruhamah* means *not loved.* [c]9 *Lo-Ammi* means *not my people.*

who lavished on her the silver and
gold[a]—
which they used for Baal.[b]

9 "Therefore I will take away my
grain[c] when it ripens,
and my new wine[d] when it is
ready.
I will take back my wool and my
linen,
intended to cover her nakedness.
10 So now I will expose[e] her lewdness
before the eyes of her lovers;[f]
no one will take her out of my
hands.[g]
11 I will stop[h] all her celebrations:[i]
her yearly festivals, her New
Moons,
her Sabbath days—all her
appointed feasts.[j]
12 I will ruin her vines[k] and her fig
trees,[l]
which she said were her pay from
her lovers;[m]
I will make them a thicket,[n]
and wild animals will devour
them.[o]
13 I will punish her for the days
she burned incense[p] to the Baals;[q]
she decked herself with rings and
jewelry,[r]
and went after her lovers,[s]
but me she forgot,[t]"
declares the LORD.[u]

14 "Therefore I am now going to allure
her;
I will lead her into the desert[v]
and speak tenderly to her.
15 There I will give her back her
vineyards,
and will make the Valley of
Achor[d][w] a door of hope.
There she will sing[e][x] as in the days
of her youth,[y]
as in the day she came up out of
Egypt.[z]

16 "In that day," declares the LORD,
"you will call me 'my husband';[a]
you will no longer call me 'my
master.[f]'
17 I will remove the names of the Baals
from her lips;[b]
no longer will their names be
invoked.[c]
18 In that day I will make a covenant
for them
with the beasts of the field and the
birds of the air
and the creatures that move along
the ground.[d]
Bow and sword and battle
I will abolish[e] from the land,
so that all may lie down in
safety.[f]
19 I will betroth[g] you to me
forever;
I will betroth you in[g]
righteousness and justice,[h]
in[h] love and compassion.[i]
20 I will betroth you in faithfulness,
and you will acknowledge[j] the
LORD.[k]

21 "In that day I will respond,"
declares the LORD—
"I will respond[l] to the skies,
and they will respond to the
earth;
22 and the earth will respond to the
grain,
the new wine and oil,[m]
and they will respond to
Jezreel.[i][n]
23 I will plant[o] her for myself in the
land;
I will show my love to the one I
called 'Not my loved one.[j][p]'
I will say to those called 'Not my
people,[k]' 'You are my
people';[q]
and they will say, 'You are my
God.[r]' "

Hosea's Reconciliation With His Wife

3 The LORD said to me, "Go, show
your love to your wife again,
though she is loved by another and is
an adulteress.[s] Love her as the LORD
loves the Israelites, though they turn to
other gods and love the sacred raisin
cakes.[t]"
2 So I bought her for fifteen shekels[l]
of silver and about a homer and a le-
thek[m] of barley. 3 Then I told her, "You
are to live with[n] me many days; you
must not be a prostitute or be intimate
with any man, and I will live with[n]
you."
4 For the Israelites will live many days
without king or prince,[u] without sacri-
fice[v] or sacred stones,[w] without
ephod[x] or idol.[y] 5 Afterward the Israel-
ites will return and seek[z] the LORD their
God and David their king.[a] They will
come trembling[b] to the LORD and to his
blessings in the last days.[c]

2:8 [a] S Dt 8:18 [b] ver 13; Eze 16:15-19; Hos 8:4 **2:9** [c] Hos 8:7 [d] Hos 9:2 **2:10** [e] Eze 23:10 [f] Jer 13:26 [g] S Eze 16:37 **2:11** [h] Jer 7:34 [i] S Isa 24:8 [j] S Isa 1:14; Jer 16:9; Hos 3:4; 9:5; Am 5:21; 8:10 **2:12** [k] S Isa 7:23; S Jer 8:13 [l] S Jer 5:17 [m] S Jer 3:1 [n] S Isa 5:6 [o] Hos 5:7; 13:8 **2:13** [p] Isa 65:7 [q] ver 8; S Jer 7:9; Hos 11:2 [r] S Eze 16:17; S 23:40 [s] Hos 4:13 [t] Hos 4:6; 8:14; 13:6 [u] S Jer 44:17; Hos 13:1 **2:14** [v] S Eze 19:13 **2:15** [w] S Jos 7:24,26 [x] Ex 15:1-18 [y] S Jer 2:2; S Eze 16:22 [z] S Eze 28:26; Hos 12:9 **2:16** [a] S Isa 54:5 **2:17** [b] Ex 23:13; Ps 16:4 [c] S Jos 23:7; Zec 13:2 **2:18** [d] S Job 5:22 [e] S Ps 46:9; S Isa 2:4; Zec 9:10 [f] S Job 5:23; S Jer 23:6; Eze 34:25 **2:19** [g] S Isa 62:4; 2Co 11:2 [h] S Isa 1:27 [i] S Isa 54:8 **2:20** [j] Jer 31:34; Hos 4:1; 6:6; 13:4 [k] S Eze 16:8 **2:21** [l] Isa 55:10; Zec 8:12; Mal 3:10-11 **2:22** [m] S Jer 31:12; Hos 14:7; Joel 2:19 [n] S Eze 36:29-30; S Hos 1:4 **2:23** [o] S Jer 31:27 [p] S Hos 1:6 [q] S ver 1; S Isa 19:25; S Hos 1:10 [r] S Jer 29:12; Ro 9:25*; 1Pe 2:10 **3:1** [s] S Hos 1:2 [t] S 2Sa 6:19 **3:4** [u] Hos 13:11 [v] Da 11:31; S Hos 2:11 [w] Hos 10:1 [x] S Ex 25:7 [y] Jdg 17:5-6; 18:14-17; S La 2:9; Zec 10:2 **3:5** [z] S Dt 4:29; S Isa 9:13; S 10:20; Hos 5:15; Mic 4:1-2 [a] S 1Sa 13:14 [b] S Ps 18:45 [c] S Dt 4:30; S Jer 50:4-5; Hos 11:10

[d] 15 *Achor* means *trouble.* [e] 15 Or *respond*
[f] 16 Hebrew *baal* [g] 19 Or *with;* also in verse 20
[h] 19 Or *with* [i] 22 *Jezreel* means *God plants.*
[j] 23 Hebrew *Lo-Ruhamah* [k] 23 Hebrew *Lo-Ammi*
[l] 2 That is, about 6 ounces (about 170 grams)
[m] 2 That is, probably about 10 bushels (about 330 liters) [n] 3 Or *wait for*

The Charge Against Israel

4 Hear the word of the LORD, you Israelites,
because the LORD has a charge[a] to bring
against you who live in the land:[b]
"There is no faithfulness,[c] no love,
no acknowledgment[d] of God in the land.[e]
2There is only cursing,[a] lying[f] and murder,[g]
stealing[h] and adultery;[i]
they break all bounds,
and bloodshed follows bloodshed.[j]
3Because of this the land mourns,[b][k]
and all who live in it waste away;[l]
the beasts of the field and the birds of the air
and the fish of the sea are dying.[m]

4"But let no man bring a charge,
let no man accuse another,
for your people are like those
who bring charges against a priest.[n]
5You stumble[o] day and night,
and the prophets stumble with you.
So I will destroy your mother[p]—
6 my people are destroyed from lack of knowledge.[q]

"Because you have rejected knowledge,
I also reject you as my priests;
because you have ignored the law[r] of your God,
I also will ignore your children.
7The more the priests increased,
the more they sinned against me;
they exchanged[c] their[d] Glory[s] for something disgraceful.[t]
8They feed on the sins of my people
and relish their wickedness.[u]
9And it will be: Like people, like priests.[v]
I will punish both of them for their ways
and repay them for their deeds.[w]

10"They will eat but not have enough;[x]
they will engage in prostitution[y]
but not increase,
because they have deserted[z] the LORD
to give themselves 11to prostitution,[a]
to old wine[b] and new,
which take away the understanding[c] 12of my people.
They consult a wooden idol[d]
and are answered by a stick of wood.[e]
A spirit of prostitution[f] leads them astray;[g]
they are unfaithful[h] to their God.
13They sacrifice on the mountaintops
and burn offerings on the hills,
under oak,[i] poplar and terebinth,
where the shade is pleasant.[j]
Therefore your daughters turn to prostitution[k]
and your daughters-in-law to adultery.[l]

14"I will not punish your daughters
when they turn to prostitution,
nor your daughters-in-law
when they commit adultery,
because the men themselves consort with harlots[m]
and sacrifice with shrine prostitutes[n]—
a people without understanding[o]
will come to ruin![p]

15"Though you commit adultery, O Israel,
let not Judah become guilty.

"Do not go to Gilgal;[q]
do not go up to Beth Aven.[e][r]
And do not swear, 'As surely as the LORD lives!'[s]
16The Israelites are stubborn,[t]
like a stubborn heifer.[u]
How then can the LORD pasture them
like lambs[v] in a meadow?
17Ephraim is joined to idols;
leave him alone!
18Even when their drinks are gone,
they continue their prostitution;
their rulers dearly love shameful ways.
19A whirlwind[w] will sweep them away,
and their sacrifices will bring them shame.[x]

Judgment Against Israel

5 "Hear this, you priests!
Pay attention, you Israelites!
Listen, O royal house!
This judgment[y] is against you:
You have been a snare[z] at Mizpah,
a net[a] spread out on Tabor.
2The rebels are deep in slaughter.[b]
I will discipline all of them.[c]

4:1 aS Job 10:2; S Jer 2:9 bJoel 1:2,14 cS Pr 28:2 dS Pr 10:21; S Isa 1:3; Jer 7:28; S Hos 2:20 eS Jer 51:5 4:2 fIsa 59:3; Hos 7:3; 10:4; 11:12 gHos 5:2; 6:9 hHos 7:1 iS Jer 9:2 jS 2Ki 21:16; S Isa 1:15; S Eze 22:2,4; Hos 5:2; 10:13 4:3 kS Jer 4:28 lS Isa 15:6; S 33:9 mS Jer 4:25; S 9:10; S Eze 38:20; Zep 1:3 4:4 nDt 17:12; S Eze 3:26 4:5 oS Eze 7:26; S 14:7 pS Hos 2:2 4:6 qS Pr 10:21; S Isa 1:3; S Hos 2:13; Mal 2:7-8 rHos 8:1,12 4:7 sHab 2:16 tHos 9:11; 10:1, 6; 13:6 4:8 uS Isa 56:11; Hos 14:1; Mic 3:11 4:9 vS Isa 24:2 wJer 5:31; Hos 8:13; 9:9,15; 10:10; 12:2 4:10 xS Lev 26:26; S Isa 55:2; Mic 6:14 yS Eze 22:9 zHos 7:14; 9:17 4:11 aver 14; Hos 5:4 bS Lev 10:9; S 1Sa 25:36 cS Pr 20:1 4:12 dJer 2:27 eHab 2:19 fS Nu 15:39 gS Isa 44:20 hS Ps 73:27 4:13 iS Isa 1:29 jS Jer 3:6; Hos 10:8; 11:2 kJer 2:20; Am 7:17 lHos 2:13 4:14 mS ver 11 nS Ge 38:21; Hos 9:1 oS Pr 10:21 pver 19 4:15 qHos 9:15; 12:11; Am 4:4; 5:5 rS Jos 7:2; S Hos 5:8 sS Jer 4:2 4:16 tS Ex 32:9 uS Jer 31:18 vIsa 5:17; 7:25 4:19 wHos 12:1; 13:15 xver 13-14; Isa 1:29 5:1 yS Jdg 10:2 zHos 6:9; 9:8 aS Jer 5:26 5:2 bS Hos 4:2 cHos 9:15

a2 That is, to pronounce a curse upon b3 Or dries up c7 Syriac and an ancient Hebrew scribal tradition; Masoretic Text I will exchange d7 Masoretic Text; an ancient Hebrew scribal tradition my e15 Beth Aven means house of wickedness (a name for Bethel, which means house of God).

[3]I know all about Ephraim;
Israel is not hidden[a] from me.
Ephraim, you have now turned to
prostitution;
Israel is corrupt.[b]

[4]"Their deeds do not permit them
to return[c] to their God.
A spirit of prostitution[d] is in their
heart;
they do not acknowledge[e] the
LORD.
[5]Israel's arrogance testifies[f] against
them;
the Israelites, even Ephraim,
stumble[g] in their sin;
Judah also stumbles with them.[h]
[6]When they go with their flocks and
herds
to seek the LORD,[i]
they will not find him;
he has withdrawn[j] himself from
them.
[7]They are unfaithful[k] to the LORD;
they give birth to illegitimate[l]
children.
Now their New Moon festivals[m]
will devour[n] them and their fields.

[8]"Sound the trumpet[o] in Gibeah,[p]
the horn in Ramah.[q]
Raise the battle cry in Beth Aven[t];[r]
lead on, O Benjamin.
[9]Ephraim will be laid waste[s]
on the day of reckoning.[t]
Among the tribes of Israel
I proclaim what is certain.[u]
[10]Judah's leaders are like those
who move boundary stones.[v]
I will pour out my wrath[w] on them
like a flood of water.
[11]Ephraim is oppressed,
trampled in judgment,
intent on pursuing idols.[u][x]
[12]I am like a moth[y] to Ephraim,
like rot[z] to the people of Judah.

[13]"When Ephraim[a] saw his sickness,
and Judah his sores,
then Ephraim turned to Assyria,[b]
and sent to the great king for
help.[c]
But he is not able to cure[d] you,
not able to heal your sores.[e]
[14]For I will be like a lion[f] to Ephraim,
like a great lion to Judah.
I will tear them to pieces[g] and go
away;
I will carry them off, with no one
to rescue them.[h]
[15]Then I will go back to my place[i]
until they admit their guilt.[j]
And they will seek my face;[k]

5:3 [a]Am 5:12
[b]S Eze 23:7;
S Hos 1:2; 6:10
5:4 [c]Hos 7:10
[d]S Hos 4:11
[e]S Jer 4:22;
S Hos 4:6
5:5 [f]S Isa 3:9;
S Jer 2:19;
Hos 7:10
[g]S Eze 14:7
[h]Hos 14:1
5:6 [i]Mic 6:6-7
[j]S Pr 1:28;
Isa 1:15; Eze 8:6;
Mal 1:10
5:7 [k]S Isa 24:16;
Hos 6:7 [l]Hos 2:4
[m]Isa 1:14
[n]S Hos 2:11-12
5:8 [o]S Nu 10:2;
S Jer 4:21;
S Eze 33:3
[p]Jdg 19:12;
Hos 9:9; 10:9
[q]S Isa 10:29
[r]S Jos 7:2;
Hos 4:15; 10:5
5:9 [s]S Isa 7:16
[t]Isa 37:3;
Hos 9:11-17
[u]Isa 46:10;
Zec 1:6
5:10 [v]S Dt 19:14
[w]S Eze 7:8
5:11 [x]Hos 9:16;
Mic 6:16
5:12
[y]S Job 13:28;
S Isa 51:8
[z]S Job 18:16
5:13 [a]S Isa 7:16
[b]S Eze 23:5;
Hos 7:11; 8:9;
12:1 [c]S La 5:6;
Hos 7:8; 10:6
[d]S Isa 3:7;
Hos 14:3
[e]Hos 2:7
5:14
[f]S Job 10:16;
S Jer 4:7; Am 3:4
[g]Hos 6:1
[h]S Dt 32:39;
Mic 5:8
5:15 [i]S Isa 18:4
[j]S Lev 26:40
[k]S Nu 21:7;
S Ps 24:6;
S Hos 3:5

[l]Ps 50:15;
S Jer 2:27
[m]Isa 64:9;
S Eze 20:43
6:1 [n]S Isa 10:20;
S 19:22
[o]S Job 16:9;
La 3:11;
Hos 5:14
[p]S Nu 12:13;
S Jer 3:22
[q]S Dt 32:39;
S Job 5:18;
S Jer 30:17;
Hos 14:4
6:2 [r]Ps 30:5;
S 80:18
[s]S Mt 16:21
[t]S Ps 71:20
6:3 [u]S Job 4:3;
Joel 2:23
[v]Ps 72:6;
Hos 11:10; 12:6
6:4 [w]Hos 11:8
[x]Hos 7:1; 13:3
6:5 [y]Jer 1:9-10;
5:14; 23:29
[z]Heb 4:12
6:6 [a]S 1Sa 15:22;
S Isa 1:11;
Mt 9:13*; 12:7*;
Mk 12:33
[b]S Jer 4:22;
S Hos 2:20
[c]S Ps 40:6;
Mic 6:8

in their misery[l] they will earnestly
seek me.[m]"

Israel Unrepentant

6 "Come, let us return[n] to the LORD.
He has torn us to pieces[o]
but he will heal us;[p]
he has injured us
but he will bind up our wounds.[q]
[2]After two days he will revive us;[r]
on the third day[s] he will restore[t]
us,
that we may live in his presence.
[3]Let us acknowledge the LORD;
let us press on to acknowledge
him.
As surely as the sun rises,
he will appear;
he will come to us like the winter
rains,[u]
like the spring rains that water the
earth.[v]"

[4]"What can I do with you, Ephraim?[w]
What can I do with you, Judah?
Your love is like the morning mist,
like the early dew that
disappears.[x]
[5]Therefore I cut you in pieces with
my prophets,
I killed you with the words of my
mouth;[y]
my judgments flashed like
lightning upon you.[z]
[6]For I desire mercy, not sacrifice,[a]
and acknowledgment[b] of God
rather than burnt offerings.[c]
[7]Like Adam,[v] they have broken the
covenant[d]—
they were unfaithful[e] to me there.
[8]Gilead is a city of wicked men,[f]
stained with footprints of blood.
[9]As marauders lie in ambush for a
man,[g]
so do bands of priests;
they murder[h] on the road to
Shechem,
committing shameful crimes.[i]
[10]I have seen a horrible[j] thing
in the house of Israel.
There Ephraim is given to
prostitution
and Israel is defiled.[k]

[11]"Also for you, Judah,
a harvest[l] is appointed.

6:7 [d]S Ge 9:11; S Jer 11:10; Hos 8:1 [e]S Hos 5:7 6:8 [f]Hos 12:11 6:9 [g]Ps 10:8 [h]S Hos 4:2 [i]Jer 5:30-31; 7:9-10; S Eze 22:9; S Hos 5:1; 7:1 6:10 [j]S Jer 5:30 [k]S Jer 23:14; S Eze 23:7; S Hos 5:3 6:11 [l]Jer 51:33; Joel 3:13

[t]8 *Beth Aven* means *house of wickedness* (a name for Bethel, which means *house of God*) [u]11 The meaning of the Hebrew for this word is uncertain [v]7 Or *As at Adam;* or *Like men*

"Whenever I would restore the
fortunes[a] of my people,

7

[1]whenever I would heal Israel,
the sins of Ephraim are exposed
and the crimes of Samaria
revealed.[b]
They practice deceit,[c]
thieves break into houses,[d]
bandits rob in the streets;[e]
[2]but they do not realize
that I remember[f] all their evil
deeds.[g]
Their sins engulf them;[h]
they are always before me.

[3]"They delight the king with their
wickedness,
the princes with their lies.[i]
[4]They are all adulterers,[j]
burning like an oven
whose fire the baker need not stir
from the kneading of the dough
till it rises.
[5]On the day of the festival of our king
the princes become inflamed with
wine,[k]
and he joins hands with the
mockers.[l]
[6]Their hearts are like an oven;[m]
they approach him with intrigue.
Their passion smolders all night;
in the morning it blazes like a
flaming fire.
[7]All of them are hot as an oven;
they devour their rulers.
All their kings fall,[n]
and none of them calls[o] on me.

[8]"Ephraim mixes[p] with the nations;
Ephraim is a flat cake not turned
over.
[9]Foreigners sap his strength,[q]
but he does not realize it.
His hair is sprinkled with gray,
but he does not notice.
[10]Israel's arrogance testifies against
him,[r]
but despite all this
he does not return[s] to the LORD his
God
or search[t] for him.

[11]"Ephraim is like a dove,[u]
easily deceived and senseless—
now calling to Egypt,[v]
now turning to Assyria.[w]
[12]When they go, I will throw my net[x]
over them;
I will pull them down like birds of
the air.
When I hear them flocking together,
I will catch them.
[13]Woe[y] to them,
because they have strayed[z] from
me!
Destruction to them,
because they have rebelled against
me!
I long to redeem them
but they speak lies[a] against me.[b]
[14]They do not cry out to me from their
hearts[c]
but wail upon their beds.
They gather together[w] for grain and
new wine[d]
but turn away from me.[e]
[15]I trained[f] them and strengthened
them,
but they plot evil[g] against me.
[16]They do not turn to the Most High;[h]
they are like a faulty bow.[i]
Their leaders will fall by the sword
because of their insolent[j] words.
For this they will be ridiculed[k]
in the land of Egypt.[l]

Israel to Reap the Whirlwind

8

[1]"Put the trumpet[m] to your lips!
An eagle[n] is over the house of the
LORD
because the people have broken my
covenant[o]
and rebelled against my law.[p]
[2]Israel cries out to me,
'O our God, we acknowledge you!'
[3]But Israel has rejected what is good;
an enemy will pursue him.[q]
[4]They set up kings without my
consent;
they choose princes without my
approval.[r]
With their silver and gold
they make idols[s] for themselves
to their own destruction.
[5]Throw out your calf-idol,
O Samaria![t]
My anger burns against them.
How long will they be incapable of
purity?[u]
[6] They are from Israel!
This calf—a craftsman has made it;
it is not God.[v]
It will be broken in pieces,
that calf[w] of Samaria.[x]

[7]"They sow the wind
and reap the whirlwind.[y]
The stalk has no head;
it will produce no flour.[z]
Were it to yield grain,
foreigners would swallow it up.[a]
[8]Israel is swallowed up;[b]
now she is among the nations

7:1 aS Ps 126:4; Zep 2:7 bS Eze 24:13; S Hos 6:4 cver 13 dS Ex 22:2; Hos 4:2 eS Hos 4:9; 12:1 **7:2** fS Jer 14:10; S 44:21; S Hos 8:13 gS Job 35:15; Hos 9:15 hJer 2:19; 4:18 **7:3** iJer 28:1-4; S Hos 4:2; 10:13; Mic 7:3 **7:4** jS Jer 9:2 **7:5** kS Isa 28:1,7 lS Ps 1:1 **7:6** mPs 21:9 **7:7** nHos 13:10 over 16; S Ps 14:4; S Isa 9:13; Zep 1:6 **7:8** pver 11; Ps 106:35; S Hos 5:13 **7:9** qIsa 1:7; Hos 8:7 **7:10** rHos 5:5 sHos 5:4 tver 14; S Isa 9:13 **7:11** uS Ge 8:8 vver 16; Hos 9:6 wS ver 8; S Jer 2:18; S La 5:6; Hos 9:3; 12:1 **7:12** xS Eze 12:13; S 32:3 **7:13** yHos 9:12 zJer 14:10; S Eze 34:4-6; Hos 9:17 aS Ps 116:11 bver 1; Jer 51:9; Mt 23:37 **7:14** cJer 3:10 dAm 2:8 eS ver 10; S Hos 4:10; 9:1; 13:16 **7:15** fHos 11:3 gPs 2:1; S 140:2; Na 1:9,11 **7:16** hS ver 7 iS Ps 78:9,57 jMal 3:14 kS Eze 23:32 lS ver 11; Hos 9:3; 11:5 **8:1** mS Nu 10:2; S Eze 33:3 nS Dt 28:49; Jer 4:13 oS Jer 11:10 pS Hos 4:6; S 6:7 **8:3** qS Mt 7:23; Tit 1:16 **8:4** rHos 13:10 sS Hos 2:8; 13:1-2 **8:5** tver 6; Hos 10:5 uJer 13:27 **8:6** vS Jer 16:20; Hos 14:3 wS Ex 32:4 xS ver 5 **8:7** yS Job 4:8; Pr 22:8; Isa 66:15; Hos 10:12-13; Na 1:3; Gal 6:8 zS Dt 28:38; S Isa 17:11; Hos 9:16 aHos 2:9; S 7:9 **8:8** bJer 51:34

w14 Most Hebrew manuscripts; some Hebrew manuscripts and Septuagint *They slash themselves*

like a worthless[a] thing.
9For they have gone up to Assyria[b]
like a wild donkey[c] wandering
alone.
Ephraim has sold herself to
lovers.[d]
10Although they have sold themselves
among the nations,
I will now gather them together.[e]
They will begin to waste away[f]
under the oppression of the
mighty king.

11"Though Ephraim built many altars
for sin offerings,
these have become altars for
sinning.[g]
12I wrote for them the many things of
my law,
but they regarded them as
something alien.[h]
13They offer sacrifices given to me
and they eat[i] the meat,
but the LORD is not pleased with
them.[j]
Now he will remember[k] their
wickedness
and punish their sins:[l]
They will return to Egypt.[m]
14Israel has forgotten[n] his Maker[o]
and built palaces;
Judah has fortified many towns.
But I will send fire upon their cities
that will consume their
fortresses."[p]

Punishment for Israel

9 Do not rejoice, O Israel;
do not be jubilant[q] like the other
nations.
For you have been unfaithful[r] to
your God;
you love the wages of a
prostitute[s]
at every threshing floor.
2Threshing floors and winepresses
will not feed the people;
the new wine[t] will fail them.
3They will not remain[u] in the LORD's
land;
Ephraim will return to Egypt[v]
and eat unclean[x] food in Assyria.[w]
4They will not pour out wine
offerings[x] to the LORD,
nor will their sacrifices please[y]
him.
Such sacrifices will be to them like
the bread of mourners;[z]
all who eat them will be unclean.[a]
This food will be for themselves;
it will not come into the temple of
the LORD.[b]

5What will you do[c] on the day of
your appointed feasts,[d]
on the festival days of the LORD?
6Even if they escape from destruction,
Egypt will gather them,[e]
and Memphis[f] will bury them.[g]
Their treasures of silver[h] will be
taken over by briers,
and thorns[i] will overrun their
tents.
7The days of punishment[j] are
coming,
the days of reckoning[k] are at
hand.
Let Israel know this.
Because your sins[l] are so many
and your hostility so great,
the prophet is considered a fool,[m]
the inspired man a maniac.[n]
8The prophet, along with my God,
is the watchman over Ephraim,[y]
yet snares[o] await him on all his
paths,
and hostility in the house of his
God.[p]
9They have sunk deep into
corruption,[q]
as in the days of Gibeah.[r]
God will remember[s] their
wickedness
and punish them for their sins.[t]

10"When I found Israel,
it was like finding grapes in the
desert;
when I saw your fathers,
it was like seeing the early fruit[u]
on the fig[v] tree.
But when they came to Baal Peor,[w]
they consecrated themselves to
that shameful idol[x]
and became as vile as the thing
they loved.
11Ephraim's glory[y] will fly away like a
bird[z]—
no birth, no pregnancy, no
conception.[a]
12Even if they rear children,
I will bereave[b] them of every one.
Woe[c] to them
when I turn away from them![d]
13I have seen Ephraim,[e] like Tyre,
planted in a pleasant place.[f]
But Ephraim will bring out
their children to the slayer."[g]

14Give them, O LORD—
what will you give them?
Give them wombs that miscarry
and breasts that are dry.[h]

[x]3 That is, ceremonially unclean [y]8 Or *The prophet is the watchman over Ephraim, / the people of my God*

8:8 [a]Jer 22:28 **8:9** [b]S Jer 2:18 [c]S Ge 16:12 [d]S Jer 22:20; Eze 23:5; S Hos 5:13 **8:10** [e]S Eze 16:37; S 22:20 [f]Jer 42:2 **8:11** [g]Hos 10:1; 12:11 **8:12** [h]S ver 1 **8:13** [i]S Jer 7:21 [j]S Jer 6:20; Hos 9:4 [k]Hos 7:2; 9:9; Am 8:7 [l]S Hos 4:9 [m]Hos 9:3,6 **8:14** [n]S Dt 32:18; S Isa 17:10; S Hos 2:13 [o]S Ps 95:6 [p]Jer 5:17; S 17:27; Am 2:5 **9:1** [q]Isa 22:12-13 [r]S Ps 73:27; S Isa 24:16; S Hos 7:14; 10:5 [s]S Ge 30:15 **9:2** [t]Isa 24:7; Hos 2:9; Joel 1:10 **9:3** [u]Lev 25:23 [v]S Hos 7:16; S 8:13 [w]Eze 4:13; S Hos 7:11; 10:5; Am 7:17 **9:4** [x]Joel 1:9,13; 2:14 [y]S Hos 8:13 [z]S Jer 16:7 [a]S Dt 26:14; Hag 2:13-14 [b]S Eze 4:13-14
9:5 [c]Isa 10:3; Jer 5:31 [d]S Hos 2:11 **9:6** [e]S Hos 7:11; S 8:13 [f]S Isa 19:13 [g]S Jer 42:22 [h]Zep 1:11 [i]Isa 5:6; Hos 10:8 **9:7** [j]Isa 34:8; Jer 10:15; Mic 7:4; Lk 21:22 [k]S Job 31:14 [l]Jer 16:18 [m]S 1Sa 10:11; Isa 44:25; S La 2:14; Eze 14:9-10 [n]S Jer 29:26; Hos 14:1 **9:8** [o]S Hos 5:1 [p]S Eze 22:26 **9:9** [q]Zep 3:7 [r]Jdg 19:16-30; S Hos 5:8 [s]S Hos 8:13 [t]S Hos 4:9 **9:10** [u]S SS 2:13 [v]S Isa 28:4 [w]Nu 25:1-5; Ps 106:28-29 [x]Jer 11:13; S Hos 4:14 **9:11** [y]S Isa 17:3 [z]S Hos 4:7; 10:5 [a]ver 14 **9:12** [b]ver 16; S Eze 24:21 [c]Hos 7:13 [d]S Dt 31:17 **9:13** [e]S Ps 78:67 [f]S Eze 27:3 [g]S Job 15:22; S La 2:22 **9:14** [h]ver 11; Lk 23:29

15 "Because of all their wickedness in
Gilgal,
I hated them there.
Because of their sinful deeds,
I will drive them out of my house.
I will no longer love them;
all their leaders are rebellious.
16 Ephraim is blighted,
their root is withered,
they yield no fruit.
Even if they bear children,
I will slay their cherished
offspring."

17 My God will reject them
because they have not obeyed
him;
they will be wanderers among the
nations.

10 Israel was a spreading vine;
he brought forth fruit for
himself.
As his fruit increased,
he built more altars;
as his land prospered,
he adorned his sacred stones.
2 Their heart is deceitful,
and now they must bear their
guilt.
The LORD will demolish their altars
and destroy their sacred stones.

3 Then they will say, "We have no
king
because we did not revere the
LORD.
But even if we had a king,
what could he do for us?"
4 They make many promises,
take false oaths
and make agreements;
therefore lawsuits spring up
like poisonous weeds in a
plowed field.
5 The people who live in Samaria fear
for the calf-idol of Beth Aven.[a]
Its people will mourn over it,
and so will its idolatrous priests,
those who had rejoiced over its
splendor,
because it is taken from them into
exile.
6 It will be carried to Assyria
as tribute for the great king.
Ephraim will be disgraced;
Israel will be ashamed of its
wooden idols.[b]
7 Samaria and its king will float away
like a twig on the surface of the
waters.
8 The high places of wickedness[c]
will be destroyed—

9:15 S Hos 4:15; S Hos 7:2; S Jer 12:8; S Isa 1:23; S Hos 4:9; 5:2
9:16 S Hos 5:11; S Job 18:16; S Hos 8:7; S ver 12
9:17 S Jer 6:30; S Hos 4:10; S Dt 28:65; S Hos 7:13
10:1 S Eze 15:2; S 2Ki 14:23; Hos 12:11; Hos 3:4; 5:4; 12:11
10:2 1Ki 18:21; Hos 13:16; ver 8; Mic 5:13
10:4 S Hos 4:2; S Eze 17:19; Am 5:7; Am 6:12
10:5 S Ex 32:4; S Isa 44:17-20; ver 8; S Hos 5:8; S 2Ki 23:5; Zep 1:4; S Jdg 18:17-18; S Hos 8:5; 5:4; 3:11
10:6 S 2Ki 16:7; Hos 11:5; S Jdg 3:15; S Hos 5:13; Isa 30:3; S Hos 4:7; Jer 48:13
10:7 ver 15; Hos 13:11
10:8 S Eze 6:6; S ver 5; 1Ki 12:28-30; S Hos 4:13; S Hos 9:6; ver 2; S Isa 32:13; S Job 30:6; Am 3:14-15; Am 7:9; Lk 23:30; Rev 6:16
10:9 S Hos 5:8; S Jos 7:11
10:10 S Eze 5:13; S Hos 4:9
10:11 S Jer 15:12; S 31:18
10:12 S Est 10:3; S Pr 11:18; Jas 3:18; Jer 4:3; S Isa 19:22; Hos 12:6; S Isa 45:8
10:13 S Job 4:8; S Hos 7:3; 11:12; Gal 6:7-8; S Pr 11:18; S Hos 8:7; Ps 33:16
10:14 S Isa 17:3; Mic 5:11; S 2Ki 17:3; S Isa 13:16; Hos 13:16
10:15 S ver 7
11:1 S Jer 2:2; S Eze 16:22; S Dt 4:37

it is the sin of Israel.
Thorns and thistles will grow up
and cover their altars.
Then they will say to the mountains,
"Cover us!"
and to the hills, "Fall on us!"
9 "Since the days of Gibeah, you
have sinned, O Israel,
and there you have remained.[d]
Did not war overtake
the evildoers in Gibeah?
10 When I please, I will punish them;
nations will be gathered against
them
to put them in bonds for their
double sin.
11 Ephraim is a trained heifer
that loves to thresh;
so I will put a yoke
on her fair neck.
I will drive Ephraim,
Judah must plow,
and Jacob must break up the
ground.
12 Sow for yourselves righteousness,
reap the fruit of unfailing love,
and break up your unplowed
ground;
for it is time to seek the LORD,
until he comes
and showers righteousness on
you.
13 But you have planted wickedness,
you have reaped evil,
you have eaten the fruit of
deception.
Because you have depended on your
own strength
and on your many warriors,
14 the roar of battle will rise against
your people,
so that all your fortresses will be
devastated—
as Shalman devastated Beth Arbel
on the day of battle,
when mothers were dashed to the
ground with their children.
15 Thus will it happen to you,
O Bethel,
because your wickedness is great.
When that day dawns,
the king of Israel will be
completely destroyed.

God's Love for Israel

11 "When Israel was a child, I
loved him,

a5 *Beth Aven* means *house of wickedness* (a name for Bethel, which means *house of God*). b6 Or *its counsel* c8 Hebrew *aven,* a reference to Beth Aven (a derogatory name for Bethel) d9 Or *there a stand was taken*

and out of Egypt I called my
son.[a]
2But the more I[d] called Israel,
the further they went from me.[e] [b]
They sacrificed to the Baals[c]
and they burned incense to
images.[d]
3It was I who taught Ephraim to
walk,
taking them by the arms;[e]
but they did not realize
it was I who healed[f] them.
4I led them with cords of human
kindness,
with ties of love;[g]
I lifted the yoke[h] from their neck
and bent down to feed[i] them.[j]

5"Will they not return to Egypt[k]
and will not Assyria[l] rule over
them
because they refuse to repent?[m]
6Swords[n] will flash in their cities,
will destroy the bars[o] of their
gates
and put an end to their plans.
7My people are determined to turn[p]
from me.[q]
Even if they call to the Most High,
he will by no means exalt them.

8"How can I give you up,[r]
Ephraim?[s]
How can I hand you over, Israel?
How can I treat you like Admah?
How can I make you like
Zeboiim?[t]
My heart is changed within me;
all my compassion[u] is aroused.[v]
9I will not carry out my fierce anger,[w]
nor will I turn and devastate[x]
Ephraim.
For I am God, and not man[y]—
the Holy One[z] among you.
I will not come in wrath.[f]
10They will follow the LORD;
he will roar[a] like a lion.[b]
When he roars,
his children will come trembling[c]
from the west.[d]
11They will come trembling
like birds from Egypt,
like doves[e] from Assyria.[f]
I will settle them in their homes,"[g]
declares the LORD.

Israel's Sin

12Ephraim has surrounded me with
lies,[h]
the house of Israel with deceit.
And Judah is unruly against God,
even against the faithful[i] Holy
One.[j]

11:1 [a]S Ex 4:22; Hos 12:9,13; 13:4; Mt 2:15* **11:2** [b]ver 7 [c]S Hos 2:13 [d]S 2Ki 17:15; Isa 65:7; S Jer 18:15; S Hos 4:13; 13:1 **11:3** [e]S Dt 1:31; S 32:11; Hos 7:15 [f]S Ex 15:26; Jer 30:17 **11:4** [g]Jer 31:2-3 [h]S Lev 26:13 [i]Ex 16:32; Ps 78:25 [j]Jer 31:20 **11:5** [k]S Hos 7:16 [l]S Hos 10:6 [m]S Ex 13:17 **11:6** [n]Hos 13:16 [o]S La 2:9 **11:7** [p]S Isa 26:10 [q]ver 2; Jer 3:6-7; 8:5 **11:8** [r]S Jer 7:29 [s]Hos 6:4 [t]S Ge 14:8; S La 3:32 [u]S 1Ki 3:26; S Ps 25:6 [v]S Eze 33:11; Am 7:3 **11:9** [w]Dt 13:17; S Jer 18:8; S 30:11 [x]La 3:22; Mal 3:6 [y]S Nu 23:19 [z]S 2Ki 19:22; S Isa 31:1 **11:10** [a]S Isa 42:13 [b]S Isa 31:4 [c]S Ps 18:45 [d]S Hos 3:5; S 6:1-3 **11:11** [e]S Ge 8:8 [f]S Isa 11:11 [g]S Eze 28:26; S 34:25-28 **11:12** [h]S Hos 4:2 [i]S Dt 7:9 [j]S Hos 10:13

12:1 [k]S Ps 78:67 [l]S Ge 41:6; S Eze 17:10 [m]S Hos 4:19; S 7:1 [n]Hos 5:13; S 7:11 [o]S 2Ki 17:4 **12:2** [p]S Job 10:2; Mic 6:2 [q]Am 2:4 [r]S Ex 32:34 [s]S Hos 4:9; S 9:15 **12:3** [t]Ge 25:26 [u]Ge 32:24-29 **12:4** [v]S Ge 12:8; S 35:15 **12:5** [w]S Ex 3:15 **12:6** [x]S Isa 19:22; Jer 4:1; Joel 2:12 [y]S Ps 106:3; S Jer 22:3 [z]S Eze 18:30; Hos 6:1-3; 10:12; Mic 7:7 **12:7** [a]S Lev 19:36; Am 8:5 **12:8** [b]S Eze 28:5 [c]Ps 62:10; Rev 3:17 **12:9** [d]Lev 23:43; S Hos 2:15; S 11:1 [e]S Ne 8:17 **12:10** [f]S Jdg 14:12; S Eze 20:49 [g]2Ki 17:13; Jer 7:25 **12:11** [h]S Hos 6:8

12 1Ephraim[k] feeds on the wind;[l]
he pursues the east wind all day
and multiplies lies and violence.[m]
He makes a treaty with Assyria[n]
and sends olive oil to Egypt.[o]
2The LORD has a charge[p] to bring
against Judah;[q]
he will punish[r] Jacob[s] according
to his ways
and repay him according to his
deeds.[s]
3In the womb he grasped his
brother's heel;[t]
as a man he struggled[u] with God.
4He struggled with the angel and
overcame him;
he wept and begged for his favor.
He found him at Bethel[v]
and talked with him there—
5the LORD God Almighty,
the LORD is his name[w] of renown!
6But you must return[x] to your God;
maintain love and justice,[y]
and wait for your God always.[z]

7The merchant uses dishonest
scales;[a]
he loves to defraud.
8Ephraim boasts,[b]
"I am very rich; I have become
wealthy.[c]
With all my wealth they will not find
in me
any iniquity or sin."

9"I am the LORD your God,
who brought you out of[h] Egypt;[d]
I will make you live in tents[e] again,
as in the days of your appointed
feasts.
10I spoke to the prophets,
gave them many visions
and told parables[f] through
them."[g]

11Is Gilead wicked?[h]
Its people are worthless!
Do they sacrifice bulls in Gilgal?[i]
Their altars will be like piles of
stones
on a plowed field.[j]
12Jacob fled to the country of Aram[i];[k]
Israel served to get a wife,
and to pay for her he tended
sheep.[l]
13The LORD used a prophet to bring
Israel up from Egypt,[m]

[i]S Hos 4:15 [j]S Hos 8:11 **12:12** [k]Ge 28:5 [l]S Ge 29:18 **12:13** [m]S Hos 11:1

d2 Some Septuagint manuscripts; Hebrew *they*
e2 Septuagint; Hebrew *them*
f9 Or *come against any city*
g2 *Jacob* means *he grasps the heel* (figuratively, *he deceives*).
h9 Or *God / ever since you were in*
i12 That is, Northwest Mesopotamia

by a prophet he cared for him.[a]
14But Ephraim has bitterly provoked
him to anger;
his Lord will leave upon him the
guilt of his bloodshed[b]
and will repay him for his
contempt.[c]

The LORD's Anger Against Israel

13 When Ephraim spoke, men
trembled;[d]
he was exalted[e] in Israel.
But he became guilty of Baal
worship[f] and died.
2Now they sin more and more;
they make[g] idols for themselves
from their silver,[h]
cleverly fashioned images,
all of them the work of
craftsmen.[i]
It is said of these people,
"They offer human sacrifice
and kiss[j][j] the calf-idols.[k]"
3Therefore they will be like the
morning mist,
like the early dew that
disappears,[l]
like chaff[m] swirling from a
threshing floor,[n]
like smoke[o] escaping through a
window.

4"But I am the LORD your God,
⌞who brought you⌟ out of[k] Egypt.[p]
You shall acknowledge[q] no God but
me,[r]
no Savior[s] except me.
5I cared for you in the desert,[t]
in the land of burning heat.
6When I fed them, they were
satisfied;
when they were satisfied, they
became proud;[u]
then they forgot[v] me.[w]
7So I will come upon them like a
lion,[x]
like a leopard I will lurk by the
path.
8Like a bear robbed of her cubs,[y]
I will attack them and rip them
open.
Like a lion[z] I will devour them;
a wild animal will tear them
apart.[a]

9"You are destroyed, O Israel,
because you are against me,[b]
against your helper.[c]
10Where is your king,[d] that he may
save you?
Where are your rulers in all your
towns,
of whom you said,
'Give me a king and princes'?[e]
11So in my anger I gave you a king,[f]
and in my wrath I took him
away.[g]
12The guilt of Ephraim is stored up,
his sins are kept on record.[h]
13Pains as of a woman in childbirth[i]
come to him,
but he is a child without wisdom;
when the time[j] arrives,
he does not come to the opening
of the womb.[k]

14"I will ransom them from the power
of the grave[l];[l]
I will redeem them from death.[m]
Where, O death, are your plagues?
Where, O grave,[l] is your
destruction?[n]

"I will have no compassion,
15 even though he thrives[o] among
his brothers.
An east wind[p] from the LORD will
come,
blowing in from the desert;
his spring will fail
and his well dry up.[q]
His storehouse will be plundered[r]
of all its treasures.
16The people of Samaria[s] must bear
their guilt,[t]
because they have rebelled[u]
against their God.
They will fall by the sword;[v]
their little ones will be dashed[w] to
the ground,
their pregnant women[x] ripped
open."

Repentance to Bring Blessing

14 Return,[y] O Israel, to the LORD
your God.
Your sins[z] have been your
downfall![a]
2Take words with you
and return to the LORD.
Say to him:
"Forgive[b] all our sins
and receive us graciously,[c]
that we may offer the fruit of our
lips.[m][d]
3Assyria cannot save us;[e]
we will not mount war-horses.[f]
We will never again say 'Our gods'[g]
to what our own hands have
made,[h]

12:13 [a]Ex 13:3; 14:19-22; Isa 63:11-14 **12:14** [b]S Eze 18:13 [c]Da 11:18 **13:1** [d]Jdg 12:1 [e]S Jdg 8:1 [f]S Hos 11:2 **13:2** [g]Jer 44:8 [h]S Isa 46:6; S Jer 10:4 [i]Hos 14:3 [j]1Ki 19:18 [k]S Isa 44:17-20; S Hos 8:4 **13:3** [l]S Hos 6:4 [m]S Job 13:25; Ps 1:4; S Isa 17:13 [n]Da 2:35 [o]Ps 68:2 **13:4** [p]S Jer 2:6; S Hos 12:9 [q]S Hos 2:20 [r]S Ex 20:3 [s]S Dt 28:29; Ps 18:46; Isa 43:11; 45:21-22 **13:5** [t]S Dt 1:19 **13:6** [u]S Eze 28:5 [v]S Dt 32:18; S Isa 17:10 [w]Dt 32:12-15; S Pr 30:7-9; S Jer 5:7; S Hos 2:13; S 4:7 **13:7** [x]S Job 10:16; S Jer 4:7 **13:8** [y]2Sa 17:8 [z]S 1Sa 17:34; Ps 17:12 [a]Ps 50:22; S La 3:10; S Hos 2:12 **13:9** [b]Jer 2:17-19 [c]S Dt 33:29 **13:10** [d]2Ki 17:4; Hos 7:7 [e]1Sa 8:6; Hos 8:4 **13:11** [f]S Nu 11:20 [g]S Jos 24:20; S 1Sa 13:14; S 1Ki 14:10; Hos 3:4; S 10:7 **13:12** [h]S Dt 32:34 **13:13** [i]Isa 13:8; Mic 4:9-10 [j]2Ki 19:3 [k]Isa 66:9 **13:14** [l]S Ps 16:10; 49:15; S Eze 37:12-13 [m]S Isa 25:8 [n]1Co 15:55* **13:15** [o]S Hos 10:1 [p]S Job 1:19; S Eze 19:12; S Hos 4:19 [q]S Jer 51:36 [r]Jer 20:5 **13:16** [s]2Ki 17:5 [t]Hos 10:2 [u]S Hos 7:14 [v]Hos 11:6 [w]S 2Ki 8:12; S Hos 10:14 [x]2Ki 15:16; Isa 13:16; Am 1:13 **14:1** [y]S Isa 19:22; S Jer 3:12 [z]S Hos 4:8 [a]S Hos 5:5; S 9:7 **14:2** [b]S Ex 34:9 [c]Ps 51:16-17; Mic 7:18-19 [d]Heb 13:15 **14:3** [e]S Hos 5:13 [f]Ps 33:17; S Isa 31:1; Mic 5:10 [g]Hos 8:6 [h]ver 8; Hos 13:2

[j]2 Or *"Men who sacrifice / kiss* [k]4 Or *God / ever since you were in* [l]14 Hebrew *Sheol* [m]2 Or *offer our lips as sacrifices of bulls*

for in you the fatherless[a] find
compassion."

4"I will heal[b] their waywardness[c]
and love them freely,[d]
for my anger has turned away[e]
from them.
5I will be like the dew[f] to Israel;
he will blossom like a lily.[g]
Like a cedar of Lebanon[h]
he will send down his roots;[i]
6 his young shoots will grow.
His splendor will be like an olive
tree,[j]
his fragrance like a cedar of
Lebanon.[k]
7Men will dwell again in his
shade.[l]
He will flourish like the grain.
He will blossom[m] like a vine,
and his fame will be like the wine[n]
from Lebanon.[o]
8O Ephraim, what more have I[a] to do
with idols?[p]
I will answer him and care for
him.
I am like a green pine[q] tree;
your fruitfulness comes from me."
9Who is wise?[r] He will realize these
things.
Who is discerning? He will
understand them.[s]
The ways of the LORD are right;[t]
the righteous walk[u] in them,
but the rebellious stumble in them.

14:3 [a]Ps 10:14; 68:5; Jer 49:11
14:4 [b]S Isa 30:26; S Hos 6:1 [c]S Jer 2:19 [d]S Isa 55:1; Jer 31:20; Zep 3:17 [e]S Job 13:16
14:5 [f]S Ge 27:28; S Isa 18:4 [g]S SS 2:1 [h]Isa 35:2 [i]Job 29:19
14:6 [j]Ps 52:8; S Jer 11:16 [k]S Ps 92:12; S SS 4:11
14:7 [l]Ps 91:1-4 [m]S Ge 40:10 [n]S Hos 2:22 [o]S Eze 17:23
14:8 [p]S ver 3 [q]S Isa 37:24
14:9 [r]S Ps 107:43 [s]S Pr 10:29; S Isa 1:28; Da 12:10 [t]Ps 111:7-8; Zep 3:5; Ac 13:10 [u]Isa 26:7

[a]8 Or What more has Ephraim

Joel

1 The word of the LORD that came[a] to
Joel[b] son of Pethuel.

An Invasion of Locusts

2Hear this,[c] you elders;[d]
listen, all who live in the land.[e]
Has anything like this ever
happened in your days
or in the days of your
forefathers?[f]
3Tell it to your children,[g]
and let your children tell it to their
children,
and their children to the next
generation.[h]
4What the locust[i] swarm has left
the great locusts have eaten;
what the great locusts have left
the young locusts have eaten;
what the young locusts have left[j]
other locusts[a] have eaten.[k]

5Wake up, you drunkards, and weep!
Wail, all you drinkers of wine;[l]
wail because of the new wine,
for it has been snatched[m] from
your lips.
6A nation has invaded my land,
powerful and without number;[n]
it has the teeth[o] of a lion,
the fangs of a lioness.
7It has laid waste[p] my vines
and ruined my fig trees.[q]
It has stripped off their bark
and thrown it away,
leaving their branches white.

8Mourn like a virgin[b] in sackcloth[r]
grieving for the husband[c] of her
youth.
9Grain offerings and drink offerings[s]
are cut off from the house of the
LORD.
The priests are in mourning,[t]
those who minister before the
LORD.
10The fields are ruined,
the ground is dried up[d];[u]
the grain is destroyed,
the new wine[v] is dried up,
the oil fails.[w]

11Despair, you farmers,[x]
wail, you vine growers;
grieve for the wheat and the barley,[y]
because the harvest of the field is
destroyed.[z]
12The vine is dried up
and the fig tree is withered;[a]
the pomegranate,[b] the palm and the
apple tree—
all the trees of the field—are dried
up.[c]
Surely the joy of mankind
is withered away.

A Call to Repentance

13Put on sackcloth,[d] O priests, and
mourn;
wail, you who minister[e] before
the altar.
Come, spend the night in sackcloth,
you who minister before my God;
for the grain offerings and drink
offerings[f]
are withheld from the house of
your God.
14Declare a holy fast;[g]
call a sacred assembly.
Summon the elders
and all who live in the land[h]
to the house of the LORD your God,
and cry out[i] to the LORD.[j]

15Alas for that[k] day!
For the day of the LORD[l] is near;
it will come like destruction from
the Almighty.[e][m]

16Has not the food been cut off[n]
before our very eyes—
joy and gladness[o]
from the house of our God?[p]
17The seeds are shriveled
beneath the clods.[f][q]
The storehouses are in ruins,
the granaries have been broken
down,
for the grain has dried up.

1:1 [a]S Jer 1:2 [b]Ac 2:16 **1:2** [c]Hos 5:1 [d]Joel 2:16 [e]S Hos 4:1 [f]Joel 2:2 **1:3** [g]S Ex 10:2 [h]S Ps 71:18 **1:4** [i]S Ex 10:14 [j]S Ex 10:5 [k]S Ex 10:15; S Dt 28:39; Am 7:1; Na 3:15 **1:5** [l]Joel 3:3 [m]S Isa 24:7 **1:6** [n]Ps 105:34; Joel 2:2,11,25 [o]Rev 9:8 **1:7** [p]Isa 5:6 [q]Am 4:9 **1:8** [r]ver 13; Isa 22:12; Am 8:10 **1:9** [s]S Hos 9:4 [t]S Isa 22:12 **1:10** [u]S Isa 5:6; S 24:4; S Jer 3:3 [v]S Hos 9:2 [w]S Nu 18:12 **1:11** [x]S Job 6:20; Am 5:16 [y]S Ex 9:31 [z]S Isa 17:11 **1:12** [a]S Isa 15:6 [b]S Ex 28:33 [c]S Isa 16:8; Hag 2:19 **1:13** [d]S Ge 37:34; S Jer 4:8 [e]Joel 2:17 [f]ver 9; S Hos 9:4; Joel 2:14 **1:14** [g]S 2Ch 20:3 [h]S Hos 4:1 [i]Jnh 3:8 [j]2Ch 20:4 **1:15** [k]S Isa 2:12; Jer 30:7; S 46:10; S Eze 30:3; Mal 4:5 [l]Joel 2:1, 11,31; 3:14; Am 5:18; Zep 1:14; Zec 14:1 [m]S Ge 17:1 **1:16** [n]Isa 3:7 [o]S Ps 51:8 [p]Dt 12:7 **1:17** [q]S Isa 17:10-11

[a]4 The precise meaning of the four Hebrew words used here for locusts is uncertain. [b]8 Or *young woman* [c]8 Or *betrothed* [d]10 Or *ground mourns* [e]15 Hebrew *Shaddai* [f]17 The meaning of the Hebrew for this word is uncertain.

18How the cattle moan!
The herds mill about
because they have no pasture;[a]
even the flocks of sheep are
suffering.[b]

19To you, O LORD, I call,[c]
for fire[d] has devoured the open
pastures[e]
and flames have burned up all the
trees of the field.
20Even the wild animals pant for you;[f]
the streams of water have dried
up[g]
and fire has devoured the open
pastures.[h]

An Army of Locusts

2 Blow the trumpet[i] in Zion;[j]
sound the alarm on my holy hill.[k]
Let all who live in the land tremble,
for the day of the LORD[l] is coming.
It is close at hand[m]—
2 a day of darkness[n] and gloom,[o][p]
a day of clouds[q] and blackness.[r]
Like dawn spreading across the
mountains
a large and mighty army[s] comes,
such as never was of old[t]
nor ever will be in ages to come.

3Before them fire[u] devours,
behind them a flame blazes.
Before them the land is like the
garden of Eden,[v]
behind them, a desert waste[w]—
nothing escapes them.
4They have the appearance of
horses;[x]
they gallop along like cavalry.
5With a noise like that of chariots[y]
they leap over the mountaintops,
like a crackling fire[z] consuming
stubble,
like a mighty army drawn up for
battle.

6At the sight of them, nations are in
anguish;[a]
every face turns pale.[b]
7They charge like warriors;[c]
they scale walls like soldiers.
They all march in line,[d]
not swerving[e] from their course.
8They do not jostle each other;
each marches straight ahead.
They plunge through defenses
without breaking ranks.
9They rush upon the city;
they run along the wall.
They climb into the houses;[f]
like thieves they enter through the
windows.[g]

10Before them the earth shakes,[h]
the sky trembles,[i]
the sun and moon are
darkened,[j]
and the stars no longer
shine.[k]
11The LORD[l] thunders[m]
at the head of his army;[n]
his forces are beyond number,
and mighty are those who obey
his command.
The day of the LORD is great;[o]
it is dreadful.
Who can endure it?[p]

Rend Your Heart

12"Even now," declares the LORD,
"return[q] to me with all your
heart,[r]
with fasting and weeping and
mourning."

13Rend your heart[s]
and not your garments.[t]
Return[u] to the LORD your God,
for he is gracious and
compassionate,[v]
slow to anger and abounding in
love,[w]
and he relents from sending
calamity.[x]
14Who knows? He may turn[y] and
have pity[z]
and leave behind a blessing[a]—
grain offerings and drink offerings[b]
for the LORD your God.

15Blow the trumpet[c] in Zion,[d]
declare a holy fast,[e]
call a sacred assembly.[f]
16Gather the people,
consecrate[g] the assembly;
bring together the elders,[h]
gather the children,
those nursing at the breast.
Let the bridegroom[i] leave his room
and the bride her chamber.
17Let the priests, who minister[j] before
the LORD,
weep[k] between the temple porch
and the altar.[l]
Let them say, "Spare your people,
O LORD.
Do not make your inheritance an
object of scorn,[m]
a byword[n] among the nations.
Why should they say among the
peoples,
'Where is their God?[o]' "

1:18 [a]S Ge 47:4 [b]S Jer 9:10 **1:19** [c]Ps 50:15 [d]S Ps 97:3; Am 7:4 [e]S Jer 9:10 **1:20** [f]S Ps 42:1; S 104:21 [g]1Ki 17:7 [h]Joel 2:22 **2:1** [i]S Nu 10:2,7 [j]ver 15 [k]S Ex 15:17 [l]S Joel 1:15; Zep 1:14-16 [m]S Eze 12:23; S 30:3; Ob 1:15 **2:2** [n]ver 10,31; S Job 9:7; S Isa 8:22; S 13:10; Am 5:18 [o]S Da 9:12; S Mt 24:21 [p]S Eze 34:12 [q]S Eze 38:9 [r]Zep 1:15; Rev 9:2 [s]S Joel 1:6 [t]Joel 1:2 **2:3** [u]S Ps 97:3; S Isa 1:31 [v]S Ge 2:8 [w]Ex 10:12-15; Ps 105:34-35; S Isa 14:17 **2:4** [x]Rev 9:7 **2:5** [y]Rev 9:9 [z]Isa 5:24; 30:30 **2:6** [a]S Isa 13:8 [b]S Isa 29:22 **2:7** [c]S Job 16:14 [d]Pr 30:27 [e]Isa 5:27 **2:9** [f]Ex 10:6 [g]Jer 9:21 **2:10** [h]Ps 18:7; Na 1:5 [i]S Eze 38:19 [j]S ver 2; S Isa 5:30; S Mt 24:29; Mk 13:24; Rev 9:2 [k]S Job 9:7; S Ps 102:26; Isa 13:10; S Eze 32:8 **2:11** [l]S Isa 2:12; S Eze 30:3; S Joel 1:15; Ob 1:15 [m]S Ps 29:3 [n]S ver 2,25 [o]Zep 1:14 [p]S Eze 22:14; Zep 2:11; Rev 6:17 **2:12** [q]S Dt 4:30; S Eze 33:11; S Hos 12:6 [r]S 1Sa 7:3 **2:13** [s]Ps 51:17; Isa 57:15 [t]S Ge 37:29; S Nu 14:6; Job 1:20 [u]S Isa 19:22 [v]S Dt 4:31 [w]Ex 34:6; S Ps 86:5,15 [x]S Jer 18:8; Jnh 4:2 **2:14** [y]Jer 26:3; Jnh 3:9 [z]Am 5:15; Jnh 1:6 [a]Jer 31:14; Hag 2:19; Zec 8:13; Mal 3:10 [b]S Joel 1:13 **2:15** [c]S Nu 10:2 [d]ver 1 [e]S 2Ch 20:3; Jer 36:9 [f]S Ex 32:5; Nu 10:3

2:16 [g]S Ex 19:10,22 [h]Joel 1:2 [i]Ps 19:5 **2:17** [j]Joel 1:13 [k]S Isa 22:12 [l]Eze 8:16; Mt 23:35 [m]Dt 9:26-29; Ps 44:13 [n]S 1Ki 9:7; S Job 17:6 [o]S Ps 42:3

The LORD's Answer

18 Then the LORD will be jealous[a] for his land
and take pity[b] on his people.[g]
19 The LORD will reply[g] to them:

"I am sending you grain, new wine[c] and oil,[d]
enough to satisfy you fully;[e]
never again will I make you
an object of scorn[f] to the nations.
20 "I will drive the northern army[g] far from you,
pushing it into a parched and barren land,
with its front columns going into the eastern[h] sea[h]
and those in the rear into the western sea.[i]
And its stench[i] will go up;
its smell will rise."

Surely he has done great things.[j]
21 Be not afraid,[j] O land;
be glad and rejoice.[k]
Surely the LORD has done great things.[l]
22 Be not afraid, O wild animals,
for the open pastures are becoming green.[m]
The trees are bearing their fruit;
the fig tree[n] and the vine[o] yield their riches.[p]
23 Be glad, O people of Zion,
rejoice[q] in the LORD your God,
for he has given you
the autumn rains in righteousness.[k r]
He sends you abundant showers,[s]
both autumn[t] and spring rains,[u]
as before.
24 The threshing floors will be filled with grain;
the vats will overflow[v] with new wine[w] and oil.

25 "I will repay you for the years the locusts[x] have eaten[y]—
the great locust and the young locust,
the other locusts and the locust swarm[l]—
my great army[z] that I sent among you.
26 You will have plenty to eat, until you are full,[a]
and you will praise[b] the name of the LORD your God,
who has worked wonders[c] for you;
never again will my people be shamed.[d]
27 Then you will know[e] that I am in Israel,
that I am the LORD[f] your God,
and that there is no other;
never again will my people be shamed.[g]

The Day of the LORD

28 "And afterward,
I will pour out my Spirit[h] on all people.[i]
Your sons and daughters will prophesy,[j]
your old men will dream dreams,[k]
your young men will see visions.
29 Even on my servants,[l] both men and women,
I will pour out my Spirit in those days.[m]
30 I will show wonders in the heavens[n]
and on the earth,[o]
blood and fire and billows of smoke.
31 The sun will be turned to darkness[p]
and the moon to blood
before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD.[q]
32 And everyone who calls
on the name of the LORD[r] will be saved;[s]
for on Mount Zion[t] and in Jerusalem
there will be deliverance,[u]
as the LORD has said,
among the survivors[v]
whom the LORD calls.[w]

The Nations Judged

3 "In those days and at that time,
when I restore the fortunes[x] of Judah[y] and Jerusalem,
2 I will gather[z] all nations
and bring them down to the Valley of Jehoshaphat.[m a]
There I will enter into judgment[b] against them
concerning my inheritance, my people Israel,
for they scattered[c] my people
among the nations
and divided up my land.
3 They cast lots[d] for my people
and traded boys for prostitutes;
they sold girls for wine[e]
that they might drink.

2:18 [a]S Isa 26:11; Zec 1:14; 8:2 [b]S Ps 72:13 2:19 [c]Ps 4:7 [d]S Jer 31:12 [e]S Lev 26:5 [f]S Eze 34:29 2:20 [g]Jer 1:14-15 [h]Zec 14:8 [i]S Isa 34:3 2:21 [j]S Isa 29:22; S 54:4; Zep 3:16-17 [k]S Ps 9:2 [l]S Ps 126:3; S Isa 25:1 2:22 [m]S Ps 65:12 [n]S 1Ki 4:25 [o]S Nu 16:14 [p]Joel 1:18-20; Zec 8:12 2:23 [q]Ps 33:21; 97:12; 149:2; Isa 12:6; 41:16; 66:14; Hab 3:18; Zec 10:7 [r]S Isa 45:8 [s]S Job 36:28; S Eze 34:26 [t]Ps 84:6 [u]S Lev 26:4; S Ps 135:7; Jas 5:7 2:24 [v]Lev 26:10; Mal 3:10 [w]S Pr 3:10; Joel 3:18; Am 9:13 2:25 [x]S Ex 10:14; Am 4:9 [y]S Dt 28:39 [z]S Joel 1:6 2:26 [a]S Lev 26:5 [b]S Lev 23:40; S Isa 62:9 [c]S Ps 126:3; S Isa 25:1 [d]S Isa 29:22 2:27 [e]S Ex 6:7 [f]S Ex 6:2; S Isa 44:8; Joel 3:17 [g]Isa 45:17; 54:4; Zep 3:11 2:28 [h]S Isa 11:2; S 44:3 [i]S Nu 11:17; S Mk 1:8; Gal 3:14 [j]S 1Sa 19:20 [k]Jer 23:25 2:29 [l]1Co 12:13; Gal 3:28 [m]S Eze 36:27 2:30 [n]Lk 21:11 [o]Mk 13:24-25 2:31 [p]S ver 2; S Isa 22:5; S Jer 4:23; S Mt 24:29 [q]S Joel 1:15; Ob 1:15; Mal 3:2; 4:1,5 2:32 [r]S Ge 4:26; S Ps 105:1 [s]S Ps 106:8; Ac 2:17-21*; Ro 10:13* [t]S Isa 46:13 [u]Ob 1:17 [v]S Isa 1:9; 11:11; Mic 4:7; 7:18; S Ro 9:27 [w]Ac 2:39 3:1 [x]S Dt 30:3; S Jer 16:15; S Eze 38:8; Zep 3:20 [y]Jer 40:5 3:2 [z]Zep 3:8 [a]ver 12; S Isa 22:1 [b]S Isa 13:9; S Jer 2:35; S Eze 36:5 [c]S Ge 11:4; S Lev 26:33 3:3 [d]S Job 6:27; S Eze 24:6 [e]Joel 1:5; Am 2:6

[g]18,19 Or *LORD was jealous . . . / and took pity . . . / 19The LORD replied* [h]20 That is, the Dead Sea [i]20 That is, the Mediterranean [j]20 Or *rise. / Surely it has done great things."* [k]23 Or */ the teacher for righteousness:* [l]25 The precise meaning of the four Hebrew words used here for locusts is uncertain. [m]2 *Jehoshaphat* means *the LORD judges;* also in verse 12.

4"Now what have you against me, O
Tyre and Sidon[a] and all you regions of
Philistia?[b] Are you repaying me for
something I have done? If you are pay-
ing me back, I will swiftly and speedily
return on your own heads what you
have done.[c] 5For you took my silver
and my gold and carried off my finest
treasures to your temples.[d] 6You sold
the people of Judah and Jerusalem to
the Greeks,[e] that you might send them
far from their homeland.
7"See, I am going to rouse them out
of the places to which you sold them,[f]
and I will return[g] on your own heads
what you have done. 8I will sell your
sons[h] and daughters to the people of
Judah,[i] and they will sell them to the
Sabeans,[j] a nation far away." The
LORD has spoken.[k]

9Proclaim this among the nations:
Prepare for war![l]
Rouse the warriors![m]
Let all the fighting men draw near
and attack.
10Beat your plowshares into swords
and your pruning hooks[n] into
spears.[o]
Let the weakling[p] say,
"I am strong!"[q]
11Come quickly, all you nations from
every side,
and assemble[r] there.

Bring down your warriors,[s] O LORD!

12"Let the nations be roused;
let them advance into the Valley of
Jehoshaphat,[t]
for there I will sit
to judge[u] all the nations on every
side.
13Swing the sickle,[v]
for the harvest[w] is ripe.
Come, trample the grapes,[x]
for the winepress[y] is full
and the vats overflow—
so great is their wickedness!"

14Multitudes,[z] multitudes
in the valley[a] of decision!
For the day of the LORD[b] is near
in the valley of decision.[c]
15The sun and moon will be darkened,
and the stars no longer shine.[d]
16The LORD will roar[e] from Zion
and thunder from Jerusalem;[f]
the earth and the sky will
tremble.[g]
But the LORD will be a refuge[h] for his
people,
a stronghold[i] for the people of
Israel.

Blessings for God's People

17"Then you will know[j] that I, the
LORD your God,[k]
dwell in Zion,[l] my holy hill.[m]
Jerusalem will be holy;[n]
never again will foreigners invade
her.[o]

18"In that day the mountains will drip
new wine,[p]
and the hills will flow with milk;[q]
all the ravines of Judah will run
with water.[r]
A fountain will flow out of the
LORD's house[s]
and will water the valley of
acacias.[n][t]
19But Egypt[u] will be desolate,
Edom[v] a desert waste,
because of violence[w] done to the
people of Judah,
in whose land they shed innocent
blood.
20Judah will be inhabited forever[x]
and Jerusalem through all
generations.
21Their bloodguilt,[y] which I have not
pardoned,
I will pardon.[z]"

The LORD dwells in Zion![a]

3:4 [a]S Ge 10:15; S Mt 11:21 [b]S Ps 87:4; Isa 14:29-31; Jer 47:1-7 [c]S Lev 26:28; S Isa 34:8; S Eze 25:15-17; Zec 9:5-7 3:5 [d]S 1Ki 15:18; S 2Ch 21:16-17 3:6 [e]Eze 27:13; Zec 9:13 3:7 [f]S Isa 43:5-6; Jer 23:8 [g]S Isa 66:6 3:8 [h]Isa 60:14 [i]Isa 14:2 [j]S Ge 10:7; S 2Ch 9:1 [k]S Isa 23:1; S Jer 30:16 3:9 [l]S Isa 8:9 [m]Jer 46:4 3:10 [n]Isa 2:4 [o]S Nu 25:7 [p]Zec 12:8 [q]S Jos 1:6 3:11 [r]Eze 38:15-16; Zep 3:8 [s]S Isa 13:3 3:12 [t]S ver 2 [u]S Ps 82:1; S Isa 2:4 3:13 [v]Mk 4:29 [w]S Isa 17:5; S Hos 6:11; Mt 13:39; Rev 14:15-19 [x]S Jer 25:30 [y]S Jdg 6:11; S Rev 14:20 3:14 [z]Isa 13:4 [a]S Isa 22:1 [b]Isa 34:2-8; S Joel 1:15; S Zep 1:7 [c]S Isa 2:4; S Eze 36:5 3:15 [d]S Job 9:7; S Eze 32:7 3:16 [e]S Isa 42:13 [f]Am 1:2 [g]S Jdg 5:4; S Isa 14:16; S Eze 38:19 [h]S Ps 46:1; S Isa 25:4; Zec 12:8 [i]S 2Sa 22:3; Jer 16:19; Zec 9:12 3:17 [j]S Ex 6:7 [k]S Joel 2:27 [l]S Ps 74:2; S Isa 4:3 [m]Ps 2:6; S Isa 2:2; S Eze 17:22 [n]S Jer 31:40 [o]S Isa 52:1; S Eze 44:9; Zec 9:8

3:18 [p]S Joel 2:24 [q]Ex 3:8; S SS 5:1 [r]S Isa 30:25; 35:6; S 44:3 [s]Rev 22:1-2 [t]S Nu 25:1; S Isa 25:6; S Jer 31:12; S Eze 47:1; Am 9:13 3:19 [u]S Isa 19:1 [v]S Isa 11:14; S 34:11 [w]S Jer 51:35; Ob 1:10 3:20 [x]S Ezr 9:12; Am 9:15 3:21 [y]S Isa 1:15 [z]S Eze 36:25 [a]S Ps 74:2; Isa 59:20; S Eze 48:35; Zec 8:3

[n]18 Or *Valley of Shittim*

Amos

1 The words of Amos, one of the
shepherds of Tekoa[a]—what he saw
concerning Israel two years before the
earthquake,[b] when Uzziah[c] was king
of Judah and Jeroboam[d] son of Je-
hoash[a][e] was king of Israel.[f]
2He said:

"The LORD roars[g] from Zion
and thunders[h] from Jerusalem;[i]
the pastures of the shepherds
dry up,[b]
and the top of Carmel[j] withers."[k]

Judgment on Israel's Neighbors

3This is what the LORD says:

"For three sins of Damascus,[l]
even for four, I will not turn back
⌞my wrath⌟.[m]
Because she threshed Gilead
with sledges having iron teeth,
4I will send fire[n] upon the house of
Hazael[o]
that will consume the fortresses[p]
of Ben-Hadad.[q]
5I will break down the gate[r] of
Damascus;
I will destroy the king who is in[c]
the Valley of Aven[d]
and the one who holds the scepter in
Beth Eden.[s]
The people of Aram will go into
exile to Kir,[t]"
says the LORD.[u]

6This is what the LORD says:

"For three sins of Gaza,[v]
even for four, I will not turn back
⌞my wrath⌟.[w]
Because she took captive whole
communities
and sold them to Edom,[x]
7I will send fire upon the walls of
Gaza
that will consume her fortresses.
8I will destroy the king[e] of
Ashdod[y]
and the one who holds the scepter
in Ashkelon.
I will turn my hand[z] against Ekron,
till the last of the Philistines[a] is
dead,"[b]
says the Sovereign LORD.[c]

9This is what the LORD says:

"For three sins of Tyre,[d]
even for four, I will not turn back
⌞my wrath⌟.[e]
Because she sold whole communities
of captives to Edom,
disregarding a treaty of
brotherhood,[f]
10I will send fire upon the walls of
Tyre
that will consume her
fortresses.[g]"

11This is what the LORD says:

"For three sins of Edom,[h]
even for four, I will not turn back
⌞my wrath⌟.
Because he pursued his brother with
a sword,[i]
stifling all compassion,[f]
because his anger raged continually
and his fury flamed unchecked,[j]
12I will send fire upon Teman[k]
that will consume the fortresses of
Bozrah.[l]"

13This is what the LORD says:

"For three sins of Ammon,[m]
even for four, I will not turn back
⌞my wrath⌟.
Because he ripped open the
pregnant women[n] of Gilead
in order to extend his borders,
14I will set fire to the walls of Rabbah[o]
that will consume[p] her fortresses
amid war cries[q] on the day of battle,
amid violent winds[r] on a stormy
day.
15Her king[g] will go into exile,
he and his officials together,[s]"
says the LORD.[t]

1:1 [a]S 2Sa 14:2 [b]Zec 14:5 [c]S 2Ki 14:21; S 2Ch 26:23 [d]S 2Ki 14:23 [e]S Hos 1:1 **1:2** [f]S Isa 42:13 [g]S Ps 29:3 [h]Joel 3:16 [i]Am 9:3 [j]S Jer 12:4 **1:3** [k]Isa 7:8; 8:4; 17:1-3 [l]ver 6,9, 11,13; Am 2:6 **1:4** [m]S Jer 49:27; S Eze 30:8 [n]S 1Ki 19:17; 2Ki 8:7-15 [o]Jer 17:27 [p]1Ki 20:1; 2Ki 6:24; Jer 49:23-27 **1:5** [q]Jer 51:30 [r]S Isa 37:12 [s]S 2Ki 16:9; S Isa 22:6; Zec 9:1 [t]S Isa 7:16; Jer 49:27 **1:6** [u]S Ge 10:19; 1Sa 6:17; Zep 2:4 [v]S ver 3 [w]S Ge 14:6; Ob 1:11 **1:8** [x]S 2Ch 26:6 [y]Ps 81:14 [z]S Eze 25:16 [a]S Isa 34:8 [b]Isa 14:28-32; Zep 2:4-7 **1:9** [c]1Ki 5:1; 9:11-14; Jer 25:22; Joel 3:4; S Mt 11:21 [d]ver 3 [e]S 1Ki 5:12 **1:10** [f]Isa 23:1-18; S 34:8; S Jer 47:4; Eze 26:2-4; Zec 9:1-4 **1:11** [g]Nu 20:14-21; S 2Ch 28:17; S Ps 83:6 [h]S Ps 63:10 [i]S Eze 25:12-14; Zec 1:15 **1:12** [j]S Ge 36:11,15 [k]S Isa 34:5; 63:1-6; Jer 25:21; Eze 25:12-14; 35:1-15; Ob 1:1; Mal 1:2-5 **1:13** [l]S Ge 19:38; S Eze 21:28 [m]S Ge 34:29; S 2Ki 8:12; S Hos 13:16 **1:14** [n]S Dt 3:11 [o]Isa 30:30 [p]S Job 39:25 [q]Jer 23:19 **1:15** [r]S Jer 25:21 [?]1Ch 20:1; S Jer 49:1; Eze 21:28-32; 25:2-7

[a]1 Hebrew *Joash,* a variant of *Jehoash* [b]2 Or *shepherds mourn* [c]5 Or *the inhabitants of* [d]5 *Aven* means *wickedness.* [e]8 Or *inhabitants* [f]11 Or *sword / and destroyed his allies* [g]15 Or / *Molech;* Hebrew *malcam*

2 This is what the LORD says:

"For three sins of Moab,[a]
even for four, I will not turn back
⌞my wrath⌟.
Because he burned, as if to lime,[b]
the bones of Edom's king,
2I will send fire upon Moab
that will consume the fortresses of
Kerioth.[h] [c]
Moab will go down in great
tumult
amid war cries[d] and the blast of
the trumpet.[e]
3I will destroy her ruler[f]
and kill all her officials with
him,"[g]
says the LORD.[h]

4This is what the LORD says:

"For three sins of Judah,[i]
even for four, I will not turn back
⌞my wrath⌟.
Because they have rejected the law[j]
of the LORD
and have not kept his decrees,[k]
because they have been led astray[l]
by false gods,[i] [m]
the gods[j] their ancestors
followed,[n]
5I will send fire[o] upon Judah
that will consume the fortresses[p]
of Jerusalem.[q]"

Judgment on Israel

6This is what the LORD says:

"For three sins of Israel,
even for four, I will not turn back
⌞my wrath⌟.[r]
They sell the righteous for silver,
and the needy for a pair of
sandals.[s]
7They trample on the heads of the
poor
as upon the dust of the ground
and deny justice to the oppressed.
Father and son use the same girl
and so profane my holy name.[t]
8They lie down beside every altar
on garments taken in pledge.[u]
In the house of their god
they drink wine[v] taken as fines.[w]

9"I destroyed the Amorite[x] before
them,
though he was tall[y] as the cedars
and strong as the oaks.[z]
I destroyed his fruit above
and his roots[a] below.

10"I brought you up out of Egypt,[b]
and I led[c] you forty years in the
desert[d]
to give you the land of the
Amorites.[e]
11I also raised up prophets[f] from
among your sons
and Nazirites[g] from among your
young men.
Is this not true, people of Israel?"
declares the LORD.
12"But you made the Nazirites drink
wine
and commanded the prophets not
to prophesy.[h]

13"Now then, I will crush you
as a cart crushes when loaded with
grain.[i]
14The swift will not escape,[j]
the strong[k] will not muster their
strength,
and the warrior will not save his
life.[l]
15The archer[m] will not stand his
ground,
the fleet-footed soldier will not get
away,
and the horseman[n] will not save
his life.[o]
16Even the bravest warriors[p]
will flee naked on that day,"
declares the LORD.

Witnesses Summoned Against Israel

3 Hear this word the LORD has
spoken against you,[q] O people of
Israel—against the whole family I
brought up out of Egypt:[r]

2"You only have I chosen[s]
of all the families of the earth;
therefore I will punish[t] you
for all your sins.[u]"

3Do two walk together
unless they have agreed to do so?
4Does a lion roar[v] in the thicket
when he has no prey?[w]
Does he growl in his den
when he has caught nothing?
5Does a bird fall into a trap on the
ground
where no snare[x] has been set?
Does a trap spring up from the earth
when there is nothing to catch?
6When a trumpet[y] sounds in a city,
do not the people tremble?
When disaster[z] comes to a city,
has not the LORD caused it?[a]

7Surely the Sovereign LORD does
nothing
without revealing his plan[b]
to his servants the prophets.[c]

2:1 [a]S Isa 16:6 [b]Isa 33:12 **2:2** [c]Jer 48:24 [d]S Job 39:25 [e]S Jos 6:20 **2:3** [f]S Ps 2:10 [g]S Isa 40:23 [h]Isa 15:1-9; 16:1-14; S 25:10; Jer 48:1; S Eze 25:8-11; Zep 2:8-9 **2:4** [i]2Ki 17:19; Hos 12:2 [j]S Jer 6:19 [k]S Eze 20:24 [l]Isa 9:16 [m]S Ex 34:15; S Dt 31:20; S Ps 4:2 [n]S 2Ki 22:13; S Jer 9:14; S 16:12 **2:5** [o]S 2Ki 25:9; S 2Ch 36:19 [p]Am 3:11 [q]S Jer 17:27; S Hos 8:14 **2:6** [r]S Am 1:3 [s]S Joel 3:3; Am 8:6 **2:7** [t]S Lev 18:21; Am 5:11-12; 8:4 **2:8** [u]S Ex 22:26; Dt 24:12-13 [v]Hos 7:14; Am 4:1; 6:6 [w]Hab 2:6 **2:9** [x]Nu 21:23-26; Jos 10:12 [y]S Isa 10:33 [z]S Ps 29:9 [a]S 2Ki 19:30; S Job 18:16; S Eze 17:9 **2:10** [b]S Ex 6:6; 20:2; Am 3:1 [c]S Dt 8:2 [d]S Dt 2:7 [e]S Ex 3:8; S Nu 21:25; S Jos 13:4; Am 9:7 **2:11** [f]Dt 18:18; Jer 7:25 [g]S Jdg 13:5 **2:12** [h]Isa 30:10; Jer 11:21; Am 7:12-13; Mic 2:6 **2:13** [i]Am 7:16-17 **2:14** [j]S Job 11:20 [k]S 1Ki 20:11 [l]Ps 33:16; Isa 30:16-17 **2:15** [m]S Eze 39:3 [n]S Ex 15:21; Zec 10:5 [o]Ecc 9:11 **2:16** [p]Jer 48:41 **3:1** [q]Zep 2:5 [r]S Am 2:10 **3:2** [s]S Ex 19:6; Dt 7:6; Lk 12:47 [t]ver 14 [u]S Jer 14:10; Mic 2:3; 1Pe 4:17 **3:4** [v]S Isa 42:13 [w]Ps 104:21; S Hos 5:14 **3:5** [x]S Ps 119:110 **3:6** [y]S Nu 10:2; S Job 39:24; S Jer 4:21 [z]S Isa 31:2 [a]Isa 14:24-27 **3:7** [b]Ge 18:17; S 1Sa 3:7; S Da 9:22; Jn 15:15; Rev 10:7 [c]S Jer 23:22

[h]2 Or *of her cities*   [i]4 Or *by lies*   [j]4 Or *lies*

8The lion[a] has roared[b]—
who will not fear?
The Sovereign LORD has spoken—
who can but prophesy?[c]

9Proclaim to the fortresses of
Ashdod[d]
and to the fortresses of Egypt:
"Assemble yourselves on the
mountains of Samaria;[e]
see the great unrest within her
and the oppression among her
people."

10"They do not know how to do
right,[f]" declares the LORD,
"who hoard plunder[g] and loot in
their fortresses."[h]

11Therefore this is what the Sover-
eign LORD says:

"An enemy will overrun the land;
he will pull down your
strongholds
and plunder your fortresses.[i]"

12This is what the LORD says:

"As a shepherd saves from the
lion's[j] mouth
only two leg bones or a piece of an
ear,
so will the Israelites be saved,
those who sit in Samaria
on the edge of their beds
and in Damascus on their
couches.[k][k]"

13"Hear this and testify[l] against the
house of Jacob," declares the Lord, the
LORD God Almighty.

14"On the day I punish[m] Israel for her
sins,
I will destroy the altars of Bethel;[n]
the horns[o] of the altar will be cut off
and fall to the ground.
15I will tear down the winter house[p]
along with the summer house;[q]
the houses adorned with ivory[r] will
be destroyed
and the mansions[s] will be
demolished,[t]"
declares the LORD.[u]

Israel Has Not Returned to God

4 Hear this word, you cows of
Bashan[v] on Mount Samaria,[w]
you women who oppress the
poor[x] and crush the needy[y]
and say to your husbands,[z]
"Bring us some drinks![a]"
2The Sovereign LORD has sworn by his
holiness:
"The time[b] will surely come
when you will be taken away[c] with
hooks,[d]
the last of you with fishhooks.
3You will each go straight out
through breaks in the wall,[e]
and you will be cast out toward
Harmon,[l]"
declares the LORD.

4"Go to Bethel[f] and sin;
go to Gilgal[g] and sin yet more.
Bring your sacrifices every
morning,[h]
your tithes[i] every three years.[m][j]
5Burn leavened bread[k] as a thank
offering
and brag about your freewill
offerings[l]—
boast about them, you Israelites,
for this is what you love to do,"
declares the Sovereign LORD.

6"I gave you empty stomachs[n] in
every city
and lack of bread in every town,
yet you have not returned to me,"
declares the LORD.[m]

7"I also withheld[n] rain from you
when the harvest was still three
months away.
I sent rain on one town,
but withheld it from another.[o]
One field had rain;
another had none and dried up.
8People staggered from town to town
for water[p]
but did not get enough[q] to drink,
yet you have not returned[r] to
me,"
declares the LORD.[s]

9"Many times I struck your gardens
and vineyards,
I struck them with blight and
mildew.[t]
Locusts[u] devoured your fig and
olive trees,[v]
yet you have not returned[w] to
me,"
declares the LORD.

10"I sent plagues[x] among you
as I did to Egypt.[y]
I killed your young men[z] with the
sword,
along with your captured horses.
I filled your nostrils with the stench[a]
of your camps,

3:8 [a]S Isa 31:4 [b]S Isa 42:13 [c]S Jer 20:9; Jnh 1:1-3; 3:1-3; Ac 4:20 **3:9** [d]S Jos 13:3; S 2Ch 26:6 [e]Am 4:1; 6:1 **3:10** [f]Am 5:7; 6:12 [g]Hab 2:8 [h]S Ps 36:3; Mic 6:10; Zep 1:9 **3:11** [i]Am 2:5; 6:14 **3:12** [j]S 1Sa 17:34 [k]S Est 1:6; Am 6:4 **3:13** [l]Eze 2:7 **3:14** [m]S ver 2; S Lev 26:18 [n]S Ge 12:8; Am 5:5-6 [o]S Ex 27:2 **3:15** [p]Jer 36:22 [q]Jdg 3:20 [r]S 1Ki 22:39 [s]Am 5:11; 6:11 [t]S Isa 34:5 [u]Hos 10:5-8, 14-15 **4:1** [v]S Ps 22:12 [w]S Am 3:9 [x]S Isa 58:6; S Eze 18:12 [y]S Dt 24:14 [z]Jer 44:19 [a]S Am 2:8; 5:11; 8:6 **4:2** [b]Jer 31:31 [c]Am 6:8 [d]S 2Ki 19:28; S 2Ch 33:11; S Isa 19:8 **4:3** [e]S Eze 12:5 **4:4** [f]S Jos 7:2 [g]S Hos 4:15 [h]S Nu 28:3 [i]Dt 14:28 [j]S Eze 20:39; Am 5:21-22 **4:5** [k]S Lev 7:13 [l]S Lev 22:18-21 **4:6** [m]S Isa 3:1; S 9:13; S Jer 5:3; Hag 2:17 **4:7** [n]S Jer 3:3; Zec 14:17 [o]Ex 9:4,26; Dt 11:17; S 2Ch 7:13; S Isa 5:6 **4:8** [p]S Eze 4:16-17 [q]Hag 1:6 [r]S Jer 3:7 [s]S Job 36:31; S Jer 14:4 **4:9** [t]S Dt 28:22 [u]S Ex 10:13; S Joel 2:25 [v]Joel 1:7 [w]S Isa 9:13; S Jer 3:10 **4:10** [x]S Ex 9:3 [y]Ex 11:5 [z]S Isa 9:17 [a]S Isa 34:3

[k]12 The meaning of the Hebrew for this line is uncertain. [l]3 Masoretic Text; with a different word division of the Hebrew (see Septuagint) *out, O mountain of oppression* [m]4 Or *tithes on the third day* [n]6 Hebrew *you cleanness of teeth*

yet you have not returned to
me,"[a]
declares the LORD.[b]

11 "I overthrew some of you
as I[o] overthrew Sodom and
Gomorrah.[c]
You were like a burning stick[d]
snatched from the fire,
yet you have not returned to me,"
declares the LORD.[e]

12 "Therefore this is what I will do to
you, Israel,
and because I will do this to you,
prepare to meet your God,
O Israel."

13 He who forms the mountains,[f]
creates the wind,[g]
and reveals his thoughts[h] to man,
he who turns dawn to darkness,
and treads the high places of the
earth[i] —
the LORD God Almighty is his
name.[j]

A Lament and Call to Repentance

5 Hear this word, O house of Israel,
this lament[k] I take up concerning
you:

2 "Fallen is Virgin[l] Israel,
never to rise again,
deserted in her own land,
with no one to lift her up."[m]

3 This is what the Sovereign LORD
says:

"The city that marches out a
thousand strong for Israel
will have only a hundred left;
the town that marches out a
hundred strong
will have only ten left."[n]

4 This is what the LORD says to the
house of Israel:

"Seek[o] me and live;[p]
5 do not seek Bethel,
do not go to Gilgal,[q]
do not journey to Beersheba.[r]
For Gilgal will surely go into exile,
and Bethel will be reduced to
nothing.[p][s]"
6 Seek[t] the LORD and live,[u]
or he will sweep through the
house of Joseph like a fire;[v]
it will devour,
and Bethel[w] will have no one to
quench it.[x]
7 You who turn justice into bitterness[y]
and cast righteousness[z] to the
ground[a]

4:10 [a]S Dt 28:21 [b]S Isa 9:13
4:11 [c]S Ge 19:24; S Jer 23:14 [d]S Isa 7:4; Jude 1:23 [e]S Job 36:13
4:13 [f]Ps 65:6 [g]Ps 135:7 [h]S Da 2:28 [i]Mic 1:3 [j]S Isa 47:4; Am 5:8,27; 9:6
5:1 [k]S Jer 4:8; S Eze 19:1
5:2 [l]S 2Ki 19:21; Jer 14:17 [m]Jer 50:32; Am 8:14
5:3 [n]Isa 6:13; Am 6:9
5:4 [o]S Dt 4:29 [p]Dt 32:46-47; Isa 55:3; Jer 29:13; S Eze 18:9
5:5 [q]1Sa 11:14; S Hos 4:15 [r]Ge 21:31; Am 8:14 [s]S 1Sa 7:16; S 8:2
5:6 [t]Ps 22:26; 105:4; S Isa 31:1; 55:6; Zep 2:3 [u]ver 14; S Lev 18:5 [v]Dt 4:24 [w]S Am 3:14 [x]S Jer 4:4
5:7 [y]Isa 5:20; Am 6:12 [z]S Am 3:10 [a]S Hos 10:4
5:8 [b]S Ge 1:16; S Job 38:31 [c]S Job 38:12; Isa 42:16 [d]S Ps 104:20; Am 8:9 [e]Ps 104:6-9; Jer 16:21; S Am 4:13
5:9 [f]Mic 5:11
5:10 [g]S Isa 29:21 [h]1Ki 22:8; Gal 4:16
5:11 [i]Am 8:6 [j]S Am 3:15 [k]S Dt 28:30; Mic 1:6 [l]S Jdg 9:27; S Am 4:1; 9:14; Mic 6:15; Zep 1:13
5:12 [m]Hos 5:3 [n]S Job 36:18; S Isa 1:23; S Eze 22:12 [o]S Jer 5:28 [p]S Job 5:4; S Isa 5:23; S Am 2:6-7
5:13 [q]S Est 4:14 [r]Mic 2:3
5:14 [s]S ver 6
5:15 [t]S Ps 52:3; S 97:10; Ro 12:9 [u]S Ge 18:25 [v]S Isa 1:17; S 29:21; Zec 8:16 [w]S Jer 36:3 [x]S Joel 2:14 [y]Mic 5:7,8; 7:18
5:16 [z]Jer 9:17; Am 8:3; Zep 1:10 [a]Jer 7:34 [b]S Joel 1:11
5:17 [c]S Ex 11:6

8 (he who made the Pleiades and
Orion,[b]
who turns blackness into dawn[c]
and darkens day into night,[d]
who calls for the waters of the sea
and pours them out over the face
of the land—
the LORD is his name[e] —
9 he flashes destruction on the
stronghold
and brings the fortified city to
ruin),[f]
10 you hate the one who reproves in
court[g]
and despise him who tells the
truth.[h]

11 You trample on the poor[i]
and force him to give you grain.
Therefore, though you have built
stone mansions,[j]
you will not live in them;[k]
though you have planted lush
vineyards,
you will not drink their wine.[l]
12 For I know how many are your
offenses
and how great your sins.[m]

You oppress the righteous and take
bribes[n]
and you deprive the poor[o] of
justice in the courts.[p]
13 Therefore the prudent man keeps
quiet[q] in such times,
for the times are evil.[r]

14 Seek good, not evil,
that you may live.[s]
Then the LORD God Almighty will be
with you,
just as you say he is.
15 Hate evil,[t] love good;[u]
maintain justice in the courts.[v]
Perhaps[w] the LORD God Almighty
will have mercy[x]
on the remnant[y] of Joseph.

16 Therefore this is what the Lord, the
LORD God Almighty, says:

"There will be wailing[z] in all the
streets[a]
and cries of anguish in every
public square.
The farmers[b] will be summoned to
weep
and the mourners to wail.
17 There will be wailing[c] in all the
vineyards,

[o]11 Hebrew *God* [p]5 Or *grief;* or *wickedness;* Hebrew *aven,* a reference to Beth Aven (a derogatory name for Bethel)

for I will pass through[a] your midst,"
says the LORD.[b]

The Day of the LORD

18Woe to you who long
for the day of the LORD![c]
Why do you long for the day of the LORD?[d]
That day will be darkness,[e] not light.[f]
19It will be as though a man fled from a lion
only to meet a bear,[g]
as though he entered his house
and rested his hand on the wall
only to have a snake bite him.[h]
20Will not the day of the LORD be darkness,[i] not light—
pitch-dark, without a ray of brightness?[j]

21"I hate,[k] I despise your religious feasts;[l]
I cannot stand your assemblies.[m]
22Even though you bring me burnt offerings[n] and grain offerings,
I will not accept them.[o][p]
Though you bring choice fellowship offerings,[q]
I will have no regard for them.[q][r]
23Away with the noise of your songs!
I will not listen to the music of your harps.[s]
24But let justice[t] roll on like a river,
righteousness[u] like a never-failing stream![v]

25"Did you bring me sacrifices[w] and offerings
forty years[x] in the desert, O house of Israel?
26You have lifted up the shrine of your king,
the pedestal of your idols,[y]
the star of your god[r]—
which you made for yourselves.
27Therefore I will send you into exile[z]
beyond Damascus,"
says the LORD, whose name is God Almighty.[a]

Woe to the Complacent

6 Woe to you[b] who are complacent[c] in Zion,
and to you who feel secure[d] on Mount Samaria,[e]
you notable men of the foremost nation,
to whom the people of Israel come![f]
2Go to Calneh[g] and look at it;
go from there to great Hamath,[h]
and then go down to Gath[i] in Philistia.
Are they better off than[j] your two kingdoms?
Is their land larger than yours?
3You put off the evil day
and bring near a reign of terror.[k]
4You lie on beds inlaid with ivory
and lounge on your couches.[l]
You dine on choice lambs
and fattened calves.[m]
5You strum away on your harps[n] like David
and improvise on musical instruments.[o]
6You drink wine[p] by the bowlful
and use the finest lotions,
but you do not grieve[q] over the ruin of Joseph.[r]
7Therefore you will be among the first to go into exile;[s]
your feasting and lounging will end.[t]

The LORD Abhors the Pride of Israel

8The Sovereign LORD has sworn by
himself[u]—the LORD God Almighty de-
clares:

"I abhor[v] the pride of Jacob[w]
and detest his fortresses;[x]
I will deliver up[y] the city
and everything in it.[z]"

9If ten[a] men are left in one house,
they too will die. 10And if a relative
who is to burn the bodies[b] comes to
carry them out of the house and asks
anyone still hiding there, "Is anyone
with you?" and he says, "No," then he
will say, "Hush![c] We must not men-
tion the name of the LORD."

11For the LORD has given the command,
and he will smash[d] the great house[e] into pieces
and the small house into bits.[f]

12Do horses run on the rocky crags?
Does one plow there with oxen?
But you have turned justice into poison[g]
and the fruit of righteousness[h] into bitterness[i]—
13you who rejoice in the conquest of Lo Debar[s]
and say, "Did we not take

5:17 [a]Eze 12:12 [b]Isa 16:10; S Jer 48:33
5:18 [c]S Isa 2:12; S Joel 1:15 [d]S Jer 30:5 [e]S 1Sa 2:9; S Joel 2:2 [f]S Job 20:28; Isa 5:19,30; Jer 30:7
5:19 [g]S La 3:10 [h]S Dt 32:24; Job 20:24; S Ecc 10:8; Isa 24:17-18; Jer 15:2-3; 48:44
5:20 [i]S 1Sa 2:9 [j]S Isa 13:10; S Eze 7:7; Ob 1:15; Zep 1:15
5:21 [k]Jer 44:4 [l]S Lev 26:31; S Hos 2:11 [m]S Eze 23:18
5:22 [n]Lev 26:31 [o]S Jer 7:21 [p]S Ps 40:6 [q]Jer 14:12; S Am 4:4; Mic 6:6-7 [r]Isa 1:11-16; S 66:3
5:23 [s]Am 6:5
5:24 [t]S Jer 22:3 [u]S Isa 45:8 [v]Mic 6:8
5:25 [w]S Isa 43:23 [x]S Ex 16:35
5:26 [y]S Eze 18:6; S 20:16
5:27 [z]Am 6:7; 7:11,17; Mic 1:16 [a]Dt 32:17-19; Jer 38:17; S Am 4:13; Ac 7:42-43*
6:1 [b]Lk 6:24 [c]Zep 1:12 [d]S Job 24:23 [e]S Am 3:9 [f]Isa 32:9-11
6:2 [g]S Ge 10:10 [h]S 2Ki 17:24; S Jer 49:23 [i]S Jos 11:22; 2Ch 26:6 [j]Na 3:8
6:3 [k]S Isa 56:12; S Eze 12:22; Am 9:10
6:4 [l]S Est 1:6; S Pr 7:17 [m]S Isa 1:11; S Eze 34:2-3; S Am 3:12
6:5 [n]S Ps 137:2; S Isa 14:11; Am 5:23 [o]S 1Ch 15:16
6:6 [p]S Isa 28:1; S Am 2:8 [q]S Eze 9:4 [r]S Eze 16:49
6:7 [s]S Am 5:27 [t]S Jer 16:9; S La 4:5
6:8 [u]S Ge 22:16; Heb 6:13 [v]S Lev 26:30 [w]S Ps 47:4 [x]S Jer 12:8 [y]Am 4:2 [z]S Lev 26:19; Dt 32:19
6:9 [a]S Am 5:3
6:10 [b]S 1Sa 31:12 [c]Am 8:3
6:11 [d]S Isa 34:5 [e]S Am 3:15 [f]Isa 55:11
6:12 [g]Hos 10:4 [h]S Am 3:10 [i]S Isa 1:21; S Am 5:7

[q]22 Traditionally *peace offerings* [r]26 Or *lifted up Sakkuth your king / and Kaiwan your idols, / your star-gods;* Septuagint *lifted up the shrine of Molech / and the star of your god Rephan, / their idols* [s]13 *Lo Debar* means *nothing*

Karnaim[t] by our own
strength?[a]"

14For the LORD God Almighty declares,
"I will stir up a nation[b] against
you, O house of Israel,
that will oppress you all the way
from Lebo[u] Hamath[c] to the valley
of the Arabah.[d]"

Locusts, Fire and a Plumb Line

7 This is what the Sovereign LORD
showed me:[e] He was preparing
swarms of locusts[f] after the king's
share had been harvested and just as
the second crop was coming up. 2When
they had stripped the land clean,[g] I
cried out, "Sovereign LORD, forgive!
How can Jacob survive?[h] He is so
small![i]"

3So the LORD relented.[j]

"This will not happen," the LORD
said.[k]

4This is what the Sovereign LORD
showed me: The Sovereign LORD was
calling for judgment by fire;[l] it dried
up the great deep and devoured[m] the
land. 5Then I cried out, "Sovereign
LORD, I beg you, stop! How can Jacob
survive? He is so small![n]"

6So the LORD relented.[o]

"This will not happen either," the
Sovereign LORD said.[p]

7This is what he showed me: The
Lord was standing by a wall that had
been built true to plumb, with a plumb
line in his hand. 8And the LORD asked
me, "What do you see,[q] Amos?[r]"

"A plumb line,[s]" I replied.

Then the Lord said, "Look, I am set-
ting a plumb line among my people Is-
rael; I will spare them no longer.[t]

9"The high places[u] of Isaac will be
destroyed
and the sanctuaries[v] of Israel will
be ruined;
with my sword I will rise against
the house of Jeroboam.[w]"

Amos and Amaziah

10Then Amaziah the priest of Bethel[x]
sent a message to Jeroboam[y] king of
Israel: "Amos is raising a conspiracy[z]
against you in the very heart of Israel.
The land cannot bear all his words.[a]
11For this is what Amos is saying:

" 'Jeroboam will die by the
sword,
and Israel will surely go into
exile,[b]
away from their native land.' "[c]

12Then Amaziah said to Amos, "Get
out, you seer![d] Go back to the land of
Judah. Earn your bread there and do
your prophesying there.[e] 13Don't
prophesy anymore at Bethel,[f] because
this is the king's sanctuary and the
temple[g] of the kingdom.[h]"

14Amos answered Amaziah, "I was
neither a prophet[i] nor a prophet's son,
but I was a shepherd, and I also took
care of sycamore-fig trees.[j] 15But the
LORD took me from tending the flock[k]
and said to me, 'Go,[l] prophesy[m] to my
people Israel.'[n] 16Now then, hear[o] the
word of the LORD. You say,

" 'Do not prophesy against[p] Israel,
and stop preaching against the
house of Isaac.'

17"Therefore this is what the LORD
says:

" 'Your wife will become a
prostitute[q] in the city,
and your sons and daughters will
fall by the sword.
Your land will be measured and
divided up,
and you yourself will die in a
pagan[v] country.
And Israel will certainly go into
exile,[r]
away from their native land.[s]' "

A Basket of Ripe Fruit

8 This is what the Sovereign LORD
showed me:[t] a basket of ripe fruit.
2"What do you see,[u] Amos?[v]" he
asked.

"A basket[w] of ripe fruit," I an-
swered.

Then the LORD said to me, "The time
is ripe for my people Israel; I will spare
them no longer.[x]

3"In that day," declares the Sover-
eign LORD, "the songs in the temple
will turn to wailing.[w][y] Many, many
bodies—flung everywhere! Silence![z]"

4Hear this, you who trample the
needy
and do away with the poor[a] of the
land,[b]

5saying,

"When will the New Moon[c] be over
that we may sell grain,
and the Sabbath be ended
that we may market[d] wheat?"[e]—

6:13 [a]S Job 8:15; Isa 28:14-15 **6:14** [b]Jer 5:15 [c]S Nu 13:21 [d]S Am 3:11 **7:1** [e]ver 7; Am 8:1 [f]Ps 78:46; S Jer 51:14; S Joel 1:4 **7:2** [g]S Ex 10:15 [h]S Isa 37:4 [i]S Eze 11:13; S Am 4:9 **7:3** [j]S Ex 32:14; Dt 32:36; S Jer 18:8; 26:19 [k]S Hos 11:8 **7:4** [l]S Isa 66:16; S Joel 1:19 [m]Dt 32:22 **7:5** [n]S ver 1-2; Joel 2:17 **7:6** [o]S Ex 32:14; S Jer 18:8; Jnh 3:10 [p]Jer 42:10; S Eze 9:8 **7:8** [q]Jer 1:11,13 [r]Am 8:2 [s]S 2Ki 21:13 [t]S Jer 15:6; Eze 7:2-9 **7:9** [u]S Lev 26:30 [v]S Lev 26:31 [w]S 1Ki 13:34; 2Ki 15:9; Isa 63:18; S Hos 10:8 **7:10** [x]S Jos 7:2 [y]S 2Ki 14:23 [z]Jer 38:4 [a]2Ki 14:24; Jer 26:8-11 **7:11** [b]S Am 5:27 [c]Jer 36:16

7:12 [d]S 1Sa 9:9 [e]Mt 8:34 **7:13** [f]S Jos 7:2; S 1Ki 12:29 [g]Jer 36:5 [h]S Jer 20:2; S Am 2:12; Ac 4:18 **7:14** [i]S 1Sa 10:5; 2Ki 2:5; 4:38; Zec 13:5 [j]S 1Ki 10:27; S Isa 9:10 **7:15** [k]S Ge 37:2; S 2Sa 7:8 [l]S Isa 6:9 [m]S Jer 26:12 [n]Jer 7:1-2; S Eze 2:3-4 **7:16** [o]Jer 22:2 [p]S Eze 20:46; Mic 2:6 **7:17** [q]S Hos 4:13 [r]S Am 5:27 [s]S 2Ki 17:6; S Eze 4:13; S Hos 9:3; Am 2:12-13 **8:1** [t]S Am 7:1 **8:2** [u]Jer 1:13; 24:3 [v]Am 7:8 [w]S Ge 40:16 [x]S La 4:18; Eze 7:2-9 **8:3** [y]S Am 5:16 [z]Am 6:10 **8:4** [a]S Pr 30:14 [b]S Job 20:19; S Ps 14:4; S Am 2:7 **8:5** [c]S Nu 10:10 [d]Isa 58:13 [e]S Ne 10:31

[t]13 *Karnaim* means *horns; horn* here symbolizes strength. [u]14 Or *from the entrance to* [v]17 Hebrew *an unclean* [w]3 Or *"the temple singers will wail*

skimping the measure,
boosting the price
and cheating[a] with dishonest
scales,[b]
6buying the poor[c] with silver
and the needy for a pair of
sandals,
selling even the sweepings with
the wheat.[d]

7The LORD has sworn by the Pride of
Jacob:[e] "I will never forget[f] anything
they have done.[g]

8"Will not the land tremble[h] for this,
and all who live in it mourn?
The whole land will rise like the
Nile;
it will be stirred up and then sink
like the river of Egypt.[i]

9"In that day," declares the Sover-
eign LORD,

"I will make the sun go down at
noon
and darken the earth in broad
daylight.[j]
10I will turn your religious feasts[k] into
mourning
and all your singing into
weeping.[l]
I will make all of you wear
sackcloth[m]
and shave[n] your heads.
I will make that time like mourning
for an only son[o]
and the end of it like a bitter day.[p]

11"The days are coming,"[q] declares
the Sovereign LORD,
"when I will send a famine
through the land—
not a famine of food or a thirst for
water,
but a famine[r] of hearing the
words of the LORD.[s]
12Men will stagger from sea to sea
and wander from north to east,
searching for the word of the LORD,
but they will not find it.[t]

13"In that day

"the lovely young women and
strong young men[u]
will faint because of thirst.[v]
14They who swear by the shame[x] of
Samaria,[w]
or say, 'As surely as your god
lives, O Dan,'[x]
or, 'As surely as the god[y] of
Beersheba[y] lives'—
they will fall,[z]
never to rise again.[a]"

8:5 [a]S Ge 31:7 [b]Dt 25:15; 2Ki 4:23; Ne 13:15-16; Eze 45:10-12; S Hos 12:7; Mic 6:10-11; Zec 5:6 **8:6** [c]Am 5:11 [d]S Am 2:6; S 4:1 **8:7** [e]S Ps 47:4 [f]S Hos 8:13 [g]S Job 35:15 **8:8** [h]S Job 9:6; Jer 51:29 [i]Ps 18:7; S Jer 46:8; Am 9:5 **8:9** [j]S Job 5:14; Isa 59:9-10; Jer 13:16; 15:9; S Eze 32:7; S Am 5:8; Mic 3:6; Mt 27:45; Mk 15:33; Lk 23:44-45 **8:10** [k]S Lev 26:31 [l]S La 5:15; S Hos 2:11 [m]S Joel 1:8 [n]S Lev 13:40; S Isa 3:17 [o]S Ge 21:16 [p]S Jer 2:19; S Eze 7:18 **8:11** [q]Jer 30:3; 31:27 [r]S Isa 30:20 [s]S 1Sa 3:1; S 28:6; S 2Ch 15:3 **8:12** [t]S Eze 20:3,31 **8:13** [u]S Isa 9:17 [v]Isa 41:17; Hos 2:3 **8:14** [w]Mic 1:5 [x]S 1Ki 12:29 [y]S Am 5:5 [z]S Ps 46:2 [a]S Am 5:2

Israel to Be Destroyed

9 I saw the Lord standing by the al-
tar, and he said:

"Strike the tops of the pillars
so that the thresholds shake.
Bring them down on the heads[b] of
all the people;
those who are left I will kill with
the sword.
Not one will get away,
none will escape.[c]
2Though they dig down to the depths
of the grave,[z][d]
from there my hand will take
them.
Though they climb up to the
heavens,[e]
from there I will bring them
down.[f]
3Though they hide themselves on the
top of Carmel,[g]
there I will hunt them down and
seize them.[h]
Though they hide from me at the
bottom of the sea,[i]
there I will command the serpent[j]
to bite them.[k][l]
4Though they are driven into exile by
their enemies,
there I will command the sword[m]
to slay them.
I will fix my eyes upon them
for evil[n] and not for good.[o][p]"

5The Lord, the LORD Almighty,
he who touches the earth and it
melts,[q]
and all who live in it mourn—
the whole land rises like the
Nile,
then sinks like the river of
Egypt[r]—
6he who builds his lofty palace[a][s] in
the heavens
and sets its foundation[b] on the
earth,
who calls for the waters of the
sea
and pours them out over the face
of the land—
the LORD is his name.[t]

7"Are not you Israelites
the same to me as the
Cushites[c]?"[u]
declares the LORD.

9:1 [b]Ps 68:21 [c]Jer 11:11 **9:2** [d]S Job 7:9; S Eze 26:20 [e]Jer 51:53 [f]Ob 1:4 **9:3** [g]Am 1:2 [h]Ps 139:8-10 [i]Ps 68:22 [j]Isa 27:1 [k]Jer 16:16-17 [l]S Ge 49:17; S Job 11:20 **9:4** [m]S Lev 26:33; S Eze 5:12 [n]S Jer 21:10 [o]Jer 39:16; S Eze 15:7 [p]S Jer 44:11 **9:5** [q]S Ps 46:2 [r]S Am 8:8 **9:6** [s]Jer 43:9 [t]Ps 104:1-3,5-6,13; S Am 5:8 **9:7** [u]S 2Ch 12:3; Isa 20:4; 43:3

[x]14 Or *by Ashima;* or *by the idol* [y]14 Or *power*
[z]2 Hebrew *to Sheol* [a]6 The meaning of the Hebrew for this phrase is uncertain. [b]6 The meaning of the Hebrew for this word is uncertain.
[c]7 That is, people from the upper Nile region

"Did I not bring Israel up from
Egypt,
the Philistines[a] from Caphtor[d][b]
and the Arameans from Kir?[c]

[8] "Surely the eyes of the Sovereign
LORD
are on the sinful kingdom.
I will destroy[d] it
from the face of the earth—
yet I will not totally destroy
the house of Jacob,"
declares the LORD.[e]

[9] "For I will give the command,
and I will shake the house of Israel
among all the nations
as grain[f] is shaken in a sieve,[g]
and not a pebble will reach the
ground.[h]

[10] All the sinners among my people
will die by the sword,[i]
all those who say,
'Disaster will not overtake or meet
us.'[j]

Israel's Restoration

[11] "In that day I will restore
David's[k] fallen tent.[l]
I will repair its broken places,
restore its ruins,[m]
and build it as it used to be,[n]
[12] so that they may possess the
remnant of Edom[o]
and all the nations that bear my
name,[e][p]"

declares the LORD, who will
do these things.[q]

[13] "The days are coming,"[r] declares
the LORD,

"when the reaper[s] will be overtaken
by the plowman[t]
and the planter by the one
treading[u] grapes.
New wine[v] will drip from the
mountains
and flow from all the hills.[w]
[14] I will bring[x] back my exiled[f][y]
people Israel;
they will rebuild the ruined cities[z]
and live in them.
They will plant vineyards[a] and drink
their wine;
they will make gardens and eat
their fruit.[b]
[15] I will plant[c] Israel in their own
land,[d]
never again to be uprooted[e]
from the land I have given
them,"[f]

says the LORD your God.[g]

9:7 [a]S Ge 10:14 [b]S Dt 2:23 [c]S 2Ki 16:9; S Isa 22:6; S Am 2:10 **9:8** [d]S Jer 4:27 [e]S Jer 44:27 **9:9** [f]Lk 22:31 [g]Isa 30:28 [h]S Jer 31:36; S Da 9:7 **9:10** [i]Jer 49:37 [j]Jer 5:12; S 23:17; S Eze 20:38; S Am 6:3 **9:11** [k]S Isa 7:2 [l]S Ge 26:22 [m]Ps 53:6; S Isa 49:8 [n]Ps 80:12; S Eze 17:24; Mic 7:8,11; Zec 12:7; 14:10 **9:12** [o]S Nu 24:18 [p]Isa 43:7; Jer 25:29 [q]Ac 15:16-17* **9:13** [r]Jer 31:38; 33:14 [s]S Ru 2:3 [t]Lev 26:5 [u]S Jdg 9:27 [v]S Joel 2:24 [w]S Joel 3:18 **9:14** [x]S Jer 29:14 [y]S Jer 33:7 [z]S Isa 32:18; S 49:8; S 61:4 [a]S 2Ki 19:29 [b]S Isa 62:9; S Jer 30:18; S 31:28; Eze 28:25-26; S 34:13-14; S Am 5:11 **9:15** [c]S Ex 15:17; S Isa 60:21 [d]S Jer 23:8 [e]S Joel 3:20 [f]S Isa 65:9; S Jer 3:18; Ob 17 [g]S Jer 18:9; S 24:6; S 32:15; S Eze 28:26; S 34:25-28; S 37:12,25

[d]7 That is, Crete
[e]12 Hebrew; Septuagint *so that the remnant of men / and all the nations that bear my name may seek the Lord*
[f]14 Or *will restore the fortunes of my*

Obadiah

[1]The vision[a] of Obadiah.

1-4pp — Jer 49:14-16
5-6pp — Jer 49:9-10

This is what the Sovereign LORD says
about Edom[b]—

We have heard a message from the
LORD:
An envoy[c] was sent to the nations
to say,
"Rise, and let us go against her for
battle"[d]—

[2]"See, I will make you small[e] among
the nations;
you will be utterly despised.
[3]The pride[f] of your heart has
deceived you,
you who live in the clefts of the
rocks[a][g]
and make your home on the
heights,
you who say to yourself,
'Who can bring me down to the
ground?'[h]
[4]Though you soar like the
eagle
and make your nest[i] among the
stars,
from there I will bring you
down,"[j]
declares the LORD.[k]
[5]"If thieves came to you,
if robbers in the night—
Oh, what a disaster awaits you—
would they not steal only as much
as they wanted?
If grape pickers came to you,
would they not leave a few
grapes?[l]
[6]But how Esau will be
ransacked,
his hidden treasures pillaged!
[7]All your allies[m] will force you to the
border;
your friends will deceive and
overpower you;
those who eat your bread[n] will set a
trap for you,[b]
but you will not detect it.
[8]"In that day," declares the LORD,
"will I not destroy[o] the wise men
of Edom,
men of understanding in the
mountains of Esau?
[9]Your warriors, O Teman,[p] will be
terrified,
and everyone in Esau's mountains
will be cut down in the slaughter.
[10]Because of the violence[q] against
your brother Jacob,[r]
you will be covered with shame;
you will be destroyed forever.[s]
[11]On the day you stood aloof
while strangers carried off his
wealth
and foreigners entered his gates
and cast lots[t] for Jerusalem,
you were like one of them.[u]
[12]You should not look down[v] on your
brother
in the day of his misfortune,[w]
nor rejoice[x] over the people of Judah
in the day of their destruction,[y]
nor boast[z] so much
in the day of their trouble.[a]
[13]You should not march through the
gates of my people
in the day of their disaster,
nor look down on them in their
calamity[b]
in the day of their disaster,
nor seize their wealth
in the day of their disaster.
[14]You should not wait at the
crossroads
to cut down their fugitives,[c]
nor hand over their survivors
in the day of their trouble.

[15]"The day of the LORD is near[d]
for all nations.
As you have done, it will be done to
you;
your deeds[e] will return upon your
own head.
[16]Just as you drank[f] on my holy hill,[g]
so all the nations will drink[h]
continually;
they will drink and drink

1 [a]S Isa 1:1 [b]S Ge 25:14; S Isa 11:14; S 34:11; 63:1-6; Jer 49:7-22; S Eze 25:12-14; S 32:29; S Am 1:11-12 [c]Isa 18:2 [d]Jer 6:4-5 **2** [e]Nu 24:18 **3** [f]S Isa 16:6 [g]*fn* Isa 16:1 [h]S 2Ch 25:11-12 **4** [i]S Isa 10:14 [j]S Isa 14:13 [k]S Job 20:6 **5** [l]S Dt 4:27; 24:21; S Isa 24:13 **7** [m]Jer 30:14 [n]S Ps 41:9 **8** [o]Job 5:12; Isa 29:14 **9** [p]S Ge 36:11,34 **10** [q]S Joel 3:19 [r]Ps 137:7; Am 1:11-12 [s]S Ps 137:7; S Eze 25:12-14; 35:9 **11** [t]S Job 6:27; S Eze 24:6 [u]S Am 1:6 **12** [v]Pr 24:17 [w]S Job 31:29 [x]S Eze 35:15 [y]S Pr 17:5 [z]Ps 137:7 [a]S Eze 25:6; Mic 4:11; 7:8 **13** [b]S Eze 35:5 **14** [c]S 1Ki 18:4 **15** [d]S Jer 46:10; S Eze 30:3; S Joel 2:31; S Am 5:18 [e]S Jer 50:29; Hab 2:8 **16** [f]Isa 51:17 [g]S Ex 15:17 [h]Jer 25:15; 49:12; S La 4:21-22

[a]3 Or *of Sela* [b]7 The meaning of the Hebrew for this clause is uncertain.

and be as if they had never been.[a]
17 But on Mount Zion will be
deliverance;[b]
it will be holy,[c]
and the house of Jacob
will possess its inheritance.[d]
18 The house of Jacob will be a fire
and the house of Joseph a flame;
the house of Esau will be stubble,
and they will set it on fire[e] and
consume[f] it.
There will be no survivors[g]
from the house of Esau."[h]
The LORD has spoken.

19 People from the Negev will occupy
the mountains of Esau,
and people from the foothills will
possess
the land of the Philistines.[h]
They will occupy the fields of
Ephraim and Samaria,[i]
and Benjamin will possess
Gilead.
20 This company of Israelite exiles who
are in Canaan
will possess ⌊the land⌋ as far as
Zarephath;[k]
the exiles from Jerusalem who are in
Sepharad
will possess the towns of the
Negev.[l]
21 Deliverers[m] will go up on[a] Mount
Zion
to govern the mountains of Esau.
And the kingdom will be the
LORD's.[n]

16 [a]S La 4:21; S Eze 25:12-14; 17 [b]S Ps 69:35; S Isa 14:1-2; Joel 2:32; S Am 9:11-15; [c]S Ps 74:2; S Isa 4:3; [d]Zec 9:12; 18 [e]S Isa 1:31; [f]Zec 12:6; [g]S Jer 49:10; 19 [h]Isa 11:14; [i]S Jer 31:5; [j]S Nu 1:36; 20 [k]1Ki 17:9-10; Lk 4:26; [l]S Jer 33:13; 21 [m]S Dt 28:29; S Jdg 3:9; [n]S Ps 22:28; 47:9; 66:4; S Da 2:44; Zec 14:9,16; Mal 1:14; Rev 11:15

[a]21 Or from

Jonah

Jonah Flees From the LORD

1 The word of the LORD came to Jonah[a] son of Amittai:[b] 2 "Go to the great city of Nineveh[c] and preach against it, because its wickedness has come up before me."

3 But Jonah ran[d] away from the LORD and headed for Tarshish[e]. He went down to Joppa,[f] where he found a ship bound for that port. After paying the fare, he went aboard and sailed for Tarshish to flee from the LORD.[g]

4 Then the LORD sent a great wind on the sea, and such a violent storm arose that the ship threatened to break up.[h] 5 All the sailors were afraid and each cried out to his own god. And they threw the cargo into the sea to lighten the ship.[i]

But Jonah had gone below deck, where he lay down and fell into a deep sleep. 6 The captain went to him and said, "How can you sleep? Get up and call[j] on your god! Maybe he will take notice of us, and we will not perish."[k]

7 Then the sailors said to each other, "Come, let us cast lots to find out who is responsible for this calamity."[l] They cast lots and the lot fell on Jonah.[m]

8 So they asked him, "Tell us, who is responsible for making all this trouble for us? What do you do? Where do you come from? What is your country? From what people are you?"

9 He answered, "I am a Hebrew and I worship the LORD,[n] the God of heaven,[o] who made the sea[p] and the land.[q]"

10 This terrified them and they asked, "What have you done?" (They knew he was running away from the LORD, because he had already told them so.)

11 The sea was getting rougher and rougher. So they asked him, "What should we do to you to make the sea calm down for us?"

12 "Pick me up and throw me into the sea," he replied, "and it will become calm. I know that it is my fault that this great storm has come upon you."[r]

13 Instead, the men did their best to row back to land. But they could not, for the sea grew even wilder than before.[s] 14 Then they cried to the LORD, "O LORD, please do not let us die for taking this man's life. Do not hold us accountable for killing an innocent man,[t] for you, O LORD, have done as you pleased."[u] 15 Then they took Jonah and threw him overboard, and the raging sea grew calm.[v] 16 At this the men greatly feared[w] the LORD, and they offered a sacrifice to the LORD and made vows[x] to him.

17 But the LORD provided[y] a great fish to swallow Jonah,[z] and Jonah was inside the fish three days and three nights.

Jonah's Prayer

2 From inside the fish Jonah prayed to the LORD his God. 2 He said:

"In my distress I called[a] to the
  LORD,[b]
 and he answered me.
From the depths of the grave[a][c] I
  called for help,
 and you listened to my cry.
3 You hurled me into the deep,[d]
 into the very heart of the seas,
 and the currents swirled about me;
all your waves[e] and breakers
 swept over me.[f]
4 I said, 'I have been banished
 from your sight;[g]
yet I will look again
 toward your holy temple.'[h]
5 The engulfing waters threatened
  me,[b]
 the deep surrounded me;
 seaweed was wrapped around my
  head.[i]
6 To the roots of the mountains[j] I
  sank down;
 the earth beneath barred me in
  forever.
But you brought my life up from the
  pit,[k]
 O LORD my God.

1:1 [a]Mt 12:39-41; 16:4; Lk 11:29-32 [b]2Ki 14:25
1:2 [c]S Ge 10:11; S Na 1:1
1:3 [d]Ps 139:7 [e]S Ge 10:4 [f]S Jos 19:46; Ac 9:36,43 [g]Ex 4:13; S Jer 20:9; S Am 3:8
1:4 [h]Ps 107:23-26
1:5 [i]Ac 27:18-19
1:6 [j]Jnh 3:8 [k]S Ps 107:28
1:7 [l]Nu 32:23; Jos 7:10-18; S 1Sa 14:42 [m]S Pr 16:33
1:9 [n]S Ps 96:9 [o]S Da 2:18; Ac 17:24 [p]S Ne 9:6 [q]S Ge 1:9
1:12 [r]2Sa 24:17; 1Ch 21:17
1:13 [s]S Pr 21:30
1:14 [t]Dt 21:8 [u]S Da 4:35
1:15 [v]S Ps 107:29; Lk 8:24
1:16 [w]Mk 4:41 [x]S Nu 30:2; Ps 66:13-14
1:17 [y]Jnh 4:6,7 [z]Mt 12:40; 16:4; Lk 11:30
2:2 [a]La 3:55 [b]Ps 18:6; 120:1 [c]Ps 86:13
2:3 [d]S Ps 88:6 [e]S 2Sa 22:5 [f]S Ps 42:7
2:4 [g]Ps 31:22; Jer 7:15 [h]S 1Ki 8:48
2:5 [i]Ps 69:1-2
2:6 [j]Job 28:9 [k]S Job 17:16; S 33:18; S Ps 30:3

[a]2 Hebrew *Sheol* [b]5 *Or waters were at my throat*

7"When my life was ebbing away,
I remembered[a] you, LORD,
and my prayer[b] rose to you,
to your holy temple.[c]

8"Those who cling to worthless idols[d]
forfeit the grace that could be
theirs.
9But I, with a song of thanksgiving,[e]
will sacrifice[f] to you.
What I have vowed[g] I will make
good.
Salvation[h] comes from the LORD."

10And the LORD commanded the fish,
and it vomited Jonah onto dry land.

Jonah Goes to Nineveh

3 Then the word of the LORD came to
Jonah[i] a second time: 2"Go to the
great city of Nineveh and proclaim to it
the message I give you."
3Jonah obeyed the word of the LORD
and went to Nineveh. Now Nineveh
was a very important city—a visit re-
quired three days. 4On the first day,
Jonah started into the city. He pro-
claimed:[j] "Forty more days and Nine-
veh will be overturned." 5The Nine-
vites believed God. They declared a
fast, and all of them, from the greatest
to the least, put on sackcloth.[k]
6When the news reached the king of
Nineveh, he rose from his throne, took
off his royal robes, covered himself
with sackcloth and sat down in the
dust.[l] 7Then he issued a proclamation
in Nineveh:

"By the decree of the king and his
nobles:

Do not let any man or beast,
herd or flock, taste anything; do
not let them eat or drink.[m] 8But let
man and beast be covered with
sackcloth. Let everyone call[n] ur-
gently on God. Let them give up[o]
their evil ways[p] and their vio-
lence.[q] 9Who knows?[r] God may
yet relent[s] and with compassion
turn[t] from his fierce anger[u] so that
we will not perish."

10When God saw what they did and
how they turned from their evil ways,
he had compassion[v] and did not bring
upon them the destruction[w] he had
threatened.[x]

Jonah's Anger at the LORD's Compassion

4 But Jonah was greatly displeased
and became angry.[y] 2He prayed to
the LORD, "O LORD, is this not what I
said when I was still at home? That is
why I was so quick to flee to Tarshish. I
knew[z] that you are a gracious[a] and
compassionate God, slow to anger and
abounding in love,[b] a God who re-
lents[c] from sending calamity.[d] 3Now,
O LORD, take away my life,[e] for it is
better for me to die[f] than to live."[g]
4But the LORD replied, "Have you any
right to be angry?"[h]
5Jonah went out and sat down at a
place east of the city. There he made
himself a shelter, sat in its shade and
waited to see what would happen to
the city. 6Then the LORD God provided[i]
a vine and made it grow up over Jonah
to give shade for his head to ease his
discomfort, and Jonah was very happy
about the vine. 7But at dawn the next
day God provided a worm, which
chewed the vine so that it withered.[j]
8When the sun rose, God provided a
scorching east wind, and the sun
blazed on Jonah's head so that he grew
faint. He wanted to die,[k] and said, "It
would be better for me to die than to
live."
9But God said to Jonah, "Do you
have a right to be angry about the
vine?"[l]
"I do," he said. "I am angry enough
to die."
10But the LORD said, "You have been
concerned about this vine, though you
did not tend it or make it grow. It
sprang up overnight and died over-
night. 11But Nineveh[m] has more than a
hundred and twenty thousand people
who cannot tell their right hand from
their left, and many cattle as well.
Should I not be concerned[n] about that
great city?"

2:7 [a] Ps 77:11-12 [b] 2Ch 30:27 [c] S Ps 11:4; 18:6 **2:8** [d] S Dt 32:21; S 1Sa 12:21 **2:9** [e] S Ps 42:4 [f] Ps 50:14,23; Heb 13:15 [g] S Nu 30:2; Ps 116:14; S Ecc 5:4-5 [h] S Ex 15:2; S Ps 3:8 **3:1** [i] Jnh 1:1 **3:4** [j] S Jer 18:7-10 **3:5** [k] Da 9:3; Mt 11:21; 12:41; Lk 11:32 **3:6** [l] Est 4:1-3; S Job 2:8,13; S Eze 27:30-31 **3:7** [m] S 2Ch 20:3; S Ezr 10:6 **3:8** [n] Ps 130:1; Jnh 1:6 [o] Jer 25:5 [p] Jer 7:3 [q] S Job 16:17 **3:9** [r] 2Sa 12:22 [s] S Jer 18:8 [t] S Joel 2:14 [u] S Ps 85:3 **3:10** [v] S Am 7:6 [w] S Jer 18:8 [x] S Ex 32:14 **4:1** [y] ver 4; Mt 20:11; Lk 15:28 **4:2** [z] Jer 20:7-8 [a] S Dt 4:31; Ps 103:8 [b] S Ex 22:27; Ps 86:5,15 [c] S Nu 14:18 [d] S Joel 2:13 **4:3** [e] S Nu 11:15 [f] S Job 7:15 [g] Jer 8:3 **4:4** [h] Ge 4:6; Mt 20:11-15 **4:6** [i] S Jnh 1:17 **4:7** [j] Joel 1:12 **4:8** [k] S 1Ki 19:4 **4:9** [l] ver 4 **4:11** [m] Jnh 1:2; 3:2 [n] Jnh 3:10

Micah

1 The word of the LORD that came to
Micah of Moresheth[a] during the
reigns of Jotham,[b] Ahaz[c] and Heze-
kiah,[d] kings of Judah[e]—the vision[f] he
saw concerning Samaria and Jerusa-
lem.

[2]Hear,[g] O peoples, all of you,[h]
listen, O earth[i] and all who are
in it,
that the Sovereign LORD may
witness[j] against you,
the Lord from his holy
temple.[k]

Judgment Against Samaria and Jerusalem

[3]Look! The LORD is coming from his
dwelling[l] place;
he comes down[m] and treads the
high places of the earth.[n]
[4]The mountains melt[o] beneath
him[p]
and the valleys split apart,[q]
like wax before the fire,
like water rushing down a
slope.
[5]All this is because of Jacob's
transgression,
because of the sins of the house of
Israel.
What is Jacob's transgression?
Is it not Samaria?[r]
What is Judah's high place?
Is it not Jerusalem?

[6]"Therefore I will make Samaria a
heap of rubble,
a place for planting vineyards.[s]
I will pour her stones[t] into the
valley
and lay bare her foundations.[u]
[7]All her idols[v] will be broken to
pieces;[w]
all her temple gifts will be burned
with fire;
I will destroy all her images.[x]
Since she gathered her gifts from the
wages of prostitutes,[y]
as the wages of prostitutes they
will again be used."

Weeping and Mourning

[8]Because of this I will weep[z] and
wail;
I will go about barefoot[a] and
naked.
I will howl like a jackal
and moan like an owl.
[9]For her wound[b] is incurable;[c]
it has come to Judah.[d]
It[a] has reached the very gate[e] of my
people,
even to Jerusalem itself.
[10]Tell it not in Gath[b];
weep not at all.[c]
In Beth Ophrah[d]
roll in the dust.
[11]Pass on in nakedness[f] and shame,
you who live in Shaphir.[e]
Those who live in Zaanan[f]
will not come out.
Beth Ezel is in mourning;
its protection is taken from you.
[12]Those who live in Maroth[g] writhe in
pain,
waiting for relief,[g]
because disaster[h] has come from the
LORD,
even to the gate of Jerusalem.
[13]You who live in Lachish,[h i]
harness the team to the chariot.
You were the beginning of sin
to the Daughter of Zion,[j]
for the transgressions of Israel
were found in you.
[14]Therefore you will give parting gifts[k]
to Moresheth[l] Gath.
The town of Aczib[i m] will prove
deceptive[n]
to the kings of Israel.
[15]I will bring a conqueror against you
who live in Mareshah.[j o]
He who is the glory of Israel

1:1 [a]ver 14; Jer 26:18 [b]S 1Ch 3:12 [c]S 1Ch 3:13 [d]S 1Ch 3:13 [e]Hos 1:1 [f]Isa 1:1
1:2 [g]S Dt 32:1 [h]Ps 50:7 [i]S Jer 6:19 [j]S Ge 31:50; S Dt 4:26; S Isa 1:2 [k]S Ps 11:4
1:3 [l]S Isa 18:4 [m]S Isa 64:1 [n]S Am 4:13
1:4 [o]S Ps 46:2,6 [p]S Job 9:5 [q]S Nu 16:31; Na 1:5
1:5 [r]Am 8:14
1:6 [s]S Dt 20:6 [t]S Am 5:11 [u]Eze 13:14
1:7 [v]S Eze 6:6 [w]S Ex 32:20 [x]S Dt 9:21 [y]Dt 23:17-18
1:8 [z]S Isa 15:3 [a]S Isa 20:2
1:9 [b]Jer 46:11 [c]S Jer 10:19 [d]S 2Ki 18:13 [e]Isa 3:26
1:11 [f]Eze 23:29
1:12 [g]Jer 14:19 [h]Jer 40:2
1:13 [i]S Jos 10:3 [j]S Ps 9:14
1:14 [k]2Ki 16:8 [l]S ver 1 [m]S Jos 15:44 [n]Jer 15:18
1:15 [o]Jos 15:44

[a]9 Or *He* [b]10 *Gath* sounds like the Hebrew for *tell.* [c]10 Hebrew; Septuagint may suggest *not in Acco.* The Hebrew for *in Acco* sounds like the Hebrew for *weep.* [d]10 *Beth Ophrah* means *house of dust.* [e]11 *Shaphir* means *pleasant.* [f]11 *Zaanan* sounds like the Hebrew for *come out.* [g]12 *Maroth* sounds like the Hebrew for *bitter.* [h]13 *Lachish* sounds like the Hebrew for *team.* [i]14 *Aczib* means *deception.* [j]15 *Mareshah* sounds like the Hebrew for *conqueror.*

will come to Adullam.[a]
[16]Shave[b] your heads in mourning
for the children in whom you
delight;
make yourselves as bald as the
vulture,
for they will go from you into
exile.[c]

Man's Plans and God's

2 Woe to those who plan iniquity,
to those who plot evil[d] on their
beds![e]
At morning's light they carry it out
because it is in their power to
do it.
[2]They covet fields[f] and seize them,[g]
and houses, and take them.
They defraud[h] a man of his home,
a fellowman of his inheritance.[i]

[3]Therefore, the LORD says:

"I am planning disaster[j] against this
people,
from which you cannot save
yourselves.
You will no longer walk proudly,[k]
for it will be a time of calamity.
[4]In that day men will ridicule you;
they will taunt you with this
mournful song:
'We are utterly ruined;[l]
my people's possession is divided
up.[m]
He takes it from me!
He assigns our fields to traitors.' "

[5]Therefore you will have no one in
the assembly of the LORD
to divide the land[n] by lot.[o]

False Prophets

[6]"Do not prophesy," their prophets
say.
"Do not prophesy about these
things;
disgrace[p] will not overtake us.[q]"
[7]Should it be said, O house of Jacob:
"Is the Spirit of the LORD angry?
Does he do such things?"

"Do not my words do good[r]
to him whose ways are upright?[s]
[8]Lately my people have risen up
like an enemy.
You strip off the rich robe
from those who pass by without a
care,
like men returning from battle.
[9]You drive the women of my people
from their pleasant homes.[t]
You take away my blessing
from their children forever.
[10]Get up, go away!
For this is not your resting
place,[u]
because it is defiled,[v]
it is ruined, beyond all remedy.
[11]If a liar and deceiver[w] comes and
says,
'I will prophesy for you plenty of
wine and beer,'[x]
he would be just the prophet for
this people![y]

Deliverance Promised

[12]"I will surely gather all of you,
O Jacob;
I will surely bring together the
remnant[z] of Israel.
I will bring them together like sheep
in a pen,
like a flock in its pasture;
the place will throng with
people.[a]
[13]One who breaks open the way will
go up before[b] them;
they will break through the gate[c]
and go out.
Their king will pass through before
them,
the LORD at their head."

Leaders and Prophets Rebuked

3 Then I said,
"Listen, you leaders[d] of Jacob,
you rulers of the house of Israel.
Should you not know justice,
[2] you who hate good and love evil;
who tear the skin from my people
and the flesh from their bones;[e]
[3]who eat my people's flesh,[f]
strip off their skin
and break their bones in pieces;[g]
who chop[h] them up like meat for
the pan,
like flesh for the pot?[i]"
[4]Then they will cry out to the LORD,
but he will not answer them.[j]
At that time he will hide his face[k]
from them
because of the evil they have
done.[l]

[5]This is what the LORD says:

"As for the prophets
who lead my people astray,[m]
if one feeds them,
they proclaim 'peace';[n]
if he does not,
they prepare to wage war against
him.

1:15 [a]S Jos 12:15
1:16 [b]S Lev 13:40; S Job 1:20 [c]S Dt 4:27; S Am 5:27
2:1 [d]S Isa 29:20 [e]Ps 36:4
2:2 [f]Isa 5:8 [g]S Pr 30:14 [h]S Jer 22:17 [i]S 1Sa 8:14; S Isa 1:23; S Eze 46:18
2:3 [j]Jer 18:11; S Am 3:1-2 [k]Isa 2:12
2:4 [l]S Lev 26:31; S Jer 4:13 [m]S Jer 6:12
2:5 [n]Dt 32:13; Jos 18:4 [o]S Nu 34:13
2:6 [p]Ps 44:13; Jer 18:16; 19:8; 25:18; 29:18; Mic 6:16 [q]S Am 2:12
2:7 [r]S Ps 119:65 [s]Ps 15:2; 84:11
2:9 [t]Jer 10:20
2:10 [u]S Dt 12:9 [v]Lev 18:25-29; Ps 106:38-39; S La 4:15
2:11 [w]S 2Ch 36:16; Jer 5:31 [x]S Lev 10:9 [y]Isa 30:10
2:12 [z]Mic 4:7; 5:7; 7:18 [a]S Ne 1:9
2:13 [b]S Isa 52:12 [c]S Isa 60:11
3:1 [d]S Jer 5:5
3:2 [e]Ps 53:4; S Eze 22:27
3:3 [f]S Ps 14:4 [g]S Eze 34:4; Zep 3:3 [h]S Job 24:14 [i]S Eze 11:7; S 24:4-5
3:4 [j]S Dt 1:45; S 1Sa 8:18; S Isa 58:4; S Jer 11:11 [k]S Dt 31:17 [l]S Job 15:31; S Eze 8:18
3:5 [m]S Isa 3:12; S 9:16; S 53:6 [n]S Jer 4:10

[6]Therefore night will come over you,
without visions,
and darkness, without
divination.[a]
The sun will set for the prophets,[b]
and the day will go dark for
them.[c]
[7]The seers will be ashamed[d]
and the diviners disgraced.[e]
They will all cover[f] their faces[g]
because there is no answer from
God.[h]"
[8]But as for me, I am filled with
power,
with the Spirit of the LORD,
and with justice and might,
to declare to Jacob his transgression,
to Israel his sin.[i]
[9]Hear this, you leaders of the house
of Jacob,
you rulers of the house of Israel,
who despise justice
and distort all that is right;[j]
[10]who build[k] Zion with bloodshed,[l]
and Jerusalem with wickedness.[m]
[11]Her leaders judge for a bribe,[n]
her priests teach for a price,[o]
and her prophets tell fortunes for
money.[p]
Yet they lean[q] upon the LORD and
say,
"Is not the LORD among us?
No disaster will come upon us."[r]
[12]Therefore because of you,
Zion will be plowed like a field,
Jerusalem will become a heap of
rubble,[s]
the temple[t] hill a mound
overgrown with thickets.[u]

The Mountain of the LORD

4:1-3pp — Isa 2:1-4

4 In the last days
the mountain[v] of the LORD's
temple will be established
as chief among the mountains;
it will be raised above the hills,[w]
and peoples will stream to it.[x]
[2]Many nations will come and say,

"Come, let us go up to the mountain
of the LORD,[y]
to the house of the God of Jacob.[z]
He will teach us[a] his ways,[b]
so that we may walk in his paths."
The law[c] will go out from Zion,
the word of the LORD from
Jerusalem.
[3]He will judge between many peoples
and will settle disputes for strong
nations far and wide.[d]
They will beat their swords into
plowshares
and their spears into pruning
hooks.[e]
Nation will not take up sword
against nation,
nor will they train for war[f]
anymore.[g]
[4]Every man will sit under his own
vine
and under his own fig tree,[h]
and no one will make them afraid,[i]
for the LORD Almighty has
spoken.[j]
[5]All the nations may walk
in the name of their gods;[k]
we will walk in the name of the LORD
our God for ever and ever.[l]

The LORD's Plan

[6]"In that day," declares the LORD,

"I will gather the lame;[m]
I will assemble the exiles[n]
and those I have brought to grief.[o]
[7]I will make the lame a remnant,[p]
those driven away a strong
nation.[q]
The LORD will rule over them in
Mount Zion[r]
from that day and forever.[s]
[8]As for you, O watchtower of the
flock,
O stronghold[k] of the Daughter of
Zion,
the former dominion will be
restored[t] to you;
kingship will come to the
Daughter of Jerusalem."[u]
[9]Why do you now cry aloud—
have you no king?[v]
Has your counselor perished,
that pain seizes you like that of a
woman in labor?[w]
[10]Writhe in agony, O Daughter of
Zion,
like a woman in labor,
for now you must leave the city
to camp in the open field.
You will go to Babylon;[x]
there you will be rescued.
There the LORD will redeem[y] you
out of the hand of your enemies.
[11]But now many nations
are gathered against you.
They say, "Let her be defiled,
let our eyes gloat[z] over Zion!"
[12]But they do not know
the thoughts of the LORD;
they do not understand his plan,[a]

[k]8 Or *hill*

3:6 [a]Isa 8:19-22; S Eze 12:24 [b]Isa 29:10 [c]S Eze 7:26; S Am 8:11 **3:7** [d]S Jer 6:15; Mic 7:16 [e]S Isa 44:25 [f]S Est 6:12 [g]S Lev 13:45 [h]S Eze 20:3 **3:8** [i]S Isa 57:12; 61:2 **3:9** [j]Ps 58:1-2; S Isa 1:23 **3:10** [k]S Jer 22:13 [l]Isa 59:7; Mic 7:2; Na 3:1; Hab 2:12 [m]Jer 22:17; S Eze 22:27 **3:11** [n]S Ex 23:8; S Lev 19:15; Mal 2:9 [o]S Eze 13:19 [p]Isa 1:23; S 56:11; Jer 6:13; S La 4:13; S Hos 4:8,18 [q]S Isa 10:20 [r]Jer 7:4; S Eze 34:2 **3:12** [s]S 2Ki 25:9; S Isa 6:11 [t]S Jer 52:13 [u]S Lev 26:31; S Jer 17:3; S 22:6; S La 5:18; S Eze 5:14 **4:1** [v]S Ps 48:1; Zec 8:3 [w]S Eze 17:22 [x]S Ps 22:27; 86:9; S Jer 3:17; S 31:12; S Da 2:35 **4:2** [y]S Jer 31:6; S Eze 20:40 [z]Zec 2:11; 14:16 [a]S Ps 119:171 [b]Ps 25:8-9; S Isa 54:13 [c]S Dt 18:18 **4:3** [d]S Isa 11:4 [e]Joel 3:10; Zec 9:10 [f]S Ps 46:9 [g]Zec 8:20-22 **4:4** [h]S 1Ki 4:25 [i]S Lev 26:6; S Eze 39:26 [j]S Isa 1:20 **4:5** [k]2Ki 17:29; Ac 14:16 [l]Jos 24:14-15; Isa 26:8; Zec 10:12 **4:6** [m]S Jer 31:8 [n]S Ps 106:47 [o]S Eze 34:13,16; S 37:21; Zep 3:19 **4:7** [p]S Joel 2:32; S Mic 2:12 [q]S Ge 12:2 [r]S Isa 2:2 [s]S Da 2:44; S 7:14; S Lk 1:33; Rev 11:15 **4:8** [t]S Isa 1:26 [u]Zec 9:9 **4:9** [v]Jer 8:19 [w]S Ge 3:16; Jer 30:6; 48:41 **4:10** [x]S Dt 21:10; 2Ki 20:18; Isa 43:14 [y]S Isa 48:20 **4:11** [z]S La 2:16; S Ob 1:12; Mic 7:8 **4:12** [a]S Ge 50:20; S Isa 55:8; Ro 11:33-34

he who gathers them like sheaves
to the threshing floor.

13"Rise and thresh,[z] O Daughter of
Zion,
for I will give you horns of iron;
I will give you hoofs of bronze
and you will break to pieces many
nations."[a]
You will devote their ill-gotten gains
to the LORD,[b]
their wealth to the Lord of all the
earth.[c]

A Promised Ruler From Bethlehem

5 Marshal your troops, O city of
troops,[l]
for a siege is laid against us.
They will strike Israel's ruler
on the cheek[d] with a rod.

2"But you, Bethlehem[e] Ephrathah,[f]
though you are small among the
clans[m] of Judah,
out of you will come for me
one who will be ruler[g] over Israel,
whose origins[n] are from of old,[h]
from ancient times.[o]"[i]

3Therefore Israel will be abandoned[j]
until the time when she who is in
labor gives birth
and the rest of his brothers return
to join the Israelites.

4He will stand and shepherd his
flock[k]
in the strength of the LORD,
in the majesty of the name of the
LORD his God.
And they will live securely, for then
his greatness[l]
will reach to the ends of the earth.
5 And he will be their peace.[m]

Deliverance and Destruction

When the Assyrian invades[n] our
land
and marches through our
fortresses,
we will raise against him seven
shepherds,
even eight leaders of men.[o]
6They will rule[p] the land of Assyria
with the sword,
the land of Nimrod[p] with drawn
sword.[q] [q]
He will deliver us from the Assyrian
when he invades our land
and marches into our borders.[r]

7The remnant[s] of Jacob will be
in the midst of many peoples
like dew[t] from the LORD,
like showers on the grass,[u]
which do not wait for man
or linger for mankind.
8The remnant of Jacob will be among
the nations,
in the midst of many peoples,
like a lion among the beasts of the
forest,[v]
like a young lion among flocks of
sheep,
which mauls and mangles[w] as it
goes,
and no one can rescue.[x]
9Your hand will be lifted up[y] in
triumph over your enemies,
and all your foes will be
destroyed.

10"In that day," declares the LORD,
"I will destroy your horses from
among you
and demolish your chariots.[z]
11I will destroy the cities[a] of your land
and tear down all your
strongholds.[b]
12I will destroy your witchcraft
and you will no longer cast
spells.[c]
13I will destroy your carved images[d]
and your sacred stones from
among you;[e]
you will no longer bow down
to the work of your hands.[f]
14I will uproot from among you your
Asherah poles[r] [g]
and demolish your cities.
15I will take vengeance[h] in anger and
wrath
upon the nations that have not
obeyed me."

The LORD's Case Against Israel

6 Listen to what the LORD says:
"Stand up, plead your case before
the mountains;[i]
let the hills hear what you have to
say.
2Hear,[j] O mountains, the LORD's
accusation;[k]
listen, you everlasting foundations
of the earth.
For the LORD has a case[l] against his
people;
he is lodging a charge[m] against
Israel.

3"My people, what have I done to
you?

4:13 [z]S Isa 21:10 [a]S Isa 45:1; [b]S Da 2:44 [c]S Isa 23:18 **5:1** [d]La 3:30 **5:2** [e]S Jn 7:42 [f]S Ge 35:16; S 48:7 [g]S Nu 24:19; S 1Sa 13:14; S 2Sa 6:21; S 2Ch 7:18 [h]Ps 102:25 [i]Mt 2:6* **5:3** [j]S Jer 7:29 **5:4** [k]Isa 40:11; 49:9; S Eze 34:11-15, 23; Mic 7:14 [l]Isa 52:13; Lk 1:32 **5:5** [m]S Isa 9:6; S Lk 2:14; Col 1:19-20 [n]Isa 8:7 [o]Isa 10:24-27 **5:6** [p]Ge 10:8 [q]Zep 2:13 [r]Na 2:11-13 **5:7** [s]S Am 5:15; S Mic 2:12 [t]S Ps 133:3 [u]Isa 44:4 **5:8** [v]S Ge 49:9 [w]Mic 4:13; Zec 10:5 [x]S Ps 50:22; S Isa 5:29; S Hos 5:14 **5:9** [y]S Ps 10:12 **5:10** [z]Ex 15:4, 19; S Hos 14:3; Hag 2:22; Zec 9:10 **5:11** [a]S Dt 29:23; Isa 6:11 [b]S La 2:2; S Hos 10:14; Am 5:9 **5:12** [c]Dt 18:10-12; Isa 2:6; 8:19 **5:13** [d]Na 1:14 [e]Hos 10:2 [f]S Isa 2:18; S Eze 6:9; Zec 13:2 **5:14** [g]S Ex 34:13; S Jdg 3:7; S 2Ki 17:10 **5:15** [h]S Isa 65:12 **6:1** [i]S Ps 50:1; S Eze 6:2 **6:2** [j]Dt 32:1 [k]S Hos 12:2 [l]S Isa 3:13 [m]Ps 50:7; S Jer 2:9

[l]1 Or *Strengthen your walls, O walled city* [m]2 Or *rulers* [n]2 Hebrew *goings out* [o]2 Or *from days of eternity* [p]6 Or *crush* [q]6 Or *Nimrod in its gates* [r]14 That is, symbols of the goddess Asherah

How have I burdened[a] you?[b]
Answer me.
4 I brought you up out of Egypt[c]
and redeemed you from the land
of slavery.[d]
I sent Moses[e] to lead you,
also Aaron[f] and Miriam.[g]
5 My people, remember
what Balak[h] king of Moab
counseled
and what Balaam son of Beor
answered.
Remember your journey from
Shittim[i] to Gilgal,[j]
that you may know the righteous
acts[k] of the LORD."

6 With what shall I come before[l] the
LORD
and bow down before the exalted
God?
Shall I come before him with burnt
offerings,
with calves a year old?[m]
7 Will the LORD be pleased with
thousands of rams,[n]
with ten thousand rivers of oil?[o]
Shall I offer my firstborn[p] for my
transgression,
the fruit of my body for the sin of
my soul?[q]
8 He has showed you, O man, what is
good.
And what does the LORD require of
you?
To act justly[r] and to love mercy
and to walk humbly[s] with your
God.[t]

Israel's Guilt and Punishment

9 Listen! The LORD is calling to the
city—
and to fear your name is
wisdom—
"Heed the rod[u] and the One who
appointed it.[s]
10 Am I still to forget, O wicked house,
your ill-gotten treasures
and the short ephah,[t] which is
accursed?[v]
11 Shall I acquit a man with dishonest
scales,[w]
with a bag of false weights?[x]
12 Her rich men are violent;[y]
her people are liars[z]
and their tongues speak
deceitfully.[a]
13 Therefore, I have begun to destroy[b]
you,
to ruin you because of your sins.
14 You will eat but not be satisfied;[c]
your stomach will still be empty.[u]
You will store up but save nothing,[d]
because what you save I will give
to the sword.
15 You will plant but not harvest;[e]
you will press olives but not use
the oil on yourselves,
you will crush grapes but not
drink the wine.[f]
16 You have observed the statutes of
Omri[g]
and all the practices of Ahab's[h]
house,
and you have followed their
traditions.[i]
Therefore I will give you over to
ruin[j]
and your people to derision;
you will bear the scorn[k] of the
nations.[v]"

Israel's Misery

7 What misery is mine!
I am like one who gathers summer
fruit
at the gleaning of the vineyard;
there is no cluster of grapes to eat,
none of the early figs[l] that I crave.
2 The godly have been swept from the
land;[m]
not one[n] upright man remains.
All men lie in wait[o] to shed blood;[p]
each hunts his brother[q] with a
net.[r]
3 Both hands are skilled in doing evil;[s]
the ruler demands gifts,
the judge accepts bribes,[t]
the powerful dictate what they
desire—
they all conspire together.
4 The best of them is like a brier,[u]
the most upright worse than a
thorn[v] hedge.
The day of your watchmen has
come,
the day God visits you.
Now is the time of their
confusion.[w]
5 Do not trust a neighbor;
put no confidence in a friend.[x]
Even with her who lies in your
embrace
be careful of your words.
6 For a son dishonors his father,
a daughter rises up against her
mother,[y]
a daughter-in-law against her
mother-in-law—

6:3 [a]Jer 2:5 [b]Jer 2:5 **6:4** [c]S Ex 3:10; S 6:6 [d]Dt 7:8 [e]S Ex 4:16 [f]S Nu 33:1; Ps 77:20 [g]S Ex 15:20 **6:5** [h]S Nu 22:2 [i]S Nu 25:1 [j]S Dt 11:30; Jos 5:9-10 [k]Jdg 5:11; 1Sa 12:7 **6:6** [l]S Ps 95:2 [m]Ps 40:6-8; 51:16-17 **6:7** [n]S Isa 1:11; S 40:16 [o]Ps 50:8-10 [p]S Lev 18:21; S 2Ki 3:27 [q]Hos 5:6; S Am 5:22 **6:8** [r]S Isa 1:17; S Jer 22:3 [s]S 2Ki 22:19; S Isa 57:15 [t]S Ge 5:22; Dt 10:12-13; 1Sa 15:22; Hos 6:6; Zec 7:9-10; Mt 9:13; 23:23; Mk 12:33; Lk 11:42 **6:9** [u]S Ge 17:1; Isa 11:4 **6:10** [v]Eze 45:9-10; S Am 3:10; 8:4-6 **6:11** [w]S Lev 19:36 [x]S Dt 25:13 **6:12** [y]S Isa 1:23 [z]S Ps 116:11; Isa 3:8 [a]S Ps 35:20; S Jer 9:3 **6:13** [b]Isa 1:7; 6:11 **6:14** [c]S Isa 9:20; S Hos 4:10 [d]Isa 30:6 **6:15** [e]S Dt 28:38; Jer 12:13 [f]Job 24:11; S Am 5:11; Zep 1:13 **6:16** [g]S 1Ki 16:25 [h]1Ki 16:29-33 [i]Jer 7:24 [j]S Jer 25:9 [k]S Dt 28:37; S Jer 51:51; S Mic 2:6 **7:1** [l]S SS 2:13 **7:2** [m]S Ps 12:1 [n]S Jer 2:29; 8:6 [o]Ps 10:8 [p]S Pr 6:17; S Mic 3:10 [q]S Isa 3:5 [r]S Jer 5:26 **7:3** [s]S Pr 4:16 [t]S Ex 23:8; S Eze 22:12 **7:4** [u]S Nu 33:55; S Eze 2:6 [v]S 2Sa 23:6 [w]S Job 31:14; Isa 22:5; S Hos 9:7 **7:5** [x]Jer 9:4 **7:6** [y]S Eze 22:7

[s]*9* The meaning of the Hebrew for this line is uncertain. [t]*10* An ephah was a dry measure. [u]*14* The meaning of the Hebrew for this word is uncertain. [v]*16* Septuagint; Hebrew *scorn due my people*

a man's enemies are the members
of his own household.
[7]But as for me, I watch in hope for
the LORD,
I wait for God my Savior;
my God will hear me.

Israel Will Rise

[8]Do not gloat over me, my enemy!
Though I have fallen, I will rise.
Though I sit in darkness,
the LORD will be my light.
[9]Because I have sinned against him,
I will bear the LORD's wrath,
until he pleads my case
and establishes my right.
He will bring me out into the light;
I will see his righteousness.
[10]Then my enemy will see it
and will be covered with shame,
she who said to me,
"Where is the LORD your God?"
My eyes will see her downfall;
even now she will be trampled
underfoot
like mire in the streets.
[11]The day for building your walls will
come,
the day for extending your
boundaries.
[12]In that day people will come to you
from Assyria and the cities of
Egypt,
even from Egypt to the Euphrates
and from sea to sea
and from mountain to mountain.
[13]The earth will become desolate
because of its inhabitants,
as the result of their deeds.

Prayer and Praise

[14]Shepherd your people with your
staff,
the flock of your inheritance,
which lives by itself in a forest,
in fertile pasturelands.[w]
Let them feed in Bashan and
Gilead
as in days long ago.
[15]"As in the days when you came out
of Egypt,
I will show them my wonders."
[16]Nations will see and be ashamed,
deprived of all their power.
They will lay their hands on their
mouths
and their ears will become deaf.
[17]They will lick dust like a snake,
like creatures that crawl on the
ground.
They will come trembling out of
their dens;
they will turn in fear to the LORD
our God
and will be afraid of you.
[18]Who is a God like you,
who pardons sin and forgives
the transgression
of the remnant of his
inheritance?
You do not stay angry forever
but delight to show mercy.
[19]You will again have compassion
on us;
you will tread our sins underfoot
and hurl all our iniquities into the
depths of the sea.
[20]You will be true to Jacob,
and show mercy to Abraham,
as you pledged on oath to our
fathers
in days long ago.

[illegible] 7:11 [illegible] 7:12 [illegible] 7:15 [illegible] 7:16 [illegible] 7:17 [illegible] 7:18 [illegible] S Ex 34:9 S Ps 103:9; S Isa 54:9 S 2Ch 30:9; S Jer 31:20; 32:41; S Eze 18:23 **7:19** mS Isa 43:25 nS Jer 31:34

7:20 oGal 3:16 pDt 7:8; Lk 1:72 qPs 108:4

w14 Or *in the middle of Carmel*

Nahum

1 An oracle[a] concerning Nineveh.[b] The book of the vision[c] of Nahum the Elkoshite.

The Lord's Anger Against Nineveh

2The Lord is a jealous[d] and avenging God;
the Lord takes vengeance[e] and is filled with wrath.
The Lord takes vengeance on his foes
and maintains his wrath against his enemies.[f]
3The Lord is slow to anger[g] and great in power;
the Lord will not leave the guilty unpunished.[h]
His way is in the whirlwind[i] and the storm,[j]
and clouds[k] are the dust of his feet.
4He rebukes[l] the sea and dries it up;[m]
he makes all the rivers run dry.
Bashan and Carmel[n] wither
and the blossoms of Lebanon fade.
5The mountains quake[o] before him
and the hills melt away.[p]
The earth trembles[q] at his presence,
the world and all who live in it.[r]
6Who can withstand[s] his indignation?
Who can endure[t] his fierce anger?[u]
His wrath is poured out like fire;[v]
the rocks are shattered[w] before him.

7The Lord is good,[x]
a refuge in times of trouble.[y]
He cares for[z] those who trust in him,[a]
8 but with an overwhelming flood[b]
he will make an end of ⌊Nineveh⌋;
he will pursue his foes into darkness.

9Whatever they plot[c] against the Lord
he[a] will bring to an end;
trouble will not come a second time.
10They will be entangled among thorns[d]
and drunk[e] from their wine;
they will be consumed like dry stubble.[b][f]
11From you, ⌊O Nineveh,⌋ has one come forth
who plots evil against the Lord
and counsels wickedness.

12This is what the Lord says:

"Although they have allies and are numerous,
they will be cut off[g] and pass away.
Although I have afflicted you, ⌊O Judah,⌋
I will afflict you no more.[h]
13Now I will break their yoke[i] from your neck
and tear your shackles away."[j]

14The Lord has given a command concerning you, ⌊Nineveh⌋:
"You will have no descendants to bear your name.[k]
I will destroy the carved images[l] and cast idols
that are in the temple of your gods.
I will prepare your grave,[m]
for you are vile."

15Look, there on the mountains,
the feet of one who brings good news,[n]
who proclaims peace![o]
Celebrate your festivals,[p] O Judah,
and fulfill your vows.
No more will the wicked invade you;[q]
they will be completely destroyed.

Nineveh to Fall

2 An attacker[r] advances against you, ⌊Nineveh⌋.

1:1 [a]S Isa 13:1; 19:1; Jer 23:33-34 [b]S Ge 10:11; S Jer 50:18; Na 2:8; 3:7 [c]S Isa 1:1 **1:2** [d]S Ex 20:5 [e]S Ge 4:24; S Dt 32:41; Ps 94:1 [f]S Dt 7:10 **1:3** [g]S Ne 9:17 [h]S Ex 34:7 [i]S Ex 14:21; S 2Ki 2:1 [j]S Ps 50:3 [k]S 2Sa 22:10; S Ps 104:3 **1:4** [l]S 2Sa 22:16 [m]S Ex 14:22 [n]S Isa 33:9 **1:5** [o]S Ex 19:18; S Job 9:6 [p]S Mic 1:4 [q]S Joel 2:10 [r]S Eze 38:20 **1:6** [s]S Ps 130:3 [t]S Eze 22:14 [u]S Ps 76:7 [v]S Isa 5:24-25; S 42:25; S Jer 10:10 [w]1Ki 19:11 **1:7** [x]S Jer 33:11 [y]S Jer 17:17 [z]S Ps 1:6 [a]S Ps 22:9 **1:8** [b]S Isa 8:7; S Da 9:26 **1:9** [c]S Hos 7:15 **1:10** [d]S 2Sa 23:6 [e]S Isa 49:26 [f]S Isa 5:24; Mal 4:1 **1:12** [g]S Isa 10:34 [h]Isa 54:6-8; S La 3:31-32 **1:13** [i]S Isa 9:4 [j]S Job 12:18; S Ps 107:14 **1:14** [k]S Isa 14:22 [l]Mic 5:13 [m]S Jer 28:8; Eze 32:22-23 **1:15** [n]Isa 40:9; Ro 10:15 [o]S Isa 52:7; Ac 10:36 [p]Lev 23:2-4 [q]S Isa 52:1 **2:1** [r]Jer 51:20

[a]9 Or *What do you foes plot against the Lord? / He*
[b]10 The meaning of the Hebrew for this verse is uncertain.

Guard the fortress,
watch the road,
brace yourselves,
marshal all your strength!

2 The LORD will restore[a] the splendor[b]
of Jacob
like the splendor of Israel,
though destroyers have laid them
waste
and have ruined their vines.

3 The shields of his soldiers are red;
the warriors are clad in scarlet.[c]
The metal on the chariots flashes
on the day they are made ready;
the spears of pine are
brandished.[c]
4 The chariots[d] storm through the
streets,
rushing back and forth through
the squares.
They look like flaming torches;
they dart about like lightning.

5 He summons his picked troops,
yet they stumble[e] on their way.
They dash to the city wall;
the protective shield is put in
place.
6 The river gates[f] are thrown open
and the palace collapses.
7 It is decreed[d] that the city
be exiled and carried away.
Its slave girls moan[g] like doves
and beat upon their breasts.[h]
8 Nineveh is like a pool,
and its water is draining away.
"Stop! Stop!" they cry,
but no one turns back.
9 Plunder the silver!
Plunder the gold!
The supply is endless,
the wealth from all its treasures!
10 She is pillaged, plundered, stripped!
Hearts melt,[i] knees give way,
bodies tremble, every face grows
pale.[j]

11 Where now is the lions' den,[k]
the place where they fed their
young,
where the lion and lioness went,
and the cubs, with nothing to
fear?
12 The lion killed[l] enough for his cubs
and strangled the prey for his
mate,
filling his lairs[m] with the kill
and his dens with the prey.[n]

13 "I am against[o] you,"
declares the LORD Almighty.
"I will burn up your chariots in
smoke,[p]
and the sword[q] will devour your
young lions.
I will leave you no prey on the
earth.
The voices of your messengers
will no longer be heard."[r]

2:2 [a]S Eze 37:23 [b]Isa 60:15 2:3 [c]S Eze 23:14-15 2:4 [d]S Jer 4:13; S Eze 26:10 2:5 [e]Jer 46:12 2:6 [f]Isa 45:1; Na 3:13 2:7 [g]S Ge 8:8; S Isa 59:11 [h]Isa 32:12 2:10 [i]S Jos 2:11; S 7:5 [j]S Isa 29:22 2:11 [k]Isa 5:29 2:12 [l]S Jer 51:34 [m]S Jer 4:7 [n]S Isa 37:18 2:13 [o]Isa 10:5-13; S Jer 21:13; Na 3:5 [p]Ps 46:9 [q]S 2Sa 2:26 [r]S Mic 5:6 3:1 [s]S Eze 22:2; S Mic 3:10 [t]Ps 12:2 3:3 [u]2Ki 19:35; Isa 34:3; Jer 47:3 3:4 [v]S Isa 47:9 [w]S Isa 23:17; Eze 16:25-29 3:5 [x]S Na 2:13 [y]S Isa 20:4; Jer 13:22 [z]S Isa 47:3 3:6 [a]S Ex 29:14; S Job 9:31 [b]S 1Sa 2:30; S Jer 51:37 [c]Isa 14:16 3:7 [d]S Isa 13:14; S 31:9 [e]S Na 1:1 [f]S Job 3:14 [g]S Jer 15:5 [h]S Isa 51:19 3:8 [i]Am 6:2 [j]S Jer 46:25 [k]Isa 19:6-9 3:9 [l]S Ge 10:6; S 2Ch 12:3 [m]S Eze 27:10 [n]Eze 30:5 3:10 [o]S Isa 20:4

Woe to Nineveh

3 Woe to the city of blood,[s]
full of lies,[t]
full of plunder,
never without victims!
2 The crack of whips,
the clatter of wheels,
galloping horses
and jolting chariots!
3 Charging cavalry,
flashing swords
and glittering spears!
Many casualties,
piles of dead,
bodies without number,
people stumbling over the
corpses[u]—
4 all because of the wanton lust of a
harlot,
alluring, the mistress of sorceries,[v]
who enslaved nations by her
prostitution[w]
and peoples by her witchcraft.

5 "I am against[x] you," declares the
LORD Almighty.
"I will lift your skirts[y] over your
face.
I will show the nations your
nakedness[z]
and the kingdoms your shame.
6 I will pelt you with filth,[a]
I will treat you with contempt[b]
and make you a spectacle.[c]
7 All who see you will flee[d] from you
and say,
'Nineveh[e] is in ruins[f]—who will
mourn for her?'[g]
Where can I find anyone to
comfort[h] you?"

8 Are you better than[i] Thebes,[e][j]
situated on the Nile,[k]
with water around her?
The river was her defense,
the waters her wall.
9 Cush[f][l] and Egypt were her
boundless strength;
Put[m] and Libya[n] were among her
allies.
10 Yet she was taken captive[o]
and went into exile.

[c]3 Hebrew; Septuagint and Syriac / *the horsemen rush to and fro* [d]7 The meaning of the Hebrew for this word is uncertain. [e]8 Hebrew *No Amon* [f]9 That is, the upper Nile region

Her infants were dashed[a] to pieces
at the head of every street.
Lots[b] were cast for her nobles,
and all her great men were put in chains.[c]
11 You too will become drunk;[d]
you will go into hiding[e]
and seek refuge from the enemy.
12 All your fortresses are like fig trees
with their first ripe fruit;[f]
when they are shaken,
the figs[g] fall into the mouth of the eater.
13 Look at your troops—
they are all women![h]
The gates[i] of your land
are wide open to your enemies;
fire has consumed their bars.[j]
14 Draw water for the siege,[k]
strengthen your defenses![l]
Work the clay,
tread the mortar,
repair the brickwork!
15 There the fire[m] will devour you;
the sword[n] will cut you down
and, like grasshoppers, consume you.
Multiply like grasshoppers,
multiply like locusts![o]
16 You have increased the number of your merchants
till they are more than the stars of the sky,
but like locusts[p] they strip the land
and then fly away.
17 Your guards are like locusts,[q]
your officials like swarms of locusts
that settle in the walls on a cold day—
but when the sun appears they fly away,
and no one knows where.
18 O king of Assyria, your shepherds[a][r] slumber;[s]
your nobles lie down to rest.[t]
Your people are scattered[u] on the mountains
with no one to gather them.
19 Nothing can heal your wound;[v]
your injury is fatal.
Everyone who hears the news about you
claps his hands[w] at your fall,
for who has not felt
your endless cruelty?[x]

3:10 [a]S 2Ki 8:12; S Isa 13:16; Hos 13:16 [b]S Job 6:27; S Eze 24:6 [c]S Jer 40:1 **3:11** [d]S Isa 49:26 [e]S Isa 2:10 **3:12** [f]S SS 2:13 [g]S Isa 28:4 **3:13** [h]S Isa 19:16 [i]S Na 2:6 [j]S Isa 45:2 **3:14** [k]S 2Ch 32:4 [l]Na 2:1 **3:15** [m]S Isa 27:1 [n]S 2Sa 2:26 [o]S Jer 51:14; S Joel 1:4 **3:16** [p]S Ex 10:13 **3:17** [q]Jer 51:27 **3:18** [r]Ps 76:5-6; S Jer 25:27 [s]Isa 56:10 [t]S 1Ki 22:17 **3:19** [u]S Jer 30:13; S Mic 1:9 [v]S Job 27:23; S La 2:15; Zep 2:15 [w]Isa 37:18

a18 Or *rulers*

Habakkuk

1 The oracle[a] that Habakkuk the prophet received.

Habakkuk's Complaint

2How long,[b] O LORD, must I call for
help,
but you do not listen?[c]
Or cry out to you, "Violence!"
but you do not save?[d]
3Why do you make me look at
injustice?
Why do you tolerate[e] wrong?[f]
Destruction and violence[g] are
before me;
there is strife,[h] and conflict
abounds.
4Therefore the law[i] is paralyzed,
and justice never prevails.
The wicked hem in the righteous,
so that justice[j] is perverted.[k]

The LORD's Answer

5"Look at the nations and watch—
and be utterly amazed.[l]
For I am going to do something in
your days
that you would not believe,
even if you were told.[m]
6I am raising up the Babylonians,[a][n]
that ruthless and impetuous
people,
who sweep across the whole earth[o]
to seize dwelling places not their
own.[p]
7They are a feared and dreaded
people;[q]
they are a law to themselves
and promote their own honor.
8Their horses are swifter[r] than
leopards,
fiercer than wolves[s] at dusk.
Their cavalry gallops headlong;
their horsemen come from afar.
They fly like a vulture swooping to
devour;
9 they all come bent on violence.
Their hordes[b] advance like a desert
wind
and gather prisoners[t] like sand.
10They deride kings
and scoff at rulers.[u]
They laugh at all fortified cities;
they build earthen ramps[v] and
capture them.
11Then they sweep past like the wind[w]
and go on—
guilty men, whose own strength is
their god."[x]

Habakkuk's Second Complaint

12O LORD, are you not from
everlasting?[y]
My God, my Holy One,[z] we will
not die.[a]
O LORD, you have appointed[b] them
to execute judgment;
O Rock,[c] you have ordained them
to punish.
13Your eyes are too pure[d] to look on
evil;
you cannot tolerate wrong.[e]
Why then do you tolerate[f] the
treacherous?[g]
Why are you silent while the
wicked
swallow up those more righteous
than themselves?[h]
14You have made men like fish in the
sea,
like sea creatures that have no
ruler.
15The wicked[i] foe pulls all of them up
with hooks,[j]
he catches them in his net,[k]
he gathers them up in his dragnet;
and so he rejoices and is glad.
16Therefore he sacrifices to his net
and burns incense[l] to his dragnet,
for by his net he lives in luxury
and enjoys the choicest food.
17Is he to keep on emptying his net,
destroying nations without
mercy?[m]

2 I will stand at my watch[n]
and station myself on the
ramparts;[o]
I will look to see what he will say[p]
to me,

1:1 [a]S Na 1:1
1:2 [b]S Ps 6:3 [c]Ps 13:1-2; 22:1-2 [d]Jer 14:9; Zec 1:12
1:3 [e]ver 13 [f]S Job 9:23 [g]Jer 20:8 [h]S Ps 55:9
1:4 [i]Ps 119:126 [j]S Isa 29:21 [k]S Job 19:7; S Isa 1:23; 5:20; S Eze 9:9
1:5 [l]S Isa 29:9 [m]Ac 13:41*
1:6 [n]S Dt 28:49; S 2Ki 24:2 [o]Rev 20:9 [p]S Jer 13:20; S 21:7
1:7 [q]Isa 18:7; Jer 39:5-9
1:8 [r]S Jer 4:13 [s]S Ge 49:27
1:9 [t]Hab 2:5
1:10 [u]S 2Ch 36:6 [v]S Jer 33:4
1:11 [w]Jer 4:11-12 [x]S Da 4:30
1:12 [y]S Ge 21:33 [z]Isa 31:1; 37:23 [a]Ps 118:17 [b]Isa 10:6 [c]S Ge 49:24; S Ex 33:22
1:13 [d]Ps 18:26 [e]S La 3:34-36 [f]ver 3 [g]S Ps 25:3 [h]S Job 21:7
1:15 [i]Jer 5:26 [j]S Isa 19:8 [k]S Job 18:8; Jer 16:16
1:16 [l]Jer 44:8
1:17 [m]S Isa 14:6; 19:8
2:1 [n]S Isa 21:8 [o]S Ps 48:13 [p]Ps 85:8

[a]6 Or *Chaldeans* [b]9 The meaning of the Hebrew for this word is uncertain.

and what answer I am to give to
this complaint.[c] [a]

The LORD's Answer

[2]Then the LORD replied:

"Write[b] down the revelation
and make it plain on tablets
so that a herald[d] may run with it.
[3]For the revelation awaits an
appointed time;[e]
it speaks of the end[d]
and will not prove false.
Though it linger, wait[f] for it;
it[c] will certainly come and will not
delay.[f]

[4]"See, he is puffed up;
his desires are not upright—
but the righteous[g] will live by his
faith[f] [h]—
[5]indeed, wine[i] betrays him;
he is arrogant[j] and never at rest.
Because he is as greedy as the
grave[e]
and like death is never satisfied,[k]
he gathers to himself all the
nations
and takes captive[l] all the
peoples.

[6]"Will not all of them taunt[m] him
with ridicule and scorn, saying,

" 'Woe to him who piles up stolen
goods
and makes himself wealthy by
extortion![n]
How long must this go on?'
[7]Will not your debtors[h] suddenly
arise?
Will they not wake up and make
you tremble?
Then you will become their
victim.[o]
[8]Because you have plundered many
nations,
the peoples who are left will
plunder you.[p]
For you have shed man's blood;[q]
you have destroyed lands and
cities and everyone in them.[r]

[9]"Woe to him who builds[s] his realm
by unjust gain[t]
to set his nest[u] on high,
to escape the clutches of ruin!
[10]You have plotted the ruin[v] of many
peoples,
shaming[w] your own house and
forfeiting your life.
[11]The stones[x] of the wall will cry out,
and the beams of the woodwork
will echo it.

[12]"Woe to him who builds a city with
bloodshed[y]
and establishes a town by crime!
[13]Has not the LORD Almighty
determined
that the people's labor is only fuel
for the fire,[z]
that the nations exhaust
themselves for nothing?[a]
[14]For the earth will be filled with the
knowledge of the glory[b] of
the LORD,
as the waters cover the sea.[c]

[15]"Woe to him who gives drink[d] to his
neighbors,
pouring it from the wineskin till
they are drunk,
so that he can gaze on their naked
bodies.
[16]You will be filled with shame[e]
instead of glory.[f]
Now it is your turn! Drink[g] and be
exposed![i] [h]
The cup[i] from the LORD's right hand
is coming around to you,
and disgrace will cover your glory.
[17]The violence[j] you have done to
Lebanon will overwhelm
you,
and your destruction of animals
will terrify you.[k]
For you have shed man's blood;[l]
you have destroyed lands and
cities and everyone in them.

[18]"Of what value[m] is an idol,[n] since a
man has carved it?
Or an image[o] that teaches lies?
For he who makes it trusts in his
own creation;
he makes idols that cannot
speak.[p]
[19]Woe to him who says to wood,
'Come to life!'
Or to lifeless stone, 'Wake up!'[q]
Can it give guidance?
It is covered with gold and silver;[r]
there is no breath in it.[s]
[20]But the LORD is in his holy temple;[t]
let all the earth be silent[u] before
him."

Habakkuk's Prayer

3 [1]A prayer of Habakkuk the prophet.
On *shigionoth.*[j] [v]

2:1 [a]S Ps 5:3; ... 2:2 [b]S Isa 30:8; ... Rev 1:19 2:3 [e]Da 11:27; ... 2:4 [g]S Eze 18:9; ... Heb 10:37-38* 2:5 [i]S Pr 20:1; [j]S Isa 2:11; [k]S Pr 27:20; S 30:15-16; [l]Hab 1:9 2:6 [m]S Isa 14:4; [n]Am 2:8 2:7 [o]S Pr 29:1 2:8 [p]Isa 33:1; Jer 50:17-18; S Ob 1:15; Zec 2:8-9 [q]ver 17; [r]S Eze 39:10 2:9 [s]S Jer 22:13; [t]S Jer 51:13; [u]S Job 39:27; S Isa 10:14 2:10 [v]Jer 26:19; [w]ver 16; S Na 3:6 2:11 [x]S Jos 24:27; Zec 5:4; Lk 19:40 2:12 [y]S Eze 22:2; S Mic 3:10 2:13 [z]Isa 50:11; [a]S Isa 47:13 2:14 [b]S Ex 16:7; S Nu 14:21; [c]S Isa 11:9 2:15 [d]S Pr 23:20 2:16 [e]S ver 10; [f]S Eze 23:32-34; Hos 4:7; [g]S Lev 10:9; [h]S La 4:21; [i]S Ps 16:5; S Isa 51:22 2:17 [j]S Jer 51:35; [k]S Jer 50:15; [l]ver 8 2:18 [m]S 1Sa 12:21; [n]S Jdg 10:14; S Isa 40:19; S Jer 5:21; S 14:22; [o]S Lev 26:1; [p]Ps 115:4-5; Jer 10:14; 1Co 12:2 2:19 [q]1Ki 18:27; [r]S Jer 10:4; [s]S Da 5:4,23; S Hos 4:12 2:20 [t]S Ps 11:4; [u]S Isa 41:1 3:1 [v]Ps 7 Title

[c]1 Or *and what to answer when I am rebuked* [d]2 Or *so that whoever reads it* [e]3 Or *Though he linger, wait for him; / he* [f]4 Or *faithfulness* [g]5 Hebrew *Sheol* [h]7 Or *creditors* [i]16 Masoretic Text; Dead Sea Scrolls, Aquila, Vulgate and Syriac (see also Septuagint) *and stagger* [j]1 Probably a literary or musical term

2 LORD, I have heard[a] of your fame;
I stand in awe[b] of your deeds,
O LORD.[c]
Renew[d] them in our day,
in our time make them known;
in wrath remember mercy.[e]

3 God came from Teman,[f]
the Holy One[g] from Mount
Paran.[h] *Selah*[k]
His glory covered the heavens[i]
and his praise filled the earth.[j]
4 His splendor was like the sunrise;[k]
rays flashed from his hand,
where his power[l] was hidden.
5 Plague[m] went before him;
pestilence followed his steps.
6 He stood, and shook the earth;
he looked, and made the nations
tremble.
The ancient mountains crumbled[n]
and the age-old hills[o] collapsed.[p]
His ways are eternal.[q]
7 I saw the tents of Cushan in distress,
the dwellings of Midian[r] in
anguish.[s]

8 Were you angry with the rivers,[t]
O LORD?
Was your wrath against the
streams?
Did you rage against the sea[u]
when you rode with your horses
and your victorious chariots?[v]
9 You uncovered your bow,
you called for many arrows.[w] *Selah*
You split the earth with rivers;
10 the mountains saw you and
writhed.[x]
Torrents of water swept by;
the deep roared[y]
and lifted its waves[z] on high.

11 Sun and moon stood still[a] in the
heavens
at the glint of your flying arrows,[b]
at the lightning[c] of your flashing
spear.
12 In wrath you strode through the
earth
and in anger you threshed[d] the
nations.
13 You came out[e] to deliver[f] your
people,
to save your anointed[g] one.
You crushed[h] the leader of the land
of wickedness,
you stripped him from head to
foot. *Selah*
14 With his own spear you pierced his
head
when his warriors stormed out to
scatter us,[i]
gloating as though about to devour
the wretched[j] who were in
hiding.
15 You trampled the sea[k] with your
horses,
churning the great waters.[l]

16 I heard and my heart pounded,
my lips quivered at the sound;
decay crept into my bones,
and my legs trembled.[m]
Yet I will wait patiently[n] for the day
of calamity
to come on the nation invading us.
17 Though the fig tree does not bud
and there are no grapes on the
vines,
though the olive crop fails
and the fields produce no food,[o]
though there are no sheep in the pen
and no cattle in the stalls,[p]
18 yet I will rejoice in the LORD,[q]
I will be joyful in God my Savior.[r]

19 The Sovereign LORD is my strength;[s]
he makes my feet like the feet of a
deer,
he enables me to go on the
heights.[t]

For the director of music. On my
stringed instruments.

3:2 [a]S Job 26:14; Ps 44:1 [b]S Ps 119:120 [c]S Ps 90:16 [d]Ps 85:6 [e]Isa 54:8 **3:3** [f]S Ge 36:11, 15 [g]S Isa 31:1 [h]S Nu 10:12 [i]S Ps 8:1 [j]Ps 48:10 **3:4** [k]S Isa 18:4 [l]S Job 9:6 **3:5** [m]S Lev 26:25 **3:6** [n]S Ps 46:2 [o]Ge 49:26 [p]S Ex 19:18; Ps 18:7; 114:1-6 [q]S Ge 21:33 **3:7** [r]S Ge 25:2; S Nu 25:15; Jdg 7:24-25 [s]Ex 15:14 **3:8** [t]S Ex 7:20 [u]S Ps 77:16 [v]S 2Ki 2:11; S Ps 68:17 **3:9** [w]S Dt 32:23; Ps 7:12-13 **3:10** [x]S Ps 77:16 [y]Ps 98:7 [z]S Ps 93:3 **3:11** [a]Jos 10:13 [b]Ps 18:14 [c]S Ps 144:6; Zec 9:14 **3:12** [d]S Isa 41:15 **3:13** [e]S Ex 13:21 [f]S Ps 20:6; S 28:8 [g]S 2Sa 23:1 [h]Ps 68:21; 110:6 **3:14** [i]Jdg 7:22 [j]Ps 64:2-5 **3:15** [k]S Job 9:8 [l]Ex 15:8 **3:16** [m]S Job 4:14 [n]S Ps 37:7 **3:17** [o]Joel 1:10-12, 18 [p]Jer 5:17 **3:18** [q]Ps 97:12; S Isa 61:10; Php 4:4 [r]S Ex 15:2; S Lk 1:47 **3:19** [s]S Dt 33:29; Ps 46:1-5 [t]S Dt 32:13; Ps 18:33

[k]3 A word of uncertain meaning; possibly a musical term; also in verses 9 and 13

Zephaniah

1 The word of the LORD that came to Zephaniah son of Cushi, the son of Gedaliah, the son of Amariah, the son of Hezekiah, during the reign of Josiah[a] son of Amon[b] king of Judah:

Warning of Coming Destruction

2"I will sweep away everything
from the face of the earth,"[c]
declares the LORD.
3"I will sweep away both men and
animals;[d]
I will sweep away the birds of the
air[e]
and the fish of the sea.
The wicked will have only heaps of
rubble[a]
when I cut off man from the face
of the earth,"[f]
declares the LORD.[g]

Against Judah

4"I will stretch out my hand[h] against
Judah
and against all who live in
Jerusalem.
I will cut off from this place every
remnant of Baal,[i]
the names of the pagan and the
idolatrous priests[j] —
5those who bow down on the roofs
to worship the starry host,[k]
those who bow down and swear by
the LORD
and who also swear by Molech,[b][l]
6those who turn back from following[m]
the LORD
and neither seek[n] the LORD nor
inquire[o] of him.
7Be silent[p] before the Sovereign LORD,
for the day of the LORD[q] is near.
The LORD has prepared a sacrifice;[r]
he has consecrated those he has
invited.
8On the day of the LORD's sacrifice
I will punish[s] the princes
and the king's sons[t]
and all those clad
in foreign clothes.
9On that day I will punish

1:1 [a]2Ki 22:1; 2Ch 34:1-35:25 [b]S 1Ch 3:14 **1:2** [c]S Ge 6:7 **1:3** [d]Jer 50:3 [e]S Jer 4:25 [f]ver 18; S Hos 4:3 [g]S Eze 14:17 **1:4** [h]S Jer 6:12 [i]Mic 5:13; Zep 2:11 [j]S Jer 15:6; S Hos 10:5 **1:5** [k]S Jer 8:2 [l]S Lev 18:21; Jer 5:7 **1:6** [m]Isa 1:4; Jer 2:13 [n]S Isa 9:13 [o]S Hos 7:7 **1:7** [p]S Isa 41:1 [q]ver 14; Isa 13:6; S Eze 7:19; S Joel 3:14; S Am 5:18-20 [r]S Lev 3:9; S Jer 46:10 **1:8** [s]Isa 24:21 [t]Jer 39:6

1:9 [u]1Sa 5:5 [v]S Am 3:10 **1:10** [w]Isa 22:5 [x]S 2Ch 33:14 [y]S Am 5:16 **1:11** [z]Jas 5:1 [a]Hos 9:6 **1:12** [b]Am 6:1 [c]Jer 48:11 [d]S 2Ki 21:16; S Eze 8:12 [e]S Job 22:13 **1:13** [f]S 2Ki 24:13; Jer 15:13 [g]Dt 28:30,39; La 5:2; S Am 5:11 **1:14** [h]S ver 7; S Joel 1:15 [i]S Eze 7:7; S Da 7:13 **1:15** [j]S 1Sa 2:9 [k]S Isa 22:5; Joel 2:2; Mk 13:24-25 **1:16** [l]S Jer 4:19 [m]S Dt 28:52; S Isa 2:15; S Joel 2:1

all who avoid stepping on the
threshold,[c][u]
who fill the temple of their gods
with violence and deceit.[v]
10"On that day,[w]" declares the LORD,
"a cry will go up from the Fish
Gate,[x]
wailing[y] from the New Quarter,
and a loud crash from the hills.
11Wail,[z] you who live in the market
district[d];
all your merchants will be wiped
out,
all who trade with[e] silver will be
ruined.[a]
12At that time I will search Jerusalem
with lamps
and punish those who are
complacent,[b]
who are like wine left on its
dregs,[c]
who think, 'The LORD will do
nothing,[d]
either good or bad.'[e]
13Their wealth will be plundered,[f]
their houses demolished.
They will build houses
but not live in them;
they will plant vineyards
but not drink the wine.[g]

The Great Day of the LORD

14"The great day of the LORD[h] is
near[i] —
near and coming quickly.
Listen! The cry on the day of the
LORD will be bitter,
the shouting of the warrior there.
15That day will be a day of wrath,
a day of distress and anguish,
a day of trouble and ruin,
a day of darkness[j] and gloom,
a day of clouds and blackness,[k]
16a day of trumpet and battle cry[l]
against the fortified cities
and against the corner towers.[m]

[a]3 The meaning of the Hebrew for this line is uncertain. [b]5 Hebrew *Malcam,* that is, Milcom [c]9 See 1 Samuel 5:5. [d]11 Or *the Mortar* [e]11 Or *in*

17I will bring distress on the people
and they will walk like blind
men,
because they have sinned against
the LORD.
Their blood will be poured out like
dust
and their entrails like filth.
18Neither their silver nor their gold
will be able to save them
on the day of the LORD's wrath.
In the fire of his jealousy
the whole world will be
consumed,
for he will make a sudden end
of all who live in the earth.

2 Gather together, gather together,
O shameful nation,
2before the appointed time arrives
and that day sweeps on like
chaff,
before the fierce anger of the LORD
comes upon you,
before the day of the LORD's
wrath comes upon you.
3Seek the LORD, all you humble of
the land,
you who do what he commands.
Seek righteousness, seek humility;
perhaps you will be sheltered
on the day of the LORD's anger.

Against Philistia

4Gaza will be abandoned
and Ashkelon left in ruins.
At midday Ashdod will be emptied
and Ekron uprooted.
5Woe to you who live by the sea,
O Kerethite people;
the word of the LORD is against you,
O Canaan, land of the Philistines.

"I will destroy you,
and none will be left."
6The land by the sea, where the
Kerethites[f] dwell,
will be a place for shepherds and
sheep pens.
7It will belong to the remnant of the
house of Judah;
there they will find pasture.
In the evening they will lie down
in the houses of Ashkelon.
The LORD their God will care for
them;
he will restore their fortunes.[g]

Against Moab and Ammon

8"I have heard the insults of Moab
and the taunts of the
Ammonites,
who insulted my people
and made threats against their
land.
9Therefore, as surely as I live,"
declares the LORD Almighty, the
God of Israel,
"surely Moab will become like
Sodom,
the Ammonites like Gomorrah—
a place of weeds and salt pits,
a wasteland forever.
The remnant of my people will
plunder them;
the survivors of my nation will
inherit their land."
10This is what they will get in return
for their pride,
for insulting and mocking the
people of the LORD
Almighty.
11The LORD will be awesome to them
when he destroys all the gods of
the land.
The nations on every shore will
worship him,
every one in its own land.

Against Cush

12"You too, O Cushites,[k]
will be slain by my sword."

Against Assyria

13He will stretch out his hand against
the north
and destroy Assyria,
leaving Nineveh utterly desolate
and dry as the desert.
14Flocks and herds will lie down
there,
creatures of every kind.
The desert owl and the screech
owl
will roost on her columns.
Their calls will echo through the
windows,
rubble will be in the doorways,
the beams of cedar will be
exposed.
15This is the carefree city
that lived in safety.
She said to herself,
"I am, and there is none besides
me."
What a ruin she has become,
a lair for wild beasts!
All who pass by her scoff
and shake their fists.

cEze 25:1
dS La 3:61
2:9 eS Ge 19:24;
Isa 15:1-16:14;
Jer 48:1-47;
Eze 25:8-11
fDt 29:23;
Isa 13:19;
Jer 49:18
gJer 49:1-6;
Eze 25:1-7
hS Isa 11:14
iS 2Ki 19:31
jS Am 2:1-3
2:10
kS Job 40:12;
S Isa 16:6
lS Jer 48:27
mS Ps 9:6
2:11 nS Joel 2:11
oS Zep 1:4
pS 1Ch 19:1;
Eze 25:6-7
qPs 86:9;
S Isa 12:4;
Zep 3:9
2:12 rS Ge 10:6;
S Isa 20:4
sS Jer 46:10
2:13 tS Isa 10:5
uS Ge 10:11;
S Na 1:1
vS Mic 5:6;
Zec 10:11
2:14 wS Isa 5:17
xS Isa 14:23
yRev 18:2
zS Ps 102:6
2:15 aS Isa 32:9
bIsa 47:8
cEze 28:2
dJer 49:33
eS Isa 28:22;
S Na 3:19
fS Eze 27:36

f6 The meaning of the Hebrew for this word is uncertain. g7 Or *will bring back their captives* k12 That is, people from the upper Nile region

The Future of Jerusalem

3 Woe to the city of oppressors,[a]
rebellious[b] and defiled![c]
2She obeys[d] no one,
she accepts no correction.[e]
She does not trust[f] in the LORD,
she does not draw near[g] to her
God.
3Her officials are roaring lions,[h]
her rulers are evening wolves,[i]
who leave nothing for the
morning.[j]
4Her prophets are arrogant;
they are treacherous[k] men.
Her priests profane the sanctuary
and do violence to the law.[l]
5The LORD within her is righteous;[m]
he does no wrong.[n]
Morning by morning[o] he dispenses
his justice,
and every new day he does not
fail,[p]
yet the unrighteous know no
shame.[q]

6"I have cut off nations;
their strongholds are demolished.
I have left their streets deserted,
with no one passing through.
Their cities are destroyed;[r]
no one will be left—no one at all.
7I said to the city,
'Surely you will fear me
and accept correction!'[s]
Then her dwelling would not be cut
off,
nor all my punishments come
upon her.
But they were still eager
to act corruptly[t] in all they did.
8Therefore wait[u] for me," declares
the LORD,
"for the day I will stand up to
testify.[i]
I have decided to assemble[v] the
nations,[w]
to gather the kingdoms
and to pour out my wrath[x] on
them—
all my fierce anger.[y]
The whole world will be consumed[z]
by the fire of my jealous anger.

9"Then will I purify the lips of the
peoples,
that all of them may call[a] on the
name of the LORD[b]
and serve[c] him shoulder to
shoulder.
10From beyond the rivers of Cush[j] [d]
my worshipers, my scattered
people,
will bring me offerings.[e]
11On that day you will not be put to
shame[f]
for all the wrongs you have done
to me,[g]
because I will remove from this city
those who rejoice in their pride.[h]
Never again will you be haughty
on my holy hill.[i]
12But I will leave within you
the meek[j] and humble,
who trust[k] in the name of the
LORD.
13The remnant[l] of Israel will do no
wrong;[m]
they will speak no lies,[n]
nor will deceit be found in their
mouths.[o]
They will eat and lie down[p]
and no one will make them
afraid."[q]

14Sing, O Daughter of Zion;[r]
shout aloud,[s] O Israel!
Be glad and rejoice[t] with all your
heart,
O Daughter of Jerusalem!
15The LORD has taken away your
punishment,
he has turned back your enemy.
The LORD, the King of Israel, is with
you;[u]
never again will you fear[v] any
harm.[w]
16On that day they will say to
Jerusalem,
"Do not fear, O Zion;
do not let your hands hang limp.[x]
17The LORD your God is with you,
he is mighty to save.[y]
He will take great delight[z] in you,
he will quiet you with his love,[a]
he will rejoice over you with
singing."[b]

18"The sorrows for the appointed
feasts
I will remove from you;
they are a burden and a reproach
to you.[k]
19At that time I will deal
with all who oppressed[c] you;
I will rescue the lame
and gather those who have been
scattered.[d]
I will give them praise[e] and honor
in every land where they were put
to shame.

3:1 [a]S Jer 6:6 [b]S Dt 21:18 [c]S Eze 23:30 **3:2** [d]S Jer 22:21 [e]S Lev 26:23; S Jer 7:28 [f]S Dt 1:32 [g]S Ps 73:28 **3:3** [h]S Ps 22:13 [i]S Ge 49:27 [j]S Mic 3:3 **3:4** [k]S Ps 25:3; S Isa 48:8; Jer 3:20; 9:4; Mal 2:10 [l]S Jer 23:11; S Eze 22:26 **3:5** [m]S Ezr 9:15 [n]Dt 32:4 [o]S Ps 5:3 [p]S La 3:23 [q]S Jer 3:3; S Eze 18:25 **3:6** [r]S Lev 26:31 **3:7** [s]S Jer 7:28 [t]S Hos 9:9 **3:8** [u]S Ps 27:14 [v]S Joel 3:11 [w]S Isa 2:3 [x]Ps 79:6; Rev 16:1 [y]S Jer 10:25; S La 4:11 [z]S Zep 1:18 **3:9** [a]S Zep 2:11 [b]S Ge 4:26 [c]S Isa 19:18 **3:10** [d]S Ge 10:6; S Ps 68:31 [e]S 2Ch 32:23; S Isa 60:7 **3:11** [f]S Isa 29:22; S Joel 2:26-27 [g]S Ge 50:15 [h]S Ps 59:12 [i]S Ex 15:17; S Lev 26:19 **3:12** [j]Isa 14:32 [k]S Jer 29:12; Na 1:7 **3:13** [l]S Isa 10:21 [m]Ps 119:3; S Isa 4:3 [n]S Jer 33:16; Rev 14:5 [o]S Job 16:17 [p]Eze 34:15; Zep 2:7 [q]S Lev 26:6; S Eze 34:25-28 **3:14** [r]S Ps 9:14; Zec 2:10 [s]S Ps 95:1; Isa 12:6; Zec 2:10 [t]S Ps 9:2; S Isa 51:11 **3:15** [u]Eze 37:26-28 [v]S Isa 54:14 [w]Zec 9:9 **3:16** [x]S 2Ki 19:26; S Job 4:3; Isa 35:3-4; Heb 12:12 **3:17** [y]S Isa 63:1; S Joel 2:21 [z]S Dt 28:63; S Isa 62:4 [a]S Hos 14:4 [b]S Isa 40:1 **3:19** [c]S Isa 14:2 [d]S Eze 34:16; S Mic 4:6 [e]Isa 60:18

[i]8 Septuagint and Syriac; Hebrew *will rise up to plunder* [j]10 That is, the upper Nile region [k]18 Or *"I will gather you who mourn for the appointed feasts; / your reproach is a burden to you*

20 At that time I will gather you;
at that time I will bring[a] you
home.
I will give you honor[b] and praise[c]
among all the peoples of the earth
when I restore your fortunes[t] [d]
before your very eyes,"
says the LORD.

3:20 [a]S Jer 29:14; S Eze 37:12 [b]Isa 56:5; 66:22 [c]S Dt 26:19; S Isa 60:18 [d]S Joel 3:1

t20 *Or I bring back your captives*

Haggai

A Call to Build the House of the Lord

1 In the second year of King Darius,[a]
on the first day of the sixth month,
the word of the Lord came through the
prophet Haggai[b] to Zerubbabel[c] son of
Shealtiel, governor[d] of Judah, and to
Joshua[a][e] son of Jehozadak,[f] the high
priest:[g]
2This is what the Lord Almighty[h]
says: "These people[i] say, 'The time
has not yet come for the Lord's house
to be built.[j]' "
3Then the word of the Lord came
through the prophet Haggai:[k] 4"Is it a
time for you yourselves to be living in
your paneled houses,[l] while this
house remains a ruin?[m]"
5Now this is what the Lord Almighty
says: "Give careful thought[n] to your
ways. 6You have planted much, but
have harvested little.[o] You eat, but
never have enough.[p] You drink, but
never have your fill.[q] You put on
clothes, but are not warm. You earn
wages,[r] only to put them in a purse
with holes in it."
7This is what the Lord Almighty
says: "Give careful thought[s] to your
ways. 8Go up into the mountains and
bring down timber[t] and build the
house, so that I may take pleasure[u] in
it and be honored,[v]" says the Lord.
9"You expected much, but see, it
turned out to be little.[w] What you
brought home, I blew[x] away. Why?"
declares the Lord Almighty. "Because
of my house, which remains a ruin,[y]
while each of you is busy with his own
house. 10Therefore, because of you the
heavens have withheld[z] their dew[a]
and the earth its crops.[b] 11I called for a
drought[c] on the fields and the moun-
tains,[d] on the grain, the new wine,[e]
the oil[f] and whatever the ground pro-
duces, on men and cattle, and on the
labor of your hands.[g]"
12Then Zerubbabel[h] son of Shealtiel,
Joshua son of Jehozadak, the high
priest, and the whole remnant[i] of the
people obeyed[j] the voice of the Lord
their God and the message of the
prophet Haggai, because the Lord their
God had sent him. And the people
feared[k] the Lord.
13Then Haggai,[l] the Lord's messen-
ger,[m] gave this message of the Lord to
the people: "I am with[n] you," declares
the Lord. 14So the Lord stirred up[o] the
spirit of Zerubbabel[p] son of Shealtiel,
governor of Judah, and the spirit of
Joshua son of Jehozadak,[q] the high
priest, and the spirit of the whole rem-
nant[r] of the people. They came and
began to work on the house of the Lord
Almighty, their God, 15on the twenty-
fourth day of the sixth month[s] in the
second year of King Darius.[t]

The Promised Glory of the New House

2 On the twenty-first day of the sev-
enth month,[u] the word of the Lord
came through the prophet Haggai:[v]
2"Speak to Zerubbabel[w] son of She-
altiel, governor of Judah, to Joshua son
of Jehozadak,[x] the high priest, and to
the remnant[y] of the people. Ask them,
3'Who of you is left who saw this
house[z] in its former glory? How does it
look to you now? Does it not seem to
you like nothing?[a] 4But now be strong,
O Zerubbabel,' declares the Lord. 'Be
strong,[b] O Joshua son of Jehozadak,[c]
the high priest. Be strong, all you
people of the land,' declares the Lord,
'and work. For I am with[d] you,' de-
clares the Lord Almighty. 5'This is what
I covenanted[e] with you when you
came out of Egypt.[f] And my Spirit[g]
remains among you. Do not fear.'[h]
6"This is what the Lord Almighty
says: 'In a little while[i] I will once more
shake the heavens and the earth,[j] the
sea and the dry land. 7I will shake all

1:1 [a]S Ezr 4:24 [b]S Ezr 5:1 [c]S 1Ch 3:19; Mt 1:12-13 [d]Ezr 5:3; S Ne 5:14 [e]S Ezr 2:2 [f]S 1Ch 6:15; S Ezr 3:2 [g]Zec 3:8 **1:2** [h]Isa 13:4 [i]S Isa 29:13 [j]Ezr 1:2 **1:3** [k]S Ezr 5:1 **1:4** [l]S 2Sa 7:2 [m]ver 9; Jer 33:12 **1:5** [n]ver 7; La 3:40; Hag 2:15,18 **1:6** [o]S Lev 26:20; S Isa 5:10 [p]S Isa 9:20; S 55:2 [q]Am 4:8 [r]Hag 2:16; Zec 8:10 **1:7** [s]S ver 5 **1:8** [t]S 1Ch 14:1 [u]S Job 22:3; Ps 132:13-14 [v]S Ex 29:43; Jer 13:11 **1:9** [w]S Dt 28:38; S Isa 5:10 [x]S Ps 103:16; S Eze 22:21 [y]S ver 4; S Ne 13:11 **1:10** [z]S Dt 28:24 [a]S Ge 27:28; 1Ki 17:1 [b]Lev 26:19; Dt 28:23 **1:11** [c]S Dt 11:26; S 28:22; S Ru 1:1; S 1Ki 17:1; S Isa 5:6 [d]Isa 7:25 [e]S Dt 28:51; Ps 4:7 [f]S Nu 18:12 [g]Hag 2:17 **1:12** [h]ver 1 [i]ver 14; Isa 1:9; Hag 2:2 [j]S Job 36:11; S Isa 50:10; Mt 28:20 [k]S Dt 31:12; S Isa 1:2 **1:13** [l]ver 1 [m]S Nu 27:21; S 2Ch 36:15 [n]S Ge 26:3; S Nu 14:9; S Mt 28:20; Ro 8:31 **1:14** [o]S Ezr 1:5 [p]S Ezr 5:2 [q]S 1Ch 6:15 [r]S ver 12 **1:15** [s]ver 1; Hag 2:10,20 [t]S Ezr 4:24 **2:1** [u]ver 10,20; S Lev 23:34; Jn 7:37

[v]S Ezr 5:1 **2:2** [w]Hag 1:1 [x]S 1Ch 6:15 [y]S Hag 1:12 **2:3** [z]S Ezr 3:12; S Isa 60:7 [a]Zec 4:10 **2:4** [b]S 1Ch 28:20; Zec 8:9; S Eph 6:10 [c]S 1Ch 6:15 [d]S Ex 33:14; S Nu 14:9; S 2Sa 5:10; Ac 7:9 **2:5** [e]S Ge 6:18 [f]S Ex 29:46 [g]S Ne 9:20 [h]S Ge 15:1; 1Ch 28:20; S Ezr 5:2; Zec 8:13 **2:6** [i]S Isa 10:25 [j]S Ex 19:18; S Job 9:6; S Isa 14:16; S Eze 38:19; Heb 12:26*

[a]1 A variant of *Jeshua;* here and elsewhere in Haggai

nations, and the desired[a] of all nations
will come, and I will fill this house[b]
with glory,[c]' says the LORD Almighty.
8'The silver is mine and the gold[d] is
mine,' declares the LORD Almighty.
9'The glory[e] of this present house[f] will
be greater than the glory of the former
house,' says the LORD Almighty. 'And
in this place I will grant peace,[g]' de-
clares the LORD Almighty."

Blessings for a Defiled People

10On the twenty-fourth day of the
ninth month,[h] in the second year of
Darius, the word of the LORD came to
the prophet Haggai: 11"This is what the
LORD Almighty says: 'Ask the priests[i]
what the law says: 12If a person carries
consecrated meat[j] in the fold of his
garment, and that fold touches some
bread or stew, some wine, oil or other
food, does it become consecrated?[k]' "
The priests answered, "No."
13Then Haggai said, "If a person
defiled by contact with a dead body
touches one of these things, does it
become defiled?"
"Yes," the priests replied, "it
becomes defiled.[l]"
14Then Haggai said, " 'So it is with
this people[m] and this nation in my
sight,' declares the LORD. 'Whatever
they do and whatever they offer[n] there
is defiled.
15" 'Now give careful thought[o] to
this from this day on[b]—consider how
things were before one stone was laid[p]
on another in the LORD's temple.[q]
16When anyone came to a heap[r] of
twenty measures, there were only ten.
When anyone went to a wine vat[s] to
draw fifty measures, there were only
twenty.[t] 17I struck all the work of your
hands[u] with blight,[v] mildew and
hail,[w] yet you did not turn[x] to me,' de-
clares the LORD.[y] 18'From this day on,
from this twenty-fourth day of the
ninth month, give careful thought[z] to
the day when the foundation[a] of the
LORD's temple was laid. Give careful
thought: 19Is there yet any seed left in
the barn? Until now, the vine and the
fig tree, the pomegranate[b] and the
olive tree have not borne fruit.[c]
" 'From this day on I will bless[d]
you.' "

Zerubbabel the LORD's Signet Ring

20The word of the LORD came to Hag-
gai[e] a second time on the twenty-
fourth day of the month:[f] 21"Tell
Zerubbabel[g] governor of Judah that I
will shake[h] the heavens and the earth.
22I will overturn[i] royal thrones and
shatter the power of the foreign king-
doms.[j] I will overthrow chariots[k] and
their drivers; horses and their riders[l]
will fall, each by the sword of his
brother.[m]
23" 'On that day,[n]' declares the LORD
Almighty, 'I will take you, my servant[o]
Zerubbabel[p] son of Shealtiel,' declares
the LORD, 'and I will make you like my
signet ring,[q] for I have chosen you,'
declares the LORD Almighty."

2:7 [a]S 1Sa 9:20 [b]S Isa 60:7 [c]S Ex 16:7; S 29:43; Lk 2:32 **2:8** [d]S 1Ch 29:2 **2:9** [e]S Ps 85:9; S Isa 11:10 [f]S Ezr 3:12; S Isa 60:7 [g]S Lev 26:6; S Isa 60:17 **2:10** [h]S ver 1; S Hag 1:15 **2:11** [i]S Lev 10:10-11; Dt 17:8-11; 33:8; S Jer 18:18 **2:12** [j]Jer 11:15 [k]S Ge 7:2; S Lev 6:27; Mt 23:19 **2:13** [l]Lev 22:4-6; Nu 19:13 **2:14** [m]S Isa 29:13 [n]S Ps 51:17; S Isa 1:13 **2:15** [o]S Hag 1:5 [p]S Ezr 3:10 [q]Ezr 4:24 **2:16** [r]S Ru 3:7 [s]S Job 24:11; S Isa 5:2 [t]S Dt 28:38; S Isa 5:10; S Hag 1:6 **2:17** [u]Hag 1:11 [v]S Dt 28:22 [w]S Ex 9:18; Ps 78:48 [x]S Isa 9:13; S Jer 3:10 [y]S Am 4:6 **2:18** [z]S Hag 1:5 [a]S Ezr 3:11 **2:19** [b]S Ex 28:33 [c]S Joel 1:12 [d]S Ge 12:2; S Lev 25:21; Ps 128:1-6; S Joel 2:14 **2:20** [e]S Ezr 5:1 [f]S ver 1; S Hag 1:15 **2:21** [g]S Ezr 5:2 [h]S Isa 14:16; Eze 38:19-20

2:22 [i]S Ge 19:25; S Job 2:13 [j]S Da 2:44 [k]S Mic 5:10 [l]S Ex 15:21 [m]S Jdg 7:22; S Eze 38:21 **2:23** [n]Isa 2:11; 10:20; Zec 4:10 [o]S Isa 20:3; S Da 9:24-26 [p]Mt 1:12 [q]S Ge 38:18; S Ex 28:9; 2Co 1:22

b15 Or *to the days past*

Zechariah

A Call to Return to the Lord

1 In the eighth month of the second
year of Darius,[a] the word of the
LORD came to the prophet Zechariah[b]
son of Berekiah,[c] the son of Iddo:[d]
2"The LORD was very angry[e] with
your forefathers. 3Therefore tell the
people: This is what the LORD Almighty
says: 'Return[f] to me,' declares the
LORD Almighty, 'and I will return to
you,'[g] says the LORD Almighty. 4Do not
be like your forefathers,[h] to whom the
earlier prophets[i] proclaimed: This is
what the LORD Almighty says: 'Turn
from your evil ways[j] and your evil
practices.' But they would not listen or
pay attention to me,[k] declares the
LORD.[l] 5Where are your forefathers
now? And the prophets, do they live
forever? 6But did not my words[m] and
my decrees, which I commanded my
servants the prophets, overtake your
forefathers?[n]

"Then they repented and said, 'The
LORD Almighty has done to us what our
ways and practices deserve,[o] just as he
determined to do.' "[p]

The Man Among the Myrtle Trees

7On the twenty-fourth day of the
eleventh month, the month of Shebat,
in the second year of Darius, the word
of the LORD came to the prophet Zecha-
riah son of Berekiah, the son of Iddo.[q]
8During the night I had a vision—
and there before me was a man riding a
red[r] horse! He was standing among
the myrtle trees in a ravine. Behind
him were red, brown and white
horses.[s]
9I asked, "What are these, my lord?"

The angel[t] who was talking with me
answered, "I will show you what they
are."[u]
10Then the man standing among the
myrtle trees explained, "They are the
ones the LORD has sent to go through-
out the earth."[v]
11And they reported to the angel of
the LORD,[w] who was standing among
the myrtle trees, "We have gone
throughout the earth and found the
whole world at rest and in peace."[x]
12Then the angel of the LORD said,
"LORD Almighty, how long[y] will you
withhold mercy[z] from Jerusalem and
from the towns of Judah,[a] which you
have been angry with these seventy[b]
years?" 13So the LORD spoke[c] kind and
comforting words[d] to the angel who
talked with me.[e]
14Then the angel who was speaking
to me said, "Proclaim this word: This is
what the LORD Almighty says: 'I am
very jealous[f] for Jerusalem and Zion,
15but I am very angry with the nations
that feel secure.[g] I was only a little an-
gry,[h] but they added to the calamity.'[i]
16"Therefore, this is what the LORD
says: 'I will return[j] to Jerusalem with
mercy, and there my house will be re-
built. And the measuring line[k] will be
stretched out over Jerusalem,' declares
the LORD Almighty.[l]
17"Proclaim further: This is what the
LORD Almighty says: 'My towns will
again overflow with prosperity, and
the LORD will again comfort[m] Zion and
choose[n] Jerusalem.' "[o]

Four Horns and Four Craftsmen

18Then I looked up—and there before
me were four horns! 19I asked the angel
who was speaking to me, "What are
these?"

He answered me, "These are the
horns[p] that scattered Judah, Israel and
Jerusalem."
20Then the LORD showed me four
craftsmen. 21I asked, "What are these
coming to do?"

He answered, "These are the horns
that scattered Judah so that no one
could raise his head, but the craftsmen
have come to terrify them and throw
down these horns of the nations who
lifted up their horns[q] against the land
of Judah to scatter its people."[r]

1:1 [a]S Ezr 4:24; S 6:15 [b]S Ezr 5:1 [c]Mt 23:35; Lk 11:51 [d]ver 7; S Ne 12:4
1:2 [e]S 2Ch 36:16
1:3 [f]S Job 22:23 [g]Mal 3:7; Jas 4:8
1:4 [h]S 2Ch 36:15 [i]Zec 7:7 [j]S 2Ki 17:13; S 2Ch 7:14; Ps 106:6; S Jer 23:22 [k]S 2Ch 24:19; Ps 78:8; S Jer 6:17; 17:23 [l]S Eze 20:18; S 33:4
1:6 [m]S Isa 44:26 [n]S Dt 28:2; S Da 9:12; S Hos 5:9 [o]Jer 12:14-17; La 2:17 [p]Jer 23:20; 39:16; S 44:17
1:7 [q]S ver 1
1:8 [r]Rev 6:4 [s]Zec 6:2-7
1:9 [t]Zec 4:1,4-5; 5:5 [u]S Da 7:16
1:10 [v]Zec 6:5-8
1:11 [w]Ge 16:7 [x]S Isa 14:7
1:12 [y]S Ps 6:3 [z]Ps 40:11 [a]S Jer 40:5 [b]S 2Ch 36:21; S Da 9:2
1:13 [c]S Isa 35:4 [d]S Job 15:11 [e]Zec 4:1
1:14 [f]S Isa 26:11; S Joel 2:18
1:15 [g]Jer 48:11 [h]S 2Ch 28:9 [i]S Ps 69:26; 123:3-4; S Am 1:11
1:16 [j]Zec 8:3 [k]S Job 38:5; Zec 2:1-2 [l]S Ezr 1:1
1:17 [m]S Isa 40:1 [n]S Isa 14:1 [o]S Ezr 9:9; S Ps 51:18; Isa 54:8-10; S 61:4
1:19 [p]Am 6:13
1:21 [q]S 1Ki 22:11; Ps 75:4 [r]S Ps 75:10; S Isa 54:16-17; Zec 12:9

A Man With a Measuring Line

2 Then I looked up—and there before
me was a man with a measuring
line in his hand! 2I asked, "Where are
you going?"
He answered me, "To measure
Jerusalem, to find out how wide and
how long it is."[a]
3Then the angel who was speaking to
me left, and another angel came to
meet him 4and said to him: "Run, tell
that young man, 'Jerusalem will be a
city without walls[b] because of the great
number[c] of men and livestock in it.[d]
5And I myself will be a wall[e] of fire[f]
around it,' declares the LORD, 'and I will
be its glory[g] within.'[h i]
6"Come! Come! Flee from the land of
the north," declares the LORD, "for I
have scattered[j] you to the four winds
of heaven,"[k] declares the LORD.[l]
7"Come, O Zion! Escape,[m] you who
live in the Daughter of Babylon!"[n] 8For
this is what the LORD Almighty says:
"After he has honored me and has sent
me against the nations that have plun-
dered you—for whoever touches you
touches the apple of his eye[o]— 9I will
surely raise my hand against them so
that their slaves will plunder them.[a p]
Then you will know that the LORD Al-
mighty has sent me.[q]
10"Shout[r] and be glad, O Daughter
of Zion.[s] For I am coming,[t] and I will
live among you,"[u] declares the LORD.[v]
11"Many nations will be joined with the
LORD in that day and will become my
people.[w] I will live among you and you
will know that the LORD Almighty has
sent me to you.[x] 12The LORD will inher-
it[y] Judah[z] as his portion in the holy
land and will again choose[a] Jerusalem.
13Be still[b] before the LORD, all mankind,
because he has roused himself from his
holy dwelling."[c]

Clean Garments for the High Priest

3 Then he showed me Joshua[b d] the
high priest standing before the an-
gel of the LORD, and Satan[c e] standing
at his right side to accuse him. 2The
LORD said to Satan, "The LORD rebuke
you,[f] Satan! The LORD, who has cho-
sen[g] Jerusalem, rebuke you! Is not this
man a burning stick[h] snatched from
the fire?"[i]
3Now Joshua was dressed in filthy
clothes as he stood before the angel.
4The angel said to those who were
standing before him, "Take off his
filthy clothes."
Then he said to Joshua, "See, I have
taken away your sin,[j] and I will put
rich garments[k] on you."
5Then I said, "Put a clean turban[l] on
his head." So they put a clean turban
on his head and clothed him, while the
angel of the LORD stood by.
6The angel of the LORD gave this
charge to Joshua: 7"This is what the
LORD Almighty says: 'If you will walk in
my ways and keep my requirements,[m]
then you will govern my house[n] and
have charge[o] of my courts, and I will
give you a place among these standing
here.[p]
8" 'Listen, O high priest[q] Joshua and
your associates seated before you, who
are men symbolic[r] of things to come: I
am going to bring my servant, the
Branch.[s] 9See, the stone I have set in
front of Joshua![t] There are seven
eyes[d u] on that one stone,[v] and I will
engrave an inscription on it,' says the
LORD Almighty, 'and I will remove the
sin[w] of this land in a single day.
10" 'In that day each of you will invite
his neighbor to sit[x] under his vine and
fig tree,[y] declares the LORD Almighty.' "

The Gold Lampstand and the Two Olive Trees

4 Then the angel who talked with me
returned and wakened[z] me, as a
man is wakened from his sleep.[a] 2He
asked me, "What do you see?"[b]
I answered, "I see a solid gold lamp-
stand[c] with a bowl at the top and
seven lights[d] on it, with seven chan-
nels to the lights. 3Also there are two
olive trees[e] by it, one on the right of
the bowl and the other on its left."
4I asked the angel who talked with
me, "What are these, my lord?"
5He answered, "Do you not know
what these are?"
"No, my lord," I replied.[f]
6So he said to me, "This is the word
of the LORD to Zerubbabel:[g] 'Not[h] by
might nor by power,[i] but by my
Spirit,'[j] says the LORD Almighty.
7"What[e] are you, O mighty moun-
tain? Before Zerubbabel you will
become level ground.[k] Then he will
bring out the capstone[l] to shouts[m] of
'God bless it! God bless it!' "

2:2 [a]S Eze 40:3; S Zec 1:16; Rev 21:15 **2:4** [b]S Eze 38:11 [c]S Isa 49:20; S Jer 30:19; S 33:22 [d]Zec 14:11 **2:5** [e]S Isa 26:1; Eze 42:20 [f]S Isa 10:17 [g]S Ps 85:9; S Isa 11:10; S 24:23; Rev 21:23 [h]S Ps 125:2 [i]S Ps 46:5; S Eze 38:14 **2:6** [j]S Ps 44:11 [k]S Eze 17:21; S 37:9 [l]Mt 24:31; Mk 13:27 **2:7** [m]S Isa 42:7 [n]S Isa 48:20; Jer 3:18 **2:8** [o]S Dt 32:10 **2:9** [p]S Isa 14:2; S Jer 12:14; S Hab 2:8 [q]S Isa 48:16; Zec 4:9; 6:15 **2:10** [r]S Zep 3:14 [s]S Isa 23:12; S Zep 3:14 [t]Zec 9:9 [u]S Ex 25:8; Lev 26:12; S Nu 23:21; Zec 8:3 [v]S Rev 21:3 **2:11** [w]S Jer 24:7; S Mic 4:2; Zec 8:8,20-22 [x]Zec 4:9; 6:15 **2:12** [y]S Ex 34:9; Ps 33:12; Jer 10:16 [z]Jer 40:5 [a]S Dt 12:5; S Isa 14:1 **2:13** [b]S Ex 14:14; S Isa 41:1 [c]S Dt 26:15 **3:1** [d]S Ezr 2:2; Zec 6:11 [e]S 2Sa 24:1; S 2Ch 18:21; S Ps 109:6; S Mt 4:10 **3:2** [f]Jude 1:9 [g]S Isa 14:1 [h]S Isa 7:4 [i]Jude 1:23 **3:4** [j]S 2Sa 12:13; S Eze 36:25; S Mic 7:18 [k]S Ge 41:42; S Ps 132:9; S Isa 52:1; Rev 19:8 **3:5** [l]S Ex 29:6 **3:7** [m]S Lev 8:35 [n]Dt 17:8-11; S Eze 44:15-16 [o]2Ch 23:6 [p]Jer 15:19; Zec 6:15 **3:8** [q]Hag 1:1 [r]S Dt 28:46; S Eze 12:11 [s]S Isa 4:2; S 49:3; S Eze 17:22 **3:9** [t]S Ezr 2:2 [u]S 2Ch 16:9 [v]Isa 28:16 [w]S 2Sa 12:13; S Jer 50:20 **3:10** [x]S Job 11:18 [y]S Nu 16:14; S 1Ki 4:25; Mic 4:4 **4:1** [z]S Da 8:18 [a]Jer 31:26 **4:2** [b]S Jer 1:13 [c]S Ex 25:31; Rev 1:12 [d]Rev 4:5 **4:3** [e]ver 11; S Ps 1:3; S Rev 11:4 **4:5** [f]S Zec 1:9 **4:6** [g]S 1Ch 3:19; S Ezr 5:2 [h]S 1Sa 13:22; S 1Ki 19:12 [i]S 1Sa 2:9 [j]S Ne 9:20; Isa 11:2-4; S Da 2:34; Hos 1:7 **4:7** [k]S Ps 26:12; Jer 51:25 [l]S Ps 118:22 [m]S 1Ch 15:28

[a]8,9 Or *says after . . . eye:* 9"I . . . *plunder them."*
[b]1 A variant of *Jeshua;* here and elsewhere in Zechariah
[c]1 *Satan* means *accuser.*
[d]9 Or *facets*
[e]7 Or *Who*

8Then the word of the LORD came to
me: 9"The hands of Zerubbabel have
laid the foundation[z] of this temple; his
hands will also complete it.[a] Then you
will know that the LORD Almighty has
sent me[b] to you.

10"Who despises the day[c] of small
things?[d] Men will rejoice when they
see the plumb line in the hand of
Zerubbabel.[e]

"(These seven are the eyes[f] of the
LORD, which range throughout the
earth.[g])"

11Then I asked the angel, "What are
these two olive trees[h] on the right and
the left of the lampstand?"

12Again I asked him, "What are these
two olive branches beside the two gold
pipes that pour out golden oil?"

13He replied, "Do you not know
what these are?"

"No, my lord," I said.

14So he said, "These are the two who
are anointed[a] to[i] serve the Lord of all
the earth."

The Flying Scroll

5 I looked again—and there before
me was a flying scroll![j]

2He asked me, "What do you see?"[k]

I answered, "I see a flying scroll,
thirty feet long and fifteen feet wide.[g]"

3And he said to me, "This is the
curse[l] that is going out over the whole
land; for according to what it says on
one side, every thief[m] will be banished,
and according to what it says on the
other, everyone who swears falsely[n]
will be banished. 4The LORD Almighty
declares, 'I will send it out, and it will
enter the house of the thief and the
house of him who swears falsely[o] by
my name. It will remain in his house
and destroy it, both its timbers and its
stones.[p]' "

The Woman in a Basket

5Then the angel who was speaking to
me came forward and said to me,
"Look up and see what this is that is
appearing."

6I asked, "What is it?"

He replied, "It is a measuring bas-
ket.[h][q]" And he added, "This is the
iniquity[i] of the people throughout the
land."

7Then the cover of lead was raised,
and there in the basket sat a woman!
8He said, "This is wickedness," and he
pushed her back into the basket and
pushed the lead cover down over its
mouth.[r]

4:9 [z]S Ezr 3:11 [a]Ezr 3:8; S 6:15; Zec 6:12 [b]S Zec 2:9
4:10 [c]S Hag 2:23 [d]Hag 2:3; S Ezr 3:1; S Ne 12:1; S Job 38:5 [e]S 2Ch 16:9; Rev 5:6
4:11 [h]S ver 3; S Rev 11:4
4:14 [i]Ex 29:7; 40:15; S Ps 45:7; S Isa 20:3; S Da 9:24-26
5:1 [j]S Ps 40:7; S Jer 36:4; Rev 5:1
5:2 [k]S Jer 1:13
5:3 [l]Isa 24:6; 34:2; 43:28; Mal 3:9; 4:6 [m]Ex 20:15; Mal 3:8 [n]Ex 20:7; Isa 48:1
5:4 [o]Zec 8:17 [p]Lev 14:34-45; S Pr 3:33; S Hab 2:9-11; Mal 3:5
5:6 [q]Mic 6:10
5:8 [r]Mic 6:11
5:9 [s]Lev 11:19
5:11 [t]S Ge 10:10 [u]Jer 29:5,28 [v]S Da 1:2
6:1 [w]ver 5; S 2Ki 2:11
6:2 [x]Rev 6:5
6:3 [y]Rev 6:2
6:5 [z]S Eze 37:9; Mt 24:31; Rev 7:1 [a]S Jos 3:11
6:7 [b]Isa 43:6; Zec 1:8
6:8 [c]S Eze 5:13; S 24:13 [d]S Zec 1:10
6:10 [e]Ezr 7:14-16; Jer 28:6
6:11 [f]Ps 21:3 [g]S Ezr 2:2; S Zec 3:1 [h]S 1Ch 6:15; S Ezr 3:2
6:12 [i]S Isa 4:2; S Eze 17:22 [j]Ezr 3:8-10; Zec 4:6-9

9Then I looked up—and there before
me were two women, with the wind in
their wings! They had wings like those
of a stork,[s] and they lifted up the bas-
ket between heaven and earth.

10"Where are they taking the bas-
ket?" I asked the angel who was speak-
ing to me.

11He replied, "To the country of Bab-
ylonia[j][t] to build a house[u] for it. When
it is ready, the basket will be set there
in its place."[v]

Four Chariots

6 I looked up again—and there be-
fore me were four chariots[w] coming
out from between two mountains—
mountains of bronze! 2The first chariot
had red horses, the second black,[x] 3the
third white,[y] and the fourth dappled—
all of them powerful. 4I asked the angel
who was speaking to me, "What are
these, my lord?"

5The angel answered me, "These are
the four spirits[k][z] of heaven, going out
from standing in the presence of the
Lord of the whole world.[a] 6The one
with the black horses is going toward
the north country, the one with the
white horses toward the west,[l] and
the one with the dappled horses
toward the south."

7When the powerful horses went
out, they were straining to go through-
out the earth.[b] And he said, "Go
throughout the earth!" So they went
throughout the earth.

8Then he called to me, "Look, those
going toward the north country have
given my Spirit[m] rest[c] in the land of
the north."[d]

A Crown for Joshua

9The word of the LORD came to me:
10"Take silver and gold from the exiles
Heldai, Tobijah and Jedaiah, who have
arrived from Babylon.[e] Go the same
day to the house of Josiah son of Zeph-
aniah. 11Take the silver and gold and
make a crown,[f] and set it on the head
of the high priest, Joshua[g] son of
Jehozadak.[h] 12Tell him this is what the
LORD Almighty says: 'Here is the man
whose name is the Branch,[i] and he
will branch out from his place and
build the temple of the LORD.[j] 13It is he
who will build the temple of the LORD,

[f]14 Or *two who bring oil and* [g]2 Hebrew *twenty cubits long and ten cubits wide* (about 9 meters long and 4.5 meters wide) [h]6 Hebrew *an ephah;* also in verses 7-11 [i]6 Or *appearance* [j]11 Hebrew *Shinar* [k]5 Or *winds* [l]6 Or *horses after them* [m]8 Or *spirit*

and he will be clothed with majesty
and will sit and rule on his throne. And
he will be a priest[z] on his throne. And
there will be harmony between the
two.[a] 14The crown will be given to Hel-
dai,[n] Tobijah, Jedaiah and Hen[o] son of
Zephaniah as a memorial[b] in the tem-
ple of the LORD. 15Those who are far
away will come and help to build the
temple of the LORD,[c] and you will
know that the LORD Almighty has sent
me to you.[d] This will happen if you
diligently obey[e] the LORD your God."

Justice and Mercy, Not Fasting

7 In the fourth year of King Darius,
the word of the LORD came to Zech-
ariah[f] on the fourth day of the ninth
month, the month of Kislev.[g] 2The
people of Bethel had sent Sharezer and
Regem-Melech, together with their
men, to entreat[h] the LORD[i] 3by asking
the priests of the house of the LORD Al-
mighty and the prophets, "Should I
mourn[j] and fast in the fifth[k] month,
as I have done for so many years?"
4Then the word of the LORD Almighty
came to me: 5"Ask all the people of the
land and the priests, 'When you fast-
ed[l] and mourned in the fifth and sev-
enth[m] months for the past seventy
years,[n] was it really for me that you
fasted? 6And when you were eating
and drinking, were you not just feast-
ing for yourselves?[o] 7Are these not the
words the LORD proclaimed through the
earlier prophets[p] when Jerusalem and
its surrounding towns were at rest[q]
and prosperous, and the Negev and
the western foothills[r] were settled?' "[s]
8And the word of the LORD came
again to Zechariah: 9"This is what the
LORD Almighty says: 'Administer true
justice;[t] show mercy and compassion
to one another.[u] 10Do not oppress the
widow[v] or the fatherless, the alien[w] or
the poor.[x] In your hearts do not think
evil of each other.'[y]
11"But they refused to pay attention;
stubbornly[z] they turned their backs[a]
and stopped up their ears.[b] 12They
made their hearts as hard as flint[c] and
would not listen to the law or to the
words that the LORD Almighty had sent
by his Spirit through the earlier proph-
ets.[d] So the LORD Almighty was very
angry.[e]
13" 'When I called, they did not lis-
ten;[f] so when they called, I would not
listen,'[g] says the LORD Almighty.[h] 14'I
scattered[i] them with a whirlwind[j]
among all the nations, where they were
strangers. The land was left so desolate
behind them that no one could come or
go.[k] This is how they made the pleas-
ant land desolate.[l]' "

The LORD Promises to Bless Jerusalem

8 Again the word of the LORD Al-
mighty came to me. 2This is what
the LORD Almighty says: "I am very
jealous[m] for Zion; I am burning with
jealousy for her."
3This is what the LORD says: "I will
return[n] to Zion[o] and dwell in Jerusa-
lem.[p] Then Jerusalem will be called the
City of Truth,[q] and the mountain[r] of
the LORD Almighty will be called the
Holy Mountain.[s]"
4This is what the LORD Almighty
says: "Once again men and women of
ripe old age will sit in the streets of
Jerusalem,[t] each with cane in hand be-
cause of his age. 5The city streets will
be filled with boys and girls playing
there.[u]"
6This is what the LORD Almighty
says: "It may seem marvelous to the
remnant of this people at that time,[v]
but will it seem marvelous to me?[w]"
declares the LORD Almighty.
7This is what the LORD Almighty
says: "I will save my people from the
countries of the east and the west.[x] 8I
will bring them back[y] to live[z] in
Jerusalem; they will be my people,[a]
and I will be faithful and righteous to
them as their God.[b]"
9This is what the LORD Almighty
says: "You who now hear these words
spoken by the prophets[c] who were
there when the foundation[d] was laid
for the house of the LORD Almighty, let
your hands be strong[e] so that the tem-
ple may be built. 10Before that time
there were no wages[f] for man or beast.
No one could go about his business
safely[g] because of his enemy, for I had
turned every man against his neighbor.
11But now I will not deal with the rem-
nant of this people as I did in the
past,"[h] declares the LORD Almighty.
12"The seed will grow well, the vine
will yield its fruit,[i] the ground will
produce its crops,[j] and the heavens
will drop their dew.[k] I will give all
these things as an inheritance[l] to the
remnant of this people.[m] 13As you have

6:13 [z]S Ps 110:4 **6:14** [b]S Ex 28:12 **6:15** [c]Isa 60:10 [d]Zec 2:9-11 [e]Isa 58:12; Jer 7:23; S Zec 3:7 **7:1** [f]S Ezr 6:1 [g]Zec 1:1 **7:2** [h]Jer 26:19; Zec 8:21 [i]Hag 2:10-14 **7:3** [j]Zec 12:12-14 [k]2Ki 25:9; Jer 52:12-14 **7:5** [l]Isa 58:5 [m]2Ki 25:25 [n]S Da 9:2 **7:6** [o]S Isa 43:23 **7:7** [p]Isa 1:11-20; Zec 1:4 [q]Jer 22:21 [r]S Jer 17:26 [s]Jer 44:4-5 **7:9** [t]S Jer 22:3; 42:5; Zec 8:16 [u]S Dt 22:1 **7:10** [v]Jer 49:11 [w]S Ex 22:21 [x]S Lev 25:17; Isa 1:23 [y]S Ex 22:22; S Job 35:8; S Isa 1:17; S Eze 45:9; S Mic 6:8 **7:11** [z]S Isa 9:9 [a]S Jer 32:33 [b]S Jer 5:3; 8:5; 11:10; S 17:23; S Eze 5:6 **7:12** [c]S Jer 5:3; 17:1; S Eze 11:19 [d]S Ne 9:29 [e]S Jer 42:21; S Da 9:12 **7:13** [f]S Jer 7:27 [g]Isa 1:15; S Jer 11:11; 14:12; S Mic 3:4 [h]S Pr 1:28; S La 3:44; S Eze 20:31 **7:14** [i]S Lev 26:33; Dt 4:27; 28:64-67; S Ps 44:11 [j]Jer 23:19 [k]S Isa 33:8 [l]S Jer 7:34; S 44:6; S Eze 12:19 **8:2** [m]S Joel 2:18 **8:3** [n]Zec 1:16 [o]S Isa 52:8; S Joel 3:21 [p]S Zec 2:10 [q]S Ps 15:2; S Isa 1:26; S 48:1; S Jer 33:16 [r]S Jer 26:18 [s]S Isa 1:26; S Mic 4:1 **8:4** [t]S Isa 65:20 **8:5** [u]S Jer 30:20; 31:13 **8:6** [v]Ps 118:23; 126:1-3 [w]Jer 32:17,27 **8:7** [x]Ps 107:3; S Isa 11:11; S 43:5 **8:8** [y]S Eze 37:12; Zec 10:10 [z]S Jer 31:24 [a]S Isa 51:16; S Eze 11:19-20; S 36:28; S Zec 2:11; Heb 8:10 [b]Jer 11:4; Zec 10:6

8:9 [c]S Ezr 5:1 [d]S Ezr 3:11 [e]S Hag 2:4 **8:10** [f]S Isa 5:10; S Hag 1:6 [g]S 2Ch 15:5 **8:11** [h]Isa 12:1 **8:12** [i]S Ps 85:12; S Joel 2:22 [j]S Ps 67:6 [k]S Ge 27:28 [l]S Ps 65:13; S Isa 60:21; Ob 1:17 [m]S Hos 2:21

[n]14 Syriac; Hebrew *Helem* [o]14 Or *and the gracious one, the*

been an object of cursing[a] among the
nations, O Judah and Israel, so will I
save[b] you, and you will be a blessing.[c]
Do not be afraid,[d] but let your hands
be strong.[e]"

[14]This is what the LORD Almighty
says: "Just as I had determined to bring
disaster[f] upon you and showed no
pity when your fathers angered me,"
says the LORD Almighty, [15]"so now I
have determined to do good[g] again to
Jerusalem and Judah.[h] Do not be
afraid. [16]These are the things you are to
do: Speak the truth[i] to each other, and
render true and sound judgment[j] in
your courts;[k] [17]do not plot evil[l] against
your neighbor, and do not love to
swear falsely.[m] I hate all this," declares
the LORD.

[18]Again the word of the LORD Al-
mighty came to me. [19]This is what the
LORD Almighty says: "The fasts of the
fourth,[n] fifth,[o] seventh[p] and tenth[q]
months will become joyful[r] and glad
occasions and happy festivals for
Judah. Therefore love truth[s] and
peace."

[20]This is what the LORD Almighty
says: "Many peoples and the inhabit-
ants of many cities will yet come, [21]and
the inhabitants of one city will go to
another and say, 'Let us go at once to
entreat[t] the LORD and seek[u] the LORD
Almighty. I myself am going.' [22]And
many peoples and powerful nations
will come to Jerusalem to seek the LORD
Almighty and to entreat him."[v]

[23]This is what the LORD Almighty
says: "In those days ten men from all
languages and nations will take firm
hold of one Jew by the hem of his robe
and say, 'Let us go with you, because
we have heard that God is with
you.'"[w]

Judgment on Israel's Enemies

An Oracle[x]

9 The word of the LORD is against the
land of Hadrach
and will rest upon Damascus[y]—
for the eyes of men and all the tribes
of Israel
are on the LORD—[p]
[2]and upon Hamath[z] too, which
borders on it,
and upon Tyre[a] and Sidon,[b]
though they are very skillful.
[3]Tyre has built herself a stronghold;
she has heaped up silver like dust,
and gold like the dirt of the
streets.[c]
[4]But the Lord will take away her
possessions
and destroy[d] her power on the
sea,
and she will be consumed by fire.[e]
[5]Ashkelon[f] will see it and fear;
Gaza will writhe in agony,
and Ekron too, for her hope will
wither.
Gaza will lose her king
and Ashkelon will be deserted.
[6]Foreigners will occupy Ashdod,
and I will cut off[g] the pride of the
Philistines.
[7]I will take the blood from their
mouths,
the forbidden food from between
their teeth.
Those who are left will belong to our
God[h]
and become leaders in Judah,
and Ekron will be like the
Jebusites.[i]
[8]But I will defend[j] my house
against marauding forces.[k]
Never again will an oppressor
overrun my people,
for now I am keeping watch.[l]

The Coming of Zion's King

[9]Rejoice greatly, O Daughter of
Zion![m]
Shout,[n] Daughter of Jerusalem!
See, your king[o] comes to you,[p]
righteous and having salvation,[p]
gentle and riding on a donkey,[q]
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.[r]
[10]I will take away the chariots from
Ephraim
and the war-horses from
Jerusalem,
and the battle bow will be
broken.[s]
He will proclaim peace[t] to the
nations.
His rule will extend from sea to
sea
and from the River[r] to the ends of
the earth.[s][u]
[11]As for you, because of the blood of
my covenant[v] with you,
I will free your prisoners[w] from
the waterless pit.[x]
[12]Return to your fortress,[y] O prisoners
of hope;
even now I announce that I will
restore twice[z] as much to
you.

8:13 S Nu 5:27; S Dt 13:15; S Ps 102:8; Jer 42:18 S Ps 48:8 S Ge 12:2; S Joel 2:14 S Hag 2:5 ver 9
8:14 S Eze 24:14
8:15 ver 13; S Jer 29:11; Mic 7:18-20 Jer 31:28; 32:42
8:16 S Ps 15:2; S Jer 33:16; S Eph 4:25 S Eze 18:8 S Eze 45:9; S Am 5:15; S Zec 7:9
8:17 Pr 3:29 S Pr 6:16-19; S Jer 7:9; Zec 5:4
8:19 S 2Ki 25:7; Jer 39:2 S Jer 52:12 2Ki 25:25 Jer 52:4 Ps 30:11 ver 16
8:21 S Zec 7:2 Jer 26:19
8:22 S Ps 86:9; 117:1; Isa 2:2-3; S 44:5; S 45:14; 49:6; S Zec 2:11
8:23 S Ps 102:22; S Isa 14:1; S 45:14; S 56:3; 1Co 14:25 S Isa 13:1; Jer 23:33
9:1 Isa 17:1; S Am 1:5
9:2 S Jer 49:23 Eze 28:1-19 S Ge 10:15
9:3 Job 27:16; S Eze 28:4
9:4 S Isa 23:11 S Isa 23:1; Jer 25:22; Eze 26:3-5; 27:32-36; 28:18
9:5 Jer 47:5
9:6 S Isa 14:30
9:7 S Job 25:2 S Jer 47:1; S Joel 3:4; S Zep 2:4
9:8 S Isa 26:1 Zec 14:21 S Isa 52:1; S 54:14; S Joel 3:17
9:9 S Isa 62:11 S 1Ki 1:39 S Ps 24:7; S 149:2; Mic 4:8 Isa 9:6-7; 43:3-11; Jer 23:5-6; Zep 3:14-15; Zec 2:10 S Ge 49:11; S 1Ki 1:33 Mt 21:5*; Jn 12:15*
9:10 Hos 1:7; 2:18; Mic 4:3; 5:10; Zec 10:4 S Isa 2:4 Ps 72:8
9:11 S Ex 24:8; S Mt 26:28; S Lk 22:20 S Isa 10:4; S 42:7 Jer 38:6
9:12 S Joel 3:16 S Dt 21:17; S Isa 40:2

p1 Or *Damascus. / For the eye of the LORD is on all mankind, / as well as on the tribes of Israel,* q9 Or *King* r10 That is, the Euphrates s10 Or *the end of the land*

[13]I will bend Judah as I bend my bow[g]
and fill it with Ephraim.[h]
I will rouse your sons, O Zion,
against your sons, O Greece,[i]
and make you like a warrior's
sword.[j]

The LORD Will Appear

[14]Then the LORD will appear over
them;[k]
his arrow will flash like lightning.[l]
The Sovereign LORD will sound the
trumpet;[m]
he will march in the storms[n] of
the south,
[15] and the LORD Almighty will
shield[o] them.
They will destroy
and overcome with slingstones.[p]
They will drink and roar as with
wine;[q]
they will be full like a bowl[r]
used for sprinkling[s] the corners[t]
of the altar.
[16]The LORD their God will save them
on that day[u]
as the flock of his people.
They will sparkle in his land
like jewels in a crown.[v]
[17]How attractive and beautiful they
will be!
Grain will make the young men
thrive,
and new wine the young women.

The LORD Will Care for Judah

10 Ask the LORD for rain in the
springtime;
it is the LORD who makes the storm
clouds.
He gives showers of rain[p] to men,
and plants of the field[q] to
everyone.
[2]The idols[r] speak deceit,
diviners[s] see visions that lie;
they tell dreams[t] that are false,
they give comfort in vain.[u]
Therefore the people wander like
sheep
oppressed for lack of a shepherd.[v]

[3]"My anger burns against the
shepherds,
and I will punish the leaders;[w]
for the LORD Almighty will care
for his flock, the house of Judah,
and make them like a proud horse
in battle.[x]
[4]From Judah will come the
cornerstone,[y]
from him the tent peg,[z]
from him the battle bow,[a]
from him every ruler.
[5]Together they[a] will be like mighty
men
trampling the muddy streets in
battle.[b]
Because the LORD is with them,
they will fight and overthrow the
horsemen.[c]

[6]"I will strengthen[d] the house of
Judah
and save the house of Joseph.
I will restore them
because I have compassion[e] on
them.[f]
They will be as though
I had not rejected them,
for I am the LORD their God
and I will answer[g] them.
[7]The Ephraimites will become like
mighty men,
and their hearts will be glad as
with wine.[h]
Their children will see it and be
joyful;
their hearts will rejoice[i] in the
LORD.
[8]I will signal[j] for them
and gather them in.
Surely I will redeem them;
they will be as numerous[k] as
before.
[9]Though I scatter them among the
peoples,
yet in distant lands they will
remember me.[l]
They and their children will survive,
and they will return.
[10]I will bring them back from Egypt
and gather them from Assyria.[m]
I will bring them to Gilead[n] and
Lebanon,
and there will not be room[o]
enough for them.
[11]They will pass through the sea of
trouble;
the surging sea will be subdued
and all the depths of the Nile will
dry up.[p]
Assyria's pride[q] will be brought
down
and Egypt's scepter[r] will pass
away.[s]
[12]I will strengthen[t] them in the LORD
and in his name they will walk,[u]"
declares the LORD.

11 Open your doors, O Lebanon,[v]
so that fire[w] may devour your
cedars!

9:13 [illegible]
9:14 [illegible]
9:15 [illegible]
9:16 [illegible]
10:1 [illegible]
10:2 [illegible] Eze 21:21 [illegible]
10:3 [illegible] Isa 14:9; S Jer 25:34; [illegible] Eze 34:8-10
10:4 [illegible] Ps 118:22; S Ac 4:11; [illegible] Isa 22:23; [illegible] Zec 9:10
10:5 [b]S 2Sa 22:43; S Mic 7:10 [c]S Am 2:15; S Mic 5:8; Hag 2:22; Zec 12:4
10:6 [d]S Eze 30:24 [e]S Ps 102:13; S Isa 14:1 [f]S Eze 36:37; 37:19; S Zec 8:7-8 [g]Ps 34:17; Isa 58:9; 65:24; Zec 13:9
10:7 [h]Zec 9:15 [i]S 1Sa 2:1; S Isa 60:5; S Joel 2:23
10:8 [j]Isa 5:26 [k]S Jer 33:22; S Eze 36:11
10:9 [l]S Isa 44:21; S Eze 6:9
10:10 [m]S Isa 11:11; S Zec 8:8 [n]S Jer 50:19 [o]S Isa 49:19
10:11 [p]Isa 19:5-7; S 51:10 [q]Zep 2:13 [r]Eze 30:13 [s]Eze 29:15
10:12 [t]S Eze 30:24 [u]S Mic 4:5
11:1 [v]S Eze 31:3 [w]S 2Ch 36:19; Zec 12:6

[a]15 Or *bowl, / like* [a]4,5 Or *ruler, all of them together.* / [5]*They*

2 Wail, O pine tree, for the cedar has
fallen;
the stately trees are ruined!
Wail, oaks[a] of Bashan;
the dense forest[b] has been cut
down![c]
3 Listen to the wail of the shepherds;
their rich pastures are destroyed!
Listen to the roar of the lions;[d]
the lush thicket of the Jordan is
ruined![e]

Two Shepherds

4 This is what the LORD my God says:
"Pasture the flock marked for slaugh-
ter.[f]
5 Their buyers slaughter them and
go unpunished. Those who sell them
say, 'Praise the LORD, I am rich!' Their
own shepherds do not spare them.[g]
6 For I will no longer have pity on the
people of the land," declares the LORD.
"I will hand everyone over to his
neighbor[h] and his king. They will op-
press the land, and I will not rescue
them from their hands."[i]
7 So I pastured the flock marked for
slaughter,[j] particularly the oppressed
of the flock. Then I took two staffs and
called one Favor and the other Union,
and I pastured the flock.
8 In one month
I got rid of the three shepherds.
The flock detested[k] me, and I grew
weary of them
9 and said, "I will not be
your shepherd. Let the dying die, and
the perishing perish.[l] Let those who
are left eat[m] one another's flesh."
10 Then I took my staff called Favor[n]
and broke it, revoking[o] the covenant I
had made with all the nations.
11 It was
revoked on that day, and so the afflict-
ed of the flock who were watching me
knew it was the word of the LORD.
12 I told them, "If you think it best,
give me my pay; but if not, keep it." So
they paid me thirty pieces of silver.[p]
13 And the LORD said to me, "Throw it
to the potter"—the handsome price at
which they priced me! So I took the
thirty pieces of silver[q] and threw them
into the house of the LORD to the pot-
ter.[r]
14 Then I broke my second staff called
Union, breaking the brotherhood be-
tween Judah and Israel.
15 Then the LORD said to me, "Take
again the equipment of a foolish shep-
herd.
16 For I am going to raise up a
shepherd over the land who will not
care for the lost, or seek the young, or
heal the injured, or feed the healthy,
but will eat the meat of the choice
sheep, tearing off their hoofs.

11:2 [a]S Isa 2:13
[b]Isa 32:19
[c]S Isa 10:34
11:3 [d]S Isa 5:29
[e]Jer 2:15; 50:44;
Eze 19:9
11:4 [f]S Jer 25:34
11:5 [g]Jer 50:7;
S Eze 34:2-3
11:6 [h]Zec 14:13
[i]Isa 9:19-21;
S Jer 13:14;
S La 2:21; 5:8;
S Mic 5:8; 7:2-6
11:7 [j]S Jer 25:34
11:8 [k]S Eze 14:5
11:9 [l]S Jer 43:11
[m]S Isa 9:20
11:10 [n]ver 7
[o]S Ps 89:39;
Jer 14:21
11:12
[p]S Ge 23:16;
Mt 26:15
11:13
[q]S Ex 21:32
[r]Mt 27:9-10*;
Ac 1:18-19
11:17 [s]Jer 23:1
[t]S Eze 30:21-22
[u]S Jer 23:1
[v]S Isa 13:1
12:1 [w]S Ge 1:8;
S Ps 104:2;
S Jer 51:15
[x]Ps 102:25;
Heb 1:10
[y]S Isa 57:16
12:2 [z]S Ps 75:8
[a]S Ps 60:3;
S Isa 51:23
[b]Zec 14:14
12:3 [c]Isa 66:18;
Zec 14:2
[d]S Isa 28:16;
Da 2:34-35
[e]S Isa 29:8
12:4 [f]Ps 76:6;
S Zec 10:5
12:5
[g]S Eze 30:24
12:6
[h]Isa 10:17-18;
S Zec 11:1
[i]Ob 1:18
[j]Zec 14:10
12:7 [k]Jer 30:18;
S Am 9:11
12:8 [l]S Ps 91:4;
S Joel 3:16;
S Zec 9:15
[m]Joel 3:10
[n]Ps 82:6
[o]Mic 7:8
12:9 [p]S Isa 29:7
[q]S Zec 1:21;
14:2-3
12:10
[r]S Eze 37:9
[s]Isa 44:3;
S Eze 39:29;
Joel 2:28-29
[t]S Ps 22:16;
Jn 19:34,37*
[u]Jdg 11:34

17 "Woe to the worthless shepherd,[s]
who deserts the flock!
May the sword strike his arm[t] and
his right eye!
May his arm be completely
withered,
his right eye totally blinded!"[u]

Jerusalem's Enemies to Be Destroyed

An Oracle[v]

12 This is the word of the LORD con-
cerning Israel. The LORD, who
stretches out the heavens,[w] who lays
the foundation of the earth,[x] and who
forms the spirit of man[y] within him,
declares:
2 "I am going to make Jerusa-
lem a cup[z] that sends all the surround-
ing peoples reeling.[a] Judah[b] will be
besieged as well as Jerusalem.
3 On that
day, when all the nations[c] of the earth
are gathered against her, I will make
Jerusalem an immovable rock[d] for all
the nations. All who try to move it will
injure[e] themselves.
4 On that day I will
strike every horse with panic and its
rider with madness," declares the
LORD. "I will keep a watchful eye over
the house of Judah, but I will blind all
the horses of the nations.[f]
5 Then the
leaders of Judah will say in their hearts,
'The people of Jerusalem are strong,[g]
because the LORD Almighty is their
God.'
6 "On that day I will make the leaders
of Judah like a firepot[h] in a woodpile,
like a flaming torch among sheaves.
They will consume[i] right and left all
the surrounding peoples, but Jerusa-
lem will remain intact[j] in her place.
7 "The LORD will save the dwellings of
Judah first, so that the honor of the
house of David and of Jerusalem's in-
habitants may not be greater than that
of Judah.[k]
8 On that day the LORD will
shield[l] those who live in Jerusalem, so
that the feeblest[m] among them will be
like David, and the house of David will
be like God,[n] like the Angel of the LORD
going before[o] them.
9 On that day I will
set out to destroy all the nations[p] that
attack Jerusalem.[q]

Mourning for the One They Pierced

10 "And I will pour out on the house
of David and the inhabitants of Jerusa-
lem a spirit[v][r] of grace and supplica-
tion.[s] They will look on[w] me, the one
they have pierced,[t] and they will
mourn for him as one mourns for an
only child,[u] and grieve bitterly for him

[v]10 Or *the Spirit* [w]10 Or *to*

as one grieves for a firstborn son.[a]
11 On that day the weeping[b] in Jerusa-
lem will be great, like the weeping of
Hadad Rimmon in the plain of Megid-
do.[c] 12 The land will mourn,[d] each clan
by itself, with their wives by them-
selves: the clan of the house of David
and their wives, the clan of the house
of Nathan and their wives, 13 the clan of
the house of Levi and their wives, the
clan of Shimei and their wives, 14 and all
the rest of the clans and their wives.[e]

Cleansing From Sin

13 "On that day a fountain[f] will be
opened to the house of David
and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, to
cleanse[g] them from sin and impurity.
2 "On that day, I will banish the
names of the idols[h] from the land, and
they will be remembered no more,"[i]
declares the LORD Almighty. "I will re-
move both the prophets[j] and the spirit
of impurity from the land. 3 And if any-
one still prophesies, his father and
mother, to whom he was born, will say
to him, 'You must die, because you
have told lies[k] in the LORD's name.'
When he prophesies, his own parents
will stab him.[l]
4 "On that day every prophet will be
ashamed[m] of his prophetic vision. He
will not put on a prophet's garment[n] of
hair[o] in order to deceive.[p] 5 He will
say, 'I am not a prophet. I am a farmer;
the land has been my livelihood since
my youth.[a][q] 6 If someone asks him,
'What are these wounds on your
body[b]?' he will answer, 'The wounds I
was given at the house of my friends.'

The Shepherd Struck, the Sheep Scattered

7 "Awake, O sword,[r] against my
shepherd,[s]
against the man who is close to
me!"
declares the LORD Almighty.
"Strike the shepherd,
and the sheep will be scattered,[t]
and I will turn my hand against
the little ones.
8 In the whole land," declares the
LORD,
"two-thirds will be struck down
and perish;
yet one-third will be left in it.[u]
9 This third I will bring into the fire;[v]
I will refine them like silver[w]
and test them like gold.[x]
They will call[y] on my name[z]
and I will answer[a] them;
I will say, 'They are my people,'[b]
and they will say, 'The LORD is our
God.'[c]"

The LORD Comes and Reigns

14 A day of the LORD[d] is coming
when your plunder[e] will be di-
vided among you.
2 I will gather all the nations[f] to
Jerusalem to fight against it;[g] the city
will be captured, the houses ransacked,
and the women raped.[h] Half of the city
will go into exile, but the rest of the
people will not be taken from the city.[i]
3 Then the LORD will go out and fight
against those nations, as he fights in
the day of battle.[k] 4 On that day his feet
will stand on the Mount of Olives,[l]
east of Jerusalem, and the Mount of Ol-
ives will be split[m] in two from east to
west, forming a great valley, with half
of the mountain moving north and half
moving south. 5 You will flee by my
mountain valley, for it will extend to
Azel. You will flee as you fled from the
earthquake[c][n] in the days of Uzziah
king of Judah. Then the LORD my God
will come,[o] and all the holy ones with
him.[p]
6 On that day there will be no light,[q]
no cold or frost. 7 It will be a unique[r]
day, without daytime or nighttime[s]—a
day known to the LORD. When evening
comes, there will be light.[t]
8 On that day living water[u] will flow[v]
out from Jerusalem, half to the east-
ern[d] sea[w] and half to the western sea,[e]
in summer and in winter.[x]
9 The LORD will be king[y] over the
whole earth.[z] On that day there will be
one LORD, and his name the only
name.[a]
10 The whole land, from Geba[b] to
Rimmon,[c] south of Jerusalem, will
become like the Arabah. But Jerusalem
will be raised up[d] and remain in its
place,[e] from the Benjamin Gate[f] to the
site of the First Gate, to the Corner
Gate,[g] and from the Tower of Hana-
nel[h] to the royal winepresses. 11 It will
be inhabited;[i] never again will it be de-
stroyed. Jerusalem will be secure.[j]

12:10 aS Ge 21:16; Jer 31:19 **12:11** bJer 50:4 c2Ki 23:29 **12:12** dMt 24:30; Rev 1:7 **12:14** eZec 7:3 **13:1** fJer 17:13 gS Lev 16:30; S Ps 51:2; Heb 9:14 **13:2** hS Jer 43:12; S Eze 6:6; S 36:25; S Hos 2:17 iS Mic 5:13 j1Ki 22:22; Jer 23:14-15 **13:3** kS Jer 28:16 lDt 13:6-11; 18:20; S Ne 6:14; Jer 23:34; S Eze 14:9 **13:4** mS Jer 6:15 nMt 3:4 oS 1Ki 18:7; S Isa 20:2 pS Eze 12:24 **13:5** qS Am 7:14 **13:7** rS Isa 34:5; Jer 47:6 sIsa 40:11; S 53:4; Eze 37:24 tS 2Sa 17:2; Mt 26:31*; Mk 14:27* **13:8** uS Eze 5:2-4,12; Zec 14:2 **13:9** vS Isa 4:4; 33:14; Mal 3:2 wS Ps 12:6; S Da 11:35; 1Pe 1:6-7 xS Job 6:29; S Jer 6:27 yS Ps 50:15 zPs 105:1 aS Ps 86:7; S Isa 30:19; S Zec 10:6 bS Lev 26:12; S Jer 30:22 cS Isa 44:5; S Jer 29:12; S Eze 20:38 **14:1** dIsa 13:6; S Joel 1:15; Mal 4:1 eS Isa 23:18 **14:2** fS Isa 2:3; S Zec 12:3 gS Eze 5:8 hS Ge 34:29; S La 5:11 iIsa 13:16; S Zec 13:8 **14:3** [illegible] **14:4** [illegible] **14:5** [illegible] **14:6** [illegible] **14:7** [illegible] **14:8** [illegible] **14:9** [illegible] **14:10** [illegible] **14:11** [illegible]

[a] 5 Or *farmer; a man sold me in my youth* [b] 6 Or *wounds between your hands* [c] 5 Or *My mountain valley will be blocked and will extend to Azel. It will be blocked as it was blocked because of the earthquake* [d] 8 That is, the Dead Sea [e] 8 That is, the Mediterranean

12This is the plague with which the
LORD will strike[a] all the nations that
fought against Jerusalem: Their flesh
will rot while they are still standing on
their feet, their eyes will rot in their
sockets, and their tongues will rot in
their mouths.[b] 13On that day men will
be stricken by the LORD with great pan-
ic.[c] Each man will seize the hand of
another, and they will attack each
other.[d] 14Judah[e] too will fight at
Jerusalem. The wealth of all the sur-
rounding nations will be collect-
ed[f]—great quantities of gold and silver
and clothing. 15A similar plague[g] will
strike the horses and mules, the camels
and donkeys, and all the animals in
those camps.
16Then the survivors[h] from all the
nations that have attacked Jerusalem
will go up year after year to worship[i]
the King,[j] the LORD Almighty, and to
celebrate the Feast of Tabernacles.[k] 17If
any of the peoples of the earth do not
go up to Jerusalem to worship[l] the
King, the LORD Almighty, they will
have no rain.[m] 18If the Egyptian people
do not go up and take part, they will
have no rain. The LORD[c] will bring on
them the plague[n] he inflicts on the na-
tions that do not go up to celebrate the
Feast of Tabernacles.[o] 19This will be the
punishment of Egypt and the punish-
ment of all the nations that do not go
up to celebrate the Feast of Taber-
nacles.[p]
20On that day HOLY TO THE LORD[q] will
be inscribed on the bells of the horses,
and the cooking pots[r] in the LORD's
house will be like the sacred bowls[s] in
front of the altar. 21Every pot in Jerusa-
lem and Judah will be holy[t] to the LORD
Almighty, and all who come to sacrifice
will take some of the pots and cook in
them. And on that day[u] there will no
longer be a Canaanite[d][v] in the house[w]
of the LORD Almighty.[x]

14:12 [a]S Isa 11:4 [b]ver 18; S Lev 26:16; S Dt 28:22; Job 18:13
14:13 [c]S Ge 35:5 [d]S Jdg 7:22; S Zec 11:6
14:14 [e]Zec 12:2 [f]S Isa 23:18
14:15 [g]ver 12
14:16 [h]S 2Ki 19:31 [i]S Ps 22:29; S 86:9; S Isa 19:21 [j]S Ob 1:21 [k]S Ex 23:16; Isa 60:6-9; S Mic 4:2
14:17 [l]S 2Ch 32:23 [m]S Jer 14:4; S Am 4:7
14:18 [n]S Ge 27:29 [o]S ver 12
14:19 [p]S Ezr 3:4
14:20 [q]S Ex 39:30 [r]S Eze 46:20 [s]Zec 9:15
14:21 [t]S Jer 31:40; Ro 14:6-7; 1Co 10:31 [u]Ne 8:10 [v]Zec 9:8 [w]S Ne 11:1 [x]S Eze 44:9

[c]18 *Or part, then the LORD* [d]21 *Or merchant*

Malachi

1 An oracle:[a] The word[b] of the LORD
to Israel through Malachi.[a]

Jacob Loved, Esau Hated

2 "I have loved[c] you," says the LORD.
"But you ask,[d] 'How have you loved
us?'
"Was not Esau Jacob's brother?" the
LORD says. "Yet I have loved Jacob,[e]
3 but Esau I have hated,[f] and I have
turned his mountains into a waste-
land[g] and left his inheritance to the
desert jackals.[h]"
4 Edom[i] may say, "Though we have
been crushed, we will rebuild[j] the
ruins."
But this is what the LORD Almighty
says: "They may build, but I will
demolish.[k] They will be called the
Wicked Land, a people always under
the wrath of the LORD.[l] 5 You will see it
with your own eyes and say, 'Great[m] is
the LORD—even beyond the borders of
Israel!'[n]

Blemished Sacrifices

6 "A son honors his father,[o] and a
servant his master.[p] If I am a father,
where is the honor due me? If I am a
master, where is the respect[q] due me?"
says the LORD Almighty.[r] "It is you, O
priests, who show contempt for my
name.
"But you ask,[s] 'How have we shown
contempt for your name?'
7 "You place defiled food[t] on my al-
tar.
"But you ask,[u] 'How have we
defiled you?'
"By saying that the LORD's table[v] is
contemptible. 8 When you bring blind
animals for sacrifice, is that not wrong?
When you sacrifice crippled or
diseased animals,[w] is that not wrong?
Try offering them to your governor!
Would he be pleased[x] with you?
Would he accept you?" says the LORD
Almighty.[y]
9 "Now implore God to be gracious to
us. With such offerings[z] from your
hands, will he accept[a] you?"—says the
LORD Almighty.
10 "Oh, that one of you would shut
the temple doors,[b] so that you would
not light useless fires on my altar! I am
not pleased[c] with you," says the LORD
Almighty, "and I will accept[d] no offer-
ing[e] from your hands. 11 My name will
be great[f] among the nations,[g] from
the rising to the setting of the sun.[h] In
every place incense[i] and pure offer-
ings[j] will be brought to my name, be-
cause my name will be great among the
nations," says the LORD Almighty.
12 "But you profane it by saying of the
Lord's table,[k] 'It is defiled,' and of its
food,[l] 'It is contemptible.' 13 And you
say, 'What a burden!'[m] and you sniff at
it contemptuously,[n]" says the LORD Al-
mighty.
"When you bring injured, crippled
or diseased animals and offer them as
sacrifices,[o] should I accept them from
your hands?"[p] says the LORD.
14 "Cursed is the cheat who has an ac-
ceptable male in his flock and vows to
give it, but then sacrifices a blemished
animal[q] to the Lord. For I am a great
king,[r]" says the LORD Almighty,[s] "and
my name is to be feared[t] among the
nations.[u]

Admonition for the Priests

2 "And now this admonition is for
you, O priests.[v] 2 If you do not lis-
ten,[w] and if you do not set your heart
to honor[x] my name," says the LORD Al-
mighty, "I will send a curse[y] upon
you, and I will curse your blessings.[z]
Yes, I have already cursed them, be-
cause you have not set your heart to
honor me.
3 "Because of you I will rebuke[b] your
descendants[c]; I will spread on your
faces the offal[a] from your festival sacri-
fices, and you will be carried off with

1:1 [a]S Na 1:1 [b]Ac 7:38; Ro 3:1-2; 1Pe 4:11 **1:2** [c]S Dt 4:37 [d]ver 6,7; Mal 2:14,17; 3:7,13 [e]S Jer 46:27; Ro 9:13* **1:3** [f]Lk 14:26 [g]S Isa 34:10 [h]S Isa 13:22 **1:4** [i]S Isa 11:14; S 34:11 [j]Isa 9:10 [k]S Isa 34:5 [l]S La 4:22; S Eze 25:12-14; S 26:14 **1:5** [m]Ps 35:27; 48:1; Mic 5:4 [n]Isa 45:22; 52:10; S Am 1:11-12 **1:6** [o]S Lev 20:9; Mt 15:4; 23:9 [p]Lk 6:46 [q]S Dt 31:12; S Isa 1:2 [r]Job 5:17 [s]S ver 2 **1:7** [t]ver 12; Lev 21:6 [u]S ver 2 [v]S Eze 23:41 **1:8** [w]S Lev 1:3; S Dt 15:21 [x]S Ge 32:20 [y]S Isa 43:23 **1:9** [z]Lev 23:33-44; Ps 51:17; Mic 6:6-8; Ro 12:1; Heb 13:16 [a]S Jer 6:20 **1:10** [b]2Ch 28:24 [c]S Hos 5:6 [d]Lev 22:20 [e]ver 13; Isa 1:11-14; Jer 14:12; Mal 2:12 **1:11** [f]S Isa 24:15; 56:6 [g]S Isa 6:3; S 12:4 [h]S Ps 113:3; S Mt 8:11 [i]Isa 60:6-7; Rev 5:8; 8:3 [j]S Isa 19:21; Heb 13:15 **1:12** [k]S Eze 41:22 [l]S ver 7 **1:13** [m]Isa 43:22-24 [n]S Nu 14:11 [o]S ver 10 [p]S Dt 15:21 **1:14** [q]Ex 12:5; S Lev 22:18-21 [r]Ps 95:3; S Ob 1:21; 1Ti 6:15 [s]Jer 46:18 [t]S Dt 28:58 [u]Ps 72:8-11 **2:1** [v]ver 7 **2:2** [w]Jer 13:17 [x]Mt 15:7-9; Jn 5:23; 1Ti 6:16; Rev 5:12-13 [y]S Dt 11:26; S 28:20 [z]Nu 6:23-27 **2:3** [a]S Ex 29:14; S Lev 4:11; S Job 9:31

[a]1 *Malachi* means *my messenger*. [b]3 Or *cut off* (see Septuagint) [c]3 Or *will blight your grain*

it.[a] 4And you will know that I have
sent you this admonition so that my
covenant with Levi[b] may continue,"
says the LORD Almighty. 5"My cov-
enant was with him, a covenant[c] of life
and peace,[d] and I gave them to him;
this called for reverence[e] and he re-
vered me and stood in awe of my
name. 6True instruction[f] was in his
mouth and nothing false was found on
his lips. He walked[g] with me in peace[h]
and uprightness,[i] and turned many
from sin.[j]
7"For the lips of a priest[k] ought to
preserve knowledge, and from his
mouth men should seek instruc-
tion[l]—because he is the messenger[m] of
the LORD Almighty. 8But you have
turned from the way[n] and by your
teaching have caused many to stum-
ble;[o] you have violated the covenant[p]
with Levi,"[q] says the LORD Almighty.
9"So I have caused you to be despised[r]
and humiliated[s] before all the people,
because you have not followed my
ways but have shown partiality[t] in
matters of the law."[u]

Judah Unfaithful

10Have we not all one Father[d]?[v] Did
not one God create us?[w] Why do we
profane the covenant[x] of our fathers by
breaking faith[y] with one another?
11Judah has broken faith. A detest-
able[z] thing has been committed in Is-
rael and in Jerusalem: Judah has dese-
crated the sanctuary the LORD loves,[a]
by marrying[b] the daughter of a foreign
god.[c] 12As for the man who does this,
whoever he may be, may the LORD cut
him off[d] from the tents of
Jacob[e][e]—even though he brings offer-
ings[f] to the LORD Almighty.
13Another thing you do: You flood
the LORD's altar with tears.[g] You weep
and wail[h] because he no longer pays
attention[i] to your offerings or accepts
them with pleasure from your hands.[j]
14You ask,[k] "Why?" It is because the
LORD is acting as the witness[l] between
you and the wife of your youth,[m] be-
cause you have broken faith with her,
though she is your partner, the wife of
your marriage covenant.[n]
15Has not the LORD made them
one?[o] In flesh and spirit they are his.
And why one? Because he was seeking
godly offspring.[f][p] So guard yourself[q]
in your spirit, and do not break faith[r]
with the wife of your youth.
16"I hate divorce,[s]" says the LORD
God of Israel, "and I hate a man's
covering himself[g] with violence[t] as
well as with his garment," says the
LORD Almighty.
So guard yourself in your spirit,[u]
and do not break faith.

The Day of Judgment

17You have wearied[v] the LORD with
your words.
"How have we wearied him?" you
ask.[w]
By saying, "All who do evil are good
in the eyes of the LORD, and he is
pleased[x] with them" or "Where is the
God of justice?[y]"

3 "See, I will send my messenger,[z]
who will prepare the way before
me.[a] Then suddenly the Lord[b] you are
seeking will come to his temple; the
messenger of the covenant,[c] whom
you desire,[d] will come," says the LORD
Almighty.
2But who can endure[e] the day of his
coming?[f] Who can stand[g] when he ap-
pears? For he will be like a refiner's
fire[h] or a launderer's soap.[i] 3He will
sit as a refiner and purifier of silver;[j]
he will purify[k] the Levites and refine
them like gold and silver.[l] Then the
LORD will have men who will bring of-
ferings in righteousness,[m] 4and the of-
ferings[n] of Judah and Jerusalem will be
acceptable to the LORD, as in days gone
by, as in former years.[o]
5"So I will come near to you for judg-
ment. I will be quick to testify against
sorcerers,[p] adulterers[q] and perjurers,[r]
against those who defraud laborers of
their wages,[s] who oppress the wid-
ows[t] and the fatherless, and deprive
aliens[u] of justice, but do not fear[v]
me," says the LORD Almighty.

Robbing God

6"I the LORD do not change.[w] So you,
O descendants of Jacob, are not de-
stroyed.[x] 7Ever since the time of your
forefathers you have turned away[y]

2:3 [a]1Ki 14:10 **2:4** [b]S Nu 3:12 **2:5** [c]Dt 33:9; Ps 25:10; 103:18; S Mt 26:28; S Lk 22:20; Heb 7:22 [d]S Nu 25:12 [e]S Dt 14:23; S 28:58; Ps 119:161; Heb 12:28 **2:6** [f]S Dt 33:10 [g]S Ge 5:22 [h]Lk 2:14; S Jn 14:27; Gal 5:22 [i]S Ps 25:21 [j]S Ro 11:14; Jas 5:19-20 **2:7** [k]S Jer 18:18 [l]S Lev 10:11; S 2Ch 17:7 [m]S Nu 27:21; S 2Ch 36:15; Mt 11:10; Mk 1:2 **2:8** [n]S Ex 32:8; Jer 2:8 [o]S Jer 18:15 [p]Jer 33:21; S Eze 22:26 [q]S Hos 4:6 **2:9** [r]S 1Sa 2:30; S Ps 22:6; S Jer 51:37 [s]S Ps 35:4; Jer 3:25; Ac 8:32-33 [t]S Ex 18:16; S Lev 19:15; Ac 10:34; Ro 2:11 [u]S 1Sa 2:17 **2:10** [v]S Ex 4:22; Mt 5:16; 6:4,18; Lk 11:2; 1Co 8:6 [w]S Job 4:17; Isa 43:1 [x]Ex 19:5; S 2Ki 17:15; Jer 31:32 [y]S Zep 3:3-4 **2:11** [z]S Isa 1:13; S 48:8 [a]S Dt 4:37 [b]S Ne 13:23 [c]S Ex 34:16; Jer 3:7-9 **2:12** [d]S 1Sa 2:30-33; S Eze 24:21 [e]S Nu 24:5; 2Sa 20:1 [f]S Mal 1:10 **2:13** [g]S Jer 11:11 [h]Ps 39:12 [i]Ps 66:18; Jer 14:12 [j]Isa 58:2 **2:14** [k]S Mal 1:2 [l]S Ge 21:30; S Jos 24:22 [m]S Pr 5:18 [n]S Eze 16:8; Heb 13:4 **2:15** [o]S Ge 2:24; Mt 19:4-6 [p]S Dt 14:2; 1Co 7:14 [q]S Dt 4:15 [r]S Isa 54:6; 1Co 7:10; Heb 13:4 **2:16** [s]S Dt 24:1; Mt 5:31-32; 19:4-9; Mk 10:4-5 [t]S Ge 6:11; 34:25; S Pr 4:17; S Isa 58:4 [u]Ps 51:10 **2:17** [v]S Isa 1:14 [w]S Mal 1:2 [x]Ps 5:4 [y]S Ge 18:25; S Job 8:3; S Eze 18:25 **3:1** [z]S Nu 27:21; S 2Ch 36:15

[a]S Isa 40:3; S Mt 3:3; 11:10*; Mk 1:2*; Lk 7:27* [b]Mic 5:2 [c]S Isa 42:6 [d]S 1Sa 9:20 **3:2** [e]S Eze 22:14; Rev 6:17 [f]S Eze 7:7; S Da 7:13; S Joel 2:31; S Mt 16:27; Jas 5:8; 2Pe 3:4; S Rev 1:7 [g]S 1Sa 6:20 [h]S Isa 1:31; S 30:30; S Zec 13:9; Mt 3:10-12 [i]S Job 9:30 **3:3** [j]S Da 12:10; S 1Co 3:13 [k]S 1Ch 23:28; S Isa 1:25 [l]S Job 28:1; S Ps 12:6; 1Pe 1:7; Rev 3:18 [m]S Ps 132:9 **3:4** [n]2Ch 7:12; Ps 51:19; Mal 1:11 [o]S 2Ch 7:3; S Eze 20:40 **3:5** [p]S Ex 7:11; S Isa 47:9 [q]Ex 20:14; Jas 2:11; 2Pe 2:12-14 [r]Lev 19:11-12; S Jer 7:9 [s]S Lev 19:13; Jas 5:4 [t]S Ex 22:22 [u]S Ex 22:21; S Dt 24:19; S Eze 22:7 [v]S Dt 31:12; S Isa 1:2 **3:6** [w]S Nu 23:19; S Heb 7:21; Jas 1:17 [x]S Job 34:15; S Hos 11:9 **3:7** [y]S Ex 32:8; S Jer 7:26; Ac 7:51

[d]10 Or *father* [e]12 Or *[12]May the LORD cut off from the tents of Jacob anyone who gives testimony in behalf of the man who does this* [f]15 Or *[15]But the one who is our father did not do this, not as long as life remained in him. And what was he seeking? An offspring from God* [g]16 Or *his wife*

from my decrees and have not kept
them. Return[a] to me, and I will return
to you,"[b] says the LORD Almighty.
"But you ask,[c] 'How are we to re-
turn?'
8"Will a man rob[d] God? Yet you rob
me.
"But you ask, 'How do we rob you?'
"In tithes[e] and offerings. 9You are
under a curse[f]—the whole nation of
you—because you are robbing me.
10Bring the whole tithe[g] into the store-
house,[h] that there may be food in my
house. Test me in this," says the LORD
Almighty, "and see if I will not throw
open the floodgates[i] of heaven and
pour out[j] so much blessing[k] that you
will not have room enough for it.[l] 11I
will prevent pests from devouring[m]
your crops, and the vines in your fields
will not cast their fruit,[n]" says the LORD
Almighty. 12"Then all the nations will
call you blessed,[o] for yours will be a
delightful land,"[p] says the LORD Al-
mighty.[q]
13"You have said harsh things[r]
against me," says the LORD.
"Yet you ask,[s] 'What have we said
against you?'
14"You have said, 'It is futile[t] to
serve[u] God. What did we gain by car-
rying out his requirements[v] and going
about like mourners[w] before the LORD
Almighty? 15But now we call the arro-
gant[x] blessed. Certainly the evildoers[y]
prosper,[z] and even those who chal-
lenge God escape.' "
16Then those who feared the LORD
talked with each other, and the LORD
listened and heard.[a] A scroll[b] of
remembrance was written in his pres-
ence concerning those who feared[c] the
LORD and honored his name.
17"They will be mine,[d]" says the
LORD Almighty, "in the day when I
make up my treasured possession.[h][e] I
will spare[f] them, just as in compassion
a man spares his son[g] who serves him.
18And you will again see the distinction
between the righteous[h] and the
wicked, between those who serve God
and those who do not.[i]

The Day of the LORD

4 "Surely the day is coming;[j] it will
burn like a furnace.[k] All the arro-
gant[l] and every evildoer will be stub-
ble,[m] and that day that is coming will
set them on fire,[n]" says the LORD Al-
mighty. "Not a root or a branch[o] will
be left to them. 2But for you who revere
my name,[p] the sun of righteousness[q]
will rise with healing[r] in its wings.
And you will go out and leap[s] like
calves released from the stall. 3Then
you will trample[t] down the wicked;
they will be ashes[u] under the soles of
your feet on the day when I do these
things," says the LORD Almighty.
4"Remember the law[v] of my servant
Moses, the decrees and laws I gave him
at Horeb[w] for all Israel.[x]
5"See, I will send you the prophet
Elijah[y] before that great and dreadful
day of the LORD comes.[z] 6He will turn
the hearts of the fathers to their chil-
dren,[a] and the hearts of the children to
their fathers; or else I will come and
strike[b] the land with a curse."[c]

3:7 [a]S Isa 44:22; S Eze 18:32 [b]S Zec 1:3; Jas 4:8 [c]S Mal 1:2 **3:8** [d]S Zec 5:3 [e]S Lev 27:30; Nu 18:21; S Ne 13:10-12; Lk 18:12 **3:9** [f]S Dt 11:26; 28:15-68; S Zec 5:3 **3:10** [g]S Ex 22:29 [h]S Ne 13:12 [i]S 2Ki 7:2 [j]Isa 44:3 [k]S Lev 25:21; S Joel 2:14; 2Co 9:8-11 [l]S Joel 2:24 **3:11** [m]S Ex 10:15; S Dt 28:39 [n]S Ex 23:26 **3:12** [o]S Dt 28:3-12; Isa 61:9 [p]S Isa 62:4; S Eze 20:6 [q]S 2Ch 31:10 **3:13** [r]Mal 2:17 [s]S Mal 1:2 **3:14** [t]Ps 73:13; S Isa 57:10 [u]Ps 100:2; Jn 12:26; Ro 12:11 [v]S Jos 22:5; S Isa 1:14 [w]Isa 58:3 **3:15** [x]S Ps 119:21 [y]Ps 14:1; 36:1-2; Jer 7:10 [z]S Job 21:7 **3:16** [a]S Ps 34:15 [b]S Ex 32:32; S Ps 56:8; S 87:6; S Lk 10:20 [c]S Dt 28:58; S 31:12; Ps 33:18; S Pr 1:7; Rev 11:18 **3:17** [d]Isa 43:21 [e]S Ex 8:22; S Dt 7:6; S Ro 8:14; S Tit 2:14 [f]Ne 13:22; Ps 103:13; Isa 26:20; Lk 15:1-32 [g]Ro 8:32

3:18 [h]S Ge 18:25 [i]Dt 32:4; Mt 25:32-33,41 **4:1** [j]S Da 7:13; S Joel 2:31; Mt 11:14; Ac 2:20 [k]S Isa 31:9 [l]S Isa 2:12 [m]S Isa 5:24; S Na 1:10 [n]S Isa 1:31 [o]S 2Ki 10:11; S Eze 17:8; S Mt 3:10 **4:2** [p]S Dt 28:58; Ps 61:5; 111:9; Rev 14:1 [q]S Ps 118:27; S Isa 9:2; S 45:8; Lk 1:78; Eph 5:14 [r]S 2Ch 7:14; S Isa 30:26; S Mt 4:23; Rev 22:2 [s]S Isa 35:6 **4:3** [t]S Job 40:12; Ps 18:40-42 [u]Eze 28:18 **4:4** [v]S Dt 28:61; S Ps 147:19; Mt 5:17; 7:12; Ro 2:13; 4:15; Gal 3:24 [w]S Ex 3:1 [x]S Ex 20:1 **4:5** [y]S 1Ki 17:1; S Mt 11:14; 16:14 [z]S Joel 2:31 **4:6** [a]Lk 1:17 [b]S Isa 11:4; Rev 19:15 [c]S Dt 11:26; S 13:15; S Jos 6:17; S 23:15; S Zec 5:3

[h]17 Or *Almighty, "my treasured possession, in the day when I act*

The New Testament

Matthew

The Genealogy of Jesus

1:1-17pp — Lk 3:23-38
1:3-6pp — Ru 4:18-22
1:7-11pp — 1Ch 3:10-17

1 A record of the genealogy of Jesus
Christ the son of David,[a] the son of
Abraham:[b]

2Abraham was the father of Isaac,[c]
Isaac the father of Jacob,[d]
Jacob the father of Judah and his
brothers,[e]
3Judah the father of Perez and
Zerah, whose mother was Tamar,[f]
Perez the father of Hezron,
Hezron the father of Ram,
4Ram the father of Amminadab,
Amminadab the father of Nahshon,
Nahshon the father of Salmon,
5Salmon the father of Boaz,
whose mother was Rahab,[g]
Boaz the father of Obed, whose
mother was Ruth,
Obed the father of Jesse,
6and Jesse the father of King David.[h]

David was the father of Solomon,
whose mother had been
Uriah's wife,[i]
7Solomon the father of Rehoboam,
Rehoboam the father of Abijah,
Abijah the father of Asa,
8Asa the father of Jehoshaphat,
Jehoshaphat the father of Jehoram,
Jehoram the father of Uzziah,
9Uzziah the father of Jotham,
Jotham the father of Ahaz,
Ahaz the father of Hezekiah,
10Hezekiah the father of Manasseh,[j]
Manasseh the father of Amon,
Amon the father of Josiah,
11and Josiah the father of Jeconiah[a] and his brothers at the
time of the exile to Babylon.[k]

12After the exile to Babylon:

Jeconiah was the father of Shealtiel,[l]
Shealtiel the father of Zerubbabel,[m]
13Zerubbabel the father of Abiud,
Abiud the father of Eliakim,
Eliakim the father of Azor,
14Azor the father of Zadok,
Zadok the father of Akim,
Akim the father of Eliud,
15Eliud the father of Eleazar,
Eleazar the father of Matthan,
Matthan the father of Jacob,
16and Jacob the father of Joseph,
the husband of Mary,[n] of
whom was born Jesus, who is
called Christ.[o]

17Thus there were fourteen generations in all from Abraham to David,
fourteen from David to the exile to Babylon, and fourteen from the exile to the
Christ.[b]

The Birth of Jesus Christ

18This is how the birth of Jesus Christ
came about: His mother Mary was
pledged to be married to Joseph, but
before they came together, she was
found to be with child through the
Holy Spirit.[p]
19Because Joseph her husband was a righteous man and did not
want to expose her to public disgrace,
he had in mind to divorce[q] her quietly.
20But after he had considered this, an
angel[r] of the Lord appeared to him in a
dream[s] and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home
as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.
21She will give birth to a son, and you
are to give him the name Jesus,[c][t] because he will save his people from their
sins."[u]
22All this took place to fulfill[v] what
the Lord had said through the prophet:
23"The virgin will be with child and will

1:1 [a]2Sa 7:12-16; Isa 9:6,7; 11:1; Jer 23:5,6; S Mt 9:27; Lk 1:32,69; Rev 22:16 [b]Ge 22:18; S Gal 3:16
1:2 [c]Ge 21:3,12 [d]Ge 25:26 [e]Ge 29:35; 49:10
1:3 [f]Ge 38:27-30
1:5 [g]S Heb 11:31
1:6 [h]1Sa 16:1; 17:12 [i]2Sa 12:24
1:10 [j]2Ki 20:21
1:11 [k]2Ki 24:14-16; Jer 27:20; 40:1; Da 1:1,2
1:12 [l]1Ch 3:17 [m]1Ch 3:19; Ezr 3:2
1:16 [n]Lk 1:27 [o]Mt 27:17
1:18 [p]Lk 1:35
1:19 [q]Dt 24:1
1:20 [r]S Ac 5:19 [s]S Mt 27:19
1:21 [t]S Lk 1:31 [u]Ps 130:8; S Lk 2:11; S Jn 3:17; Ac 5:31; S Ro 11:14; Tit 2:14
1:22 [v]Mt 2:15,17,23; 4:14; 8:17; 12:17; 21:4; 26:54,56; 27:9; Lk 4:21; 21:22; 24:44; Jn 13:18; 19:24,28,36

[a]11 That is, Jehoiachin; also in verse 12 [b]17 Or *Messiah*. "The Christ" (Greek) and "the Messiah" (Hebrew) both mean "the Anointed One."
[c]21 *Jesus* is the Greek form of *Joshua*, which means *the* LORD *saves*.

give birth to a son, and they will call
him Immanuel"[d]—which means,
"God with us."
24When Joseph woke up, he did what
the angel[c] of the Lord had commanded
him and took Mary home as his wife.
25But he had no union with her until
she gave birth to a son. And he gave
him the name Jesus.[d]

The Visit of the Magi

2 After Jesus was born in Bethlehem
in Judea,[e] during the time of King
Herod,[f] Magi[e] from the east came to
Jerusalem 2and asked, "Where is the
one who has been born king of the
Jews?[g] We saw his star[h] in the east[f]
and have come to worship him."
3When King Herod heard this he was
disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him.
4When he had called together all the
people's chief priests and teachers of
the law, he asked them where the
Christ[g] was to be born. 5"In Beth-
lehem[i] in Judea," they replied, "for
this is what the prophet has written:

6" 'But you, Bethlehem, in the land of
Judah,
are by no means least among the
rulers of Judah;
for out of you will come a ruler
who will be the shepherd of my
people Israel.'[h]"[j]

7Then Herod called the Magi secretly
and found out from them the exact
time the star had appeared. 8He sent
them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and
make a careful search for the child. As
soon as you find him, report to me, so
that I too may go and worship him."
9After they had heard the king, they
went on their way, and the star they
had seen in the east[i] went ahead of
them until it stopped over the place
where the child was. 10When they saw
the star, they were overjoyed. 11On
coming to the house, they saw the
child with his mother Mary, and they
bowed down and worshiped him.[k]
Then they opened their treasures and
presented him with gifts[l] of gold and
of incense and of myrrh. 12And having
been warned[m] in a dream[n] not to go
back to Herod, they returned to their
country by another route.

The Escape to Egypt

13When they had gone, an angel[o] of
the Lord appeared to Joseph in a
dream.[p] "Get up," he said, "take the
child and his mother and escape to
Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for
Herod is going to search for the child to
kill him."[q]
14So he got up, took the child and his
mother during the night and left for
Egypt, 15where he stayed until the
death of Herod. And so was fulfilled[q]
what the Lord had said through the
prophet: "Out of Egypt I called my
son."[j][r]
16When Herod realized that he had
been outwitted by the Magi, he was
furious, and he gave orders to kill all
the boys in Bethlehem and its vicinity
who were two years old and under, in
accordance with the time he had
learned from the Magi. 17Then what
was said through the prophet Jeremiah
was fulfilled:[s]

18"A voice is heard in Ramah,
weeping and great mourning,
Rachel[t] weeping for her children
and refusing to be comforted,
because they are no more."[k][u]

The Return to Nazareth

19After Herod died, an angel[v] of the
Lord appeared in a dream[w] to Joseph
in Egypt 20and said, "Get up, take the
child and his mother and go to the land
of Israel, for those who were trying to
take the child's life are dead."[x]
21So he got up, took the child and his
mother and went to the land of Israel.
22But when he heard that Archelaus
was reigning in Judea in place of his
father Herod, he was afraid to go there.
Having been warned in a dream,[y] he
withdrew to the district of Galilee,[z]
23and he went and lived in a town
called Nazareth.[a] So was fulfilled[b]
what was said through the prophets:
"He will be called a Nazarene."[c]

John the Baptist Prepares the Way

3:1-12pp — Mk 1:3-8; Lk 3:2-17

3 In those days John the Baptist[d]
came, preaching in the Desert of
Judea 2and saying, "Repent, for the
kingdom of heaven[e] is near." 3This is
he who was spoken of through the
prophet Isaiah:

"A voice of one calling in the desert,
'Prepare the way for the Lord,
make straight paths for him.' "[l][f]

4John's[g] clothes were made of cam-

1:23 Isa 7:14; 8:8,10
1:24 S Ac 5:19
1:25 ver 21; S Lk 1:31
2:1 Lk 2:4-7 S Lk 1:5
2:2 Jer 23:5; Mt 27:11; Mk 15:2; Lk 23:38; Jn 1:49; 18:33-37 Nu 24:17
2:5 Jn 7:42
2:6 Mic 5:2; 2Sa 5:2
2:11 Isa 60:3 Ps 72:10
2:12 Heb 11:7 ver 13,19,22; S Mt 27:19
2:13 S Ac 5:19 ver 12,19,22; S Mt 27:19
pRev 12:4
2:15 qver 17,23; S Mt 1:22 rHos 11:1; Ex 4:22,23
2:17 sver 15,23; S Mt 1:22
2:18 tGe 35:19 uJer 31:15
2:19 vS Ac 5:19 wver 12,13,22; S Mt 27:19
2:20 xEx 4:19
2:22 yver 12,13,19; S Mt 27:19 zLk 2:39
2:23 aMk 1:9; 6:1; S 1:24; Lk 1:26; 2:39,51; 4:16,23; Jn 1:45,46 bver 15,17; S Mt 1:22 cS Mk 1:24
3:1 dver 13,14; 9:14; 11:2-14; 14:1-12; Lk 1:13,57-66; 3:2-19; Ac 19:3,4
3:2 eDa 7:14; Mt 4:17; 6:10; 7:21; S 25:34; Lk 11:20; 17:20,21; 19:11; 21:31; Jn 3:3,5; Ac 1:3,6
3:3 fIsa 40:3; Mal 3:1; Lk 1:76; Jn 1:23
3:4 gS Mt 3:1

d23 Isaiah 7:14 e1 Traditionally *Wise Men* f2 Or *star when it rose* g4 Or *Messiah* h6 Micah 5:2 i9 Or *seen when it rose* j15 Hosea 11:1 k18 Jer. 31:15 l3 Isaiah 40:3

el's hair, and he had a leather belt around his waist.[a] His food was locusts[b] and wild honey. 5People went out to him from Jerusalem and all Judea and the whole region of the Jordan. 6Confessing their sins, they were baptized[c] by him in the Jordan River.

7But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to where he was baptizing, he said to them: "You brood of vipers![d] Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath?[e] 8Produce fruit in keeping with repentance.[f] 9And do not think you can say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.'[g] I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham. 10The ax is already at the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.[h]

11"I baptize you with[m] water for repentance.[i] But after me will come one who is more powerful than I, whose sandals I am not fit to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit[j] and with fire.[k] 12His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor, gathering his wheat into the barn and burning up the chaff with unquenchable fire."[l]

The Baptism of Jesus

3:13-17pp — Mk 1:9-11; Lk 3:21,22; Jn 1:31-34

13Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptized by John.[m] 14But John tried to deter him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?"

15Jesus replied, "Let it be so now; it is proper for us to do this to fulfill all righteousness." Then John consented.

16As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened,[n] and he saw the Spirit of God[o] descending like a dove and lighting on him. 17And a voice from heaven[p] said, "This is my Son,[q] whom I love; with him I am well pleased."[r]

The Temptation of Jesus

4:1-11pp — Mk 1:12,13; Lk 4:1-13

4 Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted[s] by the devil.[t] 2After fasting forty days and forty nights,[u] he was hungry. 3The tempter[v] came to him and said, "If you are the Son of God,[w] tell these stones to become bread."

4Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'[n]"[x]

5Then the devil took him to the holy city[y] and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. 6"If you are the Son of God,"[z] he said, "throw yourself down. For it is written:

"'He will command his angels
concerning you,
and they will lift you up in their
hands,
so that you will not strike your foot
against a stone.'[o]"[a]

7Jesus answered him, "It is also written: 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'[p]"[b]

8Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. 9"All this I will give you," he said, "if you will bow down and worship me."

10Jesus said to him, "Away from me, Satan![c] For it is written: 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.'[q]"[d]

11Then the devil left him,[e] and angels came and attended him.[f]

Jesus Begins to Preach

12When Jesus heard that John had been put in prison,[g] he returned to Galilee.[h] 13Leaving Nazareth, he went and lived in Capernaum,[i] which was by the lake in the area of Zebulun and Naphtali— 14to fulfill[j] what was said through the prophet Isaiah:

15"Land of Zebulun and land of
Naphtali,
the way to the sea, along the
Jordan,
Galilee of the Gentiles—
16the people living in darkness
have seen a great light;
on those living in the land of the
shadow of death
a light has dawned."[r][k]

17From that time on Jesus began to preach, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven[l] is near."

The Calling of the First Disciples

4:18-22pp — Mk 1:16-20; Lk 5:2-11; Jn 1:35-42

18As Jesus was walking beside the Sea of Galilee,[m] he saw two brothers, Simon called Peter[n] and his brother

3:4 [a]2Ki 1:8 [b]Lev 11:22
3:6 [c]ver 11; S Mk 1:4
3:7 [d]Mt 12:34; 23:33 [e]S Ro 1:18
3:8 [f]Ac 26:20
3:9 [g]S Lk 3:8
3:10 [h]Mt 7:19; Lk 3:9; 13:6-9; Jn 15:2,6
3:11 [i]ver 6; S Mk 1:4 [j]S Mk 1:8 [k]Isa 4:4; Ac 2:3,4
3:12 [l]Mt 13:30; S 25:41
3:13 [m]S Mt 3:1; S Mk 1:4
3:16 [n]Eze 1:1; Jn 1:51; Ac 7:56; 10:11; Rev 4:1; 19:11 [o]Isa 11:2; 42:1
3:17 [p]Dt 4:12; Mt 17:5; Jn 12:28 [q]Ps 2:7; Ac 13:33; Heb 1:1-5; 5:5; 2Pe 1:17,18 [r]Isa 42:1; Mt 12:18; 17:5; Mk 1:11; 9:7; Lk 3:22; 9:35; 2Pe 1:17
4:1 [s]Heb 4:15 [t]Ge 3:1-7
4:2 [u]Ex 34:28; 1Ki 19:8
4:3 [v]1Th 3:5 [w]S Mt 3:17; 14:33; 16:16; 27:54; Mk 3:11; Lk 1:35; 22:70; Jn 1:34,49; 5:25; 11:27; 20:31; Ac 9:20; Ro 1:4; 1Jn 5:10-13,20; Rev 2:18
4:4 [x]Dt 8:3; Jn 4:34
4:5 [y]Ne 11:1; Da 9:24; Mt 27:53
4:6 [z]S ver 3 [a]Ps 91:11,12
4:7 [b]Dt 6:16
4:10 [c]1Ch 21:1; Job 1:6-9; Mt 16:23; Mk 4:15; Lk 10:18; 13:16; 22:3,31; Ro 16:20; 2Co 2:11; 11:14; 2Th 2:9; Rev 12:9 [d]Dt 6:13
4:11 [e]Jas 4:7 [f]Mt 26:53; Lk 22:43; Heb 1:14
4:12 [g]Mt 14:3 [h]Mk 1:14
4:13 [i]Mk 1:21; 9:33; Lk 4:23,31; Jn 2:12; 4:46,47
4:14 [j]S Mt 1:22
4:16 [k]Isa 9:1,2; Lk 2:32; Jn 1:4,5,9
4:17 [l]S Mt 3:2
4:18 [m]Mt 15:29; Mk 7:31; Jn 6:1 [n]Mt 16:17,18

[m]11 Or *in* [n]4 Deut. 8:3 [o]6 Psalm 91:11,12
[p]7 Deut. 6:16 [q]10 Deut. 6:13 [r]16 Isaiah 9:1,2

Andrew. They were casting a net into
the lake, for they were fishermen.
19"Come, follow me,"[a] Jesus said,
"and I will make you fishers of men."
20At once they left their nets and fol-
lowed him.[b]
21Going on from there, he saw two
other brothers, James son of Zebedee
and his brother John.[c] They were in a
boat with their father Zebedee, prepar-
ing their nets. Jesus called them, 22and
immediately they left the boat and their
father and followed him.[d]

Jesus Heals the Sick

23Jesus went throughout Galilee,[e]
teaching in their synagogues,[f] preach-
ing the good news[g] of the kingdom,[h]
and healing every disease and sickness
among the people.[i] 24News about him
spread all over Syria,[j] and people
brought to him all who were ill with
various diseases, those suffering severe
pain, the demon-possessed,[k] those
having seizures,[l] and the paralyzed,[m]
and he healed them. 25Large crowds
from Galilee, the Decapolis,[s] Jerusa-
lem, Judea and the region across the
Jordan followed him.[n]

The Beatitudes

5:3-12pp — Lk 6:20-23

5 Now when he saw the crowds, he
went up on a mountainside and sat
down. His disciples came to him, 2and
he began to teach them, saying:

3"Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of
heaven.[o]
4Blessed are those who mourn,
for they will be comforted.[p]
5Blessed are the meek,
for they will inherit the earth.[q]
6Blessed are those who hunger and
thirst for righteousness,
for they will be filled.[r]
7Blessed are the merciful,
for they will be shown mercy.[s]
8Blessed are the pure in heart,[t]
for they will see God.[u]
9Blessed are the peacemakers,[v]
for they will be called sons of
God.[w]
10Blessed are those who are
persecuted because of
righteousness,[x]
for theirs is the kingdom of
heaven.[y]

11"Blessed are you when people in-
sult you,[z] persecute you and falsely
say all kinds of evil against you because
of me.[a] 12Rejoice and be glad,[b] because
great is your reward in heaven, for in
the same way they persecuted the
prophets who were before you.[c]

Salt and Light

13"You are the salt of the earth. But if
the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be
made salty again? It is no longer good
for anything, except to be thrown out
and trampled by men.[d]
14"You are the light of the world.[e] A
city on a hill cannot be hidden.
15Neither do people light a lamp and
put it under a bowl. Instead they put it
on its stand, and it gives light to every-
one in the house.[f] 16In the same way,
let your light shine before men,[g] that
they may see your good deeds[h] and
praise[i] your Father in heaven.

The Fulfillment of the Law

17"Do not think that I have come to
abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have
not come to abolish them but to fulfill
them.[j] 18I tell you the truth, until
heaven and earth disappear, not the
smallest letter, not the least stroke of a
pen, will by any means disappear from
the Law until everything is accom-
plished.[k] 19Anyone who breaks one of
the least of these commandments[l] and
teaches others to do the same will be
called least in the kingdom of heaven,
but whoever practices and teaches
these commands will be called great in
the kingdom of heaven. 20For I tell you
that unless your righteousness sur-
passes that of the Pharisees and the
teachers of the law, you will certainly
not enter the kingdom of heaven.[m]

Murder

5:25,26pp — Lk 12:58,59

21"You have heard that it was said to
the people long ago, 'Do not mur-
der,[t][n] and anyone who murders will
be subject to judgment.' 22But I tell you
that anyone who is angry[o] with his
brother[u] will be subject to judgment.[p]
Again, anyone who says to his brother,
'Raca,[v]' is answerable to the Sanhe-
drin.[q] But anyone who says, 'You
fool!' will be in danger of the fire of
hell.[r]
23"Therefore, if you are offering your

4:19 [a]ver 20,22; Mt 8:22; Mk 10:21,28,52; Lk 5:28; Jn 1:43; 21:19,22
4:20 [b]S ver 19
4:21 [c]Mt 17:1; 20:20; 26:37; Mk 3:17; 13:3; Lk 8:51; Jn 21:2
4:22 [d]S ver 19
4:23 [e]Mk 1:39; Lk 4:15,44 [f]Mt 9:35; 13:54; Mk 1:21; Lk 4:15; Jn 6:59; 18:20 [g]Mk 1:14 [h]S Mt 3:2; Ac 20:25; 28:23, 31 [i]Mt 8:16; 14:14; 15:30; Mk 3:10; Lk 7:22; Ac 10:38
4:24 [j]S Lk 2:2 [k]Mt 8:16,28; 9:32; 12:22; 15:22; Mk 1:32; 5:15,16,18 [l]Mt 17:15 [m]Mt 8:6; 9:2; Mk 2:3
4:25 [n]Mk 3:7,8; Lk 6:17
5:3 [o]ver 10,19; S Mt 25:34
5:4 [p]Isa 61:2,3; Rev 7:17
5:5 [q]Ps 37:11; Ro 4:13
5:6 [r]Isa 55:1,2
5:7 [s]S Jas 2:13
5:8 [t]Ps 24:3,4; 73:1 [u]Ps 17:15; 42:2; Heb 12:14; Rev 22:4
5:9 [v]Jas 3:18; S Ro 14:19 [w]ver 44,45; S Ro 8:14
5:10 [x]S 1Pe 3:14 [y]ver 3,19; S Mt 25:34
5:11 [z]Isa 51:7 [a]S Jn 15:21
5:12 [b]Ps 9:2; Ac 5:41; S 2Co 6:10; 12:10; Col 1:24; Jas 1:2; 1Pe 1:6; 4:13,16 [c]2Ch 36:16; Mt 23:31,37; Ac 7:52; 1Th 2:15; Heb 11:32-38
5:13 [d]Mk 9:50; Lk 14:34,35
5:14 [e]Jn 8:12
5:15 [f]Mk 4:21; Lk 8:16; 11:33
5:16 [g]1Co 10:31; Php 1:11 [h]S Tit 2:14 [i]S Mt 9:8
5:17 [j]Jn 10:34, 35; Ro 3:31
5:18 [k]Ps 119:89; Isa 40:8; 55:11; Mt 24:35; Mk 13:31; Lk 16:17; 21:33
5:19 [l]Jas 2:10
5:20 [m]Isa 26:2; Mt 18:3; Jn 3:5
5:21 [n]Ex 20:13; 21:12; Dt 5:17
5:22 [o]Ecc 7:9; 1Co 13:5; Eph 4:26; Jas 1:19,20 [p]1Jn 3:15 [q]Mt 26:59; Jn 11:47; Ac 5:21,27,34,41; 6:12 [r]Mt 18:9; Mk 9:43,48; Lk 16:24; Jas 3:6

[s]25 That is, the Ten Cities [t]21 Exodus 20:13
[u]22 Some manuscripts *brother without cause*
[v]22 An Aramaic term of contempt

gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, [24]leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to your brother; then come and offer your gift.

[25]"Settle matters quickly with your adversary who is taking you to court. Do it while you are still with him on the way, or he may hand you over to the judge, and the judge may hand you over to the officer, and you may be thrown into prison. [26]I tell you the truth, you will not get out until you have paid the last penny.[w]

Adultery

[27]"You have heard that it was said, 'Do not commit adultery.'[x][a] [28]But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart.[b] [29]If your right eye causes you to sin,[c] gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. [30]And if your right hand causes you to sin,[d] cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to go into hell.

Divorce

[31]"It has been said, 'Anyone who divorces his wife must give her a certificate of divorce.'[y][e] [32]But I tell you that anyone who divorces his wife, except for marital unfaithfulness, causes her to become an adulteress, and anyone who marries the divorced woman commits adultery.[f]

Oaths

[33]"Again, you have heard that it was said to the people long ago, 'Do not break your oath,[g] but keep the oaths you have made to the Lord.'[h] [34]But I tell you, Do not swear at all:[i] either by heaven, for it is God's throne;[j] [35]or by the earth, for it is his footstool; or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the Great King.[k] [36]And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make even one hair white or black. [37]Simply let your 'Yes' be 'Yes,' and your 'No,' 'No';[l] anything beyond this comes from the evil one.[m]

An Eye for an Eye

[38]"You have heard that it was said, 'Eye for eye, and tooth for tooth.'[z][n] [39]But I tell you, Do not resist an evil person. If someone strikes you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also.[o] [40]And if someone wants to sue you and take your tunic, let him have your cloak as well. [41]If someone forces you to go one mile, go with him two miles. [42]Give to the one who asks you, and do not turn away from the one who wants to borrow from you.[p]

Love for Enemies

[43]"You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbor[a][q] and hate your enemy.'[r] [44]But I tell you: Love your enemies[b] and pray for those who persecute you,[s] [45]that you may be sons[t] of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous.[u] [46]If you love those who love you, what reward will you get?[v] Are not even the tax collectors doing that? [47]And if you greet only your brothers, what are you doing more than others? Do not even pagans do that? [48]Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.[w]

Giving to the Needy

6 "Be careful not to do your 'acts of righteousness' before men, to be seen by them.[x] If you do, you will have no reward from your Father in heaven.

[2]"So when you give to the needy, do not announce it with trumpets, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and on the streets, to be honored by men. I tell you the truth, they have received their reward in full. [3]But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, [4]so that your giving may be in secret. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.[y]

Prayer

6:9-13pp — Lk 11:2-4

[5]"And when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing[z] in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by men. I tell you the truth, they have received their reward in full. [6]But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father,[a] who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what

5:27 [a]Ex 20:14; Dt 5:18
5:28 [b]Pr 6:25; 2Pe 2:14
5:29 [c]ver 30; Mt 18:6,8,9; Mk 9:42-47; Lk 17:2; Ro 14:21; 1Co 8:13; S 2Co 6:3; 11:29
5:30 [d]S ver 29
5:31 [e]Dt 24:1-4
5:32 [f]S Lk 16:18
5:33 [g]Lev 19:12 [h]Nu 30:2; Dt 23:21; Mt 23:16-22
5:34 [i]Jas 5:12 [j]Isa 66:1; Mt 23:22
5:35 [k]Ps 48:2
5:37 [l]Jas 5:12 [m]Mt 6:13; 13:19, 38; Jn 17:15; Eph 6:16; 2Th 3:3; 1Jn 2:13,14; 3:12; 5:18,19
5:38 [n]Ex 21:24; Lev 24:20; Dt 19:21
5:39 [o]Lk 6:29; Ro 12:17,19; 1Pe 3:9
5:42 [p]Dt 15:8; Lk 6:30
5:43 [q]Lev 19:18; Mt 19:19; 22:39; Mk 12:31; Lk 10:27; Ro 13:9; Gal 5:14; Jas 2:8 [r]Dt 23:6; Ps 139:21,22
5:44 [s]Lk 6:27, 28; 23:34; Jn 15:20; Ac 7:60; Ro 8:35; 12:14; 1Co 4:12; 1Pe 2:23
5:45 [t]ver 9; Lk 6:35; S Ro 8:14 [u]Job 25:3
5:46 [v]Lk 6:32
5:48 [w]Lev 19:2; 1Pe 1:16
6:1 [x]Mt 5:16; 23:5
6:4 [y]ver 6,18; Col 3:23,24
6:5 [z]Mk 11:25; Lk 18:10-14
6:6 [a]2Ki 4:33

[w]26 Greek *kodrantes* [x]27 Exodus 20:14 [y]31 Deut. 24:1 [z]38 Exodus 21:24; Lev. 24:20; Deut. 19:21 [a]43 Lev. 19:18 [b]44 Some late manuscripts *enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you*

is done in secret, will reward you. 7And when you pray, do not keep on babbling[a] like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words.[b] 8Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need[c] before you ask him.

9"This, then, is how you should pray:

"'Our Father[d] in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
10your kingdom[e] come,
your will be done[f]
on earth as it is in heaven.
11Give us today our daily bread.[g]
12Forgive us our debts,
as we also have forgiven our debtors.[h]
13And lead us not into temptation,[i]
but deliver us from the evil one.[c][j]'

14For if you forgive men when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you.[k] 15But if you do not forgive men their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.[l]

Fasting

16"When you fast,[m] do not look somber[n] as the hypocrites do, for they disfigure their faces to show men they are fasting. I tell you the truth, they have received their reward in full. 17But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, 18so that it will not be obvious to men that you are fasting, but only to your Father, who is unseen; and your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.[o]

Treasures in Heaven

6:22,23pp — Lk 11:34-36

19"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth,[p] where moth and rust destroy,[q] and where thieves break in and steal. 20But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven,[r] where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal.[s] 21For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.[t]

22"The eye is the lamp of the body. If your eyes are good, your whole body will be full of light. 23But if your eyes are bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light within you is darkness, how great is that darkness!

24"No one can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and Money.[u]

Do Not Worry

6:25-33pp — Lk 12:22-31

25"Therefore I tell you, do not worry[v] about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more important than food, and the body more important than clothes? 26Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them.[w] Are you not much more valuable than they?[x] 27Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life[d]?[y]

28"And why do you worry about clothes? See how the lilies of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. 29Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor[z] was dressed like one of these. 30If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith?[a] 31So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' 32For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them.[b] 33But seek first his kingdom[c] and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.[d] 34Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

Judging Others

7:3-5pp — Lk 6:41,42

7 "Do not judge, or you too will be judged.[e] 2For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.[f]

3"Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother's eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye? 4How can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' when all the time there is a plank in your own eye? 5You hypocrite, first take the plank out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye.

6"Do not give dogs what is sacred; do not throw your pearls to pigs. If you do, they may trample them under their

6:7 [a]Ecc 5:2 [b]1Ki 18:26-29
6:8 [c]ver 32
6:9 [d]Jer 3:19; Mal 2:10; 1Pe 1:17
6:10 [e]S Mt 3:2 [f]S Mt 26:39
6:11 [g]Pr 30:8
6:12 [h]Mt 18:21-35
6:13 [i]Jas 1:13 [j]S Mt 5:37
6:14 [k]Mt 18:21-35; Mk 11:25,26; Eph 4:32; Col 3:13
6:15 [l]Mt 18:35
6:16 [m]Lev 16:29,31; 23:27-32; Nu 29:7 [n]Isa 58:5; Zec 7:5; 8:19
6:18 [o]ver 4,6
6:19 [p]Pr 23:4; Lk 12:16-21; Heb 13:5 [q]S Jas 5:2,3
6:20 [r]Mt 19:21; Lk 12:33; 16:9; 18:22; 1Ti 6:19 [s]Lk 12:33
6:21 [t]Lk 12:34
6:24 [u]Lk 16:13
6:25 [v]ver 27,28, 31,34; Lk 10:41; 12:11,22
6:26 [w]Job 38:41; Ps 104:21; 136:25; 145:15; 147:9 [x]Mt 10:29-31
6:27 [y]Ps 39:5
6:29 [z]1Ki 10:4-7
6:30 [a]Mt 8:26; 14:31; 16:8; Lk 12:28
6:32 [b]ver 8
6:33 [c]S Mt 3:2 [d]Ps 37:4; Mt 19:29
7:1 [e]Lk 6:37; Ro 14:4,10,13; 1Co 4:5; 5:12; Jas 4:11,12
7:2 [f]Eze 35:11; Mk 4:24; Lk 6:38; Ro 2:1

[c]13 Or *from evil; some late manuscripts one, / for yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.*
[d]27 Or *single cubit to his height*

feet, and then turn and tear you to pieces.

Ask, Seek, Knock

7:7-12pp — Lk 11:9-13

7 "Ask and it will be given to you;[d] seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. 8 For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds;[e] and to him who knocks, the door will be opened.

9 "Which of you, if his son asks for bread, will give him a stone? 10 Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a snake? 11 If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts[f] to those who ask him! 12 So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you,[g] for this sums up the Law and the Prophets.[h]

The Narrow and Wide Gates

13 "Enter through the narrow gate.[i] For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. 14 But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it.

A Tree and Its Fruit

15 "Watch out for false prophets.[j] They come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ferocious wolves.[k] 16 By their fruit you will recognize them.[l] Do people pick grapes from thornbushes, or figs from thistles?[m] 17 Likewise every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. 18 A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, and a bad tree cannot bear good fruit.[n] 19 Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.[o] 20 Thus, by their fruit you will recognize them.

21 "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,'[p] will enter the kingdom of heaven,[q] but only he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.[r] 22 Many will say to me on that day,[s] 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and in your name drive out demons and perform many miracles?'[t] 23 Then I will tell them plainly, 'I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!'[u]

The Wise and Foolish Builders

7:24-27pp — Lk 6:47-49

24 "Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice[v] is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. 25 The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. 26 But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. 27 The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash."

28 When Jesus had finished saying these things,[w] the crowds were amazed at his teaching,[x] 29 because he taught as one who had authority, and not as their teachers of the law.

The Man With Leprosy

8:2-4pp — Mk 1:40-44; Lk 5:12-14

8 When he came down from the mountainside, large crowds followed him. 2 A man with leprosy[a][y] came and knelt before him[z] and said, "Lord, if you are willing, you can make me clean."

3 Jesus reached out his hand and touched the man. "I am willing," he said. "Be clean!" Immediately he was cured[b] of his leprosy. 4 Then Jesus said to him, "See that you don't tell anyone.[a] But go, show yourself to the priest[b] and offer the gift Moses commanded,[c] as a testimony to them."

The Faith of the Centurion

8:5-13pp — Lk 7:1-10

5 When Jesus had entered Capernaum, a centurion came to him, asking for help. 6 "Lord," he said, "my servant lies at home paralyzed[d] and in terrible suffering."

7 Jesus said to him, "I will go and heal him."

8 The centurion replied, "Lord, I do not deserve to have you come under my roof. But just say the word, and my servant will be healed.[e] 9 For I myself am a man under authority, with soldiers under me. I tell this one, 'Go,' and he goes; and that one, 'Come,' and he comes. I say to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it."

10 When Jesus heard this, he was astonished and said to those following him, "I tell you the truth, I have not

7:7 [d]1Ki 3:5; Mt 18:19; 21:22; Jn 14:13,14; 15:7; 16; 16:23,24; Jas 1:5-8; 4:2,3; S Jn; 1Jn 3:22; 5:14,15
7:8 [e]Pr 8:17; Jer 29:12,13
7:11 [f]Jas 1:17
7:12 [g]Lk 6:31 [h]Ro 13:8-10; Gal 5:14
7:13 [i]Lk 13:24; Jn 10:7,9
7:15 [j]Jer 23:16; Mt 24:24; Lk 6:26; 2Pe 2:1; 1Jn 4:1; Rev 16:13 [k]Eze 22:27; Ac 20:29
7:16 [l]Mt 12:33; Lk 6:44 [m]Jas 3:12
7:18 [n]Lk 6:43
7:19 [o]S Mt 3:10
7:21 [p]Hos 8:2; Mt 25:11; S Jn 13:13; 1Co 12:3 [q]S Mt 3:2 [r]Mt 12:50; Ro 2:13; Jas 1:22; 1Jn 3:18
7:22 [s]S Mt 10:15 [t]Lk 10:20; Ac 19:13; 1Co 13:1-3
7:23 [u]Ps 6:8; Mt 25:12,41; Lk 13:25-27
7:24 [v]ver 21; Jas 1:22-25
7:28 [w]Mt 11:1; 13:53; 19:1; 26:1 [x]Mt 13:54; 22:33; Mk 1:22; 6:2; 11:18; Lk 4:32; Jn 7:46
8:2 [y]Lev 13:45; Mt 10:8; 11:5; 26:6; Lk 5:12; 17:12 [z]Mt 9:18; 15:25; 18:26; 20:20
8:4 [a]Mt 9:30; 12:16; Mk 5:43; 7:36; S 8:30; Lk 4:41 [b]Lk 17:14 [c]Lev 14:2-32
8:6 [d]S Mt 4:24
8:8 [e]Ps 107:20

a2 The Greek word was used for various diseases affecting the skin—not necessarily leprosy.
b3 Greek *made clean*

found anyone in Israel with such great
faith.[a] 11I say to you that many will
come from the east and the west,[b] and
will take their places at the feast with
Abraham, Isaac and Jacob in the king-
dom of heaven.[c] 12But the subjects of
the kingdom[d] will be thrown outside,
into the darkness, where there will be
weeping and gnashing of teeth."[e]
13Then Jesus said to the centurion,
"Go! It will be done just as you be-
lieved it would."[f] And his servant was
healed at that very hour.

Jesus Heals Many

8:14-16pp — Mk 1:29-34; Lk 4:38-41

14When Jesus came into Peter's
house, he saw Peter's mother-in-law
lying in bed with a fever. 15He touched
her hand and the fever left her, and she
got up and began to wait on him.
16When evening came, many who
were demon-possessed were brought
to him, and he drove out the spirits
with a word and healed all the sick.[g]
17This was to fulfill[h] what was spoken
through the prophet Isaiah:

"He took up our infirmities
and carried our diseases."[g][i]

The Cost of Following Jesus

8:19-22pp — Lk 9:57-60

18When Jesus saw the crowd around
him, he gave orders to cross to the
other side of the lake.[j] 19Then a
teacher of the law came to him and
said, "Teacher, I will follow you
wherever you go."
20Jesus replied, "Foxes have holes
and birds of the air have nests, but the
Son of Man[k] has no place to lay his
head."
21Another disciple said to him,
"Lord, first let me go and bury my fa-
ther."
22But Jesus told him, "Follow me,[l]
and let the dead bury their own dead."

Jesus Calms the Storm

8:23-27pp — Mk 4:36-41; Lk 8:22-25
8:23-27Ref — Mt 14:22-33

23Then he got into the boat and his
disciples followed him. 24Without
warning, a furious storm came up on
the lake, so that the waves swept over
the boat. But Jesus was sleeping. 25The
disciples went and woke him, saying,
"Lord, save us! We're going to drown!"
26He replied, "You of little faith,[m]
why are you so afraid?" Then he got up
and rebuked the winds and the waves,
and it was completely calm.[n]
27The men were amazed and asked,
"What kind of man is this? Even the
winds and the waves obey him!"

The Healing of Two Demon-possessed Men

8:28-34pp — Mk 5:1-17; Lk 8:26-37

28When he arrived at the other side
in the region of the Gadarenes,[h] two
demon-possessed[o] men coming from
the tombs met him. They were so vio-
lent that no one could pass that way.
29"What do you want with us,[p] Son of
God?" they shouted. "Have you come
here to torture us before the appointed
time?"[q]
30Some distance from them a large
herd of pigs was feeding. 31The de-
mons begged Jesus, "If you drive us
out, send us into the herd of pigs."
32He said to them, "Go!" So they
came out and went into the pigs, and
the whole herd rushed down the steep
bank into the lake and died in the
water. 33Those tending the pigs ran off,
went into the town and reported all
this, including what had happened to
the demon-possessed men. 34Then the
whole town went out to meet Jesus.
And when they saw him, they pleaded
with him to leave their region.[r]

Jesus Heals a Paralytic

9:2-8pp — Mk 2:3-12; Lk 5:18-26

9 Jesus stepped into a boat, crossed
over and came to his own town.[s]
2Some men brought to him a paralyt-
ic,[t] lying on a mat. When Jesus saw
their faith,[u] he said to the paralytic,
"Take heart,[v] son; your sins are for-
given."[w]
3At this, some of the teachers of the
law said to themselves, "This fellow is
blaspheming!"[x]
4Knowing their thoughts,[y] Jesus
said, "Why do you entertain evil
thoughts in your hearts? 5Which is easi-
er: to say, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to
say, 'Get up and walk'? 6But so that
you may know that the Son of Man[z]
has authority on earth to forgive
sins. . . ." Then he said to the paralytic,
"Get up, take your mat and go home."
7And the man got up and went home.
8When the crowd saw this, they were
filled with awe; and they praised

8:10 [a]Mt 15:28
8:11 [b]Ps 107:3; Isa 49:12; 59:19; Mal 1:11 [c]Lk 13:29
8:12 [d]Mt 13:38 [e]Mt 13:42,50; 22:13; 24:51; 25:30; Lk 13:28
8:13 [f]S Mt 9:22
8:16 [g]S Mt 4:23,24
8:17 [h]S Mt 1:22 [i]Isa 53:4
8:18 [j]Mk 4:35
8:20 [k]Da 7:13; Mt 12:8,32,40; 16:13,27,28; 17:9; 19:28; Mk 2:10; 8:31
8:22 [l]S Mt 4:19
8:26 [m]S Mt 6:30 [n]Ps 65:7; 89:9; 107:29
8:28 [o]S Mt 4:24
8:29 [p]Jdg 11:12; 2Sa 16:10; 1Ki 17:18; Mk 1:24; Lk 4:34; Jn 2:4 [q]2Pe 2:4
8:34 [r]Lk 5:8; Ac 16:39
9:1 [s]Mt 4:13
9:2 [t]S Mt 4:24 [u]S ver 22 [v]Jn 16:33 [w]Lk 7:48
9:3 [x]Mt 26:65; Jn 10:33
9:4 [y]Ps 94:11; Mt 12:25; Lk 6:8; 9:47; 11:17; Jn 2:25
9:6 [z]S Mt 8:20

g17 Isaiah 53:4 h28 Some manuscripts *Gergesenes;* others *Gerasenes*

God,[a] who had given such authority to
men.

The Calling of Matthew

9:9-13pp — Mk 2:14-17; Lk 5:27-32

9As Jesus went on from there, he saw
a man named Matthew sitting at the
tax collector's booth. "Follow me,"[b] he
told him, and Matthew got up and fol-
lowed him.
10While Jesus was having dinner at
Matthew's house, many tax collectors
and "sinners" came and ate with him
and his disciples. 11When the Pharisees
saw this, they asked his disciples,
"Why does your teacher eat with tax
collectors and 'sinners'?"[c]
12On hearing this, Jesus said, "It is
not the healthy who need a doctor, but
the sick. 13But go and learn what this
means: 'I desire mercy, not sacri-
fice.'[i][d] For I have not come to call the
righteous, but sinners."[e]

Jesus Questioned About Fasting

9:14-17pp — Mk 2:18-22; Lk 5:33-39

14Then John's[f] disciples came and
asked him, "How is it that we and the
Pharisees fast,[g] but your disciples do
not fast?"
15Jesus answered, "How can the
guests of the bridegroom mourn while
he is with them?[h] The time will come
when the bridegroom will be taken
from them; then they will fast.[i]
16"No one sews a patch of unshrunk
cloth on an old garment, for the patch
will pull away from the garment, mak-
ing the tear worse. 17Neither do men
pour new wine into old wineskins. If
they do, the skins will burst, the wine
will run out and the wineskins will be
ruined. No, they pour new wine into
new wineskins, and both are pre-
served."

A Dead Girl and a Sick Woman

9:18-26pp — Mk 5:22-43; Lk 8:41-56

18While he was saying this, a ruler
came and knelt before him[j] and said,
"My daughter has just died. But come
and put your hand on her,[k] and she
will live." 19Jesus got up and went with
him, and so did his disciples.
20Just then a woman who had been
subject to bleeding for twelve years
came up behind him and touched the
edge of his cloak.[l] 21She said to her-
self, "If I only touch his cloak, I will be
healed."
22Jesus turned and saw her. "Take
heart,[m] daughter," he said, "your faith
has healed you."[n] And the woman
was healed from that moment.[o]
23When Jesus entered the ruler's
house and saw the flute players and
the noisy crowd,[p] 24he said, "Go away.
The girl is not dead[q] but asleep."[r] But
they laughed at him. 25After the crowd
had been put outside, he went in and
took the girl by the hand, and she got
up.[s] 26News of this spread through all
that region.[t]

Jesus Heals the Blind and Mute

27As Jesus went on from there, two
blind men followed him, calling out,
"Have mercy on us, Son of David!"[u]
28When he had gone indoors, the
blind men came to him, and he asked
them, "Do you believe that I am able to
do this?"
"Yes, Lord," they replied.[v]
29Then he touched their eyes and
said, "According to your faith will it be
done to you";[w] 30and their sight was
restored. Jesus warned them sternly,
"See that no one knows about this."[x]
31But they went out and spread the
news about him all over that region.[y]
32While they were going out, a man
who was demon-possessed[z] and could
not talk[a] was brought to Jesus. 33And
when the demon was driven out, the
man who had been mute spoke. The
crowd was amazed and said, "Nothing
like this has ever been seen in Israel."[b]
34But the Pharisees said, "It is by the
prince of demons that he drives out de-
mons."[c]

The Workers Are Few

35Jesus went through all the towns
and villages, teaching in their syna-
gogues, preaching the good news of
the kingdom and healing every disease
and sickness.[d] 36When he saw the
crowds, he had compassion on them,[e]
because they were harassed and help-
less, like sheep without a shepherd.[f]
37Then he said to his disciples, "The
harvest[g] is plentiful but the workers
are few.[h] 38Ask the Lord of the harvest,
therefore, to send out workers into his
harvest field."

9:8 [a]Mt 5:16; 15:31; Lk 7:16; 13:13; 17:15, 23; 47; Jn 15:8; Ac 4:21; 11:18; 21:20
9:9 [b]S Mt 4:19
9:11 [c]Mt 11:19; Lk 5:30; 15:2; 19:7; Gal 2:15
9:13 [d]Hos 6:6; Mic 6:6-8; Mt 12:7 [e]Lk 19:10; 1Ti 1:15
9:14 [f]S Mt 3:1 [g]Mt 11:18,19; Lk 18:12
9:15 [h]Jn 3:29 [i]Ac 13:2,3; 14:23
9:18 [j]S Mt 8:2 [k]S Mk 5:23
9:20 [l]Mt 14:36; Mk 3:10; 6:56; Lk 6:19
9:22 [m]ver 2; Jn 16:33 [n]ver 29; Mt 8:13; Mk 10:52; Lk 7:50; 17:19; 18:42 [o]Mt 15:28
9:23 [p]2Ch 35:25; Jer 9:17,18
9:24 [q]Ac 20:10 [r]Da 12:2; Ps 76:5; Jn 11:11-14; Ac 7:60; 13:36; 1Co 11:30; 15:6, 18,20; 1Th 4:13-16
9:25 [s]S Lk 7:14
9:26 [t]ver 31; Mt 4:24; 14:1; Mk 1:28,45; Lk 4:14,37; 5:15; 7:17
9:27 [u]S Mt 1:1; 12:23; 15:22; 20:30,31; 21:9, 15; 22:42; Mk 10:47
9:28 [v]Ac 14:9
9:29 [w]S ver 22
9:30 [x]S Mt 8:4
9:31 [y]S ver 26; Mk 7:36
9:32 [z]S Mt 4:24 [a]Mt 12:22-24
9:33 [b]Mk 2:12
9:34 [c]Mt 12:24
9:35 [d]S Mt 4:23
9:36 [e]Mt 14:14; 15:32; Mk 8:2 [f]Nu 27:17; 1Ki 22:17; Eze 34:5,6; Zec 10:2
9:37 [g]Jn 4:35 [h]Lk 10:2

[i]13 Hosea 6:6

worthy of me.[a] 39Whoever finds his life
will lose it, and whoever loses his life
for my sake will find it.[b]
40"He who receives you receives
me,[c] and he who receives me receives
the one who sent me.[d] 41Anyone who
receives a prophet because he is a
prophet will receive a prophet's re-
ward, and anyone who receives a right-
eous man because he is a righteous
man will receive a righteous man's re-
ward. 42And if anyone gives even a cup
of cold water to one of these little ones
because he is my disciple, I tell you the
truth, he will certainly not lose his re-
ward."[e]

Jesus and John the Baptist

11:2-19pp — Lk 7:18-35

11 After Jesus had finished instruct-
ing his twelve disciples,[f] he
went on from there to teach and preach
in the towns of Galilee.[o]
2When John[g] heard in prison[h] what
Christ was doing, he sent his disciples
3to ask him, "Are you the one who was
to come,[i] or should we expect some-
one else?"
4Jesus replied, "Go back and report
to John what you hear and see: 5The
blind receive sight, the lame walk,
those who have leprosy[p] are cured, the
deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the
good news is preached to the poor.[j]
6Blessed is the man who does not fall
away on account of me."[k]
7As John's[l] disciples were leaving,
Jesus began to speak to the crowd
about John: "What did you go out into
the desert[m] to see? A reed swayed by
the wind? 8If not, what did you go out
to see? A man dressed in fine clothes?
No, those who wear fine clothes are in
kings' palaces. 9Then what did you go
out to see? A prophet?[n] Yes, I tell you,
and more than a prophet. 10This is the
one about whom it is written:

" 'I will send my messenger ahead of
you,[o]
who will prepare your way before
you.'[q][p]

11I tell you the truth: Among those born
of women there has not risen anyone
greater than John the Baptist; yet he
who is least in the kingdom of heaven
is greater than he. 12From the days of
John the Baptist until now, the king-
dom of heaven has been forcefully ad-
vancing, and forceful men lay hold of
it. 13For all the Prophets and the Law
prophesied until John.[q] 14And if you
are willing to accept it, he is the Elijah
who was to come.[r] 15He who has ears,
let him hear.[s]
16"To what can I compare this gen-
eration? They are like children sitting in
the marketplaces and calling out to oth-
ers:

17" 'We played the flute for you,
and you did not dance;
we sang a dirge,
and you did not mourn.'

18For John came neither eating[t] nor
drinking,[u] and they say, 'He has a de-
mon.' 19The Son of Man came eating
and drinking, and they say, 'Here is a
glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax
collectors and "sinners." '[v] But wis-
dom is proved right by her actions."

Woe on Unrepentant Cities

11:21-23pp — Lk 10:13-15

20Then Jesus began to denounce the
cities in which most of his miracles had
been performed, because they did not
repent. 21"Woe to you, Korazin! Woe to
you, Bethsaida![w] If the miracles that
were performed in you had been per-
formed in Tyre and Sidon,[x] they
would have repented long ago in sack-
cloth and ashes.[y] 22But I tell you, it will
be more bearable for Tyre and Sidon on
the day of judgment than for you.[z]
23And you, Capernaum,[a] will you be
lifted up to the skies? No, you will go
down to the depths.[r][b] If the miracles
that were performed in you had been
performed in Sodom, it would have re-
mained to this day. 24But I tell you that
it will be more bearable for Sodom on
the day of judgment than for you."[c]

Rest for the Weary

11:25-27pp — Lk 10:21,22

25At that time Jesus said, "I praise
you, Father,[d] Lord of heaven and
earth, because you have hidden these
things from the wise and learned, and
revealed them to little children.[e] 26Yes,
Father, for this was your good plea-
sure.
27"All things have been committed to
me[f] by my Father.[g] No one knows the
Son except the Father, and no one
knows the Father except the Son and
those to whom the Son chooses to re-
veal him.[h]

10:38 [a]Mt 16:24; Lk 14:27
10:39 [b]S Jn 12:25
10:40 [c]Ex 16:8; Mt 18:5; Gal 4:14 [d]Lk 9:48; 10:16; Jn 12:44; 13:20
10:42 [e]Pr 14:31; 19:17; Mt 25:40; Mk 9:41; Ac 10:4; Heb 6:10
11:1 [f]S Mt 7:28
11:2 [g]S Mt 3:1 [h]Mt 14:3
11:3 [i]Ps 118:26; Jn 11:27; Heb 10:37
11:5 [j]Isa 35:4-6; 61:1; Mt 15:31; Lk 4:18,19
11:6 [k]Mt 13:21; 26:31
11:7 [l]S Mt 3:1 [m]Mt 3:1
11:9 [n]Mt 14:5; 21:26; Lk 1:76; 7:26
11:10 [o]Jn 3:28 [p]Mal 3:1; Mk 1:2; Lk 7:27
11:13 [q]Lk 16:16
11:14 [r]Mal 4:5; Mt 17:10-13; Mk 9:11-13; Lk 1:17; Jn 1:21
11:15 [s]Mt 13:9, 43; Mk 4:23; Lk 14:35; S Rev 2:7
11:18 [t]Mt 3:4 [u]S Lk 1:15
11:19 [v]S Mt 9:11
11:21 [w]Mk 6:45; 8:22; Lk 9:10; Jn 1:44; 12:21 [x]Joel 3:4; Am 1:9; Mt 15:21; Mk 3:8; Lk 6:17; Ac 12:20 [y]Jnh 3:5-9
11:22 [z]ver 24; Mt 10:15
11:23 [a]S Mt 4:13 [b]Isa 14:13-15
11:24 [c]S Mt 10:15
11:25 [d]Mt 16:17; Lk 22:42; 23:34; Jn 11:41; 12:27, 28 [e]S Mt 13:11; 1Co 1:26-29
11:27 [f]S Mt 28:18 [g]S Jn 3:35 [h]Jn 10:15; 17:25, 26

[o]1 Greek *in their towns* [p]5 The Greek word was used for various diseases affecting the skin—not necessarily leprosy. [q]10 Mal. 3:1 [r]23 Greek *Hades*

28"Come to me,[a] all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.[b] 29Take my yoke upon you and learn from me,[c] for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.[d] 30For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."[e]

Lord of the Sabbath

12:1-8pp — Mk 2:23-28; Lk 6:1-5
12:9-14pp — Mk 3:1-6; Lk 6:6-11

12 At that time Jesus went through the grainfields on the Sabbath. His disciples were hungry and began to pick some heads of grain[f] and eat them. 2When the Pharisees saw this, they said to him, "Look! Your disciples are doing what is unlawful on the Sabbath."[g]

3He answered, "Haven't you read what David did when he and his companions were hungry?[h] 4He entered the house of God, and he and his companions ate the consecrated bread—which was not lawful for them to do, but only for the priests.[i] 5Or haven't you read in the Law that on the Sabbath the priests in the temple desecrate the day[j] and yet are innocent? 6I tell you that one[s] greater than the temple is here.[k] 7If you had known what these words mean, 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice,'[t][l] you would not have condemned the innocent. 8For the Son of Man[m] is Lord of the Sabbath."

9Going on from that place, he went into their synagogue, 10and a man with a shriveled hand was there. Looking for a reason to accuse Jesus,[n] they asked him, "Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath?"[o]

11He said to them, "If any of you has a sheep and it falls into a pit on the Sabbath, will you not take hold of it and lift it out?[p] 12How much more valuable is a man than a sheep![q] Therefore it is lawful to do good on the Sabbath."

13Then he said to the man, "Stretch out your hand." So he stretched it out and it was completely restored, just as sound as the other. 14But the Pharisees went out and plotted how they might kill Jesus.[r]

God's Chosen Servant

15Aware of this, Jesus withdrew from that place. Many followed him, and he healed all their sick,[s] 16warning them not to tell who he was.[t] 17This was to fulfill[u] what was spoken through the prophet Isaiah:

18"Here is my servant whom I have chosen,
the one I love, in whom I delight;[v]
I will put my Spirit on him,[w]
and he will proclaim justice to the nations.
19He will not quarrel or cry out;
no one will hear his voice in the streets.
20A bruised reed he will not break,
and a smoldering wick he will not snuff out,
till he leads justice to victory.
21 In his name the nations will put their hope."[w][x]

Jesus and Beelzebub

12:25-29pp — Mk 3:23-27; Lk 11:17-22

22Then they brought him a demon-possessed man who was blind and mute, and Jesus healed him, so that he could both talk and see.[y] 23All the people were astonished and said, "Could this be the Son of David?"[z]

24But when the Pharisees heard this, they said, "It is only by Beelzebub,[x][a] the prince of demons, that this fellow drives out demons."[b]

25Jesus knew their thoughts[c] and said to them, "Every kingdom divided against itself will be ruined, and every city or household divided against itself will not stand. 26If Satan[d] drives out Satan, he is divided against himself. How then can his kingdom stand? 27And if I drive out demons by Beelzebub,[e] by whom do your people[f] drive them out? So then, they will be your judges. 28But if I drive out demons by the Spirit of God, then the kingdom of God[g] has come upon you.

29"Or again, how can anyone enter a strong man's house and carry off his possessions unless he first ties up the strong man? Then he can rob his house.

30"He who is not with me is against me, and he who does not gather with me scatters.[h] 31And so I tell you, every sin and blasphemy will be forgiven men, but the blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven.[i] 32Anyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man will be forgiven, but anyone who speaks against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven, either in this age[j] or in the age to come.[k]

33"Make a tree good and its fruit will be good, or make a tree bad and its

11:28 [a]Jn 7:37 [b]Ex 33:14
11:29 [c]Jn 13:15; Php 2:5; 1Pe 2:21; 1Jn 2:6 [d]Ps 116:7; Jer 6:16
11:30 [e]1Jn 5:3
12:1 [f]Dt 23:25
12:2 [g]ver 10; Ex 20:10; 23:12; Dt 5:14; Lk 13:14; 14:3; Jn 5:10; 7:23; 9:16
12:3 [h]1Sa 21:6
12:4 [i]Lev 24:5,9
12:5 [j]Nu 28:9,10; Jn 7:22,23
12:6 [k]ver 41,42
12:7 [l]Hos 6:6; Mic 6:6-8; Mt 9:13
12:8 [m]S Mt 8:20
12:10 [n]Mk 3:2; 12:13; Lk 11:54; 14:1; 20:20 [o]S ver 2
12:11 [p]Lk 14:5
12:12 [q]Mt 6:26; 10:31
12:14 [r]Ge 37:18; Ps 71:10; Mt 26:4; 27:1; Mk 3:6; Lk 6:11; Jn 5:18; 7:1,19; 11:53
12:15 [s]S Mt 4:23
12:16 [t]S Mt 8:4
12:17 [u]S Mt 1:22
12:18 [v]S Mt 3:17 [w]S Jn 3:34
12:21 [x]Isa 42:1-4
12:22 [y]S Mt 4:24
12:23 [z]S Mt 9:27
12:24 [a]S Mk 3:22 [b]Mt 9:34
12:25 [c]S Mt 9:4
12:26 [d]S Mt 4:10
12:27 [e]ver 24 [f]Ac 19:13
12:28 [g]S Mt 3:2
12:30 [h]Mk 9:40; Lk 11:23
12:31 [i]Mk 3:28,29; Lk 12:10
12:32 [j]Tit 2:12 [k]Mk 10:30; Lk 20:34,35; Eph 1:21; Heb 6:5

[s]6 Or *something;* also in verses 41 and 42 [t]7 Hosea 6:6 [w]21 Isaiah 42:1-4 [x]24 Greek *Beezeboul* or *Beelzeboul;* also in verse 27

fruit will be bad, for a tree is recognized
by its fruit.[a] 34You brood of vipers,[b]
how can you who are evil say anything
good? For out of the overflow of the
heart the mouth speaks.[c] 35The good
man brings good things out of the good
stored up in him, and the evil man
brings evil things out of the evil stored
up in him. 36But I tell you that men will
have to give account on the day of
judgment for every careless word they
have spoken. 37For by your words you
will be acquitted, and by your words
you will be condemned."[d]

The Sign of Jonah

12:39-42pp — Lk 11:29-32
12:43-45pp — Lk 11:24-26

38Then some of the Pharisees and
teachers of the law said to him,
"Teacher, we want to see a miraculous
sign[e] from you."[f]
39He answered, "A wicked and adul-
terous generation asks for a miraculous
sign! But none will be given it except
the sign of the prophet Jonah.[g] 40For as
Jonah was three days and three nights
in the belly of a huge fish,[h] so the Son
of Man[i] will be three days and three
nights in the heart of the earth.[j] 41The
men of Nineveh[k] will stand up at the
judgment with this generation and
condemn it; for they repented at the
preaching of Jonah,[l] and now one[w]
greater than Jonah is here. 42The Queen
of the South will rise at the judgment
with this generation and condemn it;
for she came[m] from the ends of the
earth to listen to Solomon's wisdom,
and now one greater than Solomon is
here.
43"When an evil[x] spirit comes out of
a man, it goes through arid places seek-
ing rest and does not find it. 44Then it
says, 'I will return to the house I left.'
When it arrives, it finds the house
unoccupied, swept clean and put in or-
der. 45Then it goes and takes with it
seven other spirits more wicked than
itself, and they go in and live there.
And the final condition of that man is
worse than the first.[n] That is how it
will be with this wicked generation."

Jesus' Mother and Brothers

12:46-50pp — Mk 3:31-35; Lk 8:19-21

46While Jesus was still talking to the
crowd, his mother[o] and brothers[p]
stood outside, wanting to speak to
him. 47Someone told him, "Your
mother and brothers are standing out-
side, wanting to speak to you."[y]

12:33 [a]Mt 7:16,17; Lk 6:43,44 **12:34** [b]Mt 3:7; 23:33 [c]Mt 15:18; Lk 6:45 **12:37** [d]Job 15:6; Pr 10:14; 18:21; Jas 3:2 **12:38** [e]S Jn 2:11; S 4:48 [f]Mt 16:1; Mk 8:11,12; Lk 11:16; Jn 2:18; 6:30; 1Co 1:22 **12:39** [g]Mt 16:4; Lk 11:29 **12:40** [h]Jnh 1:17 [i]S Mt 8:20 [j]S Mt 16:21 **12:41** [k]Jnh 1:2 [l]Jnh 3:5 **12:42** [m]1Ki 10:1; 2Ch 9:1 **12:45** [n]2Pe 2:20 **12:46** [o]Mt 1:18; 2:11,13,14,20; Lk 1:43; 2:33,34,48,51; Jn 2:1,5; 19:25,26 [p]Mt 13:55; Jn 2:12; 7:3,5; Ac 1:14; 1Co 9:5; Gal 1:19

12:50 [q]Mt 6:10; Jn 15:14 **13:1** [r]ver 36; Mt 9:28 **13:2** [s]Lk 5:3 **13:8** [t]Ge 26:12 **13:9** [u]S Mt 11:15 **13:11** [v]S Mt 3:2 [w]Mt 11:25; 16:17; 19:11; Jn 6:65; 1Co 2:10,14; Col 1:27; 1Jn 2:20,27 **13:12** [x]S Mt 25:29 **13:13** [y]Dt 29:4; Jer 5:21; Eze 12:2 **13:14** [z]ver 35; S Mt 1:22

48He replied to him, "Who is my
mother, and who are my brothers?"
49Pointing to his disciples, he said,
"Here are my mother and my brothers.
50For whoever does the will of my Fa-
ther in heaven[q] is my brother and sis-
ter and mother."

The Parable of the Sower

13:1-15pp — Mk 4:1-12; Lk 8:4-10
13:16,17pp — Lk 10:23,24
13:18-23pp — Mk 4:13-20; Lk 8:11-15

13 That same day Jesus went out of
the house[r] and sat by the lake.
2Such large crowds gathered around
him that he got into a boat[s] and sat in
it, while all the people stood on the
shore. 3Then he told them many things
in parables, saying: "A farmer went out
to sow his seed. 4As he was scattering
the seed, some fell along the path, and
the birds came and ate it up. 5Some fell
on rocky places, where it did not have
much soil. It sprang up quickly, be-
cause the soil was shallow. 6But when
the sun came up, the plants were
scorched, and they withered because
they had no root. 7Other seed fell
among thorns, which grew up and
choked the plants. 8Still other seed fell
on good soil, where it produced a
crop—a hundred,[t] sixty or thirty times
what was sown. 9He who has ears, let
him hear."[u]
10The disciples came to him and
asked, "Why do you speak to the
people in parables?"
11He replied, "The knowledge of the
secrets of the kingdom of heaven[v] has
been given to you,[w] but not to them.
12Whoever has will be given more, and
he will have an abundance. Whoever
does not have, even what he has will
be taken from him.[x] 13This is why I
speak to them in parables:

"Though seeing, they do not see;
though hearing, they do not hear
or understand.[y]

14In them is fulfilled[z] the prophecy of
Isaiah:

" 'You will be ever hearing but never
understanding;
you will be ever seeing but never
perceiving.
15For this people's heart has become
calloused;
they hardly hear with their ears,
and they have closed their eyes.

[w]41 *Or something;* also in verse 42 [x]43 Greek *unclean* [y]47 Some manuscripts do not have verse 47.

Otherwise they might see with their
eyes,
hear with their ears,
understand with their hearts
and turn, and I would heal them.'[a] [a]

16But blessed are your eyes because
they see, and your ears because they
hear.[b] 17For I tell you the truth, many
prophets and righteous men longed to
see what you see[c] but did not see it,
and to hear what you hear but did not
hear it.

18"Listen then to what the parable of
the sower means: 19When anyone hears
the message about the kingdom[d] and
does not understand it, the evil one[e]
comes and snatches away what was
sown in his heart. This is the seed
sown along the path. 20The one who
received the seed that fell on rocky
places is the man who hears the word
and at once receives it with joy. 21But
since he has no root, he lasts only a
short time. When trouble or persecu-
tion comes because of the word, he
quickly falls away.[f] 22The one who re-
ceived the seed that fell among the
thorns is the man who hears the word,
but the worries of this life and the de-
ceitfulness of wealth[g] choke it, making
it unfruitful. 23But the one who re-
ceived the seed that fell on good soil is
the man who hears the word and un-
derstands it. He produces a crop, yield-
ing a hundred, sixty or thirty times
what was sown."[h]

The Parable of the Weeds

24Jesus told them another parable:
"The kingdom of heaven is like[i] a man
who sowed good seed in his field. 25But
while everyone was sleeping, his ene-
my came and sowed weeds among the
wheat, and went away. 26When the
wheat sprouted and formed heads,
then the weeds also appeared.

27"The owner's servants came to him
and said, 'Sir, didn't you sow good
seed in your field? Where then did the
weeds come from?'

28" 'An enemy did this,' he replied.
"The servants asked him, 'Do you
want us to go and pull them up?'

29" 'No,' he answered, 'because
while you are pulling the weeds, you
may root up the wheat with them. 30Let
both grow together until the harvest.
At that time I will tell the harvesters:
First collect the weeds and tie them in
bundles to be burned; then gather the
wheat and bring it into my barn.' "[j]

The Parables of the Mustard Seed and the Yeast

13:31,32pp — Mk 4:30-32
13:31-33pp — Lk 13:18-21

31He told them another parable: "The
kingdom of heaven is like[k] a mustard
seed,[l] which a man took and planted
in his field. 32Though it is the smallest
of all your seeds, yet when it grows, it
is the largest of garden plants and
becomes a tree, so that the birds of the
air come and perch in its branches."[m]

33He told them still another parable:
"The kingdom of heaven is like[n] yeast
that a woman took and mixed into a
large amount[b] of flour[o] until it worked
all through the dough."[p]

34Jesus spoke all these things to the
crowd in parables; he did not say any-
thing to them without using a para-
ble.[q] 35So was fulfilled[r] what was
spoken through the prophet:

"I will open my mouth in parables,
I will utter things hidden since the
creation of the world."[c] [s]

The Parable of the Weeds Explained

36Then he left the crowd and went
into the house. His disciples came to
him and said, "Explain to us the para-
ble[t] of the weeds in the field."

37He answered, "The one who
sowed the good seed is the Son of
Man.[u] 38The field is the world, and the
good seed stands for the sons of the
kingdom. The weeds are the sons of
the evil one,[v] 39and the enemy who
sows them is the devil. The harvest[w] is
the end of the age,[x] and the harvesters
are angels.[y]

40"As the weeds are pulled up and
burned in the fire, so it will be at the
end of the age. 41The Son of Man[z] will
send out his angels,[a] and they will
weed out of his kingdom everything
that causes sin and all who do evil.
42They will throw them into the fiery
furnace, where there will be weeping
and gnashing of teeth.[b] 43Then the
righteous will shine like the sun[c] in the
kingdom of their Father. He who has
ears, let him hear.[d]

The Parables of the Hidden Treasure and the Pearl

44"The kingdom of heaven is like[e]
treasure hidden in a field. When a man
found it, he hid it again, and then in

13:15 [a]Isa 6:9,10; Jn 12:40; Ac 28:26,27; Ro 11:8 **13:16** [b]Mt 16:17 **13:17** [c]Jn 8:56; Heb 11:13; 1Pe 1:10-12 **13:19** [d]Mt 4:23 [e]S Mt 5:37 **13:21** [f]Mt 11:6; 26:31 **13:22** [g]Mt 19:23; 1Ti 6:9,10,17 **13:23** [h]ver 8 **13:24** [i]ver 31,33,45,47; Mt 18:23; 20:1; 22:2; 25:1; Mk 4:26,30 **13:30** [j]Mt 3:12

13:31 [k]S ver 24 [l]Mt 17:20; Lk 17:6 **13:32** [m]Ps 104:12; Eze 17:23; 31:6; Da 4:12 **13:33** [n]S ver 24 [o]Ge 18:6 [p]Gal 5:9 **13:34** [q]S Jn 16:25 **13:35** [r]ver 14; S Mt 1:22 [s]Ps 78:2; Ro 16:25,26; 1Co 2:7; Eph 3:9; Col 1:26 **13:36** [t]Mt 15:15 **13:37** [u]S Mt 8:20 **13:38** [v]Jn 8:44,45; 1Jn 3:10 **13:39** [w]Joel 3:13 [x]Mt 24:3; 28:20 [y]Rev 14:15 **13:41** [z]S Mt 8:20 [a]Mt 24:31 **13:42** [b]S Mt 8:12 **13:43** [c]Da 12:3 [d]S Mt 11:15 **13:44** [e]S ver 24

[a]15 Isaiah 6:9,10 [b]33 Greek *three satas* (probably about 1/2 bushel or 22 liters) [c]35 Psalm 78:2

his joy went and sold all he had and
bought that field.[a]
45 "Again, the kingdom of heaven is
like[b] a merchant looking for fine
pearls. 46 When he found one of great
value, he went away and sold every-
thing he had and bought it.

The Parable of the Net

47 "Once again, the kingdom of
heaven is like[c] a net that was let down
into the lake and caught all kinds[d] of
fish. 48 When it was full, the fishermen
pulled it up on the shore. Then they sat
down and collected the good fish in
baskets, but threw the bad away. 49 This
is how it will be at the end of the age.
The angels will come and separate the
wicked from the righteous[e] 50 and
throw them into the fiery furnace,
where there will be weeping and
gnashing of teeth.[f]
51 "Have you understood all these
things?" Jesus asked.
"Yes," they replied.
52 He said to them, "Therefore every
teacher of the law who has been in-
structed about the kingdom of heaven
is like the owner of a house who brings
out of his storeroom new treasures as
well as old."

A Prophet Without Honor

13:54-58pp — Mk 6:1-6

53 When Jesus had finished these par-
ables,[g] he moved on from there.
54 Coming to his hometown, he began
teaching the people in their syna-
gogue,[h] and they were amazed.[i]
"Where did this man get this wisdom
and these miraculous powers?" they
asked. 55 "Isn't this the carpenter's
son?[j] Isn't his mother's[k] name Mary,
and aren't his brothers[l] James, Joseph,
Simon and Judas? 56 Aren't all his sisters
with us? Where then did this man get
all these things?" 57 And they took of-
fense[m] at him.
But Jesus said to them, "Only in his
hometown and in his own house is a
prophet without honor."[n]
58 And he did not do many miracles
there because of their lack of faith.

John the Baptist Beheaded

14:1-12pp — Mk 6:14-29

14 At that time Herod[o] the tetrarch
heard the reports about Jesus,[p]
2 and he said to his attendants, "This is
John the Baptist;[q] he has risen from the

13:44 [a] Isa 55:1; Mt 19:21; Php 3:7,8 13:45 [b] S ver 24 13:47 [c] S ver 24 [d] Mt 22:10 13:49 [e] Mt 25:32 13:50 [f] S Mt 8:12 13:53 [g] S Mt 7:28 13:54 [h] S Mt 4:23 [i] S Mt 7:28 13:55 [j] Lk 3:23; Jn 6:42 [k] S Mt 12:46 [l] S Mt 12:46 13:57 [m] Jn 6:61 [n] Lk 4:24; Jn 4:44 14:1 [o] Mk 8:15; Lk 3:1,19; 13:31; 23:7,8; Ac 4:27; 12:1 [p] Lk 9:7-9 14:2 [q] S Mt 3:1

dead! That is why miraculous powers
are at work in him."
3 Now Herod had arrested John and
bound him and put him in prison[r] be-
cause of Herodias, his brother Philip's
wife,[s] 4 for John had been saying to
him: "It is not lawful for you to have
her."[t] 5 Herod wanted to kill John, but
he was afraid of the people, because
they considered him a prophet.[u]
6 On Herod's birthday the daughter
of Herodias danced for them and
pleased Herod so much 7 that he prom-
ised with an oath to give her whatever
she asked. 8 Prompted by her mother,
she said, "Give me here on a platter the
head of John the Baptist." 9 The king
was distressed, but because of his
oaths and his dinner guests, he or-
dered that her request be granted 10 and
had John beheaded[v] in the prison.
11 His head was brought in on a platter
and given to the girl, who carried it to
her mother. 12 John's disciples came and
took his body and buried it.[w] Then
they went and told Jesus.

Jesus Feeds the Five Thousand

14:13-21pp — Mk 6:32-44; Lk 9:10-17; Jn 6:1-13
14:13-21Ref — Mt 15:32-38

13 When Jesus heard what had hap-
pened, he withdrew by boat privately
to a solitary place. Hearing of this, the
crowds followed him on foot from the
towns. 14 When Jesus landed and saw a
large crowd, he had compassion on
them[x] and healed their sick.[y]
15 As evening approached, the disci-
ples came to him and said, "This is a
remote place, and it's already getting
late. Send the crowds away, so they
can go to the villages and buy them-
selves some food."
16 Jesus replied, "They do not need to
go away. You give them something to
eat."
17 "We have here only five loaves[z]
of bread and two fish," they an-
swered.
18 "Bring them here to me," he said.
19 And he directed the people to sit
down on the grass. Taking the five
loaves and the two fish and looking up
to heaven, he gave thanks and broke
the loaves.[a] Then he gave them to the
disciples, and the disciples gave them
to the people. 20 They all ate and were
satisfied, and the disciples picked up
twelve basketfuls of broken pieces that
were left over. 21 The number of those
who ate was about five thousand men,
besides women and children.

14:3 [r] Mt 4:12; 11:2 [s] Lk 3:19,20 14:4 [t] Lev 18:16; 20:21 14:5 [u] S Mt 11:9 14:10 [v] Mt 17:12 14:12 [w] Ac 8:2 14:14 [x] S Mt 9:36 [y] S Mt 4:23 14:17 [z] Mt 16:9 14:19 [a] 1Sa 9:13; Mt 26:26; Mk 8:6; Lk 9:16; 24:30; Ac 2:42; 20:7,11; 27:35; 1Co 10:16; 1Ti 4:4

Jesus Walks on the Water

14:22-33pp — Mk 6:45-51; Jn 6:15-21
14:34-36pp — Mk 6:53-56

22 Immediately Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowd. 23 After he had dismissed them, he went up on a mountainside by himself to pray.[a] When evening came, he was there alone, 24 but the boat was already a considerable distance[c] from land, buffeted by the waves because the wind was against it.

25 During the fourth watch of the night Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake. 26 When the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified. "It's a ghost,"[b] they said, and cried out in fear.

27 But Jesus immediately said to them: "Take courage![c] It is I. Don't be afraid."[d]

28 "Lord, if it's you," Peter replied, "tell me to come to you on the water."

29 "Come," he said.

Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus. 30 But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, "Lord, save me!"

31 Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. "You of little faith,"[e] he said, "why did you doubt?"

32 And when they climbed into the boat, the wind died down. 33 Then those who were in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."[f]

34 When they had crossed over, they landed at Gennesaret. 35 And when the men of that place recognized Jesus, they sent word to all the surrounding country. People brought all their sick to him 36 and begged him to let the sick just touch the edge of his cloak,[g] and all who touched him were healed.

Clean and Unclean

15:1-20pp — Mk 7:1-23

15 Then some Pharisees and teachers of the law came to Jesus from Jerusalem and asked, 2 "Why do your disciples break the tradition of the elders? They don't wash their hands before they eat!"[h]

3 Jesus replied, "And why do you break the command of God for the sake of your tradition? 4 For God said, 'Honor your father and mother'[d][i] and 'Anyone who curses his father or mother must be put to death.'[e][j] 5 But you say that if a man says to his father or mother, 'Whatever help you might otherwise have received from me is a gift devoted to God,' 6 he is not to 'honor his father[f]' with it. Thus you nullify the word of God for the sake of your tradition. 7 You hypocrites! Isaiah was right when he prophesied about you:

8 " 'These people honor me with their lips,
but their hearts are far from me.
9 They worship me in vain;
their teachings are but rules taught by men.'[k][l][g]"

10 Jesus called the crowd to him and said, "Listen and understand. 11 What goes into a man's mouth does not make him 'unclean,'[m] but what comes out of his mouth, that is what makes him 'unclean.' "[n]

12 Then the disciples came to him and asked, "Do you know that the Pharisees were offended when they heard this?"

13 He replied, "Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted[o] will be pulled up by the roots. 14 Leave them; they are blind guides.[h][p] If a blind man leads a blind man, both will fall into a pit."[q]

15 Peter said, "Explain the parable to us."[r]

16 "Are you still so dull?"[s] Jesus asked them. 17 "Don't you see that whatever enters the mouth goes into the stomach and then out of the body? 18 But the things that come out of the mouth come from the heart,[t] and these make a man 'unclean.' 19 For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false testimony, slander.[u] 20 These are what make a man 'unclean';[v] but eating with unwashed hands does not make him 'unclean.' "

The Faith of the Canaanite Woman

15:21-28pp — Mk 7:24-30

21 Leaving that place, Jesus withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon.[w] 22 A Canaanite woman from that vicinity came to him, crying out, "Lord, Son of David,[x] have mercy on me! My daughter is suffering terribly from demon-possession."[y]

23 Jesus did not answer a word. So his

14:23 [a]S Lk 3:21 **14:26** [b]Lk 24:37 **14:27** [c]Mt 9:2; Ac 23:11 [d]Da 10:12; Mt 17:7; 28:10; Lk 1:13,30; 2:10; Ac 18:9; 23:11; Rev 1:17 **14:31** [e]S Mt 6:30 **14:33** [f]Ps 2:7; S Mt 4:3 **14:36** [g]S Mt 9:20 **15:2** [h]Lk 11:38 **15:4** [i]Ex 20:12; Dt 5:16; Eph 6:2 [j]Ex 21:17; Lev 20:9 **15:9** [k]Col 2:20-22 [l]Isa 29:13; Mal 2:2 **15:11** [m]S Ac 10:14,15 [n]ver 18 **15:13** [o]Isa 60:21; 61:3 **15:14** [p]Mt 23:16,24; Ro 2:19 [q]Lk 6:39 **15:15** [r]Mt 13:36 **15:16** [s]Mt 16:9 **15:18** [t]Mt 12:34; Lk 6:45; Jas 3:6 **15:19** [u]Gal 5:19-21 **15:20** [v]Ro 14:14 **15:21** [w]S Mt 11:21 **15:22** [x]S Mt 9:27 [y]S Mt 4:24

[c]24 Greek *many stadia* [d]4 Exodus 20:12; Deut. 5:16 [e]4 Exodus 21:17; Lev. 20:9 [f]6 Some manuscripts *father or his mother* [g]9 Isaiah 29:13 [h]14 Some manuscripts *guides of the blind*

disciples came to him and urged him, "Send her away, for she keeps crying out after us."

24 He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of Israel."

25 The woman came and knelt before him. "Lord, help me!" she said.

26 He replied, "It is not right to take the children's bread and toss it to their dogs."

27 "Yes, Lord," she said, "but even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table."

28 Then Jesus answered, "Woman, you have great faith! Your request is granted." And her daughter was healed from that very hour.

Jesus Feeds the Four Thousand

15:29-31pp — Mk 7:31-37
15:32-39pp — Mk 8:1-10
15:32-39Ref — Mt 14:13-21

29 Jesus left there and went along the Sea of Galilee. Then he went up on a mountainside and sat down. 30 Great crowds came to him, bringing the lame, the blind, the crippled, the mute and many others, and laid them at his feet; and he healed them.[d] 31 The people were amazed when they saw the mute speaking, the crippled made well, the lame walking and the blind seeing. And they praised the God of Israel.[e]

32 Jesus called his disciples to him and said, "I have compassion for these people;[f] they have already been with me three days and have nothing to eat. I do not want to send them away hungry, or they may collapse on the way."

33 His disciples answered, "Where could we get enough bread in this remote place to feed such a crowd?"

34 "How many loaves do you have?" Jesus asked.

"Seven," they replied, "and a few small fish."

35 He told the crowd to sit down on the ground. 36 Then he took the seven loaves and the fish, and when he had given thanks, he broke them[g] and gave them to the disciples, and they in turn to the people. 37 They all ate and were satisfied. Afterward the disciples picked up seven basketfuls of broken pieces that were left over.[h] 38 The number of those who ate was four thousand, besides women and children. 39 After Jesus had sent the crowd away, he got into the boat and went to the vicinity of Magadan.

15:24 Mt 10:6, 23; Ro 15:8
15:25 S Mt 8:2
15:28 S Mt 9:22
15:30 S Mt 4:23
15:31 S Mt 9:8
15:32 S Mt 9:36
15:36 S Mt 14:19
15:37 Mt 16:10

16:1 [i]S Ac 4:1 [j]S Mt 12:38
16:3 [k]Lk 12:54-56
16:4 [l]Mt 12:39
16:6 [m]Lk 12:1
16:8 [n]S Mt 6:30
16:9 [o]Mt 14:17-21
16:10 [p]Mt 15:34-38
16:12 [q]S Ac 4:1
16:14 [r]S Mt 3:1 [s]Mk 6:15; Jn 1:21

The Demand for a Sign

16:1-12pp — Mk 8:11-21

16 The Pharisees and Sadducees[i] came to Jesus and tested him by asking him to show them a sign from heaven.[j]

2 He replied,[i2] "When evening comes, you say, 'It will be fair weather, for the sky is red,' 3 and in the morning, 'Today it will be stormy, for the sky is red and overcast.' You know how to interpret the appearance of the sky, but you cannot interpret the signs of the times.[k] 4 A wicked and adulterous generation looks for a miraculous sign, but none will be given it except the sign of Jonah."[l] Jesus then left them and went away.

The Yeast of the Pharisees and Sadducees

5 When they went across the lake, the disciples forgot to take bread. 6 "Be careful," Jesus said to them. "Be on your guard against the yeast of the Pharisees and Sadducees."[m]

7 They discussed this among themselves and said, "It is because we didn't bring any bread."

8 Aware of their discussion, Jesus asked, "You of little faith,[n] why are you talking among yourselves about having no bread? 9 Do you still not understand? Don't you remember the five loaves for the five thousand, and how many basketfuls you gathered?[o] 10 Or the seven loaves for the four thousand, and how many basketfuls you gathered?[p] 11 How is it you don't understand that I was not talking to you about bread? But be on your guard against the yeast of the Pharisees and Sadducees." 12 Then they understood that he was not telling them to guard against the yeast used in bread, but against the teaching of the Pharisees and Sadducees.[q]

Peter's Confession of Christ

16:13-16pp — Mk 8:27-29; Lk 9:18-20

13 When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say the Son of Man is?"

14 They replied, "Some say John the Baptist;[r] others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets."[s]

15 "But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?"

i2 Some early manuscripts do not have the rest of verse 2 and all of verse 3.

16Simon Peter answered, "You are
the Christ,[j][r] the Son of the living
God."[s]
17Jesus replied, "Blessed are you, Si-
mon son of Jonah, for this was not re-
vealed to you by man,[t] but by my Fa-
ther in heaven.[u] 18And I tell you that
you are Peter,[k][v] and on this rock I will
build my church,[w] and the gates of
Hades[l] will not overcome it.[m] 19I will
give you the keys[x] of the kingdom of
heaven; whatever you bind on earth
will be[n] bound in heaven, and what-
ever you loose on earth will be[n] loosed
in heaven."[y] 20Then he warned his dis-
ciples not to tell anyone[z] that he was
the Christ.

Jesus Predicts His Death

16:21-28pp — Mk 8:31–9:1; Lk 9:22-27

21From that time on Jesus began to
explain to his disciples that he must go
to Jerusalem[a] and suffer many things[b]
at the hands of the elders, chief priests
and teachers of the law,[c] and that he
must be killed[d] and on the third day[e]
be raised to life.[f]
22Peter took him aside and began to
rebuke him. "Never, Lord!" he said.
"This shall never happen to you!"
23Jesus turned and said to Peter, "Get
behind me, Satan![g] You are a stum-
bling block to me; you do not have in
mind the things of God, but the things
of men."
24Then Jesus said to his disciples, "If
anyone would come after me, he must
deny himself and take up his cross and
follow me.[h] 25For whoever wants to
save his life[o] will lose it, but whoever
loses his life for me will find it.[i] 26What
good will it be for a man if he gains the
whole world, yet forfeits his soul? Or
what can a man give in exchange for
his soul? 27For the Son of Man[j] is going
to come[k] in his Father's glory with his
angels, and then he will reward each
person according to what he has
done.[l] 28I tell you the truth, some who
are standing here will not taste death
before they see the Son of Man coming
in his kingdom."

The Transfiguration

17:1-8pp — Lk 9:28-36
17:1-13pp — Mk 9:2-13

17 After six days Jesus took with
him Peter, James and John[m] the
brother of James, and led them up a
high mountain by themselves. 2There
he was transfigured before them. His
face shone like the sun, and his clothes
became as white as the light. 3Just then
there appeared before them Moses and
Elijah, talking with Jesus.
4Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good
for us to be here. If you wish, I will put
up three shelters—one for you, one for
Moses and one for Elijah."
5While he was still speaking, a bright
cloud enveloped them, and a voice
from the cloud said, "This is my Son,
whom I love; with him I am well
pleased.[n] Listen to him!"[o]
6When the disciples heard this, they
fell facedown to the ground, terrified.
7But Jesus came and touched them.
"Get up," he said. "Don't be afraid."[p]
8When they looked up, they saw no
one except Jesus.
9As they were coming down the
mountain, Jesus instructed them,
"Don't tell anyone[q] what you have
seen, until the Son of Man[r] has been
raised from the dead."[s]
10The disciples asked him, "Why
then do the teachers of the law say that
Elijah must come first?"
11Jesus replied, "To be sure, Elijah
comes and will restore all things.[t]
12But I tell you, Elijah has already
come,[u] and they did not recognize
him, but have done to him everything
they wished.[v] In the same way the Son
of Man is going to suffer[w] at their
hands." 13Then the disciples under-
stood that he was talking to them about
John the Baptist.[x]

The Healing of a Boy With a Demon

17:14-19pp — Mk 9:14-28; Lk 9:37-42

14When they came to the crowd, a
man approached Jesus and knelt before
him. 15"Lord, have mercy on my son,"
he said. "He has seizures[y] and is suf-
fering greatly. He often falls into the
fire or into the water. 16I brought him to
your disciples, but they could not heal
him."
17"O unbelieving and perverse gen-
eration," Jesus replied, "how long shall
I stay with you? How long shall I put
up with you? Bring the boy here to
me." 18Jesus rebuked the demon, and it
came out of the boy, and he was healed
from that moment.
19Then the disciples came to Jesus in
private and asked, "Why couldn't we
drive it out?"
20He replied, "Because you have so

16:16 rS Mt 4:3; Ps 42:2; Jer 10:10; Ac 14:15; 2Co 6:16; 1Th 1:9; 1Ti 3:15; Heb 10:31; 12:22 **16:17** t1Co 15:50; Eph 6:12; Heb 2:14 uS Mt 13:11 **16:18** vJn 1:42 wS Eph 2:20 **16:19** xIsa 22:22; Rev 3:7 yMt 18:18; Jn 20:23 **16:20** zS Mk 8:30 **16:21** aS Lk 9:51 bPs 22:6; Isa 53:3; Mt 26:67,68; Mk 10:34; Lk 17:25; Jn 18:22,23; 19:3 cMt 27:1,2 dAc 2:23; 3:13 eHos 6:2; Mt 12:40; Lk 24:21,46; Jn 2:19; 1Co 15:3,4 fMt 17:22,23; Mk 9:31; Lk 9:22; 18:31-33; 24:6,7 **16:23** gS Mt 4:10 **16:24** hMt 10:38; Lk 14:27 **16:25** iS Jn 12:25 **16:27** jS Mt 8:20 kS Lk 17:30; Jn 14:3; Ac 1:11; S 1Co 1:7; S 1Th 2:19; 4:16; S Rev 1:7; 22:7, 12,20 lJob 34:11; Ps 62:12; Jer 17:10; Eze 18:20; 1Co 3:12-15; 2Co 5:10; Rev 22:12 **17:1** mS Mt 4:21 **17:5** nS Mt 3:17 oAc 3:22,23 **17:7** pS Mt 14:27 **17:9** qS Mk 8:30 rS Mt 8:20 sS Mt 16:21 **17:11** tMal 4:6; Lk 1:16,17 **17:12** uS Mt 11:14 vMt 14:3-10 wS Mt 16:21 **17:13** xS Mt 3:1 **17:15** yMt 4:24

j16 Or *Messiah;* also in verse 20 k18 *Peter* means *rock.* l18 Or *hell* m18 Or *not prove stronger than it* n19 Or *have been* o25 The Greek word means either *life* or *soul;* also in verse 26.

little faith. I tell you the truth, if you
have faith[r] as small as a mustard
seed,[s] you can say to this mountain,
'Move from here to there' and it will
move.[t] Nothing will be impossible for
you.[u]"[a]
[22]When they came together in Gali-
lee, he said to them, "The Son of Man[v]
is going to be betrayed into the hands
of men. [23]They will kill him,[w] and on
the third day[x] he will be raised to
life."[y] And the disciples were filled
with grief.

The Temple Tax

[24]After Jesus and his disciples arrived
in Capernaum, the collectors of the
two-drachma tax[z] came to Peter and
asked, "Doesn't your teacher pay the
temple tax[b]?"
[25]"Yes, he does," he replied.
When Peter came into the house,
Jesus was the first to speak. "What do
you think, Simon?" he asked. "From
whom do the kings of the earth collect
duty and taxes[a]—from their own sons
or from others?"
[26]"From others," Peter answered.
"Then the sons are exempt," Jesus
said to him. [27]"But so that we may not
offend[b] them, go to the lake and throw
out your line. Take the first fish you
catch; open its mouth and you will find
a four-drachma coin. Take it and give it
to them for my tax and yours."

The Greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven

18:1-5pp — Mk 9:33-37; Lk 9:46-48

18 At that time the disciples came to
Jesus and asked, "Who is the
greatest in the kingdom of heaven?"
[2]He called a little child and had him
stand among them. [3]And he said: "I
tell you the truth, unless you change
and become like little children,[c] you
will never enter the kingdom of
heaven.[d] [4]Therefore, whoever hum-
bles himself like this child is the great-
est in the kingdom of heaven.[e]
[5]"And whoever welcomes a little
child like this in my name welcomes
me.[f] [6]But if anyone causes one of these
little ones who believe in me to sin,[g] it
would be better for him to have a large
millstone hung around his neck and to
be drowned in the depths of the sea.[h]
[7]"Woe to the world because of the
things that cause people to sin! Such
things must come, but woe to the man
through whom they come![i] [8]If your
hand or your foot causes you to sin,[j]
cut it off and throw it away. It is better
for you to enter life maimed or crippled
than to have two hands or two feet and
be thrown into eternal fire. [9]And if
your eye causes you to sin,[k] gouge it
out and throw it away. It is better for
you to enter life with one eye than to
have two eyes and be thrown into the
fire of hell.[l]

The Parable of the Lost Sheep

18:12-14pp — Lk 15:4-7

[10]"See that you do not look down on
one of these little ones. For I tell you
that their angels[m] in heaven always see
the face of my Father in heaven.[c]
[12]"What do you think? If a man owns
a hundred sheep, and one of them
wanders away, will he not leave the
ninety-nine on the hills and go to look
for the one that wandered off? [13]And if
he finds it, I tell you the truth, he is
happier about that one sheep than
about the ninety-nine that did not wan-
der off. [14]In the same way your Father
in heaven is not willing that any of
these little ones should be lost.

A Brother Who Sins Against You

[15]"If your brother sins against you,[d]
go and show him his fault,[n] just be-
tween the two of you. If he listens to
you, you have won your brother over.
[16]But if he will not listen, take one or
two others along, so that 'every matter
may be established by the testimony of
two or three witnesses.'[e][p] [17]If he
refuses to listen to them, tell it to the
church;[q] and if he refuses to listen
even to the church, treat him as you
would a pagan or a tax collector.[r]
[18]"I tell you the truth, whatever you
bind on earth will be[f] bound in
heaven, and whatever you loose on
earth will be[f] loosed in heaven.[s]
[19]"Again, I tell you that if two of you
on earth agree about anything you ask
for, it will be done for you[t] by my Fa-
ther in heaven. [20]For where two or
three come together in my name, there
am I with them."[u]

The Parable of the Unmerciful Servant

[21]Then Peter came to Jesus and
asked, "Lord, how many times shall I

17:20 r S Mt 21:21 s Mt 13:31; Lk 17:6 t 1Co 13:2
17:22 v S Mt 8:20
17:23 w Ac 2:23; 3:13 x S Mt 16:21 y S Mt 16:21
17:24 z Ex 30:13
17:25 a Mt 22:17-21; Ro 13:7
17:27 b Jn 6:61
18:3 c Mt 19:14; 1Pe 2:2 d S Mk 3:2
18:4 e S Mk 9:35
18:5 f Mt 10:40
18:6 g S Mt 5:29 h Mk 9:42; Lk 17:2
18:7 i Lk 17:1
18:8 j S Mt 5:29
18:9 k S Mt 5:29 l S Mt 5:22
18:10 m Ge 48:16; Ps 34:7; Ac 12:11,15; Heb 1:14
18:15 n Lev 19:17; Lk 17:3; Gal 6:1; Jas 5:19,20
18:16 p Nu 35:30; Dt 17:6; 19:15; Jn 8:17; 2Co 13:1; 1Ti 5:19; Heb 10:28
18:17 q 1Co 6:1-6 r S Ro 16:17
18:18 s Mt 16:19; Jn 20:23
18:19 t S Mt 7:7
18:20 u S Mt 28:20

a20 Some manuscripts you. [21]But this kind does not go out except by prayer and fasting. b24 Greek the two drachmas c10 Some manuscripts heaven. [11]The Son of Man came to save what was lost. d15 Some manuscripts do not have against you. e16 Deut. 19:15 f18 Or have been

forgive my brother when he sins against me?[a] Up to seven times?"[b]

22 Jesus answered, "I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times.[a] [c]

23 "Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like[d] a king who wanted to settle accounts[e] with his servants. 24 As he began the settlement, a man who owed him ten thousand talents[w] was brought to him. 25 Since he was not able to pay,[f] the master ordered that he and his wife and his children and all that he had be sold[g] to repay the debt.

26 "The servant fell on his knees before him.[h] 'Be patient with me,' he begged, 'and I will pay back everything.' 27 The servant's master took pity on him, canceled the debt and let him go.

28 "But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii.[x] He grabbed him and began to choke him. 'Pay back what you owe me!' he demanded.

29 "His fellow servant fell to his knees and begged him, 'Be patient with me, and I will pay you back.'

30 "But he refused. Instead, he went off and had the man thrown into prison until he could pay the debt. 31 When the other servants saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed and went and told their master everything that had happened.

32 "Then the master called the servant in. 'You wicked servant,' he said, 'I canceled all that debt of yours because you begged me to. 33 Shouldn't you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?' 34 In anger his master turned him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed.

35 "This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother from your heart."[i]

Divorce

19:1-9pp — Mk 10:1-12

19 When Jesus had finished saying these things,[j] he left Galilee and went into the region of Judea to the other side of the Jordan. 2 Large crowds followed him, and he healed them[k] there.

3 Some Pharisees came to him to test him. They asked, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife[l] for any and every reason?"

4 "Haven't you read," he replied, "that at the beginning the Creator 'made them male and female,'[y] [m] 5 and said, 'For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh'[z]?[n] 6 So they are no longer two, but one. Therefore what God has joined together, let man not separate."

7 "Why then," they asked, "did Moses command that a man give his wife a certificate of divorce and send her away?"[o]

8 Jesus replied, "Moses permitted you to divorce your wives because your hearts were hard. But it was not this way from the beginning. 9 I tell you that anyone who divorces his wife, except for marital unfaithfulness, and marries another woman commits adultery."[p]

10 The disciples said to him, "If this is the situation between a husband and wife, it is better not to marry."

11 Jesus replied, "Not everyone can accept this word, but only those to whom it has been given.[q] 12 For some are eunuchs because they were born that way; others were made that way by men; and others have renounced marriage[a] because of the kingdom of heaven. The one who can accept this should accept it."

The Little Children and Jesus

19:13-15pp — Mk 10:13-16; Lk 18:15-17

13 Then little children were brought to Jesus for him to place his hands on them[r] and pray for them. But the disciples rebuked those who brought them.

14 Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs[s] to such as these."[t] 15 When he had placed his hands on them, he went on from there.

The Rich Young Man

19:16-29pp — Mk 10:17-30; Lk 18:18-30

16 Now a man came up to Jesus and asked, "Teacher, what good thing must I do to get eternal life[u]?"[v]

17 "Why do you ask me about what is good?" Jesus replied. "There is only One who is good. If you want to enter life, obey the commandments."[w]

18 "Which ones?" the man inquired.

Jesus replied, "'Do not murder, do not commit adultery,[x] do not steal, do not give false testimony, 19 honor your

18:21 [a]S Mt 6:14 [b]Lk 17:4
18:22 [c]Ge 4:24
18:23 [d]S Mt 13:24 [e]Mt 25:19
18:25 [f]Lk 7:42 [g]Lev 25:39; 2Ki 4:1; Ne 5:5,8
18:26 [h]S Mt 8:2
18:35 [i]S Mt 6:14; S Jas 2:13
19:1 [j]S Mt 7:28
19:2 [k]S Mt 4:23
19:3 [l]Mt 5:31
19:4 [m]Ge 1:27; [illegible]
19:5 [n]Ge 2:24; [illegible]
19:7 [o]Dt 24:1-4; [illegible]
19:9 [p]S Lk 16:18
19:11 [q][illegible]
19:13 [r][illegible]
19:14 [s][illegible]
19:16 [u][illegible]
19:17 [w]Lev 18:5
19:18 [x]Jas 2:11

a22 Or seventy times seven w24 That is, millions of dollars x28 That is, a few dollars y4 Gen. 1:27 z5 Gen. 2:24 a12 Or have made themselves eunuchs

father and mother,'[v] and 'love your
neighbor as yourself.'[r]"[w]
20"All these I have kept," the young
man said. "What do I still lack?"
21Jesus answered, "If you want to be
perfect,[x] go, sell your possessions and
give to the poor,[y] and you will have
treasure in heaven.[z] Then come, fol-
low me."
22When the young man heard this,
he went away sad, because he had
great wealth.
23Then Jesus said to his disciples, "I
tell you the truth, it is hard for a rich
man[a] to enter the kingdom of heaven.
24Again I tell you, it is easier for a camel
to go through the eye of a needle than
for a rich man to enter the kingdom of
God."
25When the disciples heard this, they
were greatly astonished and asked,
"Who then can be saved?"
26Jesus looked at them and said,
"With man this is impossible, but with
God all things are possible."[b]
27Peter answered him, "We have left
everything to follow you![c] What then
will there be for us?"
28Jesus said to them, "I tell you the
truth, at the renewal of all things,
when the Son of Man sits on his glori-
ous throne,[d] you who have followed
me will also sit on twelve thrones,
judging the twelve tribes of Israel.[e]
29And everyone who has left houses or
brothers or sisters or father or mother[s]
or children or fields for my sake will
receive a hundred times as much and
will inherit eternal life.[f] 30But many
who are first will be last, and many
who are last will be first.[g]

19:19 [v]Ex 20:12-16; Dt 5:16-20 [w]Lev 19:18; S Mt 5:43
19:21 [x]Mt 5:48 [y]S Ac 2:45 [z]S Mt 6:20
19:23 [a]Mt 13:22; 1Ti 6:9, 10
19:26 [b]Ge 18:14; Job 42:2; Jer 32:17; Lk 1:37; 18:27; Ro 4:21
19:27 [c]S Mt 4:19
19:28 [d]Mt 20:21; 25:31 [e]Lk 22:28-30; Rev 3:21; 4:4; 20:4
19:29 [f]Mt 6:33; S 25:46
19:30 [g]Mt 20:16; Mk 10:31; Lk 13:30
20:1 [h]S Mt 13:24 [i]Mt 21:28, 33

The Parable of the Workers in the Vineyard

20 "For the kingdom of heaven is
like[h] a landowner who went out
early in the morning to hire men to
work in his vineyard.[i] 2He agreed to
pay them a denarius for the day and
sent them into his vineyard.
3"About the third hour he went out
and saw others standing in the market-
place doing nothing. 4He told them,
'You also go and work in my vineyard,
and I will pay you whatever is right.'
5So they went.
"He went out again about the sixth
hour and the ninth hour and did the
same thing. 6About the eleventh hour
he went out and found still others
standing around. He asked them,
'Why have you been standing here all
day long doing nothing?'
7"'Because no one has hired us,'
they answered.
"He said to them, 'You also go and
work in my vineyard.'
8"When evening came,[j] the owner
of the vineyard said to his foreman,
'Call the workers and pay them their
wages, beginning with the last ones
hired and going on to the first.'
9"The workers who were hired about
the eleventh hour came and each re-
ceived a denarius. 10So when those
came who were hired first, they ex-
pected to receive more. But each one of
them also received a denarius. 11When
they received it, they began to grum-
ble[k] against the landowner. 12'These
men who were hired last worked only
one hour,' they said, 'and you have
made them equal to us who have borne
the burden of the work and the heat[l]
of the day.'
13"But he answered one of them,
'Friend,[m] I am not being unfair to you.
Didn't you agree to work for a denari-
us? 14Take your pay and go. I want to
give the man who was hired last the
same as I gave you. 15Don't I have the
right to do what I want with my own
money? Or are you envious because I
am generous?'[n]
16"So the last will be first, and the
first will be last."[o]

Jesus Again Predicts His Death

20:17-19pp — Mk 10:32-34; Lk 18:31-33

17Now as Jesus was going up to
Jerusalem, he took the twelve disciples
aside and said to them, 18"We are go-
ing up to Jerusalem,[p] and the Son of
Man[q] will be betrayed to the chief
priests and the teachers of the law.[r]
They will condemn him to death 19and
will turn him over to the Gentiles to be
mocked and flogged[s] and crucified.[t]
On the third day[u] he will be raised to
life!"[v]

A Mother's Request

20:20-28pp — Mk 10:35-45

20Then the mother of Zebedee's
sons[w] came to Jesus with her sons and,
kneeling down,[x] asked a favor of him.
21"What is it you want?" he asked.
She said, "Grant that one of these
two sons of mine may sit at your right

20:8 [j]Lev 19:13; Dt 24:15
20:11 [k]Jnh 4:1
20:12 [l]Jnh 4:8; Lk 12:55; Jas 1:11
20:13 [m]Mt 22:12; 26:50
20:15 [n]Dt 15:9; Mk 7:22
20:16 [o]S Mt 19:30
20:18 [p]S Lk 9:51 [q]S Mt 8:20 [r]Mt 27:1, 2
20:19 [s]S Mt 16:21 [t]S Ac 2:23 [u]S Mt 16:21 [v]S Mt 16:21
20:20 [w]S Mt 4:21 [x]S Mt 8:2

[a]19 Exodus 20:12-16; Deut. 5:16-20 [r]19 Lev. 19:18
[s]29 Some manuscripts *mother or wife*

and the other at your left in your king-
dom."
22"You don't know what you are ask-
ing," Jesus said to them. "Can you
drink the cup I am going to drink?"
"We can," they answered.
23Jesus said to them, "You will in-
deed drink from my cup, but to sit at
my right or left is not for me to grant.
These places belong to those for whom
they have been prepared by my Fa-
ther."
24When the ten heard about this,
they were indignant with the two
brothers. 25Jesus called them together
and said, "You know that the rulers of
the Gentiles lord it over them, and
their high officials exercise authority
over them. 26Not so with you. Instead,
whoever wants to become great among
you must be your servant, 27and who-
ever wants to be first must be your
slave— 28just as the Son of Man did
not come to be served, but to serve,
and to give his life as a ransom for
many."

Two Blind Men Receive Sight

20:29-34pp — Mk 10:46-52; Lk 18:35-43

29As Jesus and his disciples were
leaving Jericho, a large crowd followed
him. 30Two blind men were sitting by
the roadside, and when they heard that
Jesus was going by, they shouted,
"Lord, Son of David, have mercy on
us!"
31The crowd rebuked them and told
them to be quiet, but they shouted all
the louder, "Lord, Son of David, have
mercy on us!"
32Jesus stopped and called them.
"What do you want me to do for you?"
he asked.
33"Lord," they answered, "we want
our sight."
34Jesus had compassion on them and
touched their eyes. Immediately they
received their sight and followed him.

The Triumphal Entry

21:1-9pp — Mk 11:1-10; Lk 19:29-38
21:4-9pp — Jn 12:12-15

21 As they approached Jerusalem
and came to Bethphage on the
Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disci-
ples, 2saying to them, "Go to the vil-
lage ahead of you, and at once you will
find a donkey tied there, with her colt
by her. Untie them and bring them to
me. 3If anyone says anything to you,
tell him that the Lord needs them, and
he will send them right away."

4This took place to fulfill what was
spoken through the prophet:

5"Say to the Daughter of Zion,
'See, your king comes to you,
gentle and riding on a donkey,
on a colt, the foal of a
donkey.'"[e]

6The disciples went and did as Jesus
had instructed them. 7They brought
the donkey and the colt, placed their
cloaks on them, and Jesus sat on them.
8A very large crowd spread their
cloaks on the road, while others cut
branches from the trees and spread
them on the road. 9The crowds that
went ahead of him and those that fol-
lowed shouted,

"Hosanna[f] to the Son of David!"

"Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord!"[g]

"Hosanna[f] in the highest!"

10When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the
whole city was stirred and asked,
"Who is this?"
11The crowds answered, "This is
Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in
Galilee."

Jesus at the Temple

21:12-16pp — Mk 11:15-18; Lk 19:45-47

12Jesus entered the temple area and
drove out all who were buying and
selling there. He overturned the tables
of the money changers and the
benches of those selling doves. 13"It is
written," he said to them, "'My house
will be called a house of prayer,'[h] but
you are making it a 'den of rob-
bers.'"[i]
14The blind and the lame came to him
at the temple, and he healed them.
15But when the chief priests and the
teachers of the law saw the wonderful
things he did and the children shouting
in the temple area, "Hosanna to the
Son of David," they were indignant.
16"Do you hear what these children
are saying?" they asked him.
"Yes," replied Jesus, "have you nev-
er read,

"'From the lips of children and
infants
you have ordained praise'[j]?"

17And he left them and went out of

e5 Zech. 9:9 f9 A Hebrew expression meaning "Save!" which became an exclamation of praise; also in verse 15 g9 Psalm 118:26 h13 Isaiah 56:7 i13 Jer. 7:11 j16 Psalm 8:2

the city to Bethany,[a] where he spent
the night.

The Fig Tree Withers

21:18-22pp — Mk 11:12-14,20-24

18Early in the morning, as he was on
his way back to the city, he was hun-
gry. 19Seeing a fig tree by the road, he
went up to it but found nothing on it
except leaves. Then he said to it, "May
you never bear fruit again!" Immedi-
ately the tree withered.[b]
20When the disciples saw this, they
were amazed. "How did the fig tree
wither so quickly?" they asked.
21Jesus replied, "I tell you the truth,
if you have faith and do not doubt,[c]
not only can you do what was done to
the fig tree, but also you can say to this
mountain, 'Go, throw yourself into the
sea,' and it will be done. 22If you be-
lieve, you will receive whatever you
ask for[d] in prayer."

The Authority of Jesus Questioned

21:23-27pp — Mk 11:27-33; Lk 20:1-8

23Jesus entered the temple courts,
and, while he was teaching, the chief
priests and the elders of the people
came to him. "By what authority[e] are
you doing these things?" they asked.
"And who gave you this authority?"
24Jesus replied, "I will also ask you
one question. If you answer me, I will
tell you by what authority I am doing
these things. 25John's baptism—where
did it come from? Was it from heaven,
or from men?"
They discussed it among themselves
and said, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he
will ask, 'Then why didn't you believe
him?' 26But if we say, 'From men'—we
are afraid of the people, for they all
hold that John was a prophet."[f]
27So they answered Jesus, "We don't
know."
Then he said, "Neither will I tell you
by what authority I am doing these
things.

The Parable of the Two Sons

28"What do you think? There was a
man who had two sons. He went to the
first and said, 'Son, go and work today
in the vineyard.'[g]
29" 'I will not,' he answered, but later
he changed his mind and went.
30"Then the father went to the other
son and said the same thing. He an-
swered, 'I will, sir,' but he did not go.

21:17 [a]Mt 26:6; Mk 11:1; Lk 24:50; Jn 11:1,18; 12:1 **21:19** [b]Isa 34:4; Jer 8:13 **21:21** [c]Mt 17:20; Lk 17:6; 1Co 13:2; Jas 1:6 **21:22** [d]S Mt 7:7 **21:23** [e]Ac 4:7; 7:27 **21:26** [f]S Mt 11:9 **21:28** [g]ver 33; Mt 20:1

31"Which of the two did what his fa-
ther wanted?"
"The first," they answered.
Jesus said to them, "I tell you the
truth, the tax collectors[h] and the prosti-
tutes[i] are entering the kingdom of God
ahead of you. 32For John came to you to
show you the way of righteousness,[j]
and you did not believe him, but the
tax collectors[k] and the prostitutes[l]
did. And even after you saw this, you
did not repent[m] and believe him.

The Parable of the Tenants

21:33-46pp — Mk 12:1-12; Lk 20:9-19

33"Listen to another parable: There
was a landowner who planted[n] a vine-
yard. He put a wall around it, dug a
winepress in it and built a watchtow-
er.[o] Then he rented the vineyard to
some farmers and went away on a jour-
ney.[p] 34When the harvest time ap-
proached, he sent his servants[q] to the
tenants to collect his fruit.
35"The tenants seized his servants;
they beat one, killed another, and
stoned a third.[r] 36Then he sent other
servants[s] to them, more than the first
time, and the tenants treated them the
same way. 37Last of all, he sent his son
to them. 'They will respect my son,' he
said.
38"But when the tenants saw the son,
they said to each other, 'This is the
heir.[t] Come, let's kill him[u] and take
his inheritance.'[v] 39So they took him
and threw him out of the vineyard and
killed him.
40"Therefore, when the owner of the
vineyard comes, what will he do to
those tenants?"
41"He will bring those wretches to a
wretched end,"[w] they replied, "and he
will rent the vineyard to other ten-
ants,[x] who will give him his share of
the crop at harvest time."
42Jesus said to them, "Have you nev-
er read in the Scriptures:

> " 'The stone the builders rejected
> has become the capstone[k];
> the Lord has done this,
> and it is marvelous in our eyes'[l]?[y]

43"Therefore I tell you that the king-
dom of God will be taken away from
you[z] and given to a people who will
produce its fruit. 44He who falls on this
stone will be broken to pieces, but he
on whom it falls will be crushed."[m]

21:31 [h]Lk 7:29 [i]Lk 7:50 **21:32** [j]Mt 3:1-12 [k]Lk 3:12,13; 7:29 [l]Lk 7:36-50 [m]Lk 7:30 **21:33** [n]Ps 80:8 [o]Isa 5:1-7 [p]Mt 25:14,15 **21:34** [q]Mt 22:3 **21:35** [r]2Ch 24:21; Mt 23:34,37; Heb 11:36,37 **21:36** [s]Mt 22:4 **21:38** [t]Heb 1:2 [u]S Mt 12:14 [v]Ps 2:8 **21:41** [w]Mt 8:11,12 [x]S Ac 13:46 **21:42** [y]Ps 118:22,23; S Ac 4:11 **21:43** [z]Mt 8:12 **21:44** [a]S Lk 2:34

[k]42 Or *cornerstone* [l]42 Psalm 118:22,23
[m]44 Some manuscripts do not have verse 44.

45When the chief priests and the
Pharisees heard Jesus' parables, they
knew he was talking about them.
46They looked for a way to arrest him,
but they were afraid of the crowd be-
cause the people held that he was a
prophet.[a]

The Parable of the Wedding Banquet

22:2-14Ref — Lk 14:16-24

22 Jesus spoke to them again in par-
ables, saying: 2"The kingdom of
heaven is like[b] a king who prepared a
wedding banquet for his son. 3He sent
his servants[c] to those who had been
invited to the banquet to tell them to
come, but they refused to come.
4"Then he sent some more servants[d]
and said, 'Tell those who have been in-
vited that I have prepared my dinner:
My oxen and fattened cattle have been
butchered, and everything is ready.
Come to the wedding banquet.'
5"But they paid no attention and
went off—one to his field, another to
his business. 6The rest seized his ser-
vants, mistreated them and killed
them. 7The king was enraged. He sent
his army and destroyed those murder-
ers[e] and burned their city.
8"Then he said to his servants, 'The
wedding banquet is ready, but those I
invited did not deserve to come. 9Go to
the street corners[f] and invite to the
banquet anyone you find.' 10So the ser-
vants went out into the streets and
gathered all the people they could find,
both good and bad,[g] and the wedding
hall was filled with guests.
11"But when the king came in to see
the guests, he noticed a man there who
was not wearing wedding clothes.
12'Friend,'[h] he asked, 'how did you get
in here without wedding clothes?' The
man was speechless.
13"Then the king told the attendants,
'Tie him hand and foot, and throw him
outside, into the darkness, where there
will be weeping and gnashing of
teeth.'[i]
14"For many are invited, but few are
chosen."[j]

Paying Taxes to Caesar

22:15-22pp — Mk 12:13-17; Lk 20:20-26

15Then the Pharisees went out and
laid plans to trap him in his words.
16They sent their disciples to him along
with the Herodians.[k] "Teacher," they
said, "we know you are a man of integ-
rity and that you teach the way of God
in accordance with the truth. You
aren't swayed by men, because you
pay no attention to who they are. 17Tell
us then, what is your opinion? Is it
right to pay taxes[l] to Caesar or not?"
18But Jesus, knowing their evil in-
tent, said, "You hypocrites, why are
you trying to trap me? 19Show me the
coin used for paying the tax." They
brought him a denarius, 20and he asked
them, "Whose portrait is this? And
whose inscription?"
21"Caesar's," they replied.
Then he said to them, "Give to Cae-
sar what is Caesar's,[m] and to God what
is God's."
22When they heard this, they were
amazed. So they left him and went
away.[n]

Marriage at the Resurrection

22:23-33pp — Mk 12:18-27; Lk 20:27-40

23That same day the Sadducees,[o]
who say there is no resurrection,[p]
came to him with a question.
24"Teacher," they said, "Moses told us
that if a man dies without having chil-
dren, his brother must marry the widow
and have children for him.[q] 25Now there
were seven brothers among us. The first
one married and died, and since he had
no children, he left his wife to his broth-
er. 26The same thing happened to the
second and third brother, right on
down to the seventh. 27Finally, the
woman died. 28Now then, at the resur-
rection, whose wife will she be of the
seven, since all of them were married to
her?"
29Jesus replied, "You are in error be-
cause you do not know the Scriptures[r]
or the power of God. 30At the resurrec-
tion people will neither marry nor be
given in marriage;[s] they will be like the
angels in heaven. 31But about the resur-
rection of the dead—have you not read
what God said to you, 32'I am the God
of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the
God of Jacob'[n]?[t] He is not the God of
the dead but of the living."
33When the crowds heard this, they
were astonished at his teaching.[u]

The Greatest Commandment

22:34-40pp — Mk 12:28-31

34Hearing that Jesus had silenced the
Saddducees,[v] the Pharisees got to-
gether. 35One of them, an expert in the
law,[w] tested him with this question:

21:46 [a]S ver 11, 26
22:2 [b]S Mt 13:24
22:3 [c]Mt 21:34
22:4 [d]Mt 21:36
22:7 [e]Lk 19:27
22:9 [f]Eze 21:21
22:10 [g]Mt 13:47,48
22:12 [h]Mt 20:13; 26:50
22:13 [i]S Mt 8:12
22:14 [j]Rev 17:14
22:16 [k]Mk 3:6
22:17 [l]Mt 17:25
22:21 [m]Ro 13:7
22:22 [n]Mk 12:12
22:23 [o]S Ac 4:1 [p]Ac 23:8; 1Co 15:12
22:4 [q]Dt 25:5,6
22:29 [r]Jn 20:9
22:30 [s]Mt 24:38
22:32 [t]Ex 3:6; Ac 7:32
22:33 [u]S Mt 7:28
22:34 [v]S Ac 4:1
22:35 [w]Lk 7:30; 10:25; 11:45; 14:3

n32 Exodus 3:6

36“Teacher, which is the greatest com-
mandment in the Law?”
37Jesus replied: “ ‘Love the Lord your
God with all your heart and with all
your soul and with all your mind.’[o][a]
38This is the first and greatest com-
mandment. 39And the second is like it:
‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’[p][b]
40All the Law and the Prophets hang on
these two commandments.”[c]

Whose Son Is the Christ?

22:41-46pp — Mk 12:35-37; Lk 20:41-44

41While the Pharisees were gathered
together, Jesus asked them, 42“What do
you think about the Christ[q]? Whose
son is he?”
“The son of David,”[d] they replied.
43He said to them, “How is it then
that David, speaking by the Spirit, calls
him ‘Lord’? For he says,

44“ ‘The Lord said to my Lord:
“Sit at my right hand
until I put your enemies
under your feet.” ’[r][e]

45If then David calls him ‘Lord,’ how
can he be his son?” 46No one could say
a word in reply, and from that day on
no one dared to ask him any more
questions.[f]

Seven Woes

23:1-7pp — Mk 12:38,39; Lk 20:45,46
23:37-39pp — Lk 13:34,35

23 Then Jesus said to the crowds
and to his disciples: 2“The teach-
ers of the law[g] and the Pharisees sit in
Moses’ seat. 3So you must obey them
and do everything they tell you. But do
not do what they do, for they do not
practice what they preach. 4They tie up
heavy loads and put them on men’s
shoulders, but they themselves are not
willing to lift a finger to move them.[h]
5“Everything they do is done for men
to see:[i] They make their phylac-
teries[s][j] wide and the tassels on their
garments[k] long; 6they love the place of
honor at banquets and the most impor-
tant seats in the synagogues;[l] 7they
love to be greeted in the marketplaces
and to have men call them ‘Rabbi.’[m]
8“But you are not to be called ‘Rabbi,’
for you have only one Master and you
are all brothers. 9And do not call any-
one on earth ‘father,’ for you have one
Father,[n] and he is in heaven. 10Nor are
you to be called ‘teacher,’ for you have
one Teacher, the Christ.[q] 11The great-
est among you will be your servant.[o]
12For whoever exalts himself will be
humbled, and whoever humbles him-
self will be exalted.[p]
13“Woe to you, teachers of the law
and Pharisees, you hypocrites![q] You
shut the kingdom of heaven in men’s
faces. You yourselves do not enter, nor
will you let those enter who are trying
to.[t][r]
15“Woe to you, teachers of the law
and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You
travel over land and sea to win a single
convert,[s] and when he becomes one,
you make him twice as much a son of
hell[t] as you are.
16“Woe to you, blind guides![u] You
say, ‘If anyone swears by the temple, it
means nothing; but if anyone swears
by the gold of the temple, he is bound
by his oath.’[v] 17You blind fools! Which
is greater: the gold, or the temple that
makes the gold sacred?[w] 18You also
say, ‘If anyone swears by the altar, it
means nothing; but if anyone swears
by the gift on it, he is bound by his
oath.’ 19You blind men! Which is
greater: the gift, or the altar that makes
the gift sacred?[x] 20Therefore, he who
swears by the altar swears by it and by
everything on it. 21And he who swears
by the temple swears by it and by the
one who dwells[y] in it. 22And he who
swears by heaven swears by God’s
throne and by the one who sits on it.[z]
23“Woe to you, teachers of the law
and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You
give a tenth[a] of your spices—mint, dill
and cummin. But you have neglected
the more important matters of the
law—justice, mercy and faithfulness.[b]
You should have practiced the latter,
without neglecting the former. 24You
blind guides![c] You strain out a gnat
but swallow a camel.
25“Woe to you, teachers of the law
and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You
clean the outside of the cup and dish,[d]
but inside they are full of greed and
self-indulgence.[e] 26Blind Pharisee! First
clean the inside of the cup and dish,
and then the outside also will be clean.
27“Woe to you, teachers of the law
and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You are
like whitewashed tombs,[f] which look
beautiful on the outside but on the in-
side are full of dead men’s bones and
everything unclean. 28In the same way,

22:37 [a]Dt 6:5
22:39 [b]Lev 19:18; S Mt 5:43
22:40 [c]Mt 7:12; Lk 10:25-28
22:42 [d]S Mt 9:27
22:44 [e]Ps 110:1; 1Ki 5:3; Ac 2:34, 35; 1Co 15:25; Heb 1:13; 10:13
22:46 [f]Mk 12:34; Lk 20:40
23:2 [g]Ezr 7:6,25
23:4 [h]Lk 11:46; Ac 15:10; Gal 6:13
23:5 [i]Mt 6:1,2, 5,16 [j]Ex 13:9; Dt 6:8 [k]Nu 15:38; Dt 22:12
23:6 [l]Lk 11:43; 14:7; 20:46
23:7 [m]ver 8; Mt 26:25,49; Mk 9:5; 10:51; Jn 1:38,49; 3:2, 26; 20:16
23:9 [n]Mal 1:6; Mt 6:9; 7:11
23:11 [o]S Mk 9:35
23:12 [p]1Sa 2:8; Ps 18:27; Pr 3:34; Isa 57:15; Eze 21:26; Lk 1:52; 14:11
23:13 [q]ver 15, 23,25,27,29 [r]Lk 11:52
23:15 [s]Ac 2:11; 6:5; 13:43 [t]S Mt 5:22
23:16 [u]ver 24; Isa 9:16; Mt 15:14 [v]Mt 5:33-35
23:17 [w]Ex 30:29
23:19 [x]Ex 29:37
23:21 [y]1Ki 8:13; Ps 26:8
23:22 [z]Ps 11:4; Mt 5:34
23:23 [a]Lev 27:30 [b]Mic 6:8; Lk 11:42
23:24 [c]ver 16
23:25 [d]Mk 7:4 [e]Lk 11:39
23:27 [f]Lk 11:44; Ac 23:3

[o]37 Deut. 6:5 [p]39 Lev. 19:18 [q]42,10 Or *Messiah*
[r]44 Psalm 110:1 [s]5 That is, boxes containing Scripture verses, worn on forehead and arm
[t]13 Some manuscripts *to.* [14]*Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You devour widows’ houses and for a show make lengthy prayers. Therefore you will be punished more severely.*

on the outside you appear to people as
righteous but on the inside you are full
of hypocrisy and wickedness.
29"Woe to you, teachers of the law
and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You
build tombs for the prophets[a] and
decorate the graves of the righteous.
30And you say, 'If we had lived in the
days of our forefathers, we would not
have taken part with them in shedding
the blood of the prophets.' 31So you
testify against yourselves that you are
the descendants of those who mur-
dered the prophets.[b] 32Fill up, then,
the measure[c] of the sin of your fore-
fathers![d]
33"You snakes! You brood of vipers![e]
How will you escape being condemned
to hell?[f] 34Therefore I am sending you
prophets and wise men and teachers.
Some of them you will kill and cruci-
fy;[g] others you will flog in your syna-
gogues[h] and pursue from town to
town.[i] 35And so upon you will come
all the righteous blood that has been
shed on earth, from the blood of right-
eous Abel[j] to the blood of Zechariah
son of Berekiah,[k] whom you murdered
between the temple and the altar.[l] 36I
tell you the truth, all this will come
upon this generation.[m]
37"O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who
kill the prophets and stone those sent
to you,[n] how often I have longed to
gather your children together, as a hen
gathers her chicks under her wings,[o]
but you were not willing. 38Look, your
house is left to you desolate.[p] 39For I
tell you, you will not see me again until
you say, 'Blessed is he who comes in
the name of the Lord.'[u]"[q]

Signs of the End of the Age

24:1-51pp — Mk 13:1-37; Lk 21:5-36

24 Jesus left the temple and was
walking away when his disciples
came up to him to call his attention to
its buildings. 2"Do you see all these
things?" he asked. "I tell you the truth,
not one stone here will be left on an-
other;[r] every one will be thrown
down."
3As Jesus was sitting on the Mount of
Olives,[s] the disciples came to him pri-
vately. "Tell us," they said, "when will
this happen, and what will be the sign
of your coming[t] and of the end of the
age?"[u]
4Jesus answered: "Watch out that no
one deceives you.[v] 5For many will
come in my name, claiming, 'I am the
Christ,'[v] and will deceive many.[w] 6You
will hear of wars and rumors of wars,
but see to it that you are not alarmed.
Such things must happen, but the end
is still to come. 7Nation will rise against
nation, and kingdom against king-
dom.[x] There will be famines[y] and
earthquakes in various places. 8All
these are the beginning of birth pains.
9"Then you will be handed over to be
persecuted[z] and put to death,[a] and
you will be hated by all nations because
of me.[b] 10At that time many will turn
away from the faith and will betray and
hate each other, 11and many false
prophets[c] will appear and deceive
many people.[d] 12Because of the in-
crease of wickedness, the love of most
will grow cold, 13but he who stands
firm to the end will be saved.[e] 14And
this gospel of the kingdom[f] will be
preached in the whole world[g] as a tes-
timony to all nations, and then the end
will come.
15"So when you see standing in the
holy place[h] 'the abomination that
causes desolation,'[w][i] spoken of
through the prophet Daniel—let the
reader understand— 16then let those
who are in Judea flee to the mountains.
17Let no one on the roof of his house[j]
go down to take anything out of the
house. 18Let no one in the field go back
to get his cloak. 19How dreadful it will
be in those days for pregnant women
and nursing mothers![k] 20Pray that your
flight will not take place in winter or on
the Sabbath. 21For then there will be
great distress, unequaled from the be-
ginning of the world until now—and
never to be equaled again.[l] 22If those
days had not been cut short, no one
would survive, but for the sake of the
elect[m] those days will be shortened.
23At that time if anyone says to you,
'Look, here is the Christ!' or, 'There he
is!' do not believe it.[n] 24For false
Christs and false prophets will appear
and perform great signs and miracles[o]
to deceive even the elect—if that were
possible. 25See, I have told you ahead
of time.
26"So if anyone tells you, 'There he
is, out in the desert,' do not go out; or,
'Here he is, in the inner rooms,' do not
believe it. 27For as lightning[p] that
comes from the east is visible even in
the west, so will be the coming[q] of the

23:29 [a]Lk 11:47,48
23:31 [b]S Mt 5:12
23:32 [c]1Th 2:16 [d]Eze 20:4
23:33 [e]Mt 3:7; 12:34 [f]S Mt 5:22
23:34 [g]2Ch 36:15,16; Lk 11:49 [h]S Mt 10:17 [i]Mt 10:23
23:35 [j]Ge 4:8; Heb 11:4 [k]Zec 1:1 [l]2Ch 24:21
23:36 [m]Mt 10:23; 24:34; Lk 11:50, 51
23:37 [n]2Ch 24:21; S Mt 5:12 [o]Ps 57:1; 61:4; Isa 31:5
23:38 [p]1Ki 9:7, 8; Jer 22:5
23:39 [q]Ps 118:26; Mt 21:9
24:2 [r]Lk 19:44
24:3 [s]S Mt 21:1 [t]S Lk 17:30 [u]Mt 13:39; 28:20
24:4 [v]S Mk 13:5
24:5 [w]ver 11, 23,24; 1Jn 2:18
24:7 [x]Isa 19:2 [y]Ac 11:28
24:9 [z]Mt 10:17 [a]Jn 16:2 [b]S Jn 15:21
24:11 [c]S Mt 7:15 [d]S Mk 13:5
24:13 [e]S Mt 10:22
24:14 [f]S Mt 4:23 [g]S Ro 10:18; Lk 2:1; 4:5; Ac 11:28; 17:6; Rev 3:10; 16:14
24:15 [h]S Ac 6:13 [i]Da 9:27; 11:31; 12:11
24:17 [j]1Sa 9:25; Mt 10:27; Lk 12:3; Ac 10:9
24:19 [k]Lk 23:29
24:21 [l]Eze 5:9; Da 12:1; Joel 2:2
24:22 [m]ver 24, 31
24:23 [n]Lk 17:23; 21:8
24:24 [o]Ex 7:11, 22; 2Th 2:9-11; Rev 13:13; 16:14; 19:20
24:27 [p]Lk 17:24 [q]S Lk 17:30

u39 Psalm 118:26 v5 Or *Messiah;* also in verse 23
w15 Daniel 9:27; 11:31; 12:11

Son of Man.[a] 28 "Wherever there is a car-
cass, there the vultures will gather.[b]
29 "Immediately after the distress of
those days

"'the sun will be darkened,[x]
and the moon will not give its
light;
the stars will fall from the sky,
and the heavenly bodies will be
shaken.'[c]

30 "At that time the sign of the Son of
Man will appear in the sky, and all the
nations of the earth will mourn.[d] They
will see the Son of Man coming on the
clouds of the sky,[e] with power and
great glory. 31 And he will send his an-
gels[f] with a loud trumpet call,[g] and
they will gather his elect from the four
winds, from one end of the heavens to
the other.
32 "Now learn this lesson from the fig
tree: As soon as its twigs get tender
and its leaves come out, you know that
summer is near. 33 Even so, when you
see all these things, you know that it[y]
is near, right at the door.[h] 34 I tell you
the truth, this generation[z] will cer-
tainly not pass away until all these
things have happened.[i] 35 Heaven and
earth will pass away, but my words
will never pass away.[j]

The Day and Hour Unknown

24:37-39pp — Lk 17:26,27
24:45-51pp — Lk 12:42-46

36 "No one knows about that day or
hour, not even the angels in heaven,
nor the Son,[a] but only the Father.[k]
37 As it was in the days of Noah,[l] so it
will be at the coming of the Son of
Man. 38 For in the days before the flood,
people were eating and drinking, mar-
rying and giving in marriage,[m] up to
the day Noah entered the ark; 39 and
they knew nothing about what would
happen until the flood came and took
them all away. That is how it will be at
the coming of the Son of Man.[n] 40 Two
men will be in the field; one will be tak-
en and the other left.[o] 41 Two women
will be grinding with a hand mill; one
will be taken and the other left.[p]
42 "Therefore keep watch, because
you do not know on what day your
Lord will come.[q] 43 But understand this:
If the owner of the house had known at
what time of night the thief was com-
ing,[r] he would have kept watch and
would not have let his house be broken
into. 44 So you also must be ready,[s] be-
cause the Son of Man will come at an
hour when you do not expect him.
45 "Who then is the faithful and wise
servant,[t] whom the master has put in
charge of the servants in his household
to give them their food at the proper
time? 46 It will be good for that servant
whose master finds him doing so when
he returns.[u] 47 I tell you the truth, he
will put him in charge of all his posses-
sions.[v] 48 But suppose that servant is
wicked and says to himself, 'My master
is staying away a long time,' 49 and he
then begins to beat his fellow servants
and to eat and drink with drunkards.[w]
50 The master of that servant will come
on a day when he does not expect him
and at an hour he is not aware of. 51 He
will cut him to pieces and assign him a
place with the hypocrites, where there
will be weeping and gnashing of
teeth.[x]

The Parable of the Ten Virgins

25 "At that time the kingdom of
heaven will be like[y] ten virgins
who took their lamps[z] and went out to
meet the bridegroom.[a] 2 Five of them
were foolish and five were wise.[b] 3 The
foolish ones took their lamps but did
not take any oil with them. 4 The wise,
however, took oil in jars along with
their lamps. 5 The bridegroom was a
long time in coming, and they all
became drowsy and fell asleep.[c]
6 "At midnight the cry rang out:
'Here's the bridegroom! Come out to
meet him!'
7 "Then all the virgins woke up and
trimmed their lamps. 8 The foolish ones
said to the wise, 'Give us some of your
oil; our lamps are going out.'[d]
9 "'No,' they replied, 'there may not
be enough for both us and you. In-
stead, go to those who sell oil and buy
some for yourselves.'
10 "But while they were on their way
to buy the oil, the bridegroom arrived.
The virgins who were ready went in
with him to the wedding banquet.[e]
And the door was shut.
11 "Later the others also came. 'Sir!
Sir!' they said. 'Open the door for us!'
12 "But he replied, 'I tell you the
truth, I don't know you.'[f]
13 "Therefore keep watch, because
you do not know the day or the hour.[g]

24:27 [a]S Mt 8:20 **24:28** [b]Lk 17:37 **24:29** [c]Isa 13:10; 34:4; Eze 32:7; Joel 2:10,31; Zep 1:15; Rev 6:12,13; 8:12 **24:30** [d]Rev 1:7 [e]S Rev 1:7 **24:31** [f]Mt 13:41 [g]Isa 27:13; Zec 9:14; 1Co 15:52; 1Th 4:16; Rev 8:2; 10:7; 11:15 **24:33** [h]Jas 5:9 **24:34** [i]Mt 16:28; S 23:36 **24:35** [j]S Mt 5:18 **24:36** [k]Ac 1:7 **24:37** [l]Ge 6:5; 7:6-23 **24:38** [m]Mt 22:30 **24:39** [n]S Lk 17:30 **24:40** [o]Lk 17:34 **24:41** [p]Lk 17:35 **24:42** [q]Mt 25:13; Lk 12:40 **24:43** [r]S Lk 12:39 **24:44** [s]1Th 5:6
24:45 [t]Mt 25:21,23 **24:46** [u]Rev 16:15 **24:47** [v]Mt 25:21,23 **24:49** [w]Lk 21:34 **24:51** [x]S Mt 8:12 **25:1** [y]S Mt 13:24 [z]Lk 12:35-38; Ac 20:8; Rev 4:5 [a]Rev 19:7; 21:2 **25:2** [b]Mt 24:45 **25:5** [c]1Th 5:6 **25:8** [d]Lk 12:35 **25:10** [e]Rev 19:9 **25:12** [f]ver 41; S Mt 7:23 **25:13** [g]Mt 24:42,44; Mk 13:35; Lk 12:40

[x]29 Isaiah 13:10; 34:4 [y]33 Or *he* [z]34 Or *race*
[a]36 Some manuscripts do not have *nor the Son.*

The Parable of the Talents

25:14-30Ref — Lk 19:12-27

14"Again, it will be like a man going
on a journey,[a] who called his servants
and entrusted his property to them.
15To one he gave five talents[b] of
money, to another two talents, and to
another one talent, each according to
his ability.[b] Then he went on his jour-
ney. 16The man who had received the
five talents went at once and put his
money to work and gained five more.
17So also, the one with the two talents
gained two more. 18But the man who
had received the one talent went off,
dug a hole in the ground and hid his
master's money.

19"After a long time the master of
those servants returned and settled ac-
counts with them.[c] 20The man who
had received the five talents brought
the other five. 'Master,' he said, 'you
entrusted me with five talents. See, I
have gained five more.'

21"His master replied, 'Well done,
good and faithful servant! You have
been faithful with a few things; I will
put you in charge of many things.[d]
Come and share your master's happi-
ness!'

22"The man with the two talents also
came. 'Master,' he said, 'you entrusted
me with two talents; see, I have gained
two more.'

23"His master replied, 'Well done,
good and faithful servant! You have
been faithful with a few things; I will
put you in charge of many things.[e]
Come and share your master's happi-
ness!'

24"Then the man who had received
the one talent came. 'Master,' he said,
'I knew that you are a hard man, har-
vesting where you have not sown and
gathering where you have not scat-
tered seed. 25So I was afraid and went
out and hid your talent in the ground.
See, here is what belongs to you.'

26"His master replied, 'You wicked,
lazy servant! So you knew that I har-
vest where I have not sown and gather
where I have not scattered seed? 27Well
then, you should have put my money
on deposit with the bankers, so that
when I returned I would have received
it back with interest.

28" 'Take the talent from him and
give it to the one who has the ten tal-
ents. 29For everyone who has will be
given more, and he will have an abun-
dance. Whoever does not have, even
what he has will be taken from him.[f]
30And throw that worthless servant
outside, into the darkness, where there
will be weeping and gnashing of
teeth.'[g]

The Sheep and the Goats

31"When the Son of Man comes[h] in
his glory, and all the angels with him,
he will sit on his throne[i] in heavenly
glory. 32All the nations will be gathered
before him, and he will separate[j] the
people one from another as a shepherd
separates the sheep from the goats.[k]
33He will put the sheep on his right and
the goats on his left.

34"Then the King will say to those on
his right, 'Come, you who are blessed
by my Father; take your inheritance,
the kingdom[l] prepared for you since
the creation of the world.[m] 35For I was
hungry and you gave me something to
eat, I was thirsty and you gave me
something to drink, I was a stranger
and you invited me in,[n] 36I needed
clothes and you clothed me,[o] I was
sick and you looked after me,[p] I was in
prison and you came to visit me.'[q]

37"Then the righteous will answer
him, 'Lord, when did we see you hun-
gry and feed you, or thirsty and give
you something to drink? 38When did
we see you a stranger and invite you
in, or needing clothes and clothe you?
39When did we see you sick or in prison
and go to visit you?'

40"The King will reply, 'I tell you the
truth, whatever you did for one of the
least of these brothers of mine, you did
for me.'[r]

41"Then he will say to those on his
left, 'Depart from me,[s] you who are
cursed, into the eternal fire[t] prepared
for the devil and his angels.[u] 42For I
was hungry and you gave me nothing
to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me
nothing to drink, 43I was a stranger and
you did not invite me in, I needed
clothes and you did not clothe me, I
was sick and in prison and you did not
look after me.'

44"They also will answer, 'Lord,
when did we see you hungry or thirsty
or a stranger or needing clothes or sick
or in prison, and did not help you?'

45"He will reply, 'I tell you the truth,
whatever you did not do for one of the
least of these, you did not do for me.'[v]
46"Then they will go away to eternal

25:14 [a]Mt 21:33; Lk 19:12
25:15 [b]Mt 18:24,25
25:19 [c]Mt 18:23
25:21 [d]ver 23; Mt 24:45,47; Lk 16:10
25:23 [e]ver 21
25:29 [f]Mt 13:12; Mk 4:25; Lk 8:18; 19:26
25:30 [g]S Mt 8:12
25:31 [h]S Lk 17:30 [i]Mt 19:28
25:32 [j]Mal 3:18 [k]Eze 34:17,20
25:34 [l]S Mt 3:2; 5:3,10,19; 19:14; S Ac 20:32; 1Co 15:50; Gal 5:21; Jas 2:5 [m]Heb 4:3; 9:26; Rev 13:8; 17:8
25:35 [n]Job 31:32; Heb 13:2
25:36 [o]Isa 58:7; Eze 18:7; Jas 2:15,16 [p]Jas 1:27 [q]2Ti 1:16
25:40 [r]S Mt 10:40,42; Heb 13:2
25:41 [s]S Mt 7:23 [t]Isa 66:24; Mt 3:12; S 5:22; Mk 9:43,48; Lk 3:17; Jude 7 [u]2Pe 2:4
25:45 [v]Pr 14:31; 17:5

[b]15 A talent was worth more than a thousand dollars.

punishment, but the righteous to eter-
nal life.[a]"[b]

The Plot Against Jesus

26:2-5pp — Mk 14:1,2; Lk 22:1,2

26 When Jesus had finished saying
all these things,[c] he said to his
disciples, 2"As you know, the Pass-
over[d] is two days away—and the Son
of Man will be handed over to be cruci-
fied."
3Then the chief priests and the elders
of the people assembled[e] in the palace
of the high priest, whose name was
Caiaphas,[f] 4and they plotted to arrest
Jesus in some sly way and kill him.[g]
5"But not during the Feast," they said,
"or there may be a riot[h] among the
people."

Jesus Anointed at Bethany

26:6-13pp — Mk 14:3-9
26:6-13Ref — Lk 7:37,38; Jn 12:1-8

6While Jesus was in Bethany[i] in the
home of a man known as Simon the
Leper, 7a woman came to him with an
alabaster jar of very expensive per-
fume, which she poured on his head as
he was reclining at the table.
8When the disciples saw this, they
were indignant. "Why this waste?"
they asked. 9"This perfume could have
been sold at a high price and the
money given to the poor."
10Aware of this, Jesus said to them,
"Why are you bothering this woman?
She has done a beautiful thing to me.
11The poor you will always have with
you,[j] but you will not always have me.
12When she poured this perfume on my
body, she did it to prepare me for buri-
al.[k] 13I tell you the truth, wherever this
gospel is preached throughout the
world, what she has done will also be
told, in memory of her."

Judas Agrees to Betray Jesus

26:14-16pp — Mk 14:10,11; Lk 22:3-6

14Then one of the Twelve—the one
called Judas Iscariot[l]—went to the
chief priests 15and asked, "What are
you willing to give me if I hand him
over to you?" So they counted out for
him thirty silver coins.[m] 16From then on
Judas watched for an opportunity to
hand him over.

The Lord's Supper

26:17-19pp — Mk 14:12-16; Lk 22:7-13
26:20-24pp — Mk 14:17-21
26:26-29pp — Mk 14:22-25; Lk 22:17-20; 1Co 11:23-25

17On the first day of the Feast of Un-
leavened Bread,[n] the disciples came to
Jesus and asked, "Where do you want
us to make preparations for you to eat
the Passover?"[o]
18He replied, "Go into the city to a
certain man and tell him, 'The Teacher
says: My appointed time[p] is near. I am
going to celebrate the Passover with
my disciples at your house.'" 19So the
disciples did as Jesus had directed
them and prepared the Passover.
20When evening came, Jesus was re-
clining at the table with the Twelve.
21And while they were eating, he said,
"I tell you the truth, one of you will
betray me."[q]
22They were very sad and began to
say to him one after the other, "Surely
not I, Lord?"
23Jesus replied, "The one who has
dipped his hand into the bowl with me
will betray me.[r] 24The Son of Man will
go just as it is written about him.[s] But
woe to that man who betrays the Son
of Man! It would be better for him if he
had not been born."
25Then Judas, the one who would be-
tray him,[t] said, "Surely not I, Rab-
bi?"[u]
Jesus answered, "Yes, it is you."[c]
26While they were eating, Jesus took
bread, gave thanks and broke it,[v] and
gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take
and eat; this is my body."
27Then he took the cup,[w] gave thanks
and offered it to them, saying, "Drink
from it, all of you. 28This is my blood of
the[d] covenant,[x] which is poured out
for many for the forgiveness of sins.[y]
29I tell you, I will not drink of this fruit
of the vine from now on until that day
when I drink it anew with you[z] in my
Father's kingdom."
30When they had sung a hymn, they
went out to the Mount of Olives.[a]

Jesus Predicts Peter's Denial

26:31-35pp — Mk 14:27-31; Lk 22:31-34

31Then Jesus told them, "This very
night you will all fall away on account
of me,[b] for it is written:

> "'I will strike the shepherd,
> and the sheep of the flock will be
> scattered.'[e][c]

32But after I have risen, I will go ahead
of you into Galilee."[d]
33Peter replied, "Even if all fall away
on account of you, I never will."

25:46 [a]Mt 19:29; Jn 3:15,16,36; 17:2,3; Ro 2:7; Gal 6:8; 1Jn 1:2; 5:11,13,20 [b]Da 12:2; Jn 5:29; Ac 24:15; Ro 2:7,8; Gal 6:8
26:1 [c]S Mt 7:28
26:2 [d]S Jn 11:55
26:3 [e]Ps 2:2 [f]ver 57; Lk 3:2; Jn 11:47-53; 18:13,14,24,28; Ac 4:6
26:4 [g]S Mt 12:14
26:5 [h]Mt 27:24
26:6 [i]S Mt 21:17
26:11 [j]Dt 15:11
26:12 [k]Jn 19:40
26:14 [l]ver 25,47; S Mt 10:4
26:15 [m]Ex 21:32; Zec 11:12
26:17 [n]Ex 12:18-20 [o]Dt 16:5-8
26:18 [p]Mk 14:35,41; Jn 7:6,8,30; 8:20; 12:23; 13:1; 17:1
26:21 [q]Lk 22:21-23; Jn 13:21
26:23 [r]Ps 41:9; Jn 13:18
26:24 [s]ver 31,54,56; Isa 53; Da 9:26; Mk 9:12; Lk 24:25-27,46; Ac 17:2,3; 26:22,23; 1Pe 1:10,11
26:25 [t]S Mt 10:4 [u]S Mt 23:7
26:26 [v]S Mt 14:19
26:27 [w]1Co 10:16
26:28 [x]Ex 24:6-8; Zec 9:11; Mal 2:5; Heb 9:20; 10:29; S 13:20 [y]S Mt 20:28; Mk 1:4
26:29 [z]Ac 10:41
26:30 [a]S Mt 21:1
26:31 [b]Mt 11:6; 13:21 [c]Zec 13:7; Jn 16:32
26:32 [d]Mt 28:7,10,16

[c]25 Or *"You yourself have said it"* [d]28 Some manuscripts *the new* [e]31 Zech. 13:7

34"I tell you the truth," Jesus an-
swered, "this very night, before the
rooster crows, you will disown me
three times."[a]
35But Peter declared, "Even if I have
to die with you,[b] I will never disown
you." And all the other disciples said
the same.

Gethsemane

26:36-46pp — Mk 14:32-42; Lk 22:40-46

36Then Jesus went with his disciples
to a place called Gethsemane, and he
said to them, "Sit here while I go over
there and pray." 37He took Peter and
the two sons of Zebedee[c] along with
him, and he began to be sorrowful and
troubled. 38Then he said to them, "My
soul is overwhelmed with sorrow[d] to
the point of death. Stay here and keep
watch with me."[e]
39Going a little farther, he fell with
his face to the ground and prayed, "My
Father, if it is possible, may this cup[f]
be taken from me. Yet not as I will, but
as you will."[g]
40Then he returned to his disciples
and found them sleeping. "Could you
men not keep watch with me[h] for one
hour?" he asked Peter. 41"Watch and
pray so that you will not fall into temp-
tation.[i] The spirit is willing, but the
body is weak."
42He went away a second time and
prayed, "My Father, if it is not possible
for this cup to be taken away unless I
drink it, may your will be done."[j]
43When he came back, he again
found them sleeping, because their
eyes were heavy. 44So he left them and
went away once more and prayed the
third time, saying the same thing.
45Then he returned to the disciples
and said to them, "Are you still sleep-
ing and resting? Look, the hour[k] is
near, and the Son of Man is betrayed
into the hands of sinners. 46Rise, let us
go! Here comes my betrayer!"

Jesus Arrested

26:47-56pp — Mk 14:43-50; Lk 22:47-53

47While he was still speaking,
Judas,[l] one of the Twelve, arrived.
With him was a large crowd armed
with swords and clubs, sent from the
chief priests and the elders of the
people. 48Now the betrayer had ar-
ranged a signal with them: "The one I
kiss is the man; arrest him." 49Going at
once to Jesus, Judas said, "Greetings,
Rabbi!"[m] and kissed him.

26:34 [a]ver 75; Jn 13:38 **26:35** [b]Jn 13:37 **26:37** [c]Mt 4:21 **26:38** [d]Jn 12:27 [e]ver 40,41 **26:39** [f]S Mt 20:22 [g]ver 42; Ps 40:6-8; Isa 50:5; Mt 6:10; Jn 4:34; 5:30; 6:38 **26:40** [h]ver 38 **26:41** [i]Mt 6:13 **26:42** [j]S ver 39 **26:45** [k]S ver 18 **26:47** [l]S Mt 10:4 **26:49** [m]ver 25; S Mt 23:7

26:50 [n]Mt 20:13; 22:12 **26:51** [o]Lk 22:36,38 [p]Jn 18:10 **26:52** [q]Ge 9:6; Ex 21:12; Rev 13:10 **26:53** [r]2Ki 6:17; Da 7:10; Mt 4:11 **26:54** [s]S ver 24; S Mt 1:22 **26:55** [t]Mk 12:35; Lk 21:37; Jn 7:14,28; 18:20 **26:56** [u]S ver 24; S Mt 1:22 **26:57** [v]S ver 3 **26:58** [w]ver 69; Mk 14:66; Lk 22:55; Jn 18:15 [x]Mk 15:16; Lk 11:21; Jn 7:32,45,46 **26:59** [y]S Mt 5:22 **26:60** [z]Ps 27:12; 35:11; Ac 6:13 [a]Dt 19:15 **26:61** [b]S Jn 2:19 **26:63** [c]S Mk 14:61 [d]Lev 5:1 [e]S Mt 16:16 [f]Lk 22:67 [g]S Mt 4:3 **26:64** [h]Mt 27:11; Lk 22:70

50Jesus replied, "Friend,[n] do what
you came for."[f]
Then the men stepped forward,
seized Jesus and arrested him. 51With
that, one of Jesus' companions reached
for his sword,[o] drew it out and struck
the servant of the high priest, cutting
off his ear.[p]
52"Put your sword back in its place,"
Jesus said to him, "for all who draw the
sword will die by the sword.[q] 53Do you
think I cannot call on my Father, and
he will at once put at my disposal more
than twelve legions of angels?[r] 54But
how then would the Scriptures be ful-
filled[s] that say it must happen in this
way?"
55At that time Jesus said to the
crowd, "Am I leading a rebellion, that
you have come out with swords and
clubs to capture me? Every day I sat in
the temple courts teaching,[t] and you
did not arrest me. 56But this has all tak-
en place that the writings of the proph-
ets might be fulfilled."[u] Then all the
disciples deserted him and fled.

Before the Sanhedrin

26:57-68pp — Mk 14:53-65; Jn 18:12,13,19-24

57Those who had arrested Jesus took
him to Caiaphas,[v] the high priest,
where the teachers of the law and the
elders had assembled. 58But Peter fol-
lowed him at a distance, right up to the
courtyard of the high priest.[w] He en-
tered and sat down with the guards[x] to
see the outcome.
59The chief priests and the whole
Sanhedrin[y] were looking for false evi-
dence against Jesus so that they could
put him to death. 60But they did not
find any, though many false wit-
nesses[z] came forward.
Finally two[a] came forward 61and de-
clared, "This fellow said, 'I am able to
destroy the temple of God and rebuild
it in three days.'"[b]
62Then the high priest stood up and
said to Jesus, "Are you not going to
answer? What is this testimony that
these men are bringing against you?"
63But Jesus remained silent.[c]
The high priest said to him, "I charge
you under oath[d] by the living God:[e]
Tell us if you are the Christ,[g][f] the Son
of God."[g]
64"Yes, it is as you say,"[h] Jesus re-
plied. "But I say to all of you: In the
future you will see the Son of Man sit-

[f]50 Or *"Friend, why have you come?"* [g]63 Or *Messiah*; also in verse 68

ting at the right hand of the Mighty
One[a] and coming on the clouds of
heaven."[b]
65 Then the high priest tore his
clothes[c] and said, "He has spoken
blasphemy! Why do we need any more
witnesses? Look, now you have heard
the blasphemy. 66 What do you think?"
"He is worthy of death,"[d] they an-
swered.
67 Then they spit in his face and
struck him with their fists.[e] Others
slapped him 68 and said, "Prophesy to
us, Christ. Who hit you?"[f]

Peter Disowns Jesus

26:69-75pp — Mk 14:66-72; Lk 22:55-62; Jn 18:16-18,25-27

69 Now Peter was sitting out in the
courtyard, and a servant girl came to
him. "You also were with Jesus of Gali-
lee," she said.
70 But he denied it before them all. "I
don't know what you're talking
about," he said.
71 Then he went out to the gateway,
where another girl saw him and said to
the people there, "This fellow was with
Jesus of Nazareth."
72 He denied it again, with an oath: "I
don't know the man!"
73 After a little while, those standing
there went up to Peter and said, "Sure-
ly you are one of them, for your accent
gives you away."
74 Then he began to call down curses
on himself and he swore to them, "I
don't know the man!"
Immediately a rooster crowed.
75 Then Peter remembered the word
Jesus had spoken: "Before the rooster
crows, you will disown me three
times."[g] And he went outside and
wept bitterly.

Judas Hangs Himself

27 Early in the morning, all the
chief priests and the elders of the
people came to the decision to put
Jesus to death.[h] 2 They bound him, led
him away and handed him over[i] to Pi-
late, the governor.[j]
3 When Judas, who had betrayed
him,[k] saw that Jesus was condemned,
he was seized with remorse and re-
turned the thirty silver coins[l] to the
chief priests and the elders. 4 "I have
sinned," he said, "for I have betrayed
innocent blood."
"What is that to us?" they replied.
"That's your responsibility."[m]
5 So Judas threw the money into the
temple[n] and left. Then he went away
and hanged himself.[o]
6 The chief priests picked up the coins
and said, "It is against the law to put
this into the treasury, since it is blood
money." 7 So they decided to use the
money to buy the potter's field as a
burial place for foreigners. 8 That is why
it has been called the Field of Blood[p] to
this day. 9 Then what was spoken by
Jeremiah the prophet was fulfilled:[q]
"They took the thirty silver coins, the
price set on him by the people of Israel,
10 and they used them to buy the pot-
ter's field, as the Lord commanded
me."[h][r]

Jesus Before Pilate

27:11-26pp — Mk 15:2-15; Lk 23:2,3,18-25; Jn 18:29-19:16

11 Meanwhile Jesus stood before the
governor, and the governor asked him,
"Are you the king of the Jews?"[s]
"Yes, it is as you say," Jesus replied.
12 When he was accused by the chief
priests and the elders, he gave no an-
swer.[t] 13 Then Pilate asked him, "Don't
you hear the testimony they are bring-
ing against you?"[u] 14 But Jesus made no
reply,[v] not even to a single charge—to
the great amazement of the governor.
15 Now it was the governor's custom
at the Feast to release a prisoner[w] cho-
sen by the crowd. 16 At that time they
had a notorious prisoner, called Barab-
bas. 17 So when the crowd had gath-
ered, Pilate asked them, "Which one
do you want me to release to you:
Barabbas, or Jesus who is called
Christ?"[x] 18 For he knew it was out of
envy that they had handed Jesus over
to him.
19 While Pilate was sitting on the
judge's seat,[y] his wife sent him this
message: "Don't have anything to do
with that innocent[z] man, for I have
suffered a great deal today in a dream[a]
because of him."
20 But the chief priests and the elders
persuaded the crowd to ask for Barab-
bas and to have Jesus executed.[b]
21 "Which of the two do you want me
to release to you?" asked the governor.
"Barabbas," they answered.
22 "What shall I do, then, with Jesus
who is called Christ?"[c] Pilate asked.
They all answered, "Crucify him!"
23 "Why? What crime has he commit-
ted?" asked Pilate.
But they shouted all the louder,
"Crucify him!"

26:64 [a]S Mk 16:19 [b]S Rev 1:7 **26:65** [c]S Mk 14:63 **26:66** [d]Lev 24:16; Jn 19:7 **26:67** [e]S Mt 16:21 **26:68** [f]Lk 22:63-65 **26:75** [g]ver 34; Jn 13:38 **27:1** [h]S Mt 12:14; Mk 15:1; Lk 22:66 **27:2** [i]Mt 20:19 [j]Mk 15:1; Lk 13:1; Ac 3:13; 1Ti 6:13 **27:3** [k]S Mt 10:4 [l]Mt 26:14,15 **27:4** [m]ver 24

27:5 [n]Lk 1:9,21 [o]Ac 1:18 **27:8** [p]Ac 1:19 **27:9** [q]S Mt 1:22 **27:10** [r]Zec 11:12,13; Jer 32:6-9 **27:11** [s]S Mt 2:2 **27:12** [t]S Mk 14:61 **27:13** [u]Mt 26:62 **27:14** [v]S Mk 14:61 **27:15** [w]Jn 18:39 **27:17** [x]ver 22; Mt 1:16 **27:19** [y]Jn 19:13 [z]ver 24 [a]Ge 20:6; Nu 12:6; 1Ki 3:5; Job 33:14-16; Mt 1:20; 2:12,13,19,22 **27:20** [b]Ac 3:14 **27:22** [c]Mt 1:16

[h]10 See Zech. 11:12,13; Jer. 19:1-13; 32:6-9.

24When Pilate saw that he was get-
ting nowhere, but that instead an
uproar was starting, he took water
and washed his hands in front of the
crowd. "I am innocent of this man's
blood," he said. "It is your responsi-
bility!"
25All the people answered, "Let his
blood be on us and on our children!"
26Then he released Barabbas to them.
But he had Jesus flogged, and handed
him over to be crucified.

The Soldiers Mock Jesus

27:27-31pp — Mk 15:16-20

27Then the governor's soldiers took
Jesus into the Praetorium and gath-
ered the whole company of soldiers
around him. 28They stripped him and
put a scarlet robe on him,[h] 29and then
twisted together a crown of thorns and
set it on his head. They put a staff in
his right hand and knelt in front of him
and mocked him. "Hail, king of the
Jews!" they said.[i] 30They spit on him,
and took the staff and struck him on
the head again and again.[j] 31After they
had mocked him, they took off the robe
and put his own clothes on him. Then
they led him away to crucify him.[k]

The Crucifixion

27:33-44pp — Mk 15:22-32; Lk 23:33-43; Jn 19:17-24

32As they were going out,[l] they met
a man from Cyrene,[m] named Simon,
and they forced him to carry the
cross.[n] 33They came to a place called
Golgotha (which means The Place of
the Skull).[o] 34There they offered Jesus
wine to drink, mixed with gall;[p] but af-
ter tasting it, he refused to drink it.
35When they had crucified him, they di-
vided up his clothes by casting lots.[i][q]
36And sitting down, they kept watch[r]
over him there. 37Above his head they
placed the written charge against him:
THIS IS JESUS, THE KING OF THE JEWS. 38Two
robbers were crucified with him,[s] one
on his right and one on his left. 39Those
who passed by hurled insults at him,
shaking their heads[t] 40and saying,
"You who are going to destroy the
temple and build it in three days,[u] save
yourself![v] Come down from the cross,
if you are the Son of God!"[w]
41In the same way the chief priests,
the teachers of the law and the elders
mocked him. 42"He saved others," they
said, "but he can't save himself! He's
the King of Israel![x] Let him come down
now from the cross, and we will be-
lieve in him. 43He trusts in God. Let
God rescue him[y] now if he wants him,
for he said, 'I am the Son of God.'"[z] 44In
the same way the robbers who were
crucified with him also heaped insults
on him.

The Death of Jesus

27:45-56pp — Mk 15:33-41; Lk 23:44-49

45From the sixth hour until the ninth
hour darkness[a] came over all the land.
46About the ninth hour Jesus cried out
in a loud voice, "*Eloi, Eloi,*[j] *lama sabach-
thani?*"—which means, "My God, my
God, why have you forsaken me?"[k][b]
47When some of those standing there
heard this, they said, "He's calling Eli-
jah."
48Immediately one of them ran and
got a sponge. He filled it with wine
vinegar,[c] put it on a stick, and offered
it to Jesus to drink. 49The rest said,
"Now leave him alone. Let's see if Eli-
jah comes to save him."
50And when Jesus had cried out
again in a loud voice, he gave up his
spirit.[d]
51At that moment the curtain of the
temple[e] was torn in two from top to
bottom. The earth shook and the rocks
split.[f] 52The tombs broke open and the
bodies of many holy people who had
died were raised to life. 53They came
out of the tombs, and after Jesus' resur-
rection they went into the holy city[g]
and appeared to many people.
54When the centurion and those with
him who were guarding[h] Jesus saw the
earthquake and all that had happened,
they were terrified, and exclaimed,
"Surely he was the Son[l] of God!"[i]
55Many women were there, watching
from a distance. They had followed
Jesus from Galilee to care for his
needs.[j] 56Among them were Mary
Magdalene, Mary the mother of James
and Joses, and the mother of Zebedee's
sons.[k]

The Burial of Jesus

27:57-61pp — Mk 15:42-47; Lk 23:50-56; Jn 19:38-42

57As evening approached, there
came a rich man from Arimathea,
named Joseph, who had himself
become a disciple of Jesus. 58Going to
Pilate, he asked for Jesus' body, and
Pilate ordered that it be given to him.

[illegible]
27:33 oJn 19:17
27:34 pver 48; Ps 69:21
27:35 qPs 22:18
27:36 rver 54
27:38 sIsa 53:12
27:39 tPs 22:7; 109:25; La 2:15
27:40 uS Jn 2:19 vver 42 wS Mt 4:3,6
27:42 xJn 1:49; 12:13
yS Jn 3:15
27:43 zPs 22:8
27:45 aAm 8:9
27:46 bPs 22:1
27:48 cver 34; Ps 69:21
27:50 dJn 19:30
27:51 eEx 26:31-33; Heb 9:3,8; 10:19,20 fver 54
27:53 gS Mt 4:5
27:54 hver 36 iS Mt 4:3; 17:5
27:55 jLk 8:2,3
27:56 kMk 15:47; Lk 24:10; Jn 19:25

i35 A few late manuscripts *lots that the word spoken by the prophet might be fulfilled: "They divided my garments among themselves and cast lots for my clothing"* (Psalm 22:18) j46 Some manuscripts *Eli, Eli* k46 Psalm 22:1 l54 Or *a son*

59 Joseph took the body, wrapped it in a
clean linen cloth, 60 and placed it in his
own new tomb[a] that he had cut out of
the rock. He rolled a big stone in front
of the entrance to the tomb and went
away. 61 Mary Magdalene and the other
Mary were sitting there opposite the
tomb.

The Guard at the Tomb

62 The next day, the one after Preparation Day, the chief priests and the
Pharisees went to Pilate. 63 "Sir," they
said, "we remember that while he was
still alive that deceiver said, 'After
three days I will rise again.'[b] 64 So give
the order for the tomb to be made secure until the third day. Otherwise, his
disciples may come and steal the body[c]
and tell the people that he has been
raised from the dead. This last deception will be worse than the first."
65 "Take a guard,"[d] Pilate answered.
"Go, make the tomb as secure as you
know how." 66 So they went and made
the tomb secure by putting a seal[e] on
the stone[f] and posting the guard.[g]

The Resurrection

28:1-8pp — Mk 16:1-8; Lk 24:1-10

28 After the Sabbath, at dawn on
the first day of the week, Mary
Magdalene[h] and the other Mary[i] went
to look at the tomb.
2 There was a violent earthquake,[j]
for an angel[k] of the Lord came down
from heaven and, going to the tomb,
rolled back the stone[l] and sat on it.
3 His appearance was like lightning,
and his clothes were white as snow.[m]
4 The guards were so afraid of him that
they shook and became like dead men.
5 The angel said to the women, "Do
not be afraid,[n] for I know that you are
looking for Jesus, who was crucified.
6 He is not here; he has risen, just as he
said.[o] Come and see the place where
he lay. 7 Then go quickly and tell his
disciples: 'He has risen from the dead
and is going ahead of you into Galilee.[p] There you will see him.' Now I
have told you."
8 So the women hurried away from
the tomb, afraid yet filled with joy, and
ran to tell his disciples. 9 Suddenly Jesus
met them.[q] "Greetings," he said. They
came to him, clasped his feet and worshiped him. 10 Then Jesus said to them,
"Do not be afraid. Go and tell my
brothers[r] to go to Galilee; there they
will see me."

The Guards' Report

11 While the women were on their
way, some of the guards[s] went into
the city and reported to the chief
priests everything that had happened.
12 When the chief priests had met with
the elders and devised a plan, they
gave the soldiers a large sum of money,
13 telling them, "You are to say, 'His
disciples came during the night and
stole him away[t] while we were
asleep.' 14 If this report gets to the governor,[u] we will satisfy him and keep
you out of trouble." 15 So the soldiers
took the money and did as they were
instructed. And this story has been
widely circulated among the Jews to
this very day.

The Great Commission

16 Then the eleven disciples went to
Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus
had told them to go.[v] 17 When they saw
him, they worshiped him; but some
doubted. 18 Then Jesus came to them
and said, "All authority in heaven and
on earth has been given to me.[w]
19 Therefore go and make disciples of all
nations,[x] baptizing them in[m] the name
of the Father and of the Son and of the
Holy Spirit,[y] 20 and teaching[z] them to
obey everything I have commanded
you. And surely I am with you[a] always, to the very end of the age."[b]

27:60 [a] Mt 27:66; 28:2; Mk 16:4; Ac 13:29 **27:63** [b] S Mt 16:21 **27:64** [c] Mt 28:13 **27:65** [d] ver 66; Mt 28:11 **27:66** [e] Da 6:17 [f] ver 60; Mt 28:2 [g] Mt 28:11 **28:1** [h] Lk 8:2 [i] Mt 27:56 **28:2** [j] Mt 27:51 [k] Jn 20:12; S Ac 5:19 [l] Mt 27:60 **28:3** [m] Da 7:9; 10:6; Mk 9:3; S Jn 20:12 **28:5** [n] ver 10; S Mt 14:27 **28:6** [o] S Mt 16:21 **28:7** [p] ver 10,16; Mt 26:32 **28:9** [q] Jn 20:14-18 **28:10** [r] Mt 12:50; 25:40; Mk 3:34; Jn 20:17; Ro 8:29; Heb 2:11-13,17 **28:11** [s] Mt 27:65,66 **28:13** [t] Mt 27:64 **28:14** [u] S Mt 27:2 **28:16** [v] ver 7,10; Mt 26:32 **28:18** [w] Da 7:13,14; Lk 10:22; Jn 3:35; S 13:13; 17:2; 1Co 15:27; Eph 1:20-22; Php 2:9,10 **28:19** [x] Isa 49:6; Mk 16:15,16; Lk 24:47; Ac 1:8; 14:21 [y] Ac 1:8; 2:38; 8:16; Ro 6:3,4; Gal 3:27; Col 2:12 **28:20** [z] Jn 14:26; Ac 2:42 [a] Dt 31:6; 1Ki 8:57; Hag 1:13; Mt 18:20; Ac 18:10 [b] Mt 13:39; 24:3

[m] 19 Or *into;* see Acts 8:16; 19:5; Romans 6:3; 1 Cor. 1:13; 10:2 and Gal. 3:27.

Mark

John the Baptist Prepares the Way

[illegible]

1 The beginning of the gospel about
Jesus Christ, the Son of God.[a]
2 It is written in Isaiah the prophet:
"I will send my messenger ahead of
you,
who will prepare your
way"[b]—
3 "a voice of one calling in the
desert,
'Prepare the way for the Lord,
make straight paths for him.'"[c]
4 And so John came, baptizing in the
desert region and preaching a baptism
of repentance for the forgiveness of
sins. 5 The whole Judean countryside
and all the people of Jerusalem went
out to him. Confessing their sins, they
were baptized by him in the Jordan
River. 6 John wore clothing made of
camel's hair, with a leather belt around
his waist, and he ate locusts and
wild honey. 7 And this was his mes-
sage: "After me will come one more
powerful than I, the thongs of whose
sandals I am not worthy to stoop down
and untie. 8 I baptize you with[d] water,
but he will baptize you with the Holy
Spirit."

The Baptism and Temptation of Jesus

[illegible]

9 At that time Jesus came from Naza-
reth in Galilee and was baptized by
John in the Jordan. 10 As Jesus was
coming up out of the water, he saw
heaven being torn open and the Spirit
descending on him like a dove. 11 And
a voice came from heaven: "You are
my Son, whom I love; with you I am
well pleased."
12 At once the Spirit sent him out into
the desert, 13 and he was in the desert
forty days, being tempted by Satan. He
was with the wild animals, and an-
gels attended him.

The Calling of the First Disciples

[illegible]

14 After John was put in prison,
Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming
the good news of God. 15 "The time
has come," he said. "The kingdom of
God is near. Repent and believe the
good news!"
16 As Jesus walked beside the Sea of
Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother
Andrew casting a net into the lake, for
they were fishermen. 17 "Come, follow
me," Jesus said, "and I will make you
fishers of men." 18 At once they left
their nets and followed him.
19 When he had gone a little farther,
he saw James son of Zebedee and his
brother John in a boat, preparing their
nets. 20 Without delay he called them,
and they left their father Zebedee in
the boat with the hired men and fol-
lowed him.

Jesus Drives Out an Evil Spirit

[illegible]

21 They went to Capernaum, and
when the Sabbath came, Jesus went
into the synagogue and began to
teach. 22 The people were amazed at
his teaching, because he taught them
as one who had authority, not as the
teachers of the law. 23 Just then a man
in their synagogue who was possessed
by an evil[e] spirit cried out, 24 "What do
you want with us, Jesus of Naza-
reth? Have you come to destroy us? I
know who you are—the Holy One of
God!"
25 "Be quiet!" said Jesus sternly.
"Come out of him!" 26 The evil spirit
shook the man violently and came out
of him with a shriek.
27 The people were all so amazed
that they asked each other, "What is
this? A new teaching—and with au-
thority! He even gives orders to evil
spirits and they obey him." 28 News

a1 Some manuscripts do not have *the Son of God*.
b2 Mal. 3:1
c3 Isaiah 40:3
d8 Or *in*
e23 Greek *unclean*; also in verses 26 and 27

about him spread quickly over the
whole region[a] of Galilee.

Jesus Heals Many

1:29-31pp — Mt 8:14,15; Lk 4:38,39
1:32-34pp — Mt 8:16,17; Lk 4:40,41

29As soon as they left the syna-
gogue,[b] they went with James and
John to the home of Simon and An-
drew. 30Simon's mother-in-law was in
bed with a fever, and they told Jesus
about her. 31So he went to her, took her
hand and helped her up.[c] The fever
left her and she began to wait on them.
32That evening after sunset the
people brought to Jesus all the sick and
demon-possessed.[d] 33The whole town
gathered at the door, 34and Jesus
healed many who had various dis-
eases.[e] He also drove out many de-
mons, but he would not let the demons
speak because they knew who he
was.[f]

Jesus Prays in a Solitary Place

1:35-38pp — Lk 4:42,43

35Very early in the morning, while it
was still dark, Jesus got up, left the
house and went off to a solitary place,
where he prayed.[g] 36Simon and his
companions went to look for him,
37and when they found him, they ex-
claimed: "Everyone is looking for you!"
38Jesus replied, "Let us go some-
where else—to the nearby villages—so
I can preach there also. That is why I
have come."[h] 39So he traveled
throughout Galilee, preaching in their
synagogues[i] and driving out de-
mons.[j]

A Man With Leprosy

1:40-44pp — Mt 8:2-4; Lk 5:12-14

40A man with leprosy[f] came to him
and begged him on his knees,[k] "If you
are willing, you can make me clean."
41Filled with compassion, Jesus
reached out his hand and touched the
man. "I am willing," he said. "Be
clean!" 42Immediately the leprosy left
him and he was cured.
43Jesus sent him away at once with a
strong warning: 44"See that you don't
tell this to anyone.[l] But go, show
yourself to the priest[m] and offer the
sacrifices that Moses commanded for
your cleansing,[n] as a testimony to
them." 45Instead he went out and be-
gan to talk freely, spreading the news.
As a result, Jesus could no longer enter
a town openly but stayed outside in
lonely places.[o] Yet the people still
came to him from everywhere.[p]

Jesus Heals a Paralytic

2:3-12pp — Mt 9:2-8; Lk 5:18-26

2 A few days later, when Jesus again
entered Capernaum, the people
heard that he had come home. 2So
many[q] gathered that there was no
room left, not even outside the door,
and he preached the word to them.
3Some men came, bringing to him a
paralytic,[r] carried by four of them.
4Since they could not get him to Jesus
because of the crowd, they made an
opening in the roof above Jesus and,
after digging through it, lowered the
mat the paralyzed man was lying on.
5When Jesus saw their faith, he said to
the paralytic, "Son, your sins are for-
given."[s]
6Now some teachers of the law were
sitting there, thinking to themselves,
7"Why does this fellow talk like that?
He's blaspheming! Who can forgive
sins but God alone?"[t]
8Immediately Jesus knew in his spirit
that this was what they were thinking
in their hearts, and he said to them,
"Why are you thinking these things?
9Which is easier: to say to the paralytic,
'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Get
up, take your mat and walk'? 10But that
you may know that the Son of Man[u]
has authority on earth to forgive sins
. . . ." He said to the paralytic, 11"I tell
you, get up, take your mat and go
home." 12He got up, took his mat and
walked out in full view of them all.
This amazed everyone and they
praised God,[v] saying, "We have never
seen anything like this!"[w]

The Calling of Levi

2:14-17pp — Mt 9:9-13; Lk 5:27-32

13Once again Jesus went out beside
the lake. A large crowd came to him,[x]
and he began to teach them. 14As he
walked along, he saw Levi son of Al-
phaeus sitting at the tax collector's
booth. "Follow me,"[y] Jesus told him,
and Levi got up and followed him.
15While Jesus was having dinner at
Levi's house, many tax collectors and
"sinners" were eating with him and his
disciples, for there were many who fol-
lowed him. 16When the teachers of the
law who were Pharisees[z] saw him eat-
ing with the "sinners" and tax collec-

1:28 [a]S Mt 9:26
1:29 [b]ver 21,23
1:31 [c]S Lk 7:14
1:32 [d]S Mt 4:24
1:34 [e]S Mt 4:23 [f]Mk 3:12; Ac 16:17,18
1:35 [g]S Lk 3:21
1:38 [h]Isa 61:1
1:39 [i]S Mt 4:23 [j]S Mt 4:24
1:40 [k]Mk 10:17
1:44 [l]S Mt 8:4 [m]Lev 13:49 [n]Lev 14:1-32
1:45 [o]Lk 5:15,16 [p]Mk 2:13; Lk 5:17; Jn 6:2
2:2 [q]ver 13; Mk 1:45
2:3 [r]S Mt 4:24
2:5 [s]Lk 7:48
2:7 [t]Isa 43:25
2:10 [u]S Mt 8:20
2:12 [v]S Mt 9:8 [w]Mt 9:33
2:13 [x]Mk 1:45; Lk 5:15; Jn 6:2
2:14 [y]S Mt 4:19
2:16 [z]Ac 23:9

[f]40 The Greek word was used for various diseases affecting the skin—not necessarily leprosy.

tors, they asked his disciples: "Why does he eat with tax collectors and 'sinners'?"[a]

17 On hearing this, Jesus said to them, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners."[b]

Jesus Questioned About Fasting

2:18-22pp — Mt 9:14-17; Lk 5:33-38

18 Now John's disciples and the Pharisees were fasting.[c] Some people came and asked Jesus, "How is it that John's disciples and the disciples of the Pharisees are fasting, but yours are not?"

19 Jesus answered, "How can the guests of the bridegroom fast while he is with them? They cannot, so long as they have him with them. 20 But the time will come when the bridegroom will be taken from them,[d] and on that day they will fast.

21 "No one sews a patch of unshrunk cloth on an old garment. If he does, the new piece will pull away from the old, making the tear worse. 22 And no one pours new wine into old wineskins. If he does, the wine will burst the skins, and both the wine and the wineskins will be ruined. No, he pours new wine into new wineskins."

Lord of the Sabbath

2:23-28pp — Mt 12:1-8; Lk 6:1-5
3:1-6pp — Mt 12:9-14; Lk 6:6-11

23 One Sabbath Jesus was going through the grainfields, and as his disciples walked along, they began to pick some heads of grain.[e] 24 The Pharisees said to him, "Look, why are they doing what is unlawful on the Sabbath?"[f]

25 He answered, "Have you never read what David did when he and his companions were hungry and in need? 26 In the days of Abiathar the high priest,[g] he entered the house of God and ate the consecrated bread, which is lawful only for priests to eat.[h] And he also gave some to his companions."[i]

27 Then he said to them, "The Sabbath was made for man,[j] not man for the Sabbath.[k] 28 So the Son of Man[l] is Lord even of the Sabbath."

3 Another time he went into the synagogue,[m] and a man with a shriveled hand was there. 2 Some of them were looking for a reason to accuse Jesus, so they watched him closely[n] to see if he would heal him on the Sabbath.[o] 3 Jesus said to the man with the shriveled hand, "Stand up in front of everyone."

4 Then Jesus asked them, "Which is lawful on the Sabbath: to do good or to do evil, to save life or to kill?" But they remained silent.

5 He looked around at them in anger and, deeply distressed at their stubborn hearts, said to the man, "Stretch out your hand." He stretched it out, and his hand was completely restored. 6 Then the Pharisees went out and began to plot with the Herodians[p] how they might kill Jesus.[q]

Crowds Follow Jesus

3:7-12pp — Mt 12:15,16; Lk 6:17-19

7 Jesus withdrew with his disciples to the lake, and a large crowd from Galilee followed.[r] 8 When they heard all he was doing, many people came to him from Judea, Jerusalem, Idumea, and the regions across the Jordan and around Tyre and Sidon.[s] 9 Because of the crowd he told his disciples to have a small boat ready for him, to keep the people from crowding him. 10 For he had healed many,[t] so that those with diseases were pushing forward to touch him.[u] 11 Whenever the evil[g] spirits saw him, they fell down before him and cried out, "You are the Son of God."[v] 12 But he gave them strict orders not to tell who he was.[w]

The Appointing of the Twelve Apostles

3:16-19pp — Mt 10:2-4; Lk 6:14-16; Ac 1:13

13 Jesus went up on a mountainside and called to him those he wanted, and they came to him.[x] 14 He appointed twelve—designating them apostles[h][y]—that they might be with him and that he might send them out to preach 15 and to have authority to drive out demons.[z] 16 These are the twelve he appointed: Simon (to whom he gave the name Peter);[a] 17 James son of Zebedee and his brother John (to them he gave the name Boanerges, which means Sons of Thunder); 18 Andrew, Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew, Thomas, James son of Alphaeus, Thaddaeus, Simon the Zealot 19 and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him.

Jesus and Beelzebub

3:23-27pp — Mt 12:25-29; Lk 11:17-22

20 Then Jesus entered a house, and again a crowd gathered,[b] so that he and his disciples were not even able to

2:16 [a]S Mt 9:11 **2:17** [b]Lk 19:10; 1Ti 1:15 **2:18** [c]S Mt 6:16-18; Ac 13:2 **2:20** [d]Lk 17:22 **2:23** [e]Dt 23:25 **2:24** [f]S Mt 12:2 **2:26** [g]1Ch 24:6; 2Sa 8:17 [h]Lev 24:5-9 [i]1Sa 21:1-6 **2:27** [j]Ex 23:12; Dt 5:14 [k]Col 2:16 **2:28** [l]S Mt 8:20 **3:1** [m]S Mt 4:23; Mk 1:21 **3:2** [n]S Mt 12:10 [o]Lk 14:1

3:6 [p]Mt 22:16; Mk 12:13 [q]S Mt 12:14 **3:7** [r]Mt 4:25 **3:8** [s]S Mt 11:21 **3:10** [t]S Mt 4:23 [u]S Mt 9:20 **3:11** [v]S Mt 4:3; Mk 1:23,24 **3:12** [w]S Mt 8:4; Mk 1:24,25,34; Ac 16:17,18 **3:13** [x]Mt 5:1 **3:14** [y]S Mk 6:30 **3:15** [z]S Mt 10:1 **3:16** [a]Jn 1:42 **3:20** [b]ver 7

[g]11 Greek *unclean;* also in verse 30 [h]14 Some manuscripts do not have *designating them apostles.*

eat.[a] 21When his family heard about
this, they went to take charge of him,
for they said, "He is out of his mind."
22And the teachers of the law who
came down from Jerusalem said, "He
is possessed by Beelzebub[i]!" By the
prince of demons he is driving out de-
mons."
23So Jesus called them and spoke to
them in parables: "How can Satan
drive out Satan? 24If a kingdom is di-
vided against itself, that kingdom can-
not stand. 25If a house is divided
against itself, that house cannot stand.
26And if Satan opposes himself and is
divided, he cannot stand; his end has
come. 27In fact, no one can enter a
strong man's house and carry off his
possessions unless he first ties up the
strong man. Then he can rob his
house. 28I tell you the truth, all the
sins and blasphemies of men will be
forgiven them. 29But whoever blas-
phemes against the Holy Spirit will
never be forgiven; he is guilty of an
eternal sin."
30He said this because they were say-
ing, "He has an evil spirit."

Jesus' Mother and Brothers

3:31-35pp — Mt 12:46-50; Lk 8:19-21

31Then Jesus' mother and brothers
arrived. Standing outside, they sent
someone in to call him. 32A crowd was
sitting around him, and they told him,
"Your mother and brothers are outside
looking for you."
33"Who are my mother and my
brothers?" he asked.
34Then he looked at those seated in a
circle around him and said, "Here are
my mother and my brothers! 35Who-
ever does God's will is my brother and
sister and mother."

The Parable of the Sower

4:1-12pp — Mt 13:1-15; Lk 8:4-10
4:13-20pp — Mt 13:18-23; Lk 8:11-15

4 Again Jesus began to teach by the
lake.[k] The crowd that gathered
around him was so large that he got
into a boat and sat in it out on the lake,
while all the people were along the
shore at the water's edge. 2He taught
them many things by parables,[l] and in
his teaching said: 3"Listen! A farmer
went out to sow his seed.[m] 4As he was
scattering the seed, some fell along the
path, and the birds came and ate it up.
5Some fell on rocky places, where it did
not have much soil. It sprang up
quickly, because the soil was shallow.
6But when the sun came up, the plants
were scorched, and they withered be-
cause they had no root. 7Other seed fell
among thorns, which grew up and
choked the plants, so that they did not
bear grain. 8Still other seed fell on good
soil. It came up, grew and produced a
crop, multiplying thirty, sixty, or even
a hundred times."[n]
9Then Jesus said, "He who has ears
to hear, let him hear."[o]
10When he was alone, the Twelve
and the others around him asked him
about the parables. 11He told them,
"The secret of the kingdom of God[p]
has been given to you. But to those on
the outside[q] everything is said in para-
bles 12so that,

"'they may be ever seeing but never
perceiving,
and ever hearing but never
understanding;
otherwise they might turn and be
forgiven!'[j]"[r]

13Then Jesus said to them, "Don't
you understand this parable? How
then will you understand any parable?
14The farmer sows the word.[s] 15Some
people are like seed along the path,
where the word is sown. As soon as
they hear it, Satan[t] comes and takes
away the word that was sown in them.
16Others, like seed sown on rocky
places, hear the word and at once re-
ceive it with joy. 17But since they have
no root, they last only a short time.
When trouble or persecution comes be-
cause of the word, they quickly fall
away. 18Still others, like seed sown
among thorns, hear the word; 19but the
worries of this life, the deceitfulness of
wealth[u] and the desires for other
things come in and choke the word,
making it unfruitful. 20Others, like seed
sown on good soil, hear the word, ac-
cept it, and produce a crop—thirty, six-
ty or even a hundred times what was
sown."

A Lamp on a Stand

21He said to them, "Do you bring in a
lamp to put it under a bowl or a bed?
Instead, don't you put it on its stand?[v]
22For whatever is hidden is meant to be
disclosed, and whatever is concealed is
meant to be brought out into the
open.[w] 23If anyone has ears to hear, let
him hear."[x]
24"Consider carefully what you

3:20 [illegible] **3:21** [illegible] **3:22** [illegible] **3:23** [illegible] **3:27** [illegible] **3:29** [illegible] Lk 12:10 **3:31** [illegible] **4:1** [illegible] **4:2** [illegible] ver 11; Mk 3:23 **4:3** [illegible] ver 26
4:8 [n]Jn 15:5; Col 1:6 **4:9** [o]ver 23; S Mt 11:15 **4:11** [p]S Mt 3:2 [q]1Co 5:12,13; Col 4:5; 1Th 4:12; 1Ti 3:7 **4:12** [r]Isa 6:9,10; S Mt 13:13-15 **4:14** [s]Mk 16:20; Lk 1:2; Ac 4:31; 8:4; 16:6; 17:11; Php 1:14 **4:15** [t]S Mt 4:10 **4:19** [u]Mt 19:23; 1Ti 6:9,10,17; 1Jn 2:15-17 **4:21** [v]S Mt 5:15 **4:22** [w]Jer 16:17; Mt 10:26; Lk 8:17; 12:2 **4:23** [x]ver 9; S Mt 11:15

[i]22 Greek *Beezeboul* or *Beelzeboul* [j]12 Isaiah 6:9,10

hear," he continued. "With the mea-
sure you use, it will be measured to
you—and even more.[a] [25]Whoever has
will be given more; whoever does not
have, even what he has will be taken
from him."[b]

The Parable of the Growing Seed

[26]He also said, "This is what the
kingdom of God is like.[c] A man scat-
ters seed on the ground. [27]Night and
day, whether he sleeps or gets up, the
seed sprouts and grows, though he
does not know how. [28]All by itself the
soil produces grain—first the stalk,
then the head, then the full kernel in
the head. [29]As soon as the grain is ripe,
he puts the sickle to it, because the har-
vest has come."[d]

The Parable of the Mustard Seed

4:30-32pp — Mt 13:31,32; Lk 13:18,19

[30]Again he said, "What shall we say
the kingdom of God is like,[e] or what
parable shall we use to describe it? [31]It
is like a mustard seed, which is the
smallest seed you plant in the ground.
[32]Yet when planted, it grows and
becomes the largest of all garden
plants, with such big branches that the
birds of the air can perch in its shade."
[33]With many similar parables Jesus
spoke the word to them, as much as
they could understand.[f] [34]He did not
say anything to them without using a
parable.[g] But when he was alone with
his own disciples, he explained every-
thing.

Jesus Calms the Storm

4:35-41pp — Mt 8:18,23-27; Lk 8:22-25

[35]That day when evening came, he
said to his disciples, "Let us go over to
the other side." [36]Leaving the crowd
behind, they took him along, just as he
was, in the boat.[h] There were also
other boats with him. [37]A furious squall
came up, and the waves broke over the
boat, so that it was nearly swamped.
[38]Jesus was in the stern, sleeping on a
cushion. The disciples woke him and
said to him, "Teacher, don't you care if
we drown?"
[39]He got up, rebuked the wind and
said to the waves, "Quiet! Be still!"
Then the wind died down and it was
completely calm.
[40]He said to his disciples, "Why are
you so afraid? Do you still have no
faith?"[i]
[41]They were terrified and asked each

4:24 [a]S Mt 7:2
4:25 [b]S Mt 25:29
4:26 [c]S Mt 13:24
4:29 [d]Rev 14:15
4:30 [e]S Mt 13:24
4:33 [f]Jn 16:12
4:34 [g]S Jn 16:25
4:36 [h]ver 1; Mk 3:9; 5:2,21; 6:32,45
4:40 [i]Mt 14:31; Mk 16:14

other, "Who is this? Even the wind and
the waves obey him!"

The Healing of a Demon-possessed Man

5:1-17pp — Mt 8:28-34; Lk 8:26-37
5:18-20pp — Lk 8:38,39

5 They went across the lake to the re-
gion of the Gerasenes.[k] [2]When
Jesus got out of the boat,[j] a man with
an evil[l] spirit[k] came from the tombs to
meet him. [3]This man lived in the
tombs, and no one could bind him any
more, not even with a chain. [4]For he
had often been chained hand and foot,
but he tore the chains apart and broke
the irons on his feet. No one was
strong enough to subdue him. [5]Night
and day among the tombs and in the
hills he would cry out and cut himself
with stones.
[6]When he saw Jesus from a distance,
he ran and fell on his knees in front of
him. [7]He shouted at the top of his
voice, "What do you want with me,[l]
Jesus, Son of the Most High God?[m]
Swear to God that you won't torture
me!" [8]For Jesus had said to him,
"Come out of this man, you evil
spirit!"
[9]Then Jesus asked him, "What is
your name?"
"My name is Legion,"[n] he replied,
"for we are many." [10]And he begged
Jesus again and again not to send them
out of the area.
[11]A large herd of pigs was feeding on
the nearby hillside. [12]The demons
begged Jesus, "Send us among the
pigs; allow us to go into them." [13]He
gave them permission, and the evil
spirits came out and went into the pigs.
The herd, about two thousand in num-
ber, rushed down the steep bank into
the lake and were drowned.
[14]Those tending the pigs ran off and
reported this in the town and country-
side, and the people went out to see
what had happened. [15]When they
came to Jesus, they saw the man who
had been possessed by the legion[o] of
demons,[p] sitting there, dressed and in
his right mind; and they were afraid.
[16]Those who had seen it told the people
what had happened to the demon-pos-
sessed man—and told about the pigs as
well. [17]Then the people began to plead
with Jesus to leave their region.
[18]As Jesus was getting into the boat,
the man who had been demon-pos-

5:2 [j]Mk 4:1 [k]Mk 1:23
5:7 [l]S Mt 8:29 [m]S Mt 4:3; Lk 1:32; 6:35; Ac 16:17; Heb 7:1
5:9 [n]ver 15
5:15 [o]ver 9 [p]ver 16,18; S Mt 4:24

k1 Some manuscripts *Gadarenes;* other manuscripts *Gergesenes* l2 Greek *unclean;* also in verses 8 and 13

sessed begged to go with him. 19Jesus did not let him, but said, "Go home to your family and tell them[a] how much the Lord has done for you, and how he has had mercy on you." 20So the man went away and began to tell in the Decapolis[m][b] how much Jesus had done for him. And all the people were amazed.

A Dead Girl and a Sick Woman

5:22-43pp — Mt 9:18-26; Lk 8:41-56

21When Jesus had again crossed over by boat to the other side of the lake,[c] a large crowd gathered around him while he was by the lake.[d] 22Then one of the synagogue rulers,[e] named Jairus, came there. Seeing Jesus, he fell at his feet 23and pleaded earnestly with him, "My little daughter is dying. Please come and put your hands on[f] her so that she will be healed and live." 24So Jesus went with him.

A large crowd followed and pressed around him. 25And a woman was there who had been subject to bleeding[g] for twelve years. 26She had suffered a great deal under the care of many doctors and had spent all she had, yet instead of getting better she grew worse. 27When she heard about Jesus, she came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak, 28because she thought, "If I just touch his clothes,[h] I will be healed." 29Immediately her bleeding stopped and she felt in her body that she was freed from her suffering.[i]

30At once Jesus realized that power[j] had gone out from him. He turned around in the crowd and asked, "Who touched my clothes?"

31"You see the people crowding against you," his disciples answered, "and yet you can ask, 'Who touched me?' "

32But Jesus kept looking around to see who had done it. 33Then the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came and fell at his feet and, trembling with fear, told him the whole truth. 34He said to her, "Daughter, your faith has healed you.[k] Go in peace[l] and be freed from your suffering."

35While Jesus was still speaking, some men came from the house of Jairus, the synagogue ruler.[m] "Your daughter is dead," they said. "Why bother the teacher any more?"

36Ignoring what they said, Jesus told the synagogue ruler, "Don't be afraid; just believe."

37He did not let anyone follow him except Peter, James and John the brother of James.[n] 38When they came to the home of the synagogue ruler,[o] Jesus saw a commotion, with people crying and wailing loudly. 39He went in and said to them, "Why all this commotion and wailing? The child is not dead but asleep."[p] 40But they laughed at him.

After he put them all out, he took the child's father and mother and the disciples who were with him, and went in where the child was. 41He took her by the hand[q] and said to her, *"Talitha koum!"* (which means, "Little girl, I say to you, get up!").[r] 42Immediately the girl stood up and walked around (she was twelve years old). At this they were completely astonished. 43He gave strict orders not to let anyone know about this,[s] and told them to give her something to eat.

A Prophet Without Honor

6:1-6pp — Mt 13:54-58

6 Jesus left there and went to his hometown,[t] accompanied by his disciples. 2When the Sabbath came,[u] he began to teach in the synagogue,[v] and many who heard him were amazed.[w]

"Where did this man get these things?" they asked. "What's this wisdom that has been given him, that he even does miracles! 3Isn't this the carpenter? Isn't this Mary's son and the brother of James, Joseph,[n] Judas and Simon?[x] Aren't his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him.[y]

4Jesus said to them, "Only in his hometown, among his relatives and in his own house is a prophet without honor."[z] 5He could not do any miracles there, except lay his hands on[a] a few sick people and heal them. 6And he was amazed at their lack of faith.

Jesus Sends Out the Twelve

6:7-11pp — Mt 10:1,9-14; Lk 9:1,3-5

Then Jesus went around teaching from village to village.[b] 7Calling the Twelve to him,[c] he sent them out two by two[d] and gave them authority over evil[o] spirits.[e]

8These were his instructions: "Take nothing for the journey except a staff—no bread, no bag, no money in your

5:19 [a]S Mt 8:4 **5:20** [b]Mt 4:25; Mk 7:31 **5:21** [c]Mt 9:1 [d]Mk 4:1 **5:22** [e]ver 35,36,38; Lk 13:14; Ac 13:15; 18:8,17 **5:23** [f]Mt 19:13; Mk 6:5; 7:32; 8:23; 16:18; Lk 4:40; 13:13; S Ac 6:6 **5:25** [g]Lev 15:25-30 **5:28** [h]S Mt 9:20 **5:29** [i]ver 34 **5:30** [j]Lk 5:17; 6:19 **5:34** [k]S Mt 9:22 [l]S Ac 15:33 **5:35** [m]S ver 22

5:37 [n]S Mt 4:21 **5:38** [o]S ver 22 **5:39** [p]S Mt 9:24 **5:41** [q]Mk 1:31 [r]S Lk 7:14 **5:43** [s]S Mt 8:4 **6:1** [t]S Mt 2:23 **6:2** [u]Mk 1:21 [v]S Mt 4:23 [w]S Mt 7:28 **6:3** [x]S Mt 12:46 [y]Mt 11:6; Jn 6:61 **6:4** [z]Lk 4:24; Jn 4:44 **6:5** [a]S Mk 5:23 **6:6** [b]Mt 9:35; Mk 1:39; Lk 13:22 **6:7** [c]Mk 3:13 [d]Dt 17:6; Lk 10:1 [e]S Mt 10:1

[m]20 That is, the Ten Cities [n]3 Greek *Joses,* a variant of *Joseph* [o]7 Greek *unclean*

belts. 9Wear sandals but not an extra tunic. 10Whenever you enter a house, stay there until you leave that town. 11And if any place will not welcome you or listen to you, shake the dust off your feet[a] when you leave, as a testimony against them."

12They went out and preached that people should repent.[b] 13They drove out many demons and anointed many sick people with oil[c] and healed them.

John the Baptist Beheaded

6:14-29pp — Mt 14:1-12
6:14-16pp — Lk 9:7-9

14King Herod heard about this, for Jesus' name had become well known. Some were saying,[a] "John the Baptist[d] has been raised from the dead, and that is why miraculous powers are at work in him."

15Others said, "He is Elijah."[e]

And still others claimed, "He is a prophet,[f] like one of the prophets of long ago."[g]

16But when Herod heard this, he said, "John, the man I beheaded, has been raised from the dead!"

17For Herod himself had given orders to have John arrested, and he had him bound and put in prison.[h] He did this because of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, whom he had married. 18For John had been saying to Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife."[i] 19So Herodias nursed a grudge against John and wanted to kill him. But she was not able to, 20because Herod feared John and protected him, knowing him to be a righteous and holy man.[j] When Herod heard John, he was greatly puzzled[b]; yet he liked to listen to him.

21Finally the opportune time came. On his birthday Herod gave a banquet[k] for his high officials and military commanders and the leading men of Galilee.[l] 22When the daughter of Herodias came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his dinner guests.

The king said to the girl, "Ask me for anything you want, and I'll give it to you." 23And he promised her with an oath, "Whatever you ask I will give you, up to half my kingdom."[m]

24She went out and said to her mother, "What shall I ask for?"

"The head of John the Baptist," she answered.

25At once the girl hurried in to the king with the request: "I want you to give me right now the head of John the Baptist on a platter."

26The king was greatly distressed, but because of his oaths and his dinner guests, he did not want to refuse her. 27So he immediately sent an executioner with orders to bring John's head. The man went, beheaded John in the prison, 28and brought back his head on a platter. He presented it to the girl, and she gave it to her mother. 29On hearing of this, John's disciples came and took his body and laid it in a tomb.

Jesus Feeds the Five Thousand

6:32-44pp — Mt 14:13-21; Lk 9:10-17; Jn 6:5-13
6:32-44Ref — Mk 8:2-9

30The apostles[n] gathered around Jesus and reported to him all they had done and taught.[o] 31Then, because so many people were coming and going that they did not even have a chance to eat,[p] he said to them, "Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest."

32So they went away by themselves in a boat[q] to a solitary place. 33But many who saw them leaving recognized them and ran on foot from all the towns and got there ahead of them. 34When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd.[r] So he began teaching them many things.

35By this time it was late in the day, so his disciples came to him. "This is a remote place," they said, "and it's already very late. 36Send the people away so they can go to the surrounding countryside and villages and buy themselves something to eat."

37But he answered, "You give them something to eat."[s]

They said to him, "That would take eight months of a man's wages[c]! Are we to go and spend that much on bread and give it to them to eat?"

38"How many loaves do you have?" he asked. "Go and see."

When they found out, they said, "Five—and two fish."[t]

39Then Jesus directed them to have all the people sit down in groups on the green grass. 40So they sat down in groups of hundreds and fifties. 41Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks and broke the loaves.[u] Then he gave

6:11 S Mt 10:14
6:12 Lk 9:6
6:13 Jas 5:14
6:14 S Mt 3:1
6:15 Mal 4:5; S Mt 21:11; S Mt 16:14
6:17 Mt 4:12; 11:2; Lk 3:19,20
6:18 Lev 18:16; 20:21
6:20 S Mt 11:9; Mt 14:5
6:21 Est 1:3; 2:18; Lk 3:1
6:23 Est 5:3,6; 7:2
6:30 Mt 10:2; Lk 9:10; 17:5; 22:14; 24:10; Ac 1:2,26; Lk 9:10
6:31 Mk 3:20
6:32 ver 45; S Mk 4:36
6:34 S Mt 9:36
6:37 2Ki 4:42-44
6:38 Mt 15:34; Mk 8:5
6:41 S Mt 14:19

a14 Some early manuscripts He was saying
b20 Some early manuscripts he did many things
c37 Greek take two hundred denarii

them to his disciples to set before the
people. He also divided the two fish
among them all. 42They all ate and
were satisfied, 43and the disciples
picked up twelve basketfuls of broken
pieces of bread and fish. 44The number
of the men who had eaten was five
thousand.

Jesus Walks on the Water

6:45-51pp — Mt 14:22-32; Jn 6:15-21
6:53-56pp — Mt 14:34-36

45Immediately Jesus made his disci-
ples get into the boat[a] and go on ahead
of him to Bethsaida,[b] while he dis-
missed the crowd. 46After leaving
them, he went up on a mountainside to
pray.[c]
47When evening came, the boat was
in the middle of the lake, and he was
alone on land. 48He saw the disciples
straining at the oars, because the wind
was against them. About the fourth
watch of the night he went out to
them, walking on the lake. He was
about to pass by them, 49but when they
saw him walking on the lake, they
thought he was a ghost.[d] They cried
out, 50because they all saw him and
were terrified.
Immediately he spoke to them and
said, "Take courage! It is I. Don't be
afraid."[e] 51Then he climbed into the
boat[f] with them, and the wind died
down.[g] They were completely
amazed, 52for they had not understood
about the loaves; their hearts were
hardened.[h]
53When they had crossed over, they
landed at Gennesaret and anchored
there.[i] 54As soon as they got out of the
boat, people recognized Jesus. 55They
ran throughout that whole region and
carried the sick on mats to wherever
they heard he was. 56And wherever he
went—into villages, towns or country-
side—they placed the sick in the mar-
ketplaces. They begged him to let them
touch even the edge of his cloak,[j] and
all who touched him were healed.

Clean and Unclean

7:1-23pp — Mt 15:1-20

7 The Pharisees and some of the
teachers of the law who had come
from Jerusalem gathered around Jesus
and 2saw some of his disciples eating
food with hands that were "un-
clean,"[k] that is, unwashed. 3(The
Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat
unless they give their hands a
ceremonial washing, holding to the tra-
dition of the elders.[l] 4When they come
from the marketplace they do not eat
unless they wash. And they observe
many other traditions, such as the
washing of cups, pitchers and ket-
tles.[s])[m]
5So the Pharisees and teachers of the
law asked Jesus, "Why don't your dis-
ciples live according to the tradition of
the elders[n] instead of eating their food
with 'unclean' hands?"
6He replied, "Isaiah was right when
he prophesied about you hypocrites; as
it is written:

" 'These people honor me with their
lips,
but their hearts are far from me.
7They worship me in vain;
their teachings are but rules taught
by men.'[t][o]

8You have let go of the commands of
God and are holding on to the tradi-
tions of men."[p]
9And he said to them: "You have a
fine way of setting aside the commands
of God in order to observe[u] your own
traditions![q] 10For Moses said, 'Honor
your father and your mother,'[v][r] and,
'Anyone who curses his father or
mother must be put to death.'[w][s] 11But
you say[t] that if a man says to his father
or mother: 'Whatever help you might
otherwise have received from me is
Corban' (that is, a gift devoted to God),
12then you no longer let him do any-
thing for his father or mother. 13Thus
you nullify the word of God[u] by your
tradition[v] that you have handed down.
And you do many things like that."
14Again Jesus called the crowd to him
and said, "Listen to me, everyone, and
understand this. 15Nothing outside a
man can make him 'unclean' by going
into him. Rather, it is what comes out
of a man that makes him 'unclean.'[x]"
17After he had left the crowd and en-
tered the house, his disciples asked
him[w] about this parable. 18"Are you so
dull?" he asked. "Don't you see that
nothing that enters a man from the out-
side can make him 'unclean'? 19For it
doesn't go into his heart but into his
stomach, and then out of his body." (In
saying this, Jesus declared all foods[x]
"clean.")[y]

6:45 [a]ver 32 [b]S Mt 11:21 **6:46** [c]S Lk 3:21 **6:49** [d]Lk 24:37 **6:50** [e]S Mt 14:27 **6:51** [f]ver 32 [g]Mk 4:39 **6:52** [h]Mk 8:17-21 **6:53** [i]Jn 6:24,25 **6:56** [j]S Mt 9:20 **7:2** [k]Ac 10:14, 28; 11:8; Ro 14:14

7:3 [l]ver 5,8,9, 13; Lk 11:38 **7:4** [m]Mt 23:25; Lk 11:39 **7:5** [n]S ver 3; Gal 1:14; Col 2:8 **7:7** [o]Isa 29:13 **7:8** [p]S ver 3 **7:9** [q]S ver 3 **7:10** [r]Ex 20:12; Dt 5:16 [s]Ex 21:17; Lev 20:9 **7:11** [t]Mt 23:16, 18 **7:13** [u]S Heb 4:12 [v]S ver 3 **7:17** [w]Mk 9:28 **7:19** [x]Ro 14:1-12; Col 2:16; 1Ti 4:3-5 [y]S Ac 10:15

[s]4 Some early manuscripts *pitchers, kettles and dining couches* [t]6,7 Isaiah 29:13 [u]9 Some manuscripts *set up* [v]10 Exodus 20:12; Deut. 5:16 [w]10 Exodus 21:17; Lev. 20:9 [x]15 Some early manuscripts *'unclean.'* [16]*If anyone has ears to hear, let him hear.*

[20]He went on: "What comes out of a
man is what makes him 'unclean.' [21]For
from within, out of men's hearts, come
evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft,
murder, adultery, [22]greed, malice, de-
ceit, lewdness, envy, slander, arro-
gance and folly. [23]All these evils come
from inside and make a man 'un-
clean.'"

The Faith of a Syrophoenician Woman

7:24-30pp — Mt 15:21-28

[24]Jesus left that place and went to the
vicinity of Tyre.[y] He entered a house
and did not want anyone to know it;
yet he could not keep his presence se-
cret. [25]In fact, as soon as she heard
about him, a woman whose little
daughter was possessed by an evil[z]
spirit came and fell at his feet. [26]The
woman was a Greek, born in Syrian
Phoenicia. She begged Jesus to drive
the demon out of her daughter.

[27]"First let the children eat all they
want," he told her, "for it is not right to
take the children's bread and toss it to
their dogs."

[28]"Yes, Lord," she replied, "but even
the dogs under the table eat the chil-
dren's crumbs."

[29]Then he told her, "For such a reply,
you may go; the demon has left your
daughter."

[30]She went home and found her child
lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

The Healing of a Deaf and Mute Man

7:31-37pp — Mt 15:29-31

[31]Then Jesus left the vicinity of Tyre[d]
and went through Sidon, down to the
Sea of Galilee[e] and into the region of
the Decapolis.[a][f] [32]There some people
brought to him a man who was deaf
and could hardly talk,[g] and they
begged him to place his hand on[h] the
man.

[33]After he took him aside, away from
the crowd, Jesus put his fingers into
the man's ears. Then he spit[i] and
touched the man's tongue. [34]He looked
up to heaven[j] and with a deep sigh[k]
said to him, "*Ephphatha!*" (which
means, "Be opened!"). [35]At this, the
man's ears were opened, his tongue
was loosened and he began to speak
plainly.[l]

[36]Jesus commanded them not to tell
anyone.[m] But the more he did so, the
more they kept talking about it.
[37]People were overwhelmed with
amazement. "He has done everything
well," they said. "He even makes the
deaf hear and the mute speak."

Jesus Feeds the Four Thousand

8:1-9pp — Mt 15:32-39
8:1-9Ref — Mk 6:32-44
8:11-21pp — Mt 16:1-12

8 During those days another large
crowd gathered. Since they had
nothing to eat, Jesus called his disciples
to him and said, [2]"I have compassion
for these people;[n] they have already
been with me three days and have
nothing to eat. [3]If I send them home
hungry, they will collapse on the way,
because some of them have come a
long distance."

[4]His disciples answered, "But where
in this remote place can anyone get
enough bread to feed them?"

[5]"How many loaves do you have?"
Jesus asked.

"Seven," they replied.

[6]He told the crowd to sit down on
the ground. When he had taken the
seven loaves and given thanks, he
broke them and gave them to his disci-
ples to set before the people, and they
did so. [7]They had a few small fish as
well; he gave thanks for them also and
told the disciples to distribute them.[o]
[8]The people ate and were satisfied. Af-
terward the disciples picked up seven
basketfuls of broken pieces that were
left over.[p] [9]About four thousand men
were present. And having sent them
away, [10]he got into the boat with his
disciples and went to the region of Dal-
manutha.

[11]The Pharisees came and began to
question Jesus. To test him, they asked
him for a sign from heaven.[q] [12]He
sighed deeply[r] and said, "Why does
this generation ask for a miraculous
sign? I tell you the truth, no sign will be
given to it." [13]Then he left them, got
back into the boat and crossed to the
other side.

The Yeast of the Pharisees and Herod

[14]The disciples had forgotten to bring
bread, except for one loaf they had
with them in the boat. [15]"Be careful,"
Jesus warned them. "Watch out for the
yeast[s] of the Pharisees[t] and that of
Herod."[u]

[16]They discussed this with one an-
other and said, "It is because we have
no bread."

[17]Aware of their discussion, Jesus

[illegible]

8:2 [n]S Mt 9:36
8:7 [o]Mt 14:19
8:8 [p]ver 20
8:11 [q]S Mt 12:38
8:12 [r]Mk 7:34
8:15 [s]1Co 5:6-8 [t]Lk 12:1 [u]S Mt 14:1; Mk 12:13

[y]24 Many early manuscripts *Tyre and Sidon*
[z]25 Greek *unclean*
[a]31 That is, the Ten Cities

asked them: "Why are you talking
about having no bread? Do you still not
see or understand? Are your hearts
hardened?[a] 18Do you have eyes but fail
to see, and ears but fail to hear? And
don't you remember? 19When I broke
the five loaves for the five thousand,
how many basketfuls of pieces did you
pick up?"
"Twelve,"[b] they replied.
20"And when I broke the seven
loaves for the four thousand, how
many basketfuls of pieces did you pick
up?"
They answered, "Seven."[c]
21He said to them, "Do you still not
understand?"[d]

The Healing of a Blind Man at Bethsaida

22They came to Bethsaida,[e] and
some people brought a blind man[f] and
begged Jesus to touch him. 23He took
the blind man by the hand and led him
outside the village. When he had spit[g]
on the man's eyes and put his hands
on[h] him, Jesus asked, "Do you see
anything?"
24He looked up and said, "I see
people; they look like trees walking
around."
25Once more Jesus put his hands on
the man's eyes. Then his eyes were
opened, his sight was restored, and he
saw everything clearly. 26Jesus sent
him home, saying, "Don't go into the
village.[a]"

Peter's Confession of Christ

8:27-29pp — Mt 16:13-16; Lk 9:18-20

27Jesus and his disciples went on to
the villages around Caesarea Philippi.
On the way he asked them, "Who do
people say I am?"
28They replied, "Some say John the
Baptist;[i] others say Elijah;[j] and still
others, one of the prophets."
29"But what about you?" he asked.
"Who do you say I am?"
Peter answered, "You are the
Christ.[b]"[k]
30Jesus warned them not to tell any-
one about him.[l]

Jesus Predicts His Death

8:31 — 9:1pp — Mt 16:21-28; Lk 9:22-27

31He then began to teach them that
the Son of Man[m] must suffer many
things[n] and be rejected by the elders,
chief priests and teachers of the law,[o]
and that he must be killed[p] and after

8:17 [a]Isa 6:9,10; Mk 6:52
8:19 [b]Mt 14:20; Mk 6:41-44; Lk 9:17; Jn 6:13
8:20 [c]ver 6-9; Mt 15:37
8:21 [d]Mk 6:52
8:22 [e]S Mt 11:21 [f]Mk 10:46; Jn 9:1
8:23 [g]Mk 7:33 [h]S Mk 5:23
8:28 [i]S Mt 3:1 [j]Mal 4:5
8:29 [k]Jn 6:69; 11:27
8:30 [l]S Mt 8:4; 16:20; 17:9; Mk 9:9; Lk 9:21
8:31 [m]S Mt 8:20 [n]S Mt 16:21 [o]Mt 27:1,2 [p]Ac 2:23; 3:13
[q]S Mt 16:21 [r]S Mt 16:21
8:32 [s]Jn 18:20
8:33 [t]S Mt 4:10
8:34 [u]Mt 10:38; Lk 14:27
8:35 [v]S Jn 12:25
8:38 [w]S Mt 8:20 [x]Mt 10:33; Lk 12:9 [y]S 1Th 2:19
9:1 [z]Mk 13:30; Lk 22:18 [a]Mt 24:30; 25:31
9:2 [b]S Mt 4:21
9:3 [c]S Mt 28:3
9:5 [d]S Mt 23:7
9:7 [e]Ex 24:16 [f]S Mt 3:17

three days[q] rise again.[r] 32He spoke
plainly[s] about this, and Peter took him
aside and began to rebuke him.
33But when Jesus turned and looked
at his disciples, he rebuked Peter. "Get
behind me, Satan!"[t] he said. "You do
not have in mind the things of God,
but the things of men."
34Then he called the crowd to him
along with his disciples and said: "If
anyone would come after me, he must
deny himself and take up his cross and
follow me.[u] 35For whoever wants to
save his life[c] will lose it, but whoever
loses his life for me and for the gospel
will save it.[v] 36What good is it for a
man to gain the whole world, yet for-
feit his soul? 37Or what can a man give
in exchange for his soul? 38If anyone is
ashamed of me and my words in this
adulterous and sinful generation, the
Son of Man[w] will be ashamed of him[x]
when he comes[y] in his Father's glory
with the holy angels."

9 And he said to them, "I tell you the
truth, some who are standing here
will not taste death before they see the
kingdom of God come[z] with power."[a]

The Transfiguration

9:2-8pp — Lk 9:28-36
9:2-13pp — Mt 17:1-13

2After six days Jesus took Peter,
James and John[b] with him and led
them up a high mountain, where they
were all alone. There he was trans-
figured before them. 3His clothes
became dazzling white,[c] whiter than
anyone in the world could bleach
them. 4And there appeared before
them Elijah and Moses, who were talk-
ing with Jesus.
5Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi,[d] it is
good for us to be here. Let us put up
three shelters—one for you, one for
Moses and one for Elijah." 6(He did not
know what to say, they were so fright-
ened.)
7Then a cloud appeared and en-
veloped them, and a voice came from
the cloud:[e] "This is my Son, whom I
love. Listen to him!"[f]
8Suddenly, when they looked
around, they no longer saw anyone
with them except Jesus.
9As they were coming down the
mountain, Jesus gave them orders not

[a]26 Some manuscripts *Don't go and tell anyone in the village* [b]29 Or *Messiah.* "The Christ" (Greek) and "the Messiah" (Hebrew) both mean "the Anointed One." [c]35 The Greek word means either *life* or *soul*; also in verse 36.

[illegible]
come, and they have done to him
everything they wished, just as it is
written about him."

The Healing of a Boy With an Evil Spirit

[illegible]

14When they came to the other disci-
ples, they saw a large crowd around
them and the teachers of the law argu-
ing with them. 15As soon as all the
people saw Jesus, they were over-
whelmed with wonder and ran to greet
him.
16"What are you arguing with them
about?" he asked.
17A man in the crowd answered,
"Teacher, I brought you my son, who
is possessed by a spirit that has robbed
him of speech. 18Whenever it seizes
him, it throws him to the ground. He
foams at the mouth, gnashes his teeth
and becomes rigid. I asked your disci-
ples to drive out the spirit, but they
could not."
19"O unbelieving generation," Jesus
replied, "how long shall I stay with
you? How long shall I put up with you?
Bring the boy to me."
20So they brought him. When the
spirit saw Jesus, it immediately threw
the boy into a convulsion. He fell to the
ground and rolled around, foaming at
the mouth.
21Jesus asked the boy's father, "How
long has he been like this?"
"From childhood," he answered.
22"It has often thrown him into fire or
water to kill him. But if you can do any-
thing, take pity on us and help us."
23" 'If you can'?" said Jesus. "Every-
thing is possible for him who be-
lieves."
24Immediately the boy's father ex-
claimed, "I do believe; help me over-
come my unbelief!"
25When Jesus saw that a crowd was
running to the scene, he rebuked the
evil spirit. "You deaf and mute
spirit," he said, "I command you, come
out of him and never enter him again."
26The spirit shrieked, convulsed him
violently and came out. The boy looked
so much like a corpse that many said,
"He's dead." 27But Jesus took him by
the hand and lifted him to his feet, and
he stood up.
28After Jesus had gone indoors, his
disciples asked him privately, "Why
couldn't we drive it out?"
29He replied, "This kind can come
out only by prayer."
30They left that place and passed
through Galilee. Jesus did not want
anyone to know where they were, 31be-
cause he was teaching his disciples. He
said to them, "The Son of Man is go-
ing to be betrayed into the hands of
men. They will kill him, and after
three days he will rise." 32But they
did not understand what he meant
and were afraid to ask him about it.

Who Is the Greatest?

9:33-37pp — Mt 18:1-5; Lk 9:46-48

33They came to Capernaum. When
he was in the house, he asked them,
"What were you arguing about on the
road?" 34But they kept quiet because on
the way they had argued about who
was the greatest.
35Sitting down, Jesus called the
Twelve and said, "If anyone wants to
be first, he must be the very last, and
the servant of all."
36He took a little child and had him
stand among them. Taking him in his
arms, he said to them, 37"Whoever
welcomes one of these little children in
my name welcomes me; and whoever
welcomes me does not welcome me but
the one who sent me."

Whoever Is Not Against Us Is for Us

9:38-40pp — Lk 9:49-50

38"Teacher," said John, "we saw a
man driving out demons in your name
and we told him to stop, because he
was not one of us."
39"Do not stop him," Jesus said. "No
one who does a miracle in my name
can in the next moment say anything
bad about me, 40for whoever is not
against us is for us. 41I tell you the
truth, anyone who gives you a cup of
water in my name because you belong

a25 Greek *unclean*   b29 Some manuscripts *prayer and fasting*

to Christ will certainly not lose his re-
ward.[a]

Causing to Sin

42"And if anyone causes one of these
little ones who believe in me to sin,[b] it
would be better for him to be thrown
into the sea with a large millstone tied
around his neck.[c] 43If your hand
causes you to sin,[d] cut it off. It is better
for you to enter life maimed than with
two hands to go into hell,[e] where the
fire never goes out.[g][f] 45And if your
foot causes you to sin,[g] cut it off. It is
better for you to enter life crippled than
to have two feet and be thrown into
hell.[h][h] 47And if your eye causes you to
sin,[i] pluck it out. It is better for you to
enter the kingdom of God with one eye
than to have two eyes and be thrown
into hell,[j] 48where

"'their worm does not die,
and the fire is not quenched.'[i][k]

49Everyone will be salted[l] with fire.
50"Salt is good, but if it loses its salti-
ness, how can you make it salty
again?[m] Have salt in yourselves,[n] and
be at peace with each other."[o]

Divorce

10:1-12pp — Mt 19:1-9

10 Jesus then left that place and
went into the region of Judea
and across the Jordan.[p] Again crowds
of people came to him, and as was his
custom, he taught them.[q]
2Some Pharisees[r] came and tested
him by asking, "Is it lawful for a man to
divorce his wife?"
3"What did Moses command you?"
he replied.
4They said, "Moses permitted a man
to write a certificate of divorce and
send her away."[s]
5"It was because your hearts were
hard[t] that Moses wrote you this law,"
Jesus replied. 6"But at the beginning of
creation God 'made them male and
female.'[j][u] 7'For this reason a man will
leave his father and mother and be
united to his wife,[k] 8and the two will
become one flesh.'[l][v] So they are no
longer two, but one. 9Therefore what
God has joined together, let man not
separate."
10When they were in the house
again, the disciples asked Jesus about
this. 11He answered, "Anyone who di-
vorces his wife and marries another
woman commits adultery against her.[w]

9:41 [a]S Mt 10:42
9:42 [b]S Mt 5:29 [c]Mt 18:6; Lk 17:2
9:43 [d]S Mt 5:29 [e]Mt 5:30; 18:8 [f]S Mt 25:41
9:45 [g]S Mt 5:29 [h]Mt 18:8
9:47 [i]S Mt 5:29 [j]Mt 5:29; 18:9
9:48 [k]Isa 66:24; S Mt 25:41
9:49 [l]Lev 2:13
9:50 [m]Mt 5:13; Lk 14:34,35 [n]Col 4:6 [o]Ro 12:18; 2Co 13:11; 1Th 5:13
10:1 [p]Mk 1:5; Jn 10:40; 11:7 [q]S Mt 4:23; Mk 2:13; 4:2; 6:6,34
10:2 [r]Mk 2:16
10:4 [s]Dt 24:1-4; Mt 5:31
10:5 [t]Ps 95:8; Heb 3:15
10:6 [u]Ge 1:27; 5:2
10:8 [v]Ge 2:24; 1Co 6:16
10:11 [w]S Lk 16:18
10:12 [x]Ro 7:3; 1Co 7:10,11
10:14 [y]S Mt 25:34
10:15 [z]Mt 18:3
10:16 [a]Mk 9:36
10:17 [b]Mk 1:40 [c]Lk 10:25; S Ac 20:32
10:19 [d]Ex 20:12-16; Dt 5:16-20
10:21 [e]S Ac 2:45 [f]Mt 6:20; Lk 12:33 [g]S Mt 4:19
10:23 [h]Ps 52:7; 62:10; Mk 4:19; 1Ti 6:9,10,17
10:24 [i]Mt 7:13,14; Jn 3:5
10:25 [j]Lk 12:16-20; 16:19-31

12And if she divorces her husband and
marries another man, she commits
adultery."[x]

The Little Children and Jesus

10:13-16pp — Mt 19:13-15; Lk 18:15-17

13People were bringing little children
to Jesus to have him touch them, but
the disciples rebuked them. 14When
Jesus saw this, he was indignant. He
said to them, "Let the little children
come to me, and do not hinder them,
for the kingdom of God belongs to
such as these.[y] 15I tell you the truth,
anyone who will not receive the king-
dom of God like a little child will never
enter it."[z] 16And he took the children
in his arms,[a] put his hands on them
and blessed them.

The Rich Young Man

10:17-31pp — Mt 19:16-30; Lk 18:18-30

17As Jesus started on his way, a man
ran up to him and fell on his knees[b]
before him. "Good teacher," he asked,
"what must I do to inherit eternal
life?"[c]
18"Why do you call me good?" Jesus
answered. "No one is good—except
God alone. 19You know the command-
ments: 'Do not murder, do not commit
adultery, do not steal, do not give false
testimony, do not defraud, honor your
father and mother.'[m]"[d]
20"Teacher," he declared, "all these I
have kept since I was a boy."
21Jesus looked at him and loved him.
"One thing you lack," he said. "Go,
sell everything you have and give to
the poor,[e] and you will have treasure
in heaven.[f] Then come, follow me."[g]
22At this the man's face fell. He went
away sad, because he had great wealth.
23Jesus looked around and said to his
disciples, "How hard it is for the rich[h]
to enter the kingdom of God!"
24The disciples were amazed at his
words. But Jesus said again, "Children,
how hard it is[n] to enter the kingdom of
God![i] 25It is easier for a camel to go
through the eye of a needle than for a
rich man to enter the kingdom of
God."[j]
26The disciples were even more

g43 Some manuscripts *out,* 44*where* / " *'their worm does not die,* / *and the fire is not quenched.'* h45 Some manuscripts *hell,* 46*where* / " *'their worm does not die,* / *and the fire is not quenched.'* i48 Isaiah 66:24 j6 Gen. 1:27 k7 Some early manuscripts do not have *and be united to his wife.* l8 Gen. 2:24 m19 Exodus 20:12-16; Deut. 5:16-20 n24 Some manuscripts *is for those who trust in riches*

amazed, and said to each other, "Who
then can be saved?"
27 Jesus looked at them and said,
"With man this is impossible, but not
with God; all things are possible with
God."[a]
28 Peter said to him, "We have left
everything to follow you!"[b]
29 "I tell you the truth," Jesus replied,
"no one who has left home or brothers
or sisters or mother or father or chil-
dren or fields for me and the gospel
30 will fail to receive a hundred times as
much[c] in this present age (homes,
brothers, sisters, mothers, children and
fields—and with them, persecutions)
and in the age to come,[d] eternal life.[e]
31 But many who are first will be last,
and the last first."[f]

Jesus Again Predicts His Death

10:32-34pp — Mt 20:17-19; Lk 18:31-33

32 They were on their way up to
Jerusalem, with Jesus leading the way,
and the disciples were astonished,
while those who followed were afraid.
Again he took the Twelve[g] aside and
told them what was going to happen to
him. 33 "We are going up to Jerusa-
lem,"[h] he said, "and the Son of Man[i]
will be betrayed to the chief priests and
teachers of the law.[j] They will con-
demn him to death and will hand him
over to the Gentiles, 34 who will mock
him and spit on him, flog him[k] and kill
him.[l] Three days later[m] he will rise."[n]

The Request of James and John

10:35-45pp — Mt 20:20-28

35 Then James and John, the sons of
Zebedee, came to him. "Teacher," they
said, "we want you to do for us what-
ever we ask."
36 "What do you want me to do for
you?" he asked.
37 They replied, "Let one of us sit at
your right and the other at your left in
your glory."[o]
38 "You don't know what you are ask-
ing,"[p] Jesus said. "Can you drink the
cup[q] I drink or be baptized with the
baptism I am baptized with?"[r]
39 "We can," they answered.
Jesus said to them, "You will drink
the cup I drink and be baptized with
the baptism I am baptized with,[s] 40 but
to sit at my right or left is not for me to
grant. These places belong to those for
whom they have been prepared."
41 When the ten heard about this,
they became indignant with James and
John. 42 Jesus called them together and
said, "You know that those who are re-
garded as rulers of the Gentiles lord it
over them, and their high officials exer-
cise authority over them. 43 Not so with
you. Instead, whoever wants to
become great among you must be your
servant,[t] 44 and whoever wants to be
first must be slave of all. 45 For even the
Son of Man did not come to be served,
but to serve,[u] and to give his life as a
ransom for many."[v]

Blind Bartimaeus Receives His Sight

10:46-52pp — Mt 20:29-34; Lk 18:35-43

46 Then they came to Jericho. As Jesus
and his disciples, together with a large
crowd, were leaving the city, a blind
man, Bartimaeus (that is, the Son of Ti-
maeus), was sitting by the roadside
begging. 47 When he heard that it was
Jesus of Nazareth,[w] he began to shout,
"Jesus, Son of David,[x] have mercy on
me!"
48 Many rebuked him and told him to
be quiet, but he shouted all the more,
"Son of David, have mercy on me!"
49 Jesus stopped and said, "Call him."
So they called to the blind man,
"Cheer up! On your feet! He's calling
you." 50 Throwing his cloak aside, he
jumped to his feet and came to Jesus.
51 "What do you want me to do for
you?" Jesus asked him.
The blind man said, "Rabbi,[y] I want
to see."
52 "Go," said Jesus, "your faith has
healed you."[z] Immediately he received
his sight and followed[a] Jesus along the
road.

The Triumphal Entry

11:1-10pp — Mt 21:1-9; Lk 19:29-38
11:7-10pp — Jn 12:12-15

11 As they approached Jerusalem
and came to Bethphage and
Bethany[b] at the Mount of Olives,[c]
Jesus sent two of his disciples, 2 saying
to them, "Go to the village ahead of
you, and just as you enter it, you will
find a colt tied there, which no one has
ever ridden.[d] Untie it and bring it here.
3 If anyone asks you, 'Why are you do-
ing this?' tell him, 'The Lord needs it
and will send it back here shortly.' "
4 They went and found a colt outside
in the street, tied at a doorway.[e] As
they untied it, 5 some people standing
there asked, "What are you doing, un-
tying that colt?" 6 They answered as
Jesus had told them to, and the people
let them go. 7 When they brought the

10:27 [a]S Mt 19:26
10:28 [b]S Mt 4:19
10:30 [c]Mt 6:33 [d]S Mt 12:32 [e]S Mt 25:46
10:31 [f]S Mt 19:30
10:32 [g]Mk 3:16-19
10:33 [h]S Lk 9:51 [i]S Mt 8:20 [j]Mt 27:1,2
10:34 [k]S Mt 16:21 [l]Ac 2:23; 3:13 [m]S Mt 16:21 [n]S Mt 16:21
10:37 [o]Mt 19:28
10:38 [p]Job 38:2 [q]S Mt 20:22 [r]Lk 12:50
10:39 [s]Ac 12:2; Rev 1:9
10:43 [t]S Mk 9:35
10:45 [u]S Mt 20:28 [v]S Mt 20:28
10:47 [w]S Mk 1:24 [x]S Mt 9:27
10:51 [y]S Mt 23:7
10:52 [z]S Mt 9:22 [a]S Mt 4:19
11:1 [b]S Mt 21:17 [c]S Mt 21:1
11:2 [d]Nu 19:2; Dt 21:3; 1Sa 6:7
11:4 [e]Mk 14:16

colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks over it, he sat on it. 8 Many people spread their cloaks on the road, while others spread branches they had cut in the fields. 9 Those who went ahead and those who followed shouted,

"Hosanna![o]"

"Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord!"[p][a]

10 "Blessed is the coming kingdom of
our father David!"

"Hosanna in the highest!"[b]

11 Jesus entered Jerusalem and went to the temple. He looked around at everything, but since it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the Twelve.[c]

Jesus Clears the Temple

11:12-14pp — Mt 21:18-22
11:15-18pp — Mt 21:12-16; Lk 19:45-47; Jn 2:13-16

12 The next day as they were leaving Bethany, Jesus was hungry. 13 Seeing in the distance a fig tree in leaf, he went to find out if it had any fruit. When he reached it, he found nothing but leaves, because it was not the season for figs.[d] 14 Then he said to the tree, "May no one ever eat fruit from you again." And his disciples heard him say it.

15 On reaching Jerusalem, Jesus entered the temple area and began driving out those who were buying and selling there. He overturned the tables of the money changers and the benches of those selling doves, 16 and would not allow anyone to carry merchandise through the temple courts. 17 And as he taught them, he said, "Is it not written:

" 'My house will be called
a house of prayer for all
nations'[q]?[e]

But you have made it 'a den of robbers.'[r]"[f]

18 The chief priests and the teachers of the law heard this and began looking for a way to kill him, for they feared him,[g] because the whole crowd was amazed at his teaching.[h]

19 When evening came, they[s] went out of the city.[i]

The Withered Fig Tree

11:20-24pp — Mt 21:19-22

20 In the morning, as they went along, they saw the fig tree withered from the roots. 21 Peter remembered and said to Jesus, "Rabbi,[j] look! The fig tree you cursed has withered!"

22 "Have[t] faith in God," Jesus answered. 23 "I tell you the truth, if anyone says to this mountain, 'Go, throw yourself into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart but believes that what he says will happen, it will be done for him.[k] 24 Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.[l] 25 And when you stand praying, if you hold anything against anyone, forgive him, so that your Father in heaven may forgive you your sins."[u][m]

The Authority of Jesus Questioned

11:27-33pp — Mt 21:23-27; Lk 20:1-8

27 They arrived again in Jerusalem, and while Jesus was walking in the temple courts, the chief priests, the teachers of the law and the elders came to him. 28 "By what authority are you doing these things?" they asked. "And who gave you authority to do this?"

29 Jesus replied, "I will ask you one question. Answer me, and I will tell you by what authority I am doing these things. 30 John's baptism—was it from heaven, or from men? Tell me!"

31 They discussed it among themselves and said, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will ask, 'Then why didn't you believe him?' 32 But if we say, 'From men'. . . ." (They feared the people, for everyone held that John really was a prophet.)[n]

33 So they answered Jesus, "We don't know."

Jesus said, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things."

The Parable of the Tenants

12:1-12pp — Mt 21:33-46; Lk 20:9-19

12 He then began to speak to them in parables: "A man planted a vineyard.[o] He put a wall around it, dug a pit for the winepress and built a watchtower. Then he rented the vineyard to some farmers and went away on a journey. 2 At harvest time he sent a servant to the tenants to collect from them some of the fruit of the vineyard. 3 But they seized him, beat him and sent him away empty-handed. 4 Then

11:9 [a]Ps 118:25, 26; Mt 23:39 **11:10** [b]Lk 2:14 **11:11** [c]Mt 21:12,17 **11:13** [d]Lk 13:6-9 **11:17** [e]Isa 56:7 [f]Jer 7:11 **11:18** [g]Mt 21:46; Mk 12:12; Lk 20:19 [h]S Mt 7:28 **11:19** [i]Lk 21:37 **11:21** [j]S Mt 23:7 **11:23** [k]S Mt 21:21 **11:24** [l]S Mt 7:7 **11:25** [m]S Mt 6:14 **11:32** [n]S Mt 11:9 **12:1** [o]Isa 5:1-7

[o]9 A Hebrew expression meaning "Save!" which became an exclamation of praise; also in verse 10 [p]9 Psalm 118:25,26 [q]17 Isaiah 56:7 [r]17 Jer. 7:11 [s]19 Some early manuscripts *he* [t]22 Some early manuscripts *If you have* [u]25 Some manuscripts *sins.* *26 But if you do not forgive, neither will your Father who is in heaven forgive your sins.*

he sent another servant to them; they
struck this man on the head and treat-
ed him shamefully. He sent still an-
other, and that one they killed. He sent
many others; some of them they beat,
others they killed.
6"He had one left to send, a son,
whom he loved. He sent him last of
all, saying, 'They will respect my
son.'
7"But the tenants said to one an-
other, 'This is the heir. Come, let's kill
him, and the inheritance will be ours.'
8So they took him and killed him, and
threw him out of the vineyard.
9"What then will the owner of the
vineyard do? He will come and kill
those tenants and give the vineyard to
others. 10Haven't you read this scrip-
ture:

"'The stone the builders rejected
has become the capstone[v];
11the Lord has done this,
and it is marvelous in our
eyes'[w]?"

12Then they looked for a way to ar-
rest him because they knew he had
spoken the parable against them. But
they were afraid of the crowd; so they
left him and went away.

Paying Taxes to Caesar

12:13-17pp — Mt 22:15-22; Lk 20:20-26

13Later they sent some of the Phari-
sees and Herodians to Jesus to catch
him in his words. 14They came to him
and said, "Teacher, we know you are a
man of integrity. You aren't swayed by
men, because you pay no attention to
who they are; but you teach the way of
God in accordance with the truth. Is it
right to pay taxes to Caesar or not?
15Should we pay or shouldn't we?"
But Jesus knew their hypocrisy.
"Why are you trying to trap me?" he
asked. "Bring me a denarius and let me
look at it." 16They brought the coin,
and he asked them, "Whose portrait is
this? And whose inscription?"
"Caesar's," they replied.
17Then Jesus said to them, "Give to
Caesar what is Caesar's and to God
what is God's."
And they were amazed at him.

Marriage at the Resurrection

12:18-27pp — Mt 22:23-33; Lk 20:27-38

18Then the Sadducees, who say
there is no resurrection, came to him
with a question. 19"Teacher," they
said, "Moses wrote for us that if a
man's brother dies and leaves a wife
but no children, the man must marry
the widow and have children for his
brother.[k] 20Now there were seven
brothers. The first one married and
died without leaving any children.
21The second one married the widow,
but he also died, leaving no child. It
was the same with the third. 22In fact,
none of the seven left any children.
Last of all, the woman died too. 23At
the resurrection[x] whose wife will she
be, since the seven were married to
her?"
24Jesus replied, "Are you not in error
because you do not know the Scrip-
tures[l] or the power of God? 25When
the dead rise, they will neither marry
nor be given in marriage; they will be
like the angels in heaven.[m] 26Now
about the dead rising—have you not
read in the book of Moses, in the ac-
count of the bush, how God said to
him, 'I am the God of Abraham, the
God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob'[y]?[n]
27He is not the God of the dead, but of
the living. You are badly mistaken!"

The Greatest Commandment

12:28-34pp — Mt 22:34-40

28One of the teachers of the law[o]
came and heard them debating. Notic-
ing that Jesus had given them a good
answer, he asked him, "Of all the com-
mandments, which is the most impor-
tant?"
29"The most important one," an-
swered Jesus, "is this: 'Hear, O Israel,
the Lord our God, the Lord is one.[z]
30Love the Lord your God with all your
heart and with all your soul and with
all your mind and with all your
strength.'[a][p] 31The second is this: 'Love
your neighbor as yourself.'[b][q] There is
no commandment greater than these."
32"Well said, teacher," the man re-
plied. "You are right in saying that
God is one and there is no other but
him.[r] 33To love him with all your
heart, with all your understanding and
with all your strength, and to love your
neighbor as yourself is more important
than all burnt offerings and sacri-
fices."[s]
34When Jesus saw that he had an-
swered wisely, he said to him, "You
are not far from the kingdom of

12:6 Heb 1:1-3
12:10 S Ac 4:11
12:11 Ps 118:22,23
12:12 S Mk 11:18; Mt 22:22
12:13 Mt 22:16; Mk 3:6; S Mt 12:10
12:17 Ro 13:7
12:18 S Ac 4:1; Ac 23:8; 1Co 15:12
12:19 [k]Dt 25:5
12:24 [l]2Ti 3:15-17
12:25 [m]1Co 15:42,49, 52
12:26 [n]Ex 3:6
12:28 [o]Lk 10:25-28; 20:39
12:30 [p]Dt 6:4,5
12:31 [q]Lev 19:18; S Mt 5:43
12:32 [r]Dt 4:35, 39; Isa 45:6,14; 46:9
12:33 [s]1Sa 15:22; Hos 6:6; Mic 6:6-8; Heb 10:8

[v]10 *Or cornerstone* [w]11 Psalm 118:22,23
[x]23 Some manuscripts *resurrection, when men rise from the dead,* [y]26 Exodus 3:6 [z]29 *Or the Lord our God is one Lord* [a]30 Deut. 6:4,5 [b]31 Lev. 19:18

God."[a] And from then on no one
dared ask him any more questions.[b]

Whose Son Is the Christ?

12:35-37pp — Mt 22:41-46; Lk 20:41-44
12:38-40pp — Mt 23:1-7; Lk 20:45-47

35While Jesus was teaching in the
temple courts,[c] he asked, "How is it
that the teachers of the law say that the
Christ[c] is the son of David?[d] 36David
himself, speaking by the Holy Spirit,[e]
declared:

"'The Lord said to my Lord:
"Sit at my right hand
until I put your enemies
under your feet."'[d][f]

37David himself calls him 'Lord.' How
then can he be his son?"
The large crowd[g] listened to him
with delight.
38As he taught, Jesus said, "Watch
out for the teachers of the law. They
like to walk around in flowing robes
and be greeted in the marketplaces,
39and have the most important seats in
the synagogues and the places of honor
at banquets.[h] 40They devour widows'
houses and for a show make lengthy
prayers. Such men will be punished
most severely."

The Widow's Offering

12:41-44pp — Lk 21:1-4

41Jesus sat down opposite the place
where the offerings were put[i] and
watched the crowd putting their
money into the temple treasury. Many
rich people threw in large amounts.
42But a poor widow came and put in
two very small copper coins,[e] worth
only a fraction of a penny.[f]
43Calling his disciples to him, Jesus
said, "I tell you the truth, this poor
widow has put more into the treasury
than all the others. 44They all gave out
of their wealth; but she, out of her pov-
erty, put in everything—all she had to
live on."[j]

Signs of the End of the Age

13:1-37pp — Mt 24:1-51; Lk 21:5-36

13 As he was leaving the temple,
one of his disciples said to him,
"Look, Teacher! What massive stones!
What magnificent buildings!"
2"Do you see all these great build-
ings?" replied Jesus. "Not one stone
here will be left on another; every one
will be thrown down."[k]
3As Jesus was sitting on the Mount of
Olives[l] opposite the temple, Peter,
James, John[m] and Andrew asked him
privately, 4"Tell us, when will these
things happen? And what will be the
sign that they are all about to be ful-
filled?"
5Jesus said to them: "Watch out that
no one deceives you.[n] 6Many will come
in my name, claiming, 'I am he,' and
will deceive many. 7When you hear of
wars and rumors of wars, do not be
alarmed. Such things must happen,
but the end is still to come. 8Nation will
rise against nation, and kingdom
against kingdom. There will be earth-
quakes in various places, and famines.
These are the beginning of birth pains.
9"You must be on your guard. You
will be handed over to the local coun-
cils and flogged in the synagogues.[o]
On account of me you will stand before
governors and kings as witnesses to
them. 10And the gospel must first be
preached to all nations. 11Whenever
you are arrested and brought to trial,
do not worry beforehand about what to
say. Just say whatever is given you at
the time, for it is not you speaking, but
the Holy Spirit.[p]
12"Brother will betray brother to
death, and a father his child. Children
will rebel against their parents and
have them put to death.[q] 13All men
will hate you because of me,[r] but he
who stands firm to the end will be
saved.[s]
14"When you see 'the abomination
that causes desolation'[g][t] standing
where it[h] does not belong—let the
reader understand—then let those who
are in Judea flee to the mountains. 15Let
no one on the roof of his house go
down or enter the house to take any-
thing out. 16Let no one in the field go
back to get his cloak. 17How dreadful it
will be in those days for pregnant
women and nursing mothers![u] 18Pray
that this will not take place in winter,
19because those will be days of distress
unequaled from the beginning, when
God created the world,[v] until now—
and never to be equaled again.[w] 20If the
Lord had not cut short those days, no
one would survive. But for the sake of
the elect, whom he has chosen, he has
shortened them. 21At that time if any-
one says to you, 'Look, here is the
Christ[c]!' or, 'Look, there he is!' do not
believe it.[x] 22For false Christs and false
prophets[y] will appear and perform

12:34 [a]S Mt 3:2 [b]Mt 22:46; Lk 20:40
12:35 [c]S Mt 26:55 [d]S Mt 9:27
12:36 [e]2Sa 23:2 [f]Ps 110:1; S Mt 22:44
12:37 [g]Jn 12:9
12:39 [h]Lk 11:43
12:41 [i]2Ki 12:9; Jn 8:20
12:44 [j]2Co 8:12
13:2 [k]Lk 19:44
13:3 [l]S Mt 21:1 [m]S Mt 4:21
13:5 [n]ver 22; Jer 29:8; Eph 5:6; 2Th 2:3,10-12; 1Ti 4:1; 2Ti 3:13; 1Jn 4:6
13:9 [o]S Mt 10:17
13:11 [p]Mt 10:19,20; Lk 12:11,12
13:12 [q]Mic 7:6; Mt 10:21; Lk 12:51-53
13:13 [r]S Jn 15:21 [s]S Mt 10:22
13:14 [t]Da 9:27; 11:31; 12:11
13:17 [u]Lk 23:29
13:19 [v]Mk 10:6 [w]Da 9:26; 12:1; Joel 2:2
13:21 [x]Lk 17:23; 21:8
13:22 [y]S Mt 7:15

[c]35,21 Or *Messiah* [d]36 Psalm 110:1 [e]42 Greek *two lepta* [f]42 Greek *kodrantes* [g]14 Daniel 9:27; 11:31; 12:11 [h]14 Or *he*; also in verse 29

signs and miracles[a] to deceive the
elect—if that were possible. 23So be on
your guard;[b] I have told you every-
thing ahead of time.
24"But in those days, following that
distress,

" 'the sun will be darkened,
and the moon will not give its
light;
25the stars will fall from the sky,
and the heavenly bodies will be
shaken.'[i] [c]

26"At that time men will see the Son
of Man coming in clouds[d] with great
power and glory. 27And he will send
his angels and gather his elect from the
four winds, from the ends of the earth
to the ends of the heavens.[e]
28"Now learn this lesson from the fig
tree: As soon as its twigs get tender
and its leaves come out, you know that
summer is near. 29Even so, when you
see these things happening, you know
that it is near, right at the door. 30I tell
you the truth, this generation[j] [f] will
certainly not pass away until all these
things have happened.[g] 31Heaven and
earth will pass away, but my words
will never pass away.[h]

The Day and Hour Unknown

32"No one knows about that day or
hour, not even the angels in heaven,
nor the Son, but only the Father.[i] 33Be
on guard! Be alert[k]![j] You do not know
when that time will come. 34It's like a
man going away: He leaves his house
and puts his servants[k] in charge, each
with his assigned task, and tells the
one at the door to keep watch.
35"Therefore keep watch because you
do not know when the owner of the
house will come back—whether in the
evening, or at midnight, or when the
rooster crows, or at dawn. 36If he
comes suddenly, do not let him find
you sleeping. 37What I say to you, I say
to everyone: 'Watch!' "[l]

Jesus Anointed at Bethany

14:1-11pp — Mt 26:2-16
14:1,2,10,11pp — Lk 22:1-6
14:3-8Ref — Jn 12:1-8

14 Now the Passover[m] and the
Feast of Unleavened Bread were
only two days away, and the chief
priests and the teachers of the law were
looking for some sly way to arrest Jesus
and kill him.[n] 2"But not during the
Feast," they said, "or the people may
riot."
3While he was in Bethany,[o] reclining
at the table in the home of a man
known as Simon the Leper, a woman
came with an alabaster jar of very ex-
pensive perfume, made of pure nard.
She broke the jar and poured the per-
fume on his head.[p]
4Some of those present were saying
indignantly to one another, "Why this
waste of perfume? 5It could have been
sold for more than a year's wages[l] and
the money given to the poor." And
they rebuked her harshly.
6"Leave her alone," said Jesus.
"Why are you bothering her? She has
done a beautiful thing to me. 7The poor
you will always have with you, and
you can help them any time you
want.[q] But you will not always have
me. 8She did what she could. She
poured perfume on my body before-
hand to prepare for my burial.[r] 9I tell
you the truth, wherever the gospel is
preached throughout the world,[s] what
she has done will also be told, in mem-
ory of her."
10Then Judas Iscariot, one of the
Twelve,[t] went to the chief priests to
betray Jesus to them.[u] 11They were de-
lighted to hear this and promised to
give him money. So he watched for an
opportunity to hand him over.

The Lord's Supper

14:12-26pp — Mt 26:17-30; Lk 22:7-23
14:22-25pp — 1Co 11:23-25

12On the first day of the Feast of Un-
leavened Bread, when it was custom-
ary to sacrifice the Passover lamb,[v]
Jesus' disciples asked him, "Where do
you want us to go and make prepara-
tions for you to eat the Passover?"
13So he sent two of his disciples, tell-
ing them, "Go into the city, and a man
carrying a jar of water will meet you.
Follow him. 14Say to the owner of the
house he enters, 'The Teacher asks:
Where is my guest room, where I may
eat the Passover with my disciples?'
15He will show you a large upper
room,[w] furnished and ready. Make
preparations for us there."
16The disciples left, went into the city
and found things just as Jesus had told
them. So they prepared the Passover.
17When evening came, Jesus arrived
with the Twelve. 18While they were re-
clining at the table eating, he said, "I
tell you the truth, one of you will be-

13:22 [a]S Jn 4:48; 2Th 2:9,10 **13:23** [b]2Pe 3:17 **13:25** [c]Isa 13:10; 34:4; S Mt 24:29 **13:26** [d]S Rev 1:7 **13:27** [e]Zec 2:6 **13:30** [f]Mk 9:1 [g]Lk 17:25 **13:31** [h]S Mt 5:18 **13:32** [i]Ac 1:7; 1Th 5:1,2 **13:33** [j]1Th 5:6 **13:34** [k]Mt 25:14 **13:37** [l]Lk 12:35-40 **14:1** [m]S Jn 11:55 [n]S Mt 12:14

14:3 [o]S Mt 21:17 [p]Lk 7:37-39 **14:7** [q]Dt 15:11 **14:8** [r]Jn 19:40 **14:9** [s]S Mt 24:14; Mk 16:15 **14:10** [t]Mk 3:16-19 [u]S Mt 10:4 **14:12** [v]Ex 12:1-11; Dt 16:1-4; 1Co 5:7 **14:15** [w]Ac 1:13

[i]25 Isaiah 13:10; 34:4 [j]30 Or *race* [k]33 Some manuscripts *alert and pray* [l]5 Greek *than three hundred denarii*

tray me—one who is eating with me."
[19]They were saddened, and one by
one they said to him, "Surely not I?"
[20]"It is one of the Twelve," he re-
plied, "one who dips bread into the
bowl with me.[a] [21]The Son of Man[b] will
go just as it is written about him. But
woe to that man who betrays the Son
of Man! It would be better for him if he
had not been born."
[22]While they were eating, Jesus took
bread, gave thanks and broke it,[c] and
gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take it;
this is my body."
[23]Then he took the cup, gave thanks
and offered it to them, and they all
drank from it.[d]
[24]"This is my blood of the[m] cov-
enant,[e] which is poured out for
many," he said to them. [25]"I tell you
the truth, I will not drink again of the
fruit of the vine until that day when I
drink it anew in the kingdom of
God."[f]
[26]When they had sung a hymn, they
went out to the Mount of Olives.[g]

Jesus Predicts Peter's Denial

14:27-31pp — Mt 26:31-35

[27]"You will all fall away," Jesus told
them, "for it is written:

" 'I will strike the shepherd,
and the sheep will be scattered.'[n] [h]

[28]But after I have risen, I will go ahead
of you into Galilee."[i]
[29]Peter declared, "Even if all fall
away, I will not."
[30]"I tell you the truth," Jesus an-
swered, "today—yes, tonight—before
the rooster crows twice[o] you yourself
will disown me three times."[j]
[31]But Peter insisted emphatically,
"Even if I have to die with you,[k] I will
never disown you." And all the others
said the same.

Gethsemane

14:32-42pp — Mt 26:36-46; Lk 22:40-46

[32]They went to a place called Geth-
semane, and Jesus said to his disciples,
"Sit here while I pray." [33]He took Pe-
ter, James and John[l] along with him,
and he began to be deeply distressed
and troubled. [34]"My soul is over-
whelmed with sorrow to the point of
death,"[m] he said to them. "Stay here
and keep watch."
[35]Going a little farther, he fell to the
ground and prayed that if possible the
hour[n] might pass from him. [36]"*Abba*,[p]
Father,"[o] he said, "everything is possi-
ble for you. Take this cup[p] from me.
Yet not what I will, but what you
will."[q]
[37]Then he returned to his disciples
and found them sleeping. "Simon," he
said to Peter, "are you asleep? Could
you not keep watch for one hour?
[38]Watch and pray so that you will not
fall into temptation.[r] The spirit is will-
ing, but the body is weak."[s]
[39]Once more he went away and
prayed the same thing. [40]When he
came back, he again found them sleep-
ing, because their eyes were heavy.
They did not know what to say to him.
[41]Returning the third time, he said to
them, "Are you still sleeping and rest-
ing? Enough! The hour[t] has come.
Look, the Son of Man is betrayed into
the hands of sinners. [42]Rise! Let us go!
Here comes my betrayer!"

Jesus Arrested

14:43-50pp — Mt 26:47-56; Lk 22:47-50; Jn 18:3-11

[43]Just as he was speaking, Judas,[u]
one of the Twelve, appeared. With him
was a crowd armed with swords and
clubs, sent from the chief priests, the
teachers of the law, and the elders.
[44]Now the betrayer had arranged a
signal with them: "The one I kiss is the
man; arrest him and lead him away un-
der guard." [45]Going at once to Jesus,
Judas said, "Rabbi!"[v] and kissed him.
[46]The men seized Jesus and arrested
him. [47]Then one of those standing near
drew his sword and struck the servant
of the high priest, cutting off his ear.
[48]"Am I leading a rebellion," said
Jesus, "that you have come out with
swords and clubs to capture me?
[49]Every day I was with you, teaching in
the temple courts,[w] and you did not ar-
rest me. But the Scriptures must be ful-
filled."[x] [50]Then everyone deserted him
and fled.[y]
[51]A young man, wearing nothing but
a linen garment, was following Jesus.
When they seized him, [52]he fled naked,
leaving his garment behind.

Before the Sanhedrin

14:53-65pp — Mt 26:57-68; Jn 18:12,13,19-24
14:61-63pp — Lk 22:67-71

[53]They took Jesus to the high priest,
and all the chief priests, elders and
teachers of the law came together. [54]Pe-
ter followed him at a distance, right

14:20 [a]Jn 13:18-27 **14:21** [b]S Mt 8:20 **14:22** [c]S Mt 14:19 **14:23** [d]1Co 10:16 **14:24** [e]S Mt 26:28 **14:25** [f]S Mt 3:2 **14:26** [g]S Mt 21:1 **14:27** [h]Zec 13:7 **14:28** [i]Mk 16:7 **14:30** [j]ver 66-72; Lk 22:34; Jn 13:38 **14:31** [k]Lk 22:33; Jn 13:37 **14:33** [l]S Mt 4:21 **14:34** [m]Jn 12:27 **14:35** [n]ver 41; S Mt 26:18 **14:36** [o]Ro 8:15; Gal 4:6 [p]S Mt 20:22 [q]S Mt 26:39 **14:38** [r]Mt 6:13 [s]Ro 7:22,23 **14:41** [t]ver 35; S Mt 26:18 **14:43** [u]S Mt 10:4 **14:45** [v]S Mt 23:7 **14:49** [w]S Mt 26:55 [x]Isa 53:7-12; S Mt 1:22 **14:50** [y]ver 27

[m]24 Some manuscripts *the new* [n]27 Zech. 13:7
[o]30 Some early manuscripts do not have *twice*
[p]36 Aramaic for *Father*

into the courtyard of the high priest.[a]
There he sat with the guards and
warmed himself at the fire.[b]
55The chief priests and the whole
Sanhedrin[c] were looking for evidence
against Jesus so that they could put
him to death, but they did not find
any. 56Many testified falsely against
him, but their statements did not
agree.
57Then some stood up and gave this
false testimony against him: 58"We
heard him say, 'I will destroy this man-
made temple and in three days will
build another,[d] not made by man.'"
59Yet even then their testimony did not
agree.
60Then the high priest stood up be-
fore them and asked Jesus, "Are you
not going to answer? What is this testi-
mony that these men are bringing
against you?" 61But Jesus remained si-
lent and gave no answer.[e]
Again the high priest asked him,
"Are you the Christ,[q] the Son of the
Blessed One?"[f]
62"I am," said Jesus. "And you will
see the Son of Man sitting at the right
hand of the Mighty One and coming
on the clouds of heaven."[g]
63The high priest tore his clothes.[h]
"Why do we need any more wit-
nesses?" he asked. 64"You have heard
the blasphemy. What do you think?"
They all condemned him as worthy
of death.[i] 65Then some began to spit at
him; they blindfolded him, struck him
with their fists, and said, "Prophesy!"
And the guards took him and beat
him.[j]

Peter Disowns Jesus

14:66-72pp — Mt 26:69-75; Lk 22:56-62; Jn 18:16-18,25-27

66While Peter was below in the court-
yard,[k] one of the servant girls of the
high priest came by. 67When she saw
Peter warming himself,[l] she looked
closely at him.
"You also were with that Nazarene,
Jesus,"[m] she said.
68But he denied it. "I don't know or
understand what you're talking
about,"[n] he said, and went out into the
entryway.[r]
69When the servant girl saw him
there, she said again to those standing
around, "This fellow is one of them."
70Again he denied it.[o]
After a little while, those standing
near said to Peter, "Surely you are one
of them, for you are a Galilean."[p]
71He began to call down curses on
himself, and he swore to them, "I don't
know this man you're talking about."[q]
72Immediately the rooster crowed the
second time.[s] Then Peter remembered
the word Jesus had spoken to him:
"Before the rooster crows twice[t] you
will disown me three times."[r] And he
broke down and wept.

Jesus Before Pilate

15:2-15pp — Mt 27:11-26; Lk 23:2,3,18-25; Jn 18:29-19:16

15 Very early in the morning, the
chief priests, with the elders, the
teachers of the law[s] and the whole
Sanhedrin,[t] reached a decision. They
bound Jesus, led him away and handed
him over to Pilate.[u]
2"Are you the king of the Jews?"[v]
asked Pilate.
"Yes, it is as you say," Jesus replied.
3The chief priests accused him of
many things. 4So again Pilate asked
him, "Aren't you going to answer? See
how many things they are accusing
you of."
5But Jesus still made no reply,[w] and
Pilate was amazed.
6Now it was the custom at the Feast
to release a prisoner whom the people
requested. 7A man called Barabbas was
in prison with the insurrectionists who
had committed murder in the uprising.
8The crowd came up and asked Pilate
to do for them what he usually did.
9"Do you want me to release to you
the king of the Jews?"[x] asked Pilate,
10knowing it was out of envy that the
chief priests had handed Jesus over to
him. 11But the chief priests stirred up
the crowd to have Pilate release Barab-
bas[y] instead.
12"What shall I do, then, with the
one you call the king of the Jews?" Pi-
late asked them.
13"Crucify him!" they shouted.
14"Why? What crime has he commit-
ted?" asked Pilate.
But they shouted all the louder,
"Crucify him!"
15Wanting to satisfy the crowd, Pilate
released Barabbas to them. He had
Jesus flogged,[z] and handed him over
to be crucified.

The Soldiers Mock Jesus

15:16-20pp — Mt 27:27-31

16The soldiers led Jesus away into the

14:54 [a]S Mt 26:3 [b]Jn 18:18 **14:55** [c]S Mt 5:22 **14:58** [d]S Jn 2:19 **14:61** [e]Isa 53:7; Mt 27:12,14; Mk 15:5; Lk 23:9; Jn 19:9 [f]Mt 16:16; Jn 4:25,26 **14:62** [g]S Rev 1:7 **14:63** [h]Lev 10:6; 21:10; Nu 14:6; Ac 14:14 **14:64** [i]Lev 24:16 **14:65** [j]S Mt 16:21 **14:66** [k]ver 54 **14:67** [l]ver 54 [m]S Mk 1:24 **14:68** [n]ver 30, 72 **14:70** [o]ver 30, 68,72 [p]Ac 2:7 **14:71** [q]ver 30, 72 **14:72** [r]ver 30, 68 **15:1** [s]Mt 27:1; Lk 22:66 [t]S Mt 5:22 [u]S Mt 27:2 **15:2** [v]ver 9,12, 18,26; S Mt 2:2 **15:5** [w]S Mk 14:61 **15:9** [x]S ver 2 **15:11** [y]Ac 3:14 **15:15** [z]Isa 53:6

[q]61 Or *Messiah* [r]68 Some early manuscripts *entryway and the rooster crowed* [s]72 Some early manuscripts do not have *the second time.* [t]72 Some early manuscripts do not have *twice*.

palace[a] (that is, the Praetorium) and
called together the whole company of
soldiers. 17They put a purple robe on
him, then twisted together a crown of
thorns and set it on him. 18And they
began to call out to him, "Hail, king of
the Jews!"[b] 19Again and again they
struck him on the head with a staff and
spit on him. Falling on their knees,
they paid homage to him. 20And when
they had mocked him, they took off the
purple robe and put his own clothes on
him. Then they led him out[c] to crucify
him.

The Crucifixion

15:22-32pp — Mt 27:33-44; Lk 23:33-43; Jn 19:17-24

21A certain man from Cyrene,[d] Si-
mon, the father of Alexander and
Rufus,[e] was passing by on his way in
from the country, and they forced him
to carry the cross.[f] 22They brought
Jesus to the place called Golgotha
(which means The Place of the Skull).
23Then they offered him wine mixed
with myrrh,[g] but he did not take it.
24And they crucified him. Dividing up
his clothes, they cast lots[h] to see what
each would get.
25It was the third hour when they
crucified him. 26The written notice of
the charge against him read: THE KING OF
THE JEWS.[i] 27They crucified two robbers
with him, one on his right and one on
his left.[u] 29Those who passed by hurled
insults at him, shaking their heads[j]
and saying, "So! You who are going to
destroy the temple and build it in three
days,[k] 30come down from the cross and
save yourself!"
31In the same way the chief priests
and the teachers of the law mocked
him[l] among themselves. "He saved
others," they said, "but he can't save
himself! 32Let this Christ,[v m] this King
of Israel,[n] come down now from the
cross, that we may see and believe."
Those crucified with him also heaped
insults on him.

The Death of Jesus

15:33-41pp — Mt 27:45-56; Lk 23:44-49

33At the sixth hour darkness came
over the whole land until the ninth
hour.[o] 34And at the ninth hour Jesus
cried out in a loud voice, *"Eloi, Eloi,
lama sabachthani?"*—which means, "My
God, my God, why have you forsaken
me?"[w p]
35When some of those standing near
heard this, they said, "Listen, he's call-
ing Elijah."
36One man ran, filled a sponge with
wine vinegar,[q] put it on a stick, and
offered it to Jesus to drink. "Now leave
him alone. Let's see if Elijah comes to
take him down," he said.
37With a loud cry, Jesus breathed his
last.[r]
38The curtain of the temple was torn
in two from top to bottom.[s] 39And
when the centurion,[t] who stood there
in front of Jesus, heard his cry and[x]
saw how he died, he said, "Surely this
man was the Son[y] of God!"[u]
40Some women were watching from
a distance.[v] Among them were Mary
Magdalene, Mary the mother of James
the younger and of Joses, and
Salome.[w] 41In Galilee these women had
followed him and cared for his needs.
Many other women who had come up
with him to Jerusalem were also
there.[x]

The Burial of Jesus

15:42-47pp — Mt 27:57-61; Lk 23:50-56; Jn 19:38-42

42It was Preparation Day (that is, the
day before the Sabbath).[y] So as eve-
ning approached, 43Joseph of Arima-
thea, a prominent member of the
Council,[z] who was himself waiting for
the kingdom of God,[a] went boldly to
Pilate and asked for Jesus' body. 44Pi-
late was surprised to hear that he was
already dead. Summoning the centu-
rion, he asked him if Jesus had already
died. 45When he learned from the cen-
turion[b] that it was so, he gave the body
to Joseph. 46So Joseph bought some
linen cloth, took down the body,
wrapped it in the linen, and placed it in
a tomb cut out of rock. Then he rolled a
stone against the entrance of the
tomb.[c] 47Mary Magdalene and Mary
the mother of Joses[d] saw where he was
laid.

The Resurrection

16:1-8pp — Mt 28:1-8; Lk 24:1-10

16 When the Sabbath was over,
Mary Magdalene, Mary the
mother of James, and Salome bought
spices[e] so that they might go to anoint
Jesus' body. 2Very early on the first day
of the week, just after sunrise, they
were on their way to the tomb 3and

15:16 [a] Jn 18:28,33; 19:9
15:18 [b] S ver 2
15:20 [c] Heb 13:12
15:21 [d] S Mt 27:32 [e] Ro 16:13 [f] Mt 27:32; Lk 23:26
15:23 [g] ver 36; Ps 69:21; Pr 31:6
15:24 [h] Ps 22:18
15:26 [i] S ver 2
15:29 [j] Ps 22:7; 109:25 [k] Jn 2:19
15:31 [l] Ps 22:7
15:32 [m] S Mk 14:61 [n] S ver 2
15:33 [o] Am 8:9
15:34 [p] Ps 22:1
15:36 [q] ver 23; Ps 69:21
15:37 [r] Jn 19:30
15:38 [s] Heb 10:19,20
15:39 [t] ver 45 [u] Mk 1:1,11; 9:7; S Mt 4:3
15:40 [v] Ps 38:11 [w] Mk 16:1; Lk 24:10; Jn 19:25
15:41 [x] Mt 27:55,56; Lk 8:2,3
15:42 [y] Mt 27:62; Jn 19:31
15:43 [z] S Mt 5:22 [a] S Mt 3:2; Lk 2:25,38
15:45 [b] ver 39
15:46 [c] Mk 16:3
15:47 [d] ver 40
16:1 [e] Lk 23:56; Jn 19:39,40

[u]27 Some manuscripts *left, 28and the scripture was fulfilled which says, "He was counted with the lawless ones"* (Isaiah 53:12) [v]32 Or *Messiah* [w]34 Psalm 22:1 [x]39 Some manuscripts do not have *heard his cry and.* [y]39 Or *a son*

they asked each other, "Who will roll
the stone away from the entrance of
the tomb?"[a]
4But when they looked up, they saw
that the stone, which was very large,
had been rolled away. 5As they entered
the tomb, they saw a young man
dressed in a white robe[b] sitting on the
right side, and they were alarmed.
6"Don't be alarmed," he said. "You
are looking for Jesus the Nazarene,[c]
who was crucified. He has risen! He is
not here. See the place where they laid
him. 7But go, tell his disciples and Pe-
ter, 'He is going ahead of you into Gali-
lee. There you will see him,[d] just as he
told you.'"[e]
8Trembling and bewildered, the
women went out and fled from the
tomb. They said nothing to anyone, be-
cause they were afraid.

[The most reliable early manuscripts and other ancient witnesses do not have Mark 16:9-20.]

9When Jesus rose early on the first
day of the week, he appeared first to
Mary Magdalene,[f] out of whom he
had driven seven demons. 10She went
and told those who had been with him
and who were mourning and weeping.
11When they heard that Jesus was alive
and that she had seen him, they did
not believe it.[g]
12Afterward Jesus appeared in a dif-
ferent form to two of them while they
were walking in the country.[h] 13These
returned and reported it to the rest; but
they did not believe them either.
14Later Jesus appeared to the Eleven
as they were eating; he rebuked them
for their lack of faith and their stubborn
refusal to believe those who had seen
him after he had risen.[i]
15He said to them, "Go into all the
world and preach the good news to all
creation.[j] 16Whoever believes and is
baptized will be saved, but whoever
does not believe will be condemned.[k]
17And these signs[l] will accompany
those who believe: In my name they
will drive out demons;[m] they will speak
in new tongues;[n] 18they will pick up
snakes[o] with their hands; and when
they drink deadly poison, it will not
hurt them at all; they will place their
hands on[p] sick people, and they will
get well."
19After the Lord Jesus had spoken to
them, he was taken up into heaven[q]
and he sat at the right hand of God.[r]
20Then the disciples went out and
preached everywhere, and the Lord
worked with them and confirmed his
word by the signs[s] that accompanied
it.

16:3 [a]Mk 15:46
16:5 [b]S Jn 20:12
16:6 [c]S Mk 1:24
16:7 [d]Jn 21:1-23 [e]Mk 14:28
16:9 [f]Mk 15:47; Jn 20:11-18
16:11 [g]ver 13, 14; Lk 24:11
16:12 [h]Lk 24:13-32
16:14 [i]Lk 24:36-43
16:15 [j]Mt 28:18-20; Lk 24:47,48; Ac 1:8
16:16 [k]Jn 3:16, 18,36; Ac 16:31
16:17 [l]S Jn 4:48 [m]Mk 9:38; Lk 10:17; Ac 5:16; 8:7; 16:18; 19:13-16 [n]Ac 2:4; 10:46; 19:6; 1Co 12:10, 28,30; 13:1; 14:2-39
16:18 [o]Lk 10:19; Ac 28:3-5 [p]S Ac 6:6
16:19 [q]Lk 24:50,51; Jn 6:62; Ac 1:9-11; 1Ti 3:16 [r]Ps 110:1; Mt 26:64; Ac 2:33; 5:31; Ro 8:34; Col 3:1; Heb 1:3; 12:2
16:20 [s]S Jn 4:48

Luke

Introduction

[illegible]

1 Many have undertaken to draw up
an account of the things that have
been fulfilled[a] among us, [2]just as they
were handed down to us by those who
from the first[a] were eyewitnesses[b] and
servants of the word.[c] [3]Therefore,
since I myself have carefully investi-
gated everything from the beginning, it
seemed good also to me to write an or-
derly account[d] for you, most excellent[e]
Theophilus,[f] [4]so that you may know
the certainty of the things you have
been taught.[g]

The Birth of John the Baptist Foretold

[5]In the time of Herod king of Judea[h]
there was a priest named Zechariah,
who belonged to the priestly division
of Abijah;[i] his wife Elizabeth was also
a descendant of Aaron. [6]Both of them
were upright in the sight of God, ob-
serving all the Lord's commandments
and regulations blamelessly.[j] [7]But
they had no children, because Eliza-
beth was barren; and they were both
well along in years.

[8]Once when Zechariah's division
was on duty and he was serving as
priest before God,[k] [9]he was chosen by
lot,[l] according to the custom of the
priesthood, to go into the temple of the
Lord and burn incense.[m] [10]And when
the time for the burning of incense
came, all the assembled worshipers
were praying outside.[n]

[11]Then an angel[o] of the Lord ap-
peared to him, standing at the right
side of the altar of incense.[p] [12]When
Zechariah saw him, he was startled
and was gripped with fear.[q] [13]But the
angel said to him: "Do not be afraid,[r]
Zechariah; your prayer has been heard.
Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a
son, and you are to give him the name
John.[s] [14]He will be a joy and delight to
you, and many will rejoice because of
his birth,[t] [15]for he will be great in the
sight of the Lord. He is never to take
wine or other fermented drink,[u] and
he will be filled with the Holy Spirit[v]
even from birth.[b][w] [16]Many of the
people of Israel will he bring back to
the Lord their God. [17]And he will go on
before the Lord,[x] in the spirit and
power of Elijah,[y] to turn the hearts of
the fathers to their children[z] and the
disobedient to the wisdom of the right-
eous—to make ready a people pre-
pared for the Lord."[a]

[18]Zechariah asked the angel, "How
can I be sure of this?[b] I am an old man
and my wife is well along in years."[c]

[19]The angel answered, "I am Gabri-
el.[d] I stand in the presence of God, and
I have been sent to speak to you and to
tell you this good news. [20]And now
you will be silent and not able to
speak[e] until the day this happens, be-
cause you did not believe my words,
which will come true at their proper
time."

[21]Meanwhile, the people were wait-
ing for Zechariah and wondering why
he stayed so long in the temple.
[22]When he came out, he could not
speak to them. They realized he had
seen a vision in the temple, for he kept
making signs[f] to them but remained
unable to speak.

[23]When his time of service was com-
pleted, he returned home. [24]After this
his wife Elizabeth became pregnant
and for five months remained in seclu-
sion. [25]"The Lord has done this for
me," she said. "In these days he has
shown his favor and taken away my
disgrace[g] among the people."

The Birth of Jesus Foretold

[26]In the sixth month, God sent the
angel Gabriel[h] to Nazareth,[i] a town in
Galilee, [27]to a virgin pledged to be mar-
ried to a man named Joseph,[j] a de-
scendant of David. The virgin's name
was Mary. [28]The angel went to her and

1:2 [a]Mk 1:1; Jn 15:27; Ac 1:21,22 [b]Heb 2:3; 1Pe 5:1; 2Pe 1:16; 1Jn 1:1 [c]S Mk 4:14
1:3 [d]Ac 11:4 [e]Ac 24:3; 26:25 [f]Ac 1:1
1:4 [g]Jn 20:31; Ac 2:42
1:5 [h]Mt 2:1 [i]1Ch 24:10
1:6 [j]Ge 6:9; Dt 5:33; 1Ki 9:4; Lk 2:25
1:8 [k]1Ch 24:19; 2Ch 8:14
1:9 [l]Ac 1:26 [m]Ex 30:7,8; 1Ch 23:13; 2Ch 29:11; Ps 141:2
1:10 [n]Lev 16:17
1:11 [o]S Ac 5:19 [p]Ex 30:1-10
1:12 [q]Jdg 6:22,23; 13:22
1:13 [r]ver 30; S Mt 14:27 [s]ver 60,63; S Mt 3:1
1:14 [t]ver 58
1:15 [u]Nu 6:3; Lev 10:9; Jdg 13:4; Lk 7:33 [v]ver 41,67; Ac 2:4; 4:8,31; 6:3,5; 9:17; 11:24; Eph 5:18; S Ac 10:44 [w]Jer 1:5; Gal 1:15
1:17 [x]ver 76 [y]S Mt 11:14 [z]Mal 4:5,6 [a]S Mt 3:3
1:18 [b]Ge 15:8 [c]ver 34; Ge 17:17
1:19 [d]ver 26; Da 8:16; 9:21
1:20 [e]Ex 4:11; Eze 3:26
1:22 [f]ver 62
1:25 [g]Ge 30:23; Isa 4:1
1:26 [h]S ver 19 [i]S Mt 2:23
1:27 [j]Mt 1:16,18,20; Lk 2:4

[a]1 *Or been surely believed* [b]15 *Or from his mother's womb*

said, "Greetings, you who are highly
favored! The Lord is with you."
29Mary was greatly troubled at his
words and wondered what kind of
greeting this might be. 30But the angel
said to her, "Do not be afraid,[a] Mary,
you have found favor with God.[b]
31You will be with child and give birth
to a son, and you are to give him the
name Jesus.[c] 32He will be great and
will be called the Son of the Most
High.[d] The Lord God will give him the
throne of his father David,[e] 33and he
will reign over the house of Jacob for-
ever; his kingdom[f] will never end."[g]
34"How will this be," Mary asked the
angel, "since I am a virgin?"
35The angel answered, "The Holy
Spirit will come upon you,[h] and the
power of the Most High[i] will over-
shadow you. So the holy one[j] to be
born will be called[e] the Son of God.[k]
36Even Elizabeth your relative is going
to have a child[l] in her old age, and she
who was said to be barren is in her
sixth month. 37For nothing is impos-
sible with God."[m]
38"I am the Lord's servant," Mary an-
swered. "May it be to me as you have
said." Then the angel left her.

Mary Visits Elizabeth

39At that time Mary got ready and
hurried to a town in the hill country of
Judea,[n] 40where she entered Zecha-
riah's home and greeted Elizabeth.
41When Elizabeth heard Mary's greet-
ing, the baby leaped in her womb, and
Elizabeth was filled with the Holy
Spirit.[o] 42In a loud voice she exclaimed:
"Blessed are you among women,[p] and
blessed is the child you will bear! 43But
why am I so favored, that the mother
of my Lord[q] should come to me? 44As
soon as the sound of your greeting
reached my ears, the baby in my womb
leaped for joy. 45Blessed is she who has
believed that what the Lord has said to
her will be accomplished!"

Mary's Song

1:46-53pp — 1Sa 2:1-10

46And Mary said:

"My soul glorifies the Lord[r]
47 and my spirit rejoices in God my
Savior,[s]
48for he has been mindful
of the humble state of his
servant.[t]
From now on all generations will call
me blessed,[u]
49 for the Mighty One has done great
things[v] for me—
holy is his name.[w]
50His mercy extends to those who fear
him,
from generation to generation.[x]
51He has performed mighty deeds
with his arm;[y]
he has scattered those who are
proud in their inmost
thoughts.[z]
52He has brought down rulers from
their thrones
but has lifted up the humble.[a]
53He has filled the hungry with good
things[b]
but has sent the rich away empty.
54He has helped his servant Israel,
remembering to be merciful[c]
55to Abraham and his descendants[d]
forever,
even as he said to our fathers."

56Mary stayed with Elizabeth for
about three months and then returned
home.

The Birth of John the Baptist

57When it was time for Elizabeth to
have her baby, she gave birth to a son.
58Her neighbors and relatives heard
that the Lord had shown her great
mercy, and they shared her joy.
59On the eighth day they came to cir-
cumcise[e] the child, and they were go-
ing to name him after his father Zecha-
riah, 60but his mother spoke up and
said, "No! He is to be called John."[f]
61They said to her, "There is no one
among your relatives who has that
name."
62Then they made signs[g] to his fa-
ther, to find out what he would like to
name the child. 63He asked for a writ-
ing tablet, and to everyone's astonish-
ment he wrote, "His name is John."[h]
64Immediately his mouth was opened
and his tongue was loosed, and he be-
gan to speak,[i] praising God. 65The
neighbors were all filled with awe, and
throughout the hill country of Judea[j]
people were talking about all these
things. 66Everyone who heard this
wondered about it, asking, "What then
is this child going to be?" For the
Lord's hand was with him.[k]

Zechariah's Song

67His father Zechariah was filled with
the Holy Spirit[l] and prophesied:[m]

1:30 [a] ver 13; S Mt 14:27 [b] Ge 6:8
1:31 [c] Isa 7:14; Mt 1:21,25; Lk 2:21
1:32 [d] ver 35,76; S Mk 5:7 [e] S Mt 1:1
1:33 [f] Mt 28:18 [g] 2Sa 7:16; Ps 89:3,4; Isa 9:7; Jer 33:17; Da 2:44; 7:14,27; Mic 4:7; Heb 1:8
1:35 [h] Mt 1:18 [i] ver 32,76; S Mk 5:7 [j] S Mk 1:24 [k] S Mt 4:3
1:36 [l] ver 24
1:37 [m] S Mt 19:26
1:39 [n] ver 65
1:41 [o] S ver 15
1:42 [p] Jdg 5:24
1:43 [q] S Jn 13:13
1:46 [r] Ps 34:2,3
1:47 [s] Ps 18:46; Isa 17:10; 61:10; Hab 3:18; 1Ti 1:1; 2:3; 4:10
1:48 [t] ver 38; Ps 138:6 [u] Lk 11:27
1:49 [v] Ps 71:19 [w] Ps 111:9
1:50 [x] Ex 20:6; Ps 103:17
1:51 [y] Ps 98:1; Isa 40:10 [z] Ge 11:8; Ex 18:11; 2Sa 22:28; Jer 13:9; 49:16
1:52 [a] S Mt 23:12
1:53 [b] Ps 107:9
1:54 [c] Ps 98:3
1:55 [d] S Gal 3:16
1:59 [e] Ge 17:12; Lev 12:3; Lk 2:21; Php 3:5
1:60 [f] ver 13,63; S Mt 3:1
1:62 [g] ver 22
1:63 [h] ver 13,60; S Mt 3:1
1:64 [i] ver 20; Eze 24:27
1:65 [j] ver 39
1:66 [k] Ge 39:2; Ac 11:21
1:67 [l] S ver 15 [m] Joel 2:28

[e]35 Or *So the child to be born will be called holy.*

68 “Praise be to the Lord, the God of
Israel,[a]
because he has come and has
redeemed his people.[b]
69 He has raised up a horn[d][c] of
salvation for us
in the house of his servant David[d]
70 (as he said through his holy
prophets of long ago),[e]
71 salvation from our enemies
and from the hand of all who hate
us—
72 to show mercy to our fathers[f]
and to remember his holy
covenant,[g]
73 the oath he swore to our father
Abraham:[h]
74 to rescue us from the hand of our
enemies,
and to enable us to serve him[i]
without fear[j]
75 in holiness and righteousness[k]
before him all our days.

76 And you, my child, will be called a
prophet[l] of the Most High;[m]
for you will go on before the Lord
to prepare the way for him,[n]
77 to give his people the knowledge of
salvation
through the forgiveness of their
sins,[o]
78 because of the tender mercy of our
God,
by which the rising sun[p] will come
to us from heaven
79 to shine on those living in darkness
and in the shadow of death,[q]
to guide our feet into the path of
peace.”[r]

80 And the child grew and became
strong in spirit;[s] and he lived in the
desert until he appeared publicly to Is-
rael.

The Birth of Jesus

2 In those days Caesar Augustus[t] is-
sued a decree that a census should
be taken of the entire Roman world.[u]
2 (This was the first census that took
place while Quirinius was governor of
Syria.)[v] 3 And everyone went to his
own town to register.
4 So Joseph also went up from the
town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to
Bethlehem[w] the town of David, be-
cause he belonged to the house and
line of David. 5 He went there to regis-
ter with Mary, who was pledged to be
married to him[x] and was expecting a
child. 6 While they were there, the time
came for the baby to be born, 7 and she
gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She
wrapped him in cloths and placed him
in a manger, because there was no
room for them in the inn.

The Shepherds and the Angels

8 And there were shepherds living
out in the fields nearby, keeping watch
over their flocks at night. 9 An angel[y] of
the Lord appeared to them, and the
glory of the Lord shone around them,
and they were terrified. 10 But the angel
said to them, “Do not be afraid.[z] I
bring you good news of great joy that
will be for all the people. 11 Today in the
town of David a Savior[a] has been
born to you; he is Christ[e][b] the Lord.[c]
12 This will be a sign[d] to you: You will
find a baby wrapped in cloths and ly-
ing in a manger.”
13 Suddenly a great company of the
heavenly host appeared with the angel,
praising God and saying,

14 “Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace[e] to men on
whom his favor rests.”

15 When the angels had left them and
gone into heaven, the shepherds said
to one another, “Let’s go to Bethlehem
and see this thing that has happened,
which the Lord has told us about.”
16 So they hurried off and found Mary
and Joseph, and the baby, who was ly-
ing in the manger.[f] 17 When they had
seen him, they spread the word con-
cerning what had been told them about
this child, 18 and all who heard it were
amazed at what the shepherds said to
them. 19 But Mary treasured up all these
things and pondered them in her
heart.[g] 20 The shepherds returned,
glorifying and praising God[h] for all the
things they had heard and seen, which
were just as they had been told.

Jesus Presented in the Temple

21 On the eighth day, when it was
time to circumcise him,[i] he was named
Jesus, the name the angel had given
him before he had been conceived.[j]
22 When the time of their purification
according to the Law of Moses[k] had
been completed, Joseph and Mary took
him to Jerusalem to present him to the
Lord 23 (as it is written in the Law of the
Lord, “Every firstborn male is to be

1:68 [a]Ge 24:27; 1Ki 8:15; Ps 72:18 [b]Ps 111:9; Lk 7:16 **1:69** [c]1Sa 2:1, 10; 2Sa 22:3; Ps 18:2; 89:17; 132:17; Eze 29:21 [d]S Mt 1:1 **1:70** [e]Jer 23:5; Ac 3:21; Ro 1:2 **1:72** [f]Mic 7:20 [g]Ps 105:8,9; 106:45; Eze 16:60 **1:73** [h]Ge 22:16-18 **1:74** [i]Heb 9:14 [j]1Jn 4:18 **1:75** [k]Eph 4:24 **1:76** [l]S Mt 11:9 [m]ver 32,35; S Mk 5:7 [n]ver 17; S Mt 3:3 **1:77** [o]Jer 31:34; Mt 1:21; Mk 1:4 **1:78** [p]Mal 4:2 **1:79** [q]Ps 107:14; Isa 9:2; 59:9; Mt 4:16; S Ac 26:18 [r]S Lk 2:14 **1:80** [s]Lk 2:40,52 **2:1** [t]Lk 3:1; Mt 22:17 [u]S Mt 24:14 **2:2** [v]Mt 4:24; Ac 15:23,41; 21:3; Gal 1:21 **2:4** [w]S Jn 7:42 **2:5** [x]Lk 1:27

2:9 [y]S Ac 5:19 **2:10** [z]S Mt 14:27 **2:11** [a]S Mt 1:21; S Jn 3:17; 4:42; Ac 5:31; 13:23; S Ro 11:14; 1Ti 4:10; 1Jn 4:14 [b]Mt 1:16; 16:16, 20; Jn 11:27; Ac 2:36; 3:20; S 9:22 [c]S Jn 13:13 **2:12** [d]1Sa 2:34; 10:7; 2Ki 19:29; Ps 86:17; Isa 7:14 **2:14** [e]Isa 9:6; 52:7; 53:5; Mic 5:5; Lk 1:79; S Jn 14:27; Ro 5:1; Eph 2:14, 17 **2:16** [f]ver 7 **2:19** [g]ver 51 **2:20** [h]S Mt 9:8 **2:21** [i]S Lk 1:59 [j]S Lk 1:31 **2:22** [k]Lev 12:2-8

[d]69 *Horn* here symbolizes strength. [e]11 Or *Messiah.* “The Christ” (Greek) and “the Messiah” (Hebrew) both mean “the Anointed One”; also in verse 26.

consecrated to the Lord"[a]),[q] 24and to
offer a sacrifice in keeping with what is
said in the Law of the Lord: "a pair of
doves or two young pigeons."[b][r]
25Now there was a man in Jerusalem
called Simeon, who was righteous and
devout.[s] He was waiting for the conso-
lation of Israel,[t] and the Holy Spirit
was upon him. 26It had been revealed
to him by the Holy Spirit that he would
not die before he had seen the Lord's
Christ. 27Moved by the Spirit, he went
into the temple courts. When the par-
ents brought in the child Jesus to do for
him what the custom of the Law re-
quired,[u] 28Simeon took him in his arms
and praised God, saying:

29"Sovereign Lord, as you have
promised,[v]
you now dismiss[c] your servant in
peace.[w]
30For my eyes have seen your
salvation,[x]
31 which you have prepared in the
sight of all people,
32a light for revelation to the Gentiles
and for glory to your people
Israel."[y]

33The child's father and mother mar-
veled at what was said about him.
34Then Simeon blessed them and said
to Mary, his mother:[z] "This child is
destined to cause the falling[a] and ris-
ing of many in Israel, and to be a sign
that will be spoken against, 35so that
the thoughts of many hearts will be re-
vealed. And a sword will pierce your
own soul too."
36There was also a prophetess,[b]
Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the
tribe of Asher. She was very old; she
had lived with her husband seven
years after her marriage, 37and then
was a widow until she was eighty-
four.[d][c] She never left the temple but
worshiped night and day, fasting and
praying.[d] 38Coming up to them at that
very moment, she gave thanks to God
and spoke about the child to all who
were looking forward to the redemp-
tion of Jerusalem.[e]
39When Joseph and Mary had done
everything required by the Law of the
Lord, they returned to Galilee to their
own town of Nazareth.[f] 40And the
child grew and became strong; he was
filled with wisdom, and the grace of
God was upon him.[g]

The Boy Jesus at the Temple

41Every year his parents went to
Jerusalem for the Feast of the Pass-
over.[h] 42When he was twelve years
old, they went up to the Feast, accord-
ing to the custom. 43After the Feast was
over, while his parents were returning
home, the boy Jesus stayed behind in
Jerusalem, but they were unaware of it.
44Thinking he was in their company,
they traveled on for a day. Then they
began looking for him among their
relatives and friends. 45When they did
not find him, they went back to Jerusa-
lem to look for him. 46After three days
they found him in the temple courts,
sitting among the teachers, listening to
them and asking them questions.
47Everyone who heard him was
amazed[i] at his understanding and his
answers. 48When his parents saw him,
they were astonished. His mother[j]
said to him, "Son, why have you treat-
ed us like this? Your father[k] and I have
been anxiously searching for you."
49"Why were you searching for me?"
he asked. "Didn't you know I had to be
in my Father's house?"[l] 50But they did
not understand what he was saying to
them.[m]
51Then he went down to Nazareth
with them[n] and was obedient to them.
But his mother treasured all these
things in her heart.[o] 52And Jesus grew
in wisdom and stature, and in favor
with God and men.[p]

John the Baptist Prepares the Way

3:2-10pp — Mt 3:1-10; Mk 1:3-5
3:16,17pp — Mt 3:11,12; Mk 1:7,8

3 In the fifteenth year of the reign of
Tiberius Caesar—when Pontius Pi-
late[a] was governor of Judea, Herod[b]
tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip te-
trarch of Iturea and Traconitis, and Ly-
sanias tetrarch of Abilene— 2during the
high priesthood of Annas and Caia-
phas,[c] the word of God came to John[d]
son of Zechariah[e] in the desert. 3He
went into all the country around the
Jordan, preaching a baptism of repen-
tance for the forgiveness of sins.[f] 4As
is written in the book of the words of
Isaiah the prophet:

"A voice of one calling in the desert,
'Prepare the way for the Lord,
make straight paths for him.
5Every valley shall be filled in,
every mountain and hill made
low.

2:23 [q]Ex 13:2,12; Nu 3:13
2:24 [r]Lev 12:8
2:25 [s]Lk 1:6
[t]ver 38; Isa 52:9; Lk 23:51
2:27 [u]ver 22
2:29 [v]ver 26
[w]Ac 2:24
2:30 [x]Isa 40:5; 52:10; Lk 3:6
2:32 [y]Isa 42:6; 49:6; Ac 13:47; 26:23
2:34 [z]S Mt 12:46
[a]Isa 8:14; Mt 21:44; 1Co 1:23; 2Co 2:16; Gal 5:11; 1Pe 2:7,8
2:36 [b]S Ac 21:9
2:37 [c]1Ti 5:9
[d]Ac 13:3; 14:23; 1Ti 5:5
2:38 [e]ver 25; Isa 40:2; 52:9; Lk 1:68; 24:21
2:39 [f]ver 51; S Mt 2:23
2:40 [g]ver 52; Lk 1:80
2:41 [h]Ex 23:15; Dt 16:1-8; Lk 22:8
2:47 [i]S Mt 7:28
2:48 [j]S Mt 12:46
[k]Lk 3:23; 4:22
2:49 [l]Jn 2:16
2:50 [m]S Mk 9:32
2:51 [n]ver 39; S Mt 2:23 [o]ver 19
2:52 [p]ver 40; 1Sa 2:26; Pr 3:4; Lk 1:80
3:1 [a]S Mt 27:2
[b]S Mt 14:1
3:2 [c]S Mt 26:3
[d]S Mt 3:1
[e]Lk 1:13
3:3 [f]ver 16; S Mk 1:4

[a]23 Exodus 13:2,12 [b]24 Lev. 12:8 [c]29 Or *promised, / now dismiss* [d]37 Or *widow for eighty-four years*

The crooked roads shall become
straight,
the rough ways smooth.
6 And all mankind will see God's
salvation.'"[j] [a]

7 John said to the crowds coming out
to be baptized by him, "You brood of
vipers![b] Who warned you to flee from
the coming wrath?[c] 8 Produce fruit in
keeping with repentance. And do not
begin to say to yourselves, 'We have
Abraham as our father.'[d] For I tell you
that out of these stones God can raise
up children for Abraham. 9 The ax is al-
ready at the root of the trees, and every
tree that does not produce good fruit
will be cut down and thrown into the
fire."[e]

10 "What should we do then?"[f] the
crowd asked.

11 John answered, "The man with two
tunics should share with him who has
none, and the one who has food
should do the same."[g]

12 Tax collectors also came to be bap-
tized.[h] "Teacher," they asked, "what
should we do?"

13 "Don't collect any more than you
are required to,"[i] he told them.

14 Then some soldiers asked him,
"And what should we do?"

He replied, "Don't extort money and
don't accuse people falsely[j]—be con-
tent with your pay."

15 The people were waiting expectant-
ly and were all wondering in their
hearts if John[k] might possibly be the
Christ.[k] [l] 16 John answered them all, "I
baptize you with[l] water.[m] But one
more powerful than I will come, the
thongs of whose sandals I am not
worthy to untie. He will baptize you
with the Holy Spirit and with fire.[n]
17 His winnowing fork[o] is in his hand to
clear his threshing floor and to gather
the wheat into his barn, but he will
burn up the chaff with unquenchable
fire."[p] 18 And with many other words
John exhorted the people and preached
the good news to them.

19 But when John rebuked Herod[q] the
tetrarch because of Herodias, his broth-
er's wife, and all the other evil things
he had done, 20 Herod added this to
them all: He locked John up in prison.[r]

The Baptism and Genealogy of Jesus

3:21,22pp — Mt 3:13-17; Mk 1:9-11
3:23-38pp — Mt 1:1-17

21 When all the people were being
baptized, Jesus was baptized too. And
as he was praying,[s] heaven was
opened 22 and the Holy Spirit descend-
ed on him[t] in bodily form like a dove.
And a voice came from heaven: "You
are my Son,[u] whom I love; with you I
am well pleased."[v]

23 Now Jesus himself was about thirty
years old when he began his ministry.[w]
He was the son, so it was thought, of
Joseph,[x]

the son of Heli, 24 the son of
Matthat,
the son of Levi, the son of Melki,
the son of Jannai, the son of
Joseph,
25 the son of Mattathias, the son of
Amos,
the son of Nahum, the son of Esli,
the son of Naggai, 26 the son of
Maath,
the son of Mattathias, the son of
Semein,
the son of Josech, the son of Joda,
27 the son of Joanan, the son of
Rhesa,
the son of Zerubbabel,[y] the son of
Shealtiel,
the son of Neri, 28 the son of Melki,
the son of Addi, the son of
Cosam,
the son of Elmadam, the son of Er,
29 the son of Joshua, the son of
Eliezer,
the son of Jorim, the son of
Matthat,
the son of Levi, 30 the son of
Simeon,
the son of Judah, the son of
Joseph,
the son of Jonam, the son of
Eliakim,
31 the son of Melea, the son of
Menna,
the son of Mattatha, the son of
Nathan,[z]
the son of David, 32 the son of
Jesse,
the son of Obed, the son of Boaz,
the son of Salmon,[m] the son of
Nahshon,
33 the son of Amminadab, the son of
Ram,[n]
the son of Hezron, the son of
Perez,[a]
the son of Judah, 34 the son of
Jacob,

3:6 [a]Isa 40:3-5; Ps 98:2; Isa 42:16; 52:10; Lk 2:30
3:7 [b]Mt 12:34; 23:33 [c]S Ro 1:18
3:8 [d]Isa 51:2; Lk 19:9; Jn 8:33, 39; Ac 13:26; Ro 4:1,11,12,16, 17; 9:7,8; Gal 3:7
3:9 [e]S Mt 3:10
3:10 [f]ver 12,14; Ac 2:37; 16:30
3:11 [g]Isa 58:7; Eze 18:7
3:12 [h]Lk 7:29
3:13 [i]Lk 19:8
3:14 [j]Ex 23:1; Lev 19:11
3:15 [k]S Mt 3:1 [l]Jn 1:19,20; Ac 13:25
3:16 [m]ver 3; S Mk 1:4 [n]Jn 1:26,33; Ac 1:5; 2:3; 11:16; 19:4
3:17 [o]Isa 30:24 [p]Mt 13:30; S 25:41
3:19 [q]ver 1; S Mt 14:1
3:20 [r]S Mt 14:3, 4
3:21 [s]Mt 14:23; Mk 1:35; 6:46; Lk 5:16; 6:12; 9:18,28; 11:1
3:22 [t]Isa 42:1; Jn 1:32,33; Ac 10:38 [u]S Mt 3:17 [v]S Mt 3:17
3:23 [w]Mt 4:17; Ac 1:1 [x]Lk 1:27
3:27 [y]Mt 1:12
3:31 [z]2Sa 5:14; 1Ch 3:5
3:33 [a]Ru 4:18-22; 1Ch 2:10-12

[j]6 Isaiah 40:3-5 [k]15 Or *Messiah* [l]16 Or *in*
[m]32 Some early manuscripts *Sala* [n]33 Some
manuscripts *Amminadab, the son of Admin, the son of
Arni;* other manuscripts vary widely.

the son of Isaac, the son of
Abraham,
the son of Terah, the son of
Nahor,[a]
35the son of Serug, the son of Reu,
the son of Peleg, the son of Eber,
the son of Shelah, 36the son of
Cainan,
the son of Arphaxad,[b] the son of
Shem,
the son of Noah, the son of
Lamech,[c]
37the son of Methuselah, the son of
Enoch,
the son of Jared, the son of
Mahalalel,
the son of Kenan,[d] 38the son of
Enosh,
the son of Seth, the son of Adam,
the son of God.[e]

The Temptation of Jesus

4:1-13pp — Mt 4:1-11; Mk 1:12,13

4 Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit,[f] re-
turned from the Jordan[g] and was
led by the Spirit[h] in the desert, 2where
for forty days[i] he was tempted by the
devil.[j] He ate nothing during those
days, and at the end of them he was
hungry.

3The devil said to him, "If you are
the Son of God,[k] tell this stone to
become bread."

4Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man
does not live on bread alone.'[o]"[l]

5The devil led him up to a high place
and showed him in an instant all the
kingdoms of the world.[m] 6And he said
to him, "I will give you all their author-
ity and splendor, for it has been given
to me,[n] and I can give it to anyone I
want to. 7So if you worship me, it will
all be yours."

8Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Wor-
ship the Lord your God and serve him
only.'[p]"[o]

9The devil led him to Jerusalem and
had him stand on the highest point of
the temple. "If you are the Son of
God," he said, "throw yourself down
from here. 10For it is written:

" 'He will command his angels
concerning you
to guard you carefully;
11they will lift you up in their hands,
so that you will not strike your
foot against a stone.'[q]"[p]

12Jesus answered, "It says: 'Do not
put the Lord your God to the test.'[r]"[q]

13When the devil had finished all this
tempting,[r] he left him[s] until an oppor-
tune time.

Jesus Rejected at Nazareth

14Jesus returned to Galilee[t] in the
power of the Spirit, and news about
him spread through the whole country-
side.[u] 15He taught in their syna-
gogues,[v] and everyone praised him.

16He went to Nazareth,[w] where he
had been brought up, and on the Sab-
bath day he went into the synagogue,[x]
as was his custom. And he stood up to
read.[y] 17The scroll of the prophet Isaiah
was handed to him. Unrolling it, he
found the place where it is written:

18"The Spirit of the Lord is on me,[z]
because he has anointed me
to preach good news[a] to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim freedom
for the prisoners
and recovery of sight for the blind,
to release the oppressed,
19 to proclaim the year of the Lord's
favor."[s][b]

20Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it
back to the attendant and sat down.[c]
The eyes of everyone in the synagogue
were fastened on him, 21and he began
by saying to them, "Today this scrip-
ture is fulfilled[d] in your hearing."

22All spoke well of him and were
amazed at the gracious words that
came from his lips. "Isn't this Joseph's
son?" they asked.[e]

23Jesus said to them, "Surely you will
quote this proverb to me: 'Physician,
heal yourself! Do here in your home-
town[f] what we have heard that you
did in Capernaum.' "[g]

24"I tell you the truth," he continued,
"no prophet is accepted in his home-
town.[h] 25I assure you that there were
many widows in Israel in Elijah's time,
when the sky was shut for three and a
half years and there was a severe fam-
ine throughout the land.[i] 26Yet Elijah
was not sent to any of them, but to a
widow in Zarephath in the region of
Sidon.[j] 27And there were many in Is-
rael with leprosy[t] in the time of Elisha
the prophet, yet not one of them was
cleansed—only Naaman the Syrian."[k]

28All the people in the synagogue
were furious when they heard this.
29They got up, drove him out of the
town,[l] and took him to the brow of the

3:34 [a]Ge 11:24,26
3:36 [b]Ge 11:12 [c]Ge 5:28-32
3:37 [d]Ge 5:12-25
3:38 [e]Ge 5:1,2,6-9
4:1 [f]ver 14,18; S Lk 1:15,35; 3:16,22; 10:21 [g]Lk 3:3,21 [h]Eze 37:1; Lk 2:27
4:2 [i]Ex 34:28; 1Ki 19:8 [j]Heb 4:15
4:3 [k]S Mt 4:3
4:4 [l]Dt 8:3
4:5 [m]S Mt 24:14
4:6 [n]Jn 12:31; 14:30; 1Jn 5:19
4:8 [o]Dt 6:13
4:11 [p]Ps 91:11,12
4:12 [q]Dt 6:16
4:13 [r]Heb 4:15 [s]Jn 14:30
4:14 [t]Mt 4:12 [u]S Mt 9:26
4:15 [v]S Mt 4:23
4:16 [w]S Mt 2:23 [x]Mt 13:54 [y]S 1Ti 4:13
4:18 [z]S Jn 3:34 [a]Mk 16:15
4:19 [b]Isa 61:1,2; Lev 25:10; Ps 102:20; 103:6; Isa 42:7; 49:8,9; 58:6
4:20 [c]ver 17; S Mt 26:55
4:21 [d]S Mt 1:22
4:22 [e]Mt 13:54,55; Jn 6:42; 7:15
4:23 [f]ver 16; S Mt 2:23 [g]Mk 1:21-28; 2:1-12
4:24 [h]Mt 13:57; Jn 4:44
4:25 [i]1Ki 17:1; 18:1; Jas 5:17,18; Rev 11:6
4:26 [j]1Ki 17:8-16; S Mt 11:21
4:27 [k]2Ki 5:1-14
4:29 [l]Nu 15:35; Ac 7:58; Heb 13:12

[o]4 Deut. 8:3 [p]8 Deut. 6:13 [q]11 Psalm 91:11,12 [r]12 Deut. 6:16 [s]19 Isaiah 61:1,2 [t]27 The Greek word was used for various diseases affecting the skin—not necessarily leprosy.

hill on which the town was built, in or-
der to throw him down the cliff. 30 But
he walked right through the crowd and
went on his way.[o]

Jesus Drives Out an Evil Spirit

4:31-37pp — Mk 1:21-28

31 Then he went down to Caper-
naum,[p] a town in Galilee, and on the
Sabbath began to teach the people.
32 They were amazed at his teaching,[q]
because his message had authority.[r]
33 In the synagogue there was a man
possessed by a demon, an evil[a] spirit.
He cried out at the top of his voice,
34 "Ha! What do you want with us,[s]
Jesus of Nazareth?[t] Have you come to
destroy us? I know who you are[u]—the
Holy One of God!"[v]
35 "Be quiet!" Jesus said sternly.[w]
"Come out of him!" Then the demon
threw the man down before them all
and came out without injuring him.
36 All the people were amazed[x] and
said to each other, "What is this teach-
ing? With authority[y] and power he
gives orders to evil spirits and they
come out!" 37 And the news about him
spread throughout the surrounding
area.[z]

Jesus Heals Many

4:38-41pp — Mt 8:14-17
4:38-43pp — Mk 1:29-38

38 Jesus left the synagogue and went
to the home of Simon. Now Simon's
mother-in-law was suffering from a
high fever, and they asked Jesus to
help her. 39 So he bent over her and
rebuked[a] the fever, and it left her. She
got up at once and began to wait on
them.
40 When the sun was setting, the
people brought to Jesus all who had
various kinds of sickness, and laying
his hands on each one,[b] he healed
them.[c] 41 Moreover, demons came out
of many people, shouting, "You are
the Son of God!"[d] But he rebuked[e]
them and would not allow them to
speak,[f] because they knew he was the
Christ.[b]
42 At daybreak Jesus went out to a
solitary place. The people were looking
for him and when they came to where
he was, they tried to keep him from
leaving them. 43 But he said, "I must
preach the good news of the kingdom
of God[g] to the other towns also, be-
cause that is why I was sent." 44 And he
kept on preaching in the synagogues of
Judea.[c][h]

4:30 [o] Jn 8:59; 10:39
4:31 [p] ver 23; S Mt 4:13
4:32 [q] S Mt 7:28 [r] ver 36; Mt 7:29
4:34 [s] S Mt 8:29 [t] S Mk 1:24 [u] Jas 2:19 [v] ver 41; S Mk 1:24
4:35 [w] ver 39,41; Mt 8:26; Lk 8:24
4:36 [x] S Mt 7:28 [y] ver 32; Mt 7:29; S Jn 10:18
4:37 [z] ver 14; S Mt 9:26
4:39 [a] ver 35,41
4:40 [b] S Mk 5:23 [c] S Mt 4:23
4:41 [d] S Mt 4:3 [e] ver 35 [f] S Mt 8:4
4:43 [g] S Mt 3:2
4:44 [h] S Mt 4:23

The Calling of the First Disciples

5:1-11pp — Mt 4:18-22; Mk 1:16-20; Jn 1:40-42

5 One day as Jesus was standing by
the Lake of Gennesaret,[d] with the
people crowding around him and lis-
tening to the word of God,[i] 2 he saw at
the water's edge two boats, left there
by the fishermen, who were washing
their nets. 3 He got into one of the
boats, the one belonging to Simon, and
asked him to put out a little from shore.
Then he sat down and taught the
people from the boat.[j]
4 When he had finished speaking, he
said to Simon, "Put out into deep
water, and let down[e] the nets for a
catch."[k]
5 Simon answered, "Master,[l] we've
worked hard all night and haven't
caught anything.[m] But because you say
so, I will let down the nets."
6 When they had done so, they
caught such a large number of fish that
their nets began to break.[n] 7 So they
signaled their partners in the other boat
to come and help them, and they came
and filled both boats so full that they
began to sink.
8 When Simon Peter saw this, he fell
at Jesus' knees and said, "Go away
from me, Lord; I am a sinful man!"[o]
9 For he and all his companions were
astonished at the catch of fish they had
taken, 10 and so were James and John,
the sons of Zebedee, Simon's partners.
Then Jesus said to Simon, "Don't be
afraid;[p] from now on you will catch
men." 11 So they pulled their boats up
on shore, left everything and followed
him.[q]

The Man With Leprosy

5:12-14pp — Mt 8:2-4; Mk 1:40-44

12 While Jesus was in one of the
towns, a man came along who was
covered with leprosy.[f][r] When he saw
Jesus, he fell with his face to the
ground and begged him, "Lord, if you
are willing, you can make me clean."
13 Jesus reached out his hand and
touched the man. "I am willing," he
said. "Be clean!" And immediately the
leprosy left him.
14 Then Jesus ordered him, "Don't tell
anyone,[s] but go, show yourself to the
priest and offer the sacrifices that

5:1 [i] S Mk 4:14; S Heb 4:12
5:3 [j] S Mt 13:2
5:4 [k] Jn 21:6
5:5 [l] Lk 8:24,45; 9:33,49; 17:13 [m] Jn 21:3
5:6 [n] Jn 21:11
5:8 [o] Ge 18:27; Job 42:6; Isa 6:5
5:10 [p] S Mt 14:27
5:11 [q] ver 28; S Mt 4:19
5:12 [r] S Mt 8:2
5:14 [s] S Mt 8:4

[a] 33 Greek *unclean*; also in verse 36 [b] 41 Or *Messiah*
[c] 44 Or *the land of the Jews*; some manuscripts *Galilee*
[d] 1 That is, Sea of Galilee [e] 4 The Greek verb is plural. [f] 12 The Greek word was used for various diseases affecting the skin—not necessarily leprosy.

Moses commanded[a] for your cleansing, as a testimony to them."

15 Yet the news about him spread all the more,[b] so that crowds of people came to hear him and to be healed of their sicknesses. 16 But Jesus often withdrew to lonely places and prayed.[c]

Jesus Heals a Paralytic

5:18-26pp — Mt 9:2-8; Mk 2:3-12

17 One day as he was teaching, Pharisees and teachers of the law,[d] who had come from every village of Galilee and from Judea and Jerusalem, were sitting there. And the power of the Lord was present for him to heal the sick.[e] 18 Some men came carrying a paralytic on a mat and tried to take him into the house to lay him before Jesus. 19 When they could not find a way to do this because of the crowd, they went up on the roof and lowered him on his mat through the tiles into the middle of the crowd, right in front of Jesus.

20 When Jesus saw their faith, he said, "Friend, your sins are forgiven."[f]

21 The Pharisees and the teachers of the law began thinking to themselves, "Who is this fellow who speaks blasphemy? Who can forgive sins but God alone?"[g]

22 Jesus knew what they were thinking and asked, "Why are you thinking these things in your hearts? 23 Which is easier: to say, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Get up and walk'? 24 But that you may know that the Son of Man[h] has authority on earth to forgive sins. . . ." He said to the paralyzed man, "I tell you, get up, take your mat and go home." 25 Immediately he stood up in front of them, took what he had been lying on and went home praising God. 26 Everyone was amazed and gave praise to God.[i] They were filled with awe and said, "We have seen remarkable things today."

The Calling of Levi

5:27-32pp — Mt 9:9-13; Mk 2:14-17

27 After this, Jesus went out and saw a tax collector by the name of Levi sitting at his tax booth. "Follow me,"[j] Jesus said to him, 28 and Levi got up, left everything and followed him.[k]

29 Then Levi held a great banquet for Jesus at his house, and a large crowd of tax collectors[l] and others were eating with them. 30 But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law who belonged to their sect[m] complained to his disciples, "Why do you eat and drink with tax collectors and 'sinners'?"[n]

31 Jesus answered them, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. 32 I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance."[o]

Jesus Questioned About Fasting

5:33-39pp — Mt 9:14-17; Mk 2:18-22

33 They said to him, "John's disciples[p] often fast and pray, and so do the disciples of the Pharisees, but yours go on eating and drinking."

34 Jesus answered, "Can you make the guests of the bridegroom[q] fast while he is with them? 35 But the time will come when the bridegroom will be taken from them;[r] in those days they will fast."

36 He told them this parable: "No one tears a patch from a new garment and sews it on an old one. If he does, he will have torn the new garment, and the patch from the new will not match the old. 37 And no one pours new wine into old wineskins. If he does, the new wine will burst the skins, the wine will run out and the wineskins will be ruined. 38 No, new wine must be poured into new wineskins. 39 And no one after drinking old wine wants the new, for he says, 'The old is better.'"

Lord of the Sabbath

6:1-11pp — Mt 12:1-14; Mk 2:23-3:6

6 One Sabbath Jesus was going through the grainfields, and his disciples began to pick some heads of grain, rub them in their hands and eat the kernels.[s] 2 Some of the Pharisees asked, "Why are you doing what is unlawful on the Sabbath?"[t]

3 Jesus answered them, "Have you never read what David did when he and his companions were hungry?[u] 4 He entered the house of God, and taking the consecrated bread, he ate what is lawful only for priests to eat.[v] And he also gave some to his companions." 5 Then Jesus said to them, "The Son of Man[w] is Lord of the Sabbath."

6 On another Sabbath[x] he went into the synagogue and was teaching, and a man was there whose right hand was shriveled. 7 The Pharisees and the teachers of the law were looking for a reason to accuse Jesus, so they watched him closely[y] to see if he would heal on the Sabbath.[z] 8 But Jesus knew what they were thinking[a] and said to the man with the shriveled hand, "Get up

5:14 [a] Lev 14:2-32
5:15 [b] S Mt 9:26
5:16 [c] S Lk 3:21
5:17 [d] Mt 15:1; Lk 2:46 [e] Mk 5:30; Lk 6:19
5:20 [f] Lk 7:48,49
5:21 [g] Isa 43:25
5:24 [h] S Mt 8:20
5:26 [i] S Mt 9:8
5:27 [j] S Mt 4:19
5:28 [k] ver 11; S Mt 4:19
5:29 [l] Lk 15:1
5:30 [m] Ac 23:9 [n] S Mt 9:11
5:32 [o] S Jn 3:17
5:33 [p] Lk 7:18; Jn 1:35; 3:25,26
5:34 [q] Jn 3:29
5:35 [r] Lk 9:22; 17:22; Jn 16:5-7
6:1 [s] Dt 23:25
6:2 [t] S Mt 12:2
6:3 [u] 1Sa 21:6
6:4 [v] Lev 24:5,9
6:5 [w] S Mt 8:20
6:6 [x] ver 1
6:7 [y] S Mt 12:10 [z] S Mt 12:2
6:8 [a] S Mt 9:4

and stand in front of everyone." So he
got up and stood there.
9Then Jesus said to them, "I ask you,
which is lawful on the Sabbath: to do
good or to do evil, to save life or to
destroy it?"
10He looked around at them all, and
then said to the man, "Stretch out your
hand." He did so, and his hand was
completely restored. 11But they were
furious[a] and began to discuss with one
another what they might do to Jesus.

The Twelve Apostles

6:13-16pp — Mt 10:2-4; Mk 3:16-19; Ac 1:13

12One of those days Jesus went out to
a mountainside to pray, and spent the
night praying to God.[b] 13When morn-
ing came, he called his disciples to him
and chose twelve of them, whom he
also designated apostles:[c] 14Simon
(whom he named Peter), his brother
Andrew, James, John, Philip, Bar-
tholomew, 15Matthew,[d] Thomas,
James son of Alphaeus, Simon who
was called the Zealot, 16Judas son of
James, and Judas Iscariot, who became
a traitor.

Blessings and Woes

17He went down with them and
stood on a level place. A large crowd of
his disciples was there and a great
number of people from all over Judea,
from Jerusalem, and from the coast of
Tyre and Sidon,[e] 18who had come to
hear him and to be healed of their dis-
eases. Those troubled by evil[a] spirits
were cured, 19and the people all tried to
touch him,[f] because power was com-
ing from him and healing them all.[g]
20Looking at his disciples, he said:

"Blessed are you who are poor,
for yours is the kingdom of God.[h]
21Blessed are you who hunger now,
for you will be satisfied.[i]
Blessed are you who weep now,
for you will laugh.[j]
22Blessed are you when men hate you,
when they exclude you[k] and
insult you[l]
and reject your name as evil,
because of the Son of Man.[m]

23"Rejoice in that day and leap for
joy,[n] because great is your reward in
heaven. For that is how their fathers
treated the prophets.[o]

24"But woe to you who are rich,[p]
for you have already received your
comfort.[q]
25Woe to you who are well fed now,
for you will go hungry.[r]
Woe to you who laugh now,
for you will mourn and weep.[s]
26Woe to you when all men speak well
of you,
for that is how their fathers treated
the false prophets.[t]

Love for Enemies

6:29,30pp — Mt 5:39-42

27"But I tell you who hear me: Love
your enemies, do good to those who
hate you,[u] 28bless those who curse
you, pray for those who mistreat you.[v]
29If someone strikes you on one cheek,
turn to him the other also. If someone
takes your cloak, do not stop him from
taking your tunic. 30Give to everyone
who asks you, and if anyone takes
what belongs to you, do not demand it
back.[w] 31Do to others as you would
have them do to you.[x]
32"If you love those who love you,
what credit is that to you?[y] Even 'sin-
ners' love those who love them. 33And
if you do good to those who are good
to you, what credit is that to you? Even
'sinners' do that. 34And if you lend to
those from whom you expect repay-
ment, what credit is that to you?[z] Even
'sinners' lend to 'sinners,' expecting to
be repaid in full. 35But love your ene-
mies, do good to them,[a] and lend to
them without expecting to get anything
back. Then your reward will be great,
and you will be sons[b] of the Most
High,[c] because he is kind to the un-
grateful and wicked. 36Be merciful,[d]
just as your Father[e] is merciful.

Judging Others

6:37-42pp — Mt 7:1-5

37"Do not judge, and you will not be
judged.[f] Do not condemn, and you
will not be condemned. Forgive, and
you will be forgiven.[g] 38Give, and it
will be given to you. A good measure,
pressed down, shaken together and
running over, will be poured into your
lap.[h] For with the measure you use, it
will be measured to you."[i]
39He also told them this parable:
"Can a blind man lead a blind man?
Will they not both fall into a pit?[j] 40A
student is not above his teacher, but
everyone who is fully trained will be
like his teacher.[k]
41"Why do you look at the speck of
sawdust in your brother's eye and pay

6:11 [a] Jn 5:18 **6:12** [b] S Lk 3:21 **6:13** [c] S Mk 6:30 **6:15** [d] S Mt 9:9 **6:17** [e] Mt 4:25; S Mt 11:21; Mk 3:7,8 **6:19** [f] S Mt 9:20 [g] Mk 5:30; Lk 5:17 **6:20** [h] S Mt 25:34 **6:21** [i] Isa 55:1,2; Mt 5:6 [j] Isa 61:2,3; Mt 5:4; Rev 7:17 **6:22** [k] Jn 9:22; 16:2 [l] Isa 51:7 [m] S Jn 15:21 **6:23** [n] S Mt 5:12 [o] S Mt 5:12 **6:24** [p] Jas 5:1 [q] Lk 16:25 **6:25** [r] Isa 65:13 [s] Pr 14:13 **6:26** [t] S Mt 7:15 **6:27** [u] ver 35; Mt 5:44; Ro 12:20 **6:28** [v] S Mt 5:44 **6:30** [w] Dt 15:7,8,10; Pr 21:26 **6:31** [x] Mt 7:12 **6:32** [y] Mt 5:46 **6:34** [z] Mt 5:42 **6:35** [a] ver 27 [b] S Ro 8:14 [c] S Mk 5:7 **6:36** [d] Jas 2:13 [e] Mt 5:48; 6:1; Lk 11:2; 12:32; Ro 8:15; Eph 4:6; 1Pe 1:17; 1Jn 1:3; 3:1 **6:37** [f] S Mt 7:1 [g] Mt 6:14 **6:38** [h] Ps 79:12; Isa 65:6,7 [i] S Mt 7:2 **6:39** [j] Mt 15:14 **6:40** [k] S Jn 13:16

[a]18 Greek *unclean*

no attention to the plank in your own
eye? 42How can you say to your broth-
er, 'Brother, let me take the speck out
of your eye,' when you yourself fail to
see the plank in your own eye? You
hypocrite, first take the plank out of
your eye, and then you will see clearly
to remove the speck from your broth-
er's eye.

A Tree and Its Fruit

6:43-45pp — Mt 7:16,18,20

43"No good tree bears bad fruit, nor
does a bad tree bear good fruit. 44Each
tree is recognized by its own fruit.[a]
People do not pick figs from thorn-
bushes, or grapes from briers. 45The
good man brings good things out of the
good stored up in his heart, and the
evil man brings evil things out of the
evil stored up in his heart. For out of
the overflow of his heart his mouth
speaks.[b]

The Wise and Foolish Builders

6:47-49pp — Mt 7:24-27

46"Why do you call me, 'Lord,
Lord,'[c] and do not do what I say?[d] 47I
will show you what he is like who
comes to me and hears my words and
puts them into practice.[e] 48He is like a
man building a house, who dug down
deep and laid the foundation on rock.
When a flood came, the torrent struck
that house but could not shake it, be-
cause it was well built. 49But the one
who hears my words and does not put
them into practice is like a man who
built a house on the ground without a
foundation. The moment the torrent
struck that house, it collapsed and its
destruction was complete."

The Faith of the Centurion

7:1-10pp — Mt 8:5-13

7 When Jesus had finished saying all
this[f] in the hearing of the people,
he entered Capernaum. 2There a centu-
rion's servant, whom his master valued
highly, was sick and about to die. 3The
centurion heard of Jesus and sent some
elders of the Jews to him, asking him to
come and heal his servant. 4When they
came to Jesus, they pleaded earnestly
with him, "This man deserves to have
you do this, 5because he loves our na-
tion and has built our synagogue." 6So
Jesus went with them.

He was not far from the house when
the centurion sent friends to say to
him: "Lord, don't trouble yourself, for I
do not deserve to have you come under
my roof. 7That is why I did not even
consider myself worthy to come to you.
But say the word, and my servant will
be healed.[g] 8For I myself am a man un-
der authority, with soldiers under me. I
tell this one, 'Go,' and he goes; and
that one, 'Come,' and he comes. I say
to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does
it."

9When Jesus heard this, he was
amazed at him, and turning to the
crowd following him, he said, "I tell
you, I have not found such great faith
even in Israel." 10Then the men who
had been sent returned to the house
and found the servant well.

Jesus Raises a Widow's Son

7:11-16Ref — 1Ki 17:17-24; 2Ki 4:32-37; Mk 5:21-24,35-43;
Jn 11:1-44

11Soon afterward, Jesus went to a
town called Nain, and his disciples and
a large crowd went along with him.
12As he approached the town gate, a
dead person was being carried out—
the only son of his mother, and she
was a widow. And a large crowd from
the town was with her. 13When the
Lord[h] saw her, his heart went out to
her and he said, "Don't cry."

14Then he went up and touched the
coffin, and those carrying it stood still.
He said, "Young man, I say to you, get
up!"[i] 15The dead man sat up and be-
gan to talk, and Jesus gave him back to
his mother.

16They were all filled with awe[j] and
praised God.[k] "A great prophet[l] has
appeared among us," they said. "God
has come to help his people."[m] 17This
news about Jesus spread throughout
Judea[b] and the surrounding country.[n]

Jesus and John the Baptist

7:18-35pp — Mt 11:2-19

18John's[o] disciples[p] told him about
all these things. Calling two of them,
19he sent them to the Lord to ask, "Are
you the one who was to come, or
should we expect someone else?"

20When the men came to Jesus, they
said, "John the Baptist sent us to you to
ask, 'Are you the one who was to
come, or should we expect someone
else?' "

21At that very time Jesus cured many
who had diseases, sicknesses[q] and evil
spirits, and gave sight to many who
were blind. 22So he replied to the mes-

[illegible]

7:7 gPs 107:20
7:13 hver 19; Lk 10:1; 13:15; 17:5; 22:61; 24:34; Jn 11:2
7:14 iMt 9:25; Mk 1:31; Lk 8:54; Jn 11:43; Ac 9:40
7:16 jLk 1:65 kS Mt 9:8 lver 39; S Mt 21:11 mLk 1:68
7:17 nS Mt 9:26
7:18 oS Mt 3:1 pS Lk 5:33
7:21 qS Mt 4:23

b17 *Or the land of the Jews*

sengers, "Go back and report to John
what you have seen and heard: The
blind receive sight, the lame walk,
those who have leprosy[c] are cured, the
deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the
good news is preached to the poor.[a]
23Blessed is the man who does not fall
away on account of me."
24After John's messengers left, Jesus
began to speak to the crowd about
John: "What did you go out into the
desert to see? A reed swayed by the
wind? 25If not, what did you go out to
see? A man dressed in fine clothes?
No, those who wear expensive clothes
and indulge in luxury are in palaces.
26But what did you go out to see? A
prophet?[b] Yes, I tell you, and more
than a prophet. 27This is the one about
whom it is written:

" 'I will send my messenger ahead of
you,
who will prepare your way before
you.'[d] [c]

28I tell you, among those born of
women there is no one greater than
John; yet the one who is least in the
kingdom of God[d] is greater than he."
29(All the people, even the tax collec-
tors, when they heard Jesus' words, ac-
knowledged that God's way was right,
because they had been baptized by
John.[e] 30But the Pharisees and experts
in the law[f] rejected God's purpose for
themselves, because they had not been
baptized by John.)
31"To what, then, can I compare the
people of this generation? What are
they like? 32They are like children sit-
ting in the marketplace and calling out
to each other:

" 'We played the flute for you,
and you did not dance;
we sang a dirge,
and you did not cry.'

33For John the Baptist came neither eat-
ing bread nor drinking wine,[g] and you
say, 'He has a demon.' 34The Son of
Man came eating and drinking, and
you say, 'Here is a glutton and a
drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and
"sinners." '[h] 35But wisdom is proved
right by all her children."

Jesus Anointed by a Sinful Woman

7:37-39Ref — Mt 26:6-13; Mk 14:3-9; Jn 12:1-8
7:41,42Ref — Mt 18:23-34

36Now one of the Pharisees invited
Jesus to have dinner with him, so he
went to the Pharisee's house and re-
clined at the table. 37When a woman
who had lived a sinful life in that town
learned that Jesus was eating at the
Pharisee's house, she brought an ala-
baster jar of perfume, 38and as she
stood behind him at his feet weeping,
she began to wet his feet with her
tears. Then she wiped them with her
hair, kissed them and poured perfume
on them.
39When the Pharisee who had invited
him saw this, he said to himself, "If
this man were a prophet,[i] he would
know who is touching him and what
kind of woman she is—that she is a sin-
ner."
40Jesus answered him, "Simon, I
have something to tell you."
"Tell me, teacher," he said.
41"Two men owed money to a certain
moneylender. One owed him five hun-
dred denarii,[e] and the other fifty.
42Neither of them had the money to
pay him back, so he canceled the debts
of both. Now which of them will love
him more?"
43Simon replied, "I suppose the one
who had the bigger debt canceled."
"You have judged correctly," Jesus
said.
44Then he turned toward the woman
and said to Simon, "Do you see this
woman? I came into your house. You
did not give me any water for my feet,[j]
but she wet my feet with her tears and
wiped them with her hair. 45You did
not give me a kiss,[k] but this woman,
from the time I entered, has not
stopped kissing my feet. 46You did not
put oil on my head,[l] but she has
poured perfume on my feet. 47There-
fore, I tell you, her many sins have
been forgiven—for she loved much.
But he who has been forgiven little
loves little."
48Then Jesus said to her, "Your sins
are forgiven."[m]
49The other guests began to say
among themselves, "Who is this who
even forgives sins?"
50Jesus said to the woman, "Your
faith has saved you;[n] go in peace."[o]

The Parable of the Sower

8:4-15pp — Mt 13:2-23; Mk 4:1-20

8 After this, Jesus traveled about
from one town and village to an-
other, proclaiming the good news of

7:22 [a]Isa 29:18, 19; 35:5,6; 61:1, 2; Lk 4:18 **7:26** [b]S Mt 11:9 **7:27** [c]Mal 3:1; Mt 11:10; Mk 1:2 **7:28** [d]S Mt 3:2 **7:29** [e]Mt 21:32; Mk 1:5; Lk 3:12 **7:30** [f]S Mt 22:35 **7:33** [g]Lk 1:15 **7:34** [h]Lk 5:29, 30; 15:1,2 **7:39** [i]ver 16; S Mt 21:11 **7:44** [j]Ge 18:4; 19:2; 43:24; Jdg 19:21; Jn 13:4-14; 1Ti 5:10 **7:45** [k]Lk 22:47, 48; S Ro 16:16 **7:46** [l]Ps 23:5; Ecc 9:8 **7:48** [m]Mt 9:2 **7:50** [n]S Mt 9:22 [o]S Ac 15:33

c22 The Greek word was used for various diseases affecting the skin—not necessarily leprosy.
d27 Mal. 3:1
e41 A denarius was a coin worth about a day's wages.

the kingdom of God.[a] The Twelve
were with him, 2and also some women
who had been cured of evil spirits and
diseases: Mary (called Magdalene)[b]
from whom seven demons had come
out; 3Joanna the wife of Cuza, the man-
ager of Herod's[c] household; Susanna;
and many others. These women were
helping to support them out of their
own means.

4While a large crowd was gathering
and people were coming to Jesus from
town after town, he told this parable:
5"A farmer went out to sow his seed.
As he was scattering the seed, some
fell along the path; it was trampled on,
and the birds of the air ate it up. 6Some
fell on rock, and when it came up, the
plants withered because they had no
moisture. 7Other seed fell among
thorns, which grew up with it and
choked the plants. 8Still other seed fell
on good soil. It came up and yielded a
crop, a hundred times more than was
sown."

When he said this, he called out,
"He who has ears to hear, let him
hear."[d]

9His disciples asked him what this
parable meant. 10He said, "The knowl-
edge of the secrets of the kingdom of
God has been given to you,[e] but to
others I speak in parables, so that,

"'though seeing, they may not see;
though hearing, they may not
understand.'[f][f]

11"This is the meaning of the parable:
The seed is the word of God.[g] 12Those
along the path are the ones who hear,
and then the devil comes and takes
away the word from their hearts, so
that they may not believe and be
saved. 13Those on the rock are the ones
who receive the word with joy when
they hear it, but they have no root.
They believe for a while, but in the
time of testing they fall away.[h] 14The
seed that fell among thorns stands for
those who hear, but as they go on their
way they are choked by life's worries,
riches[i] and pleasures, and they do not
mature. 15But the seed on good soil
stands for those with a noble and good
heart, who hear the word, retain it,
and by persevering produce a crop.

A Lamp on a Stand

16"No one lights a lamp and hides it
in a jar or puts it under a bed. Instead,
he puts it on a stand, so that those who
come in can see the light.[j] 17For there
is nothing hidden that will not be dis-
closed, and nothing concealed that will
not be known or brought out into the
open.[k] 18Therefore consider carefully
how you listen. Whoever has will be
given more; whoever does not have,
even what he thinks he has will be tak-
en from him."[l]

Jesus' Mother and Brothers

8:19-21pp — Mt 12:46-50; Mk 3:31-35

19Now Jesus' mother and brothers
came to see him, but they were not able
to get near him because of the crowd.
20Someone told him, "Your mother and
brothers[m] are standing outside, want-
ing to see you."

21He replied, "My mother and broth-
ers are those who hear God's word and
put it into practice."[n]

Jesus Calms the Storm

8:22-25pp — Mt 8:23-27; Mk 4:36-41
8:22-25Ref — Mk 6:47-52; Jn 6:16-21

22One day Jesus said to his disciples,
"Let's go over to the other side of the
lake." So they got into a boat and set
out. 23As they sailed, he fell asleep. A
squall came down on the lake, so that
the boat was being swamped, and they
were in great danger.

24The disciples went and woke him,
saying, "Master, Master,[o] we're going
to drown!"

He got up and rebuked[p] the wind
and the raging waters; the storm sub-
sided, and all was calm.[q] 25"Where is
your faith?" he asked his disciples.

In fear and amazement they asked
one another, "Who is this? He com-
mands even the winds and the water,
and they obey him."

The Healing of a Demon-possessed Man

8:26-37pp — Mt 8:28-34
8:26-39pp — Mk 5:1-20

26They sailed to the region of the
Gerasenes,[g] which is across the lake
from Galilee. 27When Jesus stepped
ashore, he was met by a demon-pos-
sessed man from the town. For a long
time this man had not worn clothes or
lived in a house, but had lived in the
tombs. 28When he saw Jesus, he cried
out and fell at his feet, shouting at the
top of his voice, "What do you want
with me,[r] Jesus, Son of the Most High
God?[s] I beg you, don't torture me!"

8:1 [a]S Mt 4:23 **8:2** [b]Mt 27:55,56 **8:3** [c]S Mt 14:1 **8:8** [d]S Mt 11:15 **8:10** [e]S Mt 13:11 [f]Isa 6:9; S Mt 13:13,14 **8:11** [g]S Heb 4:12 **8:13** [h]Mt 11:6 **8:14** [i]Mt 19:23; 1Ti 6:9,10,17 **8:16** [j]S Mt 5:15 **8:17** [k]Mt 10:26; Mk 4:22; Lk 12:2 **8:18** [l]S Mt 25:29 **8:20** [m]Jn 7:5 **8:21** [n]Lk 6:47; 11:28; Jn 14:21 **8:24** [o]S Lk 5:5 [p]Lk 4:35,39,41 [q]Ps 107:29; Jnh 1:15 **8:28** [r]S Mt 8:29 [s]S Mk 5:7

[f]10 Isaiah 6:9 [g]26 Some manuscripts *Gadarenes;* other manuscripts *Gergesenes;* also in verse 37

[29]For Jesus had commanded the evil[b]
spirit to come out of the man. Many
times it had seized him, and though he
was chained hand and foot and kept
under guard, he had broken his chains
and had been driven by the demon into
solitary places.

[30]Jesus asked him, "What is your
name?"

"Legion," he replied, because many
demons had gone into him. [31]And they
begged him repeatedly not to order
them to go into the Abyss.[a]

[32]A large herd of pigs was feeding
there on the hillside. The demons
begged Jesus to let them go into them,
and he gave them permission. [33]When
the demons came out of the man, they
went into the pigs, and the herd
rushed down the steep bank into the
lake[b] and was drowned.

[34]When those tending the pigs saw
what had happened, they ran off and
reported this in the town and country-
side, [35]and the people went out to see
what had happened. When they came
to Jesus, they found the man from
whom the demons had gone out, sit-
ting at Jesus' feet,[c] dressed and in his
right mind; and they were afraid.
[36]Those who had seen it told the people
how the demon-possessed[d] man had
been cured. [37]Then all the people of the
region of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to
leave them,[e] because they were over-
come with fear. So he got into the boat
and left.

[38]The man from whom the demons
had gone out begged to go with him,
but Jesus sent him away, saying, [39]"Re-
turn home and tell how much God has
done for you." So the man went away
and told all over town how much Jesus
had done for him.

A Dead Girl and a Sick Woman

8:40-56pp — Mt 9:18-26; Mk 5:22-43

[40]Now when Jesus returned, a crowd
welcomed him, for they were all ex-
pecting him. [41]Then a man named
Jairus, a ruler of the synagogue,[f] came
and fell at Jesus' feet, pleading with
him to come to his house [42]because his
only daughter, a girl of about twelve,
was dying.

As Jesus was on his way, the crowds
almost crushed him. [43]And a woman
was there who had been subject to
bleeding[g] for twelve years,[i] but no
one could heal her. [44]She came up be-
hind him and touched the edge of his
cloak,[h] and immediately her bleeding
stopped.

[45]"Who touched me?" Jesus asked.

When they all denied it, Peter said,
"Master,[i] the people are crowding and
pressing against you."

[46]But Jesus said, "Someone touched
me;[j] I know that power has gone out
from me."[k]

[47]Then the woman, seeing that she
could not go unnoticed, came trem-
bling and fell at his feet. In the pres-
ence of all the people, she told why she
had touched him and how she had
been instantly healed. [48]Then he said to
her, "Daughter, your faith has healed
you.[l] Go in peace."[m]

[49]While Jesus was still speaking,
someone came from the house of
Jairus, the synagogue ruler.[n] "Your
daughter is dead," he said. "Don't
bother the teacher any more."

[50]Hearing this, Jesus said to Jairus,
"Don't be afraid; just believe, and she
will be healed."

[51]When he arrived at the house of
Jairus, he did not let anyone go in with
him except Peter, John and James,[o]
and the child's father and mother.
[52]Meanwhile, all the people were wail-
ing and mourning[p] for her. "Stop wail-
ing," Jesus said. "She is not dead but
asleep."[q]

[53]They laughed at him, knowing that
she was dead. [54]But he took her by the
hand and said, "My child, get up!"[r]
[55]Her spirit returned, and at once she
stood up. Then Jesus told them to give
her something to eat. [56]Her parents
were astonished, but he ordered them
not to tell anyone what had hap-
pened.[s]

Jesus Sends Out the Twelve

9:3-5pp — Mt 10:9-15; Mk 6:8-11
9:7-9pp — Mt 14:1,2; Mk 6:14-16

9 When Jesus had called the Twelve
together, he gave them power and
authority to drive out all demons[t] and
to cure diseases,[u] [2]and he sent them
out to preach the kingdom of God[v]
and to heal the sick. [3]He told them:
"Take nothing for the journey—no
staff, no bag, no bread, no money, no
extra tunic.[w] [4]Whatever house you en-
ter, stay there until you leave that
town. [5]If people do not welcome you,
shake the dust off your feet when you
leave their town, as a testimony against
them."[x] [6]So they set out and went

8:31 [illegible]
8:33 [illegible]
8:35 [illegible]
8:36 [illegible]
8:37 [illegible]
8:41 [illegible]
8:43 [illegible]

8:44 hS Mt 9:20
8:45 iS Lk 5:5
8:46 jMt 14:36; Mk 3:10
kLk 5:17; 6:19
8:48 lS Mt 9:22
mS Ac 15:33
8:49 nver 41
8:51 oS Mt 4:21
8:52 pLk 23:27
qS Mt 9:24
8:54 rS Lk 7:14
8:56 sS Mt 8:4
9:1 tS Mt 10:1
uS Mt 4:23; Lk 5:17
9:2 vS Mt 3:2
9:3 wLk 10:4; 22:35
9:5 xS Mt 10:14

b29 Greek *unclean*   i43 Many manuscripts *years, and she had spent all she had on doctors*

from village to village, preaching the
gospel and healing people everywhere.
7 Now Herod[a] the tetrarch heard
about all that was going on. And he
was perplexed, because some were
saying that John[b] had been raised from
the dead,[c] 8 others that Elijah had ap-
peared,[d] and still others that one of the
prophets of long ago had come back to
life.[e] 9 But Herod said, "I beheaded
John. Who, then, is this I hear such
things about?" And he tried to see
him.[f]

Jesus Feeds the Five Thousand

9:10-17pp — Mt 14:13-21; Mk 6:32-44; Jn 6:5-13
9:13-17Ref — 2Ki 4:42-44

10 When the apostles[g] returned, they
reported to Jesus what they had done.
Then he took them with him and they
withdrew by themselves to a town
called Bethsaida,[h] 11 but the crowds
learned about it and followed him. He
welcomed them and spoke to them
about the kingdom of God,[i] and
healed those who needed healing.
12 Late in the afternoon the Twelve
came to him and said, "Send the crowd
away so they can go to the surrounding
villages and countryside and find food
and lodging, because we are in a
remote place here."
13 He replied, "You give them some-
thing to eat."
They answered, "We have only five
loaves of bread and two fish—unless
we go and buy food for all this crowd."
14 (About five thousand men were
there.)
But he said to his disciples, "Have
them sit down in groups of about fifty
each." 15 The disciples did so, and ev-
erybody sat down. 16 Taking the five
loaves and the two fish and looking up
to heaven, he gave thanks and broke
them.[j] Then he gave them to the disci-
ples to set before the people. 17 They all
ate and were satisfied, and the disci-
ples picked up twelve basketfuls of bro-
ken pieces that were left over.

Peter's Confession of Christ

9:18-20pp — Mt 16:13-16; Mk 8:27-29
9:22-27pp — Mt 16:21-28; Mk 8:31 — 9:1

18 Once when Jesus was praying[k] in
private and his disciples were with
him, he asked them, "Who do the
crowds say I am?"
19 They replied, "Some say John the
Baptist;[l] others say Elijah; and still oth-
ers, that one of the prophets of long
ago has come back to life."[m]
20 "But what about you?" he asked.
"Who do you say I am?"
Peter answered, "The Christ[i] of
God."[n]
21 Jesus strictly warned them not to
tell this to anyone.[o] 22 And he said,
"The Son of Man[p] must suffer many
things[q] and be rejected by the elders,
chief priests and teachers of the law,[r]
and he must be killed[s] and on the third
day[t] be raised to life."[u]
23 Then he said to them all: "If anyone
would come after me, he must deny
himself and take up his cross daily and
follow me.[v] 24 For whoever wants to
save his life will lose it, but whoever
loses his life for me will save it.[w]
25 What good is it for a man to gain the
whole world, and yet lose or forfeit his
very self? 26 If anyone is ashamed of me
and my words, the Son of Man will be
ashamed of him[x] when he comes in his
glory and in the glory of the Father and
of the holy angels.[y] 27 I tell you the
truth, some who are standing here will
not taste death before they see the
kingdom of God."

The Transfiguration

9:28-36pp — Mt 17:1-8; Mk 9:2-8

28 About eight days after Jesus said
this, he took Peter, John and James[z]
with him and went up onto a mountain
to pray.[a] 29 As he was praying, the ap-
pearance of his face changed, and his
clothes became as bright as a flash of
lightning. 30 Two men, Moses and Eli-
jah, 31 appeared in glorious splendor,
talking with Jesus. They spoke about
his departure,[b] which he was about to
bring to fulfillment at Jerusalem. 32 Pe-
ter and his companions were very
sleepy,[c] but when they became fully
awake, they saw his glory and the two
men standing with him. 33 As the men
were leaving Jesus, Peter said to him,
"Master,[d] it is good for us to be here.
Let us put up three shelters—one for
you, one for Moses and one for Elijah."
(He did not know what he was saying.)
34 While he was speaking, a cloud ap-
peared and enveloped them, and they
were afraid as they entered the cloud.
35 A voice came from the cloud, saying,
"This is my Son, whom I have cho-
sen;[e] listen to him."[f] 36 When the voice
had spoken, they found that Jesus was
alone. The disciples kept this to them-

9:7 [a]S Mt 14:1 [b]S Mt 3:1 [c]ver 19
9:8 [d]S Mt 11:14; [e]ver 19; Jn 1:21
9:9 [f]Lk 23:8
9:10 [g]S Mk 6:30 [h]S Mt 11:21
9:11 [i]ver 2; S Mt 3:2
9:16 [j]S Mt 14:19
9:18 [k]S Lk 3:21
9:19 [l]S Mt 3:1 [m]ver 7,8
9:20 [n]Jn 1:49; 6:66-69; 11:27
9:21 [o]S Mk 8:30
9:22 [p]S Mt 8:20 [q]S Mt 16:21 [r]Mt 27:1,2 [s]Ac 2:23; 3:13 [t]S Mt 16:21 [u]S Mt 16:21
9:23 [v]Mt 10:38; Lk 14:27
9:24 [w]S Jn 12:25
9:26 [x]Mt 10:33; Lk 12:9; 2Ti 2:12 [y]S Mt 16:27
9:28 [z]S Mt 4:21 [a]S Lk 3:21
9:31 [b]2Pe 1:15
9:32 [c]Mt 26:43
9:33 [d]S Lk 5:5
9:35 [e]Isa 42:1 [f]S Mt 3:17

i20 Or *Messiah*

selves, and told no one at that time what they had seen.[a]

The Healing of a Boy With an Evil Spirit

9:37-42,43-45pp — Mt 17:14-18,22,23; Mk 9:14-27,30-32

37The next day, when they came down from the mountain, a large crowd met him. 38A man in the crowd called out, "Teacher, I beg you to look at my son, for he is my only child. 39A spirit seizes him and he suddenly screams; it throws him into convulsions so that he foams at the mouth. It scarcely ever leaves him and is destroying him. 40I begged your disciples to drive it out, but they could not."

41"O unbelieving and perverse generation,"[b] Jesus replied, "how long shall I stay with you and put up with you? Bring your son here."

42Even while the boy was coming, the demon threw him to the ground in a convulsion. But Jesus rebuked the evil[k] spirit, healed the boy and gave him back to his father. 43And they were all amazed at the greatness of God.

While everyone was marveling at all that Jesus did, he said to his disciples, 44"Listen carefully to what I am about to tell you: The Son of Man is going to be betrayed into the hands of men."[c] 45But they did not understand what this meant. It was hidden from them, so that they did not grasp it,[d] and they were afraid to ask him about it.

Who Will Be the Greatest?

9:46-48pp — Mt 18:1-5
9:46-50pp — Mk 9:33-40

46An argument started among the disciples as to which of them would be the greatest.[e] 47Jesus, knowing their thoughts,[f] took a little child and had him stand beside him. 48Then he said to them, "Whoever welcomes this little child in my name welcomes me; and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me.[g] For he who is least among you all—he is the greatest."[h]

49"Master,"[i] said John, "we saw a man driving out demons in your name and we tried to stop him, because he is not one of us."

50"Do not stop him," Jesus said, "for whoever is not against you is for you."[j]

Samaritan Opposition

51As the time approached for him to be taken up to heaven,[k] Jesus resolutely set out for Jerusalem.[l] 52And he sent messengers on ahead, who went into a Samaritan[m] village to get things ready for him; 53but the people there did not welcome him, because he was heading for Jerusalem. 54When the disciples James and John[n] saw this, they asked, "Lord, do you want us to call fire down from heaven to destroy them[l]?"[o] 55But Jesus turned and rebuked them, 56and[m] they went to another village.

The Cost of Following Jesus

9:57-60pp — Mt 8:19-22

57As they were walking along the road,[p] a man said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go."

58Jesus replied, "Foxes have holes and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man[q] has no place to lay his head."

59He said to another man, "Follow me."[r]

But the man replied, "Lord, first let me go and bury my father."

60Jesus said to him, "Let the dead bury their own dead, but you go and proclaim the kingdom of God."[s]

61Still another said, "I will follow you, Lord; but first let me go back and say good-by to my family."[t]

62Jesus replied, "No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God."

Jesus Sends Out the Seventy-two

10:4-12pp — Lk 9:3-5
10:13-15,21,22pp — Mt 11:21-23,25-27
10:23,24pp — Mt 13:16,17

10 After this the Lord[u] appointed seventy-two[n] others[v] and sent them two by two[w] ahead of him to every town and place where he was about to go.[x] 2He told them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.[y] 3Go! I am sending you out like lambs among wolves.[z] 4Do not take a purse or bag or sandals; and do not greet anyone on the road.

5"When you enter a house, first say, 'Peace to this house.' 6If a man of peace is there, your peace will rest on him; if not, it will return to you. 7Stay in that

9:36 [a]Mt 17:9 **9:41** [b]Dt 32:5 **9:44** [c]S ver 22 **9:45** [d]S Mk 9:32 **9:46** [e]Lk 22:24 **9:47** [f]S Mt 9:4 **9:48** [g]S Mt 10:40 [h]S Mk 9:35 **9:49** [i]S Lk 5:5 **9:50** [j]Mt 12:30; Lk 11:23 **9:51** [k]S Mk 16:19 [l]Lk 13:22; 17:11; 18:31; 19:28

9:52 [m]S Mt 10:5 **9:54** [n]S Mt 4:21 [o]2Ki 1:10,12 **9:57** [p]ver 51 **9:58** [q]S Mt 8:20 **9:59** [r]S Mt 4:19 **9:60** [s]S Mt 3:2 **9:61** [t]1Ki 19:20 **10:1** [u]S Lk 7:13 [v]Lk 9:1,2,51,52 [w]Mk 6:7 [x]Mt 10:1 **10:2** [y]Mt 9:37,38; Jn 4:35 **10:3** [z]Mt 10:16

[k]42 Greek *unclean* [l]54 Some manuscripts *them, even as Elijah did* [m]55,56 Some manuscripts *them. And he said, "You do not know what kind of spirit you are of, for the Son of Man did not come to destroy men's lives, but to save them." 56And* [n]1 Some manuscripts *seventy;* also in verse 17

house, eating and drinking whatever they give you, for the worker deserves his wages.[a] Do not move around from house to house.

[8]"When you enter a town and are welcomed, eat what is set before you.[b] [9]Heal the sick who are there and tell them, 'The kingdom of God[c] is near you.' [10]But when you enter a town and are not welcomed, go into its streets and say, [11]'Even the dust of your town that sticks to our feet we wipe off against you.[d] Yet be sure of this: The kingdom of God is near.'[e] [12]I tell you, it will be more bearable on that day for Sodom[f] than for that town.[g]

[13]"Woe to you,[h] Korazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the miracles that were performed in you had been performed in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago, sitting in sackcloth[i] and ashes. [14]But it will be more bearable for Tyre and Sidon at the judgment than for you. [15]And you, Capernaum,[j] will you be lifted up to the skies? No, you will go down to the depths.[o]

[16]"He who listens to you listens to me; he who rejects you rejects me; but he who rejects me rejects him who sent me."[k]

[17]The seventy-two[l] returned with joy and said, "Lord, even the demons submit to us in your name."[m]

[18]He replied, "I saw Satan[n] fall like lightning from heaven.[o] [19]I have given you authority to trample on snakes[p] and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you. [20]However, do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven."[q]

[21]At that time Jesus, full of joy through the Holy Spirit, said, "I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children.[r] Yes, Father, for this was your good pleasure.

[22]"All things have been committed to me by my Father.[s] No one knows who the Son is except the Father, and no one knows who the Father is except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him."[t]

[23]Then he turned to his disciples and said privately, "Blessed are the eyes that see what you see. [24]For I tell you that many prophets and kings wanted to see what you see but did not see it, and to hear what you hear but did not hear it."[u]

10:7 [a]S 1Ti 5:18
10:8 [b]1Co 10:27
10:9 [c]S Mt 3:2
10:11 [d]S Mt 10:14 [e]ver 9
10:12 [f]S Mt 10:15 [g]Mt 11:24
10:13 [h]Lk 6:24-26 [i]S Rev 11:3
10:15 [j]S Mt 4:13
10:16 [k]S Mt 10:40
10:17 [l]ver 1 [m]S Mk 16:17
10:18 [n]S Mt 4:10 [o]Isa 14:12; Rev 9:1; 12:8,9
10:19 [p]Mk 16:18; Ac 28:3-5
10:20 [q]S Rev 20:12
10:21 [r]1Co 1:26-29
10:22 [s]S Mt 28:18 [t]Jn 1:18
10:24 [u]1Pe 1:10-12

The Parable of the Good Samaritan

10:25-28pp — Mt 22:34-40; Mk 12:28-31

[25]On one occasion an expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he asked, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?"[v]

[26]"What is written in the Law?" he replied. "How do you read it?"

[27]He answered: "'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind'[p];[w] and, 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'[q]"[x]

[28]"You have answered correctly," Jesus replied. "Do this and you will live."[y]

[29]But he wanted to justify himself,[z] so he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?"

[30]In reply Jesus said: "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he fell into the hands of robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half dead. [31]A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side.[a] [32]So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. [33]But a Samaritan,[b] as he traveled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him. [34]He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, took him to an inn and took care of him. [35]The next day he took out two silver coins[r] and gave them to the innkeeper. 'Look after him,' he said, 'and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have.'

[36]"Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?"

[37]The expert in the law replied, "The one who had mercy on him."

Jesus told him, "Go and do likewise."

At the Home of Martha and Mary

[38]As Jesus and his disciples were on their way, he came to a village where a woman named Martha[c] opened her home to him. [39]She had a sister called Mary,[d] who sat at the Lord's feet[e] listening to what he said. [40]But Martha was distracted by all the preparations that had to be made. She came to him and asked, "Lord, don't you care[f] that

10:25 [v]Mt 19:16; Lk 18:18
10:27 [w]Dt 6:5 [x]Lev 19:18; S Mt 5:43
10:28 [y]S Ro 7:10
10:29 [z]Lk 16:15
10:31 [a]Lev 21:1-3
10:33 [b]S Mt 10:5
10:38 [c]Jn 11:1; 12:2
10:39 [d]Jn 11:1; 12:3 [e]Lk 8:35
10:40 [f]Mk 4:38

[o]15 Greek *Hades* [p]27 Deut. 6:5 [q]27 Lev. 19:18
[r]35 Greek *two denarii*

my sister has left me to do the work by
myself? Tell her to help me!"
41"Martha, Martha," the Lord an-
swered, "you are worried[a] and upset
about many things, 42but only one
thing is needed.[a][b] Mary has chosen
what is better, and it will not be taken
away from her."

Jesus' Teaching on Prayer

11:2-4pp — Mt 6:9-13
11:9-13pp — Mt 7:7-11

11 One day Jesus was praying[c] in a
certain place. When he finished,
one of his disciples said to him,
"Lord,[d] teach us to pray, just as John
taught his disciples."
2He said to them, "When you pray,
say:

"'Father,[t]
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom[e] come.[u]
3Give us each day our daily
bread.
4Forgive us our sins,
for we also forgive everyone who
sins against us.[v][f]
And lead us not into
temptation.[w]'"[g]

5Then he said to them, "Suppose one
of you has a friend, and he goes to him
at midnight and says, 'Friend, lend me
three loaves of bread, 6because a friend
of mine on a journey has come to me,
and I have nothing to set before
him.'
7"Then the one inside answers,
'Don't bother me. The door is already
locked, and my children are with me in
bed. I can't get up and give you any-
thing.' 8I tell you, though he will not
get up and give him the bread because
he is his friend, yet because of the
man's boldness[x] he will get up and
give him as much as he needs.[h]
9"So I say to you: Ask and it will be
given to you;[i] seek and you will find;
knock and the door will be opened to
you. 10For everyone who asks receives;
he who seeks finds; and to him who
knocks, the door will be opened.
11"Which of you fathers, if your son
asks for[y] a fish, will give him a snake
instead? 12Or if he asks for an egg, will
give him a scorpion? 13If you then,
though you are evil, know how to give
good gifts to your children, how much
more will your Father in heaven give
the Holy Spirit to those who ask
him!"

10:41 [a]Mt 6:25-34
Lk 12:11,22
10:42 [b]Ps 27:4
11:1 [c]S Lk 3:21
[d]Jn 13:13
11:2 [e]S Mt 3:2
11:4 [f]Mt 18:35;
Mk 11:25
[g]Mt 26:41
Jas 1:13
11:8 [h]Lk 18:1-6
11:9 [i]S Mt 7:7

11:14 [j]Mt 9:32,
33
11:15
[k]S Mk 3:22
[l]Mt 9:34
11:16
[m]S Mt 12:38
11:17 [n]S Mt 9:4
11:18
[o]S Mt 4:10
11:20 [p]Ex 8:19
[q]S Mt 3:2
11:23
[r]Mt 12:30;
Mk 9:40; Lk 9:50
11:26 [s]2Pe 2:20
11:27 [t]Lk 23:29
11:28
[u]S Heb 4:12
[v]Pr 8:32;
Lk 6:47; 8:21;
Jn 14:21

Jesus and Beelzebub

11:14,15,17-22,24-26pp — Mt 12:22,24-29,43-45
11:17-22pp — Mk 3:23-27

14Jesus was driving out a demon that
was mute. When the demon left, the
man who had been mute spoke, and
the crowd was amazed.[j] 15But some of
them said, "By Beelzebub,[z][k] the
prince of demons, he is driving out de-
mons."[l] 16Others tested him by asking
for a sign from heaven.[m]
17Jesus knew their thoughts[n] and
said to them: "Any kingdom divided
against itself will be ruined, and a
house divided against itself will fall. 18If
Satan[o] is divided against himself, how
can his kingdom stand? I say this be-
cause you claim that I drive out de-
mons by Beelzebub. 19Now if I drive
out demons by Beelzebub, by whom do
your followers drive them out? So
then, they will be your judges. 20But if I
drive out demons by the finger of
God,[p] then the kingdom of God[q] has
come to you.
21"When a strong man, fully armed,
guards his own house, his possessions
are safe. 22But when someone stronger
attacks and overpowers him, he takes
away the armor in which the man
trusted and divides up the spoils.
23"He who is not with me is against
me, and he who does not gather with
me, scatters.[r]
24"When an evil[a] spirit comes out of
a man, it goes through arid places seek-
ing rest and does not find it. Then it
says, 'I will return to the house I left.'
25When it arrives, it finds the house
swept clean and put in order. 26Then it
goes and takes seven other spirits more
wicked than itself, and they go in and
live there. And the final condition of
that man is worse than the first."[s]
27As Jesus was saying these things, a
woman in the crowd called out,
"Blessed is the mother who gave you
birth and nursed you."[t]
28He replied, "Blessed rather are
those who hear the word of God[u] and
obey it."[v]

[s]42 Some manuscripts *but few things are needed—or only one* [t]2 Some manuscripts *Our Father in heaven* [u]2 Some manuscripts *come. May your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.* [v]4 Greek *everyone who is indebted to us* [w]4 Some manuscripts *temptation but deliver us from the evil one* [x]8 Or *persistence* [y]11 Some manuscripts *for bread, will give him a stone; or if he asks for* [z]15 Greek *Beezeboul* or *Beelzeboul;* also in verses 18 and 19 [a]24 Greek *unclean*

The Sign of Jonah

11:29-32pp — Mt 12:39-42

29 As the crowds increased, Jesus
said, "This is a wicked generation. It
asks for a miraculous sign,[a] but none
will be given it except the sign of
Jonah.[b] 30 For as Jonah was a sign to the
Ninevites, so also will the Son of Man
be to this generation. 31 The Queen of
the South will rise at the judgment
with the men of this generation and
condemn them; for she came from the
ends of the earth to listen to Solomon's
wisdom,[c] and now one[b] greater than
Solomon is here. 32 The men of Nineveh
will stand up at the judgment with this
generation and condemn it; for they re-
pented at the preaching of Jonah,[d] and
now one greater than Jonah is here.

The Lamp of the Body

11:34,35pp — Mt 6:22,23

33 "No one lights a lamp and puts it in
a place where it will be hidden, or un-
der a bowl. Instead he puts it on its
stand, so that those who come in may
see the light.[e] 34 Your eye is the lamp of
your body. When your eyes are good,
your whole body also is full of light.
But when they are bad, your body also
is full of darkness. 35 See to it, then, that
the light within you is not darkness.
36 Therefore, if your whole body is full
of light, and no part of it dark, it will be
completely lighted, as when the light of
a lamp shines on you."

Six Woes

37 When Jesus had finished speaking,
a Pharisee invited him to eat with him;
so he went in and reclined at the ta-
ble.[f] 38 But the Pharisee, noticing that
Jesus did not first wash before the
meal,[g] was surprised.

39 Then the Lord[h] said to him, "Now
then, you Pharisees clean the outside
of the cup and dish, but inside you are
full of greed and wickedness.[i] 40 You
foolish people![j] Did not the one who
made the outside make the inside also?
41 But give what is inside ⌞the dish⌟[c] to
the poor,[k] and everything will be clean
for you.[l]

42 "Woe to you Pharisees, because
you give God a tenth[m] of your mint,
rue and all other kinds of garden herbs,
but you neglect justice and the love of
God.[n] You should have practiced the
latter without leaving the former un-
done.[o]

43 "Woe to you Pharisees, because
you love the most important seats in
the synagogues and greetings in the
marketplaces.[p]

44 "Woe to you, because you are like
unmarked graves,[q] which men walk
over without knowing it."

45 One of the experts in the law[r] an-
swered him, "Teacher, when you say
these things, you insult us also."

46 Jesus replied, "And you experts in
the law, woe to you, because you load
people down with burdens they can
hardly carry, and you yourselves will
not lift one finger to help them.[s]

47 "Woe to you, because you build
tombs for the prophets, and it was
your forefathers who killed them. 48 So
you testify that you approve of what
your forefathers did; they killed the
prophets, and you build their tombs.[t]
49 Because of this, God in his wisdom[u]
said, 'I will send them prophets and
apostles, some of whom they will kill
and others they will persecute.'[v]
50 Therefore this generation will be held
responsible for the blood of all the
prophets that has been shed since the
beginning of the world, 51 from the
blood of Abel[w] to the blood of Zecha-
riah,[x] who was killed between the altar
and the sanctuary. Yes, I tell you, this
generation will be held responsible for
it all.[y]

52 "Woe to you experts in the law, be-
cause you have taken away the key to
knowledge. You yourselves have not
entered, and you have hindered those
who were entering."[z]

53 When Jesus left there, the Pharisees
and the teachers of the law began to
oppose him fiercely and to besiege him
with questions, 54 waiting to catch him
in something he might say.[a]

Warnings and Encouragements

12:2-9pp — Mt 10:26-33

12 Meanwhile, when a crowd of
many thousands had gathered,
so that they were trampling on one an-
other, Jesus began to speak first to his
disciples, saying: "Be on your guard
against the yeast of the Pharisees,
which is hypocrisy.[b] 2 There is nothing
concealed that will not be disclosed, or
hidden that will not be made known.[c]
3 What you have said in the dark will be
heard in the daylight, and what you
have whispered in the ear in the inner

11:29 [a]ver 16; S Mt 12:38 [b]Jnh 1:17; Mt 16:4
11:31 [c]1Ki 10:1; 2Ch 9:1
11:32 [d]Jnh 3:5
11:33 [e]S Mt 5:15
11:37 [f]Lk 7:36; 14:1
11:38 [g]Mk 7:3,4
11:39 [h]S Lk 7:13 [i]Mt 23:25,26; Mk 7:20-23
11:40 [j]Lk 12:20; 1Co 15:36
11:41 [k]Lk 12:33 [l]S Ac 10:15
11:42 [m]Lk 18:12 [n]Dt 6:5; Mic 6:8 [o]Mt 23:23
11:43 [p]Mt 23:6,7; Lk 14:7; 20:46
11:44 [q]Mt 23:27
11:45 [r]S Mt 22:35
11:46 [s]S Mt 23:4
11:48 [t]Mt 23:29-32; Ac 7:51-53
11:49 [u]1Co 1:24,30; Col 2:3 [v]Mt 23:34
11:51 [w]Ge 4:8 [x]2Ch 24:20,21 [y]Mt 23:35,36
11:52 [z]Mt 23:13
11:54 [a]S Mt 12:10
12:1 [b]Mt 16:6,11,12
12:2 [c]S Mk 4:22

[b]31 Or *something*; also in verse 32 [c]41 Or *what you have*

rooms will be proclaimed from the roofs.

4"I tell you, my friends,[a] do not be afraid of those who kill the body and after that can do no more. 5But I will show you whom you should fear: Fear him who, after the killing of the body, has power to throw you into hell. Yes, I tell you, fear him.[b] 6Are not five sparrows sold for two pennies[d]? Yet not one of them is forgotten by God. 7Indeed, the very hairs of your head are all numbered.[c] Don't be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.[d]

8"I tell you, whoever acknowledges me before men, the Son of Man will also acknowledge him before the angels of God.[e] 9But he who disowns me before men will be disowned[f] before the angels of God. 10And everyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man[g] will be forgiven, but anyone who blasphemes against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven.[h]

11"When you are brought before synagogues, rulers and authorities, do not worry about how you will defend yourselves or what you will say,[i] 12for the Holy Spirit will teach you at that time what you should say."[j]

The Parable of the Rich Fool

13Someone in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me."

14Jesus replied, "Man, who appointed me a judge or an arbiter between you?" 15Then he said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; a man's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions."[k]

16And he told them this parable: "The ground of a certain rich man produced a good crop. 17He thought to himself, 'What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.'

18"Then he said, 'This is what I'll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. 19And I'll say to myself, "You have plenty of good things laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry." '

20"But God said to him, 'You fool![l] This very night your life will be demanded from you.[m] Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?'[n]

21"This is how it will be with anyone who stores up things for himself but is not rich toward God."[o]

12:4 [a]Jn 15:14,15
12:5 [b]Heb 10:31
12:7 [c]S Mt 10:30 [d]Mt 12:12
12:8 [e]Lk 15:10
12:9 [f]Mk 8:38; 2Ti 2:12
12:10 [g]S Mt 8:20 [h]Mt 12:31,32; S 1Jn 5:16
12:11 [i]Mt 10:17,19; Lk 21:12,14
12:12 [j]Ex 4:12; Mt 10:20; Mk 13:11; Lk 21:15
12:15 [k]Job 20:20; 31:24; Ps 62:10
12:20 [l]Jer 17:11; Lk 11:40 [m]Job 27:8 [n]Ps 39:6; 49:10
12:21 [o]ver 33

12:24 [p]Job 38:41; Ps 147:9
12:27 [q]1Ki 10:4-7
12:28 [r]S Mt 6:30
12:30 [s]S Lk 6:36 [t]Mt 6:8
12:31 [u]S Mt 3:2 [v]Mt 19:29
12:32 [w]S Mt 14:27 [x]S Mt 25:34
12:33 [y]S Ac 2:45 [z]S Mt 6:20 [a]S Jas 5:2
12:34 [b]Mt 6:21
12:37 [c]Mt 24:42,46; 25:13 [d]S Mt 20:28

Do Not Worry

12:22-31pp — Mt 6:25-33

22Then Jesus said to his disciples: "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat; or about your body, what you will wear. 23Life is more than food, and the body more than clothes. 24Consider the ravens: They do not sow or reap, they have no storeroom or barn; yet God feeds them.[p] And how much more valuable you are than birds! 25Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life[e]? 26Since you cannot do this very little thing, why do you worry about the rest?

27"Consider how the lilies grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you, not even Solomon in all his splendor[q] was dressed like one of these. 28If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today, and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, how much more will he clothe you, O you of little faith![r] 29And do not set your heart on what you will eat or drink; do not worry about it. 30For the pagan world runs after all such things, and your Father[s] knows that you need them.[t] 31But seek his kingdom,[u] and these things will be given to you as well.[v]

32"Do not be afraid,[w] little flock, for your Father has been pleased to give you the kingdom.[x] 33Sell your possessions and give to the poor.[y] Provide purses for yourselves that will not wear out, a treasure in heaven[z] that will not be exhausted, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys.[a] 34For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.[b]

Watchfulness

12:35,36pp — Mt 25:1-13; Mk 13:33-37
12:39,40; 42-46pp — Mt 24:43-51

35"Be dressed ready for service and keep your lamps burning, 36like men waiting for their master to return from a wedding banquet, so that when he comes and knocks they can immediately open the door for him. 37It will be good for those servants whose master finds them watching when he comes.[c] I tell you the truth, he will dress himself to serve, will have them recline at the table and will come and wait on them.[d] 38It will be good for those servants whose master finds them ready, even if he comes in the second or third watch of the night. 39But understand

[d]6 Greek *two assaria* [e]25 Or *single cubit to his height*

this: If the owner of the house had
known at what hour the thief[a] was
coming, he would not have let his
house be broken into. 40You also must
be ready,[b] because the Son of Man will
come at an hour when you do not ex-
pect him."
41Peter asked, "Lord, are you telling
this parable to us, or to everyone?"
42The Lord[c] answered, "Who then is
the faithful and wise manager, whom
the master puts in charge of his ser-
vants to give them their food allowance
at the proper time? 43It will be good for
that servant whom the master finds do-
ing so when he returns. 44I tell you the
truth, he will put him in charge of all
his possessions. 45But suppose the ser-
vant says to himself, 'My master is tak-
ing a long time in coming,' and he then
begins to beat the menservants and
maidservants and to eat and drink and
get drunk. 46The master of that servant
will come on a day when he does not
expect him and at an hour he is not
aware of.[d] He will cut him to pieces
and assign him a place with the un-
believers.
47"That servant who knows his mas-
ter's will and does not get ready or
does not do what his master wants will
be beaten with many blows.[e] 48But the
one who does not know and does
things deserving punishment will be
beaten with few blows.[f] From every-
one who has been given much, much
will be demanded; and from the one
who has been entrusted with much,
much more will be asked.

Not Peace but Division

12:51-53pp — Mt 10:34-36

49"I have come to bring fire on the
earth, and how I wish it were already
kindled! 50But I have a baptism[g] to un-
dergo, and how distressed I am until it
is completed![h] 51Do you think I came to
bring peace on earth? No, I tell you,
but division. 52From now on there will
be five in one family divided against
each other, three against two and two
against three. 53They will be divided,
father against son and son against fa-
ther, mother against daughter and
daughter against mother, mother-in-
law against daughter-in-law and
daughter-in-law against mother-in-
law."[i]

Interpreting the Times

54He said to the crowd: "When you
see a cloud rising in the west, immedi-
ately you say, 'It's going to rain,' and it
does.[j] 55And when the south wind
blows, you say, 'It's going to be hot,'
and it is. 56Hypocrites! You know how
to interpret the appearance of the earth
and the sky. How is it that you don't
know how to interpret this present
time?[k]
57"Why don't you judge for your-
selves what is right? 58As you are going
with your adversary to the magistrate,
try hard to be reconciled to him on the
way, or he may drag you off to the
judge, and the judge turn you over to
the officer, and the officer throw you
into prison.[l] 59I tell you, you will not
get out until you have paid the last
penny.[l]"[m]

Repent or Perish

13 Now there were some present at
that time who told Jesus about
the Galileans whose blood Pilate[n] had
mixed with their sacrifices. 2Jesus an-
swered, "Do you think that these Gali-
leans were worse sinners than all the
other Galileans because they suffered
this way?[o] 3I tell you, no! But unless
you repent, you too will all perish. 4Or
those eighteen who died when the
tower in Siloam[p] fell on them—do you
think they were more guilty than all
the others living in Jerusalem? 5I tell
you, no! But unless you repent,[q] you
too will all perish."
6Then he told this parable: "A man
had a fig tree, planted in his vineyard,
and he went to look for fruit on it, but
did not find any.[r] 7So he said to the
man who took care of the vineyard,
'For three years now I've been coming
to look for fruit on this fig tree and
haven't found any. Cut it down![s] Why
should it use up the soil?'
8" 'Sir,' the man replied, 'leave it
alone for one more year, and I'll dig
around it and fertilize it. 9If it bears
fruit next year, fine! If not, then cut it
down.' "

A Crippled Woman Healed on the Sabbath

10On a Sabbath Jesus was teaching in
one of the synagogues,[t] 11and a
woman was there who had been crip-
pled by a spirit for eighteen years.[u]
She was bent over and could not
straighten up at all. 12When Jesus saw
her, he called her forward and said to

12:39 [a]Mt 6:19; 1Th 5:2; 2Pe 3:10; Rev 3:3; 16:15
12:40 [b]Mk 13:33; Lk 21:36
12:42 [c]S Lk 7:13
12:46 [d]ver 40
12:47 [e]Dt 25:2
12:48 [f]Lev 5:17; Nu 15:27-30
12:50 [g]Mk 10:38 [h]S Jn 19:30
12:53 [i]Mic 7:6; Mt 10:21
12:54 [j]Mt 16:2
12:56 [k]Mt 16:3
12:58 [l]Mt 5:25
12:59 [m]Mt 5:26; Mk 12:42
13:1 [n]S Mt 27:2
13:2 [o]Jn 9:2,3
13:4 [p]Jn 9:7,11
13:5 [q]Mt 3:2; Ac 2:38
13:6 [r]Isa 5:2; Jer 8:13; Mt 21:19
13:7 [s]S Mt 3:10
13:10 [t]S Mt 4:23
13:11 [u]ver 16

[l]59 Greek *lepton*

her, "Woman, you are set free from
your infirmity." 13Then he put his
hands on her,[a] and immediately she
straightened up and praised God.
14Indignant because Jesus had healed
on the Sabbath,[b] the synagogue ruler[c]
said to the people, "There are six days
for work.[d] So come and be healed on
those days, not on the Sabbath."
15The Lord answered him, "You
hypocrites! Doesn't each of you on the
Sabbath untie his ox or donkey from
the stall and lead it out to give it
water?[e] 16Then should not this
woman, a daughter of Abraham,[f]
whom Satan[g] has kept bound for eigh-
teen long years, be set free on the Sab-
bath day from what bound her?"
17When he said this, all his oppo-
nents were humiliated,[h] but the people
were delighted with all the wonderful
things he was doing.

The Parables of the Mustard Seed and the Yeast

13:18,19pp — Mk 4:30-32
13:18-21pp — Mt 13:31-33

18Then Jesus asked, "What is the
kingdom of God[i] like?[j] What shall I
compare it to? 19It is like a mustard
seed, which a man took and planted in
his garden. It grew and became a tree,[k]
and the birds of the air perched in its
branches."[l]
20Again he asked, "What shall I com-
pare the kingdom of God to? 21It is like
yeast that a woman took and mixed
into a large amount[g] of flour until it
worked all through the dough."[m]

The Narrow Door

22Then Jesus went through the towns
and villages, teaching as he made his
way to Jerusalem.[n] 23Someone asked
him, "Lord, are only a few people go-
ing to be saved?"
He said to them, 24"Make every ef-
fort to enter through the narrow door,[o]
because many, I tell you, will try to en-
ter and will not be able to. 25Once the
owner of the house gets up and closes
the door, you will stand outside knock-
ing and pleading, 'Sir, open the door
for us.'
"But he will answer, 'I don't know
you or where you come from.'[p]
26"Then you will say, 'We ate and
drank with you, and you taught in our
streets.'
27"But he will reply, 'I don't know
you or where you come from. Away
from me, all you evildoers!'[q]

13:13 [a]S Mk 5:23
13:14 [b]S Mt 12:2 [c]S Mk 5:22 [d]Ex 20:9
13:15 [e]Lk 14:5
13:16 [f]S Lk 3:8 [g]S Mt 4:10
13:17 [h]Isa 66:5
13:18 [i]S Mt 3:2 [j]S Mt 13:24
13:19 [k]Lk 17:6 [l]S Mt 13:32
13:21 [m]1Co 5:6
13:22 [n]S Lk 9:51
13:24 [o]Mt 7:13
13:25 [p]Mt 7:23; 25:10-12
13:27 [q]S Mt 7:23
13:28 [r]S Mt 8:12
13:29 [s]S Mt 8:11
13:30 [t]S Mt 19:30
13:31 [u]S Mt 14:1
13:32 [v]S Heb 2:10
13:33 [w]S Mt 21:11
13:34 [x]S Mt 23:37
13:35 [y]Jer 12:17; 22:5 [z]Ps 118:26; Lk 19:38
14:1 [a]Lk 7:36; 11:37 [b]S Mt 12:10
14:3 [c]S Mt 22:35 [d]S Mt 12:2
14:5 [e]Lk 13:15
14:7 [f]S Lk 11:43

28"There will be weeping there, and
gnashing of teeth,[r] when you see
Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and all the
prophets in the kingdom of God, but
you yourselves thrown out. 29People
will come from east and west[s] and
north and south, and will take their
places at the feast in the kingdom of
God. 30Indeed there are those who are
last who will be first, and first who will
be last."[t]

Jesus' Sorrow for Jerusalem

13:34,35pp — Mt 23:37-39
13:34,35Ref — Lk 19:41

31At that time some Pharisees came
to Jesus and said to him, "Leave this
place and go somewhere else. Herod[u]
wants to kill you."
32He replied, "Go tell that fox, 'I will
drive out demons and heal people to-
day and tomorrow, and on the third
day I will reach my goal.'[v] 33In any
case, I must keep going today and to-
morrow and the next day—for surely
no prophet[w] can die outsid Jerusalem!
34"O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who
kill the prophets and stone those sent
to you, how often I have longed to
gather your children together, as a hen
gathers her chicks under her wings,[x]
but you were not willing! 35Look, your
house is left to you desolate.[y] I tell
you, you will not see me again until
you say, 'Blessed is he who comes in
the name of the Lord.'[h]"[z]

Jesus at a Pharisee's House

14:8-10Ref — Pr 25:6,7

14 One Sabbath, when Jesus went
to eat in the house of a promi-
nent Pharisee,[a] he was being carefully
watched.[b] 2There in front of him was a
man suffering from dropsy. 3Jesus
asked the Pharisees and experts in the
law,[c] "Is it lawful to heal on the Sab-
bath or not?"[d] 4But they remained si-
lent. So taking hold of the man, he
healed him and sent him away.
5Then he asked them, "If one of you
has a son[i] or an ox that falls into a well
on the Sabbath day, will you not
immediately pull him out?"[e] 6And
they had nothing to say.
7When he noticed how the guests
picked the places of honor at the ta-
ble,[f] he told them this parable:
8"When someone invites you to a wed-
ding feast, do not take the place of hon-

g21 Greek *three satas* (probably about 1/2 bushel or 22 liters) h35 Psalm 118:26 i5 Some manuscripts *donkey*

or, for a person more distinguished
than you may have been invited. 9If so,
the host who invited both of you will
come and say to you, 'Give this man
your seat.' Then, humiliated, you will
have to take the least important place.
10But when you are invited, take the
lowest place, so that when your host
comes, he will say to you, 'Friend,
move up to a better place.' Then you
will be honored in the presence of all
your fellow guests. 11For everyone
who exalts himself will be humbled,
and he who humbles himself will be
exalted."[a]

12Then Jesus said to his host, "When
you give a luncheon or dinner, do not
invite your friends, your brothers or
relatives, or your rich neighbors; if you
do, they may invite you back and so
you will be repaid. 13But when you give
a banquet, invite the poor, the crip-
pled, the lame, the blind,[b] 14and you
will be blessed. Although they cannot
repay you, you will be repaid at the
resurrection of the righteous."[c]

The Parable of the Great Banquet

14:16-24Ref — Mt 22:2-14

15When one of those at the table with
him heard this, he said to Jesus,
"Blessed is the man who will eat at the
feast[d] in the kingdom of God."[e]

16Jesus replied: "A certain man was
preparing a great banquet and invited
many guests. 17At the time of the ban-
quet he sent his servant to tell those
who had been invited, 'Come, for
everything is now ready.'

18"But they all alike began to make
excuses. The first said, 'I have just
bought a field, and I must go and see it.
Please excuse me.'

19"Another said, 'I have just bought
five yoke of oxen, and I'm on my way
to try them out. Please excuse me.'

20"Still another said, 'I just got mar-
ried, so I can't come.'

21"The servant came back and re-
ported this to his master. Then the
owner of the house became angry and
ordered his servant, 'Go out quickly
into the streets and alleys of the town
and bring in the poor, the crippled, the
blind and the lame.'[f]

22" 'Sir,' the servant said, 'what you
ordered has been done, but there is still
room.'

23"Then the master told his servant,
'Go out to the roads and country lanes
and make them come in, so that my
house will be full. 24I tell you, not one
of those men who were invited will get
a taste of my banquet.' "[g]

The Cost of Being a Disciple

25Large crowds were traveling with
Jesus, and turning to them he said:
26"If anyone comes to me and does not
hate his father and mother, his wife
and children, his brothers and sisters—
yes, even his own life—he cannot be
my disciple.[h] 27And anyone who does
not carry his cross and follow me can-
not be my disciple.[i]

28"Suppose one of you wants to build
a tower. Will he not first sit down and
estimate the cost to see if he has
enough money to complete it? 29For if
he lays the foundation and is not able
to finish it, everyone who sees it will
ridicule him, 30saying, 'This fellow be-
gan to build and was not able to finish.'

31"Or suppose a king is about to go
to war against another king. Will he
not first sit down and consider whether
he is able with ten thousand men to
oppose the one coming against him
with twenty thousand? 32If he is not
able, he will send a delegation while
the other is still a long way off and will
ask for terms of peace. 33In the same
way, any of you who does not give up
everything he has cannot be my disci-
ple.[j]

34"Salt is good, but if it loses its salti-
ness, how can it be made salty again?[k]
35It is fit neither for the soil nor for the
manure pile; it is thrown out.[l]

"He who has ears to hear, let him
hear."[m]

The Parable of the Lost Sheep

15:4-7pp — Mt 18:12-14

15 Now the tax collectors[n] and
"sinners" were all gathering
around to hear him. 2But the Pharisees
and the teachers of the law muttered,
"This man welcomes sinners and eats
with them."[o]

3Then Jesus told them this parable:[p]
4"Suppose one of you has a hundred
sheep and loses one of them. Does he
not leave the ninety-nine in the open
country and go after the lost sheep un-
til he finds it?[q] 5And when he finds it,
he joyfully puts it on his shoulders
6and goes home. Then he calls his
friends and neighbors together and
says, 'Rejoice with me; I have found
my lost sheep.'[r] 7I tell you that in the
same way there will be more rejoicing

14:11 [a]S Mt 23:12
14:13 [b]ver 21
14:14 [c]Ac 24:15
14:15 [d]Isa 25:6; Mt 26:29; Lk 13:29; Rev 19:9 [e]S Mt 3:2
14:21 [f]ver 13
14:24 [g]Mt 21:43; Ac 13:46
14:26 [h]Mt 10:37; S Jn 12:25
14:27 [i]Mt 10:38; Lk 9:23
14:33 [j]Php 3:7,8
14:34 [k]Mk 9:50
14:35 [l]Mt 5:13 [m]S Mt 11:15
15:1 [n]Lk 5:29
15:2 [o]S Mt 9:11
15:3 [p]Mt 13:3
15:4 [q]Ps 23; 119:176; Jer 31:10; Eze 34:11-16; Lk 5:32; 19:10
15:6 [r]ver 9

in heaven over one sinner who repents
than over ninety-nine righteous per-
sons who do not need to repent.

The Parable of the Lost Coin

8"Or suppose a woman has ten silver
coins and loses one. Does she not
light a lamp, sweep the house and
search carefully until she finds it? 9And
when she finds it, she calls her friends
and neighbors together and says, 'Re-
joice with me; I have found my lost
coin.' 10In the same way, I tell you,
there is rejoicing in the presence of the
angels of God over one sinner who re-
pents."

The Parable of the Lost Son

11Jesus continued: "There was a man
who had two sons. 12The younger one
said to his father, 'Father, give me my
share of the estate.' So he divided his
property between them.

13"Not long after that, the younger
son got together all he had, set off for a
distant country and there squandered
his wealth in wild living. 14After he
had spent everything, there was a
severe famine in that whole country,
and he began to be in need. 15So he
went and hired himself out to a citizen
of that country, who sent him to his
fields to feed pigs. 16He longed to fill
his stomach with the pods that the pigs
were eating, but no one gave him any-
thing.

17"When he came to his senses, he
said, 'How many of my father's hired
men have food to spare, and here I am
starving to death! 18I will set out and go
back to my father and say to him: Fa-
ther, I have sinned against heaven
and against you. 19I am no longer
worthy to be called your son; make me
like one of your hired men.' 20So he got
up and went to his father.

"But while he was still a long way
off, his father saw him and was filled
with compassion for him; he ran to his
son, threw his arms around him and
kissed him.

21"The son said to him, 'Father, I
have sinned against heaven and
against you. I am no longer worthy to
be called your son.'

22"But the father said to his servants,
'Quick! Bring the best robe and put it
on him. Put a ring on his finger and
sandals on his feet. 23Bring the fattened
calf and kill it. Let's have a feast and
celebrate. 24For this son of mine was
dead and is alive again; he was lost
and is found.' So they began to cele-
brate.

25"Meanwhile, the older son was in
the field. When he came near the
house, he heard music and dancing.
26So he called one of the servants and
asked him what was going on. 27'Your
brother has come,' he replied, 'and
your father has killed the fattened calf
because he has him back safe and
sound.'

28"The older brother became angry
and refused to go in. So his father went
out and pleaded with him. 29But he an-
swered his father, 'Look! All these
years I've been slaving for you and
never disobeyed your orders. Yet you
never gave me even a young goat so I
could celebrate with my friends. 30But
when this son of yours who has squan-
dered your property with prostitutes
comes home, you kill the fattened calf
for him!'

31"'My son,' the father said, 'you are
always with me, and everything I have
is yours. 32But we had to celebrate and
be glad, because this brother of yours
was dead and is alive again; he was lost
and is found.'"

The Parable of the Shrewd Manager

16 Jesus told his disciples: "There
was a rich man whose manager
was accused of wasting his posses-
sions. 2So he called him in and asked
him, 'What is this I hear about you?
Give an account of your management,
because you cannot be manager any
longer.'

3"The manager said to himself,
'What shall I do now? My master is tak-
ing away my job. I'm not strong
enough to dig, and I'm ashamed to
beg— 4I know what I'll do so that,
when I lose my job here, people will
welcome me into their houses.'

5"So he called in each one of his mas-
ter's debtors. He asked the first, 'How
much do you owe my master?'

6"'Eight hundred gallons of olive
oil,' he replied.

"The manager told him, 'Take your
bill, sit down quickly, and make it four
hundred.'

7"Then he asked the second, 'And
how much do you owe?'

15:7 ver 10
15:9 ver 6
15:10 ver 7
15:11 Mt 21:28
15:12 Dt 21:17; ver 30
15:13 ver 30; Lk 16:1
15:15 Lev 11:7
15:18 Lev 26:40; Mt 3:2
15:20 Ge 45:14,15; 46:29; Ac 20:37
15:21 Ps 51:4
15:22 Zec 3:4; Rev 6:11; Ge 41:42
15:24 Eph 2:1,5; 5:14; 1Ti 5:6; ver 32
15:28 Jnh 4:1
15:30 ver 12,13; Pr 29:3
15:32 ver 24; Mal 3:17
16:1 Lk 15:13,30

8 Greek *ten drachmas*, each worth about a day's wages 21 Some early manuscripts *son. Make me like one of your hired men.* 6 Greek *one hundred batous* (probably about 3 kiloliters)

"'A thousand bushels[m] of wheat,' he
replied.
"He told him, 'Take your bill and
make it eight hundred.'
8"The master commended the dis-
honest manager because he had acted
shrewdly. For the people of this
world[a] are more shrewd[b] in dealing
with their own kind than are the
people of the light.[c] 9I tell you, use
worldly wealth[d] to gain friends for
yourselves, so that when it is gone,
you will be welcomed into eternal
dwellings.[e]
10"Whoever can be trusted with very
little can also be trusted with much,[f]
and whoever is dishonest with very lit-
tle will also be dishonest with much.
11So if you have not been trustworthy
in handling worldly wealth,[g] who will
trust you with true riches? 12And if you
have not been trustworthy with some-
one else's property, who will give you
property of your own?
13"No servant can serve two masters.
Either he will hate the one and love the
other, or he will be devoted to the one
and despise the other. You cannot
serve both God and Money."[h]
14The Pharisees, who loved money,[i]
heard all this and were sneering at
Jesus.[j] 15He said to them, "You are the
ones who justify yourselves[k] in the
eyes of men, but God knows your
hearts.[l] What is highly valued among
men is detestable in God's sight.

Additional Teachings

16"The Law and the Prophets were
proclaimed until John.[m] Since that
time, the good news of the kingdom of
God is being preached,[n] and everyone
is forcing his way into it. 17It is easier
for heaven and earth to disappear than
for the least stroke of a pen to drop out
of the Law.[o]
18"Anyone who divorces his wife
and marries another woman commits
adultery, and the man who marries a
divorced woman commits adultery.[p]

The Rich Man and Lazarus

19"There was a rich man who was
dressed in purple and fine linen and
lived in luxury every day.[q] 20At his
gate was laid a beggar[r] named Laza-
rus, covered with sores 21and longing
to eat what fell from the rich man's ta-
ble.[s] Even the dogs came and licked
his sores.
22"The time came when the beggar
died and the angels carried him to
Abraham's side. The rich man also died
and was buried. 23In hell,[n] where he
was in torment, he looked up and saw
Abraham far away, with Lazarus by his
side. 24So he called to him, 'Father
Abraham,[t] have pity on me and send
Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in
water and cool my tongue, because I
am in agony in this fire.'[u]
25"But Abraham replied, 'Son,
remember that in your lifetime you re-
ceived your good things, while Lazarus
received bad things,[v] but now he is
comforted here and you are in agony.[w]
26And besides all this, between us and
you a great chasm has been fixed, so
that those who want to go from here to
you cannot, nor can anyone cross over
from there to us.'
27"He answered, 'Then I beg you, fa-
ther, send Lazarus to my father's
house, 28for I have five brothers. Let
him warn them,[x] so that they will not
also come to this place of torment.'
29"Abraham replied, 'They have
Moses[y] and the Prophets;[z] let them
listen to them.'
30"'No, father Abraham,'[a] he said,
'but if someone from the dead goes to
them, they will repent.'
31"He said to him, 'If they do not lis-
ten to Moses and the Prophets, they
will not be convinced even if someone
rises from the dead.'"

Sin, Faith, Duty

17 Jesus said to his disciples:
"Things that cause people to
sin[b] are bound to come, but woe to
that person through whom they
come.[c] 2It would be better for him to
be thrown into the sea with a millstone
tied around his neck than for him to
cause one of these little ones[d] to sin.[e]
3So watch yourselves.
"If your brother sins, rebuke him,[f]
and if he repents, forgive him.[g] 4If he
sins against you seven times in a day,
and seven times comes back to you and
says, 'I repent,' forgive him."[h]
5The apostles[i] said to the Lord,[j]
"Increase our faith!"
6He replied, "If you have faith as
small as a mustard seed,[k] you can say
to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and
planted in the sea,' and it will obey
you.[l]
7"Suppose one of you had a servant
plowing or looking after the sheep.

16:8 [a]Ps 17:14 [b]Ps 18:26 [c]Jn 12:36; Eph 5:8; 1Th 5:5 **16:9** [d]ver 11,13 [e]Mt 19:21; Lk 12:33 **16:10** [f]Mt 25:21,23; Lk 19:17 **16:11** [g]ver 9,13 **16:13** [h]ver 9,11; Mt 6:24 **16:14** [i]S 1Ti 3:3 [j]Lk 23:35 **16:15** [k]Lk 10:29 [l]S Rev 2:23 **16:16** [m]Mt 5:17; 11:12,13 [n]S Mt 4:23 **16:17** [o]S Mt 5:18 **16:18** [p]Mt 5:31,32; 19:9; Mk 10:11; Ro 7:2,3; 1Co 7:10,11 **16:19** [q]Eze 16:49 **16:20** [r]Ac 3:2 **16:21** [s]Mt 15:27; Lk 15:16
16:24 [t]ver 30; S Lk 3:8 [u]S Mt 5:22 **16:25** [v]Ps 17:14 [w]Lk 6:21,24,25 **16:28** [x]Ac 2:40; 20:23; 1Th 4:6 **16:29** [y]S Lk 24:27,44; Jn 1:45; 5:45-47; Ac 15:21 [z]Lk 4:17; 24:27,44; Jn 1:45 **16:30** [a]ver 24; S Lk 3:8 **17:1** [b]S Mt 5:29 [c]Mt 18:7 **17:2** [d]Mk 10:24; Lk 10:21 [e]S Mt 5:29 **17:3** [f]S Mt 18:15 [g]Eph 4:32; Col 3:13 **17:4** [h]Mt 18:21,22 **17:5** [i]S Mk 6:30 [j]S Lk 7:13 **17:6** [k]Mt 13:31; 17:20; Lk 13:19 [l]S Mt 21:21; Mk 9:23

m7 Greek *one hundred korous* (probably about 35 kiloliters) n23 Greek *Hades*

Would he say to the servant when he comes in from the field, 'Come along now and sit down to eat'? 8Would he not rather say, 'Prepare my supper, get yourself ready and wait on me[a] while I eat and drink; after that you may eat and drink'? 9Would he thank the servant because he did what he was told to do? 10So you also, when you have done everything you were told to do, should say, 'We are unworthy servants; we have only done our duty.'"[b]

Ten Healed of Leprosy

11Now on his way to Jerusalem,[c] Jesus traveled along the border between Samaria and Galilee.[d] 12As he was going into a village, ten men who had leprosy[e,o] met him. They stood at a distance[f] 13and called out in a loud voice, "Jesus, Master,[g] have pity on us!"

14When he saw them, he said, "Go, show yourselves to the priests."[h] And as they went, they were cleansed.

15One of them, when he saw he was healed, came back, praising God[i] in a loud voice. 16He threw himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him—and he was a Samaritan.[j]

17Jesus asked, "Were not all ten cleansed? Where are the other nine? 18Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" 19Then he said to him, "Rise and go; your faith has made you well."[k]

The Coming of the Kingdom of God

17:26,27pp — Mt 24:37-39

20Once, having been asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God would come,[l] Jesus replied, "The kingdom of God does not come with your careful observation, 21nor will people say, 'Here it is,' or 'There it is,'[m] because the kingdom of God is within[p] you."

22Then he said to his disciples, "The time is coming when you will long to see one of the days of the Son of Man,[n] but you will not see it.[o] 23Men will tell you, 'There he is!' or 'Here he is!' Do not go running off after them.[p] 24For the Son of Man in his day[q] will be like the lightning,[q] which flashes and lights up the sky from one end to the other. 25But first he must suffer many things[r] and be rejected[s] by this generation.[t]

26"Just as it was in the days of Noah,[u] so also will it be in the days of the Son of Man. 27People were eating, drinking, marrying and being given in marriage up to the day Noah entered the ark. Then the flood came and destroyed them all.

28"It was the same in the days of Lot.[v] People were eating and drinking, buying and selling, planting and building. 29But the day Lot left Sodom, fire and sulfur rained down from heaven and destroyed them all.

30"It will be just like this on the day the Son of Man is revealed.[w] 31On that day no one who is on the roof of his house, with his goods inside, should go down to get them. Likewise, no one in the field should go back for anything.[x] 32Remember Lot's wife![y] 33Whoever tries to keep his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life will preserve it.[z] 34I tell you, on that night two people will be in one bed; one will be taken and the other left. 35Two women will be grinding grain together; one will be taken and the other left.[r]"[a]

37"Where, Lord?" they asked.

He replied, "Where there is a dead body, there the vultures will gather."[b]

The Parable of the Persistent Widow

18 Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up.[c] 2He said: "In a certain town there was a judge who neither feared God nor cared about men. 3And there was a widow in that town who kept coming to him with the plea, 'Grant me justice[d] against my adversary.'

4"For some time he refused. But finally he said to himself, 'Even though I don't fear God or care about men, 5yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will see that she gets justice, so that she won't eventually wear me out with her coming!'"[e]

6And the Lord[f] said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. 7And will not God bring about justice for his chosen ones, who cry out[g] to him day and night? Will he keep putting them off? 8I tell you, he will see that they get justice, and quickly. However, when the Son of Man[h] comes,[i] will he find faith on the earth?"

17:8 [a]Lk 12:37
17:10 [b]1Co 9:16
17:11 [c]S Lk 9:51 [d]Lk 9:51,52; Jn 4:3,4
17:12 [e]S Mt 8:2 [f]Lev 13:45,46
17:13 [g]S Lk 5:5
17:14 [h]Lev 14:2; Mt 8:4
17:15 [i]S Mt 9:8
17:16 [j]S Mt 10:5
17:19 [k]S Mt 9:22
17:20 [l]S Mt 3:2
17:21 [m]ver 23
17:22 [n]S Mt 8:20 [o]S Lk 5:35
17:23 [p]Mt 24:23; Lk 21:8
17:24 [q]Mt 24:27
17:25 [r]S Mt 16:21 [s]Lk 9:22; 18:32 [t]Mk 13:30; Lk 21:32
17:26 [u]Ge 6:5-8; 7:6-24
17:28 [v]Ge 19:1-28
17:30 [w]Mt 10:23; S 16:27; 24:3,27, 37,39; 25:31; S 1Co 1:7; S 1Th 2:19; 2Th 1:7; 2:8; 2Pe 3:4; S Rev 1:7
17:31 [x]Mt 24:17,18
17:32 [y]Ge 19:26
17:33 [z]S Jn 12:25
17:35 [a]Mt 24:41
17:37 [b]Mt 24:28
18:1 [c]Isa 40:31; Lk 11:5-8; S Ac 1:14; S Ro 1:10; 12:12; Eph 6:18; Col 4:2; 1Th 5:17
18:3 [d]Isa 1:17
18:5 [e]Lk 11:8
18:6 [f]S Lk 7:13
18:7 [g]Ex 22:23; Ps 88:1; Rev 6:10
18:8 [h]S Mt 8:20 [i]S Mt 16:27

[o]12 The Greek word was used for various diseases affecting the skin—not necessarily leprosy. [p]21 Or *among* [q]24 Some manuscripts do not have *in his day.* [r]35 Some manuscripts *left.* 36*Two men will be in the field; one will be taken and the other left.*

The Parable of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector

9To some who were confident of
their own righteousness[a] and looked
down on everybody else,[b] Jesus told
this parable: 10"Two men went up to
the temple to pray,[c] one a Pharisee
and the other a tax collector. 11The
Pharisee stood up[d] and prayed about[a]
himself: 'God, I thank you that I am not
like other men—robbers, evildoers,
adulterers—or even like this tax collec-
tor. 12I fast[e] twice a week and give a
tenth[f] of all I get.'

13"But the tax collector stood at a dis-
tance. He would not even look up to
heaven, but beat his breast[g] and said,
'God, have mercy on me, a sinner.'[h]

14"I tell you that this man, rather
than the other, went home justified be-
fore God. For everyone who exalts
himself will be humbled, and he who
humbles himself will be exalted."[i]

The Little Children and Jesus

18:15-17pp — Mt 19:13-15; Mk 10:13-16

15People were also bringing babies to
Jesus to have him touch them. When
the disciples saw this, they rebuked
them. 16But Jesus called the children to
him and said, "Let the little children
come to me, and do not hinder them,
for the kingdom of God belongs to
such as these. 17I tell you the truth,
anyone who will not receive the king-
dom of God like a little child[j] will nev-
er enter it."

The Rich Ruler

18:18-30pp — Mt 19:16-29; Mk 10:17-30

18A certain ruler asked him, "Good
teacher, what must I do to inherit eter-
nal life?"[k]

19"Why do you call me good?" Jesus
answered. "No one is good—except
God alone. 20You know the command-
ments: 'Do not commit adultery, do not
murder, do not steal, do not give false
testimony, honor your father and
mother.'[b]"[l]

21"All these I have kept since I was a
boy," he said.

22When Jesus heard this, he said to
him, "You still lack one thing. Sell
everything you have and give to the
poor,[m] and you will have treasure in
heaven.[n] Then come, follow me."

23When he heard this, he became
very sad, because he was a man of
great wealth. 24Jesus looked at him and
said, "How hard it is for the rich to en-
ter the kingdom of God![o] 25Indeed, it is
easier for a camel to go through the eye
of a needle than for a rich man to enter
the kingdom of God."

26Those who heard this asked, "Who
then can be saved?"

27Jesus replied, "What is impossible
with men is possible with God."[p]

28Peter said to him, "We have left all
we had to follow you!"[q]

29"I tell you the truth," Jesus said to
them, "no one who has left home or
wife or brothers or parents or children
for the sake of the kingdom of God
30will fail to receive many times as
much in this age and, in the age to
come,[r] eternal life."[s]

Jesus Again Predicts His Death

18:31-33pp — Mt 20:17-19; Mk 10:32-34

31Jesus took the Twelve aside and
told them, "We are going up to Jerusa-
lem,[t] and everything that is written by
the prophets[u] about the Son of Man[v]
will be fulfilled. 32He will be handed
over to the Gentiles.[w] They will mock
him, insult him, spit on him, flog him[x]
and kill him.[y] 33On the third day[z] he
will rise again."[a]

34The disciples did not understand
any of this. Its meaning was hidden
from them, and they did not know
what he was talking about.[b]

A Blind Beggar Receives His Sight

18:35-43pp — Mt 20:29-34; Mk 10:46-52

35As Jesus approached Jericho,[c] a
blind man was sitting by the roadside
begging. 36When he heard the crowd
going by, he asked what was happen-
ing. 37They told him, "Jesus of Naza-
reth is passing by."[d]

38He called out, "Jesus, Son of Da-
vid,[e] have mercy[f] on me!"

39Those who led the way rebuked
him and told him to be quiet, but he
shouted all the more, "Son of David,
have mercy on me!"[g]

40Jesus stopped and ordered the man
to be brought to him. When he came
near, Jesus asked him, 41"What do you
want me to do for you?"

"Lord, I want to see," he replied.

42Jesus said to him, "Receive your
sight; your faith has healed you."[h]
43Immediately he received his sight and
followed Jesus, praising God. When all
the people saw it, they also praised
God.[i]

18:9 [a] Lk 16:15 [b] Isa 65:5 **18:10** [c] Ac 3:1 **18:11** [d] Mt 6:5; Mk 11:25 **18:12** [e] Isa 58:3; Mt 9:14 [f] Mal 3:8; Lk 11:42 **18:13** [g] Isa 66:2; Jer 31:19; Lk 23:48 [h] Lk 5:32; 1Ti 1:15 **18:14** [i] S Mt 23:12 **18:17** [j] Mt 18:3 **18:18** [k] Lk 10:25 **18:20** [l] Ex 20:12-16; Dt 5:16-20; Ro 13:9 **18:22** [m] S Ac 2:45 [n] S Mt 6:20

18:24 [o] Pr 11:28 **18:27** [p] S Mt 19:26 **18:28** [q] S Mt 4:19 **18:30** [r] S Mt 12:32 [s] S Mt 25:46 **18:31** [t] S Lk 9:51 [u] Ps 22; Isa 53 [v] S Mt 8:20 **18:32** [w] Lk 23:1 [x] S Mt 16:21 [y] S Ac 2:23 **18:33** [z] S Mt 16:21 [a] S Mt 16:21 **18:34** [b] S Mk 9:32 **18:35** [c] Lk 19:1 **18:37** [d] Lk 19:4 **18:38** [e] ver 39; S Mt 9:27 [f] Mt 17:15; Lk 18:13 **18:39** [g] ver 38 **18:42** [h] S Mt 9:22 **18:43** [i] S Mt 9:8; Lk 13:17

[a] 11 Or *to* [b] 20 Exodus 20:12-16; Deut. 5:16-20

Zacchaeus the Tax Collector

19 Jesus entered Jericho[a] and was
passing through. 2A man was
there by the name of Zacchaeus; he
was a chief tax collector and was
wealthy. 3He wanted to see who Jesus
was, but being a short man he could
not, because of the crowd. 4So he ran
ahead and climbed a sycamore-fig[b]
tree to see him, since Jesus was coming
that way.[c]
5When Jesus reached the spot, he
looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I
must stay at your house today." 6So he
came down at once and welcomed him
gladly.
7All the people saw this and began to
mutter, "He has gone to be the guest of
a 'sinner.' "[d]
8But Zacchaeus stood up and said to
the Lord,[e] "Look, Lord! Here and now
I give half of my possessions to the
poor, and if I have cheated anybody
out of anything,[f] I will pay back four
times the amount."[g]
9Jesus said to him, "Today salvation
has come to this house, because this
man, too, is a son of Abraham.[h] 10For
the Son of Man came to seek and to
save what was lost."[i]

The Parable of the Ten Minas

19:12-27Ref — Mt 25:14-30

11While they were listening to this,
he went on to tell them a parable, because he was near Jerusalem and the
people thought that the kingdom of
God[j] was going to appear at once.[k]
12He said: "A man of noble birth went
to a distant country to have himself appointed king and then to return. 13So
he called ten of his servants[l] and gave
them ten minas.[a] 'Put this money to
work,' he said, 'until I come back.'
14"But his subjects hated him and
sent a delegation after him to say, 'We
don't want this man to be our king.'
15"He was made king, however, and
returned home. Then he sent for the
servants to whom he had given the
money, in order to find out what they
had gained with it.
16"The first one came and said, 'Sir,
your mina has earned ten more.'
17" 'Well done, my good servant!'[m]
his master replied. 'Because you have
been trustworthy in a very small matter, take charge of ten cities.'[n]
18"The second came and said, 'Sir,
your mina has earned five more.'

19:1 aLk 18:35
19:4 b1Ki 10:27; 1Ch 27:28; Isa 9:10 cLk 18:37
19:7 dS Mt 9:11
19:8 eS Lk 7:13 fLk 3:12,13 gEx 22:1; Lev 6:4,5; Nu 5:7; 2Sa 12:6; Eze 33:14,15
19:9 hS Lk 3:8
19:10 iEze 34:12,16; S Jn 3:17
19:11 jS Mt 3:2 kLk 17:20; Ac 1:6
19:13 lMk 13:34
19:17 mPr 27:18 nLk 16:10

19"His master answered, 'You take
charge of five cities.'
20"Then another servant came and
said, 'Sir, here is your mina; I have
kept it laid away in a piece of cloth. 21I
was afraid of you, because you are a
hard man. You take out what you did
not put in and reap what you did not
sow.'[o]
22"His master replied, 'I will judge
you by your own words,[p] you wicked
servant! You knew, did you, that I am a
hard man, taking out what I did not
put in, and reaping what I did not
sow?[q] 23Why then didn't you put my
money on deposit, so that when I came
back, I could have collected it with interest?'
24"Then he said to those standing by,
'Take his mina away from him and give
it to the one who has ten minas.'
25" 'Sir,' they said, 'he already has
ten!'
26"He replied, 'I tell you that to
everyone who has, more will be given,
but as for the one who has nothing,
even what he has will be taken away.[r]
27But those enemies of mine who did
not want me to be king over them—
bring them here and kill them in front
of me.' "

The Triumphal Entry

19:29-38pp — Mt 21:1-9; Mk 11:1-10
19:35-38pp — Jn 12:12-15

28After Jesus had said this, he went
on ahead, going up to Jerusalem.[s] 29As
he approached Bethphage and Bethany[t] at the hill called the Mount of Olives,[u] he sent two of his disciples, saying to them, 30"Go to the village ahead
of you, and as you enter it, you will
find a colt tied there, which no one has
ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here.
31If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' tell him, 'The Lord needs it.' "
32Those who were sent ahead went
and found it just as he had told them.[v]
33As they were untying the colt, its
owners asked them, "Why are you untying the colt?"
34They replied, "The Lord needs it."
35They brought it to Jesus, threw
their cloaks on the colt and put Jesus
on it. 36As he went along, people
spread their cloaks[w] on the road.
37When he came near the place
where the road goes down the Mount
of Olives,[x] the whole crowd of disciples began joyfully to praise God in

19:21 oMt 25:24
19:22 p2Sa 1:16; Job 15:6 qMt 25:26
19:26 rS Mt 25:29
19:28 sMk 10:32; S Lk 9:51
19:29 tS Mt 21:17 uS Mt 21:1
19:32 vLk 22:13
19:36 w2Ki 9:13
19:37 xS Mt 21:1

a13 A mina was about three months' wages.

loud voices for all the miracles they had
seen:

38"Blessed is the king who comes in
the name of the Lord!"[v][a]

"Peace in heaven and glory in the
highest!"[b]

39Some of the Pharisees in the crowd
said to Jesus, "Teacher, rebuke your
disciples!"[c]
40"I tell you," he replied, "if they
keep quiet, the stones will cry out."[d]
41As he approached Jerusalem and
saw the city, he wept over it[e] 42and
said, "If you, even you, had only
known on this day what would bring
you peace—but now it is hidden from
your eyes. 43The days will come upon
you when your enemies will build an
embankment against you and encircle
you and hem you in on every side.[f]
44They will dash you to the ground,
you and the children within your
walls.[g] They will not leave one stone
on another,[h] because you did not
recognize the time of God's coming[i] to
you."

Jesus at the Temple

19:45,46pp — Mt 21:12-16; Mk 11:15-18; Jn 2:13-16

45Then he entered the temple area
and began driving out those who were
selling. 46"It is written," he said to
them, " 'My house will be a house of
prayer'[w];[j] but you have made it 'a den
of robbers.'[x]"[k]
47Every day he was teaching at the
temple.[l] But the chief priests, the
teachers of the law and the leaders
among the people were trying to kill
him.[m] 48Yet they could not find any
way to do it, because all the people
hung on his words.

The Authority of Jesus Questioned

20:1-8pp — Mt 21:23-27; Mk 11:27-33

20 One day as he was teaching the
people in the temple courts[n] and
preaching the gospel,[o] the chief priests
and the teachers of the law, together
with the elders, came up to him. 2"Tell
us by what authority you are doing
these things," they said. "Who gave
you this authority?"[p]
3He replied, "I will also ask you a
question. Tell me, 4John's baptism[q]
—was it from heaven, or from men?"
5They discussed it among themselves
and said, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he
will ask, 'Why didn't you believe him?'
6But if we say, 'From men,' all the
people[r] will stone us, because they are
persuaded that John was a prophet."[s]
7So they answered, "We don't know
where it was from."
8Jesus said, "Neither will I tell you by
what authority I am doing these
things."

The Parable of the Tenants

20:9-19pp — Mt 21:33-46; Mk 12:1-12

9He went on to tell the people this
parable: "A man planted a vineyard,[t]
rented it to some farmers and went
away for a long time.[u] 10At harvest
time he sent a servant to the tenants so
they would give him some of the fruit
of the vineyard. But the tenants beat
him and sent him away empty-handed.
11He sent another servant, but that one
also they beat and treated shamefully
and sent away empty-handed. 12He
sent still a third, and they wounded
him and threw him out.
13"Then the owner of the vineyard
said, 'What shall I do? I will send my
son, whom I love;[v] perhaps they will
respect him.'
14"But when the tenants saw him,
they talked the matter over. 'This is the
heir,' they said. 'Let's kill him, and the
inheritance will be ours.' 15So they
threw him out of the vineyard and
killed him.
"What then will the owner of the
vineyard do to them? 16He will come
and kill those tenants[w] and give the
vineyard to others."
When the people heard this, they
said, "May this never be!"
17Jesus looked directly at them and
asked, "Then what is the meaning of
that which is written:

" 'The stone the builders rejected
has become the capstone[y]'[z]?[x]

18Everyone who falls on that stone will
be broken to pieces, but he on whom it
falls will be crushed."[y]
19The teachers of the law and the
chief priests looked for a way to arrest
him[z] immediately, because they knew
he had spoken this parable against
them. But they were afraid of the
people.[a]

Paying Taxes to Caesar

20:20-26pp — Mt 22:15-22; Mk 12:13-17

20Keeping a close watch on him, they

19:38 [a]Ps 118:26; Lk 13:35 [b]S Lk 2:14 **19:39** [c]Mt 21:15,16 **19:40** [d]Hab 2:11 **19:41** [e]Isa 22:4; Lk 13:34,35 **19:43** [f]Isa 29:3; Jer 6:6; Eze 4:2; 26:8; Lk 21:20 **19:44** [g]Ps 137:9 [h]Lk 21:6 [i]1Pe 2:12 **19:46** [j]Isa 56:7 [k]Jer 7:11 **19:47** [l]S Mt 26:55 [m]S Mt 12:14; Mk 11:18 **20:1** [n]S Mt 26:55 [o]Lk 8:1 **20:2** [p]Jn 2:18; Ac 4:7; 7:27 **20:4** [q]S Mk 1:4 **20:6** [r]Lk 7:29 [s]S Mt 11:9 **20:9** [t]Isa 5:1-7 [u]Mt 25:14 **20:13** [v]S Mt 3:17 **20:16** [w]Lk 19:27 **20:17** [x]Ps 118:22; S Ac 4:11 **20:18** [y]Isa 8:14,15 **20:19** [z]Lk 19:47 [a]S Mk 11:18

[v]38 Psalm 118:26 [w]46 Isaiah 56:7 [x]46 Jer. 7:11
[y]17 Or *cornerstone* [z]17 Psalm 118:22

sent spies, who pretended to be hon-
est. They hoped to catch Jesus in some-
thing he said[a] so that they might hand
him over to the power and authority of
the governor.[b] 21So the spies ques-
tioned him: "Teacher, we know that
you speak and teach what is right, and
that you do not show partiality but
teach the way of God in accordance
with the truth.[c] 22Is it right for us to
pay taxes to Caesar or not?"
23He saw through their duplicity and
said to them, 24"Show me a denarius.
Whose portrait and inscription are on
it?"
25"Caesar's," they replied.
He said to them, "Then give to Cae-
sar what is Caesar's,[d] and to God what
is God's."
26They were unable to trap him in
what he had said there in public. And
astonished by his answer, they became
silent.

The Resurrection and Marriage

20:27-40pp — Mt 22:23-33; Mk 12:18-27

27Some of the Sadducees,[e] who say
there is no resurrection,[f] came to Jesus
with a question. 28"Teacher," they
said, "Moses wrote for us that if a
man's brother dies and leaves a wife
but no children, the man must marry
the widow and have children for his
brother.[g] 29Now there were seven
brothers. The first one married a
woman and died childless. 30The sec-
ond 31and then the third married her,
and in the same way the seven died,
leaving no children. 32Finally, the
woman died too. 33Now then, at the
resurrection whose wife will she be,
since the seven were married to
her?"
34Jesus replied, "The people of this
age marry and are given in marriage.
35But those who are considered worthy
of taking part in that age[h] and in the
resurrection from the dead will neither
marry nor be given in marriage, 36and
they can no longer die; for they are like
the angels. They are God's children,[i]
since they are children of the resurrec-
tion. 37But in the account of the bush,
even Moses showed that the dead rise,
for he calls the Lord 'the God of Abra-
ham, and the God of Isaac, and the
God of Jacob.'[a][j] 38He is not the God of
the dead, but of the living, for to him
all are alive."
39Some of the teachers of the law re-
sponded, "Well said, teacher!" 40And
no one dared to ask him any more
questions.[k]

Whose Son Is the Christ?

20:41-47pp — Mt 22:41-23:7; Mk 12:35-40

41Then Jesus said to them, "How is it
that they say the Christ[b] is the Son of
David?[l] 42David himself declares in the
Book of Psalms:

" 'The Lord said to my Lord:
"Sit at my right hand
43until I make your enemies
a footstool for your feet." '[c][m]

44David calls him 'Lord.' How then can
he be his son?"
45While all the people were listening,
Jesus said to his disciples, 46"Beware of
the teachers of the law. They like to
walk around in flowing robes and love
to be greeted in the marketplaces and
have the most important seats in the
synagogues and the places of honor at
banquets.[n] 47They devour widows'
houses and for a show make lengthy
prayers. Such men will be punished
most severely."

The Widow's Offering

21:1-4pp — Mk 12:41-44

21 As he looked up, Jesus saw the
rich putting their gifts into the
temple treasury.[o] 2He also saw a poor
widow put in two very small copper
coins.[d] 3"I tell you the truth," he said,
"this poor widow has put in more than
all the others. 4All these people gave
their gifts out of their wealth; but she
out of her poverty put in all she had to
live on."[p]

Signs of the End of the Age

21:5-36pp — Mt 24; Mk 13
21:12-17pp — Mt 10:17-22

5Some of his disciples were remark-
ing about how the temple was adorned
with beautiful stones and with gifts
dedicated to God. But Jesus said, 6"As
for what you see here, the time will
come when not one stone will be left
on another;[q] every one of them will be
thrown down."
7"Teacher," they asked, "when will
these things happen? And what will be
the sign that they are about to take
place?"
8He replied: "Watch out that you are
not deceived. For many will come in
my name, claiming, 'I am he,' and,
'The time is near.' Do not follow

20:20 [a]S Mt 12:10 [b]Mt 27:2 **20:21** [c]Jn 3:2 **20:25** [d]Lk 23:2; Ro 13:7 **20:27** [e]S Ac 4:1 [f]Ac 23:8; 1Co 15:12 **20:28** [g]Dt 25:5 **20:35** [h]S Mt 12:32 **20:36** [i]S Jn 1:12 **20:37** [j]Ex 3:6 **20:40** [k]Mt 22:46; Mk 12:34 **20:41** [l]S Mt 1:1 **20:43** [m]Ps 110:1; S Mt 22:44 **20:46** [n]S Lk 11:43 **21:1** [o]Mt 27:6; Jn 8:20 **21:4** [p]2Co 8:12 **21:6** [q]Lk 19:44

[a]37 Exodus 3:6 [b]41 Or *Messiah* [c]43 Psalm 110:1
[d]2 Greek *two lepta*

them.[a] 9When you hear of wars and
revolutions, do not be frightened.
These things must happen first, but the
end will not come right away."
10Then he said to them: "Nation will
rise against nation, and kingdom
against kingdom.[b] 11There will be great
earthquakes, famines and pestilences
in various places, and fearful events
and great signs from heaven.[c]
12"But before all this, they will lay
hands on you and persecute you. They
will deliver you to synagogues and
prisons, and you will be brought before
kings and governors, and all on ac-
count of my name. 13This will result in
your being witnesses to them.[d] 14But
make up your mind not to worry
beforehand how you will defend your-
selves.[e] 15For I will give you[f] words
and wisdom that none of your adver-
saries will be able to resist or con-
tradict. 16You will be betrayed even by
parents, brothers, relatives and
friends,[g] and they will put some of you
to death. 17All men will hate you be-
cause of me.[h] 18But not a hair of your
head will perish.[i] 19By standing firm
you will gain life.[j]
20"When you see Jerusalem being
surrounded by armies,[k] you will know
that its desolation is near. 21Then let
those who are in Judea flee to the
mountains, let those in the city get out,
and let those in the country not enter
the city.[l] 22For this is the time of pun-
ishment[m] in fulfillment[n] of all that has
been written. 23How dreadful it will be
in those days for pregnant women and
nursing mothers! There will be great
distress in the land and wrath against
this people. 24They will fall by the
sword and will be taken as prisoners to
all the nations. Jerusalem will be tram-
pled[o] on by the Gentiles until the times
of the Gentiles are fulfilled.
25"There will be signs in the sun,
moon and stars. On the earth, nations
will be in anguish and perplexity at the
roaring and tossing of the sea.[p] 26Men
will faint from terror, apprehensive of
what is coming on the world, for the
heavenly bodies will be shaken.[q] 27At
that time they will see the Son of Man[r]
coming in a cloud[s] with power and
great glory. 28When these things begin
to take place, stand up and lift up your
heads, because your redemption is
drawing near."[t]
29He told them this parable: "Look at
the fig tree and all the trees. 30When
they sprout leaves, you can see for

21:8 [a]Lk 17:23
21:10 [b]2Ch 15:6; Isa 19:2
21:11 [c]Isa 29:6; Joel 2:30
21:13 [d]Php 1:12
21:14 [e]Lk 12:11
21:15 [f]S Lk 12:12
21:16 [g]Lk 12:52,53
21:17 [h]S Jn 15:21
21:18 [i]S Mt 10:30
21:19 [j]S Mt 10:22
21:20 [k]S Lk 19:43
21:21 [l]Lk 17:31
21:22 [m]Isa 63:4; Da 9:24-27; Hos 9:7 [n]S Mt 1:22
21:24 [o]Isa 5:5; 63:18; Da 8:13; Rev 11:2
21:25 [p]2Pe 3:10,12
21:26 [q]S Mt 24:29
21:27 [r]S Mt 8:20 [s]S Rev 1:7
21:28 [t]Lk 18:7
21:31 [u]S Mt 3:2
21:32 [v]Lk 11:50; 17:25
21:33 [w]S Mt 5:18
21:34 [x]Mk 4:19 [y]Lk 12:40,46; 1Th 5:2-7
21:36 [z]Mt 26:41
21:37 [a]S Mt 26:55 [b]Mk 11:19 [c]S Mt 21:1
21:38 [d]Jn 8:2
22:1 [e]S Jn 11:55
22:2 [f]S Mt 12:14
22:3 [g]S Mt 4:10 [h]S Mt 10:4
22:4 [i]ver 52; Ac 4:1; 5:24
22:5 [j]Zec 11:12
22:7 [k]Ex 12:18-20; Dt 16:5-8; S Mk 14:12
22:8 [l]Ac 3:1,11; 4:13,19; 8:14

yourselves and know that summer is
near. 31Even so, when you see these
things happening, you know that the
kingdom of God[u] is near.
32"I tell you the truth, this genera-
tion[e][v] will certainly not pass away un-
til all these things have happened.
33Heaven and earth will pass away, but
my words will never pass away.[w]
34"Be careful, or your hearts will be
weighed down with dissipation,
drunkenness and the anxieties of life,[x]
and that day will close on you unex-
pectedly[y] like a trap. 35For it will come
upon all those who live on the face of
the whole earth. 36Be always on the
watch, and pray[z] that you may be able
to escape all that is about to happen,
and that you may be able to stand be-
fore the Son of Man."
37Each day Jesus was teaching at the
temple,[a] and each evening he went
out[b] to spend the night on the hill
called the Mount of Olives,[c] 38and all
the people came early in the morning
to hear him at the temple.[d]

Judas Agrees to Betray Jesus

22:1,2pp — Mt 26:2-5; Mk 14:1,2,10,11

22 Now the Feast of Unleavened
Bread, called the Passover, was
approaching,[e] 2and the chief priests
and the teachers of the law were look-
ing for some way to get rid of Jesus,[f]
for they were afraid of the people.
3Then Satan[g] entered Judas, called Is-
cariot,[h] one of the Twelve. 4And Judas
went to the chief priests and the offi-
cers of the temple guard[i] and dis-
cussed with them how he might betray
Jesus. 5They were delighted and agreed
to give him money.[j] 6He consented,
and watched for an opportunity to
hand Jesus over to them when no
crowd was present.

The Last Supper

22:7-13pp — Mt 26:17-19; Mk 14:12-16
22:17-20pp — Mt 26:26-29; Mk 14:22-25; 1Co 11:23-25
22:21-23pp — Mt 26:21-24; Mk 14:18-21; Jn 13:21-30
22:25-27pp — Mt 20:25-28; Mk 10:42-45
22:33,34pp — Mt 26:33-35; Mk 14:29-31; Jn 13:37,38

7Then came the day of Unleavened
Bread on which the Passover lamb had
to be sacrificed.[k] 8Jesus sent Peter and
John,[l] saying, "Go and make prepara-
tions for us to eat the Passover."
9"Where do you want us to prepare
for it?" they asked.
10He replied, "As you enter the city,
a man carrying a jar of water will meet

[e]32 Or *race*

you. Follow him to the house that he
enters, 11and say to the owner of the
house, 'The Teacher asks: Where is the
guest room, where I may eat the Pass-
over with my disciples?' 12He will show
you a large upper room, all furnished.
Make preparations there."

13They left and found things just as
Jesus had told them.[a] So they prepared
the Passover.

14When the hour came, Jesus and his
apostles[b] reclined at the table.[c] 15And
he said to them, "I have eagerly de-
sired to eat this Passover with you be-
fore I suffer.[d] 16For I tell you, I will not
eat it again until it finds fulfillment in
the kingdom of God."[e]

17After taking the cup, he gave
thanks and said, "Take this and divide
it among you. 18For I tell you I will not
drink again of the fruit of the vine until
the kingdom of God comes."

19And he took bread, gave thanks
and broke it,[f] and gave it to them, say-
ing, "This is my body given for you; do
this in remembrance of me."

20In the same way, after the supper
he took the cup, saying, "This cup is
the new covenant[g] in my blood, which
is poured out for you. 21But the hand of
him who is going to betray me is with
mine on the table.[h] 22The Son of Man[i]
will go as it has been decreed,[j] but
woe to that man who betrays him."
23They began to question among them-
selves which of them it might be who
would do this.

24Also a dispute arose among them
as to which of them was considered to
be greatest.[k] 25Jesus said to them, "The
kings of the Gentiles lord it over them;
and those who exercise authority over
them call themselves Benefactors. 26But
you are not to be like that. Instead, the
greatest among you should be like the
youngest,[l] and the one who rules like
the one who serves.[m] 27For who is
greater, the one who is at the table or
the one who serves? Is it not the one
who is at the table? But I am among
you as one who serves.[n] 28You are
those who have stood by me in my tri-
als. 29And I confer on you a kingdom,[o]
just as my Father conferred one on me,
30so that you may eat and drink at my
table in my kingdom[p] and sit on
thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Is-
rael.[q]

31"Simon, Simon, Satan has asked[r]
to sift you[f] as wheat.[s] 32But I have
prayed for you,[t] Simon, that your faith
may not fail. And when you have
turned back, strengthen your broth-
ers."[u]

33But he replied, "Lord, I am ready to
go with you to prison and to death."[v]

34Jesus answered, "I tell you, Peter,
before the rooster crows today, you
will deny three times that you know
me."

35Then Jesus asked them, "When I
sent you without purse, bag or san-
dals,[w] did you lack anything?"

"Nothing," they answered.

36He said to them, "But now if you
have a purse, take it, and also a bag;
and if you don't have a sword, sell
your cloak and buy one. 37It is written:
'And he was numbered with the trans-
gressors'[g];[x] and I tell you that this
must be fulfilled in me. Yes, what is
written about me is reaching its fulfill-
ment."

38The disciples said, "See, Lord, here
are two swords."

"That is enough," he replied.

Jesus Prays on the Mount of Olives

22:40-46pp — Mt 26:36-46; Mk 14:32-42

39Jesus went out as usual[y] to the
Mount of Olives,[z] and his disciples fol-
lowed him. 40On reaching the place, he
said to them, "Pray that you will not
fall into temptation."[a] 41He withdrew
about a stone's throw beyond them,
knelt down[b] and prayed, 42"Father, if
you are willing, take this cup[c] from
me; yet not my will, but yours be
done."[d] 43An angel from heaven ap-
peared to him and strengthened him.[e]
44And being in anguish, he prayed
more earnestly, and his sweat was like
drops of blood falling to the ground.[h]

45When he rose from prayer and
went back to the disciples, he found
them asleep, exhausted from sorrow.
46"Why are you sleeping?" he asked
them. "Get up and pray so that you
will not fall into temptation."[f]

Jesus Arrested

22:47-53pp — Mt 26:47-56; Mk 14:43-50; Jn 18:3-11

47While he was still speaking a crowd
came up, and the man who was called
Judas, one of the Twelve, was leading
them. He approached Jesus to kiss
him, 48but Jesus asked him, "Judas, are
you betraying the Son of Man with a
kiss?"

49When Jesus' followers saw what
was going to happen, they said, "Lord,

22:13 [a] Lk 19:32
22:14 [b] S Mk 6:30 [c] Mt 26:20; Mk 14:17,18
22:15 [d] S Mt 16:21
22:16 [e] S Lk 14:15
22:19 [f] S Mt 14:19
22:20 [g] Ex 24:8; Isa 42:6; Jer 31:31-34; Zec 9:11; 2Co 3:6; Heb 8:6; 9:15
22:21 [h] Ps 41:9
22:22 [i] S Mt 8:20 [j] Ac 2:23; 4:28
22:24 [k] Mk 9:34; Lk 9:46
22:26 [l] 1Pe 5:5 [m] S Mk 9:35
22:27 [n] S Mt 20:28
22:29 [o] S Mt 25:34; 2Ti 2:12
22:30 [p] S Lk 14:15 [q] S Mt 19:28
22:31 [r] Job 1:6-12 [s] Am 9:9
22:32 [t] Jn 17:9, 15; S Ro 8:34 [u] Jn 21:15-17
22:33 [v] Jn 11:16
22:35 [w] Mt 10:9, 10; Lk 9:3; 10:4
22:37 [x] Isa 53:12
22:39 [y] Lk 21:37 [z] S Mt 21:1
22:40 [a] Mt 6:13
22:41 [b] Lk 18:11
22:42 [c] S Mt 20:22 [d] S Mt 26:39
22:43 [e] Mt 4:11; Mk 1:13
22:46 [f] ver 40

[f]31 The Greek is plural. [g]37 Isaiah 53:12 [h]44 Some early manuscripts do not have verses 43 and 44.

should we strike with our swords?"[a]
50And one of them struck the servant of
the high priest, cutting off his right ear.
51But Jesus answered, "No more of
this!" And he touched the man's ear
and healed him.
52Then Jesus said to the chief priests,
the officers of the temple guard,[b] and
the elders, who had come for him,
"Am I leading a rebellion, that you
have come with swords and clubs?
53Every day I was with you in the tem-
ple courts,[c] and you did not lay a hand
on me. But this is your hour[d]—when
darkness reigns."[e]

Peter Disowns Jesus

22:55-62pp — Mt 26:69-75; Mk 14:66-72; Jn 18:16-18,25-27

54Then seizing him, they led him
away and took him into the house of
the high priest.[f] Peter followed at a
distance.[g] 55But when they had kin-
dled a fire in the middle of the court-
yard and had sat down together, Peter
sat down with them. 56A servant girl
saw him seated there in the firelight.
She looked closely at him and said,
"This man was with him."
57But he denied it. "Woman, I don't
know him," he said.
58A little later someone else saw him
and said, "You also are one of them."
"Man, I am not!" Peter replied.
59About an hour later another assert-
ed, "Certainly this fellow was with
him, for he is a Galilean."[h]
60Peter replied, "Man, I don't know
what you're talking about!" Just as he
was speaking, the rooster crowed.
61The Lord[i] turned and looked straight
at Peter. Then Peter remembered the
word the Lord had spoken to him: "Be-
fore the rooster crows today, you will
disown me three times."[j] 62And he
went outside and wept bitterly.

The Soldiers Mock Jesus

22:63-65pp — Mt 26:67,68; Mk 14:65; Jn 18:22,23

63The men who were guarding Jesus
began mocking and beating him.
64They blindfolded him and demand-
ed, "Prophesy! Who hit you?" 65And
they said many other insulting things
to him.[k]

Jesus Before Pilate and Herod

22:67-71pp — Mt 26:63-66; Mk 14:61-63; Jn 18:19-21
23:2,3pp — Mt 27:11-14; Mk 15:2-5; Jn 18:29-37
23:18-25pp — Mt 27:15-26; Mk 15:6-15; Jn 18:39 — 19:16

66At daybreak the council[l] of the el-
ders of the people, both the chief
priests and teachers of the law, met to-
gether,[m] and Jesus was led before
them. 67"If you are the Christ,[l]" they
said, "tell us."
Jesus answered, "If I tell you, you
will not believe me, 68and if I asked
you, you would not answer.[n] 69But
from now on, the Son of Man will be
seated at the right hand of the mighty
God."[o]
70They all asked, "Are you then the
Son of God?"[p]
He replied, "You are right in saying I
am."[q]
71Then they said, "Why do we need
any more testimony? We have heard it
from his own lips."

23 Then the whole assembly rose
and led him off to Pilate.[r] 2And
they began to accuse him, saying, "We
have found this man subverting our
nation.[s] He opposes payment of taxes
to Caesar[t] and claims to be Christ,[j] a
king."[u]
3So Pilate asked Jesus, "Are you the
king of the Jews?"
"Yes, it is as you say," Jesus replied.
4Then Pilate announced to the chief
priests and the crowd, "I find no basis
for a charge against this man."[v]
5But they insisted, "He stirs up the
people all over Judea[k] by his teaching.
He started in Galilee[w] and has come all
the way here."
6On hearing this, Pilate asked if the
man was a Galilean.[x] 7When he
learned that Jesus was under Herod's
jurisdiction, he sent him to Herod,[y]
who was also in Jerusalem at that time.
8When Herod saw Jesus, he was
greatly pleased, because for a long time
he had been wanting to see him.[z]
From what he had heard about him, he
hoped to see him perform some mira-
cle. 9He plied him with many ques-
tions, but Jesus gave him no answer.[a]
10The chief priests and the teachers of
the law were standing there, vehe-
mently accusing him. 11Then Herod
and his soldiers ridiculed and mocked
him. Dressing him in an elegant robe,[b]
they sent him back to Pilate. 12That
day Herod and Pilate became
friends[c]—before this they had been
enemies.
13Pilate called together the chief
priests, the rulers and the people, 14and
said to them, "You brought me this
man as one who was inciting the
people to rebellion. I have examined

22:49 [a]ver 38
22:52 [b]ver 4
22:53 [c]S Mt 26:55
[d]Jn 12:27
[e]Mt 8:12; Jn 1:5; 3:20
22:54 [f]Mt 26:57; Mk 14:53
[g]Mt 26:58; Mk 14:54; Jn 18:15
22:59 [h]Lk 23:6
22:61 [i]S Lk 7:13
[j]ver 34
22:65 [k]S Mt 16:21
22:66 [l]S Mt 5:22
[m]Mt 27:1; Mk 15:1
22:68 [n]Lk 20:3-8
22:69 [o]S Mk 16:19
22:70 [p]S Mt 4:3
[q]Mt 27:11; Lk 23:3
23:1 [r]S Mt 27:2
23:2 [s]ver 14
[t]Lk 20:22
[u]Jn 19:12
23:4 [v]ver 14,22, 41; Mt 27:23; Jn 18:38; 1Ti 6:13; S 2Co 5-21
23:5 [w]Mk 1:14
23:6 [x]Lk 22:59
23:7 [y]S Mt 14:1
23:8 [z]Lk 9:9
23:9 [a]S Mk 14:61
23:11 [b]Mk 15:17-19; Jn 19:2,3
23:12 [c]Ac 4:27

[l]67 Or *Messiah* [j]2 Or *Messiah*; also in verses 35 and 39 [k]5 Or *over the land of the Jews*

him in your presence and have found
no basis for your charges against him.[a]
15Neither has Herod, for he sent him
back to us; as you can see, he has done
nothing to deserve death. 16Therefore, I
will punish him[b] and then release
him.[l]"
18With one voice they cried out,
"Away with this man! Release Barab-
bas to us!"[c] 19(Barabbas had been
thrown into prison for an insurrection
in the city, and for murder.)
20Wanting to release Jesus, Pilate ap-
pealed to them again. 21But they kept
shouting, "Crucify him! Crucify him!"
22For the third time he spoke to
them: "Why? What crime has this man
committed? I have found in him no
grounds for the death penalty. There-
fore I will have him punished and then
release him."[d]
23But with loud shouts they insistent-
ly demanded that he be crucified, and
their shouts prevailed. 24So Pilate de-
cided to grant their demand. 25He
released the man who had been
thrown into prison for insurrection and
murder, the one they asked for, and
surrendered Jesus to their will.

The Crucifixion

23:33-43pp — Mt 27:33-44; Mk 15:22-32; Jn 19:17-24

26As they led him away, they seized
Simon from Cyrene,[e] who was on his
way in from the country, and put the
cross on him and made him carry it be-
hind Jesus.[f] 27A large number of
people followed him, including women
who mourned and wailed[g] for him.
28Jesus turned and said to them,
"Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep
for me; weep for yourselves and for
your children.[h] 29For the time will
come when you will say, 'Blessed are
the barren women, the wombs that
never bore and the breasts that never
nursed!'[i] 30Then

" 'they will say to the mountains,
"Fall on us!"
and to the hills, "Cover us!" '[m][j]

31For if men do these things when the
tree is green, what will happen when it
is dry?"[k]
32Two other men, both criminals,
were also led out with him to be ex-
ecuted.[l] 33When they came to the place
called the Skull, there they crucified
him, along with the criminals—one on
his right, the other on his left. 34Jesus
said, "Father,[m] forgive them, for they
do not know what they are doing."[n][n]
And they divided up his clothes by
casting lots.[o]
35The people stood watching, and
the rulers even sneered at him.[p] They
said, "He saved others; let him save
himself if he is the Christ of God, the
Chosen One."[q]
36The soldiers also came up and
mocked him.[r] They offered him wine
vinegar[s] 37and said, "If you are the
king of the Jews,[t] save yourself."
38There was a written notice above
him, which read: THIS IS THE KING OF THE
JEWS.[u]
39One of the criminals who hung
there hurled insults at him: "Aren't
you the Christ? Save yourself and
us!"[v]
40But the other criminal rebuked him.
"Don't you fear God," he said, "since
you are under the same sentence? 41We
are punished justly, for we are getting
what our deeds deserve. But this man
has done nothing wrong."[w]
42Then he said, "Jesus, remember me
when you come into your king-
dom.[o]"[x]
43Jesus answered him, "I tell you the
truth, today you will be with me in
paradise."[y]

Jesus' Death

23:44-49pp — Mt 27:45-56; Mk 15:33-41

44It was now about the sixth hour,
and darkness came over the whole land
until the ninth hour,[z] 45for the sun
stopped shining. And the curtain of the
temple[a] was torn in two.[b] 46Jesus
called out with a loud voice,[c] "Father,
into your hands I commit my spirit."[d]
When he had said this, he breathed his
last.[e]
47The centurion, seeing what had
happened, praised God[f] and said,
"Surely this was a righteous man."
48When all the people who had gath-
ered to witness this sight saw what
took place, they beat their breasts[g] and
went away. 49But all those who knew
him, including the women who had
followed him from Galilee,[h] stood at a
distance,[i] watching these things.

Jesus' Burial

23:50-56pp — Mt 27:57-61; Mk 15:42-47; Jn 19:38-42

50Now there was a man named Jo-

23:14 [a]S ver 4
23:16 [b]ver 22; Mt 27:26; Jn 19:1; Ac 16:37; 2Co 11:23,24
23:18 [c]Ac 3:13, 14
23:22 [d]ver 16
23:26 [e]S Mt 27:32 [f]Mk 15:21; Jn 19:17
23:27 [g]Lk 8:52
23:28 [h]Lk 19:41-44; 21:23,24
23:29 [i]Mt 24:19
23:30 [j]Hos 10:8; Isa 2:19; Rev 6:16
23:31 [k]Eze 20:47
23:32 [l]Isa 53:12; Mt 27:38; Mk 15:27; Jn 19:18
23:34 [m]S Mt 11:25 [n]S Mt 5:44 [o]Ps 22:18
23:35 [p]Ps 22:17 [q]Isa 42:1
23:36 [r]Ps 22:7 [s]Ps 69:21; Mt 27:48
23:37 [t]Lk 4:3,9
23:38 [u]S Mt 2:2
23:39 [v]ver 35, 37
23:41 [w]S ver 4
23:42 [x]S Mt 16:27
23:43 [y]2Co 12:3,4; Rev 2:7
23:44 [z]Am 8:9
23:45 [a]Ex 26:31-33; Heb 9:3,8 [b]Heb 10:19,20
23:46 [c]Mt 27:50 [d]Ps 31:5; 1Pe 2:23 [e]Jn 19:30
23:47 [f]S Mt 9:8
23:48 [g]Lk 18:13
23:49 [h]Lk 8:2 [i]Ps 38:11

[l]16 Some manuscripts *him." [17]Now he was obliged to release one man to them at the Feast.* [m]30 Hosea 10:8 [n]34 Some early manuscripts do not have this sentence. [o]42 Some manuscripts *come with your kingly power*

seph, a member of the Council, a good and upright man, 51who had not consented to their decision and action. He came from the Judean town of Arimathea and he was waiting for the kingdom of God. 52Going to Pilate, he asked for Jesus' body. 53Then he took it down, wrapped it in linen cloth and placed it in a tomb cut in the rock, one in which no one had yet been laid. 54It was Preparation Day, and the Sabbath was about to begin.

55The women who had come with Jesus from Galilee followed Joseph and saw the tomb and how his body was laid in it. 56Then they went home and prepared spices and perfumes. But they rested on the Sabbath in obedience to the commandment.

The Resurrection

24:1-10pp—Mt 28:1-8; Mk 16:1-8; Jn 20:1-8

24 On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, the women took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb. 2They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, 3but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. 4While they were wondering about this, suddenly two men in clothes that gleamed like lightning stood beside them. 5In their fright the women bowed down with their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? 6He is not here; he has risen! Remember how he told you, while he was still with you in Galilee: 7'The Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, be crucified and on the third day be raised again.' " 8Then they remembered his words.

9When they came back from the tomb, they told all these things to the Eleven and to all the others. 10It was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the others with them who told this to the apostles. 11But they did not believe the women, because their words seemed to them like nonsense. 12Peter, however, got up and ran to the tomb. Bending over, he saw the strips of linen lying by themselves, and he went away, wondering to himself what had happened.

On the Road to Emmaus

13Now that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem. 14They were talking with each other about everything that had happened. 15As they talked and discussed these things with each other, Jesus himself came up and walked along with them; 16but they were kept from recognizing him.

17He asked them, "What are you discussing together as you walk along?"

They stood still, their faces downcast. 18One of them, named Cleopas, asked him, "Are you only a visitor to Jerusalem and do not know the things that have happened there in these days?"

19"What things?" he asked.

"About Jesus of Nazareth," they replied. "He was a prophet, powerful in word and deed before God and all the people. 20The chief priests and our rulers handed him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him; 21but we had hoped that he was the one who was going to redeem Israel. And what is more, it is the third day since all this took place. 22In addition, some of our women amazed us. They went to the tomb early this morning 23but didn't find his body. They came and told us that they had seen a vision of angels, who said he was alive. 24Then some of our companions went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but him they did not see."

25He said to them, "How foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! 26Did not the Christ have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?" 27And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.

28As they approached the village to which they were going, Jesus acted as if he were going farther. 29But they urged him strongly, "Stay with us, for it is nearly evening; the day is almost over." So he went in to stay with them.

30When he was at the table with them, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them. 31Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him, and he disappeared from their sight. 32They asked each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?"

a13 Greek *sixty stadia* (about 11 kilometers)   b26 Or *Messiah*; also in verse 46

33They got up and returned at once
to Jerusalem. There they found the
Eleven and those with them, assem-
bled together 34and saying, "It is true!
The Lord[a] has risen and has appeared
to Simon."[b] 35Then the two told what
had happened on the way, and how
Jesus was recognized by them when he
broke the bread.[c]

Jesus Appears to the Disciples

36While they were still talking about
this, Jesus himself stood among them
and said to them, "Peace be with
you."[d]
37They were startled and frightened,
thinking they saw a ghost.[e] 38He said
to them, "Why are you troubled, and
why do doubts rise in your minds?
39Look at my hands and my feet. It is I
myself! Touch me and see;[f] a ghost
does not have flesh and bones, as you
see I have."
40When he had said this, he showed
them his hands and feet. 41And while
they still did not believe it because of
joy and amazement, he asked them,
"Do you have anything here to eat?"
42They gave him a piece of broiled fish,
43and he took it and ate it in their pres-
ence.[g]
44He said to them, "This is what I
told you while I was still with you:[h]
Everything must be fulfilled[i] that is
written about me in the Law of
Moses,[j] the Prophets[k] and the
Psalms."[l]
45Then he opened their minds so
they could understand the Scriptures.
46He told them, "This is what is writ-
ten: The Christ will suffer[m] and rise
from the dead on the third day,[n] 47and
repentance and forgiveness of sins will
be preached in his name[o] to all na-
tions,[p] beginning at Jerusalem.[q] 48You
are witnesses[r] of these things. 49I am
going to send you what my Father has
promised;[s] but stay in the city until
you have been clothed with power
from on high."

The Ascension

50When he had led them out to the
vicinity of Bethany,[t] he lifted up his
hands and blessed them. 51While he
was blessing them, he left them and
was taken up into heaven.[u] 52Then
they worshiped him and returned to
Jerusalem with great joy. 53And they
stayed continually at the temple,[v]
praising God.

24:34 [a]S Lk 7:13 [b]1Co 15:5 **24:35** [c]ver 30, 31 **24:36** [d]Jn 20:19, 21,26; S 14:27 **24:37** [e]Mk 6:49 **24:39** [f]Jn 20:27; 1Jn 1:1 **24:43** [g]Ac 10:41 **24:44** [h]Lk 9:45; 18:34 [i]S Mt 1:22; 16:21; Lk 9:22, 44; 18:31-33; 22:37 [j]S ver 27 [k]S ver 27 [l]Ps 2; 16; 22; 69; 72; 110; 118 **24:46** [m]S Mt 16:21 [n]S Mt 16:21 **24:47** [o]Ac 5:31; 10:43; 13:38 [p]Mt 28:19; Mk 13:10 [q]Isa 2:3 **24:48** [r]S Jn 15:27; Ac 1:8; 2:32; 4:20; 5:32; 13:31; 1Pe 5:1 **24:49** [s]S Jn 14:16; Ac 1:4 **24:50** [t]S Mt 21:17 **24:51** [u]2Ki 2:11 **24:53** [v]S Ac 2:46

John

The Word Became Flesh

1 In the beginning was the Word,[a]
and the Word was with God,[b] and
the Word was God.[c] [2]He was with
God in the beginning.[d]
[3]Through him all things were made;
without him nothing was made that
has been made.[e] [4]In him was life,[f] and
that life was the light[g] of men. [5]The
light shines in the darkness,[h] but
the darkness has not understood[a]
it.[i]
[6]There came a man who was sent
from God; his name was John.[j] [7]He
came as a witness to testify[k] concern-
ing that light, so that through him all
men might believe.[l] [8]He himself was
not the light; he came only as a witness
to the light. [9]The true light[m] that gives
light to every man[b] was coming into
the world.[n]
[10]He was in the world, and though
the world was made through him,[o] the
world did not recognize him. [11]He
came to that which was his own, but
his own did not receive him.[p] [12]Yet to
all who received him, to those who be-
lieved[q] in his name,[r] he gave the right
to become children of God[s]— [13]chil-
dren born not of natural descent,[c] nor
of human decision or a husband's will,
but born of God.[t]
[14]The Word became flesh[u] and made
his dwelling among us. We have seen
his glory,[v] the glory of the One and
Only,[d] who came from the Father, full
of grace[w] and truth.[x]
[15]John testifies[y] concerning him. He
cries out, saying, "This was he of
whom I said, 'He who comes after me
has surpassed me because he was be-
fore me.' "[z] [16]From the fullness[a] of his
grace[b] we have all received one
blessing after another. [17]For the law
was given through Moses;[c] grace and
truth came through Jesus Christ.[d]
[18]No one has ever seen God,[e] but
God the One and Only,[d,e][f] who is
at the Father's side, has made him
known.

1:1 [a]Isa 55:11; Rev 19:13 [b]Jn 17:5; 1Jn 1:2 [c]Php 2:6 1:2 [d]Ge 1:1; Jn 8:58; 17:5,24; 1Jn 1:1; Rev 1:8 1:3 [e]ver 10; 1Co 8:6; Col 1:16; Heb 1:2 1:4 [f]S Jn 5:26; 6:57; 11:25; 14:6; Ac 3:15; Heb 7:16; 1Jn 1:1,2; 5:20; Rev 1:18 [g]Ps 36:9; Jn 3:19; 8:12; 9:5; 12:46 1:5 [h]Ps 18:28; Jn 3:19 1:6 [i]S Mt 3:1 1:7 [j]ver 15,19,32; Jn 3:26; 5:33 [k]ver 12; S Jn 3:15 1:9 [m]1Jn 2:8 [n]Isa 49:6 1:10 [o]S ver 3 1:11 [p]Isa 53:3 1:12 [q]ver 7; S Jn 3:15 [r]S 1Jn 3:23 [s]Dt 14:1; S Ro 8:14; 8:16,21; Eph 5:1; 1Jn 3:1,2 1:13 [t]Jn 3:6; Tit 3:5; Jas 1:18; 1Pe 1:23; 1Jn 3:9; 4:7; 5:1,4 1:14 [u]Gal 4:4; Php 2:7,8; 1Ti 3:16; Heb 2:14; 1Jn 1:1,2; 4:2 [v]Ex 33:18; 40:34 [w]S Ro 3:24 [x]Jn 14:6 1:15 [y]ver 7 [z]ver 30; Mt 3:11 1:16 [a]Eph 1:23; Col 1:19; 2:9 [b]S Ro 3:24 1:17 [c]Dt 32:46; Jn 7:19 [d]ver 14 1:18 [e]Ex 33:20; Jn 6:46; Col 1:15; 1Ti 6:16; 1Jn 4:12 [f]Jn 3:16,18; 1Jn 4:9

1:19 [g]S Mt 3:1 [h]Jn 2:18; 5:10,16; 6:41,52; 7:1; 10:24 1:20 [i]Jn 3:28; Lk 3:15,16 1:21 [j]S Mt 11:14 [k]Dt 18:15 1:23 [l]Mt 3:1 [m]Isa 40:3 1:26 [n]S Mk 1:4 1:27 [o]ver 15,30 [p]Mk 1:7 1:28 [q]Jn 3:26; 10:40 1:29 [r]ver 36; Ge 22:8; Isa 53:7;

John the Baptist Denies Being the Christ

[19]Now this was John's[g] testimony
when the Jews[h] of Jerusalem sent
priests and Levites to ask him who he
was. [20]He did not fail to confess, but
confessed freely, "I am not the
Christ.[f]"[i]
[21]They asked him, "Then who are
you? Are you Elijah?"[j]
He said, "I am not."
"Are you the Prophet?"[k]
He answered, "No."
[22]Finally they said, "Who are you?
Give us an answer to take back to those
who sent us. What do you say about
yourself?"
[23]John replied in the words of Isaiah
the prophet, "I am the voice of one call-
ing in the desert,[l] 'Make straight the
way for the Lord.' "[g][m]
[24]Now some Pharisees who had been
sent [25]questioned him, "Why then do
you baptize if you are not the Christ,
nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?"
[26]"I baptize with[h] water,"[n] John re-
plied, "but among you stands one you
do not know. [27]He is the one who
comes after me,[o] the thongs of whose
sandals I am not worthy to untie."[p]
[28]This all happened at Bethany on
the other side of the Jordan,[q] where
John was baptizing.

Jesus the Lamb of God

[29]The next day John saw Jesus com-
ing toward him and said, "Look, the
Lamb of God,[r] who takes away the sin
of the world![s] [30]This is the one I meant
when I said, 'A man who comes after
me has surpassed me because he was
before me.'[t] [31]I myself did not know

1Pe 1:19; Rev 5:6; 13:8 [s]S Jn 3:17 1:30 [t]ver 15,27

[a]5 Or *darkness, and the darkness has not overcome*
[b]9 Or *This was the true light that gives light to every man who comes into the world* [c]13 Greek *of bloods*
[d]14,18 Or *the Only Begotten* [e]18 Some manuscripts *but the only* (or *only begotten*) *Son* [f]20 Or *Messiah* "The Christ" (Greek) and "the Messiah" (Hebrew) both mean "the Anointed One"; also in verse 25.
[g]23 Isaiah 40:3 [h]26 Or *in*; also in verses 31 and 33

him, but the reason I came baptizing with water was that he might be revealed to Israel."

32 Then John gave this testimony: "I saw the Spirit come down from heaven as a dove and remain on him.[a] 33 I would not have known him, except that the one who sent me to baptize with water[b] told me, 'The man on whom you see the Spirit come down and remain is he who will baptize with the Holy Spirit.'[c] 34 I have seen and I testify that this is the Son of God."[d]

Jesus' First Disciples

1:40-42pp — Mt 4:18-22; Mk 1:16-20; Lk 5:2-11

35 The next day John[e] was there again with two of his disciples. 36 When he saw Jesus passing by, he said, "Look, the Lamb of God!"[f]

37 When the two disciples heard him say this, they followed Jesus. 38 Turning around, Jesus saw them following and asked, "What do you want?"

They said, "Rabbi"[g] (which means Teacher), "where are you staying?"

39 "Come," he replied, "and you will see."

So they went and saw where he was staying, and spent that day with him. It was about the tenth hour.

40 Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, was one of the two who heard what John had said and who had followed Jesus. 41 The first thing Andrew did was to find his brother Simon and tell him, "We have found the Messiah" (that is, the Christ).[h] 42 And he brought him to Jesus.

Jesus looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You will be called[i] Cephas" (which, when translated, is Peter[i]).[j]

Jesus Calls Philip and Nathanael

43 The next day Jesus decided to leave for Galilee. Finding Philip,[k] he said to him, "Follow me."[l]

44 Philip, like Andrew and Peter, was from the town of Bethsaida.[m] 45 Philip found Nathanael[n] and told him, "We have found the one Moses wrote about in the Law,[o] and about whom the prophets also wrote[p]—Jesus of Nazareth,[q] the son of Joseph."[r]

46 "Nazareth! Can anything good come from there?"[s] Nathanael asked.

"Come and see," said Philip.

47 When Jesus saw Nathanael approaching, he said of him, "Here is a true Israelite,[t] in whom there is nothing false."[u]

48 "How do you know me?" Nathanael asked.

Jesus answered, "I saw you while you were still under the fig tree before Philip called you."

49 Then Nathanael declared, "Rabbi,[v] you are the Son of God;[w] you are the King of Israel."[x]

50 Jesus said, "You believe[j] because I told you I saw you under the fig tree. You shall see greater things than that." 51 He then added, "I tell you[k] the truth, you[k] shall see heaven open,[y] and the angels of God ascending and descending[z] on the Son of Man."[a]

Jesus Changes Water to Wine

2 On the third day a wedding took place at Cana in Galilee.[b] Jesus' mother[c] was there, 2 and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. 3 When the wine was gone, Jesus' mother said to him, "They have no more wine."

4 "Dear woman,[d] why do you involve me?"[e] Jesus replied, "My time[f] has not yet come."

5 His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you."[g]

6 Nearby stood six stone water jars, the kind used by the Jews for ceremonial washing,[h] each holding from twenty to thirty gallons.[l]

7 Jesus said to the servants, "Fill the jars with water"; so they filled them to the brim.

8 Then he told them, "Now draw some out and take it to the master of the banquet."

They did so, 9 and the master of the banquet tasted the water that had been turned into wine.[i] He did not realize where it had come from, though the servants who had drawn the water knew. Then he called the bridegroom aside 10 and said, "Everyone brings out the choice wine first and then the cheaper wine after the guests have had too much to drink; but you have saved the best till now."

11 This, the first of his miraculous signs,[j] Jesus performed in Cana of Galilee. He thus revealed his glory,[k] and his disciples put their faith in him.[l]

1:32 [a]Mt 3:16 **1:33** [b]S Mk 1:4 [c]S Mk 1:8 **1:34** [d]ver 49; S Mt 4:3 **1:35** [e]S Mt 3:1 **1:36** [f]S ver 29 **1:38** [g]ver 49; S Mt 23:7 **1:41** [h]Jn 4:25 **1:42** [i]Ge 17:5, 15; 32:28; 35:10 [j]Mt 16:18 **1:43** [k]Mt 10:3; Jn 6:5-7; 12:21, 22; 14:8,9 [l]S Mt 4:19 **1:44** [m]S Mt 11:21 **1:45** [n]Jn 21:2 [o]S Lk 24:27 [p]S Lk 24:27 [q]S Mk 1:24 [r]Lk 3:23 **1:46** [s]Jn 7:41,42, 52

1:47 [t]Ro 9:4,6 [u]Ps 32:2 **1:49** [v]ver 38; S Mt 23:7 [w]ver 34; S Mt 4:3 [x]S Mt 2:2; 27:42; Jn 12:13 **1:51** [y]S Mt 3:16 [z]Ge 28:12 [a]S Mt 8:20 **2:1** [b]Jn 4:46; 21:2 [c]S Mt 12:46 **2:4** [d]Jn 19:26 [e]S Mt 8:29 [f]S Mt 26:18 **2:5** [g]Ge 41:55 **2:6** [h]Mk 7:3,4; Jn 3:25 **2:9** [i]Jn 4:46 **2:11** [j]ver 23; Mt 12:38; Jn 3:2; S 4:48; 6:2,14,26, 30; 12:37; 20:30 [k]Jn 1:14 [l]Ex 14:31

[i]42 Both *Cephas* (Aramaic) and *Peter* (Greek) mean *rock.* [j]50 Or *Do you believe . . . ?* [k]51 The Greek is plural. [l]6 Greek *two to three metretes* (probably about 75 to 115 liters)

Jesus Clears the Temple

2:14-16pp — Mt 21:12,13; Mk 11:15-17; Lk 19:45,46

12After this he went down to Capernaum[a] with his mother[b] and brothers[c] and his disciples. There they stayed for a few days.

13When it was almost time for the Jewish Passover,[d] Jesus went up to Jerusalem.[e] 14In the temple courts he found men selling cattle, sheep and doves,[f] and others sitting at tables exchanging money.[g] 15So he made a whip out of cords, and drove all from the temple area, both sheep and cattle; he scattered the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. 16To those who sold doves he said, "Get these out of here! How dare you turn my Father's house[h] into a market!"

17His disciples remembered that it is written: "Zeal for your house will consume me."[m][i]

18Then the Jews[j] demanded of him, "What miraculous sign[k] can you show us to prove your authority to do all this?"[l]

19Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and I will raise it again in three days."[m]

20The Jews replied, "It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and you are going to raise it in three days?" 21But the temple he had spoken of was his body.[n] 22After he was raised from the dead, his disciples recalled what he had said.[o] Then they believed the Scripture[p] and the words that Jesus had spoken.

23Now while he was in Jerusalem at the Passover Feast,[q] many people saw the miraculous signs[r] he was doing and believed[s] in his name.[n] 24But Jesus would not entrust himself to them, for he knew all men. 25He did not need man's testimony about man,[t] for he knew what was in a man.[u]

Jesus Teaches Nicodemus

3 Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus,[v] a member of the Jewish ruling council.[w] 2He came to Jesus at night and said, "Rabbi,[x] we know[y] you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the miraculous signs[z] you are doing if God were not with him."[a]

3In reply Jesus declared, "I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again.[o]"[b][c]

4"How can a man be born when he is old?" Nicodemus asked. "Surely he cannot enter a second time into his mother's womb to be born!"

5Jesus answered, "I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit.[d][e] 6Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit[p] gives birth to spirit.[f] 7You should not be surprised at my saying, 'You[q] must be born again.' 8The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit."[g]

9"How can this be?"[h] Nicodemus asked.

10"You are Israel's teacher,"[i] said Jesus, "and do you not understand these things? 11I tell you the truth, we speak of what we know,[j] and we testify to what we have seen, but still you people do not accept our testimony.[k] 12I have spoken to you of earthly things and you do not believe; how then will you believe if I speak of heavenly things? 13No one has ever gone into heaven[l] except the one who came from heaven[m]—the Son of Man.[r][n] 14Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the desert,[o] so the Son of Man must be lifted up,[p] 15that everyone who believes[q] in him may have eternal life.[s][r]

16"For God so loved[s] the world that he gave[t] his one and only Son,[t][u] that whoever believes[v] in him shall not perish but have eternal life.[w] 17For God did not send his Son into the world[x] to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.[y] 18Whoever believes in him is not condemned,[z] but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because he has not believed in the name of God's one and only Son.[u][a] 19This is the verdict: Light[b] has come into the world, but men loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil.[c] 20Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that his deeds will be exposed.[d] 21But whoever lives by the truth comes into the light, so that it may be seen plainly that what he has done has been done through God."[v]

2:12 a S Mt 4:13 b S Mt 12:46 c S Mt 12:46 **2:13** d S Jn 11:55 e Dt 16:1-6; Lk 2:41 **2:14** f Lev 1:14; Dt 14:26 g Dt 14:25 **2:16** h Lk 2:49 **2:17** i Ps 69:9 **2:18** j S Jn 1:19 k S ver 11 l S Mt 12:38 **2:19** m S Mt 16:21; 26:61; 27:40; Mk 14:58; 15:29; Ac 6:14 **2:21** n 1Co 6:19 **2:22** o Lk 24:5-8; Jn 12:16; 14:26 p Ps 16:10; S Lk 24:27 **2:23** q ver 13 r S ver 11 s S Jn 3:15 **2:25** t Isa 11:3 u Dt 31:21; 1Ki 8:39; S Mt 9:4; Jn 6:61, 64; 13:11 **3:1** v Jn 7:50; 19:39 w Lk 23:13 **3:2** x S Mt 23:7 y ver 11 z S Jn 2:11 a Jn 10:38; 14:10, 11; Ac 2:22; 10:38 **3:3** b S Jn 1:13 c S Mt 3:2 **3:5** d S Ac 22:16 e Tit 3:5 **3:6** f S Jn 1:13; 1Co 15:50 **3:8** g 1Co 2:14-16 **3:9** h Jn 6:52,60 **3:10** i Lk 2:46 **3:11** j Jn 1:18; 7:16,17 k ver 32 **3:13** l Pr 30:4; Ac 2:34; Eph 4:8-10 m ver 31; Jn 6:38,42; Heb 4:14; 9:24 n S Mt 8:20 **3:14** o Nu 21:8,9 p S Jn 12:32 **3:15** q ver 16,36; Ge 15:6; Nu 14:11; Mt 27:42; Mk 1:15; Jn 1:7, 12; 2:23; 5:24; 7:38; 20:29; Ac 13:39; 16:31; Ro 3:22; 10:9,10; 1Jn 5:1,5,10 r ver 16,36; S Mt 25:46; Jn 20:31 **3:16** s Ro 5:8; Eph 2:4; 1Jn 4:9, 10 t Isa 9:6; Ro 8:32 u Ge 22:12; Jn 1:18 v S ver 15 w ver 36; Jn 6:29, 40; 11:25,26 **3:17** x Jn 6:29, 57; 10:36; 11:42; 17:8,21; 20:21 y Isa 53:11; S Mt 1:21; S Lk 2:11; 19:10; Jn 1:29; 12:47; S Ro 11:14; 1Ti 1:15; 2:5,6; 1Jn 2:2; 3:5 **3:18** z Jn 5:24 a Jn 1:18; 1Jn 4:9 **3:19** b S Jn 1:4 c Ps 52:3; Jn 7:7 **3:20** d Eph 5:11, 13

m17 Psalm 69:9 n23 *Or and believed in him*
o3 *Or born from above; also in verse 7* p6 *Or but spirit* q7 The Greek is plural. r13 Some manuscripts *Man, who is in heaven* s15 *Or believes may have eternal life in him* t16 *Or his only begotten Son* u18 *Or God's only begotten Son* v21 Some interpreters end the quotation after verse 15.

John the Baptist's Testimony About Jesus

22After this, Jesus and his disciples
went out into the Judean countryside,
where he spent some time with them,
and baptized.[a] 23Now John[b] also was
baptizing at Aenon near Salim, because
there was plenty of water, and people
were constantly coming to be baptized.
24(This was before John was put in pris-
on.)[c] 25An argument developed be-
tween some of John's disciples and a
certain Jew[w] over the matter of
ceremonial washing.[d] 26They came to
John and said to him, "Rabbi,[e] that
man who was with you on the other
side of the Jordan—the one you testi-
fied[f] about—well, he is baptizing, and
everyone is going to him."
27To this John replied, "A man can
receive only what is given him from
heaven. 28You yourselves can testify
that I said, 'I am not the Christ[x] but am
sent ahead of him.'[g] 29The bride be-
longs to the bridegroom.[h] The friend
who attends the bridegroom waits and
listens for him, and is full of joy when
he hears the bridegroom's voice. That
joy is mine, and it is now complete.[i]
30He must become greater; I must
become less.
31"The one who comes from above[j]
is above all; the one who is from the
earth belongs to the earth, and speaks
as one from the earth.[k] The one who
comes from heaven is above all. 32He
testifies to what he has seen and
heard,[l] but no one accepts his testi-
mony.[m] 33The man who has accepted it
has certified that God is truthful. 34For
the one whom God has sent[n] speaks
the words of God, for God[y] gives the
Spirit[o] without limit. 35The Father
loves the Son and has placed every-
thing in his hands.[p] 36Whoever be-
lieves in the Son has eternal life,[q] but
whoever rejects the Son will not see
life, for God's wrath remains on
him."[z]

Jesus Talks With a Samaritan Woman

4 The Pharisees heard that Jesus was
gaining and baptizing more disci-
ples than John,[r] 2although in fact it
was not Jesus who baptized, but his
disciples. 3When the Lord[s] learned of
this, he left Judea[t] and went back once
more to Galilee.
4Now he had to go through Sa-
maria.[u] 5So he came to a town in Sa-
maria called Sychar, near the plot of
ground Jacob had given to his son Jo-
seph.[v] 6Jacob's well was there, and
Jesus, tired as he was from the journey,
sat down by the well. It was about the
sixth hour.
7When a Samaritan woman came to
draw water, Jesus said to her, "Will
you give me a drink?"[w] 8(His disciples
had gone into the town[x] to buy food.)
9The Samaritan woman said to him,
"You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan[y]
woman. How can you ask me for a
drink?" (For Jews do not associate with
Samaritans.[a])
10Jesus answered her, "If you knew
the gift of God and who it is that asks
you for a drink, you would have asked
him and he would have given you liv-
ing water."[z]
11"Sir," the woman said, "you have
nothing to draw with and the well is
deep. Where can you get this living
water? 12Are you greater than our fa-
ther Jacob, who gave us the well[a] and
drank from it himself, as did also his
sons and his flocks and herds?"
13Jesus answered, "Everyone who
drinks this water will be thirsty again,
14but whoever drinks the water I give
him will never thirst.[b] Indeed, the
water I give him will become in him a
spring of water[c] welling up to eternal
life."[d]
15The woman said to him, "Sir, give
me this water so that I won't get
thirsty[e] and have to keep coming here
to draw water."
16He told her, "Go, call your hus-
band and come back."
17"I have no husband," she replied.
Jesus said to her, "You are right
when you say you have no husband.
18The fact is, you have had five hus-
bands, and the man you now have is
not your husband. What you have just
said is quite true."
19"Sir," the woman said, "I can see
that you are a prophet.[f] 20Our fathers
worshiped on this mountain,[g] but you
Jews claim that the place where we
must worship is in Jerusalem."[h]
21Jesus declared, "Believe me,
woman, a time is coming[i] when you
will worship the Father neither on this
mountain nor in Jerusalem.[j] 22You
Samaritans worship what you do not
know;[k] we worship what we do know,
for salvation is from the Jews.[l] 23Yet a

3:22 aJn 4:2 **3:23** bS Mt 3:1 **3:24** cMt 4:12; 14:3 **3:25** dJn 2:6 **3:26** eS Mt 23:7 fJn 1:7 **3:28** gJn 1:20,23 **3:29** hMt 9:15 iJn 16:24; 17:13; Php 2:2; 1Jn 1:4 **3:31** jver 13 kJn 8:23; 1Jn 4:5 **3:32** lJn 8:26; 15:15 mver 11 **3:34** nS ver 17 oIsa 42:1; Mt 12:18; Lk 4:18; Ac 10:38 **3:35** pS Mt 28:18 **3:36** qS ver 15; Jn 5:24; 6:47 **4:1** rJn 3:22,26 **4:3** sS Lk 7:13 tJn 3:22 **4:4** uS Mt 10:5

4:5 vGe 33:19; Jos 24:32 **4:7** wGe 24:17; 1Ki 17:10 **4:8** xver 5,39 **4:9** yS Mt 10:5 **4:10** zIsa 44:3; 55:1; Jer 2:13; 17:13; Zec 14:8; Jn 7:37,38; Rev 7:17; 21:6; 22:1,17 **4:12** aver 6 **4:14** bJn 6:35 cIsa 12:3; 58:11; Jn 7:38 dS Mt 25:46 **4:15** eJn 6:34 **4:19** fS Mt 21:11 **4:20** gDt 11:29; Jos 8:33 hLk 9:53 **4:21** iJn 5:28; 16:2 jMal 1:11; 1Ti 2:8 **4:22** k2Ki 17:28-41 lIsa 2:3; Ro 3:1,2; 9:4,5; 15:8,9

w25 Some manuscripts and certain Jews x28 Or Messiah y34 Greek he z36 Some interpreters end the quotation after verse 30. a9 Or do not use dishes Samaritans have used

time is coming and has now come[a]
when the true worshipers will worship
the Father in spirit[b] and truth, for they
are the kind of worshipers the Father
seeks. 24God is spirit,[c] and his wor-
shipers must worship in spirit and in
truth."
25The woman said, "I know that
Messiah" (called Christ)[d] "is coming.
When he comes, he will explain every-
thing to us."
26Then Jesus declared, "I who speak
to you am he."[e]

The Disciples Rejoin Jesus

27Just then his disciples returned[f]
and were surprised to find him talking
with a woman. But no one asked,
"What do you want?" or "Why are you
talking with her?"
28Then, leaving her water jar, the
woman went back to the town and said
to the people, 29"Come, see a man who
told me everything I ever did.[g] Could
this be the Christ[b]?"[h] 30They came out
of the town and made their way
toward him.
31Meanwhile his disciples urged him,
"Rabbi,[i] eat something."
32But he said to them, "I have food to
eat[j] that you know nothing about."
33Then his disciples said to each
other, "Could someone have brought
him food?"
34"My food," said Jesus, "is to do the
will[k] of him who sent me and to finish
his work.[l] 35Do you not say, 'Four
months more and then the harvest'? I
tell you, open your eyes and look at the
fields! They are ripe for harvest.[m]
36Even now the reaper draws his
wages, even now he harvests[n] the crop
for eternal life,[o] so that the sower and
the reaper may be glad together. 37Thus
the saying 'One sows and another
reaps'[p] is true. 38I sent you to reap
what you have not worked for. Others
have done the hard work, and you
have reaped the benefits of their la-
bor."

Many Samaritans Believe

39Many of the Samaritans from that
town[q] believed in him because of the
woman's testimony, "He told me
everything I ever did."[r] 40So when the
Samaritans came to him, they urged
him to stay with them, and he stayed
two days. 41And because of his words
many more became believers.
42They said to the woman, "We no
longer believe just because of what you
said; now we have heard for ourselves,
and we know that this man really is the
Savior of the world."[s]

Jesus Heals the Official's Son

43After the two days[t] he left for Gali-
lee. 44(Now Jesus himself had pointed
out that a prophet has no honor in his
own country.)[u] 45When he arrived in
Galilee, the Galileans welcomed him.
They had seen all that he had done in
Jerusalem at the Passover Feast,[v] for
they also had been there.
46Once more he visited Cana in Gali-
lee, where he had turned the water
into wine.[w] And there was a certain
royal official whose son lay sick at
Capernaum. 47When this man heard
that Jesus had arrived in Galilee from
Judea,[x] he went to him and begged
him to come and heal his son, who was
close to death.
48"Unless you people see miraculous
signs and wonders,"[y] Jesus told him,
"you will never believe."
49The royal official said, "Sir, come
down before my child dies."
50Jesus replied, "You may go. Your
son will live."
The man took Jesus at his word and
departed. 51While he was still on the
way, his servants met him with the
news that his boy was living. 52When
he inquired as to the time when his son
got better, they said to him, "The fever
left him yesterday at the seventh
hour."
53Then the father realized that this
was the exact time at which Jesus had
said to him, "Your son will live." So he
and all his household[z] believed.
54This was the second miraculous
sign[a] that Jesus performed, having
come from Judea to Galilee.

The Healing at the Pool

5 Some time later, Jesus went up to
Jerusalem for a feast of the Jews.
2Now there is in Jerusalem near the
Sheep Gate[b] a pool, which in Arama-
ic[c] is called Bethesda[c] and which is
surrounded by five covered colon-
nades. 3Here a great number of dis-
abled people used to lie—the blind, the
lame, the paralyzed.[d] 5One who was
there had been an invalid for thirty-

4:23 [a]Jn 5:25; 16:32 [b]Php 3:3 **4:24** [c]Php 3:3 **4:25** [d]Mt 1:16; Jn 1:41 **4:26** [e]Jn 8:28; 9:35-37 **4:27** [f]ver 8 **4:29** [g]ver 17,18 [h]Mt 12:23; Jn 7:26,31 **4:31** [i]S Mt 23:7 **4:32** [j]Job 23:12; Mt 4:4; Jn 6:27 **4:34** [k]S Mt 26:39 [l]S Jn 19:30 **4:35** [m]Mt 9:37; Lk 10:2 **4:36** [n]Ro 1:13 [o]S Mt 25:46 **4:37** [p]Job 31:8; Mic 6:15 **4:39** [q]ver 5 [r]ver 29 **4:42** [s]S Lk 2:11 **4:43** [t]ver 40 **4:44** [u]Mt 13:57; Lk 4:24 **4:45** [v]Jn 2:23 **4:46** [w]Jn 2:1-11 **4:47** [x]ver 3,54 **4:48** [y]Da 4:2,3; S Jn 2:11; Ac 2:43; 14:3; Ro 15:19; 2Co 12:12; Heb 2:4 **4:53** [z]S Ac 11:14 **4:54** [a]S ver 48; S Jn 2:11 **5:2** [b]Ne 3:1; 12:39 [c]Jn 19:13, 17,20; 20:16; Ac 21:40; 22:2; 26:14

[b]29 Or *Messiah* [c]2 Some manuscripts *Bethzatha;* other manuscripts *Bethsaida* [d]3 Some less important manuscripts *paralyzed—and they waited for the moving of the waters.* [4]*From time to time an angel of the Lord would come down and stir up the waters. The first one into the pool after each such disturbance would be cured of whatever disease he had.*

eight years. [6]When Jesus saw him lying there and learned that he had been in this condition for a long time, he asked him, "Do you want to get well?"

[7]"Sir," the invalid replied, "I have no one to help me into the pool when the water is stirred. While I am trying to get in, someone else goes down ahead of me."

[8]Then Jesus said to him, "Get up! Pick up your mat and walk."[a] [9]At once the man was cured; he picked up his mat and walked.

The day on which this took place was a Sabbath,[b] [10]and so the Jews[c] said to the man who had been healed, "It is the Sabbath; the law forbids you to carry your mat."[d]

[11]But he replied, "The man who made me well said to me, 'Pick up your mat and walk.' "

[12]So they asked him, "Who is this fellow who told you to pick it up and walk?"

[13]The man who was healed had no idea who it was, for Jesus had slipped away into the crowd that was there.

[14]Later Jesus found him at the temple and said to him, "See, you are well again. Stop sinning[e] or something worse may happen to you." [15]The man went away and told the Jews[f] that it was Jesus who had made him well.

Life Through the Son

[16]So, because Jesus was doing these things on the Sabbath, the Jews persecuted him. [17]Jesus said to them, "My Father[g] is always at his work[h] to this very day, and I, too, am working." [18]For this reason the Jews tried all the harder to kill him;[i] not only was he breaking the Sabbath, but he was even calling God his own Father, making himself equal with God.[j]

[19]Jesus gave them this answer: "I tell you the truth, the Son can do nothing by himself;[k] he can do only what he sees his Father doing, because whatever the Father does the Son also does. [20]For the Father loves the Son[l] and shows him all he does. Yes, to your amazement he will show him even greater things than these.[m] [21]For just as the Father raises the dead and gives them life,[n] even so the Son gives life[o] to whom he is pleased to give it. [22]Moreover, the Father judges no one, but has entrusted all judgment to the Son,[p] [23]that all may honor the Son just as they honor the Father. He who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father, who sent him.[q]

[24]"I tell you the truth, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me[r] has eternal life[s] and will not be condemned;[t] he has crossed over from death to life.[u] [25]I tell you the truth, a time is coming and has now come[v] when the dead will hear[w] the voice of the Son of God and those who hear will live. [26]For as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son to have life[x] in himself. [27]And he has given him authority to judge[y] because he is the Son of Man.

[28]"Do not be amazed at this, for a time is coming[z] when all who are in their graves will hear his voice [29]and come out—those who have done good will rise to live, and those who have done evil will rise to be condemned.[a] [30]By myself I can do nothing;[b] I judge only as I hear, and my judgment is just,[c] for I seek not to please myself but him who sent me.[d]

Testimonies About Jesus

[31]"If I testify about myself, my testimony is not valid.[e] [32]There is another who testifies in my favor,[f] and I know that his testimony about me is valid.

[33]"You have sent to John and he has testified[g] to the truth. [34]Not that I accept human testimony;[h] but I mention it that you may be saved.[i] [35]John was a lamp that burned and gave light,[j] and you chose for a time to enjoy his light.

[36]"I have testimony weightier than that of John.[k] For the very work that the Father has given me to finish, and which I am doing,[l] testifies that the Father has sent me.[m] [37]And the Father who sent me has himself testified concerning me.[n] You have never heard his voice nor seen his form,[o] [38]nor does his word dwell in you,[p] for you do not believe[q] the one he sent.[r] [39]You diligently study[*] the Scriptures[s] because you think that by them you possess eternal life.[t] These are the Scriptures that testify about me,[u] [40]yet you refuse to come to me[v] to have life.

[41]"I do not accept praise from men,[w] [42]but I know you. I know that you do not have the love of God in your hearts. [43]I have come in my Father's name, and you do not accept me; but if someone else comes in his own name, you will accept him. [44]How can you believe if you accept praise from one an-

5:8 [a] Mt 9:5,6 **5:9** [b] Mt 12:1-14; Jn 9:14 **5:10** [c] ver 16 [d] Ne 13:15-22; Jer 17:21; S Mt 12:2 **5:14** [e] Mk 2:5; Jn 8:11 **5:15** [f] S Jn 1:19 **5:17** [g] Lk 2:49 [h] Jn 9:4; 14:10 **5:18** [i] S Mt 12:14 [j] Jn 10:30,33; 19:7 **5:19** [k] ver 30; S Jn 14:24 **5:20** [l] Jn 3:35 [m] Jn 14:12 **5:21** [n] Ro 4:17; 8:11; 2Co 1:9; Heb 11:19 [o] Jn 11:25 **5:22** [p] ver 27; Ge 18:25; Jdg 11:27; Jn 9:39; S Ac 10:42 **5:23** [q] Lk 10:16; S 1Jn 2:23 **5:24** [r] S Mt 10:40; S Jn 3:15; S 3:17 [s] S Mt 25:46 [t] Jn 3:18 [u] 1Jn 3:14 **5:25** [v] Jn 4:23; 16:32 [w] Jn 8:43, 47 **5:26** [x] Dt 30:20; Job 10:12; 33:4; Ps 36:9; S Jn 1:4 **5:27** [y] S ver 22 **5:28** [z] Jn 4:21; 16:2 **5:29** [a] S Mt 25:46 **5:30** [b] ver 19 [c] Isa 28:6; Jn 8:16 [d] S Mt 26:39 **5:31** [e] Jn 8:14 **5:32** [f] ver 37; Jn 8:18 **5:33** [g] S Jn 1:7 **5:34** [h] 1Jn 5:9 [i] Ac 16:30,31; Eph 2:8; Tit 3:5 **5:35** [j] Da 12:3; 2Pe 1:19 **5:36** [k] 1Jn 5:9 [l] Jn 14:11; 15:24 [m] S Jn 3:17 **5:37** [n] Jn 8:18 [o] Dt 4:12; 1Ti 1:17; S Jn 1:18 **5:38** [p] 1Jn 1:10; 2:14 [q] Isa 26:10 [r] S Jn 3:17 **5:39** [s] Ro 2:17,18 [t] S Mt 25:46 [u] S Lk 24:27,44; Ac 13:27 **5:40** [v] Jn 6:44 **5:41** [w] ver 44

*39 Or *Study diligently* (the imperative)

other, yet make no effort to obtain the
praise that comes from the only
God[f]?[a]
45 "But do not think I will accuse you
before the Father. Your accuser is
Moses,[b] on whom your hopes are set.[c]
46 If you believed Moses, you would be-
lieve me, for he wrote about me.[d] 47 But
since you do not believe what he
wrote, how are you going to believe
what I say?"[e]

Jesus Feeds the Five Thousand

6:1-13pp — Mt 14:13-21; Mk 6:32-44; Lk 9:10-17

6 Some time after this, Jesus crossed
to the far shore of the Sea of Galilee
(that is, the Sea of Tiberias), 2 and a
great crowd of people followed him be-
cause they saw the miraculous signs[f]
he had performed on the sick. 3 Then
Jesus went up on a mountainside[g] and
sat down with his disciples. 4 The
Jewish Passover Feast[h] was near.
5 When Jesus looked up and saw a
great crowd coming toward him, he
said to Philip,[i] "Where shall we buy
bread for these people to eat?" 6 He
asked this only to test him, for he al-
ready had in mind what he was going
to do.
7 Philip answered him, "Eight
months' wages[g] would not buy
enough bread for each one to have a
bite!"
8 Another of his disciples, Andrew,
Simon Peter's brother,[j] spoke up,
9 "Here is a boy with five small barley
loaves and two small fish, but how far
will they go among so many?"[k]
10 Jesus said, "Have the people sit
down." There was plenty of grass in
that place, and the men sat down,
about five thousand of them. 11 Jesus
then took the loaves, gave thanks,[l]
and distributed to those who were seat-
ed as much as they wanted. He did the
same with the fish.
12 When they had all had enough to
eat, he said to his disciples, "Gather
the pieces that are left over. Let noth-
ing be wasted." 13 So they gathered
them and filled twelve baskets with the
pieces of the five barley loaves left over
by those who had eaten.
14 After the people saw the miracu-
lous sign[m] that Jesus did, they began to
say, "Surely this is the Prophet who is
to come into the world."[n] 15 Jesus,
knowing that they intended to come
and make him king[o] by force, with-
drew again to a mountain by himself.[p]

Jesus Walks on the Water

6:16-21pp — Mt 14:22-33; Mk 6:47-51

16 When evening came, his disciples
went down to the lake, 17 where they
got into a boat and set off across the
lake for Capernaum. By now it was
dark, and Jesus had not yet joined
them. 18 A strong wind was blowing
and the waters grew rough. 19 When
they had rowed three or three and a
half miles,[h] they saw Jesus approach-
ing the boat, walking on the water;[q]
and they were terrified. 20 But he said to
them, "It is I; don't be afraid."[r] 21 Then
they were willing to take him into the
boat, and immediately the boat reached
the shore where they were heading.
22 The next day the crowd that had
stayed on the opposite shore of the
lake[s] realized that only one boat had
been there, and that Jesus had not en-
tered it with his disciples, but that they
had gone away alone.[t] 23 Then some
boats from Tiberias[u] landed near the
place where the people had eaten the
bread after the Lord had given
thanks.[v] 24 Once the crowd realized
that neither Jesus nor his disciples were
there, they got into the boats and went
to Capernaum in search of Jesus.

Jesus the Bread of Life

25 When they found him on the other
side of the lake, they asked him, "Rab-
bi,[w] when did you get here?"
26 Jesus answered, "I tell you the
truth, you are looking for me,[x] not be-
cause you saw miraculous signs[y] but
because you ate the loaves and had
your fill. 27 Do not work for food that
spoils, but for food that endures[z] to
eternal life,[a] which the Son of Man[b]
will give you. On him God the Father
has placed his seal[c] of approval."
28 Then they asked him, "What must
we do to do the works God requires?"
29 Jesus answered, "The work of God
is this: to believe[d] in the one he has
sent."[e]
30 So they asked him, "What miracu-
lous sign[f] then will you give that we
may see it and believe you?[g] What will
you do? 31 Our forefathers ate the man-
na[h] in the desert; as it is written: 'He
gave them bread from heaven to
eat.'[i]"[i]
32 Jesus said to them, "I tell you the
truth, it is not Moses who has given

5:44 [a]S Ro 2:29
5:45 [b]Jn 9:28 [c]Ro 2:17
5:46 [d]Ge 3:15; S Lk 24:27,44; Ac 26:22
5:47 [e]Lk 16:29,31
6:2 [f]S Jn 2:11
6:3 [g]ver 15
6:4 [h]S Jn 11:55
6:5 [i]S Jn 1:43
6:8 [j]Jn 1:40
6:9 [k]2Ki 4:43
6:11 [l]ver 23; S Mt 14:19
6:14 [m]S Jn 2:11 [n]Dt 18:15,18; Mt 11:3; S 21:11
6:15 [o]Jn 18:36 [p]Mt 14:23; Mk 6:46
6:19 [q]Job 9:8
6:20 [r]S Mt 14:27
6:22 [s]ver 2 [t]ver 15-21
6:23 [u]ver 1 [v]ver 11
6:25 [w]S Mt 23:7
6:26 [x]ver 24 [y]ver 30; S Jn 2:11
6:27 [z]Isa 55:2 [a]ver 54; S Mt 25:46 [b]S Mt 8:20 [c]Ro 4:11; 1Co 9:2; 2Co 1:22; Eph 1:13; 4:30; 2Ti 2:19; Rev 7:3
6:29 [d]1Jn 3:23 [e]S Jn 3:17
6:30 [f]S Jn 2:11 [g]S Mt 12:38
6:31 [h]Nu 11:7-9 [i]Ex 16:4,15; Ne 9:15; Ps 78:24; 105:40

f44 Some early manuscripts *the Only One*
g7 Greek *two hundred denarii* h19 Greek *rowed twenty-five or thirty stadia* (about 5 or 6 kilometers)
i31 Exodus 16:4; Neh. 9:15; Psalm 78:24,25

you the bread from heaven, but it is my
Father who gives you the true bread
from heaven. 33For the bread of God is
he who comes down from heaven[a] and
gives life to the world."
34"Sir," they said, "from now on give
us this bread."[b]
35Then Jesus declared, "I am[c] the
bread of life.[d] He who comes to me
will never go hungry, and he who be-
lieves[e] in me will never be thirsty.[f]
36But as I told you, you have seen me
and still you do not believe. 37All that
the Father gives me[g] will come to me,
and whoever comes to me I will never
drive away. 38For I have come down
from heaven[h] not to do my will but to
do the will[i] of him who sent me.[j]
39And this is the will of him who sent
me, that I shall lose none of all that he
has given me,[k] but raise them up at the
last day.[l] 40For my Father's will is that
everyone who looks to the Son[m] and
believes in him shall have eternal life,[n]
and I will raise him up at the last day."
41At this the Jews began to grumble
about him because he said, "I am the
bread that came down from heaven."
42They said, "Is this not Jesus, the son
of Joseph,[o] whose father and mother
we know?[p] How can he now say, 'I
came down from heaven'?"[q]
43"Stop grumbling among your-
selves," Jesus answered. 44"No one can
come to me unless the Father who sent
me draws him,[r] and I will raise him up
at the last day. 45It is written in the
Prophets: 'They will all be taught by
God.'[j][s] Everyone who listens to the
Father and learns from him comes to
me. 46No one has seen the Father ex-
cept the one who is from God;[t] only he
has seen the Father. 47I tell you the
truth, he who believes has everlasting
life.[u] 48I am the bread of life.[v] 49Your
forefathers ate the manna in the desert,
yet they died.[w] 50But here is the bread
that comes down from heaven,[x] which
a man may eat and not die. 51I am the
living bread[y] that came down from
heaven.[z] If anyone eats of this bread,
he will live forever. This bread is my
flesh, which I will give for the life of the
world."[a]
52Then the Jews[b] began to argue
sharply among themselves,[c] "How
can this man give us his flesh to eat?"
53Jesus said to them, "I tell you the
truth, unless you eat the flesh[d] of the
Son of Man[e] and drink his blood,[f] you
have no life in you. 54Whoever eats my
flesh and drinks my blood has eternal
life, and I will raise him up at the last
day.[g] 55For my flesh is real food and
my blood is real drink. 56Whoever eats
my flesh and drinks my blood remains
in me, and I in him.[h] 57Just as the living
Father sent me[i] and I live because of
the Father, so the one who feeds on me
will live because of me. 58This is the
bread that came down from heaven.
Your forefathers ate manna and died,
but he who feeds on this bread will live
forever."[j] 59He said this while teaching
in the synagogue in Capernaum.

Many Disciples Desert Jesus

60On hearing it, many of his disci-
ples[k] said, "This is a hard teaching.
Who can accept it?"[l]
61Aware that his disciples were
grumbling about this, Jesus said to
them, "Does this offend you?[m] 62What
if you see the Son of Man[n] ascend to
where he was before![o] 63The Spirit
gives life;[p] the flesh counts for noth-
ing. The words I have spoken to you
are spirit[k] and they are life. 64Yet there
are some of you who do not believe."
For Jesus had known[q] from the begin-
ning which of them did not believe and
who would betray him.[r] 65He went on
to say, "This is why I told you that no
one can come to me unless the Father
has enabled him."[s]
66From this time many of his disci-
ples[t] turned back and no longer fol-
lowed him.
67"You do not want to leave too, do
you?" Jesus asked the Twelve.[u]
68Simon Peter answered him,[v]
"Lord, to whom shall we go? You have
the words of eternal life.[w] 69We believe
and know that you are the Holy One of
God."[x]
70Then Jesus replied, "Have I not
chosen you,[y] the Twelve? Yet one of
you is a devil!"[z] 71(He meant Judas, the
son of Simon Iscariot,[a] who, though
one of the Twelve, was later to betray
him.)[b]

Jesus Goes to the Feast of Tabernacles

7 After this, Jesus went around in
Galilee, purposely staying away
from Judea because the Jews[c] there
were waiting to take his life.[d] 2But
when the Jewish Feast of Tabernacles[e]
was near, 3Jesus' brothers[f] said to him,
"You ought to leave here and go to
Judea, so that your disciples may see
the miracles you do. 4No one who

6:33 [a]ver 50; Jn 3:13,31
6:34 [b]Jn 4:15
6:35 [c]Ex 3:14; Jn 8:12; 10:7,11; 11:25; 14:6; 15:1 [d]ver 48,51 [e]S Jn 3:15 [f]Jn 4:14
6:37 [g]ver 39; Jn 17:2,6,9,24
6:38 [h]Jn 3:13,31 [i]S Mt 26:39 [j]S Jn 3:17
6:39 [k]Isa 27:3; Jer 23:4; Jn 10:28; 17:12; 18:9 [l]ver 40,44, 54
6:40 [m]Jn 12:45 [n]S Mt 25:46
6:42 [o]Lk 4:22 [p]Jn 7:27,28 [q]ver 38,62
6:44 [r]ver 65; Jer 31:3; Jn 12:32
6:45 [s]Isa 54:13; Jer 31:33,34; 1Co 2:13; 1Th 4:9; Heb 8:10,11; 10:16; 1Jn 2:27
6:46 [t]S Jn 1:18; 5:37; 7:29
6:47 [u]S Mt 25:46
6:48 [v]ver 35,51
6:49 [w]ver 31,58
6:50 [x]ver 33
6:51 [y]ver 35,48 [z]ver 41,58 [a]Heb 10:10
6:52 [b]S Jn 1:19 [c]Jn 7:43; 9:16; 10:19
6:53 [d]Mt 26:26 [e]S Mt 8:20 [f]Mt 26:28
6:54 [g]ver 39
6:56 [h]Jn 15:4-7; 1Jn 2:24; 3:24; 4:15
6:57 [i]S Jn 3:17
6:58 [j]ver 49-51; Jn 3:36; 5:24
6:60 [k]ver 66 [l]ver 52
6:61 [m]Mt 13:57
6:62 [n]S Mt 8:20 [o]S Mk 16:19; S Jn 3:13; 17:5
6:63 [p]2Co 3:6
6:64 [q]S Jn 2:25 [r]S Mt 10:4
6:65 [s]ver 37,44; S Mt 13:11
6:66 [t]ver 60
6:67 [u]Mt 10:2
6:68 [v]Mt 16:16 [w]ver 63; S Mt 25:46
6:69 [x]S Mk 1:24; 8:29; Lk 9:20
6:70 [y]Jn 15:16, 19 [z]Jn 13:27; 17:12
6:71 [a]S Mt 26:14 [b]S Mt 10:4
7:1 [c]S Jn 1:19 [d]ver 19,25; S Mt 12:14
7:2 [e]Lev 23:34; Dt 16:16
7:3 [f]S Mt 12:46

[j]45 Isaiah 54:13 [k]63 Or *Spirit*

wants to become a public figure acts in
secret. Since you are doing these
things, show yourself to the world."
5 For even his own brothers did not be-
lieve in him.[a]
6 Therefore Jesus told them, "The
right time[b] for me has not yet come; for
you any time is right. 7 The world can-
not hate you, but it hates me[c] because
I testify that what it does is evil.[d] 8 You
go to the Feast. I am not yet[l] going up
to this Feast, because for me the right
time[e] has not yet come." 9 Having said
this, he stayed in Galilee.
10 However, after his brothers had left
for the Feast, he went also, not public-
ly, but in secret. 11 Now at the Feast the
Jews were watching for him[f] and ask-
ing, "Where is that man?"
12 Among the crowds there was wide-
spread whispering about him. Some
said, "He is a good man."
Others replied, "No, he deceives the
people."[g] 13 But no one would say any-
thing publicly about him for fear of the
Jews.[h]

Jesus Teaches at the Feast

14 Not until halfway through the Feast
did Jesus go up to the temple courts
and begin to teach.[i] 15 The Jews[j] were
amazed and asked, "How did this man
get such learning[k] without having
studied?"
16 Jesus answered, "My teaching is
not my own. It comes from him who
sent me.[m] 17 If anyone chooses to do
God's will, he will find out[n] whether
my teaching comes from God or
whether I speak on my own. 18 He who
speaks on his own does so to gain hon-
or for himself,[o] but he who works for
the honor of the one who sent him is a
man of truth; there is nothing false
about him. 19 Has not Moses given you
the law?[p] Yet not one of you keeps the
law. Why are you trying to kill me?"[q]
20 "You are demon-possessed,"[r] the
crowd answered. "Who is trying to kill
you?"
21 Jesus said to them, "I did one mira-
cle,[s] and you are all astonished. 22 Yet,
because Moses gave you circumcision[t]
(though actually it did not come from
Moses, but from the patriarchs),[u] you
circumcise a child on the Sabbath.
23 Now if a child can be circumcised on
the Sabbath so that the law of Moses
may not be broken, why are you angry
with me for healing the whole man on
the Sabbath? 24 Stop judging by mere
appearances, and make a right judg-
ment."[v]

Is Jesus the Christ?

25 At that point some of the people of
Jerusalem began to ask, "Isn't this the
man they are trying to kill?[w] 26 Here he
is, speaking publicly, and they are not
saying a word to him. Have the au-
thorities[x] really concluded that he is
the Christ[m]?[y] 27 But we know where
this man is from;[z] when the Christ
comes, no one will know where he is
from."
28 Then Jesus, still teaching in the
temple courts,[a] cried out, "Yes, you
know me, and you know where I am
from.[b] I am not here on my own, but
he who sent me is true.[c] You do not
know him, 29 but I know him[d] because I
am from him and he sent me."[e]
30 At this they tried to seize him, but
no one laid a hand on him,[f] because
his time had not yet come.[g] 31 Still,
many in the crowd put their faith in
him.[h] They said, "When the Christ
comes, will he do more miraculous
signs[i] than this man?"
32 The Pharisees heard the crowd
whispering such things about him.
Then the chief priests and the Phari-
sees sent temple guards to arrest him.
33 Jesus said, "I am with you for only
a short time,[j] and then I go to the one
who sent me.[k] 34 You will look for me,
but you will not find me; and where I
am, you cannot come."[l]
35 The Jews said to one another,
"Where does this man intend to go that
we cannot find him? Will he go where
our people live scattered[m] among the
Greeks,[n] and teach the Greeks? 36 What
did he mean when he said, 'You will
look for me, but you will not find me,'
and 'Where I am, you cannot come'?"[o]
37 On the last and greatest day of the
Feast,[p] Jesus stood and said in a loud
voice, "If anyone is thirsty, let him
come to me and drink.[q] 38 Whoever be-
lieves[r] in me, as[n] the Scripture has
said,[s] streams of living water[t] will
flow from within him."[u] 39 By this he
meant the Spirit,[v] whom those who
believed in him were later to receive.[w]
Up to that time the Spirit had not been
given, since Jesus had not yet been
glorified.[x]
40 On hearing his words, some of the

[illegible]
7:24 [v]1Sa 16:7; Isa 11:3,4; Jn 8:15; 2Co 10:7
7:25 [w]ver 1; S Mt 12:14
7:26 [x]ver 48 [y]Jn 4:29
7:27 [z]Mt 13:55; Lk 4:22; Jn 6:42
7:28 [a]ver 14 [b]Jn 8:14 [c]Jn 8:26,42
7:29 [d]S Mt 11:27 [e]S Jn 3:17
7:30 [f]ver 32,44; Jn 10:39 [g]S Mt 26:18
7:31 [h]Jn 8:30; 10:42; 11:45; 12:11,42 [i]S Jn 2:11
7:33 [j]Jn 12:35; 13:33; 16:16 [k]Jn 16:5,10,17,28
7:34 [l]ver 36; Jn 8:21; 13:33
7:35 [m]S Jas 1:1 [n]Jn 12:20; Ac 17:4; 18:4
7:36 [o]ver 34
7:37 [p]Lev 23:36 [q]Isa 55:1; Rev 22:17
7:38 [r]S Jn 3:15 [s]Isa 58:11 [t]S Jn 4:10 [u]S Jn 4:14
7:39 [v]Joel 2:28; Jn 1:33; Ac 2:17,33 [w]S Jn 20:22 [x]Jn 12:23; 13:31,32

[l]8 Some early manuscripts do not have *yet*.
[m]26 Or *Messiah*; also in verses 27, 31, 41 and 42
[n]37,38 Or / *If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me.* / *And let him drink.* [38] *who believes in me.* / As

people said, "Surely this man is the
Prophet."[a]
41Others said, "He is the Christ."
Still others asked, "How can the
Christ come from Galilee?[b] 42Does not
the Scripture say that the Christ will
come from David's family[a][c] and from
Bethlehem,[d] the town where David
lived?" 43Thus the people were di-
vided[e] because of Jesus. 44Some want-
ed to seize him, but no one laid a hand
on him.[f]

Unbelief of the Jewish Leaders

45Finally the temple guards went
back to the chief priests and Pharisees,
who asked them, "Why didn't you
bring him in?"
46"No one ever spoke the way this
man does,"[g] the guards declared.
47"You mean he has deceived you
also?"[h] the Pharisees retorted. 48"Has
any of the rulers or of the Pharisees be-
lieved in him?[i] 49No! But this mob that
knows nothing of the law—there is a
curse on them."
50Nicodemus,[j] who had gone to
Jesus earlier and who was one of their
own number, asked, 51"Does our law
condemn anyone without first hearing
him to find out what he is doing?"
52They replied, "Are you from Gali-
lee, too? Look into it, and you will find
that a prophet[p] does not come out of
Galilee."[k]

[The earliest and most reliable manuscripts and other ancient witnesses do not have John 7:53-8:11.]

53Then each went to his own home.
8 But Jesus went to the Mount of Ol-
ives.[l] 2At dawn he appeared again
in the temple courts, where all the
people gathered around him, and he
sat down to teach them.[m] 3The teachers
of the law and the Pharisees brought in
a woman caught in adultery. They
made her stand before the group 4and
said to Jesus, "Teacher, this woman
was caught in the act of adultery. 5In
the Law Moses commanded us to stone
such women.[n] Now what do you say?"
6They were using this question as a
trap,[o] in order to have a basis for ac-
cusing him.[p]
But Jesus bent down and started to
write on the ground with his finger.
7When they kept on questioning him,
he straightened up and said to them,
"If any one of you is without sin, let
him be the first to throw a stone[q] at
her."[r] 8Again he stooped down and
wrote on the ground.
9At this, those who heard began to
go away one at a time, the older ones
first, until only Jesus was left, with the
woman still standing there. 10Jesus
straightened up and asked her,
"Woman, where are they? Has no one
condemned you?"
11"No one, sir," she said.
"Then neither do I condemn you,"[s]
Jesus declared. "Go now and leave
your life of sin."[t]

The Validity of Jesus' Testimony

12When Jesus spoke again to the
people, he said, "I am[u] the light of the
world.[v] Whoever follows me will nev-
er walk in darkness, but will have the
light of life."[w]
13The Pharisees challenged him,
"Here you are, appearing as your own
witness; your testimony is not valid."[x]
14Jesus answered, "Even if I testify
on my own behalf, my testimony is val-
id, for I know where I came from and
where I am going.[y] But you have no
idea where I come from[z] or where I am
going. 15You judge by human stan-
dards;[a] I pass judgment on no one.[b]
16But if I do judge, my decisions are
right, because I am not alone. I stand
with the Father, who sent me.[c] 17In
your own Law it is written that the tes-
timony of two men is valid.[d] 18I am one
who testifies for myself; my other wit-
ness is the Father, who sent me."[e]
19Then they asked him, "Where is
your father?"
"You do not know me or my Fa-
ther,"[f] Jesus replied. "If you knew me,
you would know my Father also."[g]
20He spoke these words while teach-
ing[h] in the temple area near the place
where the offerings were put.[i] Yet no
one seized him, because his time had
not yet come.[j]
21Once more Jesus said to them, "I
am going away, and you will look for
me, and you will die[k] in your sin.
Where I go, you cannot come."[l]
22This made the Jews ask, "Will he
kill himself? Is that why he says,
'Where I go, you cannot come'?"
23But he continued, "You are from

7:40 [a]S Mt 21:11 **7:41** [b]ver 52; Jn 1:46 **7:42** [c]S Mt 1:1 [d]Mic 5:2; Mt 2:5, 6; Lk 2:4 **7:43** [e]Jn 6:52; 9:16; 10:19 **7:44** [f]ver 30 **7:46** [g]S Mt 7:28 **7:47** [h]ver 12 **7:48** [i]Jn 12:42 **7:50** [j]Jn 3:1; 19:39 **7:52** [k]ver 41 **8:1** [l]S Mt 21:1 **8:2** [m]ver 20; S Mt 26:55 **8:5** [n]Lev 20:10; Dt 22:22; Job 31:11 **8:6** [o]Mt 22:15, 18 [p]S Mt 12:10 **8:7** [q]Dt 17:7; Eze 16:40 [r]Ro 2:1, 22 **8:11** [s]Jn 3:17 [t]Jn 5:14 **8:12** [u]S Jn 6:35 [v]S Jn 1:4 [w]Pr 4:18; Mt 5:14 **8:13** [x]Jn 5:31 **8:14** [y]Jn 13:3; 16:28 [z]Jn 7:28; 9:29 **8:15** [a]S Jn 7:24 [b]Jn 3:17 **8:16** [c]Jn 5:30 **8:17** [d]S Mt 18:16 **8:18** [e]Jn 5:37 **8:19** [f]Jn 16:3 [g]S 1Jn 2:23 **8:20** [h]S Mt 26:55 [i]Mk 12:41 [j]S Mt 26:18 **8:21** [k]Eze 3:18 [l]Jn 7:34; 13:33

[a]42 Greek *seed* [p]52 Two early manuscripts *the Prophet*

below; I am from above. You are of this
world; I am not of this world.[a] 24I told
you that you would die in your sins; if
you do not believe that I am ⌊the one I
claim to be⌋,[q][b] you will indeed die in
your sins."

25"Who are you?" they asked.

"Just what I have been claiming all
along," Jesus replied. 26"I have much
to say in judgment of you. But he who
sent me is reliable,[c] and what I have
heard from him I tell the world."[d]

27They did not understand that he
was telling them about his Father. 28So
Jesus said, "When you have lifted up
the Son of Man,[e] then you will know
that I am ⌊the one I claim to be⌋ and that
I do nothing on my own but speak just
what the Father has taught me.[f] 29The
one who sent me is with me; he has not
left me alone,[g] for I always do what
pleases him."[h] 30Even as he spoke,
many put their faith in him.[i]

The Children of Abraham

31To the Jews who had believed him,
Jesus said, "If you hold to my teaching,[j]
you are really my disciples.
32Then you will know the truth, and
the truth will set you free."[k]

33They answered him, "We are Abraham's
descendants[r][l] and have never
been slaves of anyone. How can you
say that we shall be set free?"

34Jesus replied, "I tell you the truth,
everyone who sins is a slave to sin.[m]
35Now a slave has no permanent place
in the family, but a son belongs to it
forever.[n] 36So if the Son sets you free,[o]
you will be free indeed. 37I know you
are Abraham's descendants. Yet you
are ready to kill me,[p] because you have
no room for my word. 38I am telling
you what I have seen in the Father's
presence,[q] and you do what you have
heard from your father.[s]"[r]

39"Abraham is our father," they answered.

"If you were Abraham's children,"[s]
said Jesus, "then you would[t] do the
things Abraham did. 40As it is, you are
determined to kill me,[t] a man who has
told you the truth that I heard from
God.[u] Abraham did not do such
things. 41You are doing the things your
own father does."[v]

"We are not illegitimate children,"
they protested. "The only Father we
have is God himself."[w]

The Children of the Devil

42Jesus said to them, "If God were
your Father, you would love me,[x] for I
came from God[y] and now am here. I
have not come on my own;[z] but he
sent me.[a] 43Why is my language not
clear to you? Because you are unable to
hear what I say. 44You belong to your
father, the devil,[b] and you want to carry
out your father's desire.[c] He was a
murderer from the beginning, not
holding to the truth, for there is no
truth in him. When he lies, he speaks
his native language, for he is a liar and
the father of lies.[d] 45Yet because I tell
the truth,[e] you do not believe me!
46Can any of you prove me guilty of
sin? If I am telling the truth, why don't
you believe me? 47He who belongs to
God hears what God says.[f] The reason
you do not hear is that you do not belong
to God."

The Claims of Jesus About Himself

48The Jews answered him, "Aren't
we right in saying that you are a
Samaritan[g] and demon-possessed?"[h]

49"I am not possessed by a demon,"
said Jesus, "but I honor my Father and
you dishonor me. 50I am not seeking
glory for myself;[i] but there is one who
seeks it, and he is the judge. 51I tell you
the truth, if anyone keeps my word, he
will never see death."[j]

52At this the Jews exclaimed, "Now
we know that you are demon-possessed![k]
Abraham died and so did the
prophets, yet you say that if anyone
keeps your word, he will never taste
death. 53Are you greater than our father
Abraham?[l] He died, and so did
the prophets. Who do you think you
are?"

54Jesus replied, "If I glorify myself,[m]
my glory means nothing. My Father,
whom you claim as your God, is the
one who glorifies me.[n] 55Though you
do not know him,[o] I know him.[p] If I
said I did not, I would be a liar like
you, but I do know him and keep his
word.[q] 56Your father Abraham[r] rejoiced
at the thought of seeing my day;
he saw it[s] and was glad."

57"You are not yet fifty years old,"
the Jews said to him, "and you have
seen Abraham!"

58"I tell you the truth," Jesus answered,
"before Abraham was born,[t] I
am!"[u] 59At this, they picked up stones

8:23 [a]Jn 3:31; 17:14
8:24 [b]Jn 4:26; 13:19
8:26 [c]Jn 7:28 [d]Jn 3:32; 15:15
8:28 [e]S Jn 12:32 [f]S Jn 14:24
8:29 [g]ver 16; Jn 16:32 [h]Isa 50:5; Jn 4:34; 5:30; 6:38
8:30 [i]S Jn 7:31
8:31 [j]Jn 15:7; 2Jn 9
8:32 [k]ver 36; Ro 8:2; 2Co 3:17; Gal 5:1,13
8:33 [l]ver 37,39; S Lk 3:8
8:34 [m]S Ro 6:16
8:35 [n]Gal 4:30
8:36 [o]ver 32
8:37 [p]ver 39,40
8:38 [q]Jn 5:19,30; 14:10,24 [r]ver 41, 44
8:39 [s]ver 37; S Lk 3:8
8:40 [t]S Mt 12:14 [u]ver 26
8:41 [v]ver 38,44 [w]Isa 63:16; 64:8
8:42 [x]1Jn 5:1 [y]S Jn 13:3 [z]Jn 7:28 [a]S Jn 3:17
8:44 [b]1Jn 3:8 [c]ver 38,41 [d]Ge 3:4; 4:9; 2Ch 18:21; Ps 5:6; 12:2
8:45 [e]Jn 18:37
8:47 [f]Jn 18:37; 1Jn 4:6
8:48 [g]S Mt 10:5 [h]ver 52; S Mk 3:22
8:50 [i]ver 54; Jn 5:41
8:51 [j]Jn 11:26
8:52 [k]ver 48; S Mk 3:22
8:53 [l]ver 39; Jn 4:12
8:54 [m]ver 50 [n]Jn 16:14; 17:1,5
8:55 [o]ver 19 [p]Jn 7:28,29 [q]Jn 15:10
8:56 [r]ver 37,39; Ge 18:18 [s]S Mt 13:17
8:58 [t]S Jn 1:2 [u]Ex 3:14; 6:3

[q]24 Or *I am he;* also in verse 28 [r]33 Greek *seed;* also in verse 37 [s]38 Or *presence. Therefore do what you have heard from the Father.* [t]39 Some early manuscripts *"If you are Abraham's children," said Jesus, "then*

to stone him,[a] but Jesus hid himself,[b]
slipping away from the temple
grounds.

Jesus Heals a Man Born Blind

9 As he went along, he saw a man
blind from birth. 2His disciples
asked him, "Rabbi,[c] who sinned,[d] this
man[e] or his parents,[f] that he was born
blind?"
3"Neither this man nor his parents
sinned," said Jesus, "but this hap-
pened so that the work of God might
be displayed in his life.[g] 4As long as it
is day,[h] we must do the work of him
who sent me. Night is coming, when
no one can work. 5While I am in the
world, I am the light of the world."[i]
6Having said this, he spit[j] on the
ground, made some mud with the sali-
va, and put it on the man's eyes.
7"Go," he told him, "wash in the Pool
of Siloam"[k] (this word means Sent). So
the man went and washed, and came
home seeing.[l]
8His neighbors and those who had
formerly seen him begging asked,
"Isn't this the same man who used to
sit and beg?"[m] 9Some claimed that he
was.
Others said, "No, he only looks like
him."
But he himself insisted, "I am the
man."
10"How then were your eyes
opened?" they demanded.
11He replied, "The man they call
Jesus made some mud and put it on my
eyes. He told me to go to Siloam and
wash. So I went and washed, and then
I could see."[n]
12"Where is this man?" they asked
him.
"I don't know," he said.

The Pharisees Investigate the Healing

13They brought to the Pharisees the
man who had been blind. 14Now the
day on which Jesus had made the mud
and opened the man's eyes was a Sab-
bath.[o] 15Therefore the Pharisees also
asked him how he had received his
sight.[p] "He put mud on my eyes," the
man replied, "and I washed, and now I
see."
16Some of the Pharisees said, "This
man is not from God, for he does not
keep the Sabbath."[q]
But others asked, "How can a sinner
do such miraculous signs?"[r] So they
were divided.[s]
17Finally they turned again to the
blind man, "What have you to say
about him? It was your eyes he
opened."
The man replied, "He is a
prophet."[t]
18The Jews[u] still did not believe that
he had been blind and had received his
sight until they sent for the man's par-
ents. 19"Is this your son?" they asked.
"Is this the one you say was born
blind? How is it that now he can see?"
20"We know he is our son," the par-
ents answered, "and we know he was
born blind. 21But how he can see now,
or who opened his eyes, we don't
know. Ask him. He is of age; he will
speak for himself." 22His parents said
this because they were afraid of the
Jews,[v] for already the Jews had de-
cided that anyone who acknowledged
that Jesus was the Christ[u] would be
put out[w] of the synagogue.[x] 23That was
why his parents said, "He is of age; ask
him."[y]
24A second time they summoned the
man who had been blind. "Give glory
to God,[v]"[z] they said. "We know this
man is a sinner."[a]
25He replied, "Whether he is a sinner
or not, I don't know. One thing I do
know. I was blind but now I see!"
26Then they asked him, "What did he
do to you? How did he open your
eyes?"
27He answered, "I have told you al-
ready[b] and you did not listen. Why do
you want to hear it again? Do you want
to become his disciples, too?"
28Then they hurled insults at him and
said, "You are this fellow's disciple! We
are disciples of Moses![c] 29We know
that God spoke to Moses, but as for
this fellow, we don't even know where
he comes from."[d]
30The man answered, "Now that is
remarkable! You don't know where he
comes from, yet he opened my eyes.
31We know that God does not listen to
sinners. He listens to the godly man
who does his will.[e] 32Nobody has ever
heard of opening the eyes of a man
born blind. 33If this man were not from
God,[f] he could do nothing."
34To this they replied, "You were
steeped in sin at birth;[g] how dare you
lecture us!" And they threw him out.[h]

Spiritual Blindness

35Jesus heard that they had thrown

8:59 [a]Ex 17:4; Lev 24:16; 1Sa 30:6; Jn 10:31; 11:8 [b]Jn 12:36
9:2 [c]S Mt 23:7 [d]ver 34; Lk 13:2; Ac 28:4 [e]Eze 18:20 [f]Ex 20:5; Job 21:19
9:3 [g]Jn 11:4
9:4 [h]Jn 11:9; 12:35
9:5 [i]S Jn 1:4
9:6 [j]Mk 7:33; 8:23
9:7 [k]ver 11; 2Ki 5:10; Lk 13:4 [l]Isa 35:5; Jn 11:37
9:8 [m]Ac 3:2,10
9:11 [n]ver 7
9:14 [o]Mt 12:1-14; Jn 5:9
9:15 [p]ver 10
9:16 [q]S Mt 12:2 [r]S Jn 2:11 [s]S Jn 6:52
9:17 [t]S Mt 21:11
9:18 [u]S Jn 1:19
9:22 [v]S Jn 7:13 [w]ver 34; Lk 6:22 [x]Jn 12:42; 16:2
9:23 [y]ver 21
9:24 [z]Jos 7:19 [a]ver 16
9:27 [b]ver 15
9:28 [c]Jn 5:45
9:29 [d]Jn 8:14
9:31 [e]Ge 18:23-32; Ps 34:15,16; 145:19,20; Pr 15:29; Isa 59:1,2; Jn 15:7; Jas 5:16-18; 1Jn 5:14,15
9:33 [f]ver 16; Jn 3:2
9:34 [g]ver 2 [h]ver 22,35; Isa 66:5

[u]22 Or *Messiah* [v]24 A solemn charge to tell the truth (see Joshua 7:19)

him out, and when he found him, he
said, "Do you believe[a] in the Son of
Man?"[b]
36"Who is he, sir?" the man asked.
"Tell me so that I may believe in
him."[c]
37Jesus said, "You have now seen
him; in fact, he is the one speaking
with you."[d]
38Then the man said, "Lord, I be-
lieve," and he worshiped him.[e]
39Jesus said, "For judgment[f] I have
come into this world,[g] so that the blind
will see[h] and those who see will
become blind."[i]
40Some Pharisees who were with him
heard him say this and asked, "What?
Are we blind too?"[j]
41Jesus said, "If you were blind, you
would not be guilty of sin; but now that
you claim you can see, your guilt re-
mains.[k]

The Shepherd and His Flock

10 "I tell you the truth, the man
who does not enter the sheep
pen by the gate, but climbs in by some
other way, is a thief and a robber.[l]
2The man who enters by the gate is the
shepherd of his sheep.[m] 3The watch-
man opens the gate for him, and the
sheep listen to his voice.[n] He calls his
own sheep by name and leads them
out.[o] 4When he has brought out all his
own, he goes on ahead of them, and
his sheep follow him because they
know his voice.[p] 5But they will never
follow a stranger; in fact, they will run
away from him because they do not
recognize a stranger's voice." 6Jesus
used this figure of speech,[q] but they
did not understand what he was telling
them.[r]
7Therefore Jesus said again, "I tell
you the truth, I am[s] the gate[t] for the
sheep. 8All who ever came before me[u]
were thieves and robbers,[v] but the
sheep did not listen to them. 9I am the
gate; whoever enters through me will
be saved.[w] He will come in and go out,
and find pasture. 10The thief comes
only to steal and kill and destroy; I
have come that they may have life,[w]
and have it to the full.[x]
11"I am[y] the good shepherd.[z] The
good shepherd lays down his life for
the sheep.[a] 12The hired hand is not the
shepherd who owns the sheep. So
when he sees the wolf coming, he
abandons the sheep and runs away.[b]
Then the wolf attacks the flock and
scatters it. 13The man runs away be-
cause he is a hired hand and cares
nothing for the sheep.
14"I am the good shepherd;[c] I know
my sheep[d] and my sheep know me—
15just as the Father knows me and I
know the Father[e]—and I lay down my
life for the sheep.[f] 16I have other
sheep[g] that are not of this sheep pen. I
must bring them also. They too will lis-
ten to my voice, and there shall be one
flock[h] and one shepherd.[i] 17The rea-
son my Father loves me is that I lay
down my life[j]—only to take it up
again. 18No one takes it from me, but I
lay it down of my own accord.[k] I have
authority to lay it down and authority
to take it up again. This command I re-
ceived from my Father."[l]
19At these words the Jews were again
divided.[m] 20Many of them said, "He is
demon-possessed[n] and raving mad.[o]
Why listen to him?"
21But others said, "These are not the
sayings of a man possessed by a de-
mon.[p] Can a demon open the eyes of
the blind?"[q]

The Unbelief of the Jews

22Then came the Feast of Dedication[x]
at Jerusalem. It was winter, 23and Jesus
was in the temple area walking in Solo-
mon's Colonnade.[r] 24The Jews[s] gath-
ered around him, saying, "How long
will you keep us in suspense? If you
are the Christ,[y] tell us plainly."[t]
25Jesus answered, "I did tell you,[u]
but you do not believe. The miracles I
do in my Father's name speak for me,[v]
26but you do not believe because you
are not my sheep.[w] 27My sheep listen
to my voice; I know them,[x] and they
follow me.[y] 28I give them eternal life,[z]
and they shall never perish;[a] no one
can snatch them out of my hand.[b]
29My Father, who has given them to
me,[c] is greater than all[z];[d] no one can
snatch them out of my Father's hand.
30I and the Father are one."[e]
31Again the Jews picked up stones to
stone him,[f] 32but Jesus said to them, "I
have shown you many great miracles
from the Father. For which of these do
you stone me?"
33"We are not stoning you for any of
these," replied the Jews, "but for blas-
phemy, because you, a mere man,
claim to be God."[g]
34Jesus answered them, "Is it not
written in your Law,[h] 'I have said you

9:35 [a]S Jn 3:15 [b]S Mt 8:20
9:36 [c]Ro 10:14
9:37 [d]Jn 4:26
9:38 [e]Mt 28:9
9:39 [f]S Jn 5:22 [g]Jn 3:19; 12:47 [h]Lk 4:18 [i]Mt 13:13
9:40 [j]Ro 2:19
9:41 [k]Jn 15:22, 24
10:1 [l]ver 8,10
10:2 [m]ver 11, 14; Mk 6:34
10:3 [n]ver 4,5, 14,16,27 [o]ver 4, 5,14,16,27
10:4 [p]S ver 3
10:6 [q]S Jn 16:25, [r]S Mk 9:32
10:7 [s]S Jn 6:35 [t]ver 9
10:8 [u]Jer 23:1,2; Eze 34:2 [v]ver 1
10:10 [w]S Jn 1:4; 3:15,16; 5:40; 20:31 [x]Ps 65:11; Ro 5:17
10:11 [y]S Jn 6:35 [z]ver 14; Ps 23:1; Isa 40:11; Eze 34:11-16,23; Mt 2:6; Lk 12:32; Heb 13:20; 1Pe 2:25; 5:4; Rev 7:17 [a]ver 15,17,18; Jn 15:13; 1Jn 3:16
10:12 [b]Zec 11:16,17
10:14 [c]S ver 11 [d]ver 27; Ex 33:12
10:15 [e]Mt 11:27 [f]ver 11,17,18
10:16 [g]Isa 56:8; Ac 10:34,35 [h]Jn 11:52; 17:20, 21; Eph 2:11-19 [i]Eze 34:23; 37:24
10:17 [j]ver 11, 15,18
10:18 [k]Mt 26:53 [l]Jn 15:10; Php 2:8; Heb 5:8
10:19 [m]S Jn 6:52
10:20 [n]S Mk 3:22 [o]2Ki 9:11; Jer 29:26; Mk 3:21
10:21 [p]S Mt 4:24 [q]Ex 4:11; Jn 9:32, 33
10:23 [r]Ac 3:11; 5:12
10:24 [s]S Jn 1:19 [t]Lk 22:67; Jn 16:25,29
10:25 [u]Jn 4:26; 8:58 [v]Jn 5:36; 14:11
10:26 [w]Jn 8:47
10:27 [x]ver 14 [y]ver 4
10:28 [z]S Mt 25:46 [a]Isa 66:22 [b]S Jn 6:39
10:29 [c]Jn 17:2, 6,24 [d]Jn 14:28
10:30 [e]Dt 6:4; Jn 17:21-23
10:31 [f]S Jn 8:59
10:33 [g]Lev 24:16; Mt 26:63-66; Jn 5:18
10:34 [h]Jn 8:17; 12:34; 15:25; Ro 3:19; 1Co 14:21

[w]9 Or *kept safe* [x]22 That is, Hanukkah [y]24 Or *Messiah* [z]29 Many early manuscripts *What my Father has given me is greater than all*

are gods'[a]?[a] 35If he called them 'gods,'
to whom the word of God[b] came—and
the Scripture cannot be broken[c]—
36what about the one whom the Father
set apart[d] as his very own[e] and sent
into the world?[f] Why then do you ac-
cuse me of blasphemy because I said, 'I
am God's Son'?[g] 37Do not believe me
unless I do what my Father does.[h]
38But if I do it, even though you do not
believe me, believe the miracles, that
you may know and understand that
the Father is in me, and I in the Fa-
ther."[i] 39Again they tried to seize
him,[j] but he escaped their grasp.[k]
40Then Jesus went back across the
Jordan[l] to the place where John had
been baptizing in the early days. Here
he stayed 41and many people came to
him. They said, "Though John never
performed a miraculous sign,[m] all that
John said about this man was true."[n]
42And in that place many believed in
Jesus.[o]

The Death of Lazarus

11 Now a man named Lazarus was
sick. He was from Bethany,[p] the
village of Mary and her sister Martha.[q]
2This Mary, whose brother Lazarus
now lay sick, was the same one who
poured perfume on the Lord and
wiped his feet with her hair.[r] 3So the
sisters sent word to Jesus, "Lord, the
one you love[s] is sick."
4When he heard this, Jesus said,
"This sickness will not end in death.
No, it is for God's glory[t] so that God's
Son may be glorified through it." 5Jesus
loved Martha and her sister and Laza-
rus. 6Yet when he heard that Lazarus
was sick, he stayed where he was two
more days.
7Then he said to his disciples, "Let
us go back to Judea."[u]
8"But Rabbi,"[v] they said, "a short
while ago the Jews tried to stone you,[w]
and yet you are going back there?"
9Jesus answered, "Are there not
twelve hours of daylight? A man who
walks by day will not stumble, for he
sees by this world's light.[x] 10It is when
he walks by night that he stumbles, for
he has no light."
11After he had said this, he went on
to tell them, "Our friend[y] Lazarus has
fallen asleep;[z] but I am going there to
wake him up."
12His disciples replied, "Lord, if he
sleeps, he will get better." 13Jesus had
been speaking of his death, but his dis-
ciples thought he meant natural
sleep.[a]
14So then he told them plainly,
"Lazarus is dead, 15and for your sake I
am glad I was not there, so that you
may believe. But let us go to him."
16Then Thomas[b] (called Didymus)
said to the rest of the disciples, "Let us
also go, that we may die with him."

Jesus Comforts the Sisters

17On his arrival, Jesus found that
Lazarus had already been in the tomb
for four days.[c] 18Bethany[d] was less
than two miles[b] from Jerusalem, 19and
many Jews had come to Martha and
Mary to comfort them in the loss of
their brother.[e] 20When Martha heard
that Jesus was coming, she went out to
meet him, but Mary stayed at home.[f]
21"Lord," Martha said to Jesus, "if
you had been here, my brother would
not have died.[g] 22But I know that even
now God will give you whatever you
ask."[h]
23Jesus said to her, "Your brother will
rise again."
24Martha answered, "I know he will
rise again in the resurrection[i] at the
last day."[j]
25Jesus said to her, "I am[k] the resur-
rection and the life.[l] He who believes[m]
in me will live, even though he dies;
26and whoever lives and believes[n] in
me will never die.[o] Do you believe
this?"
27"Yes, Lord," she told him, "I be-
lieve that you are the Christ,[c][p] the Son
of God,[q] who was to come into the
world."[r]
28And after she had said this, she
went back and called her sister Mary
aside. "The Teacher[s] is here," she
said, "and is asking for you." 29When
Mary heard this, she got up quickly
and went to him. 30Now Jesus had not
yet entered the village, but was still at
the place where Martha had met him.[t]
31When the Jews who had been with
Mary in the house, comforting her,[u]
noticed how quickly she got up and
went out, they followed her, suppos-
ing she was going to the tomb to
mourn there.
32When Mary reached the place
where Jesus was and saw him, she fell
at his feet and said, "Lord, if you had
been here, my brother would not have
died."[v]

10:34 [a]Ps 82:6 **10:35** [b]S Heb 4:12 [c]S Mt 5:18 **10:36** [d]Jer 1:5 [e]Jn 6:69 [f]S Jn 3:17 [g]Jn 5:17,18 **10:37** [h]ver 25 **10:38** [i]Jn 14:10,11,20; 17:21 **10:39** [j]Jn 7:30 [k]Lk 4:30; Jn 8:59 **10:40** [l]Jn 1:28 **10:41** [m]S Jn 2:11 [n]Jn 1:26,27,30,34 **10:42** [o]S Jn 7:31 **11:1** [p]S Mt 21:17 [q]Lk 10:38 **11:2** [r]Mk 14:3; Lk 7:38; Jn 12:3 **11:3** [s]ver 5,36 **11:4** [t]ver 40 **11:7** [u]Jn 10:40 **11:8** [v]S Mt 23:7 [w]Jn 8:59; 10:31 **11:9** [x]Jn 9:4; 12:35 **11:11** [y]ver 3 [z]S Mt 9:24

11:13 [a]Mt 9:24 **11:16** [b]Mt 10:3; Jn 14:5; 20:24-28; 21:2; Ac 1:13 **11:17** [c]ver 6,39 **11:18** [d]ver 1; S Mt 21:17 **11:19** [e]ver 31; Job 2:11 **11:20** [f]Lk 10:38-42 **11:21** [g]ver 32, 37 **11:22** [h]ver 41, 42 **11:24** [i]Da 12:2; Jn 5:28,29; Ac 24:15 [j]Jn 6:39,40 **11:25** [k]S Jn 6:35 [l]S Jn 1:4 [m]S Jn 3:15 **11:26** [n]S Jn 3:15 [o]S Mt 25:46 **11:27** [p]S Lk 2:11 [q]S Mt 4:3 [r]Jn 6:14 **11:28** [s]Mt 26:18; Jn 13:13 **11:30** [t]ver 20 **11:31** [u]ver 19 **11:32** [v]ver 21

[a]34 Psalm 82:6 [b]18 Greek *fifteen stadia* (about 3 kilometers) [c]27 Or *Messiah*

33When Jesus saw her weeping, and
the Jews who had come along with her
also weeping, he was deeply moved
in spirit and troubled. 34"Where have
you laid him?" he asked.
"Come and see, Lord," they replied.
35Jesus wept.
36Then the Jews said, "See how he
loved him!"
37But some of them said, "Could not
he who opened the eyes of the blind
man have kept this man from dy-
ing?"

Jesus Raises Lazarus From the Dead

38Jesus, once more deeply moved,
came to the tomb. It was a cave with a
stone laid across the entrance. 39"Take
away the stone," he said.
"But, Lord," said Martha, the sister
of the dead man, "by this time there is
a bad odor, for he has been there four
days."
40Then Jesus said, "Did I not tell you
that if you believed, you would see
the glory of God?"
41So they took away the stone. Then
Jesus looked up and said, "Father, I
thank you that you have heard me. 42I
knew that you always hear me, but I
said this for the benefit of the people
standing here, that they may believe
that you sent me."
43When he had said this, Jesus called
in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!"
44The dead man came out, his hands
and feet wrapped with strips of linen,
and a cloth around his face.
Jesus said to them, "Take off the
grave clothes and let him go."

The Plot to Kill Jesus

45Therefore many of the Jews who
had come to visit Mary, and had seen
what Jesus did, put their faith in
him. 46But some of them went to the
Pharisees and told them what Jesus
had done. 47Then the chief priests and
the Pharisees called a meeting of the
Sanhedrin.
"What are we accomplishing?" they
asked. "Here is this man performing
many miraculous signs. 48If we let
him go on like this, everyone will be-
lieve in him, and then the Romans will
come and take away both our place[d]
and our nation."
49Then one of them, named Caia-
phas, who was high priest that year,
spoke up, "You know nothing at all!
50You do not realize that it is better for
you that one man die for the people
than that the whole nation perish."
51He did not say this on his own, but
as high priest that year he prophesied
that Jesus would die for the Jewish na-
tion, 52and not only for that nation but
also for the scattered children of God,
to bring them together and make them
one. 53So from that day on they plot-
ted to take his life.
54Therefore Jesus no longer moved
about publicly among the Jews. In-
stead he withdrew to a region near the
desert, to a village called Ephraim,
where he stayed with his disciples.
55When it was almost time for the
Jewish Passover, many went up from
the country to Jerusalem for their
ceremonial cleansing before the Pass-
over. 56They kept looking for Jesus,
and as they stood in the temple area
they asked one another, "What do you
think? Isn't he coming to the Feast at
all?" 57But the chief priests and Phari-
sees had given orders that if anyone
found out where Jesus was, he should
report it so that they might arrest him.

Jesus Anointed at Bethany

12:1-8Ref — Mt 26:6-13; Mk 14:3-9; Lk 7:37-39

12 Six days before the Passover,
Jesus arrived at Bethany, where
Lazarus lived, whom Jesus had raised
from the dead. 2Here a dinner was giv-
en in Jesus' honor. Martha served,
while Lazarus was among those reclin-
ing at the table with him. 3Then Mary
took about a pint[e] of pure nard, an ex-
pensive perfume; she poured it on
Jesus' feet and wiped his feet with her
hair. And the house was filled with
the fragrance of the perfume.
4But one of his disciples, Judas Iscari-
ot, who was later to betray him, ob-
jected, 5"Why wasn't this perfume sold
and the money given to the poor? It
was worth a year's wages.[f]" 6He did
not say this because he cared about the
poor but because he was a thief; as
keeper of the money bag, he used to
help himself to what was put into it.
7"Leave her alone," Jesus replied.
"It was intended that she should save
this perfume for the day of my burial.
8You will always have the poor among
you, but you will not always have
me."
9Meanwhile a large crowd of Jews
found out that Jesus was there and
came, not only because of him but also

[illegible]
11:50 Jn 18:14
11:52 Isa 49:6; Jn 10:16
11:53 S Mt 12:14
11:54 Jn 7:1
11:55 Ex 12:13, 23, 27; Mt 26:1,2; Mk 14:1; Jn 13:1; 2Ch 30:17,18
11:56 Jn 7:11
12:1 S Jn 11:55; S Mt 21:17
12:2 Lk 10:38-42
12:3 Mk 14:3; Jn 11:2
12:4 S Mt 10:4
12:6 Jn 13:29
12:7 Jn 19:40
12:8 Dt 15:11

d48 Or *temple* e3 Greek *a litra* (probably about 0.5 liter) f5 Greek *three hundred denarii*

to see Lazarus, whom he had raised
from the dead.[a] 10So the chief priests
made plans to kill Lazarus as well, 11for
on account of him[b] many of the Jews
were going over to Jesus and putting
their faith in him.[c]

The Triumphal Entry

12:12-15pp — Mt 21:4-9; Mk 11:7-10; Lk 19:35-38

12The next day the great crowd that
had come for the Feast heard that Jesus
was on his way to Jerusalem. 13They
took palm branches[d] and went out to
meet him, shouting,

"Hosanna![g]"

"Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord!"[h][e]

"Blessed is the King of Israel!"[f]

14Jesus found a young donkey and sat
upon it, as it is written,

15"Do not be afraid, O Daughter of
Zion;
see, your king is coming,
seated on a donkey's colt."[i][g]

16At first his disciples did not under-
stand all this.[h] Only after Jesus was
glorified[i] did they realize that these
things had been written about him and
that they had done these things to him.
17Now the crowd that was with him[j]
when he called Lazarus from the tomb
and raised him from the dead con-
tinued to spread the word. 18Many
people, because they had heard that he
had given this miraculous sign,[k] went
out to meet him. 19So the Pharisees said
to one another, "See, this is getting us
nowhere. Look how the whole world
has gone after him!"[l]

Jesus Predicts His Death

20Now there were some Greeks[m]
among those who went up to worship
at the Feast. 21They came to Philip,
who was from Bethsaida[n] in Galilee,
with a request. "Sir," they said, "we
would like to see Jesus." 22Philip went
to tell Andrew; Andrew and Philip in
turn told Jesus.
23Jesus replied, "The hour[o] has come
for the Son of Man to be glorified.[p] 24I
tell you the truth, unless a kernel of
wheat falls to the ground and dies,[q] it
remains only a single seed. But if it
dies, it produces many seeds. 25The
man who loves his life will lose it,
while the man who hates his life in this
world will keep it[r] for eternal life.[s]
26Whoever serves me must follow me;
and where I am, my servant also will
be.[t] My Father will honor the one who
serves me.
27"Now my heart is troubled,[u] and
what shall I say? 'Father,[v] save me
from this hour'?[w] No, it was for this
very reason I came to this hour. 28Fa-
ther, glorify your name!"
Then a voice came from heaven,[x] "I
have glorified it, and will glorify it
again." 29The crowd that was there and
heard it said it had thundered; others
said an angel had spoken to him.
30Jesus said, "This voice was for your
benefit,[y] not mine. 31Now is the time
for judgment on this world;[z] now the
prince of this world[a] will be driven
out. 32But I, when I am lifted up from
the earth,[b] will draw all men to my-
self."[c] 33He said this to show the kind
of death he was going to die.[d]
34The crowd spoke up, "We have
heard from the Law[e] that the Christ[j]
will remain forever,[f] so how can you
say, 'The Son of Man[g] must be lifted
up'?[h] Who is this 'Son of Man'?"
35Then Jesus told them, "You are go-
ing to have the light[i] just a little while
longer. Walk while you have the
light,[j] before darkness overtakes
you.[k] The man who walks in the dark
does not know where he is going. 36Put
your trust in the light while you have
it, so that you may become sons of
light."[l] When he had finished speak-
ing, Jesus left and hid himself from
them.[m]

The Jews Continue in Their Unbelief

37Even after Jesus had done all these
miraculous signs[n] in their presence,
they still would not believe in him.
38This was to fulfill the word of Isaiah
the prophet:

"Lord, who has believed our
message
and to whom has the arm of the
Lord been revealed?"[k][o]

39For this reason they could not be-
lieve, because, as Isaiah says
elsewhere:

40"He has blinded their eyes
and deadened their hearts,
so they can neither see with their
eyes,
nor understand with their hearts,

12:9 [a]Jn 11:43, 44
12:11 [b]ver 17, 18; Jn 11:45 [c]S Jn 7:31
12:13 [d]Lev 23:40 [e]Ps 118:25,26 [f]S Jn 1:49
12:15 [g]Zec 9:9
12:16 [h]S Mk 9:32 [i]ver 23; Jn 2:22; 7:39
12:17 [j]Jn 11:42
12:18 [k]ver 11; Lk 19:37
12:19 [l]Jn 11:47, 48
12:20 [m]Jn 7:35; Ac 11:20
12:21 [n]S Mt 11:21
12:23 [o]S Mt 26:18 [p]Jn 13:32; 17:1
12:24 [q]1Co 15:36
12:25 [r]Mt 10:39; Mk 8:35; Lk 14:26; 17:33 [s]S Mt 25:46
12:26 [t]Jn 14:3; 17:24; 2Co 5:8; Php 1:23; 1Th 4:17
12:27 [u]Mt 26:38,39; Jn 11:33,38; 13:21 [v]S Mt 11:25 [w]ver 23
12:28 [x]S Mt 3:17
12:30 [y]Ex 19:9; Jn 11:42
12:31 [z]Jn 16:11 [a]Jn 14:30; 16:11; 2Co 4:4; Eph 2:2; 1Jn 4:4; 5:19
12:32 [b]ver34; Isa 11:10; Jn 3:14; 8:28 [c]Jn 6:44
12:33 [d]Jn 18:32; 21:19
12:34 [e]S Jn 10:34 [f]Ps 110:4; Isa 9:7; Eze 37:25; Da 7:14 [g]S Mt 8:20 [h]Jn 3:14
12:35 [i]ver 46 [j]Eph 5:8 [k]1Jn 1:6; 2:11
12:36 [l]ver 46; S Lk 16:8 [m]Jn 8:59
12:37 [n]S Jn 2:11
12:38 [o]Isa 53:1; Ro 10:16

[g]13 A Hebrew expression meaning "Save!" which became an exclamation of praise [h]13 Psalm 118:25, 26 [i]15 Zech. 9:9 [j]34 Or *Messiah* [k]38 Isaiah 53:1

nor turn—and I would heal
them."[1][a]

41 Isaiah said this because he saw Jesus' glory[b] and spoke about him.[c]

42 Yet at the same time many even among the leaders believed in him.[d] But because of the Pharisees[e] they would not confess their faith for fear they would be put out of the synagogue;[f] 43 for they loved praise from men[g] more than praise from God.[h]

44 Then Jesus cried out, "When a man believes in me, he does not believe in me only, but in the one who sent me.[i] 45 When he looks at me, he sees the one who sent me.[j] 46 I have come into the world as a light,[k] so that no one who believes in me should stay in darkness.

47 "As for the person who hears my words but does not keep them, I do not judge him. For I did not come to judge the world, but to save it.[l] 48 There is a judge for the one who rejects me and does not accept my words; that very word which I spoke will condemn him[m] at the last day. 49 For I did not speak of my own accord, but the Father who sent me commanded me[n] what to say and how to say it. 50 I know that his command leads to eternal life.[o] So whatever I say is just what the Father has told me to say."[p]

Jesus Washes His Disciples' Feet

13 It was just before the Passover Feast.[q] Jesus knew that the time had come[r] for him to leave this world and go to the Father.[s] Having loved his own who were in the world, he now showed them the full extent of his love.[m]

2 The evening meal was being served, and the devil had already prompted Judas Iscariot, son of Simon, to betray Jesus.[t] 3 Jesus knew that the Father had put all things under his power,[u] and that he had come from God[v] and was returning to God; 4 so he got up from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel around his waist.[w] 5 After that, he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples' feet,[x] drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him.

6 He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?"

7 Jesus replied, "You do not realize now what I am doing, but later you will understand."[y]

8 "No," said Peter, "you shall never wash my feet."

Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no part with me."

9 "Then, Lord," Simon Peter replied, "not just my feet but my hands and my head as well!"

10 Jesus answered, "A person who has had a bath needs only to wash his feet; his whole body is clean. And you are clean,[z] though not every one of you."[a] 11 For he knew who was going to betray him,[b] and that was why he said not every one was clean.

12 When he had finished washing their feet, he put on his clothes and returned to his place. "Do you understand what I have done for you?" he asked them. 13 "You call me 'Teacher'[c] and 'Lord,'[d] and rightly so, for that is what I am. 14 Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet.[e] 15 I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you.[f] 16 I tell you the truth, no servant is greater than his master,[g] nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. 17 Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them.[h]

Jesus Predicts His Betrayal

18 "I am not referring to all of you;[i] I know those I have chosen.[j] But this is to fulfill the scripture:[k] 'He who shares my bread[l] has lifted up his heel[m] against me.'[n][n]

19 "I am telling you now before it happens, so that when it does happen you will believe[o] that I am He.[p] 20 I tell you the truth, whoever accepts anyone I send accepts me; and whoever accepts me accepts the one who sent me."[q]

21 After he had said this, Jesus was troubled in spirit[r] and testified, "I tell you the truth, one of you is going to betray me."[s]

22 His disciples stared at one another, at a loss to know which of them he meant. 23 One of them, the disciple whom Jesus loved,[t] was reclining next to him. 24 Simon Peter motioned to this disciple and said, "Ask him which one he means."

25 Leaning back against Jesus, he asked him, "Lord, who is it?"[u]

26 Jesus answered, "It is the one to whom I will give this piece of bread

12:40 [a]Isa 6:10; S Mt 13:13,15
12:41 [b]Isa 6:1-4 [c]Lk 24:27
12:42 [d]ver 11; Jn 7:48 [e]S Jn 7:13 [f]Jn 9:22
12:43 [g]1Sa 15:30 [h]S Ro 2:29
12:44 [i]S Mt 10:40; Jn 5:24
12:45 [j]S Jn 14:9
12:46 [k]S Jn 1:4
12:47 [l]S Jn 3:17
12:48 [m]Jn 5:45
12:49 [n]Jn 14:31
12:50 [o]S Mt 25:46 [p]S Jn 14:24
13:1 [q]S Jn 11:55 [r]S Mt 26:18 [s]Jn 16:28
13:2 [t]S Mt 10:4
13:3 [u]S Mt 28:18 [v]Jn 8:42; 16:27, 28,30; 17:8
13:4 [w]S Mt 20:28
13:5 [x]S Lk 7:44
13:7 [y]ver 12
13:10 [z]Jn 15:3 [a]ver 18
13:11 [b]S Mt 10:4
13:13 [c]Mt 26:18; Jn 11:28 [d]S Mt 28:18; Lk 1:43; 2:11; 6:46; 11:1; Ac 10:36; Ro 10:9,12; 14:9; 1Co 12:3; Php 2:11; Col 2:6
13:14 [e]1Pe 5:5
13:15 [f]S Mt 11:29; S 1Ti 4:12
13:16 [g]Mt 10:24; Lk 6:40; Jn 15:20
13:17 [h]Mt 7:24, 25; Lk 11:28; Jas 1:25
13:18 [i]ver 10 [j]Jn 15:16,19 [k]S Mt 1:22 [l]Mt 26:23 [m]Jn 6:70 [n]Ps 41:9
13:19 [o]Jn 14:29; 16:4 [p]Jn 4:26; 8:24
13:20 [q]S Mt 10:40
13:21 [r]S Jn 12:27 [s]Mt 26:21
13:23 [t]Jn 19:26; 20:2; 21:7,20
13:25 [u]Mt 26:22; Jn 21:20

[1]40 Isaiah 6:10 [m]1 *Or he loved them to the last* [n]18 Psalm 41:9

when I have dipped it in the dish."
Then, dipping the piece of bread, he
gave it to Judas Iscariot,[a] son of Simon.
27As soon as Judas took the bread, Sa-
tan entered into him.[b]
"What you are about to do, do
quickly," Jesus told him, 28but no one
at the meal understood why Jesus said
this to him. 29Since Judas had charge of
the money,[c] some thought Jesus was
telling him to buy what was needed for
the Feast,[d] or to give something to the
poor.[e] 30As soon as Judas had taken
the bread, he went out. And it was
night.[f]

Jesus Predicts Peter's Denial

13:37,38pp — Mt 26:33-35; Mk 14:29-31; Lk 22:33,34

31When he was gone, Jesus said,
"Now is the Son of Man[g] glorified[h]
and God is glorified in him.[i] 32If God is
glorified in him,[o] God will glorify the
Son in himself,[j] and will glorify him at
once.
33"My children, I will be with you
only a little longer. You will look for
me, and just as I told the Jews, so I tell
you now: Where I am going, you can-
not come.[k]
34"A new command[l] I give you:
Love one another.[m] As I have loved
you, so you must love one another.[n]
35By this all men will know that you are
my disciples, if you love one an-
other."[o]
36Simon Peter asked him, "Lord,
where are you going?"[p]
Jesus replied, "Where I am going,
you cannot follow now,[q] but you will
follow later."[r]
37Peter asked, "Lord, why can't I fol-
low you now? I will lay down my life
for you."
38Then Jesus answered, "Will you
really lay down your life for me? I tell
you the truth, before the rooster crows,
you will disown me three times![s]

Jesus Comforts His Disciples

14 "Do not let your hearts be trou-
bled.[t] Trust[u] in God[v];[p] trust
also in me. 2In my Father's house are
many rooms; if it were not so, I would
have told you. I am going there[w] to
prepare a place for you. 3And if I go
and prepare a place for you, I will come
back[x] and take you to be with me that
you also may be where I am.[y] 4You
know the way to the place where I am
going."

13:26 [a]S Mt 10:4
13:27 [b]Lk 22:3
13:29 [c]Jn 12:6 [d]ver 1; Jn 12:5
13:30 [f]Lk 22:53
13:31 [g]S Mt 8:20 [h]Jn 7:39; 12:23 [i]Jn 14:13; 17:4; 1Pe 4:11
13:32 [j]Jn 17:1
13:33 [k]S Jn 7:33,34
13:34 [l]Jn 15:12; 1Jn 2:7-11; 3:11 [m]Lev 19:18; 1Th 4:9; 1Pe 1:22 [n]Jn 15:12; Eph 5:2; 1Jn 4:10,11
13:35 [o]1Jn 3:14; 4:20
13:36 [p]Jn 16:5 [q]ver 33; Jn 14:2 [r]Jn 21:18,19; 2Pe 1:14
13:38 [s]Jn 18:27
14:1 [t]ver 27 [u]S Jn 3:15 [v]Ps 4:5
14:2 [w]Jn 13:33,36; 16:5
14:3 [x]ver 18,28; S Mt 16:27 [y]S Jn 12:26
14:5 [z]S Jn 11:16
14:6 [a]S Jn 6:35 [b]Jn 10:9; Eph 2:18; Heb 10:20 [c]Jn 1:14 [d]S Jn 1:4 [e]Ac 4:12
14:7 [f]Jn 1:18; S 1Jn 2:23
14:8 [g]S Jn 1:43
14:9 [h]Isa 9:6; Jn 1:14; 12:45; 2Co 4:4; Php 2:6; Col 1:15; Heb 1:3
14:10 [i]ver 11, 20; Jn 10:38; 17:21 [j]S ver 24
14:11 [k]Jn 5:36; 10:38
14:12 [l]Mt 21:21 [m]Lk 10:17
14:13 [n]S Mt 7:7
14:15 [o]ver 21, 23; Ps 103:18; Jn 15:10; 1Jn 2:3-5; 3:22, 24; 5:3; 2Jn 6; Rev 12:17; 14:12
14:16 [p]ver 26; Jn 15:26; 16:7
14:17 [q]Jn 15:26; 16:13; 1Jn 4:6; 5:6 [r]1Co 2:14
14:18 [s]1Ki 6:13 [t]ver 3,28; S Mt 16:27
14:19 [u]Jn 7:33, 34; 16:16 [v]Jn 6:57
14:20 [w]Jn 16:23,26 [x]ver 10,11; Jn 10:38; 17:21 [y]S Ro 8:10
14:21 [z]S ver 15 [a]Dt 7:13; Jn 16:27; 1Jn 2:5
14:22 [b]Lk 6:16; Ac 1:13

Jesus the Way to the Father

5Thomas[z] said to him, "Lord, we
don't know where you are going, so
how can we know the way?"
6Jesus answered, "I am[a] the way[b]
and the truth[c] and the life.[d] No one
comes to the Father except through
me.[e] 7If you really knew me, you
would know[q] my Father as well.[f]
From now on, you do know him and
have seen him."
8Philip[g] said, "Lord, show us the Fa-
ther and that will be enough for us."
9Jesus answered: "Don't you know
me, Philip, even after I have been
among you such a long time? Anyone
who has seen me has seen the Father.[h]
How can you say, 'Show us the Fa-
ther'? 10Don't you believe that I am in
the Father, and that the Father is in
me?[i] The words I say to you are not
just my own.[j] Rather, it is the Father,
living in me, who is doing his work.
11Believe me when I say that I am in the
Father and the Father is in me; or at
least believe on the evidence of the
miracles themselves.[k] 12I tell you the
truth, anyone who has faith[l] in me
will do what I have been doing.[m] He
will do even greater things than these,
because I am going to the Father. 13And
I will do whatever you ask[n] in my
name, so that the Son may bring glory
to the Father. 14You may ask me for
anything in my name, and I will do it.

Jesus Promises the Holy Spirit

15"If you love me, you will obey what
I command.[o] 16And I will ask the Fa-
ther, and he will give you another
Counselor[p] to be with you forever—
17the Spirit of truth.[q] The world cannot
accept him,[r] because it neither sees
him nor knows him. But you know
him, for he lives with you and will be[r]
in you. 18I will not leave you as or-
phans;[s] I will come to you.[t] 19Before
long, the world will not see me any-
more, but you will see me.[u] Because I
live, you also will live.[v] 20On that day[w]
you will realize that I am in my Fa-
ther,[x] and you are in me, and I am in
you.[y] 21Whoever has my commands
and obeys them, he is the one who
loves me.[z] He who loves me will be
loved by my Father,[a] and I too will
love him and show myself to him."
22Then Judas[b] (not Judas Iscariot)

[o]32 Many early manuscripts do not have *If God is glorified in him.* [p]1 Or *You trust in God* [q]7 Some early manuscripts *If you really have known me, you will know* [r]17 Some early manuscripts *and is*

said, "But, Lord, why do you intend to
show yourself to us and not to the
world?"[a]
23Jesus replied, "If anyone loves me,
he will obey my teaching.[b] My Father
will love him, and we will come to him
and make our home with him.[c] 24He
who does not love me will not obey my
teaching. These words you hear are not
my own; they belong to the Father who
sent me.[d]
25"All this I have spoken while still
with you. 26But the Counselor,[e] the
Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send
in my name,[f] will teach you all things[g]
and will remind you of everything I
have said to you.[h] 27Peace I leave with
you; my peace I give you.[i] I do not
give to you as the world gives. Do not
let your hearts be troubled[j] and do not
be afraid.
28"You heard me say, 'I am going
away and I am coming back to you.'[k] If
you loved me, you would be glad that I
am going to the Father,[l] for the Father
is greater than I.[m] 29I have told you
now before it happens, so that when it
does happen you will believe.[n] 30I will
not speak with you much longer, for
the prince of this world[o] is coming. He
has no hold on me, 31but the world
must learn that I love the Father and
that I do exactly what my Father has
commanded me.[p]
"Come now; let us leave.

The Vine and the Branches

15 "I am[q] the true vine,[r] and my
Father is the gardener. 2He cuts
off every branch in me that bears no
fruit,[s] while every branch that does
bear fruit[t] he prunes[a] so that it will be
even more fruitful. 3You are already
clean because of the word I have
spoken to you.[u] 4Remain in me, and I
will remain in you.[v] No branch can
bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the
vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless
you remain in me.
5"I am the vine; you are the
branches. If a man remains in me and I
in him, he will bear much fruit;[w] apart
from me you can do nothing. 6If any-
one does not remain in me, he is like a
branch that is thrown away and with-
ers; such branches are picked up,
thrown into the fire and burned.[x] 7If
you remain in me[y] and my words re-
main in you, ask whatever you wish,
and it will be given you.[z] 8This is to my
Father's glory,[a] that you bear much
fruit, showing yourselves to be my dis-
ciples.[b]
9"As the Father has loved me,[c] so
have I loved you. Now remain in my
love. 10If you obey my commands,[d]
you will remain in my love, just as I
have obeyed my Father's commands
and remain in his love. 11I have told
you this so that my joy may be in you
and that your joy may be complete.[e]
12My command is this: Love each other
as I have loved you.[f] 13Greater love
has no one than this, that he lay down
his life for his friends.[g] 14You are my
friends[h] if you do what I command.[i]
15I no longer call you servants, because
a servant does not know his master's
business. Instead, I have called you
friends, for everything that I learned
from my Father I have made known to
you.[j] 16You did not choose me, but I
chose you and appointed you[k] to go
and bear fruit[l]—fruit that will last.
Then the Father will give you whatever
you ask in my name.[m] 17This is my
command: Love each other.[n]

The World Hates the Disciples

18"If the world hates you,[o] keep in
mind that it hated me first. 19If you be-
longed to the world, it would love you
as its own. As it is, you do not belong
to the world, but I have chosen you[p]
out of the world. That is why the world
hates you.[q] 20Remember the words I
spoke to you: 'No servant is greater
than his master.'[b][r] If they persecuted
me, they will persecute you also.[s] If
they obeyed my teaching, they will
obey yours also. 21They will treat you
this way because of my name,[t] for
they do not know the One who sent
me.[u] 22If I had not come and spoken to
them,[v] they would not be guilty of sin.
Now, however, they have no excuse
for their sin.[w] 23He who hates me hates
my Father as well. 24If I had not done
among them what no one else did,[x]
they would not be guilty of sin.[y] But
now they have seen these miracles,
and yet they have hated both me and
my Father. 25But this is to fulfill what is
written in their Law:[z] 'They hated me
without reason.'[c][a]
26"When the Counselor[b] comes,
whom I will send to you from the Fa-
ther,[c] the Spirit of truth[d] who goes out
from the Father, he will testify about

14:22 [illegible] **14:23** [illegible] **14:24** [illegible] **14:26** [e] ver 16; Jn 15:26; 16:7 [illegible] [g] Jn 16:13; 1Jn 2:20,27 [illegible] **14:27** [illegible] Php 4:7; Col 3:15 [j] ver 1 **14:28** [k] ver 2-4, 18; S Mt 16:27 [l] Jn 5:18 [m] Jn 10:29 **14:29** [n] Jn 13:19; 16:4 **14:30** [o] S Jn 12:31 **14:31** [p] Jn 10:18; 12:49 **15:1** [q] S Jn 6:35 [r] Ps 80:8-11; Isa 5:1-7 **15:2** [s] ver 6; S Mt 3:10 [t] Ps 92:14; Mt 3:8; 7:20; Gal 5:22; Eph 5:9; Php 1:11 **15:3** [u] Jn 13:10; 17:17; Eph 5:26 **15:4** [v] S Jn 6:56 **15:5** [w] ver 16 **15:6** [x] ver 2; Eze 15:4; S Mt 3:10 **15:7** [y] ver 4; S Jn 6:56 [z] S Mt 7:7 **15:8** [a] S Mt 9:8 [b] Jn 8:31 **15:9** [c] Jn 17:23, 24,26 **15:10** [d] S Jn 14:15 **15:11** [e] S Jn 3:29 **15:12** [f] ver 17; S Jn 13:34 **15:13** [g] Ge 44:33; Jn 10:11; Ro 5:7,8 **15:14** [h] Job 16:20; Pr 18:24; Lk 12:4 [i] Mt 12:50 **15:15** [j] Jn 8:26 **15:16** [k] ver 19; Jn 13:18 [l] ver 5 [m] S Mt 7:7 **15:17** [n] ver 12 **15:18** [o] Isa 66:5; Jn 7:7; 1Jn 3:13 **15:19** [p] ver 16 [q] Jn 17:14 **15:20** [r] S Jn 13:16 [s] 2Ti 3:12 **15:21** [t] Isa 66:5; Mt 5:10,11; 10:22; Lk 6:22; Ac 5:41; 1Pe 4:14; Rev 2:3 [u] Jn 16:3 **15:22** [v] Eze 2:5; 3:7 [w] Jn 9:41; Ro 1:20; 2:1 **15:24** [x] Jn 5:36 [y] Jn 9:41 **15:25** [z] S Jn 10:34 [a] Ps 35:19; 69:4; 109:3 **15:26** [b] Jn 14:16 [c] Jn 14:26; 16:7 [d] S Jn 14:17

[a]2 The Greek for *prunes* also means *cleans*.
[b]20 John 13:16 [c]25 Psalms 35:19; 69:4

me.[a] 27And you also must testify,[b] for
you have been with me from the begin-
ning.[c]

16 "All this[d] I have told you so that
you will not go astray.[e] 2They
will put you out of the synagogue;[f] in
fact, a time is coming when anyone
who kills you will think he is offering a
service to God.[g] 3They will do such
things because they have not known
the Father or me.[h] 4I have told you
this, so that when the time comes you
will remember[i] that I warned you. I
did not tell you this at first because I
was with you.[j]

The Work of the Holy Spirit

5"Now I am going to him who sent
me,[k] yet none of you asks me, 'Where
are you going?'[l] 6Because I have said
these things, you are filled with grief.[m]
7But I tell you the truth: It is for your
good that I am going away. Unless I go
away, the Counselor[n] will not come to
you; but if I go, I will send him to
you.[o] 8When he comes, he will convict
the world of guilt[v] in regard to sin and
righteousness and judgment: 9in re-
gard to sin,[p] because men do not be-
lieve in me; 10in regard to righteous-
ness,[q] because I am going to the Fa-
ther,[r] where you can see me no longer;
11and in regard to judgment, because
the prince of this world[s] now stands
condemned.

12"I have much more to say to you,
more than you can now bear.[t] 13But
when he, the Spirit of truth,[u] comes,
he will guide you into all truth.[v] He
will not speak on his own; he will
speak only what he hears, and he will
tell you what is yet to come. 14He will
bring glory to me by taking from what
is mine and making it known to you.
15All that belongs to the Father is
mine.[w] That is why I said the Spirit will
take from what is mine and make it
known to you.

16"In a little while[x] you will see me
no more, and then after a little while
you will see me."[y]

The Disciples' Grief Will Turn to Joy

17Some of his disciples said to one
another, "What does he mean by say-
ing, 'In a little while you will see me no
more, and then after a little while you
will see me,'[z] and 'Because I am going
to the Father'?"[a] 18They kept asking,
"What does he mean by 'a little while'?
We don't understand what he is say-
ing."

15:26 [a]1Jn 5:7
15:27 [b]S Lk 24:48; Jn 21:24; 1Jn 1:2; 4:14 [c]S Lk 1:2
16:1 [d]Jn 15:18-27 [e]Mt 11:6
16:2 [f]Jn 9:22; 12:42 [g]Isa 66:5; Ac 26:9,10; Rev 6:9
16:3 [h]Jn 15:21; 17:25; 1Jn 3:1
16:4 [i]Jn 13:19; 14:29 [j]Jn 15:27
16:5 [k]ver 10,17, 28; Jn 7:33 [l]Jn 13:36; 14:5
16:6 [m]ver 22
16:7 [n]Jn 14:16, 26; 15:26 [o]Jn 7:39; 14:26
16:9 [p]Jn 15:22
16:10 [q]Ac 3:14; 7:52; Ro 1:17; 3:21,22; 1Pe 3:18 [r]S ver 5
16:11 [s]S Jn 12:31
16:12 [t]Mk 4:33; 1Co 3:2
16:13 [u]S Jn 14:17 [v]Ps 25:5; Jn 14:26
16:15 [w]Jn 17:10
16:16 [x]S Jn 7:33 [y]ver 22; Jn 14:18-24
16:17 [z]ver 16 [a]ver 5
16:20 [b]Mk 16:10; Lk 23:27 [c]Jn 20:20
16:21 [d]Isa 13:8; 21:3; 26:17; Mic 4:9; 1Th 5:3
16:22 [e]ver 6 [f]ver 16 [g]ver 20; Jer 31:12
16:23 [h]ver 26; Jn 14:20 [i]S Mt 7:7
16:24 [j]S Mt 7:7 [k]S Jn 3:29
16:25 [l]ver 29; Ps 78:2; Eze 20:49; Mt 13:34; Mk 4:33,34; Jn 10:6 [m]ver 2
16:26 [n]ver 23, 24
16:27 [o]Jn 14:21, 23 [p]ver 30; S Jn 13:3
16:28 [q]ver 5,10, 17; Jn 13:3
16:29 [r]S ver 25
16:30 [s]1Ki 17:24 [t]ver 27; S Jn 13:3
16:32 [u]ver 2,25 [v]Mt 26:31 [w]Mt 26:56 [x]Jn 8:16,29
16:33 [y]S Jn 14:27 [z]Jn 15:18-21 [a]Ro 8:37; 1Jn 4:4; 5:4; Rev 2:7,11,17, 26; 3:5,12,21; 21:7
17:1 [b]Jn 11:41

19Jesus saw that they wanted to ask
him about this, so he said to them,
"Are you asking one another what I
meant when I said, 'In a little while you
will see me no more, and then after a
little while you will see me'? 20I tell you
the truth, you will weep and mourn[b]
while the world rejoices. You will
grieve, but your grief will turn to joy.[c]
21A woman giving birth to a child has
pain[d] because her time has come; but
when her baby is born she forgets the
anguish because of her joy that a child
is born into the world. 22So with you:
Now is your time of grief,[e] but I will
see you again[f] and you will rejoice,
and no one will take away your joy.[g]
23In that day[h] you will no longer ask
me anything. I tell you the truth, my
Father will give you whatever you ask
in my name.[i] 24Until now you have
not asked for anything in my name.
Ask and you will receive,[j] and your
joy will be complete.[k]

25"Though I have been speaking
figuratively,[l] a time is coming[m] when I
will no longer use this kind of language
but will tell you plainly about my Fa-
ther. 26In that day you will ask in my
name.[n] I am not saying that I will ask
the Father on your behalf. 27No, the Fa-
ther himself loves you because you
have loved me[o] and have believed that
I came from God.[p] 28I came from the
Father and entered the world; now I
am leaving the world and going back to
the Father."[q]

29Then Jesus' disciples said, "Now
you are speaking clearly and without
figures of speech.[r] 30Now we can see
that you know all things and that you
do not even need to have anyone ask
you questions. This makes us believe[s]
that you came from God."[t]

31"You believe at last!"[w] Jesus an-
swered. 32"But a time is coming,[u] and
has come, when you will be scattered,[v]
each to his own home. You will leave
me all alone.[w] Yet I am not alone, for
my Father is with me.[x]

33"I have told you these things, so
that in me you may have peace.[y] In
this world you will have trouble.[z] But
take heart! I have overcome[a] the
world."

Jesus Prays for Himself

17 After Jesus said this, he looked
toward heaven[b] and prayed:

v8 *Or will expose the guilt of the world* w31 *Or "Do you now believe?"*

"Father, the time has come.[a]
Glorify your Son, that your Son
may glorify you.[b] 2For you granted
him authority over all people[c] that
he might give eternal life[d] to all
those you have given him.[e] 3Now
this is eternal life: that they may
know you,[f] the only true God, and
Jesus Christ, whom you have
sent.[g] 4I have brought you glory[h]
on earth by completing the work
you gave me to do.[i] 5And now, Fa-
ther, glorify me[j] in your presence
with the glory I had with you[k] be-
fore the world began.[l]

Jesus Prays for His Disciples

6"I have revealed you[a][m] to those
whom you gave me[n] out of the
world. They were yours; you gave
them to me and they have obeyed
your word. 7Now they know that
everything you have given me
comes from you. 8For I gave them
the words you gave me[p] and they
accepted them. They knew with
certainty that I came from you,[q]
and they believed that you sent
me.[r] 9I pray for them.[s] I am not
praying for the world, but for those
you have given me,[t] for they are
yours. 10All I have is yours, and all
you have is mine.[u] And glory has
come to me through them. 11I will
remain in the world no longer, but
they are still in the world,[v] and I
am coming to you.[w] Holy Father,
protect them by the power of your
name—the name you gave me—so
that they may be one[x] as we are
one.[y] 12While I was with them, I
protected them and kept them safe
by that name you gave me. None
has been lost[z] except the one
doomed to destruction[a] so that
Scripture would be fulfilled.[b]

13"I am coming to you now,[c] but
I say these things while I am still in
the world, so that they may have
the full measure of my joy[d] within
them. 14I have given them your
word and the world has hated
them,[e] for they are not of the
world any more than I am of the
world.[f] 15My prayer is not that you
take them out of the world but that
you protect them from the evil
one.[g] 16They are not of the world,
even as I am not of it.[h] 17Sanctify[b]
them by the truth; your word is
truth.[i] 18As you sent me into the
world,[j] I have sent them into the
world.[k] 19For them I sanctify my-
self, that they too may be truly
sanctified.[l]

Jesus Prays for All Believers

20"My prayer is not for them
alone. I pray also for those who
will believe in me through their
message, 21that all of them may be
one,[m] Father, just as you are in me
and I am in you.[n] May they also be
in us so that the world may believe
that you have sent me.[o] 22I have
given them the glory that you gave
me,[p] that they may be one as we
are one:[q] 23I in them and you in
me. May they be brought to com-
plete unity to let the world know
that you sent me[r] and have loved
them[s] even as you have loved me.

24"Father, I want those you have
given me[t] to be with me where I
am,[u] and to see my glory,[v] the
glory you have given me because
you loved me before the creation of
the world.[w]

25"Righteous Father, though the
world does not know you,[x] I know
you, and they know that you have
sent me.[y] 26I have made you
known to them,[z] and will continue
to make you known in order that
the love you have for me may be in
them[a] and that I myself may be in
them."

Jesus Arrested

18:3-11pp — Mt 26:47-56; Mk 14:43-50; Lk 22:47-53

18 When he had finished praying,
Jesus left with his disciples and
crossed the Kidron Valley.[a] On the
other side there was an olive grove,[b]
and he and his disciples went into it.[c]

2Now Judas, who betrayed him,
knew the place, because Jesus had
often met there with his disciples.[d] 3So
Judas came to the grove, guiding[e] a
detachment of soldiers and some offi-
cials from the chief priests and Phari-
sees.[f] They were carrying torches, lan-
terns and weapons.

4Jesus, knowing all that was going to
happen to him,[g] went out and asked
them, "Who is it you want?"[h]

5"Jesus of Nazareth,"[i] they replied.

"I am he," Jesus said. (And Judas the
traitor was standing there with them.)
6When Jesus said, "I am he," they
drew back and fell to the ground.

a6 Greek *your name;* also in verse 26 b17 Greek *hagiazo* (set apart for sacred use or make holy); also in verse 19

17:1 aS Mt 26:18 bJn 12:23; 13:31, 32 **17:2** cS Mt 28:18 dS Mt 25:46 ever 6,9,24; Da 7:14; Jn 6:37,39 **17:3** fS Php 3:8 gver 8,18,21,23,25; S Jn 3:17 **17:4** hJn 13:31 iS Jn 19:30 **17:5** jver 1 kPhp 2:6 lS Jn 1:2 **17:6** mver 26 nJn 1:18 oS ver 2 **17:8** pver 14,26; S Jn 14:24 qS Jn 13:3 rver 3,18,21,23,25; S Jn 3:17 **17:9** sLk 22:32 tS ver 2 **17:10** uJn 16:15 **17:11** vJn 13:1 wver 13; Jn 7:33 xver 21-23; Ps 133:1 yJn 10:30 **17:12** zS Jn 6:39 aJn 6:70 bS Mt 1:22 **17:13** cver 11 dS Jn 3:29 **17:14** eJn 15:19 fver 16; Jn 8:23 **17:15** gS Mt 5:37 **17:16** hver 14 **17:17** iS Jn 15:3; 2Sa 7:28; 1Ki 17:24 **17:18** jver 3,8,21,23,25; S Jn 3:17 kJn 20:21 **17:19** lver 17 **17:21** mJer 32:39 nver 11; Jn 10:38 over 3,8,18,23,25; S Jn 3:17 **17:22** pJn 1:14 qS Jn 14:20 **17:23** rver 3,8,18,21,25; S Jn 3:17 sJn 16:27 **17:24** tS ver 2 uS Jn 12:26 vJn 1:14 wver 5; S Mt 25:34; S Jn 1:2 **17:25** xJn 15:21; 16:3 yver 3,8,18,21,23; S Jn 3:17; 16:27 **17:26** zver 6 aJn 15:9 **18:1** a2Sa 15:23 bver 26; S Mt 21:1 cMt 26:36 **18:2** dLk 21:37; 22:39 **18:3** eAc 1:16 fver 12 **18:4** gJn 6:64; 13:1,11 hver 7 **18:5** iS Mk 1:24

7Again he asked them, "Who is it
you want?"[a]
And they said, "Jesus of Nazareth."
8"I told you that I am he," Jesus an-
swered. "If you are looking for me,
then let these men go." 9This hap-
pened so that the words he had spoken
would be fulfilled: "I have not lost one
of those you gave me."[a] [b]
10Then Simon Peter, who had a
sword, drew it and struck the high
priest's servant, cutting off his right
ear. (The servant's name was Mal-
chus.)
11Jesus commanded Peter, "Put your
sword away! Shall I not drink the cup[c]
the Father has given me?"

Jesus Taken to Annas

18:12,13pp — Mt 26:57

12Then the detachment of soldiers
with its commander and the Jewish of-
ficials[d] arrested Jesus. They bound him
13and brought him first to Annas, who
was the father-in-law of Caiaphas,[e] the
high priest that year. 14Caiaphas was
the one who had advised the Jews that
it would be good if one man died for
the people.[f]

Peter's First Denial

18:16-18pp — Mt 26:69,70; Mk 14:66-68; Lk 22:55-57

15Simon Peter and another disciple
were following Jesus. Because this dis-
ciple was known to the high priest,[g] he
went with Jesus into the high priest's
courtyard,[h] 16but Peter had to wait out-
side at the door. The other disciple,
who was known to the high priest,
came back, spoke to the girl on duty
there and brought Peter in.
17"You are not one of his disciples, are
you?" the girl at the door asked Peter.
He replied, "I am not."[i]
18It was cold, and the servants and
officials stood around a fire[j] they had
made to keep warm. Peter also was
standing with them, warming him-
self.[k]

The High Priest Questions Jesus

18:19-24pp — Mt 26:59-68; Mk 14:55-65; Lk 22:63-71

19Meanwhile, the high priest ques-
tioned Jesus about his disciples and his
teaching.
20"I have spoken openly to the
world," Jesus replied. "I always taught
in synagogues[l] or at the temple,[m]
where all the Jews come together. I
said nothing in secret.[n] 21Why question
me? Ask those who heard me. Surely
they know what I said."
22When Jesus said this, one of the of-
ficials[o] nearby struck him in the face.[p]
"Is this the way you answer the high
priest?" he demanded.
23"If I said something wrong," Jesus
replied, "testify as to what is wrong.
But if I spoke the truth, why did you
strike me?"[q] 24Then Annas sent him,
still bound, to Caiaphas[r] the high
priest.[a]

Peter's Second and Third Denials

18:25-27pp — Mt 26:71-75; Mk 14:69-72; Lk 22:58-62

25As Simon Peter stood warming
himself,[s] he was asked, "You are not
one of his disciples, are you?"
He denied it, saying, "I am not."[t]
26One of the high priest's servants, a
relative of the man whose ear Peter had
cut off,[u] challenged him, "Didn't I see
you with him in the olive grove?"[v]
27Again Peter denied it, and at that mo-
ment a rooster began to crow.[w]

Jesus Before Pilate

18:29-40pp — Mt 27:11-18,20-23; Mk 15:2-15; Lk 23:2,3,18-25

28Then the Jews led Jesus from Caia-
phas to the palace of the Roman gover-
nor.[x] By now it was early morning,
and to avoid ceremonial uncleanness
the Jews did not enter the palace;[y] they
wanted to be able to eat the Passover.[z]
29So Pilate came out to them and asked,
"What charges are you bringing
against this man?"
30"If he were not a criminal," they
replied, "we would not have handed
him over to you."
31Pilate said, "Take him yourselves
and judge him by your own law."
"But we have no right to execute
anyone," the Jews objected. 32This hap-
pened so that the words Jesus had
spoken indicating the kind of death he
was going to die[a] would be fulfilled.
33Pilate then went back inside the
palace,[b] summoned Jesus and asked
him, "Are you the king of the Jews?"[c]
34"Is that your own idea," Jesus
asked, "or did others talk to you about
me?"
35"Am I a Jew?" Pilate replied. "It
was your people and your chief priests
who handed you over to me. What is it
you have done?"
36Jesus said, "My kingdom[d] is not of
this world. If it were, my servants

18:7 [a]ver 4
18:9 [b]S Jn 6:39
18:11 [c]S Mt 20:22
18:12 [d]ver 3
18:13 [e]ver 24; S Mt 26:3
18:14 [f]Jn 11:49-51
18:15 [g]S Mt 26:3 [h]Mt 26:58; Mk 14:54; Lk 22:54
18:17 [i]ver 25
18:18 [j]Jn 21:9 [k]Mk 14:54,67
18:20 [l]S Mt 4:23 [m]Mt 26:55 [n]Jn 7:26
18:22 [o]ver 3 [p]Mt 16:21; Jn 19:3
18:23 [q]Mt 5:39; Ac 23:2-5
18:24 [r]ver 13; S Mt 26:3
18:25 [s]ver 18 [t]ver 17
18:26 [u]ver 10 [v]ver 1
18:27 [w]Jn 13:38
18:28 [x]S Mt 27:2 [y]ver 33; Jn 19:9 [z]Jn 11:55
18:32 [a]Mt 20:19; 26:2; Jn 3:14; 8:28; 12:32,33
18:33 [b]ver 28, 29; Jn 19:9 [c]Lk 23:3; S Mt 2:2
18:36 [d]S Mt 3:2

[a]9 John 6:39 [a]24 Or *(Now Annas had sent him, still bound, to Caiaphas the high priest.)*

would fight to prevent my arrest by the
Jews.[a] But now my kingdom is from
another place."[b]
37 "You are a king, then!" said Pilate.
Jesus answered, "You are right in
saying I am a king. In fact, for this rea-
son I was born, and for this I came into
the world, to testify to the truth.[c]
Everyone on the side of truth listens to
me."[d]
38 "What is truth?" Pilate asked. With
this he went out again to the Jews and
said, "I find no basis for a charge
against him.[e] 39 But it is your custom
for me to release to you one prisoner at
the time of the Passover. Do you want
me to release 'the king of the Jews'?"
40 They shouted back, "No, not him!
Give us Barabbas!" Now Barabbas had
taken part in a rebellion.[f]

Jesus Sentenced to be Crucified

19:1-16pp — Mt 27:27-31; Mk 15:16-20

19 Then Pilate took Jesus and had
him flogged.[g] 2 The soldiers
twisted together a crown of thorns and
put it on his head. They clothed him in
a purple robe 3 and went up to him
again and again, saying, "Hail, king of
the Jews!"[h] And they struck him in the
face.[i]
4 Once more Pilate came out and said
to the Jews, "Look, I am bringing him
out[j] to you to let you know that I find
no basis for a charge against him."[k]
5 When Jesus came out wearing the
crown of thorns and the purple robe,[l]
Pilate said to them, "Here is the man!"
6 As soon as the chief priests and
their officials saw him, they shouted,
"Crucify! Crucify!"
But Pilate answered, "You take him
and crucify him.[m] As for me, I find no
basis for a charge against him."[n]
7 The Jews insisted, "We have a law,
and according to that law he must
die,[o] because he claimed to be the Son
of God."[p]
8 When Pilate heard this, he was even
more afraid, 9 and he went back inside
the palace.[q] "Where do you come
from?" he asked Jesus, but Jesus gave
him no answer.[r] 10 "Do you refuse to
speak to me?" Pilate said. "Don't you
realize I have power either to free you
or to crucify you?"
11 Jesus answered, "You would have
no power over me if it were not given
to you from above.[s] Therefore the one
who handed me over to you[t] is guilty
of a greater sin."

12 From then on, Pilate tried to set
Jesus free, but the Jews kept shouting,
"If you let this man go, you are no
friend of Caesar. Anyone who claims to
be a king[u] opposes Caesar."
13 When Pilate heard this, he brought
Jesus out and sat down on the judge's
seat[v] at a place known as the Stone
Pavement (which in Aramaic[w] is Gab-
batha). 14 It was the day of Preparation[x]
of Passover Week, about the sixth
hour.[y]
"Here is your king,"[z] Pilate said to
the Jews.
15 But they shouted, "Take him away!
Take him away! Crucify him!"
"Shall I crucify your king?" Pilate
asked.
"We have no king but Caesar," the
chief priests answered.
16 Finally Pilate handed him over to
them to be crucified.[a]

The Crucifixion

19:17-24pp — Mt 27:33-44; Mk 15:22-32; Lk 23:33-43

So the soldiers took charge of Jesus.
17 Carrying his own cross,[b] he went out
to the place of the Skull[c] (which in
Aramaic[d] is called Golgotha). 18 Here
they crucified him, and with him two
others[e]—one on each side and Jesus in
the middle.
19 Pilate had a notice prepared and
fastened to the cross. It read: JESUS OF
NAZARETH,[f] THE KING OF THE JEWS.[g] 20 Many
of the Jews read this sign, for the place
where Jesus was crucified was near the
city,[h] and the sign was written in
Aramaic, Latin and Greek. 21 The chief
priests of the Jews protested to Pilate,
"Do not write 'The King of the Jews,'
but that this man claimed to be king of
the Jews."[i]
22 Pilate answered, "What I have writ-
ten, I have written."
23 When the soldiers crucified Jesus,
they took his clothes, dividing them
into four shares, one for each of them,
with the undergarment remaining.
This garment was seamless, woven in
one piece from top to bottom.
24 "Let's not tear it," they said to one
another. "Let's decide by lot who will
get it."
This happened that the scripture
might be fulfilled[j] which said,

"They divided my garments among
them
and cast lots for my clothing."[b][k]

18:36 [a]Mt 26:53 [b]Lk 17:21; Jn 6:15
18:37 [c]Jn 3:32 [d]Jn 8:47; 1Jn 4:6
18:38 [e]S Lk 23:4
18:40 [f]Ac 3:14
19:1 [g]Dt 25:3; Isa 50:6; 53:5; Mt 27:26
19:3 [h]Mt 27:29 [i]Jn 18:22
19:4 [j]Jn 18:38 [k]ver 6; S Lk 23:4
19:5 [l]ver 2
19:6 [m]Ac 3:13 [n]ver 4; S Lk 23:4
19:7 [o]Lev 24:16 [p]Mt 26:63-66; Jn 5:18; 10:33
19:9 [q]Jn 18:33 [r]S Mk 14:61
19:11 [s]S Ro 13:1 [t]Jn 18:28-30; Ac 3:13
19:12 [u]Lk 23:2
19:13 [v]Mt 27:19 [w]S Jn 5:2
19:14 [x]Mt 27:62 [y]Mk 15:25 [z]ver 19,21
19:16 [a]Mt 27:26; Mk 15:15; Lk 23:25
19:17 [b]Ge 22:6; Lk 14:27; 23:26 [c]Lk 23:33 [d]S Jn 5:2
19:18 [e]Lk 23:32
19:19 [f]S Mk 1:24 [g]ver 14,21
19:20 [h]Heb 13:12
19:21 [i]ver 14
19:24 [j]ver 28,36,37; S Mt 1:22 [k]Ps 22:18

[b]24 Psalm 22:18

So this is what the soldiers did.
25Near the cross[a] of Jesus stood his
mother,[b] his mother's sister, Mary the
wife of Clopas,[c] and Mary Magda-
lene.[d] 26When Jesus saw his mother[e]
there, and the disciple whom he
loved[f] standing nearby, he said to his
mother, "Dear woman, here is your
son," 27and to the disciple, "Here is
your mother." From that time on, this
disciple took her into his home.

The Death of Jesus

19:29,30pp — Mt 27:48,50; Mk 15:36,37; Lk 23:36

28Later, knowing that all was now
completed,[g] and so that the Scripture
would be fulfilled,[h] Jesus said, "I am
thirsty." 29A jar of wine vinegar[i] was
there, so they soaked a sponge in it,
put the sponge on a stalk of the hyssop
plant, and lifted it to Jesus' lips.
30When he had received the drink,
Jesus said, "It is finished."[j] With that,
he bowed his head and gave up his
spirit.
31Now it was the day of Prepara-
tion,[k] and the next day was to be a
special Sabbath. Because the Jews did
not want the bodies left on the crosses[l]
during the Sabbath, they asked Pilate
to have the legs broken and the bodies
taken down. 32The soldiers therefore
came and broke the legs of the first
man who had been crucified with
Jesus, and then those of the other.[m]
33But when they came to Jesus and
found that he was already dead, they
did not break his legs. 34Instead, one of
the soldiers pierced[n] Jesus' side with a
spear, bringing a sudden flow of blood
and water.[o] 35The man who saw it[p]
has given testimony, and his testimony
is true.[q] He knows that he tells the
truth, and he testifies so that you also
may believe. 36These things happened
so that the scripture would be ful-
filled:[r] "Not one of his bones will be
broken,"[c][s] 37and, as another scripture
says, "They will look on the one they
have pierced."[d][t]

The Burial of Jesus

19:38-42pp — Mt 27:57-61; Mk 15:42-47; Lk 23:50-56

38Later, Joseph of Arimathea asked
Pilate for the body of Jesus. Now Jo-
seph was a disciple of Jesus, but secret-
ly because he feared the Jews.[u] With
Pilate's permission, he came and took
the body away. 39He was accompanied
by Nicodemus,[v] the man who earlier
had visited Jesus at night. Nicodemus
brought a mixture of myrrh and aloes,
about seventy-five pounds.[e] 40Taking
Jesus' body, the two of them wrapped
it, with the spices, in strips of linen.[w]
This was in accordance with Jewish
burial customs.[x] 41At the place where
Jesus was crucified, there was a gar-
den, and in the garden a new tomb, in
which no one had ever been laid. 42Be-
cause it was the Jewish day of Prepara-
tion[y] and since the tomb was nearby,[z]
they laid Jesus there.

The Empty Tomb

20:1-8pp — Mt 28:1-8; Mk 16:1-8; Lk 24:1-10

20 Early on the first day of the
week, while it was still dark,
Mary Magdalene[a] went to the tomb
and saw that the stone had been re-
moved from the entrance.[b] 2So she
came running to Simon Peter and the
other disciple, the one Jesus loved,[c]
and said, "They have taken the Lord
out of the tomb, and we don't know
where they have put him!"[d]
3So Peter and the other disciple
started for the tomb.[e] 4Both were run-
ning, but the other disciple outran Pe-
ter and reached the tomb first. 5He bent
over and looked in[f] at the strips of
linen[g] lying there but did not go in.
6Then Simon Peter, who was behind
him, arrived and went into the tomb.
He saw the strips of linen lying there,
7as well as the burial cloth that had
been around Jesus' head.[h] The cloth
was folded up by itself, separate from
the linen. 8Finally the other disciple,
who had reached the tomb first,[i] also
went inside. He saw and believed.
9(They still did not understand from
Scripture[j] that Jesus had to rise from
the dead.)[k]

Jesus Appears to Mary Magdalene

10Then the disciples went back to
their homes, 11but Mary stood outside
the tomb crying. As she wept, she bent
over to look into the tomb[l] 12and saw
two angels in white,[m] seated where
Jesus' body had been, one at the head
and the other at the foot.
13They asked her, "Woman, why are
you crying?"[n]
"They have taken my Lord away,"
she said, "and I don't know where
they have put him."[o] 14At this, she
turned around and saw Jesus standing

c36 Exodus 12:46; Num. 9:12; Psalm 34:20
d37 Zech. 12:10
e39 Greek *a hundred litrai* (about 34 kilograms)

19:25 [a]Mt 27:55,56 [b]S Mt 12:46 [c]Lk 24:18 [d]Lk 8:2; Jn 20:1,18
19:26 [e]S Mt 12:46 [f]S Jn 13:23
19:28 [g]S ver 30; Jn 13:1 [h]ver 24,36,37; S Mt 1:22
19:29 [i]Ps 69:21
19:30 [j]Lk 12:50; Jn 4:34; 17:4
19:31 [k]ver 14,42 [l]Dt 21:23; Jos 8:29; 10:26,27
19:32 [m]ver 18
19:34 [n]Zec 12:10; Rev 1:7 [o]1Jn 5:6,8
19:35 [p]S Lk 24:48 [q]Jn 15:27; 21:24
19:36 [r]ver 24,28,37; S Mt 1:22 [s]Ex 12:46; Nu 9:12; Ps 34:20
19:37 [t]Zec 12:10; Rev 1:7
19:38 [u]S Jn 7:13
19:39 [v]Jn 3:1; 7:50
19:40 [w]Lk 24:12; Jn 11:44; 20:5,7 [x]Mt 26:12
19:42 [y]ver 14,31 [z]ver 20,41
20:1 [a]ver 18; Lk 8:2; Jn 19:25 [b]Mt 27:60,66
20:2 [c]S Jn 13:23 [d]ver 13
20:3 [e]Lk 24:12
20:5 [f]ver 11 [g]S Jn 19:40
20:7 [h]Jn 11:44
20:8 [i]ver 4
20:9 [j]Mt 22:29; Jn 2:22 [k]Lk 24:26,46; Ac 2:24
20:11 [l]ver 5
20:12 [m]Mt 28:2,3; Mk 16:5; Lk 24:4; Ac 1:10; S 5:19; 10:30
20:13 [n]ver 15 [o]ver 2

there,[a] but she did not realize that it
was Jesus.[b]
15"Woman," he said, "why are you
crying?[c] Who is it you are looking
for?"

Thinking he was the gardener, she
said, "Sir, if you have carried him
away, tell me where you have put him,
and I will get him."
16Jesus said to her, "Mary."

She turned toward him and cried out
in Aramaic,[d] "Rabboni!"[e] (which
means Teacher).
17Jesus said, "Do not hold on to me,
for I have not yet returned to the Father.
Go instead to my brothers[f] and
tell them, 'I am returning to my Father[g]
and your Father, to my God and
your God.'"
18Mary Magdalene[h] went to the disciples[i]
with the news: "I have seen the
Lord!" And she told them that he had
said these things to her.

Jesus Appears to His Disciples

19On the evening of that first day of
the week, when the disciples were together,
with the doors locked for fear
of the Jews,[j] Jesus came and stood
among them and said, "Peace[k] be with
you!"[l] 20After he said this, he showed
them his hands and side.[m] The disciples
were overjoyed[n] when they saw
the Lord.
21Again Jesus said, "Peace be with
you![o] As the Father has sent me,[p] I am
sending you."[q] 22And with that he
breathed on them and said, "Receive
the Holy Spirit.[r] 23If you forgive anyone
his sins, they are forgiven; if you
do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."[s]

Jesus Appears to Thomas

24Now Thomas[t] (called Didymus),
one of the Twelve, was not with the
disciples when Jesus came. 25So the
other disciples told him, "We have
seen the Lord!"

But he said to them, "Unless I see
the nail marks in his hands and put my
finger where the nails were, and put
my hand into his side,[u] I will not believe
it."[v]
26A week later his disciples were in
the house again, and Thomas was with
them. Though the doors were locked,
Jesus came and stood among them and
said, "Peace[w] be with you!"[x] 27Then he
said to Thomas, "Put your finger here;
see my hands. Reach out your hand
and put it into my side. Stop doubting
and believe."[y]
28Thomas said to him, "My Lord and
my God!"
29Then Jesus told him, "Because you
have seen me, you have believed;[z]
blessed are those who have not seen
and yet have believed."[a]
30Jesus did many other miraculous
signs[b] in the presence of his disciples,
which are not recorded in this book.[c]
31But these are written that you may[f]
believe[d] that Jesus is the Christ, the
Son of God,[e] and that by believing you
may have life in his name.[f]

Jesus and the Miraculous Catch of Fish

21 Afterward Jesus appeared again
to his disciples,[g] by the Sea of
Tiberias.[g][h] It happened this way: 2Simon
Peter, Thomas[i] (called Didymus),
Nathanael[j] from Cana in Galilee,[k] the
sons of Zebedee,[l] and two other disciples
were together. 3"I'm going out to
fish," Simon Peter told them, and they
said, "We'll go with you." So they
went out and got into the boat, but that
night they caught nothing.[m]
4Early in the morning, Jesus stood on
the shore, but the disciples did not
realize that it was Jesus.[n]
5He called out to them, "Friends,
haven't you any fish?"

"No," they answered.
6He said, "Throw your net on the
right side of the boat and you will find
some." When they did, they were unable
to haul the net in because of the
large number of fish.[o]
7Then the disciple whom Jesus
loved[p] said to Peter, "It is the Lord!"
As soon as Simon Peter heard him say,
"It is the Lord," he wrapped his outer
garment around him (for he had taken
it off) and jumped into the water. 8The
other disciples followed in the boat,
towing the net full of fish, for they
were not far from shore, about a hundred
yards.[h] 9When they landed, they
saw a fire[q] of burning coals there with
fish on it,[r] and some bread.
10Jesus said to them, "Bring some of
the fish you have just caught."
11Simon Peter climbed aboard and
dragged the net ashore. It was full of
large fish, 153, but even with so many
the net was not torn. 12Jesus said to
them, "Come and have breakfast."

20:14 [a]Mk 16:9 [b]Lk 24:16; Jn 21:4
20:15 [c]ver 13
20:16 [d]S Jn 5:2 [e]S Mt 23:7
20:17 [f]S Mt 28:10 [g]Jn 7:33
20:18 [h]S ver 1 [i]Lk 24:10,22,23
20:19 [j]S Jn 7:13 [k]S Jn 14:27 [l]ver 21,26; Lk 24:36-39
20:20 [m]Lk 24:39,40; Jn 19:34 [n]Jn 16:20,22
20:21 [o]ver 19 [p]S Jn 3:17 [q]Mt 28:19; Jn 17:18
20:22 [r]Jn 7:39; Ac 2:38; 8:15-17; 19:2; Gal 3:2
20:23 [s]Mt 16:19; 18:18
20:24 [t]S Jn 11:16
20:25 [u]ver 20 [v]Mk 16:11
20:26 [w]S Jn 14:27 [x]ver 21
20:27 [y]ver 25; Lk 24:40
20:29 [z]S Jn 3:15 [a]1Pe 1:8
20:30 [b]S Jn 2:11 [c]Jn 21:25
20:31 [d]S Jn 3:15; 19:35 [e]S Mt 4:3 [f]S Mt 25:46
21:1 [g]ver 14; Jn 20:19,26 [h]Jn 6:1
21:2 [i]S Jn 11:16 [j]Jn 1:45 [k]Jn 2:1 [l]S Mt 4:21
21:3 [m]Lk 5:5
21:4 [n]Lk 24:16; Jn 20:14
21:6 [o]Lk 5:4-7
21:7 [p]S Jn 13:23
21:9 [q]Jn 18:18 [r]ver 10,13

f31 Some manuscripts *may continue to* g1 That is, Sea of Galilee h8 Greek *about two hundred cubits* (about 90 meters)

None of the disciples dared ask him,
"Who are you?" They knew it was the
Lord. 13 Jesus came, took the bread and
gave it to them, and did the same with
the fish.[a] 14 This was now the third
time Jesus appeared to his disciples[b]
after he was raised from the dead.

Jesus Reinstates Peter

15 When they had finished eating,
Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son
of John, do you truly love me more
than these?"
"Yes, Lord," he said, "you know
that I love you."[c]
Jesus said, "Feed my lambs."[d]
16 Again Jesus said, "Simon son of
John, do you truly love me?"
He answered, "Yes, Lord, you know
that I love you."
Jesus said, "Take care of my
sheep."[e]
17 The third time he said to him, "Si-
mon son of John, do you love me?"
Peter was hurt because Jesus asked
him the third time, "Do you love
me?"[f] He said, "Lord, you know all
things;[g] you know that I love you."
Jesus said, "Feed my sheep.[h] 18 I tell
you the truth, when you were younger
you dressed yourself and went where
you wanted; but when you are old you
will stretch out your hands, and some-
one else will dress you and lead you
where you do not want to go." 19 Jesus
said this to indicate the kind of death[i]
by which Peter would glorify God.[j]
Then he said to him, "Follow me!"[k]
20 Peter turned and saw that the disci-
ple whom Jesus loved[l] was following
them. (This was the one who had
leaned back against Jesus at the supper
and had said, "Lord, who is going to
betray you?")[m] 21 When Peter saw him,
he asked, "Lord, what about him?"
22 Jesus answered, "If I want him to
remain alive until I return,[n] what is
that to you? You must follow me."[o]
23 Because of this, the rumor spread
among the brothers[p] that this disciple
would not die. But Jesus did not say
that he would not die; he only said, "If
I want him to remain alive until I re-
turn, what is that to you?"
24 This is the disciple who testifies to
these things[q] and who wrote them
down. We know that his testimony is
true.[r]
25 Jesus did many other things as
well.[s] If every one of them were writ-
ten down, I suppose that even the
whole world would not have room for
the books that would be written.

21:13 [a] ver 9
21:14 [b] Jn 20:19, 26
21:15 [c] Mt 26:33,35; Jn 13:37 [d] S Lk 12:32
21:16 [e] 2Sa 5:2; Eze 34:2; Mt 2:6; S Jn 10:11; Ac 20:28; 1Pe 5:2
21:17 [f] Jn 13:38 [g] Jn 16:30 [h] S ver 16
21:19 [i] Jn 12:33; 18:32 [j] Jn 13:36; 2Pe 1:14 [k] S Mt 4:19
21:20 [l] ver 7; S Jn 13:23 [m] Jn 13:25
21:22 [n] S Mt 16:27 [o] ver 19; S Mt 4:19
21:23 [p] S Ac 1:16
21:24 [q] S Jn 15:27 [r] Jn 19:35
21:25 [s] Jn 20:30

Acts

Jesus Taken Up Into Heaven

1 In my former book,[a] Theophilus, I
wrote about all that Jesus began to
do and to teach[b] 2until the day he was
taken up to heaven,[c] after giving in-
structions[d] through the Holy Spirit to
the apostles[e] he had chosen.[f] 3After
his suffering, he showed himself to
these men and gave many convincing
proofs that he was alive. He appeared
to them[g] over a period of forty days
and spoke about the kingdom of God.[h]
4On one occasion, while he was eating
with them, he gave them this com-
mand: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but
wait[i] for the gift my Father promised,
which you have heard me speak
about.[j] 5For John baptized with[a]
water,[k] but in a few days you will be
baptized with the Holy Spirit."[l]
6So when they met together, they
asked him, "Lord, are you at this time
going to restore[m] the kingdom to Is-
rael?"
7He said to them: "It is not for you to
know the times or dates the Father has
set by his own authority.[n] 8But you
will receive power when the Holy
Spirit comes on you;[o] and you will be
my witnesses[p] in Jerusalem, and in all
Judea and Samaria,[q] and to the ends of
the earth."[r]
9After he said this, he was taken up[s]
before their very eyes, and a cloud hid
him from their sight.
10They were looking intently up into
the sky as he was going, when sudden-
ly two men dressed in white[t] stood be-
side them. 11"Men of Galilee,"[u] they
said, "why do you stand here looking
into the sky? This same Jesus, who has
been taken from you into heaven, will
come back[v] in the same way you have
seen him go into heaven."

Matthias Chosen to Replace Judas

12Then they returned to Jerusalem[w]
from the hill called the Mount of Ol-
ives,[x] a Sabbath day's walk[b] from the
city. 13When they arrived, they went

1:1 [a]Lk 1:1-4 [b]Lk 3:23
1:2 [c]ver 9,11; S Mk 16:19 [d]Mt 28:19,20 [e]S Mk 6:30 [f]Jn 13:18; 15:16, 19
1:3 [g]Mt 28:17; Lk 24:34,36; Jn 20:19,26; 21:1, 14; 1 Co 15:5-7 [h]S Mt 3:2
1:4 [i]Ps 27:14 [j]Lk 24:49; Jn 14:16; Ac 2:33
1:5 [k]S Mk 1:4 [l]S Mk 1:8
1:6 [m]Mt 17:11; Ac 3:21
1:7 [n]Dt 29:29; Ps 102:13; Mt 24:36
1:8 [o]Ac 2:1-4 [p]S Lk 24:48 [q]Ac 8:1-25 [r]S Mt 28:19
1:9 [s]ver 2; S Mk 16:19
1:10 [t]S Jn 20:12
1:11 [u]Ac 2:7 [v]S Mt 16:27
1:12 [w]Lk 24:52 [x]S Mt 21:1
1:13 [y]Ac 9:37; 20:8 [z]Mt 10:2-4; Mk 3:16-19; Lk 6:14-16
1:14 [a]Ac 2:42; 4:24; 6:4; S Lk 18:1; S Ro 1:10 [b]Lk 23:49,55 [c]S Mt 12:46
1:16 [d]Ac 6:3; 11:1,12,29; 14:2; 18:18,27; 21:7; S 22:5; S Ro 7:1 [e]ver 20; S Mt 1:22 [f]S Mt 10:4
1:17 [g]Jn 6:70,71 [h]ver 25
1:18 [i]Mt 26:14, 15 [j]Mt 27:3-10
1:19 [k]S Jn 5:2
1:20 [l]Ps 69:25 [m]Ps 109:8
1:22 [n]S Mk 1:4 [o]ver 8; S Lk 24:48

upstairs to the room[y] where they were
staying. Those present were Peter,
John, James and Andrew; Philip and
Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew;
James son of Alphaeus and Simon the
Zealot, and Judas son of James.[z]
14They all joined together constantly in
prayer,[a] along with the women[b] and
Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his
brothers.[c]
15In those days Peter stood up among
the believers[c] (a group numbering
about a hundred and twenty) 16and
said, "Brothers,[d] the Scripture had to
be fulfilled[e] which the Holy Spirit
spoke long ago through the mouth of
David concerning Judas,[f] who served
as guide for those who arrested Jesus—
17he was one of our number[g] and
shared in this ministry."[h]
18(With the reward[i] he got for his
wickedness, Judas bought a field;[j]
there he fell headlong, his body burst
open and all his intestines spilled out.
19Everyone in Jerusalem heard about
this, so they called that field in their
language[k] Akeldama, that is, Field of
Blood.)
20"For," said Peter, "it is written in
the book of Psalms,

" 'May his place be deserted;
let there be no one to dwell
in it,'[d] [l]

and,

" 'May another take his place of
leadership.'[e] [m]

21Therefore it is necessary to choose
one of the men who have been with us
the whole time the Lord Jesus went in
and out among us, 22beginning from
John's baptism[n] to the time when Jesus
was taken up from us. For one of these
must become a witness[o] with us of his
resurrection."
23So they proposed two men: Joseph

[a]5 Or *in* [b]12 That is, about 3/4 mile (about 1,100 meters) [c]15 Greek *brothers* [d]20 Psalm 69:25 [e]20 Psalm 109:8

called Barsabbas (also known as Justus)
and Matthias. 24Then they prayed,[a]
"Lord, you know everyone's heart.[b]
Show us[c] which of these two you have
chosen 25to take over this apostolic
ministry, which Judas left to go where
he belongs." 26Then they cast lots, and
the lot fell to Matthias; so he was added
to the eleven apostles.[d]

The Holy Spirit Comes at Pentecost

2 When the day of Pentecost[e] came,
they were all together[f] in one
place. 2Suddenly a sound like the blow-
ing of a violent wind came from heaven
and filled the whole house where they
were sitting.[g] 3They saw what seemed
to be tongues of fire that separated and
came to rest on each of them. 4All of
them were filled with the Holy Spirit[h]
and began to speak in other tongues[f] [i]
as the Spirit enabled them.

5Now there were staying in Jerusa-
lem God-fearing[j] Jews from every na-
tion under heaven. 6When they heard
this sound, a crowd came together in
bewilderment, because each one heard
them speaking in his own language.
7Utterly amazed,[k] they asked: "Are not
all these men who are speaking Gali-
leans?[l] 8Then how is it that each of us
hears them in his own native language?
9Parthians, Medes and Elamites; resi-
dents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cap-
padocia,[m] Pontus[n] and Asia,[o]
10Phrygia[p] and Pamphylia,[q] Egypt and
the parts of Libya near Cyrene;[r]
visitors from Rome 11(both Jews and
converts to Judaism); Cretans and
Arabs—we hear them declaring the
wonders of God in our own tongues!"
12Amazed and perplexed, they asked
one another, "What does this mean?"

13Some, however, made fun of them
and said, "They have had too much
wine.[g]"[s]

Peter Addresses the Crowd

14Then Peter stood up with the Elev-
en, raised his voice and addressed the
crowd: "Fellow Jews and all of you
who live in Jerusalem, let me explain
this to you; listen carefully to what I
say. 15These men are not drunk, as you
suppose. It's only nine in the morn-
ing![t] 16No, this is what was spoken by
the prophet Joel:

17" 'In the last days, God says,
I will pour out my Spirit on all
people.[u]
Your sons and daughters will
prophesy,[v]
your young men will see visions,
your old men will dream dreams.
18Even on my servants, both men and
women,
I will pour out my Spirit in those
days,
and they will prophesy.[w]
19I will show wonders in the heaven
above
and signs on the earth below,[x]
blood and fire and billows of
smoke.
20The sun will be turned to darkness
and the moon to blood[y]
before the coming of the great and
glorious day of the Lord.
21And everyone who calls
on the name of the Lord[z] will be
saved.'[h][a]

22"Men of Israel, listen to this: Jesus
of Nazareth[b] was a man accredited by
God to you by miracles, wonders and
signs,[c] which God did among you
through him,[d] as you yourselves
know. 23This man was handed over to
you by God's set purpose and fore-
knowledge;[e] and you, with the help of
wicked men,[i] put him to death by nail-
ing him to the cross.[f] 24But God raised
him from the dead,[g] freeing him from
the agony of death, because it was im-
possible for death to keep its hold on
him.[h] 25David said about him:

" 'I saw the Lord always before me.
Because he is at my right hand,
I will not be shaken.
26Therefore my heart is glad and my
tongue rejoices;
my body also will live in hope,
27because you will not abandon me to
the grave,
nor will you let your Holy One see
decay.[i]
28You have made known to me the
paths of life;
you will fill me with joy in your
presence.'[j] [j]

29"Brothers,[k] I can tell you confi-
dently that the patriarch[l] David died
and was buried,[m] and his tomb is
here[n] to this day. 30But he was a
prophet and knew that God had prom-
ised him on oath that he would place
one of his descendants on his throne.[o]
31Seeing what was ahead, he spoke of

1:24 [a]Ac 6:6; 13:3; 14:23 [b]S Rev 2:23 [c]1Sa 14:41 **1:26** [d]Ac 2:14 **2:1** [e]Lev 23:15, 16; Ac 20:16; 1Co 16:8 [f]Ac 1:14 **2:2** [g]Ac 4:31 **2:4** [h]S Lk 1:15 [i]S Mk 16:17 **2:5** [j]Lk 2:25; Ac 8:2 **2:7** [k]ver 12 [l]Ac 1:11 **2:9** [m]1Pe 1:1 [n]Ac 18:2; 1Pe 1:1 [o]Ac 16:6; 19:10; Ro 16:5; 1Co 16:19; 2Co 1:8; Rev 1:4 **2:10** [p]Ac 16:6; 18:23 [q]Ac 13:13; 14:24; 15:38 [r]S Mt 27:32 **2:13** [s]1Co 14:23; Eph 5:18 **2:15** [t]1Th 5:7 **2:17** [u]Nu 11:25; Isa 44:3; Eze 39:29; Jn 7:37-39; Ac 10:45 [v]S Ac 21:9 **2:18** [w]Ac 21:9-12 **2:19** [x]Lk 21:11 **2:20** [y]S Mt 24:29 **2:21** [z]Ge 4:26; 26:25; Ps 105:1; Ac 9:14; 1Co 1:2; 2Ti 2:22 [a]Joel 2:28-32; Ro 10:13 **2:22** [b]S Mk 1:24 [c]S Jn 4:48 [d]S Jn 3:2 **2:23** [e]Isa 53:10; Ac 3:18; 4:28 [f]Mt 16:21; Lk 24:20; Ac 3:13 **2:24** [g]ver 32; Ac 13:30,33,34, 37; 17:31; Ro 6:4; 8:11; 10:9; 1Co 6:14; 15:15; Eph 1:20; Col 2:12; Heb 13:20; 1Pe 1:21 [h]Jn 20:9 **2:27** [i]ver 31; Ac 13:35 **2:28** [j]Ps 16:8-11 **2:29** [k]S Ac 22:5 [l]Ac 7:8,9 [m]Ac 13:36; 1Ki 2:10 [n]Ne 3:16 **2:30** [o]S Mt 1:1

f4 Or *languages;* also in verse 11 g13 Or *sweet wine* h21 Joel 2:28-32 i23 Or *of those not having the law* (that is, Gentiles) j28 Psalm 16:8-11

the resurrection of the Christ,[k] that he
was not abandoned to the grave, nor
did his body see decay.[a] 32 God has
raised this Jesus to life,[b] and we are all
witnesses[c] of the fact. 33 Exalted[d] to the
right hand of God,[e] he has received
from the Father[f] the promised Holy
Spirit[g] and has poured out[h] what you
now see and hear. 34 For David did not
ascend to heaven, and yet he said,

" 'The Lord said to my Lord:
"Sit at my right hand
35 until I make your enemies
a footstool for your feet." '[l] [i]

36 "Therefore let all Israel be assured
of this: God has made this Jesus, whom
you crucified, both Lord[j] and
Christ."[k]
37 When the people heard this, they
were cut to the heart and said to Peter
and the other apostles, "Brothers, what
shall we do?"[l]
38 Peter replied, "Repent and be bap-
tized,[m] every one of you, in the name
of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of
your sins.[n] And you will receive the
gift of the Holy Spirit.[o] 39 The promise
is for you and your children[p] and for
all who are far off[q]—for all whom the
Lord our God will call."
40 With many other words he warned
them; and he pleaded with them,
"Save yourselves from this corrupt
generation."[r] 41 Those who accepted
his message were baptized, and about
three thousand were added to their
number[s] that day.

The Fellowship of the Believers

42 They devoted themselves to the
apostles' teaching[t] and to the fellow-
ship, to the breaking of bread[u] and to
prayer.[v] 43 Everyone was filled with
awe, and many wonders and miracu-
lous signs were done by the apostles.[w]
44 All the believers were together and
had everything in common.[x] 45 Selling
their possessions and goods, they gave
to anyone as he had need.[y] 46 Every
day they continued to meet together in
the temple courts.[z] They broke bread[a]
in their homes and ate together with
glad and sincere hearts, 47 praising God
and enjoying the favor of all the
people.[b] And the Lord added to their
number[c] daily those who were being
saved.

Peter Heals the Crippled Beggar

3 One day Peter and John[d] were go-
ing up to the temple[e] at the time of
prayer—at three in the afternoon.[f]
2 Now a man crippled from birth[g] was
being carried to the temple gate[h] called
Beautiful, where he was put every day
to beg[i] from those going into the tem-
ple courts. 3 When he saw Peter and
John about to enter, he asked them for
money. 4 Peter looked straight at him,
as did John. Then Peter said, "Look at
us!" 5 So the man gave them his atten-
tion, expecting to get something from
them.
6 Then Peter said, "Silver or gold I do
not have, but what I have I give you. In
the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth,[j]
walk." 7 Taking him by the right hand,
he helped him up, and instantly the
man's feet and ankles became strong.
8 He jumped to his feet and began to
walk. Then he went with them into the
temple courts, walking and jumping,[k]
and praising God. 9 When all the
people[l] saw him walking and praising
God, 10 they recognized him as the
same man who used to sit begging at
the temple gate called Beautiful,[m] and
they were filled with wonder and
amazement at what had happened to
him.

Peter Speaks to the Onlookers

11 While the beggar held on to Peter
and John,[n] all the people were aston-
ished and came running to them in the
place called Solomon's Colonnade.[o]
12 When Peter saw this, he said to them:
"Men of Israel, why does this surprise
you? Why do you stare at us as if by
our own power or godliness we had
made this man walk? 13 The God of
Abraham, Isaac and Jacob,[p] the God of
our fathers,[q] has glorified his servant
Jesus. You handed him over[r] to be
killed, and you disowned him before
Pilate,[s] though he had decided to let
him go.[t] 14 You disowned the Holy[u]
and Righteous One[v] and asked that a
murderer be released to you.[w] 15 You
killed the author of life, but God raised
him from the dead.[x] We are wit-
nesses[y] of this. 16 By faith in the name
of Jesus,[z] this man whom you see and
know was made strong. It is Jesus'
name and the faith that comes through
him that has given this complete heal-
ing to him, as you can all see.
17 "Now, brothers,[a] I know that you
acted in ignorance,[b] as did your lead-
ers.[c] 18 But this is how God fulfilled[d]

2:31 [a]Ps 16:10
2:32 [b]S ver 24 [c]S Lk 24:48
2:33 [d]S Php 2:9 [e]S Mk 16:19 [f]Ac 1:4 [g]Jn 7:39; 14:26; 15:26 [h]Ac 10:45
2:35 [i]Ps 110:1; S Mt 22:44
2:36 [j]S Mt 28:18 [k]S Lk 2:11
2:37 [l]Lk 3:10, 12,14; Ac 16:30
2:38 [m]ver 41; Ac 8:12,16,36, 38; 9:18; 10:48; 16:15,33; 19:5; 22:16; Col 2:12 [n]Jer 36:3; Mk 1:4; S Lk 24:47; Ac 3:19 [o]S Jn 20:22
2:39 [p]Isa 44:3; 65:23 [q]Isa 57:19; Ac 10:45; Eph 2:13
2:40 [r]Dt 32:5; Php 2:15
2:41 [s]ver 47; Ac 4:4; 5:14; 6:1, 7; 9:31,35,42; 11:21,24; 14:1, 21; 16:5; 17:12
2:42 [t]Mt 28:20 [u]S Mt 14:19 [v]S Ac 1:14
2:43 [w]Ac 5:12
2:44 [x]Ac 4:32
2:45 [y]Mt 19:21; Lk 12:33; 18:22; Ac 4:34,35; 6:1
2:46 [z]Lk 24:53; Ac 3:1; 5:21,42 [a]ver 42; S Mt 14:19
2:47 [b]S Ro 14:18 [c]S ver 41
3:1 [d]S Lk 22:8 [e]Ac 2:46 [f]Ps 55:17; Ac 10:30
3:2 [g]Ac 14:8 [h]Lk 16:20 [i]Jn 9:8
3:6 [j]ver16; S Mk 1:24
3:8 [k]Isa 35:6; Ac 14:10
3:9 [l]Ac 4:16,21
3:10 [m]ver 2
3:11 [n]S Lk 22:8 [o]Jn 10:23; Ac 5:12
3:13 [p]Ex 3:6 [q]Ac 5:30; 7:32; 22:14 [r]Ac 2:23 [s]S Mt 27:2 [t]S Lk 23:4
3:14 [u]S Mk 1:24; Ac 4:27 [v]Ac 7:52 [w]Mk 15:11; Lk 23:18-25
3:15 [x]S Ac 2:24 [y]S Lk 24:48
3:16 [z]ver 6
3:17 [a]S Ac 22:5 [b]Lk 23:34 [c]Ac 13:27
3:18 [d]S Mt 1:22

[k]31 Or *Messiah*. "The Christ" (Greek) and "the Messiah" (Hebrew) both mean "the Anointed One"; also in verse 36. [l]35 Psalm 110:1

what he had foretold[a] through all the
prophets,[b] saying that his Christ[a]
would suffer.[c] 19 Repent, then, and
turn to God, so that your sins may be
wiped out,[d] that times of refreshing
may come from the Lord, 20 and that he
may send the Christ,[e] who has been
appointed for you—even Jesus. 21 He
must remain in heaven[f] until the time
comes for God to restore everything,[g]
as he promised long ago through his
holy prophets.[h] 22 For Moses said, 'The
Lord your God will raise up for you a
prophet like me from among your own
people; you must listen to everything
he tells you.[i] 23 Anyone who does not
listen to him will be completely cut off
from among his people.'[b][j]
24 "Indeed, all the prophets[k] from
Samuel on, as many as have spoken,
have foretold these days. 25 And you are
heirs[l] of the prophets and of the cov-
enant[m] God made with your fathers.
He said to Abraham, 'Through your
offspring all peoples on earth will be
blessed.'[c][n] 26 When God raised up[o] his
servant, he sent him first[p] to you to
bless you by turning each of you from
your wicked ways."

Peter and John Before the Sanhedrin

4 The priests and the captain of the
temple guard[q] and the Sadducees[r]
came up to Peter and John while they
were speaking to the people. 2 They
were greatly disturbed because the
apostles were teaching the people and
proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection of
the dead.[s] 3 They seized Peter and
John, and because it was evening, they
put them in jail[t] until the next day.
4 But many who heard the message be-
lieved, and the number of men grew[u]
to about five thousand.
5 The next day the rulers,[v] elders and
teachers of the law met in Jerusalem.
6 Annas the high priest was there, and
so were Caiaphas,[w] John, Alexander
and the other men of the high priest's
family. 7 They had Peter and John
brought before them and began to
question them: "By what power or
what name did you do this?"
8 Then Peter, filled with the Holy
Spirit,[x] said to them: "Rulers and el-
ders of the people![y] 9 If we are being
called to account today for an act of
kindness shown to a cripple[z] and are
asked how he was healed, 10 then know
this, you and all the people of Israel: It
is by the name of Jesus Christ of Naza-
reth,[a] whom you crucified but whom

3:18 a Ac 2:23 b S Lk 24:27 c Ac 17:2,3; 26:22,23 **3:19** d Ps 51:1; Isa 43:25; 44:22; S Ac 2:38 **3:20** e S Lk 2:11 **3:21** f Ac 1:11 g Mt 17:11; Ac 1:6 h Lk 1:70 **3:22** i Dt 18:15,18; Ac 7:37 **3:23** j Dt 18:19 **3:24** k S Lk 24:27 **3:25** l Ac 2:39 m Ro 9:4,5 n Ge 12:3; 22:18; 26:4; 28:14 **3:26** o ver 22; S Ac 2:24 p Ac 13:46; Ro 1:16 **4:1** q Lk 22:4 r Mt 3:7; 16:1,6; 22:23,34; Ac 5:17; 23:6-8 **4:2** s Ac 17:18 **4:3** t Ac 5:18 **4:4** u S Ac 2:41 **4:5** v Lk 23:13 **4:6** w S Mt 26:3 **4:8** x S Lk 1:15 y ver 5; Lk 23:13 **4:9** z Ac 3:6 **4:10** a S Mk 1:24 b S Ac 2:24 **4:11** c Ps 118:22; Isa 28:16; Zec 10:4; Mt 21:42; Eph 2:20; 1Pe 2:7 **4:12** d S Mt 1:21; Jn 14:6; Ac 10:43; S Ro 11:14; 1Ti 2:5 **4:13** e S Lk 22:8 f Mt 11:25 g Mk 3:14 **4:15** h S Mt 5:22 **4:16** i Jn 11:47 j Ac 3:6-10 **4:18** k Am 7:13; Ac 5:40 **4:19** l Ac 5:29 **4:20** m Job 32:18; Jer 20:9; Am 3:8 n S Lk 24:48 **4:21** o Ac 5:26 p S Mt 9:8 **4:24** q S Ac 1:14 r Ne 9:6; Job 41:11; Isa 37:16 **4:25** s Ac 1:16

God raised from the dead,[b] that this
man stands before you healed. 11 He is

" 'the stone you builders rejected,
which has become the
capstone.[d]'[e][c]

12 Salvation is found in no one else, for
there is no other name under heaven
given to men by which we must be
saved."[d]
13 When they saw the courage of Pe-
ter and John[e] and realized that they
were unschooled, ordinary men,[f] they
were astonished and they took note
that these men had been with Jesus.[g]
14 But since they could see the man who
had been healed standing there with
them, there was nothing they could
say. 15 So they ordered them to with-
draw from the Sanhedrin[h] and then
conferred together. 16 "What are we go-
ing to do with these men?"[i] they
asked. "Everybody living in Jerusalem
knows they have done an outstanding
miracle,[j] and we cannot deny it. 17 But
to stop this thing from spreading any
further among the people, we must
warn these men to speak no longer to
anyone in this name."
18 Then they called them in again and
commanded them not to speak or teach
at all in the name of Jesus.[k] 19 But Peter
and John replied, "Judge for your-
selves whether it is right in God's sight
to obey you rather than God.[l] 20 For we
cannot help speaking[m] about what we
have seen and heard."[n]
21 After further threats they let them
go. They could not decide how to pun-
ish them, because all the people[o] were
praising God[p] for what had happened.
22 For the man who was miraculously
healed was over forty years old.

The Believers' Prayer

23 On their release, Peter and John
went back to their own people and re-
ported all that the chief priests and el-
ders had said to them. 24 When they
heard this, they raised their voices to-
gether in prayer to God.[q] "Sovereign
Lord," they said, "you made the
heaven and the earth and the sea, and
everything in them.[r] 25 You spoke by
the Holy Spirit through the mouth of
your servant, our father David:[s]

" 'Why do the nations rage
and the peoples plot in vain?

a18 Or *Messiah*; also in verse 20 b23 Deut. 18:15,18,19 c25 Gen. 22:18; 26:4 d11 Or *cornerstone* e11 Psalm 118:22

26 The kings of the earth take their
stand
and the rulers gather together
against the Lord
and against his Anointed
One.[r] [s,a,b]

27 Indeed Herod[c] and Pontius Pilate[d]
met together with the Gentiles and the
people[t] of Israel in this city to conspire
against your holy servant Jesus,[e]
whom you anointed. 28 They did what
your power and will had decided
beforehand should happen.[f] 29 Now,
Lord, consider their threats and enable
your servants to speak your word with
great boldness.[g] 30 Stretch out your
hand to heal and perform miraculous
signs and wonders[h] through the name
of your holy servant Jesus."[i]
31 After they prayed, the place where
they were meeting was shaken.[j] And
they were all filled with the Holy
Spirit[k] and spoke the word of God[l]
boldly.[m]

The Believers Share Their Possessions

32 All the believers were one in heart
and mind. No one claimed that any of
his possessions was his own, but they
shared everything they had.[n] 33 With
great power the apostles continued to
testify[o] to the resurrection[p] of the Lord
Jesus, and much grace[q] was upon
them all. 34 There were no needy per-
sons among them. For from time to
time those who owned lands or houses
sold them,[r] brought the money from
the sales 35 and put it at the apostles'
feet,[s] and it was distributed to anyone
as he had need.[t]
36 Joseph, a Levite from Cyprus,
whom the apostles called Barnabas[u]
(which means Son of Encouragement),
37 sold a field he owned and brought the
money and put it at the apostles' feet.[v]

Ananias and Sapphira

5 Now a man named Ananias, to-
gether with his wife Sapphira, also
sold a piece of property. 2 With his
wife's full knowledge he kept back part
of the money for himself,[w] but brought
the rest and put it at the apostles' feet.[x]
3 Then Peter said, "Ananias, how is it
that Satan[y] has so filled your heart[z]
that you have lied to the Holy Spirit[a]
and have kept for yourself some of the
money you received for the land?[b]
4 Didn't it belong to you before it was
sold? And after it was sold, wasn't the
money at your disposal?[c] What made
you think of doing such a thing? You
have not lied to men but to God."[d]
5 When Ananias heard this, he fell
down and died.[e] And great fear[f]
seized all who heard what had hap-
pened. 6 Then the young men came for-
ward, wrapped up his body,[g] and car-
ried him out and buried him.
7 About three hours later his wife
came in, not knowing what had hap-
pened. 8 Peter asked her, "Tell me, is
this the price you and Ananias got for
the land?"
"Yes," she said, "that is the price."[h]
9 Peter said to her, "How could you
agree to test the Spirit of the Lord?[i]
Look! The feet of the men who buried
your husband are at the door, and they
will carry you out also."
10 At that moment she fell down at his
feet and died.[j] Then the young men
came in and, finding her dead, carried
her out and buried her beside her hus-
band.[k] 11 Great fear[l] seized the whole
church and all who heard about these
events.

The Apostles Heal Many

12 The apostles performed many mi-
raculous signs and wonders[m] among
the people. And all the believers used
to meet together[n] in Solomon's Colon-
nade.[o] 13 No one else dared join them,
even though they were highly re-
garded by the people.[p] 14 Nevertheless,
more and more men and women be-
lieved in the Lord and were added to
their number.[q] 15 As a result, people
brought the sick into the streets and
laid them on beds and mats so that at
least Peter's shadow might fall on some
of them as he passed by.[r] 16 Crowds
gathered also from the towns around
Jerusalem, bringing their sick and
those tormented by evil[u] spirits, and
all of them were healed.[s]

The Apostles Persecuted

17 Then the high priest and all his
associates, who were members of the
party[t] of the Sadducees,[u] were filled
with jealousy. 18 They arrested the
apostles and put them in the public
jail.[v] 19 But during the night an angel[w]
of the Lord opened the doors of the
jail[x] and brought them out.[y] 20 "Go,
stand in the temple courts," he said,
"and tell the people the full message of
this new life."[z]

4:26 a Da 9:25; Lk 4:18; Acts 10:38; Heb 1:9 b Ps 2:1,2
4:27 c S Mt 14:1 d S Mt 27:2; Lk 23:12 e ver 30; Ac 3:13,14
4:28 f Ac 2:23
4:29 g ver 13,31; Ps 138:3; Ac 9:27; 13:46; 14:3; 28:31; Eph 6:19; Php 1:14
4:30 h S Jn 4:48 i ver 27
4:31 j Ac 2:2 k S Lk 1:15 l S Heb 4:12 m S ver 29
4:32 n Ac 2:44
4:33 o S Lk 24:48 p Ac 1:22 q S Ro 3:24
4:34 r Mt 19:21; Ac 2:45
4:35 s ver 37; Ac 5:2 t Ac 2:45; 6:1
4:36 u Ac 9:27; 11:22,30; 13:2; 1Co 9:6; Gal 2:1,9,13
4:37 v ver 35; Ac 5:2
5:2 w Jos 7:11 x Ac 4:35,37
5:3 y S Mt 4:10 z Jn 13:2,27 a ver 9 b Dt 23:21
5:4 c Dt 23:22 d Lev 6:2
5:5 e ver 10; Ps 5:6 f ver 11
5:6 g Jn 19:40
5:8 h ver 2
5:9 i ver 3
5:10 j ver 5 k ver 6
5:11 l ver 5; Ac 19:17
5:12 m S Jn 4:48; Ac 2:43 n Ac 4:32 o Jn 10:23; Ac 3:11
5:13 p Ac 2:47; 4:21
5:14 q S Ac 2:41
5:15 r Ac 19:12
5:16 s Mt 8:16; S Mk 16:17
5:17 t Ac 15:5 u S Ac 4:1
5:18 v Ac 4:3
5:19 w Ge 16:7; Ex 3:2; Mt 1:20; 2:13,19; 28:2; Lk 1:11; 2:9; S Jn 20:12; Ac 8:26; 10:3; 12:7,23; 27:23 x Ac 16:26 y Ps 34:7
5:20 z Jn 6:63,68

r26 That is, Christ or Messiah s26 Psalm 2:1,2
t27 The Greek is plural. u16 Greek *unclean*

21At daybreak they entered the tem-
ple courts, as they had been told, and
began to teach the people.
When the high priest and his asso-
ciates[a] arrived, they called together the
Sanhedrin[b]—the full assembly of the
elders of Israel—and sent to the jail for
the apostles. 22But on arriving at the
jail, the officers did not find them
there.[c] So they went back and re-
ported, 23"We found the jail securely
locked, with the guards standing at the
doors; but when we opened them, we
found no one inside." 24On hearing
this report, the captain of the temple
guard and the chief priests[d] were puz-
zled, wondering what would come of
this.
25Then someone came and said,
"Look! The men you put in jail are
standing in the temple courts teaching
the people." 26At that, the captain went
with his officers and brought the apos-
tles. They did not use force, because
they feared that the people[e] would
stone them.
27Having brought the apostles, they
made them appear before the Sanhe-
drin[f] to be questioned by the high
priest. 28"We gave you strict orders not
to teach in this name,"[g] he said. "Yet
you have filled Jerusalem with your
teaching and are determined to make
us guilty of this man's blood."[h]
29Peter and the other apostles re-
plied: "We must obey God rather than
men![i] 30The God of our fathers[j] raised
Jesus from the dead[k]—whom you had
killed by hanging him on a tree.[l] 31God
exalted him to his own right hand[m] as
Prince and Savior[n] that he might give
repentance and forgiveness of sins to
Israel.[o] 32We are witnesses of these
things,[p] and so is the Holy Spirit,[q]
whom God has given to those who
obey him."
33When they heard this, they were
furious[r] and wanted to put them to
death. 34But a Pharisee named Gamali-
el,[s] a teacher of the law,[t] who was
honored by all the people, stood up in
the Sanhedrin and ordered that the
men be put outside for a little while.
35Then he addressed them: "Men of Is-
rael, consider carefully what you in-
tend to do to these men. 36Some time
ago Theudas appeared, claiming to be
somebody, and about four hundred
men rallied to him. He was killed, all
his followers were dispersed, and it all
came to nothing. 37After him, Judas the
Galilean appeared in the days of the
census[u] and led a band of people in
revolt. He too was killed, and all his
followers were scattered. 38Therefore,
in the present case I advise you: Leave
these men alone! Let them go! For if
their purpose or activity is of human
origin, it will fail.[v] 39But if it is from
God, you will not be able to stop these
men; you will only find yourselves
fighting against God."[w]
40His speech persuaded them. They
called the apostles in and had them
flogged.[x] Then they ordered them not
to speak in the name of Jesus, and let
them go.
41The apostles left the Sanhedrin, re-
joicing[y] because they had been count-
ed worthy of suffering disgrace for the
Name.[z] 42Day after day, in the temple
courts[a] and from house to house, they
never stopped teaching and proclaim-
ing the good news[b] that Jesus is the
Christ.[v] [c]

The Choosing of the Seven

6 In those days when the number of
disciples was increasing,[d] the Gre-
cian Jews[e] among them complained
against the Hebraic Jews because their
widows[f] were being overlooked in the
daily distribution of food.[g] 2So the
Twelve gathered all the disciples[h] to-
gether and said, "It would not be right
for us to neglect the ministry of the
word of God[i] in order to wait on ta-
bles. 3Brothers,[j] choose seven men
from among you who are known to be
full of the Spirit[k] and wisdom. We will
turn this responsibility over to them[l]
4and will give our attention to prayer[m]
and the ministry of the word."
5This proposal pleased the whole
group. They chose Stephen,[n] a man
full of faith and of the Holy Spirit;[o] also
Philip,[p] Procorus, Nicanor, Timon,
Parmenas, and Nicolas from Antioch, a
convert to Judaism. 6They presented
these men to the apostles, who
prayed[q] and laid their hands on
them.[r]
7So the word of God spread.[s] The
number of disciples in Jerusalem in-
creased rapidly,[t] and a large number
of priests became obedient to the faith.

Stephen Seized

8Now Stephen, a man full of God's
grace and power, did great wonders
and miraculous signs[u] among the
people. 9Opposition arose, however,

5:21 [a]Ac 4:5,6 [b]ver 27,34,41; S Mt 5:22
5:22 [c]Ac 12:18, 19
5:24 [d]Ac 4:1
5:26 [e]Ac 4:21
5:27 [f]S Mt 5:22
5:28 [g]Ac 4:18 [h]Mt 23:35; 27:25; Ac 2:23,36; 3:14, 15; 7:52
5:29 [i]Ex 1:17; Ac 4:19
5:30 [j]S Ac 3:13 [k]S Ac 2:24 [l]Ac 10:39; 13:29; Gal 3:13
5:31 [m]S Mk 16:19 [n]S Lk 2:11 [o]S Mt 1:21; Mk 1:4; Lk 24:47; Ac 2:38; 3:19; 10:43
5:32 [p]S Lk 24:48 [q]Jn 15:26
5:33 [r]Ac 2:37; 7:54
5:34 [s]Ac 22:3 [t]Lk 2:46; 5:17
5:37 [u]Lk 2:1,2
5:38 [v]Mt 15:13
5:39 [w]2Ch 13:12; Pr 21:30; Isa 46:10; Ac 7:51; 11:17
5:40 [x]S Mt 10:17
5:41 [y]S Mt 5:12 [z]S Jn 15:21
5:42 [a]S Ac 2:46 [b]S Ac 13:32 [c]S Ac 9:22
6:1 [d]S Ac 2:41 [e]Ac 9:29 [f]Ac 9:39,41; 1Ti 5:3 [g]Ac 4:35
6:2 [h]S Ac 11:26 [i]S Heb 4:12
6:3 [j]S Ac 1:16 [k]S Lk 1:15 [l]Ex 18:21; Ne 13:13
6:4 [m]S Ac 1:14
6:5 [n]ver 8; Ac 7:55-60; 11:19; 22:20 [o]S Lk 1:15 [p]Ac 8:5-40; 21:8
6:6 [q]S Ac 1:24 [r]Nu 8:10; 27:18; Ac 9:17; 19:6; 28:8; 1Ti 4:14; S Mk 5:23
6:7 [s]Ac 12:24; 19:20 [t]S Ac 2:41
6:8 [u]S Jn 4:48

[v]42 Or *Messiah*

from members of the Synagogue of the
Freedmen (as it was called)—Jews of
Cyrene[a] and Alexandria as well as the
provinces of Cilicia[b] and Asia.[c] These
men began to argue with Stephen,
10but they could not stand up against
his wisdom or the Spirit by whom he
spoke.[d]

11Then they secretly[e] persuaded
some men to say, "We have heard Ste-
phen speak words of blasphemy
against Moses and against God."[f]

12So they stirred up the people and
the elders and the teachers of the law.
They seized Stephen and brought him
before the Sanhedrin.[g] 13They pro-
duced false witnesses,[h] who testified,
"This fellow never stops speaking
against this holy place[i] and against the
law. 14For we have heard him say that
this Jesus of Nazareth will destroy this
place[j] and change the customs Moses
handed down to us."[k]

15All who were sitting in the Sanhe-
drin[l] looked intently at Stephen, and
they saw that his face was like the face
of an angel.

Stephen's Speech to the Sanhedrin

7 Then the high priest asked him,
"Are these charges true?"

2To this he replied: "Brothers and fa-
thers,[m] listen to me! The God of glory[n]
appeared to our father Abraham while
he was still in Mesopotamia, before he
lived in Haran.[o] 3'Leave your country
and your people,' God said, 'and go to
the land I will show you.'[w][p]

4"So he left the land of the Chal-
deans and settled in Haran. After the
death of his father, God sent him to
this land where you are now living.[q]
5He gave him no inheritance here,[r] not
even a foot of ground. But God prom-
ised him that he and his descendants
after him would possess the land,[s]
even though at that time Abraham had
no child. 6God spoke to him in this
way: 'Your descendants will be
strangers in a country not their own,
and they will be enslaved and mistreat-
ed four hundred years.[t] 7But I will
punish the nation they serve as slaves,'
God said, 'and afterward they will
come out of that country and worship
me in this place.'[x][u] 8Then he gave
Abraham the covenant of circumci-
sion.[v] And Abraham became the father
of Isaac and circumcised him eight days
after his birth.[w] Later Isaac became the
father of Jacob,[x] and Jacob became the
father of the twelve patriarchs.[y]

9"Because the patriarchs were jeal-
ous of Joseph,[z] they sold him as a
slave into Egypt.[a] But God was with
him[b] 10and rescued him from all his
troubles. He gave Joseph wisdom and
enabled him to gain the goodwill of
Pharaoh king of Egypt; so he made him
ruler over Egypt and all his palace.[c]

11"Then a famine struck all Egypt
and Canaan, bringing great suffering,
and our fathers could not find food.[d]
12When Jacob heard that there was
grain in Egypt, he sent our fathers on
their first visit.[e] 13On their second visit,
Joseph told his brothers who he was,[f]
and Pharaoh learned about Joseph's
family.[g] 14After this, Joseph sent for his
father Jacob and his whole family,[h]
seventy-five in all.[i] 15Then Jacob went
down to Egypt, where he and our fa-
thers died.[j] 16Their bodies were
brought back to Shechem and placed in
the tomb that Abraham had bought
from the sons of Hamor at Shechem for
a certain sum of money.[k]

17"As the time drew near for God to
fulfill his promise to Abraham, the
number of our people in Egypt greatly
increased.[l] 18Then another king, who
knew nothing about Joseph, became
ruler of Egypt.[m] 19He dealt treacherous-
ly with our people and oppressed our
forefathers by forcing them to throw
out their newborn babies so that they
would die.[n]

20"At that time Moses was born, and
he was no ordinary child.[y] For three
months he was cared for in his father's
house.[o] 21When he was placed outside,
Pharaoh's daughter took him and
brought him up as her own son.[p]
22Moses was educated in all the wis-
dom of the Egyptians[q] and was power-
ful in speech and action.

23"When Moses was forty years old,
he decided to visit his fellow Israelites.
24He saw one of them being mistreated
by an Egyptian, so he went to his de-
fense and avenged him by killing the
Egyptian. 25Moses thought that his
own people would realize that God
was using him to rescue them, but they
did not. 26The next day Moses came
upon two Israelites who were fighting.
He tried to reconcile them by saying,
'Men, you are brothers; why do you
want to hurt each other?'

27"But the man who was mistreating
the other pushed Moses aside and said,

6:9 aS Mt 27:32 bAc 15:23,41; 22:3; 23:34 cS Ac 2:9 **6:10** dLk 21:15 **6:11** e1Ki 21:10 fMt 26:59-61 **6:12** gS Mt 5:22 **6:13** hEx 23:1; Ps 27:12 iMt 24:15; Ac 7:48; 21:28 **6:14** jS Jn 2:19 kAc 15:1; 21:21; 26:3; 28:17 **6:15** lS Mt 5:22 **7:2** mAc 22:1 nPs 29:3 oGe 11:31; 15:7 **7:3** pGe 12:1 **7:4** qGe 12:5 **7:5** rHeb 11:13 sGe 12:7; 17:8; 26:3 **7:6** tEx 1:8-11; 12:40 **7:7** uGe 15:13,14; Ex 3:12 **7:8** vGe 17:9-14 wGe 21:2-4 xGe 25:26 yGe 29:31-35; 30:5-13,17-24; 35:16-18,22-26

7:9 zGe 37:4,11 aGe 37:28; Ps 105:17 bGe 39:2,21,23; Hag 2:4 **7:10** cGe 41:37-43; Ps 105:20-22 **7:11** dGe 41:54 **7:12** eGe 42:1,2 **7:13** fGe 45:1-4 gGe 45:16 **7:14** hGe 45:9,10 iGe 46:26,27; Ex 1:5; Dt 10:22 **7:15** jGe 46:5-7; 49:33; Ex 1:6 **7:16** kGe 23:16-20; 33:18,19; 50:13; Jos 24:32 **7:17** lEx 1:7; Ps 105:24 **7:18** mEx 1:8 **7:19** nEx 1:10-22 **7:20** oEx 2:2; Heb 11:23 **7:21** pEx 2:3-10 **7:22** q1Ki 4:30; Isa 19:11

w3 Gen. 12:1 x7 Gen. 15:13,14 y20 Or *was fair in the sight of God*

'Who made you ruler and judge over
us?[a] 28Do you want to kill me as you
killed the Egyptian yesterday?'[z]
29When Moses heard this, he fled to
Midian, where he settled as a foreigner
and had two sons.[b]
30"After forty years had passed, an
angel appeared to Moses in the flames
of a burning bush in the desert near
Mount Sinai. 31When he saw this, he
was amazed at the sight. As he went
over to look more closely, he heard the
Lord's voice:[c] 32'I am the God of your
fathers,[d] the God of Abraham, Isaac
and Jacob.'[a] Moses trembled with fear
and did not dare to look.[e]
33"Then the Lord said to him, 'Take
off your sandals; the place where you
are standing is holy ground.[f] 34I have
indeed seen the oppression of my
people in Egypt. I have heard their
groaning and have come down to set
them free. Now come, I will send you
back to Egypt.'[b g]
35"This is the same Moses whom
they had rejected with the words,
'Who made you ruler and judge?'[h] He
was sent to be their ruler and deliverer
by God himself, through the angel who
appeared to him in the bush. 36He led
them out of Egypt[i] and did wonders
and miraculous signs[j] in Egypt, at the
Red Sea[c k] and for forty years in the
desert.[l]
37"This is that Moses who told the Is-
raelites, 'God will send you a prophet
like me from your own people.'[d m] 38He
was in the assembly in the desert, with
the angel[n] who spoke to him on Mount
Sinai, and with our fathers;[o] and he re-
ceived living words[p] to pass on to us.[q]
39"But our fathers refused to obey
him. Instead, they rejected him and in
their hearts turned back to Egypt.[r]
40They told Aaron, 'Make us gods who
will go before us. As for this fellow
Moses who led us out of Egypt—we
don't know what has happened to
him!'[e s] 41That was the time they made
an idol in the form of a calf. They
brought sacrifices to it and held a cele-
bration in honor of what their hands
had made.[t] 42But God turned away[u]
and gave them over to the worship of
the heavenly bodies.[v] This agrees with
what is written in the book of the
prophets:

" 'Did you bring me sacrifices and
offerings
forty years in the desert, O house
of Israel?
43You have lifted up the shrine of
Molech
and the star of your god Rephan,
the idols you made to worship.
Therefore I will send you into
exile'[f w] beyond Babylon.

44"Our forefathers had the tabernacle
of the Testimony[x] with them in the
desert. It had been made as God direct-
ed Moses, according to the pattern he
had seen.[y] 45Having received the taber-
nacle, our fathers under Joshua
brought it with them when they took
the land from the nations God drove
out before them.[z] It remained in the
land until the time of David,[a] 46who
enjoyed God's favor and asked that he
might provide a dwelling place for the
God of Jacob.[g b] 47But it was Solomon
who built the house for him.[c]
48"However, the Most High[d] does
not live in houses made by men.[e] As
the prophet says:

49" 'Heaven is my throne,
and the earth is my footstool.[f]
What kind of house will you build
for me?
says the Lord.
Or where will my resting place be?
50Has not my hand made all these
things?'[h g]

51"You stiff-necked people,[h] with
uncircumcised hearts[i] and ears! You
are just like your fathers: You always
resist the Holy Spirit! 52Was there ever
a prophet your fathers did not perse-
cute?[j] They even killed those who pre-
dicted the coming of the Righteous
One. And now you have betrayed and
murdered him[k]— 53you who have re-
ceived the law that was put into effect
through angels[l] but have not obeyed
it."

The Stoning of Stephen

54When they heard this, they were
furious[m] and gnashed their teeth at
him. 55But Stephen, full of the Holy
Spirit,[n] looked up to heaven and saw
the glory of God, and Jesus standing at
the right hand of God.[o] 56"Look," he
said, "I see heaven open[p] and the Son
of Man[q] standing at the right hand of
God."
57At this they covered their ears and,
yelling at the top of their voices, they

7:27 [a]Ge 19:9; Nu 16:13 **7:29** [b]Ex 2:11-15 **7:31** [c]Ex 3:1-4 **7:32** [d]S Ac 3:13 [e]Ex 3:6 **7:33** [f]Ex 3:5; Jos 5:15 **7:34** [g]Ex 3:7-10 **7:35** [h]ver 27 **7:36** [i]Ex 12:41; 33:1 [j]Ex 11:10; S Jn 4:48 [k]Ex 14:21 [l]Ex 15:25; 17:5,6 **7:37** [m]Dt 18:15, 18; Ac 3:22 **7:38** [n]ver 53 [o]Ex 19:17; Lev 27:34 [p]Dt 32:45-47; Heb 4:12 [q]Ro 3:2 **7:39** [r]Nu 14:3,4 **7:40** [s]Ex 32:1,23 **7:41** [t]Ex 32:4-6; Ps 106:19,20; Rev 9:20 **7:42** [u]Jos 24:20; Isa 63:10 [v]Jer 19:13

7:43 [w]Am 5:25-27 **7:44** [x]Ex 38:21; Nu 1:50; 17:7 [y]Ex 25:8,9,40 **7:45** [z]Jos 3:14-17; 18:1; 23:9; 24:18; Ps 44:2 [a]2Sa 7:2,6 **7:46** [b]2Sa 7:8-16; 1Ki 8:17; Ps 132:1-5 **7:47** [c]1Ki 6:1-38 **7:48** [d]S Mk 5:7 [e]1Ki 8:27; 2Ch 2:6 **7:49** [f]Mt 5:34,35 **7:50** [g]Isa 66:1,2 **7:51** [h]Ex 32:9; 33:3,5 [i]Lev 26:41; Dt 10:16; Jer 4:4; 9:26 **7:52** [j]S Mt 5:12 [k]Ac 3:14; 1Th 2:15 **7:53** [l]ver 38; Gal 3:19; Heb 2:2 **7:54** [m]Ac 5:33 **7:55** [n]S Lk 1:15 [o]S Mk 16:19 **7:56** [p]S Mt 3:16 [q]S Mt 8:20

[z]*28* Exodus 2:14 [a]*32* Exodus 3:6 [b]*34* Exodus 3:5,7,8,10 [c]*36* That is, Sea of Reeds [d]*37* Deut. 18:15 [e]*40* Exodus 32:1 [f]*43* Amos 5:25-27 [g]*46* Some early manuscripts *the house of Jacob* [h]*50* Isaiah 66:1,2

all rushed at him, 58 dragged him out of
the city[a] and began to stone him.[b]
Meanwhile, the witnesses[c] laid their
clothes[d] at the feet of a young man
named Saul.[e]
59 While they were stoning him, Ste-
phen prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my
spirit."[f] 60 Then he fell on his knees[g]
and cried out, "Lord, do not hold this
sin against them."[h] When he had said
this, he fell asleep.[i]
8 And Saul[j] was there, giving ap-
proval to his death.

The Church Persecuted and Scattered

On that day a great persecution
broke out against the church at Jerusa-
lem, and all except the apostles were
scattered[k] throughout Judea and Sa-
maria.[l] 2 Godly men buried Stephen
and mourned deeply for him. 3 But
Saul[m] began to destroy the church.[n]
Going from house to house, he
dragged off men and women and put
them in prison.

Philip in Samaria

4 Those who had been scattered[o]
preached the word wherever they
went.[p] 5 Philip[q] went down to a city in
Samaria and proclaimed the Christ[i]
there. 6 When the crowds heard Philip
and saw the miraculous signs he did,
they all paid close attention to what he
said. 7 With shrieks, evil[j] spirits came
out of many,[r] and many paralytics and
cripples were healed.[s] 8 So there was
great joy in that city.

Simon the Sorcerer

9 Now for some time a man named
Simon had practiced sorcery[t] in the
city and amazed all the people of Sa-
maria. He boasted that he was some-
one great,[u] 10 and all the people, both
high and low, gave him their attention
and exclaimed, "This man is the divine
power known as the Great Power."[v]
11 They followed him because he had
amazed them for a long time with his
magic. 12 But when they believed Philip
as he preached the good news of the
kingdom of God[w] and the name of
Jesus Christ, they were baptized,[x] both
men and women. 13 Simon himself be-
lieved and was baptized. And he fol-
lowed Philip everywhere, astonished
by the great signs and miracles[y] he
saw.
14 When the apostles in Jerusalem
heard that Samaria[z] had accepted the
word of God,[a] they sent Peter and
John[b] to them. 15 When they arrived,
they prayed for them that they might
receive the Holy Spirit,[c] 16 because the
Holy Spirit had not yet come upon any
of them;[d] they had simply been bap-
tized into[k] the name of the Lord
Jesus.[e] 17 Then Peter and John placed
their hands on them,[f] and they re-
ceived the Holy Spirit.[g]
18 When Simon saw that the Spirit
was given at the laying on of the apos-
tles' hands, he offered them money
19 and said, "Give me also this ability so
that everyone on whom I lay my hands
may receive the Holy Spirit."
20 Peter answered: "May your money
perish with you, because you thought
you could buy the gift of God with
money![h] 21 You have no part or share[i]
in this ministry, because your heart is
not right[j] before God. 22 Repent[k] of
this wickedness and pray to the Lord.
Perhaps he will forgive you for having
such a thought in your heart. 23 For I see
that you are full of bitterness and cap-
tive to sin."
24 Then Simon answered, "Pray to the
Lord for me[l] so that nothing you have
said may happen to me."
25 When they had testified and pro-
claimed the word of the Lord,[m] Peter
and John returned to Jerusalem,
preaching the gospel in many Samari-
tan villages.[n]

Philip and the Ethiopian

26 Now an angel[o] of the Lord said to
Philip,[p] "Go south to the road—the
desert road—that goes down from
Jerusalem to Gaza." 27 So he started out,
and on his way he met an Ethiopian[l][q]
eunuch,[r] an important official in
charge of all the treasury of Candace,
queen of the Ethiopians. This man had
gone to Jerusalem to worship,[s] 28 and
on his way home was sitting in his
chariot reading the book of Isaiah the
prophet. 29 The Spirit told[t] Philip, "Go
to that chariot and stay near it."
30 Then Philip ran up to the chariot
and heard the man reading Isaiah the
prophet. "Do you understand what
you are reading?" Philip asked.
31 "How can I," he said, "unless
someone explains it to me?" So he in-
vited Philip to come up and sit with
him.
32 The eunuch was reading this pas-
sage of Scripture:

7:58 [a] Lk 4:29 [b] Lev 24:14,16 [c] Dt 17:7 [d] Ac 22:20 [e] Ac 8:1 **7:59** [f] Ps 31:5; Lk 23:46 **7:60** [g] Lk 22:41; Ac 9:40 [h] S Mt 5:44 [i] S Mt 9:24 **8:1** [j] Ac 7:58 [k] ver 4; Ac 11:19 [l] Ac 9:31 **8:3** [m] Ac 7:58 [n] Ac 9:1,13,21; 22:4,19; 26:10,11; 1Co 15:9; Gal 1:13,23; Php 3:6; 1Ti 1:13 **8:4** [o] ver 1 [p] Ac 15:35 **8:5** [q] Ac 6:5; 21:8 **8:7** [r] S Mk 16:17 [s] S Mt 4:24 **8:9** [t] Ac 13:6 [u] Ac 5:36 **8:10** [v] Ac 14:11; 28:6 **8:12** [w] S Mt 3:2 [x] S Ac 2:38 **8:13** [y] ver 6; Ac 19:11 **8:14** [z] ver 1 [a] S Heb 4:12 [b] S Lk 22:8 **8:15** [c] S Jn 20:22 **8:16** [d] S Ac 10:44; 19:2 [e] Mt 28:19; S Ac 2:38 **8:17** [f] S Ac 6:6 [g] S Jn 20:22 **8:20** [h] 2Ki 5:16; Da 5:17; Mt 10:8; Ac 2:38 **8:21** [i] Ne 2:20 [j] Ps 78:37 **8:22** [k] Ac 2:38 **8:24** [l] Ex 8:8; Nu 21:7; 1Ki 13:6; Jer 42:2 **8:25** [m] S Ac 13:48 [n] ver 40 **8:26** [o] S Ac 5:19 [p] Ac 6:5 **8:27** [q] Ps 68:31; 87:4; Zep 3:10 [r] Isa 56:3-5 [s] 1Ki 8:41-43; Jn 12:20 **8:29** [t] Ac 10:19; 11:12; 13:2; 20:23; 21:11

i5 Or *Messiah* j7 Greek *unclean* k16 Or *in*
l27 That is, from the upper Nile region

"He was led like a sheep to the
slaughter,
and as a lamb before the shearer is
silent,
so he did not open his mouth.
33 In his humiliation he was deprived
of justice.
Who can speak of his
descendants?
For his life was taken from the
earth."[m] [a]

34 The eunuch asked Philip, "Tell me,
please, who is the prophet talking
about, himself or someone else?"
35 Then Philip began[b] with that very
passage of Scripture[c] and told him the
good news[d] about Jesus.
36 As they traveled along the road,
they came to some water and the eu-
nuch said, "Look, here is water. Why
shouldn't I be baptized?"[n] [e] 38 And he
gave orders to stop the chariot. Then
both Philip and the eunuch went down
into the water and Philip baptized him.
39 When they came up out of the water,
the Spirit of the Lord suddenly took
Philip away,[f] and the eunuch did not
see him again, but went on his way re-
joicing. 40 Philip, however, appeared at
Azotus and traveled about, preaching
the gospel in all the towns[g] until he
reached Caesarea.[h]

Saul's Conversion

9:1-19Ref — Ac 22:4-16; 26:9-18

9 Meanwhile, Saul was still breathing
out murderous threats against the
Lord's disciples.[i] He went to the high
priest 2 and asked him for letters to the
synagogues in Damascus,[j] so that if he
found any there who belonged to the
Way,[k] whether men or women, he
might take them as prisoners to Jerusa-
lem. 3 As he neared Damascus on his
journey, suddenly a light from heaven
flashed around him.[l] 4 He fell to the
ground and heard a voice[m] say to him,
"Saul, Saul, why do you persecute
me?"
5 "Who are you, Lord?" Saul asked.
"I am Jesus, whom you are persecut-
ing," he replied. 6 "Now get up and go
into the city, and you will be told what
you must do."[n]
7 The men traveling with Saul stood
there speechless; they heard the
sound[o] but did not see anyone.[p] 8 Saul
got up from the ground, but when he
opened his eyes he could see nothing.[q]
So they led him by the hand into
Damascus. 9 For three days he was

8:33 [a]Isa 53:7,8 **8:35** [b]Mt 5:2 [c]Lk 24:27; Ac 17:2; 18:28; 28:23 [d]S Ac 13:32 **8:36** [e]S Ac 2:38; 10:47 **8:39** [f]1Ki 18:12; 2Ki 2:16; Eze 3:12,14; 8:3; 11:1,24; 43:5; 2Co 12:2; 1Th 4:17; Rev 12:5 **8:40** [g]ver 25 [h]Ac 10:1,24; 12:19; 21:8,16; 23:23,33; 25:1,4,6,13 **9:1** [i]S Ac 8:3 **9:2** [j]Isa 17:1; Jer 49:23 [k]Ac 19:9,23; 22:4; 24:14,22 **9:3** [l]1Co 15:8 **9:4** [m]Isa 6:8 **9:6** [n]ver 16; Eze 3:22 **9:7** [o]Jn 12:29 [p]Da 10:7 **9:8** [q]ver 18

9:10 [r]Ac 10:3,17,19; 12:9; 16:9,10; 18:9 **9:11** [s]ver 30; Ac 11:25; 21:39; 22:3 **9:12** [t]S Mk 5:23 **9:13** [u]ver 32; Ac 26:10; Ro 1:7; 15:25,26,31; 16:2,15; Eph 1:1; Php 1:1 [v]S Ac 8:3 **9:14** [w]ver 2,21 [x]S Ac 2:21 **9:15** [y]Ac 13:2; Ro 1:1; Gal 1:15; 1Ti 1:12 [z]Ro 11:13; 15:15,16; Gal 1:16; 2:7,8 [a]Ac 25:22,23; 26:1 **9:16** [b]Ac 20:23; 21:11; 2Co 6:4-10; 11:23-27; 2Ti 1:8; 2:3,9 **9:17** [c]S Ac 6:6 [d]S Lk 1:15 **9:18** [e]S Ac 2:38 **9:19** [f]S Ac 11:26 [g]Ac 26:20 **9:20** [h]Ac 13:5,14; 14:1; 17:2,10,17; 18:4,19; 19:8 [i]S Mt 4:3 **9:21** [j]S Ac 8:3 [k]ver 14 **9:22** [l]S Lk 2:11; Ac 5:42; 17:3; 18:5,28 **9:23** [m]S Ac 20:3 **9:24** [n]Ac 20:3,19; 23:16,30

blind, and did not eat or drink any-
thing.
10 In Damascus there was a disciple
named Ananias. The Lord called to him
in a vision,[r] "Ananias!"
"Yes, Lord," he answered.
11 The Lord told him, "Go to the
house of Judas on Straight Street and
ask for a man from Tarsus[s] named
Saul, for he is praying. 12 In a vision he
has seen a man named Ananias come
and place his hands on[t] him to restore
his sight."
13 "Lord," Ananias answered, "I have
heard many reports about this man and
all the harm he has done to your
saints[u] in Jerusalem.[v] 14 And he has
come here with authority from the
chief priests[w] to arrest all who call on
your name."[x]
15 But the Lord said to Ananias, "Go!
This man is my chosen instrument[y] to
carry my name before the Gentiles[z]
and their kings[a] and before the people
of Israel. 16 I will show him how much
he must suffer for my name."[b]
17 Then Ananias went to the house
and entered it. Placing his hands on[c]
Saul, he said, "Brother Saul, the
Lord—Jesus, who appeared to you on
the road as you were coming here—has
sent me so that you may see again and
be filled with the Holy Spirit."[d]
18 Immediately, something like scales
fell from Saul's eyes, and he could see
again. He got up and was baptized,[e]
19 and after taking some food, he re-
gained his strength.

Saul in Damascus and Jerusalem

Saul spent several days with the dis-
ciples[f] in Damascus.[g] 20 At once he be-
gan to preach in the synagogues[h] that
Jesus is the Son of God.[i] 21 All those
who heard him were astonished and
asked, "Isn't he the man who raised
havoc in Jerusalem among those who
call on this name?[j] And hasn't he
come here to take them as prisoners to
the chief priests?"[k] 22 Yet Saul grew
more and more powerful and baffled
the Jews living in Damascus by proving
that Jesus is the Christ.[o] [l]
23 After many days had gone by, the
Jews conspired to kill him,[m] 24 but Saul
learned of their plan.[n] Day and night
they kept close watch on the city gates
in order to kill him. 25 But his followers

[m]33 Isaiah 53:7,8 [n]36 Some late manuscripts *baptized?" 37 Philip said, "If you believe with all your heart, you may." The eunuch answered, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God."* [o]22 Or *Messiah*

took him by night and lowered him in a basket through an opening in the wall.[a]

26When he came to Jerusalem,[b] he tried to join the disciples, but they were all afraid of him, not believing that he really was a disciple. 27But Barnabas[c] took him and brought him to the apostles. He told them how Saul on his journey had seen the Lord and that the Lord had spoken to him,[d] and how in Damascus he had preached fearlessly in the name of Jesus.[e] 28So Saul stayed with them and moved about freely in Jerusalem, speaking boldly in the name of the Lord. 29He talked and debated with the Grecian Jews,[f] but they tried to kill him.[g] 30When the brothers[h] learned of this, they took him down to Caesarea[i] and sent him off to Tarsus.[j]

31Then the church throughout Judea, Galilee and Samaria[k] enjoyed a time of peace. It was strengthened; and encouraged by the Holy Spirit, it grew in numbers,[l] living in the fear of the Lord.

Aeneas and Dorcas

32As Peter traveled about the country, he went to visit the saints[m] in Lydda. 33There he found a man named Aeneas, a paralytic who had been bedridden for eight years. 34"Aeneas," Peter said to him, "Jesus Christ heals you.[n] Get up and take care of your mat." Immediately Aeneas got up. 35All those who lived in Lydda and Sharon[o] saw him and turned to the Lord.[p]

36In Joppa[q] there was a disciple named Tabitha (which, when translated, is Dorcas[p]), who was always doing good[r] and helping the poor. 37About that time she became sick and died, and her body was washed and placed in an upstairs room.[s] 38Lydda was near Joppa; so when the disciples[t] heard that Peter was in Lydda, they sent two men to him and urged him, "Please come at once!"

39Peter went with them, and when he arrived he was taken upstairs to the room. All the widows[u] stood around him, crying and showing him the robes and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was still with them.

40Peter sent them all out of the room;[v] then he got down on his knees[w] and prayed. Turning toward the dead woman, he said, "Tabitha, get up."[x] She opened her eyes, and seeing Peter she sat up. 41He took her by the hand and helped her to her feet. Then he called the believers and the widows and presented her to them alive. 42This became known all over Joppa, and many people believed in the Lord.[y] 43Peter stayed in Joppa for some time with a tanner named Simon.[z]

Cornelius Calls for Peter

10 At Caesarea[a] there was a man named Cornelius, a centurion in what was known as the Italian Regiment. 2He and all his family were devout and God-fearing;[b] he gave generously to those in need and prayed to God regularly. 3One day at about three in the afternoon[c] he had a vision.[d] He distinctly saw an angel[e] of God, who came to him and said, "Cornelius!"

4Cornelius stared at him in fear. "What is it, Lord?" he asked.

The angel answered, "Your prayers and gifts to the poor have come up as a memorial offering[f] before God.[g] 5Now send men to Joppa[h] to bring back a man named Simon who is called Peter. 6He is staying with Simon the tanner,[i] whose house is by the sea."

7When the angel who spoke to him had gone, Cornelius called two of his servants and a devout soldier who was one of his attendants. 8He told them everything that had happened and sent them to Joppa.[j]

Peter's Vision

10:9-32Ref — Ac 11:5-14

9About noon the following day as they were on their journey and approaching the city, Peter went up on the roof[k] to pray. 10He became hungry and wanted something to eat, and while the meal was being prepared, he fell into a trance.[l] 11He saw heaven opened[m] and something like a large sheet being let down to earth by its four corners. 12It contained all kinds of four-footed animals, as well as reptiles of the earth and birds of the air. 13Then a voice told him, "Get up, Peter. Kill and eat."

14"Surely not, Lord!"[n] Peter replied. "I have never eaten anything impure or unclean."[o]

15The voice spoke to him a second time, "Do not call anything impure that God has made clean."[p]

16This happened three times, and

9:25 [a]1Sa 19:12; 2Co 11:32,33
9:26 [b]Ac 22:17; 26:20; Gal 1:17,18
9:27 [c]S Ac 4:36 [d]ver 3-6 [e]ver 20,22
9:29 [f]Ac 6:1 [g]2Co 11:26
9:30 [h]S Ac 1:16 [i]S Ac 8:40 [j]S ver 11
9:31 [k]Ac 8:1 [l]S Ac 2:41
9:32 [m]S ver 13
9:34 [n]Ac 3:6,16; 4:10
9:35 [o]1Ch 5:16; 27:29; SS 2:1; Isa 33:9; 35:2; 65:10 [p]S Ac 2:41
9:36 [q]Jos 19:46; 2Ch 2:16; Ezr 3:7; Jnh 1:3; Ac 10:5 [r]1Ti 2:10; Tit 3:8
9:37 [s]Ac 1:13; 20:8
9:38 [t]S Ac 11:26
9:39 [u]Ac 6:1; 1Ti 5:3
9:40 [v]Mt 9:25 [w]Lk 22:41; Ac 7:60 [x]S Lk 7:14
9:42 [y]S Ac 2:41
9:43 [z]Ac 10:6
10:1 [a]S Ac 8:40
10:2 [b]ver 22,35; Ac 13:16,26
10:3 [c]Ps 55:17; Ac 3:1 [d]S Ac 9:10 [e]S Ac 5:19
10:4 [f]Ps 20:3; S Mt 10:42; 26:13 [g]Rev 8:4
10:5 [h]S Ac 9:36
10:6 [i]Ac 9:43
10:8 [j]S Ac 9:36
10:9 [k]S Mt 24:17
10:10 [l]Ac 22:17
10:11 [m]S Mt 3:16
10:14 [n]Ac 9:5 [o]Lev 11:4-8, 13-20; 20:25; Dt 14:3-20; Eze 4:14
10:15 [p]ver 28; Ge 9:3; Mt 15:11; Lk 11:41; Ac 11:9; Ro 14:14,17,20; 1Co 10:25; 1Ti 4:3,4; Tit 1:15

p36 Both *Tabitha* (Aramaic) and *Dorcas* (Greek) mean *gazelle*.

immediately the sheet was taken back
to heaven.
17 While Peter was wondering about
the meaning of the vision,[a] the men
sent by Cornelius[b] found out where Si-
mon's house was and stopped at the
gate. 18 They called out, asking if Simon
who was known as Peter was staying
there.
19 While Peter was still thinking about
the vision,[c] the Spirit said[d] to him,
"Simon, three[q] men are looking for
you. 20 So get up and go downstairs. Do
not hesitate to go with them, for I have
sent them."[e]
21 Peter went down and said to the
men, "I'm the one you're looking for.
Why have you come?"
22 The men replied, "We have come
from Cornelius the centurion. He is a
righteous and God-fearing man,[f] who
is respected by all the Jewish people. A
holy angel told him to have you come
to his house so that he could hear what
you have to say."[g] 23 Then Peter invited
the men into the house to be his
guests.

Peter at Cornelius' House

The next day Peter started out with
them, and some of the brothers[h] from
Joppa went along.[i] 24 The following
day he arrived in Caesarea.[j] Cornelius
was expecting them and had called to-
gether his relatives and close friends.
25 As Peter entered the house, Cornelius
met him and fell at his feet in rever-
ence. 26 But Peter made him get up.
"Stand up," he said, "I am only a man
myself."[k]
27 Talking with him, Peter went inside
and found a large gathering of
people.[l] 28 He said to them: "You are
well aware that it is against our law for
a Jew to associate with a Gentile or visit
him.[m] But God has shown me that I
should not call any man impure or un-
clean.[n] 29 So when I was sent for, I
came without raising any objection.
May I ask why you sent for me?"
30 Cornelius answered: "Four days
ago I was in my house praying at this
hour, at three in the afternoon. Sud-
denly a man in shining clothes[o] stood
before me 31 and said, 'Cornelius, God
has heard your prayer and remem-
bered your gifts to the poor. 32 Send to
Joppa for Simon who is called Peter.
He is a guest in the home of Simon the
tanner, who lives by the sea.' 33 So I
sent for you immediately, and it was
good of you to come. Now we are all
here in the presence of God to listen to
everything the Lord has commanded
you to tell us."
34 Then Peter began to speak: "I now
realize how true it is that God does not
show favoritism[p] 35 but accepts men
from every nation who fear him and do
what is right.[q] 36 You know the mes-
sage[r] God sent to the people of Israel,
telling the good news[s] of peace[t]
through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of
all.[u] 37 You know what has happened
throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee
after the baptism that John preached—
38 how God anointed[v] Jesus of Naza-
reth with the Holy Spirit and power,
and how he went around doing good
and healing[w] all who were under the
power of the devil, because God was
with him.[x]
39 "We are witnesses[y] of everything
he did in the country of the Jews and in
Jerusalem. They killed him by hanging
him on a tree,[z] 40 but God raised him
from the dead[a] on the third day and
caused him to be seen. 41 He was not
seen by all the people,[b] but by wit-
nesses whom God had already chos-
en—by us who ate[c] and drank with
him after he rose from the dead. 42 He
commanded us to preach to the
people[d] and to testify that he is the one
whom God appointed as judge of the
living and the dead.[e] 43 All the proph-
ets testify about him[f] that everyone[g]
who believes[h] in him receives forgive-
ness of sins through his name."[i]
44 While Peter was still speaking these
words, the Holy Spirit came on[j] all
who heard the message. 45 The circum-
cised believers who had come with Pe-
ter[k] were astonished that the gift of the
Holy Spirit had been poured out[l] even
on the Gentiles.[m] 46 For they heard
them speaking in tongues[r][n] and prais-
ing God.
Then Peter said, 47 "Can anyone keep
these people from being baptized with
water?[o] They have received the Holy
Spirit just as we have."[p] 48 So he or-
dered that they be baptized in the
name of Jesus Christ.[q] Then they
asked Peter to stay with them for a few
days.

Peter Explains His Actions

11 The apostles and the brothers[r]
throughout Judea heard that the
Gentiles also had received the word of

10:17 [a]S Ac 9:10 [b]ver 7,8
10:19 [c]S Ac 9:10 [d]S Ac 8:29
10:20 [e]Ac 15:7-9
10:22 [f]ver 2 [g]Ac 11:14
10:23 [h]S Ac 1:16 [i]ver 45; Ac 11:12
10:24 [j]S Ac 8:40
10:26 [k]Ac 14:15; Rev 19:10; 22:8,9
10:27 [l]ver 24
10:28 [m]Jn 4:9; 18:28 [n]Ac 11:3 [n]S ver 14,15; Ac 15:8,9
10:30 [o]S Jn 20:12
10:34 [p]Dt 10:17; 2Ch 19:7; Job 34:19; Mk 12:14; Ro 2:11; Gal 2:6; Eph 6:9; Col 3:25; Jas 2:1; 1Pe 1:17
10:35 [q]Ac 15:9
10:36 [r]1Jn 1:5 [s]S Ac 13:32 [t]S Lk 2:14 [u]S Mt 28:18
10:38 [v]S Ac 4:26 [w]S Mt 4:23 [x]S Jn 3:2
10:39 [y]ver 41; S Lk 24:48 [z]S Ac 5:30
10:40 [a]S Ac 2:24
10:41 [b]Jn 14:17,22 [c]Lk 24:43; Jn 21:13; Ac 1:4
10:42 [d]Mt 28:19,20 [e]S Jn 5:22; Ac 17:31; Ro 14:9; 2Co 5:10; 2Ti 4:1; 1Pe 4:5
10:43 [f]Isa 53:11; Ac 26:22 [g]Ac 15:9 [h]S Jn 3:15 [i]S Lk 24:27
10:44 [j]Ac 8:15,16; 11:15; 15:8; 19:6; S Lk 1:15
10:45 [k]ver 23 [l]Ac 2:33,38 [m]Ac 11:18; 15:8
10:46 [n]S Mk 16:17
10:47 [o]Ac 8:36 [p]S Jn 20:22; Ac 11:17
10:48 [q]S Ac 2:38
11:1 [r]S Ac 1:16

[q]19 One early manuscript *two;* other manuscripts do not have the number.   [r]46 Or *other languages*

God.[a] ²So when Peter went up to
Jerusalem, the circumcised believers[b]
criticized him ³and said, "You went
into the house of uncircumcised men
and ate with them."[c]
⁴Peter began and explained every-
thing to them precisely as it had hap-
pened: ⁵"I was in the city of Joppa
praying, and in a trance I saw a vi-
sion.[d] I saw something like a large
sheet being let down from heaven by
its four corners, and it came down to
where I was. ⁶I looked into it and saw
four-footed animals of the earth, wild
beasts, reptiles, and birds of the air.
⁷Then I heard a voice telling me, 'Get
up, Peter. Kill and eat.'
⁸"I replied, 'Surely not, Lord! Noth-
ing impure or unclean has ever entered
my mouth.'
⁹"The voice spoke from heaven a sec-
ond time, 'Do not call anything impure
that God has made clean.'[e] ¹⁰This hap-
pened three times, and then it was all
pulled up to heaven again.
¹¹"Right then three men who had
been sent to me from Caesarea[f]
stopped at the house where I was stay-
ing. ¹²The Spirit told[g] me to have no
hesitation about going with them.[h]
These six brothers[i] also went with me,
and we entered the man's house. ¹³He
told us how he had seen an angel[j] ap-
pear in his house and say, 'Send to Jop-
pa for Simon who is called Peter. ¹⁴He
will bring you a message[k] through
which you and all your household[l]
will be saved.'
¹⁵"As I began to speak, the Holy
Spirit came on[m] them as he had come
on us at the beginning.[n] ¹⁶Then I
remembered what the Lord had said:
'John baptized with[a] water,[o] but you
will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.'[p]
¹⁷So if God gave them the same gift[q] as
he gave us,[r] who believed in the Lord
Jesus Christ, who was I to think that I
could oppose God?"
¹⁸When they heard this, they had no
further objections and praised God,
saying, "So then, God has granted
even the Gentiles repentance unto
life."[s]

The Church in Antioch

¹⁹Now those who had been scattered
by the persecution in connection with
Stephen[t] traveled as far as Phoenicia,
Cyprus and Antioch,[u] telling the mes-
sage only to Jews. ²⁰Some of them,
however, men from Cyprus[v] and Cy-
rene,[w] went to Antioch[x] and began to
speak to Greeks also, telling them the
good news[y] about the Lord Jesus.
²¹The Lord's hand was with them,[z]
and a great number of people believed
and turned to the Lord.[a]
²²News of this reached the ears of the
church at Jerusalem, and they sent Bar-
nabas[b] to Antioch. ²³When he arrived
and saw the evidence of the grace of
God,[c] he was glad and encouraged
them all to remain true to the Lord with
all their hearts.[d] ²⁴He was a good man,
full of the Holy Spirit[e] and faith, and a
great number of people were brought
to the Lord.[f]
²⁵Then Barnabas went to Tarsus[g] to
look for Saul, ²⁶and when he found
him, he brought him to Antioch. So for
a whole year Barnabas and Saul met
with the church and taught great num-
bers of people. The disciples[h] were
called Christians first[i] at Antioch.
²⁷During this time some prophets[j]
came down from Jerusalem to Antioch.
²⁸One of them, named Agabus,[k] stood
up and through the Spirit predicted
that a severe famine would spread over
the entire Roman world.[l] (This hap-
pened during the reign of Claudius.)[m]
²⁹The disciples,[n] each according to his
ability, decided to provide help[o] for
the brothers[p] living in Judea. ³⁰This
they did, sending their gift to the el-
ders[q] by Barnabas[r] and Saul.[s]

Peter's Miraculous Escape
From Prison

12 It was about this time that King
Herod[t] arrested some who be-
longed to the church, intending to
persecute them. ²He had James, the
brother of John,[u] put to death with the
sword.[v] ³When he saw that this
pleased the Jews,[w] he proceeded to
seize Peter also. This happened during
the Feast of Unleavened Bread.[x] ⁴After
arresting him, he put him in prison,
handing him over to be guarded by
four squads of four soldiers each. Her-
od intended to bring him out for public
trial after the Passover.[y]
⁵So Peter was kept in prison, but the
church was earnestly praying to God
for him.[z]
⁶The night before Herod was to bring
him to trial, Peter was sleeping be-
tween two soldiers, bound with two
chains,[a] and sentries stood guard at
the entrance. ⁷Suddenly an angel[b] of
the Lord appeared and a light shone in

11:1 aS Heb 4:12 **11:2** bAc 10:45 **11:3** cAc 10:28; Gal 2:12 **11:5** dAc 10:9-32 **11:9** eS Ac 10:15 **11:11** fS Ac 8:40 **11:12** gS Ac 8:29 hAc 15:9; Ro 3:22 iver 1; S Ac 1:16 **11:13** jS Ac 5:19 **11:14** kAc 10:36 lJn 4:53; Ac 16:15,31-34; 18:8; 1Co 1:11,16 **11:15** mS Ac 10:44 nAc 2:4 **11:16** oS Mk 1:4 pS Mk 1:8 **11:17** qAc 2:38 rAc 10:45,47 **11:18** sRo 10:12,13; 2Co 7:10 **11:19** tAc 8:1,4 uver 26,27; Ac 13:1; 14:26; 18:22; Gal 2:11 **11:20** vAc 4:36 wS Mt 27:32 xS ver 19 yS Ac 13:32 **11:21** zLk 1:66 aS Ac 2:41 **11:22** bS Ac 4:36 **11:23** cAc 13:43; 14:26; 15:40; 20:24 dAc 14:22 **11:24** eS Lk 1:15 fS Ac 2:41 **11:25** gS Ac 9:11 **11:26** hver 29; Ac 6:1,2; 9:19, 26,38; 13:52 iAc 26:28; 1Pe 4:16 **11:27** jAc 13:1; 15:32; 1Co 11:4; 12:28,29; 14:29, 32,37; S Eph 4:11 **11:28** kAc 21:10 lS Mt 24:14 mAc 18:2 **11:29** nS ver 26 oRo 15:26; 2Co 8:1-4; 9:2 pver 1,12; S Ac 1:16 **11:30** qAc 14:23; 15:2, 22; 20:17; 1Ti 5:17; Tit 1:5; Jas 5:14; 1Pe 5:1; 2Jn 1 rS Ac 4:36 sAc 12:25 **12:1** tS Mt 14:1 **12:2** uS Mt 4:21 vMk 10:39 **12:3** wAc 24:27; 25:9 xEx 12:15; 23:15; Ac 20:6 **12:4** yS Jn 11:55 **12:5** zS Ac 1:14; Ro 15:30,31; Eph 6:18 **12:6** aAc 21:33 **12:7** bS Ac 5:19

a16 Or *in*

the cell. He struck Peter on the side
and woke him up. "Quick, get up!" he
said, and the chains fell off Peter's
wrists.[a]
8Then the angel said to him, "Put on
your clothes and sandals." And Peter
did so. "Wrap your cloak around you
and follow me," the angel told him.
9Peter followed him out of the prison,
but he had no idea that what the angel
was doing was really happening; he
thought he was seeing a vision.[b]
10They passed the first and second
guards and came to the iron gate lead-
ing to the city. It opened for them by
itself,[c] and they went through it.
When they had walked the length of
one street, suddenly the angel left him.
11Then Peter came to himself[d] and
said, "Now I know without a doubt
that the Lord sent his angel and res-
cued me[e] from Herod's clutches and
from everything the Jewish people
were anticipating."
12When this had dawned on him, he
went to the house of Mary the mother
of John, also called Mark,[f] where
many people had gathered and were
praying.[g] 13Peter knocked at the outer
entrance, and a servant girl named
Rhoda came to answer the door.[h]
14When she recognized Peter's voice,
she was so overjoyed[i] she ran back
without opening it and exclaimed, "Pe-
ter is at the door!"
15"You're out of your mind," they
told her. When she kept insisting that
it was so, they said, "It must be his
angel."[j]
16But Peter kept on knocking, and
when they opened the door and saw
him, they were astonished. 17Peter mo-
tioned with his hand[k] for them to be
quiet and described how the Lord had
brought him out of prison. "Tell
James[l] and the brothers[m] about this,"
he said, and then he left for another
place.
18In the morning, there was no small
commotion among the soldiers as to
what had become of Peter. 19After Her-
od had a thorough search made for him
and did not find him, he cross-exam-
ined the guards and ordered that they
be executed.[n]

Herod's Death

Then Herod went from Judea to
Caesarea[o] and stayed there a while.
20He had been quarreling with the
people of Tyre and Sidon;[p] they now
joined together and sought an audi-
ence with him. Having secured the
support of Blastus, a trusted personal
servant of the king, they asked for
peace, because they depended on the
king's country for their food supply.[q]
21On the appointed day Herod,
wearing his royal robes, sat on his
throne and delivered a public address
to the people. 22They shouted, "This is
the voice of a god, not of a man."
23Immediately, because Herod did not
give praise to God, an angel[r] of the
Lord struck him down,[s] and he was
eaten by worms and died.
24But the word of God[t] continued to
increase and spread.[u]
25When Barnabas[v] and Saul had fin-
ished their mission,[w] they returned
from[t] Jerusalem, taking with them
John, also called Mark.[x]

Barnabas and Saul Sent Off

13 In the church at Antioch[y] there
were prophets[z] and teachers:[a]
Barnabas,[b] Simeon called Niger, Luci-
us of Cyrene,[c] Manaen (who had been
brought up with Herod[d] the tetrarch)
and Saul. 2While they were worshiping
the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit
said,[e] "Set apart for me Barnabas and
Saul for the work[f] to which I have
called them."[g] 3So after they had fast-
ed and prayed, they placed their hands
on them[h] and sent them off.[i]

On Cyprus

4The two of them, sent on their way
by the Holy Spirit,[j] went down to Se-
leucia and sailed from there to Cy-
prus.[k] 5When they arrived at Salamis,
they proclaimed the word of God[l] in
the Jewish synagogues.[m] John[n] was
with them as their helper.
6They traveled through the whole is-
land until they came to Paphos. There
they met a Jewish sorcerer[o] and false
prophet[p] named Bar-Jesus, 7who was
an attendant of the proconsul,[q] Sergius
Paulus. The proconsul, an intelligent
man, sent for Barnabas and Saul be-
cause he wanted to hear the word of
God. 8But Elymas the sorcerer[r] (for
that is what his name means) opposed
them and tried to turn the proconsul[s]
from the faith.[t] 9Then Saul, who was
also called Paul, filled with the Holy
Spirit,[u] looked straight at Elymas and
said, 10"You are a child of the devil[v]
and an enemy of everything that is
right! You are full of all kinds of deceit

[t]25 Some manuscripts *to*

12:7 [a]Ps 107:14; Ac 16:26
12:9 [b]S Ac 9:10
12:10 [c]Ac 5:19; 16:26
12:11 [d]Lk 15:17 [e]Ps 34:7; Da 3:28; 6:22; 2Co 1:10; 2Pe 2:9
12:12 [f]ver 25; Ac 13:5, 13; 15:37,39; Col 4:10; 2Ti 4:11; Phm 24; 1Pe 5:13 [g]ver 5
12:13 [h]Jn 18:16, 17
12:14 [i]Lk 24:41
12:15 [j]S Mt 18:10
12:17 [k]Ac 13:16; 19:33; 21:40 [l]S Ac 15:13 [m]S Ac 1:16
12:19 [n]Ac 16:27 [o]S Ac 8:40
12:20 [p]S Mt 11:21 [q]1Ki 5:9,11; Eze 27:17
12:23 [r]S Ac 5:19 [s]1Sa 25:38; 2Sa 24:16,17; 2Ki 19:35
12:24 [t]S Heb 4:12 [u]Ac 6:7; 19:20
12:25 [v]S Ac 4:36 [w]Ac 11:30 [x]S ver 12
13:1 [y]S Ac 11:19 [z]S Ac 11:27 [a]S Eph 4:11 [b]S Ac 4:36 [c]S Mt 27:32 [d]S Mt 14:1
13:2 [e]S Ac 8:29 [f]Ac 14:26 [g]Ac 9:15; 22:21
13:3 [h]S Ac 6:6 [i]Ac 14:26
13:4 [j]ver 2,3 [k]Ac 4:36
13:5 [l]S Heb 4:12 [m]S Ac 9:20 [n]S Ac 12:12
13:6 [o]Ac 8:9 [p]S Mt 7:15
13:7 [q]ver 8,12; Ac 18:12; 19:38
13:8 [r]Ac 8:9 [s]S ver 7 [t]Isa 30:11; Ac 6:7
13:9 [u]S Lk 1:15
13:10 [v]Mt 13:38; Jn 8:44

and trickery. Will you never stop per-
verting the right ways of the Lord?[a]
11Now the hand of the Lord is against
you.[b] You are going to be blind, and
for a time you will be unable to see the
light of the sun."[c]
Immediately mist and darkness came
over him, and he groped about, seek-
ing someone to lead him by the hand.
12When the proconsul[d] saw what had
happened, he believed, for he was
amazed at the teaching about the Lord.

In Pisidian Antioch

13From Paphos,[e] Paul and his com-
panions sailed to Perga in Pamphylia,[f]
where John[g] left them to return to
Jerusalem. 14From Perga they went on
to Pisidian Antioch.[h] On the Sabbath[i]
they entered the synagogue[j] and sat
down. 15After the reading from the
Law[k] and the Prophets, the synagogue
rulers sent word to them, saying,
"Brothers, if you have a message of en-
couragement for the people, please
speak."
16Standing up, Paul motioned with
his hand[l] and said: "Men of Israel and
you Gentiles who worship God, listen
to me! 17The God of the people of Israel
chose our fathers; he made the people
prosper during their stay in Egypt,
with mighty power he led them out of
that country,[m] 18he endured their con-
duct[u][n] for about forty years in the
desert,[o] 19he overthrew seven nations
in Canaan[p] and gave their land to his
people[q] as their inheritance.[r] 20All this
took about 450 years.
"After this, God gave them judges[s]
until the time of Samuel the prophet.[t]
21Then the people asked for a king,[u]
and he gave them Saul[v] son of Kish, of
the tribe of Benjamin,[w] who ruled forty
years. 22After removing Saul,[x] he made
David their king.[y] He testified con-
cerning him: 'I have found David son
of Jesse a man after my own heart;[z] he
will do everything I want him to do.'[a]
23"From this man's descendants[b]
God has brought to Israel the Savior[c]
Jesus,[d] as he promised.[e] 24Before the
coming of Jesus, John preached repen-
tance and baptism to all the people of
Israel.[f] 25As John was completing his
work,[g] he said: 'Who do you think I
am? I am not that one.[h] No, but he is
coming after me, whose sandals I am
not worthy to untie.'[i]
26"Brothers,[j] children of Abraham,[k]
and you God-fearing Gentiles, it is to
us that this message of salvation[l] has
been sent. 27The people of Jerusalem
and their rulers did not recognize
Jesus,[m] yet in condemning him they
fulfilled the words of the prophets[n]
that are read every Sabbath. 28Though
they found no proper ground for a
death sentence, they asked Pilate to
have him executed.[o] 29When they had
carried out all that was written about
him,[p] they took him down from the
tree[q] and laid him in a tomb.[r] 30But
God raised him from the dead,[s] 31and
for many days he was seen by those
who had traveled with him from Gali-
lee to Jerusalem.[t] They are now his
witnesses[u] to our people.
32"We tell you the good news:[v] What
God promised our fathers[w] 33he has
fulfilled for us, their children, by rais-
ing up Jesus.[x] As it is written in the
second Psalm:

"'You are my Son;
today I have become your
Father.'[v][w][y]

34The fact that God raised him from the
dead, never to decay, is stated in these
words:

"'I will give you the holy and sure
blessings promised to
David.'[x][z]

35So it is stated elsewhere:

"'You will not let your Holy One see
decay.'[y][a]

36"For when David had served God's
purpose in his own generation, he fell
asleep;[b] he was buried with his fa-
thers[c] and his body decayed. 37But the
one whom God raised from the dead[d]
did not see decay.
38"Therefore, my brothers, I want
you to know that through Jesus the for-
giveness of sins is proclaimed to you.[e]
39Through him everyone who believes[f]
is justified from everything you could
not be justified from by the law of
Moses.[g] 40Take care that what the
prophets have said does not happen to
you:

41"'Look, you scoffers,
wonder and perish,
for I am going to do something in
your days
that you would never believe,
even if someone told you.'[z]"[h]

42As Paul and Barnabas were leaving

13:10 a Hos 14:9 **13:11** b Ex 9:3; 1Sa 5:6,7; Ps 32:4 c Ge 19:10,11; 2Ki 6:18 **13:12** d S ver 7 **13:13** e ver 6 f S Ac 2:10 g S Ac 12:12 **13:14** h Ac 14:19,21 i ver 27,42,44; Ac 16:13; 18:4 j S Ac 9:20 **13:15** k Ac 15:21 **13:16** l S Ac 12:17 **13:17** m Ex 6:6,7; Dt 7:6-8 **13:18** n Dt 1:31 o Nu 14:33; Ps 95:10; Ac 7:36 **13:19** p Dt 7:1 q Jos 19:51; Ac 7:45 r Ps 78:55 **13:20** s Jdg 2:16 t 1Sa 3:19,20; Ac 3:24 **13:21** u 1Sa 8:5,19 v 1Sa 10:1 w 1Sa 9:1,2 **13:22** x 1Sa 15:23,26 y 1Sa 16:13; Ps 89:20 z 1Sa 13:14; Jer 3:15 a Isa 44:28 **13:23** b S Mt 1:1 c S Lk 2:11 d Mt 1:21 e ver 32; 2Sa 7:11; 22:51; Jer 30:9 **13:24** f S Mk 1:4 **13:25** g Ac 20:24 h Jn 1:20 i Mt 3:11; Jn 1:27 **13:26** j S Ac 22:5 k S Lk 3:8 l Ac 4:12; 28:28 **13:27** m Ac 3:17 n S Lk 24:27; S Mt 1:22 **13:28** o Mt 27:20-25; Ac 3:14 **13:29** p S Mt 1:22; Lk 18:31 q S Ac 5:30 r Lk 23:53 **13:30** s S Mt 16:21; 28:6; S Ac 2:24 **13:31** t Mt 28:16 u S Lk 24:48 **13:32** v Isa 40:9; 52:7; Ac 5:42; 8:35; 10:36; 14:7,15,21; 17:18 w Ac 26:6; Ro 1:2; 4:13; 9:4 **13:33** x S Ac 2:24 y Ps 2:7; S Mt 3:17 **13:34** z Isa 55:3 **13:35** a Ps 16:10; Ac 2:27 **13:36** b S Mt 9:24 c 2Sa 7:12; 1Ki 2:10; 2Ch 29:28; Ac 2:29 **13:37** d S Ac 2:24 **13:38** e S Lk 24:47; Ac 2:38 **13:39** f S Jn 3:15 g S Ro 3:28 **13:41** h Hab 1:5

u18 Some manuscripts *and cared for them* v33 Or *have begotten you* w33 Psalm 2:7 x34 Isaiah 55:3 y35 Psalm 16:10 z41 Hab. 1:5

the synagogue,[a] the people invited them to speak further about these things on the next Sabbath. 43When the congregation was dismissed, many of the Jews and devout converts to Judaism followed Paul and Barnabas, who talked with them and urged them to continue in the grace of God.[b]

44On the next Sabbath almost the whole city gathered to hear the word of the Lord. 45When the Jews saw the crowds, they were filled with jealousy and talked abusively[c] against what Paul was saying.[d]

46Then Paul and Barnabas answered them boldly: "We had to speak the word of God to you first.[e] Since you reject it and do not consider yourselves worthy of eternal life, we now turn to the Gentiles.[f] 47For this is what the Lord has commanded us:

" 'I have made you[a] a light for the
Gentiles,[g]
that you[a] may bring salvation to
the ends of the earth.'[b]"[h]

48When the Gentiles heard this, they were glad and honored the word of the Lord;[i] and all who were appointed for eternal life believed.

49The word of the Lord[j] spread through the whole region. 50But the Jews incited the God-fearing women of high standing and the leading men of the city. They stirred up persecution against Paul and Barnabas, and expelled them from their region.[k] 51So they shook the dust from their feet[l] in protest against them and went to Iconium.[m] 52And the disciples[n] were filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit.[o]

In Iconium

14 At Iconium[p] Paul and Barnabas went as usual into the Jewish synagogue.[q] There they spoke so effectively that a great number[r] of Jews and Gentiles believed. 2But the Jews who refused to believe stirred up the Gentiles and poisoned their minds against the brothers.[s] 3So Paul and Barnabas spent considerable time there, speaking boldly[t] for the Lord, who confirmed the message of his grace by enabling them to do miraculous signs and wonders.[u] 4The people of the city were divided; some sided with the Jews, others with the apostles.[v] 5There was a plot afoot among the Gentiles and Jews,[w] together with their leaders, to mistreat them and stone them.[x] 6But they found out about it and fled[y] to the Lycaonian cities of Lystra and Derbe and to the surrounding country,[z] 7where they continued to preach[a] the good news.[a]

In Lystra and Derbe

8In Lystra there sat a man crippled in his feet, who was lame from birth[b] and had never walked. 9He listened to Paul as he was speaking. Paul looked directly at him, saw that he had faith to be healed[c] 10and called out, "Stand up on your feet!"[d] At that, the man jumped up and began to walk.[e]

11When the crowd saw what Paul had done, they shouted in the Lycaonian language, "The gods have come down to us in human form!"[f] 12Barnabas they called Zeus, and Paul they called Hermes because he was the chief speaker.[g] 13The priest of Zeus, whose temple was just outside the city, brought bulls and wreaths to the city gates because he and the crowd wanted to offer sacrifices to them.

14But when the apostles Barnabas and Paul heard of this, they tore their clothes[h] and rushed out into the crowd, shouting: 15"Men, why are you doing this? We too are only men,[i] human like you. We are bringing you good news,[j] telling you to turn from these worthless things[k] to the living God,[l] who made heaven and earth[m] and sea and everything in them.[n] 16In the past, he let[o] all nations go their own way.[p] 17Yet he has not left himself without testimony:[q] He has shown kindness by giving you rain from heaven and crops in their seasons;[r] he provides you with plenty of food and fills your hearts with joy."[s] 18Even with these words, they had difficulty keeping the crowd from sacrificing to them.

19Then some Jews[t] came from Antioch and Iconium[u] and won the crowd over. They stoned Paul[v] and dragged him outside the city, thinking he was dead. 20But after the disciples[w] had gathered around him, he got up and went back into the city. The next day he and Barnabas left for Derbe.

The Return to Antioch in Syria

21They preached the good news[x] in that city and won a large number[y] of disciples. Then they returned to Lystra, Iconium[z] and Antioch, 22strengthening the disciples and encouraging them to

13:42 [a]ver 14
13:43 [b]S Ac 11:23; 14:22; S Ro 3:24
13:45 [c]Ac 18:6; 1Pe 4:4; Jude 10 [d]S 1Th 2:16
13:46 [e]ver 26; Ac 3:26 [f]Mt 21:41; Ac 18:6; 22:21; 26:20; 28:28; Ro 11:11
13:47 [g]S Lk 2:32 [h]Isa 49:6
13:48 [i]ver 49; Ac 8:25; 15:35, 36; 19:10,20
13:49 [j]S ver 48
13:50 [k]S 1Th 2:16
13:51 [l]S Mt 10:14 [m]Ac 14:1,19,21; 16:2; 2Ti 3:11
13:52 [n]S Ac 11:26 [o]S Lk 1:15
14:1 [p]S Ac 13:51 [q]S Ac 9:20 [r]S Ac 2:41
14:2 [s]S Ac 1:16
14:3 [t]S Ac 4:29 [u]S Jn 4:48
14:4 [v]Ac 17:4,5; 28:24
14:5 [w]S Ac 20:3 [x]ver 19
14:6 [y]Mt 10:23
14:7 [z]Ac 16:10 [a]ver 15,21; S Ac 13:32
14:8 [b]Ac 3:2
14:9 [c]Mt 9:28, 29; 13:58
14:10 [d]Eze 2:1 [e]Ac 3:8
14:11 [f]Ac 8:10; 28:6
14:12 [g]Ex 7:1
14:14 [h]S Mk 14:63
14:15 [i]S Ac 10:26 [j]ver 7,21; S Ac 13:32 [k]1Sa 12:21; 1Th 1:9 [l]S Mt 16:16 [m]Ge 1:1 [n]Ps 146:6; Rev 14:7
14:16 [o]Ac 17:30 [p]Ps 81:12; Mic 4:5
14:17 [q]Ro 1:20 [r]Dt 11:14; Job 5:10; Ps 65:10 [s]Ps 4:7
14:19 [t]Ac 13:45 [u]S Ac 13:51 [v]2Co 11:25; 2Ti 3:11
14:20 [w]ver 22, 28; S Ac 11:26
14:21 [x]S Ac 13:32 [y]S Ac 2:41 [z]S Ac 13:51

[a]47 The Greek is singular. [b]47 Isaiah 49:6

remain true to the faith.[a] "We must go
through many hardships[b] to enter the
kingdom of God," they said. 23Paul and
Barnabas appointed elders[c][c] for them
in each church and, with prayer and
fasting,[d] committed them to the
Lord,[e] in whom they had put their
trust. 24After going through Pisidia,
they came into Pamphylia,[f] 25and
when they had preached the word in
Perga, they went down to Attalia.

26From Attalia they sailed back to An-
tioch,[g] where they had been commit-
ted to the grace of God[h] for the work
they had now completed.[i] 27On arriv-
ing there, they gathered the church to-
gether and reported all that God had
done through them[j] and how he had
opened the door[k] of faith to the Gen-
tiles. 28And they stayed there a long
time with the disciples.[l]

The Council at Jerusalem

15 Some men[m] came down from
Judea to Antioch and were
teaching the brothers:[n] "Unless you
are circumcised,[o] according to the cus-
tom taught by Moses,[p] you cannot be
saved." 2This brought Paul and Bar-
nabas into sharp dispute and debate
with them. So Paul and Barnabas were
appointed, along with some other be-
lievers, to go up to Jerusalem[q] to see
the apostles and elders[r] about this
question. 3The church sent them on
their way, and as they traveled through
Phoenicia[s] and Samaria, they told how
the Gentiles had been converted.[t] This
news made all the brothers very glad.
4When they came to Jerusalem, they
were welcomed by the church and the
apostles and elders, to whom they re-
ported everything God had done
through them.[u]

5Then some of the believers who be-
longed to the party[v] of the Pharisees[w]
stood up and said, "The Gentiles must
be circumcised and required to obey
the law of Moses."[x]

6The apostles and elders met to con-
sider this question. 7After much discus-
sion, Peter got up and addressed them:
"Brothers, you know that some time
ago God made a choice among you that
the Gentiles might hear from my lips
the message of the gospel and be-
lieve.[y] 8God, who knows the heart,[z]
showed that he accepted them by giv-
ing the Holy Spirit to them,[a] just as he
did to us. 9He made no distinction be-
tween us and them,[b] for he purified
their hearts by faith.[c] 10Now then, why
do you try to test God[d] by putting on
the necks of the disciples a yoke[e] that
neither we nor our fathers have been
able to bear? 11No! We believe it is
through the grace[f] of our Lord Jesus
that we are saved, just as they are."

12The whole assembly became silent
as they listened to Barnabas and Paul
telling about the miraculous signs and
wonders[g] God had done among the
Gentiles through them.[h] 13When they
finished, James[i] spoke up: "Brothers,
listen to me. 14Simon[d] has described to
us how God at first showed his concern
by taking from the Gentiles a people
for himself.[j] 15The words of the proph-
ets are in agreement with this, as it is
written:

16" 'After this I will return
 and rebuild David's fallen tent.
Its ruins I will rebuild,
 and I will restore it,
17that the remnant of men may seek
 the Lord,
 and all the Gentiles who bear my
 name,
says the Lord, who does these
 things'[e][k]
18 that have been known for ages.[f][l]

19"It is my judgment, therefore, that
we should not make it difficult for the
Gentiles who are turning to God. 20In-
stead we should write to them, telling
them to abstain from food polluted by
idols,[m] from sexual immorality,[n] from
the meat of strangled animals and from
blood.[o] 21For Moses has been preached
in every city from the earliest times and
is read in the synagogues on every Sab-
bath."[p]

The Council's Letter to Gentile Believers

22Then the apostles and elders,[q] with
the whole church, decided to choose
some of their own men and send them
to Antioch[r] with Paul and Barnabas.
They chose Judas (called Barsabbas)
and Silas,[s] two men who were leaders
among the brothers. 23With them they
sent the following letter:

The apostles and elders, your
brothers,

To the Gentile believers in Anti-
och,[t] Syria[u] and Cilicia:[v]

14:22 [a]Ac 11:23; 13:43 [b]Jn 16:33; 1Th 3:3; 2Ti 3:12
14:23 [c]S Ac 11:30 [d]Ac 13:3 [e]Ac 20:32
14:24 [f]S Ac 2:10
14:26 [g]S Ac 11:19 [h]S Ac 11:23 [i]Ac 13:1,3
14:27 [j]Ac 15:4,12; 21:19 [k]1Co 16:9; 2Co 2:12; Col 4:3; Rev 3:8
14:28 [l]S Ac 11:26
15:1 [m]ver 24; Gal 2:12 [n]S Ac 1:16 [o]ver 5; Gal 5:2,3 [p]S Ac 6:14
15:2 [q]Gal 2:2 [r]S Ac 11:30
15:3 [s]Ac 11:19 [t]Ac 14:27
15:4 [u]ver 12; Ac 14:27; 21:19
15:5 [v]Ac 5:17 [w]Mt 3:7 [x]ver 1
15:7 [y]Ac 10:1-48
15:8 [z]S Rev 2:23 [a]S Ac 10:44,47
15:9 [b]Ac 10:28,34; 11:12 [c]Ac 10:43
15:10 [d]Ac 5:9 [e]S Mt 23:4; Gal 5:1
15:11 [f]S Ro 3:24; Gal 2:16; Eph 2:5-8
15:12 [g]S Jn 4:48 [h]ver 4; Ac 14:27; 21:19
15:13 [i]Ac 12:17; 21:18; 1Co 15:7; Gal 1:19; 2:9,12
15:14 [j]2Pe 1:1
15:17 [k]Am 9:11,12
15:18 [l]Isa 45:21
15:20 [m]1Co 8:7-13; 10:14-28; Rev 2:14,20 [n]1Co 10:7,8; Rev 2:14,20 [o]ver 29; Ge 9:4; Lev 3:17; 7:26; 17:10-13; 19:26; Dt 12:16,23
15:21 [p]Ac 13:15; 2Co 3:14,15
15:22 [q]S Ac 11:30 [r]S Ac 11:19 [s]ver 27,32,40; Ac 16:19,25,29; 2Co 1:19; 1Th 1:1; 1Pe 5:12
15:23 [t]ver 1; S Ac 11:19 [u]S Lk 2:2 [v]ver 41; S Ac 6:9

[c]23 Or *Barnabas ordained elders;* or *Barnabas had elders elected* [d]14 Greek *Simeon,* a variant of *Simon;* that is, Peter [e]17 Amos 9:11,12 [f]17,18 Some manuscripts *things'— / 18known to the Lord for ages is his work*

Greetings.[a]

24We have heard that some went out from us without our authorization and disturbed you, troubling your minds by what they said.[b] 25So we all agreed to choose some men and send them to you with our dear friends Barnabas and Paul— 26men who have risked their lives[c] for the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. 27Therefore we are sending Judas and Silas[d] to confirm by word of mouth what we are writing. 28It seemed good to the Holy Spirit[e] and to us not to burden you with anything beyond the following requirements: 29You are to abstain from food sacrificed to idols, from blood, from the meat of strangled animals and from sexual immorality.[f] You will do well to avoid these things.

Farewell.

30The men were sent off and went down to Antioch, where they gathered the church together and delivered the letter. 31The people read it and were glad for its encouraging message. 32Judas and Silas,[g] who themselves were prophets,[h] said much to encourage and strengthen the brothers. 33After spending some time there, they were sent off by the brothers with the blessing of peace[i] to return to those who had sent them.[§] 35But Paul and Barnabas remained in Antioch, where they and many others taught and preached[j] the word of the Lord.[k]

Disagreement Between Paul and Barnabas

36Some time later Paul said to Barnabas, "Let us go back and visit the brothers in all the towns[l] where we preached the word of the Lord[m] and see how they are doing." 37Barnabas wanted to take John, also called Mark,[n] with them, 38but Paul did not think it wise to take him, because he had deserted them[o] in Pamphylia and had not continued with them in the work. 39They had such a sharp disagreement that they parted company. Barnabas took Mark and sailed for Cyprus, 40but Paul chose Silas[p] and left, commended by the brothers to the grace of the Lord.[q] 41He went through Syria[r] and Cilicia,[s] strengthening the churches.[t]

Timothy Joins Paul and Silas

16 He came to Derbe and then to Lystra,[a] where a disciple named Timothy[b] lived, whose mother was a Jewess and a believer,[c] but whose father was a Greek. 2The brothers[d] at Lystra and Iconium[e] spoke well of him. 3Paul wanted to take him along on the journey, so he circumcised him because of the Jews who lived in that area, for they all knew that his father was a Greek.[f] 4As they traveled from town to town, they delivered the decisions reached by the apostles and elders[g] in Jerusalem[h] for the people to obey.[i] 5So the churches were strengthened[j] in the faith and grew daily in numbers.[k]

Paul's Vision of the Man of Macedonia

6Paul and his companions traveled throughout the region of Phrygia[l] and Galatia,[m] having been kept by the Holy Spirit from preaching the word in the province of Asia.[n] 7When they came to the border of Mysia, they tried to enter Bithynia, but the Spirit of Jesus[o] would not allow them to. 8So they passed by Mysia and went down to Troas.[p] 9During the night Paul had a vision[q] of a man of Macedonia[r] standing and begging him, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." 10After Paul had seen the vision, we[s] got ready at once to leave for Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach the gospel[t] to them.

Lydia's Conversion in Philippi

11From Troas[u] we put out to sea and sailed straight for Samothrace, and the next day on to Neapolis. 12From there we traveled to Philippi,[v] a Roman colony and the leading city of that district of Macedonia.[w] And we stayed there several days.

13On the Sabbath[x] we went outside the city gate to the river, where we expected to find a place of prayer. We sat down and began to speak to the women who had gathered there. 14One of those listening was a woman named Lydia, a dealer in purple cloth from the city of Thyatira,[y] who was a worshiper of God. The Lord opened her heart[z] to respond to Paul's message. 15When she and the members of her household[a] were baptized,[b] she invited us to her

§33 Some manuscripts *them,* 34*but Silas decided to remain there*

15:23 [a]Ac 23:26; Jas 1:1 **15:24** [b]ver 1; Gal 1:7; 5:10 **15:26** [c]Ac 9:23-25; 14:19; 1Co 15:30 **15:27** [d]S ver 22 **15:28** [e]Ac 5:32 **15:29** [f]ver 20; Ac 21:25 **15:32** [g]S ver 22 [h]S Ac 11:27 **15:33** [i]1Sa 1:17; Mk 5:34; Lk 7:50; Ac 16:36; 1Co 16:11 **15:35** [j]Ac 8:4 [k]S Ac 13:48 **15:36** [l]Ac 13:4, 13,14,51; 14:1,6, 24,25 [m]S Ac 13:48 **15:37** [n]S Ac 12:12 **15:38** [o]Ac 13:13 **15:40** [p]S ver 22 [q]S Ac 11:23 **15:41** [r]ver 23; S Lk 2:2 [s]S Ac 6:9 [t]Ac 16:5

16:1 [a]Ac 14:6 [b]1Co 4:17; 16:10; 2Co 1:1,19; Php 1:1; 2:19; 1Th 3:2,6; 1Ti 1:2,18; 2Ti 1:2,5,6 [c]2Ti 1:5 **16:2** [d]ver 40; S Ac 1:16 [e]S Ac 13:51 **16:3** [f]Gal 2:3 **16:4** [g]S Ac 11:30 [h]Ac 15:2 [i]Ac 15:28,29 **16:5** [j]Ac 9:31; 15:41 [k]S Ac 2:41 **16:6** [l]Ac 2:10; 18:23 [m]Ac 18:23; Gal 1:2; 3:1 [n]S Ac 2:9 **16:7** [o]Ro 8:9; Gal 4:6; Php 1:19; 1Pe 1:11 **16:8** [p]ver 11; Ac 20:5; 2Co 2:12; 2Ti 4:13 **16:9** [q]S Ac 9:10 [r]Ac 19:21,29; 20:1,3; Ro 15:26; 1Co 16:5; 1Th 1:7,8 **16:10** [s]ver 10-17; 20:5-15; 21:1-18; 27:1-28:16 [t]Ac 14:7 **16:11** [u]S ver 8 **16:12** [v]Ac 20:6; Php 1:1; 1Th 2:2 [w]S ver 9 **16:13** [x]S Ac 13:14 **16:14** [y]Rev 1:11; 2:18,24 [z]Lk 24:45 **16:15** [a]S Ac 11:14 [b]S Ac 2:38

home. "If you consider me a believer in
the Lord," she said, "come and stay at
my house." And she persuaded us.

Paul and Silas in Prison

16Once when we were going to the
place of prayer,[a] we were met by a
slave girl who had a spirit[b] by which
she predicted the future. She earned a
great deal of money for her owners by
fortune-telling. 17This girl followed
Paul and the rest of us, shouting,
"These men are servants of the Most
High God,[c] who are telling you the
way to be saved." 18She kept this up for
many days. Finally Paul became so
troubled that he turned around and
said to the spirit, "In the name of Jesus
Christ I command you to come out of
her!" At that moment the spirit left
her.[d]

19When the owners of the slave girl
realized that their hope of making
money[e] was gone, they seized Paul
and Silas[f] and dragged[g] them into the
marketplace to face the authorities.
20They brought them before the magis-
trates and said, "These men are Jews,
and are throwing our city into an
uproar[h] 21by advocating customs un-
lawful for us Romans[i] to accept or
practice."[j]

22The crowd joined in the attack
against Paul and Silas, and the magis-
trates ordered them to be stripped and
beaten.[k] 23After they had been severely
flogged, they were thrown into prison,
and the jailer[l] was commanded to
guard them carefully. 24Upon receiving
such orders, he put them in the inner
cell and fastened their feet in the
stocks.[m]

25About midnight[n] Paul and Silas[o]
were praying and singing hymns[p] to
God, and the other prisoners were lis-
tening to them. 26Suddenly there was
such a violent earthquake that the
foundations of the prison were shak-
en.[q] At once all the prison doors flew
open,[r] and everybody's chains came
loose.[s] 27The jailer woke up, and when
he saw the prison doors open, he drew
his sword and was about to kill himself
because he thought the prisoners had
escaped.[t] 28But Paul shouted, "Don't
harm yourself! We are all here!"

29The jailer called for lights, rushed
in and fell trembling before Paul and
Silas.[u] 30He then brought them out and
asked, "Sirs, what must I do to be
saved?"[v]

31They replied, "Believe[w] in the Lord
Jesus, and you will be saved[x]—you
and your household."[y] 32Then they
spoke the word of the Lord to him and
to all the others in his house. 33At that
hour of the night[z] the jailer took them
and washed their wounds; then
immediately he and all his family were
baptized.[a] 34The jailer brought them
into his house and set a meal before
them; he[b] was filled with joy because
he had come to believe in God—he and
his whole family.

35When it was daylight, the magis-
trates sent their officers to the jailer
with the order: "Release those men."
36The jailer[c] told Paul, "The magis-
trates have ordered that you and Silas
be released. Now you can leave. Go in
peace."[d]

37But Paul said to the officers: "They
beat us publicly without a trial, even
though we are Roman citizens,[e] and
threw us into prison. And now do they
want to get rid of us quietly? No! Let
them come themselves and escort us
out."

38The officers reported this to the
magistrates, and when they heard that
Paul and Silas were Roman citizens,
they were alarmed.[f] 39They came to
appease them and escorted them from
the prison, requesting them to leave
the city.[g] 40After Paul and Silas came
out of the prison, they went to Lydia's
house,[h] where they met with the
brothers[i] and encouraged them. Then
they left.

In Thessalonica

17 When they had passed through
Amphipolis and Apollonia, they
came to Thessalonica,[j] where there
was a Jewish synagogue. 2As his cus-
tom was, Paul went into the syna-
gogue,[k] and on three Sabbath[l] days
he reasoned with them from the Scrip-
tures,[m] 3explaining and proving that
the Christ[h] had to suffer[n] and rise
from the dead.[o] "This Jesus I am pro-
claiming to you is the Christ,[h][p]" he
said. 4Some of the Jews were persuad-
ed and joined Paul and Silas,[q] as did a
large number of God-fearing Greeks
and not a few prominent women.

5But the Jews were jealous; so they
rounded up some bad characters from
the marketplace, formed a mob and
started a riot in the city.[r] They rushed
to Jason's[s] house in search of Paul and
Silas in order to bring them out to the

[h]3 *Or Messiah*

16:16 [a]ver 13 [b]Dt 18:11; 1Sa 28:3,7 **16:17** [c]S Mk 5:7 **16:18** [d]S Mk 16:17 **16:19** [e]ver 16; Ac 19:25,26 [f]S Ac 15:22 [g]Ac 8:3; 17:6; 21:30; Jas 2:6 **16:20** [h]Ac 17:6 **16:21** [i]ver 12 [j]Est 3:8 **16:22** [k]2Co 11:25; 1Th 2:2 **16:23** [l]ver 27,36 **16:24** [m]Job 13:27; 33:11; Jer 20:2,3; 29:26 **16:25** [n]Ps 119:55,62 [o]S Ac 15:22 [p]S Eph 5:19 **16:26** [q]Ac 4:31 [r]Ac 5:19; 12:10 [s]Ac 12:7 **16:27** [t]Ac 12:19 **16:29** [u]S Ac 15:22 **16:30** [v]Ac 2:37 **16:31** [w]S Jn 3:15 [x]S Ro 11:14 [y]S Ac 11:14 **16:33** [z]ver 25 [a]S Ac 2:38 **16:34** [b]S Ac 11:14 **16:36** [c]ver 23,27 [d]S Ac 15:33 **16:37** [e]Ac 22:25-29 **16:38** [f]Ac 22:29 **16:39** [g]Mt 8:34; Lk 8:37 **16:40** [h]ver 14 [i]ver 2; S Ac 1:16 **17:1** [j]ver 11,13; Php 4:16; 1Th 1:1; 2Th 1:1; 2Ti 4:10 **17:2** [k]S Ac 9:20 [l]S Ac 13:14 [m]Ac 8:35; 18:28 **17:3** [n]Lk 24:26; Ac 3:18 [o]Lk 24:46; S Ac 2:24 [p]S Ac 9:22 **17:4** [q]S Ac 15:22 **17:5** [r]ver 13; S 1Th 2:16 [s]Ro 16:21

crowd.[i] 6But when they did not find them, they dragged[a] Jason and some other brothers[b] before the city officials, shouting: "These men who have caused trouble all over the world[c] have now come here,[d] 7and Jason has welcomed them into his house. They are all defying Caesar's decrees, saying that there is another king, one called Jesus."[e] 8When they heard this, the crowd and the city officials were thrown into turmoil. 9Then they made Jason[f] and the others post bond and let them go.

In Berea

10As soon as it was night, the brothers sent Paul and Silas[g] away to Berea.[h] On arriving there, they went to the Jewish synagogue.[i] 11Now the Bereans were of more noble character than the Thessalonians,[j] for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures[k] every day to see if what Paul said was true.[l] 12Many of the Jews believed, as did also a number of prominent Greek women and many Greek men.[m]

13When the Jews in Thessalonica learned that Paul was preaching the word of God at Berea,[n] they went there too, agitating the crowds and stirring them up. 14The brothers[o] immediately sent Paul to the coast, but Silas[p] and Timothy[q] stayed at Berea. 15The men who escorted Paul brought him to Athens[r] and then left with instructions for Silas and Timothy to join him as soon as possible.[s]

In Athens

16While Paul was waiting for them in Athens, he was greatly distressed to see that the city was full of idols. 17So he reasoned in the synagogue[t] with the Jews and the God-fearing Greeks, as well as in the marketplace day by day with those who happened to be there. 18A group of Epicurean and Stoic philosophers began to dispute with him. Some of them asked, "What is this babbler trying to say?" Others remarked, "He seems to be advocating foreign gods." They said this because Paul was preaching the good news[u] about Jesus and the resurrection.[v] 19Then they took him and brought him to a meeting of the Areopagus,[w] where they said to him, "May we know what this new teaching[x] is that you are presenting? 20You are bringing some strange ideas to our ears, and we want to know what they mean." 21(All the Athenians[y] and the foreigners who lived there spent their time doing nothing but talking about and listening to the latest ideas.)

22Paul then stood up in the meeting of the Areopagus[z] and said: "Men of Athens! I see that in every way you are very religious.[a] 23For as I walked around and looked carefully at your objects of worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: TO AN UNKNOWN GOD. Now what you worship as something unknown[b] I am going to proclaim to you.

24"The God who made the world and everything in it[c] is the Lord of heaven and earth[d] and does not live in temples built by hands.[e] 25And he is not served by human hands, as if he needed anything, because he himself gives all men life and breath and everything else.[f] 26From one man he made every nation of men, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he determined the times set for them and the exact places where they should live.[g] 27God did this so that men would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from each one of us.[h] 28'For in him we live and move and have our being.'[i] As some of your own poets have said, 'We are his offspring.'[j]

29"Therefore since we are God's offspring, we should not think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone—an image made by man's design and skill.[k] 30In the past God overlooked[l] such ignorance,[m] but now he commands all people everywhere to repent.[n] 31For he has set a day when he will judge[o] the world with justice[p] by the man he has appointed.[q] He has given proof of this to all men by raising him from the dead."[r]

32When they heard about the resurrection of the dead,[s] some of them sneered, but others said, "We want to hear you again on this subject." 33At that, Paul left the Council. 34A few men became followers of Paul and believed. Among them was Dionysius, a member of the Areopagus,[t] also a woman named Damaris, and a number of others.

In Corinth

18 After this, Paul left Athens[u] and went to Corinth.[v] 2There he met

17:6 [a]S Ac 16:19 [b]S Ac 1:16 [c]S Mt 24:14 [d]Ac 16:20
17:7 [e]Lk 23:2; Jn 19:12
17:9 [f]ver 5
17:10 [g]S Ac 15:22 [h]ver 13; Ac 20:4 [i]S Ac 9:20
17:11 [j]S ver 1 [k]Lk 16:29; Jn 5:39 [l]Dt 29:29
17:12 [m]S Ac 2:41
17:13 [n]S Heb 4:12
17:14 [o]S Ac 9:30 [p]S Ac 15:22 [q]S Ac 16:1
17:15 [r]ver 16, 21,22; Ac 18:1; 1Th 3:1 [s]Ac 18:5
17:17 [t]S Ac 9:20
17:18 [u]S Ac 13:32 [v]ver 31,32; Ac 4:2
17:19 [w]ver 22 [x]Mk 1:27
17:21 [y]S ver 15
17:22 [z]ver 19 [a]ver 16
17:23 [b]Jn 4:22
17:24 [c]Isa 42:5; Ac 14:15 [d]Dt 10:14; Isa 66:1,2; Mt 11:25 [e]1Ki 8:27; Ac 7:48
17:25 [f]Ps 50:10-12; Isa 42:5
17:26 [g]Dt 32:8; Job 12:23
17:27 [h]Dt 4:7; Isa 55:6; Jer 23:23,24
17:28 [i]Dt 30:20; Job 12:10; Da 5:23 [j]Epimenides; Aratus, *Phaenomena*, 5
17:29 [k]Isa 40:18-20; Ro 1:23
17:30 [l]Ac 14:16; Ro 3:25 [m]ver 23; 1Pe 1:14 [n]Lk 24:47; Tit 2:11,12
17:31 [o]S Mt 10:15 [p]Ps 9:8; 96:13; 98:9 [q]S Ac 10:42 [r]S Ac 2:24
17:32 [s]ver 18, 31
17:34 [t]ver 19, 22
18:1 [u]S Ac 17:15 [v]Ac 19:1; 1Co 1:2; 2Co 1:1, 23; 2Ti 4:20

[i]5 Or *the assembly of the people*

a Jew named Aquila, a native of Pontus, who had recently come from Italy with his wife Priscilla,[a] because Claudius[b] had ordered all the Jews to leave Rome. Paul went to see them, 3and because he was a tentmaker as they were, he stayed and worked with them.[c] 4Every Sabbath[d] he reasoned in the synagogue,[e] trying to persuade Jews and Greeks.

5When Silas[f] and Timothy[g] came from Macedonia,[h] Paul devoted himself exclusively to preaching, testifying to the Jews that Jesus was the Christ.[j][i] 6But when the Jews opposed Paul and became abusive,[j] he shook out his clothes in protest[k] and said to them, "Your blood be on your own heads![l] I am clear of my responsibility.[m] From now on I will go to the Gentiles."[n]

7Then Paul left the synagogue and went next door to the house of Titius Justus, a worshiper of God.[o] 8Crispus,[p] the synagogue ruler,[q] and his entire household[r] believed in the Lord; and many of the Corinthians who heard him believed and were baptized.

9One night the Lord spoke to Paul in a vision:[s] "Do not be afraid;[t] keep on speaking, do not be silent. 10For I am with you,[u] and no one is going to attack and harm you, because I have many people in this city." 11So Paul stayed for a year and a half, teaching them the word of God.[v]

12While Gallio was proconsul[w] of Achaia,[x] the Jews made a united attack on Paul and brought him into court. 13"This man," they charged, "is persuading the people to worship God in ways contrary to the law."

14Just as Paul was about to speak, Gallio said to the Jews, "If you Jews were making a complaint about some misdemeanor or serious crime, it would be reasonable for me to listen to you. 15But since it involves questions about words and names and your own law[y]—settle the matter yourselves. I will not be a judge of such things." 16So he had them ejected from the court. 17Then they all turned on Sosthenes[z] the synagogue ruler[a] and beat him in front of the court. But Gallio showed no concern whatever.

Priscilla, Aquila and Apollos

18Paul stayed on in Corinth for some time. Then he left the brothers[b] and sailed for Syria,[c] accompanied by Priscilla and Aquila.[d] Before he sailed, he had his hair cut off at Cenchrea[e] because of a vow he had taken.[f] 19They arrived at Ephesus,[g] where Paul left Priscilla and Aquila. He himself went into the synagogue and reasoned with the Jews. 20When they asked him to spend more time with them, he declined. 21But as he left, he promised, "I will come back if it is God's will."[h] Then he set sail from Ephesus. 22When he landed at Caesarea,[i] he went up and greeted the church and then went down to Antioch.[j]

23After spending some time in Antioch, Paul set out from there and traveled from place to place throughout the region of Galatia[k] and Phrygia,[l] strengthening all the disciples.[m]

24Meanwhile a Jew named Apollos,[n] a native of Alexandria, came to Ephesus.[o] He was a learned man, with a thorough knowledge of the Scriptures. 25He had been instructed in the way of the Lord, and he spoke with great fervor[k][p] and taught about Jesus accurately, though he knew only the baptism of John.[q] 26He began to speak boldly in the synagogue. When Priscilla and Aquila[r] heard him, they invited him to their home and explained to him the way of God more adequately.

27When Apollos wanted to go to Achaia,[s] the brothers[t] encouraged him and wrote to the disciples there to welcome him. On arriving, he was a great help to those who by grace had believed. 28For he vigorously refuted the Jews in public debate, proving from the Scriptures[u] that Jesus was the Christ.[v]

Paul in Ephesus

19 While Apollos[w] was at Corinth,[x] Paul took the road through the interior and arrived at Ephesus.[y] There he found some disciples 2and asked them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit[z] when[l] you believed?"

They answered, "No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit."

3So Paul asked, "Then what baptism did you receive?"

"John's baptism," they replied.

4Paul said, "John's baptism[a] was a baptism of repentance. He told the people to believe in the one coming after him, that is, in Jesus."[b] 5On hearing this, they were baptized into[m] the name of the Lord Jesus.[c] 6When Paul placed his hands on them,[d] the Holy

18:2 [a]ver 19,26; Ro 16:3; 1Co 16:19; 2Ti 4:19 [b]Ac 11:28
18:3 [c]Ac 20:34; 1Co 4:12; 1Th 2:9; 2Th 3:8
18:4 [d]S Ac 13:14 [e]S Ac 9:20
18:5 [f]S Ac 15:22 [g]S Ac 16:1 [h]S Ac 16:9; 17:14,15 [i]S Ac 9:22
18:6 [j]S Ac 13:45 [k]S Mt 10:14 [l]2Sa 1:16; Eze 33:4 [m]Eze 3:17-19; Ac 20:26 [n]S Ac 13:46
18:7 [o]Ac 16:14
18:8 [p]1Co 1:14 [q]S Mk 5:22 [r]S Ac 11:14
18:9 [s]S Ac 9:10 [t]S Mt 14:27
18:10 [u]S Mt 28:20
18:11 [v]S Heb 4:12
18:12 [w]Ac 13:7,8,12; 19:38 [x]ver 27; Ro 15:26; 1Co 16:15; 2Co 9:2; 1Th 1:7,8
18:15 [y]Ac 23:29; 25:11,19
18:17 [z]1Co 1:1 [a]ver 8
18:18 [b]ver 27; S Ac 1:16 [c]S Lk 2:2 [d]S ver 2 [e]Ro 16:1 [f]Nu 6:2,5,18; Ac 21:24
18:19 [g]ver 21,24; Ac 19:1,17,26; 1Co 15:32; 16:8; Eph 1:1; 1Ti 1:3; Rev 1:11; 2:1
18:21 [h]Ro 1:10; 15:32; 1Co 4:19; Jas 4:15
18:22 [i]S Ac 8:40 [j]S Ac 11:19
18:23 [k]S Ac 16:6 [l]Ac 2:10; 16:6 [m]Ac 14:22; 15:32,41
18:24 [n]Ac 19:1; 1Co 1:12; 3:5,6,22; 4:6; 16:12; Tit 3:13 [o]S ver 19
18:25 [p]Ro 12:11 [q]S Mk 1:4
18:26 [r]S ver 2
18:27 [s]S ver 12 [t]ver 18; S Ac 1:16
18:28 [u]Ac 8:35; 17:2 [v]ver 5; S Ac 9:22
19:1 [w]S Ac 18:24 [x]S Ac 18:1 [y]S Ac 18:19
19:2 [z]S Jn 20:22
19:4 [a]S Mk 1:4 [b]Jn 1:7
19:5 [c]S Ac 2:38
19:6 [d]S Ac 6:6

[j]5 Or *Messiah;* also in verse 28 [k]25 Or *with fervor in the Spirit* [l]2 Or *after* [m]5 Or *in*

Spirit came on them,[a] and they spoke
in tongues[n][b] and prophesied. 7There
were about twelve men in all.
8Paul entered the synagogue[c] and
spoke boldly there for three months,
arguing persuasively about the king-
dom of God.[d] 9But some of them[e]
became obstinate; they refused to be-
lieve and publicly maligned the Way.[f]
So Paul left them. He took the disci-
ples[g] with him and had discussions
daily in the lecture hall of Tyrannus.
10This went on for two years,[h] so that
all the Jews and Greeks who lived in
the province of Asia[i] heard the word
of the Lord.[j]
11God did extraordinary miracles[k]
through Paul, 12so that even handker-
chiefs and aprons that had touched
him were taken to the sick, and their
illnesses were cured[l] and the evil
spirits left them.
13Some Jews who went around driv-
ing out evil spirits[m] tried to invoke the
name of the Lord Jesus over those who
were demon-possessed. They would
say, "In the name of Jesus,[n] whom
Paul preaches, I command you to come
out." 14Seven sons of Sceva, a Jewish
chief priest, were doing this. 15One
day the evil spirit answered them,
"Jesus I know, and I know about Paul,
but who are you?" 16Then the man who
had the evil spirit jumped on them and
overpowered them all. He gave them
such a beating that they ran out of the
house naked and bleeding.
17When this became known to the
Jews and Greeks living in Ephesus,[o]
they were all seized with fear,[p] and the
name of the Lord Jesus was held in
high honor. 18Many of those who be-
lieved now came and openly confessed
their evil deeds. 19A number who had
practiced sorcery brought their scrolls
together and burned them publicly.
When they calculated the value of the
scrolls, the total came to fifty thousand
drachmas.[o] 20In this way the word of
the Lord[q] spread widely and grew in
power.[r]
21After all this had happened, Paul
decided to go to Jerusalem,[s] passing
through Macedonia[t] and Achaia.[u]
"After I have been there," he said, "I
must visit Rome also."[v] 22He sent two
of his helpers,[w] Timothy[x] and Eras-
tus,[y] to Macedonia, while he stayed in
the province of Asia[z] a little longer.

The Riot in Ephesus

23About that time there arose a great
disturbance about the Way.[a] 24A silver-
smith named Demetrius, who made sil-
ver shrines of Artemis, brought in no
little business for the craftsmen. 25He
called them together, along with the
workmen in related trades, and said:
"Men, you know we receive a good in-
come from this business.[b] 26And you
see and hear how this fellow Paul has
convinced and led astray large num-
bers of people here in Ephesus[c] and in
practically the whole province of
Asia.[d] He says that man-made gods
are no gods at all.[e] 27There is danger
not only that our trade will lose its
good name, but also that the temple of
the great goddess Artemis will be dis-
credited, and the goddess herself, who
is worshiped throughout the province
of Asia and the world, will be robbed of
her divine majesty."
28When they heard this, they were
furious and began shouting: "Great is
Artemis of the Ephesians!"[f] 29Soon the
whole city was in an uproar. The
people seized Gaius[g] and Aristarchus,[h]
Paul's traveling companions from
Macedonia,[i] and rushed as one man
into the theater. 30Paul wanted to ap-
pear before the crowd, but the disci-
ples[j] would not let him. 31Even some
of the officials of the province, friends
of Paul, sent him a message begging
him not to venture into the theater.
32The assembly was in confusion:
Some were shouting one thing, some
another.[k] Most of the people did not
even know why they were there. 33The
Jews pushed Alexander to the front,
and some of the crowd shouted in-
structions to him. He motioned[l] for si-
lence in order to make a defense before
the people. 34But when they realized he
was a Jew, they all shouted in unison
for about two hours: "Great is Artemis
of the Ephesians!"[m]
35The city clerk quieted the crowd
and said: "Men of Ephesus,[n] doesn't
all the world know that the city of Eph-
esus is the guardian of the temple of
the great Artemis and of her image,
which fell from heaven? 36Therefore,
since these facts are undeniable, you
ought to be quiet and not do anything
rash. 37You have brought these men
here, though they have neither robbed
temples[o] nor blasphemed our god-
dess. 38If, then, Demetrius and his fel-
low craftsmen[p] have a grievance

19:6 [a]S Ac 10:44 [b]S Mk 16:17
19:8 [c]S Ac 9:20 [d]S Mt 3:2; Ac 28:23
19:9 [e]Ac 14:4 [f]ver 23; S Ac 9:2 [g]ver 30; S Ac 11:26
19:10 [h]Ac 20:31 [i]ver 22,26,27; S Ac 2:9 [j]S Ac 13:48
19:11 [k]Ac 8:13
19:12 [l]Ac 5:15
19:13 [m]Mt 12:27 [n]Mk 9:38
19:17 [o]S Ac 18:19 [p]Ac 5:5,11
19:20 [q]S Ac 13:48 [r]Ac 6:7; 12:24
19:21 [s]Ac 20:16,22; 21:4,12,15; Ro 15:25 [t]S Ac 16:9 [u]S Ac 18:12 [v]Ro 15:24,28
19:22 [w]Ac 13:5 [x]S Ac 16:1 [y]Ro 16:23; 2Ti 4:20 [z]ver 10, 26,27; S Ac 2:9
19:23 [a]S Ac 9:2
19:25 [b]Ac 16:16,19,20
19:26 [c]S Ac 18:19 [d]S Ac 2:9 [e]Dt 4:28; Ps 115:4; Isa 44:10-20; Jer 10:3-5; Ac 17:29; 1Co 8:4; Rev 9:20
19:28 [f]S Ac 18:19
19:29 [g]Ac 20:4; Ro 16:23; 1Co 1:14 [h]Ac 20:4; 27:2; Col 4:10; Phm 24 [i]S Ac 16:9
19:30 [j]S Ac 11:26
19:32 [k]Ac 21:34
19:33 [l]S Ac 12:17
19:34 [m]ver 28
19:35 [n]S Ac 18:19
19:37 [o]Ro 2:22
19:38 [p]ver 24

[n]6 Or *other languages* [o]19 A drachma was a silver coin worth about a day's wages

against anybody, the courts are open
and there are proconsuls.[a] They can
press charges. 39If there is anything fur-
ther you want to bring up, it must be
settled in a legal assembly. 40As it is,
we are in danger of being charged with
rioting because of today's events. In
that case we would not be able to ac-
count for this commotion, since there
is no reason for it." 41After he had
said this, he dismissed the assem-
bly.

Through Macedonia and Greece

20 When the uproar had ended,
Paul sent for the disciples[b] and,
after encouraging them, said good-by
and set out for Macedonia.[c] 2He trav-
eled through that area, speaking many
words of encouragement to the people,
and finally arrived in Greece, 3where
he stayed three months. Because the
Jews made a plot against him[d] just as
he was about to sail for Syria,[e] he de-
cided to go back through Macedonia.[f]
4He was accompanied by Sopater son
of Pyrrhus from Berea, Aristarchus[g]
and Secundus from Thessalonica,[h] Ga-
ius[i] from Derbe, Timothy[j] also, and
Tychicus[k] and Trophimus[l] from the
province of Asia.[m] 5These men went on
ahead and waited for us[n] at Troas.[o] 6But
we sailed from Philippi[p] after the Feast
of Unleavened Bread, and five days
later joined the others at Troas,[q] where
we stayed seven days.

Eutychus Raised From the Dead at Troas

7On the first day of the week[r] we
came together to break bread.[s] Paul
spoke to the people and, because he
intended to leave the next day, kept on
talking until midnight. 8There were
many lamps in the upstairs room[t]
where we were meeting. 9Seated in a
window was a young man named
Eutychus, who was sinking into a deep
sleep as Paul talked on and on. When
he was sound asleep, he fell to the
ground from the third story and was
picked up dead. 10Paul went down,
threw himself on the young man[u] and
put his arms around him. "Don't be
alarmed," he said. "He's alive!"[v]
11Then he went upstairs again and
broke bread[w] and ate. After talking un-
til daylight, he left. 12The people took
the young man home alive and were
greatly comforted.

Paul's Farewell to the Ephesian Elders

13We went on ahead to the ship and
sailed for Assos, where we were going
to take Paul aboard. He had made this
arrangement because he was going
there on foot. 14When he met us at As-
sos, we took him aboard and went on
to Mitylene. 15The next day we set sail
from there and arrived off Kios. The
day after that we crossed over to
Samos, and on the following day ar-
rived at Miletus.[x] 16Paul had decided to
sail past Ephesus[y] to avoid spending
time in the province of Asia,[z] for he
was in a hurry to reach Jerusalem,[a] if
possible, by the day of Pentecost.[b]
17From Miletus,[c] Paul sent to Ephe-
sus for the elders[d] of the church.
18When they arrived, he said to them:
"You know how I lived the whole time
I was with you,[e] from the first day I
came into the province of Asia.[f] 19I
served the Lord with great humility
and with tears,[g] although I was severe-
ly tested by the plots of the Jews.[h]
20You know that I have not hesitated to
preach anything[i] that would be help-
ful to you but have taught you publicly
and from house to house. 21I have de-
clared to both Jews[j] and Greeks that
they must turn to God in repentance[k]
and have faith in our Lord Jesus.[l]
22"And now, compelled by the Spirit,
I am going to Jerusalem,[m] not knowing
what will happen to me there. 23I only
know that in every city the Holy Spirit
warns me[n] that prison and hardships
are facing me.[o] 24However, I consider
my life worth nothing to me,[p] if only I
may finish the race[q] and complete the
task[r] the Lord Jesus has given
me[s]—the task of testifying to the gos-
pel of God's grace.[t]
25"Now I know that none of you
among whom I have gone about
preaching the kingdom[u] will ever see
me again.[v] 26Therefore, I declare to you
today that I am innocent of the blood of
all men.[w] 27For I have not hesitated to
proclaim to you the whole will of
God.[x] 28Keep watch over yourselves
and all the flock[y] of which the Holy
Spirit has made you overseers.[p][z] Be
shepherds of the church of God,[q][a]
which he bought[b] with his own
blood.[c] 29I know that after I leave, sav-
age wolves[d] will come in among you
and will not spare the flock.[e] 30Even
from your own number men will arise

19:38 a Ac 13:7, 8, 12; 18:12
20:1 b S Ac 11:26 c S Ac 16:9
20:3 d ver 19; Ac 9:23, 24; 14:5; 23:12, 15, 30; 25:3; 2Co 11:26; 1Th 2:16 e S Lk 2:2 f S Ac 16:9
20:4 g S Ac 19:29 h S Ac 17:1 i S Ac 19:29 j S Ac 16:1 k Eph 6:21; Col 4:7; Tit 3:12 l Ac 21:29; 2Ti 4:20 m S Ac 2:9
20:5 n S Ac 16:10 o S Ac 16:8
20:6 p S Ac 16:12 q S Ac 16:8
20:7 r 1Co 16:2; Rev 1:10 s S Mt 14:19
20:8 t Ac 1:13; 9:37
20:10 u 1Ki 17:21; 2Ki 4:34 v Mt 9:23, 24
20:11 w ver 7; S Mt 14:19
20:15 x ver 17; 2Ti 4:20
20:16 y S Ac 18:19 z S Ac 2:9 a S Ac 19:21 b S Ac 2:1
20:17 c ver 15 d S Ac 11:30
20:18 e Ac 18:19-21; 19:1-41 f S Ac 2:9
20:19 g Ps 6:6 h S ver 3
20:20 i ver 27; Ps 40:10; Jer 26:2; 42:4
20:21 j Ac 18:5 k S Ac 2:38 l Ac 24:24; 26:18; Eph 1:15; Col 2:5; Phm 5
20:22 m ver 16
20:23 n S Ac 8:29; 21:4 o S Ac 9:16
20:24 p Ac 21:13 q 2Ti 4:7 r 2Co 4:1 s Gal 1:1; Tit 1:3 t S Ac 11:23
20:25 u S Mt 4:23 v ver 38
20:26 w Eze 3:17-19; Ac 18:6
20:27 x S ver 20
20:28 y ver 29; S Jn 21:16 z S 1Ti 3:1 a S 1Co 10:32 b S 1Co 6:20 c S Ro 3:25
20:29 d Eze 34:5; Mt 7:15 e ver 28

p28 Traditionally *bishops* q28 Many manuscripts *of the Lord*

and distort the truth in order to draw
away disciples after them. [31]So be on
your guard! Remember that for three
years I never stopped warning each of
you night and day with tears.
[32]"Now I commit you to God and to
the word of his grace, which can build
you up and give you an inheritance
among all those who are sanctified. [33]I
have not coveted anyone's silver or
gold or clothing. [34]You yourselves
know that these hands of mine have
supplied my own needs and the needs
of my companions. [35]In everything I
did, I showed you that by this kind of
hard work we must help the weak,
remembering the words the Lord Jesus
himself said: 'It is more blessed to give
than to receive.' "
[36]When he had said this, he knelt
down with all of them and prayed.
[37]They all wept as they embraced him
and kissed him. [38]What grieved them
most was his statement that they
would never see his face again. Then
they accompanied him to the ship.

On to Jerusalem

21 After we had torn ourselves
away from them, we put out to
sea and sailed straight to Cos. The next
day we went to Rhodes and from there
to Patara. [2]We found a ship crossing
over to Phoenicia, went on board and
set sail. [3]After sighting Cyprus and
passing to the south of it, we sailed on
to Syria. We landed at Tyre, where
our ship was to unload its cargo. [4]Find-
ing the disciples there, we stayed
with them seven days. Through the
Spirit they urged Paul not to go on to
Jerusalem. [5]But when our time was up,
we left and continued on our way. All
the disciples and their wives and chil-
dren accompanied us out of the city,
and there on the beach we knelt to
pray. [6]After saying good-by to each
other, we went aboard the ship, and
they returned home.
[7]We continued our voyage from
Tyre and landed at Ptolemais, where
we greeted the brothers and stayed
with them for a day. [8]Leaving the next
day, we reached Caesarea and stayed
at the house of Philip the evangelist,
one of the Seven. [9]He had four unmar-
ried daughters who prophesied.
[10]After we had been there a number
of days, a prophet named Agabus
came down from Judea. [11]Coming over
to us, he took Paul's belt, tied his own
hands and feet with it and said, "The
Holy Spirit says, 'In this way the Jews
of Jerusalem will bind the owner of
this belt and will hand him over to the
Gentiles.' "
[12]When we heard this, we and the
people there pleaded with Paul not to
go up to Jerusalem. [13]Then Paul an-
swered, "Why are you weeping and
breaking my heart? I am ready not only
to be bound, but also to die in Jerusa-
lem for the name of the Lord Jesus."
[14]When he would not be dissuaded, we
gave up and said, "The Lord's will be
done."
[15]After this, we got ready and went
up to Jerusalem. [16]Some of the disci-
ples from Caesarea accompanied us
and brought us to the home of Mna-
son, where we were to stay. He was a
man from Cyprus and one of the early
disciples.

Paul's Arrival at Jerusalem

[17]When we arrived at Jerusalem, the
brothers received us warmly. [18]The
next day Paul and the rest of us went to
see James, and all the elders were
present. [19]Paul greeted them and re-
ported in detail what God had done
among the Gentiles through his min-
istry.
[20]When they heard this, they praised
God. Then they said to Paul: "You see,
brother, how many thousands of Jews
have believed, and all of them are zeal-
ous for the law. [21]They have been
informed that you teach all the Jews
who live among the Gentiles to turn
away from Moses, telling them not to
circumcise their children or live ac-
cording to our customs. [22]What shall
we do? They will certainly hear that
you have come, [23]so do what we tell
you. There are four men with us who
have made a vow. [24]Take these men,
join in their purification rites and pay
their expenses, so that they can have
their heads shaved. Then everybody
will know there is no truth in these re-
ports about you, but that you yourself
are living in obedience to the law. [25]As
for the Gentile believers, we have writ-
ten to them our decision that they
should abstain from food sacrificed to
idols, from blood, from the meat of
strangled animals and from sexual im-
morality."
[26]The next day Paul took the men
and purified himself along with them.
Then he went to the temple to give no-
tice of the date when the days of purifi-

20:30 S Ac 11:26
20:31 Ac 19:10; ver 19
20:32 Ac 14:23; S Eph 1:18; S Mt 25:34; Col 1:12; 3:24; Heb 9:15; 1Pe 1:4; Ac 26:18
20:33 1Sa 12:3; 1Co 9:12; 2Co 2:17; 7:2; 11:9; 12:14-17; 1Th 2:5
20:34 S Ac 18:3
20:36 Lk 22:41; Ac 9:40; 21:5
20:37 S Lk 15:20
20:38 ver 25; Ac 21:5
21:1 S Ac 16:10
21:2 Ac 11:19
21:3 S Lk 2:2
21:4 S Ac 11:26; ver 11; Ac 20:23
21:5 Lk 22:41; Ac 9:40; 20:36
21:7 Ac 12:20; S Ac 1:16
21:8 S Ac 8:40; Ac 6:5; 8:5-40; Eph 4:11; 2Ti 4:5
21:9 Ex 15:20; Jdg 4:4; Ne 6:14; Lk 2:36; Ac 2:17; 1Co 11:5
21:10 Ac 11:28
21:11 S Ac 8:29; ver 33; 1Ki 22:11; Isa 20:2-4; Jer 13:1-11; Mt 20:19
21:13 Ac 20:24; S Jn 15:21; S Ac 9:16
21:14 Ru 1:18; S Mt 26:39
21:15 S Ac 19:21
21:16 S Ac 8:40; ver 3,4
21:17 S Ac 9:30; Ac 15:4
21:18 S Ac 15:13; S Ac 11:30
21:19 Ac 14:27; 15:4,12; Ac 1:17
21:20 Ac 22:3; Ro 10:2; Gal 1:14; Php 3:6; Ac 15:1,5
21:21 ver 28; Ac 15:19-21; 1Co 7:18,19; S Ac 6:14
21:23 Nu 6:2,5,18; Ac 18:18
21:24 ver 26; Ac 24:18; Ac 18:18
21:25 Ac 15:20,29

cation would end and the offering
would be made for each of them.[a]

Paul Arrested

[27]When the seven days were nearly
over, some Jews from the province of
Asia saw Paul at the temple. They
stirred up the whole crowd and seized
him,[b] [28]shouting, "Men of Israel, help
us! This is the man who teaches all men
everywhere against our people and our
law and this place. And besides, he has
brought Greeks into the temple area
and defiled this holy place."[c] [29](They
had previously seen Trophimus[d] the
Ephesian[e] in the city with Paul and as-
sumed that Paul had brought him into
the temple area.)
[30]The whole city was aroused, and
the people came running from all direc-
tions. Seizing Paul,[f] they dragged
him[g] from the temple, and immedi-
ately the gates were shut. [31]While they
were trying to kill him, news reached
the commander of the Roman troops
that the whole city of Jerusalem was in
an uproar. [32]He at once took some offi-
cers and soldiers and ran down to the
crowd. When the rioters saw the com-
mander and his soldiers, they stopped
beating Paul.[h]
[33]The commander came up and ar-
rested him and ordered him to be
bound[i] with two[j] chains.[k] Then he
asked who he was and what he had
done. [34]Some in the crowd shouted one
thing and some another,[l] and since
the commander could not get at the
truth because of the uproar, he ordered
that Paul be taken into the barracks.[m]
[35]When Paul reached the steps,[n] the vi-
olence of the mob was so great he had
to be carried by the soldiers. [36]The
crowd that followed kept shouting,
"Away with him!"[o]

Paul Speaks to the Crowd

22:3-16pp — Ac 9:1-22; 26:9-18

[37]As the soldiers were about to take
Paul into the barracks,[p] he asked the
commander, "May I say something to
you?"
"Do you speak Greek?" he replied.
[38]"Aren't you the Egyptian who started
a revolt and led four thousand terror-
ists out into the desert[q] some time
ago?"
[39]Paul answered, "I am a Jew, from
Tarsus[r] in Cilicia,[s] a citizen of no ordi-
nary city. Please let me speak to the
people."

[illegible]

21:40 [u] S Ac 12:17 [v] S Jn 5:2 **22:1** [w] Ac 7:2 **22:2** [x] Ac 21:40; S Jn 5:2 **22:3** [y] Ac 21:39 [z] S Ac 9:11 [a] S Ac 6:9 [b] Lk 10:39 [c] Ac 5:34 [d] Ac 26:5 [e] S Ac 21:20 **22:4** [f] S Ac 8:3 [g] S Ac 9:2 [h] ver 19,20 **22:5** [i] Lk 22:66 [j] S Ac 1:16; 2:29; 13:26; 28:17,21; S Ro 7:1; 9:3 [k] Ac 9:2 **22:6** [l] Ac 9:3 **22:8** [m] S Mk 1:24 **22:9** [n] Ac 26:13 [o] Ac 9:7 **22:10** [p] Ac 16:30 **22:11** [q] Ac 9:8 **22:12** [r] Ac 9:17 [s] Ac 10:22 **22:14** [t] S Ac 3:13 [u] S 1Co 15:8 [v] Ac 7:52 **22:15** [w] Ac 23:11; 26:16 [x] ver 14 **22:16** [y] S Ac 2:38 [z] Lev 8:6; Ps 51:2; Eze 36:25; Jn 3:5; 1Co 6:11; Eph 5:26; Tit 3:5; Heb 10:22; 1Pe 3:21 [a] Ro 10:13 **22:17** [b] Ac 9:26

[40]Having received the commander's
permission, Paul stood on the steps
and motioned[u] to the crowd. When
they were all silent, he said to them in
22 Aramaic[a]:[v] [1]"Brothers and fa-
thers,[w] listen now to my de-
fense."
[2]When they heard him speak to them
in Aramaic,[x] they became very quiet.
Then Paul said: [3]"I am a Jew,[y] born
in Tarsus[z] of Cilicia,[a] but brought up
in this city. Under[b] Gamaliel[c] I was
thoroughly trained in the law of our fa-
thers[d] and was just as zealous[e] for
God as any of you are today. [4]I perse-
cuted[f] the followers of this Way[g] to
their death, arresting both men and
women and throwing them into pris-
on,[h] [5]as also the high priest and all the
Council[i] can testify. I even obtained
letters from them to their brothers[j] in
Damascus,[k] and went there to bring
these people as prisoners to Jerusalem
to be punished.
[6]"About noon as I came near Damas-
cus, suddenly a bright light from
heaven flashed around me.[l] [7]I fell to
the ground and heard a voice say to
me, 'Saul! Saul! Why do you persecute
me?'
[8]"'Who are you, Lord?' I asked.
"'I am Jesus of Nazareth,[m] whom
you are persecuting,' he replied. [9]My
companions saw the light,[n] but they
did not understand the voice[o] of him
who was speaking to me.
[10]"'What shall I do, Lord?' I asked.
"'Get up,' the Lord said, 'and go
into Damascus. There you will be told
all that you have been assigned to
do.'[p] [11]My companions led me by the
hand into Damascus, because the bril-
liance of the light had blinded me.[q]
[12]"A man named Ananias came to
see me.[r] He was a devout observer of
the law and highly respected by all the
Jews living there.[s] [13]He stood beside
me and said, 'Brother Saul, receive
your sight!' And at that very moment I
was able to see him.
[14]"Then he said: 'The God of our fa-
thers[t] has chosen you to know his will
and to see[u] the Righteous One[v] and to
hear words from his mouth. [15]You will
be his witness[w] to all men of what you
have seen[x] and heard. [16]And now
what are you waiting for? Get up, be
baptized[y] and wash your sins away,[z]
calling on his name.'[a]
[17]"When I returned to Jerusalem[b]

[a]40 Or possibly *Hebrew;* also in 22:2

and was praying at the temple, I fell
into a trance[z] 18and saw the Lord
speaking. 'Quick!' he said to me.
'Leave Jerusalem immediately, because
they will not accept your testimony
about me.'
19"'Lord,' I replied, 'these men know
that I went from one synagogue to an-
other to imprison[b] and beat[c] those
who believe in you. 20And when the
blood of your martyr[a] Stephen was
shed, I stood there giving my approval
and guarding the clothes of those who
were killing him.'[d]
21"Then the Lord said to me, 'Go; I
will send you far away to the Gen-
tiles.'"[e]

Paul the Roman Citizen

22The crowd listened to Paul until he
said this. Then they raised their voices
and shouted, "Rid the earth of him![f]
He's not fit to live!"[g]
23As they were shouting and throw-
ing off their cloaks[h] and flinging dust
into the air,[i] 24the commander ordered
Paul to be taken into the barracks.[j] He
directed[k] that he be flogged and ques-
tioned in order to find out why the
people were shouting at him like this.
25As they stretched him out to flog him,
Paul said to the centurion standing
there, "Is it legal for you to flog a Ro-
man citizen who hasn't even been
found guilty?"[l]
26When the centurion heard this, he
went to the commander and reported
it. "What are you going to do?" he
asked. "This man is a Roman citizen."
27The commander went to Paul and
asked, "Tell me, are you a Roman citi-
zen?"
"Yes, I am," he answered.
28Then the commander said, "I had
to pay a big price for my citizenship."
"But I was born a citizen," Paul re-
plied.
29Those who were about to question
him[m] withdrew immediately. The com-
mander himself was alarmed when he
realized that he had put Paul, a Roman
citizen,[n] in chains.[o]

Before the Sanhedrin

30The next day, since the commander
wanted to find out exactly why Paul
was being accused by the Jews,[p] he
released him[q] and ordered the chief
priests and all the Sanhedrin[r] to as-
semble. Then he brought Paul and had
him stand before them.

22:17 [z]Ac 10:10 **22:19** [a]ver 4; [b]Ac 8:3 [c]S Mt 10:17 **22:20** [d]Ac 7:57-60; 8:1 **22:21** [e]S Ac 9:15; S 13:46 **22:22** [f]Ac 21:36 [g]Ac 25:24 **22:23** [h]Ac 7:58 [i]2Sa 16:13 **22:24** [j]S Ac 21:34 [k]ver 29 **22:25** [l]Ac 16:37 **22:29** [m]ver 24 [n]ver 24,25; Ac 16:38 [o]S Ac 21:33 **22:30** [p]Ac 23:28 [q]Ac 21:33 [r]S Mt 5:22

23 Paul looked straight at the San-
hedrin[s] and said, "My broth-
ers,[t] I have fulfilled my duty to God in
all good conscience[u] to this day." 2At
this the high priest Ananias[v] ordered
those standing near Paul to strike him
on the mouth.[w] 3Then Paul said to him,
"God will strike you, you whitewashed
wall![x] You sit there to judge me ac-
cording to the law, yet you yourself vi-
olate the law by commanding that I be
struck!"[y]
4Those who were standing near Paul
said, "You dare to insult God's high
priest?"
5Paul replied, "Brothers, I did not
realize that he was the high priest; for it
is written: 'Do not speak evil about the
ruler of your people.'[b]"[z]
6Then Paul, knowing that some of
them were Sadducees[a] and the others
Pharisees, called out in the Sanhedrin,
"My brothers,[b] I am a Pharisee,[c] the
son of a Pharisee. I stand on trial be-
cause of my hope in the resurrection of
the dead."[d] 7When he said this, a dis-
pute broke out between the Pharisees
and the Sadducees, and the assembly
was divided. 8(The Sadducees say that
there is no resurrection,[e] and that
there are neither angels nor spirits, but
the Pharisees acknowledge them all.)
9There was a great uproar, and some
of the teachers of the law who were
Pharisees[f] stood up and argued vigor-
ously. "We find nothing wrong with
this man,"[g] they said. "What if a spirit
or an angel has spoken to him?"[h] 10The
dispute became so violent that the com-
mander was afraid Paul would be torn
to pieces by them. He ordered the
troops to go down and take him away
from them by force and bring him into
the barracks.[i]
11The following night the Lord stood
near Paul and said, "Take courage![j] As
you have testified about me in Jerusa-
lem, so you must also testify in
Rome."[k]

The Plot to Kill Paul

12The next morning the Jews formed
a conspiracy[l] and bound themselves
with an oath not to eat or drink until
they had killed Paul.[m] 13More than
forty men were involved in this plot.
14They went to the chief priests and el-
ders and said, "We have taken a sol-
emn oath not to eat anything until we
have killed Paul.[n] 15Now then, you and

23:1 [s]Ac 22:30 [t]S Ac 22:5 [u]Ac 24:16; 1Co 4:4; 2Co 1:12; 1Ti 1:5,19; 3:9; 2Ti 1:3; Heb 9:14; 10:22; 13:18; 1Pe 3:16, 21 **23:2** [v]Ac 24:1 [w]Jn 18:22 **23:3** [x]Mt 23:27 [y]Lev 19:15; Dt 25:1,2; Jn 7:51 **23:5** [z]Ex 22:28 **23:6** [a]ver 7,8; S Ac 4:1 [b]S Ac 22:5 [c]Ac 26:5; Php 3:5 [d]Ac 24:15,21; 26:8 **23:8** [e]Mt 22:23; 1Co 15:12 **23:9** [f]Mk 2:16 [g]ver 29; Jer 26:16; S Lk 23:4; Ac 25:25; 26:31; 28:18 [h]Ac 22:7, 17,18 **23:10** [i]S Ac 21:34 **23:11** [j]S Mt 14:27 [k]Ac 19:21; 28:23 **23:12** [l]S Ac 20:3 [m]ver 14,21,30; Ac 25:3 **23:14** [n]ver 12

[a]20 Or *witness*   [b]5 Exodus 22:28

the Sanhedrin[a] petition the com-
mander to bring him before you on the
pretext of wanting more accurate infor-
mation about his case. We are ready to
kill him before he gets here."
16But when the son of Paul's sister
heard of this plot, he went into the bar-
racks[b] and told Paul.
17Then Paul called one of the centu-
rions and said, "Take this young man
to the commander; he has something to
tell him." 18So he took him to the com-
mander.

The centurion said, "Paul, the pris-
oner,[c] sent for me and asked me to
bring this young man to you because
he has something to tell you."
19The commander took the young
man by the hand, drew him aside and
asked, "What is it you want to tell
me?"
20He said: "The Jews have agreed to
ask you to bring Paul before the Sanhe-
drin[d] tomorrow on the pretext of want-
ing more accurate information about
him.[e] 21Don't give in to them, because
more than forty[f] of them are waiting in
ambush for him. They have taken an
oath not to eat or drink until they have
killed him.[g] They are ready now, wait-
ing for your consent to their request."
22The commander dismissed the
young man and cautioned him, "Don't
tell anyone that you have reported this
to me."

Paul Transferred to Caesarea

23Then he called two of his centu-
rions and ordered them, "Get ready a
detachment of two hundred soldiers,
seventy horsemen and two hundred
spearmen[u] to go to Caesarea[h] at nine
tonight.[i] 24Provide mounts for Paul so
that he may be taken safely to Gover-
nor Felix."[j]
25He wrote a letter as follows:

26Claudius Lysias,

To His Excellency,[k] Governor
Felix:

Greetings.[l]

27This man was seized by the
Jews and they were about to kill
him,[m] but I came with my troops
and rescued him,[n] for I had
learned that he is a Roman citi-
zen.[o] 28I wanted to know why they
were accusing him, so I brought
him to their Sanhedrin.[p] 29I found
that the accusation had to do with
questions about their law,[q] but
there was no charge against him[r]
that deserved death or imprison-
ment. 30When I was informed[s] of a
plot[t] to be carried out against the
man, I sent him to you at once. I
also ordered his accusers[u] to
present to you their case against
him.

31So the soldiers, carrying out their
orders, took Paul with them during the
night and brought him as far as Antipa-
tris. 32The next day they let the caval-
ry[v] go on with him, while they re-
turned to the barracks.[w] 33When the
cavalry[x] arrived in Caesarea,[y] they de-
livered the letter to the governor[z] and
handed Paul over to him. 34The gover-
nor read the letter and asked what
province he was from. Learning that he
was from Cilicia,[a] 35he said, "I will
hear your case when your accusers[b]
get here." Then he ordered that Paul
be kept under guard[c] in Herod's pal-
ace.

The Trial Before Felix

24 Five days later the high priest
Ananias[d] went down to Caesa-
rea with some of the elders and a law-
yer named Tertullus, and they brought
their charges[e] against Paul before the
governor.[f] 2When Paul was called in,
Tertullus presented his case before
Felix: "We have enjoyed a long period
of peace under you, and your foresight
has brought about reforms in this na-
tion. 3Everywhere and in every way,
most excellent[g] Felix, we acknowledge
this with profound gratitude. 4But in
order not to weary you further, I would
request that you be kind enough to
hear us briefly.
5"We have found this man to be a
troublemaker, stirring up riots[h] among
the Jews[i] all over the world. He is a
ringleader of the Nazarene[j] sect[k] 6and
even tried to desecrate the temple;[l] so
we seized him. 8By[v] examining him
yourself you will be able to learn the
truth about all these charges we are
bringing against him."
9The Jews joined in the accusation,[m]
asserting that these things were true.
10When the governor[n] motioned for
him to speak, Paul replied: "I know

[u]23 The meaning of the Greek for this word is uncertain. [v]6-8 Some manuscripts *him and wanted to judge him according to our law. 7But the commander, Lysias, came and with the use of much force snatched him from our hands 8and ordered his accusers to come before you. By*

23:15 [a]ver 1; Ac 22:30
23:16 [b]ver 10; S Ac 21:34
23:18 [c]S Eph 3:1
23:20 [d]ver 1 [e]ver 14,15
23:21 [f]ver 13 [g]ver 12,14
23:23 [h]S Ac 8:40 [i]ver 33
23:24 [j]ver 26, 33; Ac 24:1-3,10; 25:14
23:26 [k]Lk 1:3; Ac 24:3; 26:25 [l]Ac 15:23
23:27 [m]Ac 21:32 [n]Ac 21:33 [o]Ac 22:25-29
23:28 [p]Ac 22:30
23:29 [q]Ac 18:15; 25:19 [r]S ver 9
23:30 [s]ver 20, 21 [t]S Ac 20:3 [u]ver 35; Ac 24:19; 25:16
23:32 [v]ver 23 [w]S Ac 21:34
23:33 [x]ver 23, 24 [y]S Ac 8:40 [z]ver 26
23:34 [a]S Ac 6:9; 21:39
23:35 [b]ver 30; Ac 24:19; 25:16 [c]Ac 24:27
24:1 [d]Ac 23:2 [e]Ac 23:30,35 [f]S Ac 23:24
24:3 [g]Lk 1:3; Ac 23:26; 26:25
24:5 [h]Ac 16:20; 17:6 [i]Ac 21:28 [j]S Mk 1:24 [k]ver 14; Ac 26:5; 28:22
24:6 [l]Ac 21:28
24:9 [m]S 1Th 2:16
24:10 [n]S Ac 23:24

that for a number of years you have
been a judge over this nation; so I
gladly make my defense. 11You can
easily verify that no more than twelve
days[a] ago I went up to Jerusalem to
worship. 12My accusers did not find me
arguing with anyone at the temple,[b] or
stirring up a crowd[c] in the synagogues
or anywhere else in the city. 13And
they cannot prove to you the charges
they are now making against me.[d]
14However, I admit that I worship the
God of our fathers[e] as a follower of the
Way,[f] which they call a sect.[g] I believe
everything that agrees with the Law
and that is written in the Prophets,[h]
15and I have the same hope in God as
these men, that there will be a resurrec-
tion[i] of both the righteous and the
wicked.[j] 16So I strive always to keep
my conscience clear[k] before God and
man.

17"After an absence of several years, I
came to Jerusalem to bring my people
gifts for the poor[l] and to present offer-
ings. 18I was ceremonially clean[m] when
they found me in the temple courts do-
ing this. There was no crowd with me,
nor was I involved in any distur-
bance.[n] 19But there are some Jews from
the province of Asia,[o] who ought to be
here before you and bring charges if
they have anything against me.[p] 20Or
these who are here should state what
crime they found in me when I stood
before the Sanhedrin— 21unless it was
this one thing I shouted as I stood in
their presence: 'It is concerning the
resurrection of the dead that I am on
trial before you today.' "[q]

22Then Felix, who was well ac-
quainted with the Way,[r] adjourned
the proceedings. "When Lysias the
commander comes," he said, "I will
decide your case." 23He ordered the
centurion to keep Paul under guard[s]
but to give him some freedom[t] and
permit his friends to take care of his
needs.[u]

24Several days later Felix came with
his wife Drusilla, who was a Jewess.
He sent for Paul and listened to him as
he spoke about faith in Christ Jesus.[v]
25As Paul discoursed on righteousness,
self-control[w] and the judgment[x] to
come, Felix was afraid[y] and said,
"That's enough for now! You may
leave. When I find it convenient, I will
send for you." 26At the same time he
was hoping that Paul would offer him a
bribe, so he sent for him frequently and
talked with him.

27When two years had passed, Felix
was succeeded by Porcius Festus,[z] but
because Felix wanted to grant a favor to
the Jews,[a] he left Paul in prison.[b]

The Trial Before Festus

25 Three days after arriving in the
province, Festus[c] went up from
Caesarea[d] to Jerusalem, 2where the
chief priests and Jewish leaders ap-
peared before him and presented the
charges against Paul.[e] 3They urgently
requested Festus, as a favor to them, to
have Paul transferred to Jerusalem, for
they were preparing an ambush to kill
him along the way.[f] 4Festus answered,
"Paul is being held[g] at Caesarea,[h] and
I myself am going there soon. 5Let
some of your leaders come with me
and press charges against the man
there, if he has done anything wrong."

6After spending eight or ten days
with them, he went down to Caesarea,
and the next day he convened the
court[i] and ordered that Paul be
brought before him.[j] 7When Paul ap-
peared, the Jews who had come down
from Jerusalem stood around him,
bringing many serious charges against
him,[k] which they could not prove.[l]

8Then Paul made his defense: "I have
done nothing wrong against the law of
the Jews or against the temple[m] or
against Caesar."

9Festus, wishing to do the Jews a fa-
vor,[n] said to Paul, "Are you willing to
go up to Jerusalem and stand trial be-
fore me there on these charges?"[o]

10Paul answered: "I am now standing
before Caesar's court, where I ought to
be tried. I have not done any wrong to
the Jews,[p] as you yourself know very
well. 11If, however, I am guilty of doing
anything deserving death, I do not
refuse to die. But if the charges brought
against me by these Jews are not true,
no one has the right to hand me over to
them. I appeal to Caesar!"[q]

12After Festus had conferred with his
council, he declared: "You have ap-
pealed to Caesar. To Caesar you will
go!"

Festus Consults King Agrippa

13A few days later King Agrippa and
Bernice arrived at Caesarea[r] to pay
their respects to Festus. 14Since they
were spending many days there, Fes-
tus discussed Paul's case with the king.
He said: "There is a man here whom
Felix left as a prisoner.[s] 15When I went
to Jerusalem, the chief priests and el-

24:11 [a]Ac 21:27; ver 1 **24:12** [b]Ac 25:8; 28:17 [c]ver 18 **24:13** [d]Ac 25:7 **24:14** [e]S Ac 3:13 [f]S Ac 9:2 [g]S ver 5 [h]Ac 26:6,22; 28:23 **24:15** [i]Ac 23:6; 28:20 [j]S Mt 25:46 **24:16** [k]S Ac 23:1 **24:17** [l]Ac 11:29,30; Ro 15:25-28,31; 1Co 16:1-4,15; 2Co 8:1-4; Gal 2:10 **24:18** [m]Ac 21:26 [n]ver 12 **24:19** [o]S Ac 2:9 [p]Ac 23:30 **24:21** [q]Ac 23:6 **24:22** [r]S Ac 9:2 **24:23** [s]Ac 23:35 [t]Ac 28:16 [u]Ac 23:16; 27:3 **24:24** [v]S Ac 20:21 **24:25** [w]Gal 5:23; 1Th 5:6; 1Pe 4:7; 5:8; 2Pe 1:6 [x]Ac 10:42 [y]Jer 36:16

24:27 [z]Ac 25:1,4,9,14 [a]Ac 12:3; 25:9 [b]Ac 23:35; 25:14 **25:1** [c]S Ac 24:27 [d]S Ac 8:40 **25:2** [e]ver 15; Ac 24:1 **25:3** [f]S Ac 20:3 **25:4** [g]Ac 24:23 [h]S Ac 8:40 **25:6** [i]ver 17 [j]ver 10 **25:7** [k]Mk 15:3; Lk 23:2,10; Ac 24:5,6 [l]Ac 24:13 **25:8** [m]Ac 6:13; 24:12; 28:17 **25:9** [n]Ac 24:27; 12:3 [o]ver 20 **25:10** [p]ver 8 **25:11** [q]ver 21,25; Ac 26:32; 28:19 **25:13** [r]S Ac 8:40 **25:14** [s]Ac 24:27

ders of the Jews brought charges against him[a] and asked that he be condemned.

16“I told them that it is not the Roman custom to hand over any man before he has faced his accusers and has had an opportunity to defend himself against their charges.[b] 17When they came here with me, I did not delay the case, but convened the court the next day and ordered the man to be brought in.[c] 18When his accusers got up to speak, they did not charge him with any of the crimes I had expected. 19Instead, they had some points of dispute[d] with him about their own religion[e] and about a dead man named Jesus who Paul claimed was alive. 20I was at a loss how to investigate such matters; so I asked if he would be willing to go to Jerusalem and stand trial there on these charges.[f] 21When Paul made his appeal to be held over for the Emperor's decision, I ordered him held until I could send him to Caesar.”[g]

22Then Agrippa said to Festus, “I would like to hear this man myself.”

He replied, “Tomorrow you will hear him.”[h]

Paul Before Agrippa

26:12-18pp — Ac 9:3-8; 22:6-11

23The next day Agrippa and Bernice[i] came with great pomp and entered the audience room with the high ranking officers and the leading men of the city. At the command of Festus, Paul was brought in. 24Festus said: “King Agrippa, and all who are present with us, you see this man! The whole Jewish community[j] has petitioned me about him in Jerusalem and here in Caesarea, shouting that he ought not to live any longer.[k] 25I found he had done nothing deserving of death,[l] but because he made his appeal to the Emperor[m] I decided to send him to Rome. 26But I have nothing definite to write to His Majesty about him. Therefore I have brought him before all of you, and especially before you, King Agrippa, so that as a result of this investigation I may have something to write. 27For I think it is unreasonable to send on a prisoner without specifying the charges against him.”

26 Then Agrippa said to Paul, “You have permission to speak for yourself.”[n]

So Paul motioned with his hand[o] and began his defense: 2“King Agrippa, I consider myself fortunate to stand before you[p] today as I make my defense against all the accusations of the Jews,[q] 3and especially so because you are well acquainted with all the Jewish customs[r] and controversies.[s] Therefore, I beg you to listen to me patiently.

4“The Jews all know the way I have lived ever since I was a child,[t] from the beginning of my life in my own country, and also in Jerusalem. 5They have known me for a long time[u] and can testify, if they are willing, that according to the strictest sect[v] of our religion, I lived as a Pharisee.[w] 6And now it is because of my hope[x] in what God has promised our fathers[y] that I am on trial today. 7This is the promise our twelve tribes[z] are hoping to see fulfilled as they earnestly serve God day and night.[a] O king, it is because of this hope that the Jews are accusing me.[b] 8Why should any of you consider it incredible that God raises the dead?[c]

9“I too was convinced[d] that I ought to do all that was possible to oppose[e] the name of Jesus of Nazareth.[f] 10And that is just what I did in Jerusalem. On the authority of the chief priests I put many of the saints[g] in prison,[h] and when they were put to death, I cast my vote against them.[i] 11Many a time I went from one synagogue to another to have them punished,[j] and I tried to force them to blaspheme. In my obsession against them, I even went to foreign cities to persecute them.

12“On one of these journeys I was going to Damascus with the authority and commission of the chief priests. 13About noon, O king, as I was on the road, I saw a light from heaven, brighter than the sun, blazing around me and my companions. 14We all fell to the ground, and I heard a voice[k] saying to me in Aramaic,[w][l] ‘Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me? It is hard for you to kick against the goads.’

15“Then I asked, ‘Who are you, Lord?’

“‘I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting,’ the Lord replied. 16‘Now get up and stand on your feet.[m] I have appeared to you to appoint you as a servant and as a witness of what you have seen of me and what I will show you.[n] 17I will rescue you[o] from your own people and from the Gentiles.[p] I am sending you to them 18to open their eyes[q] and turn them from darkness to

25:15 [a]ver 2; Ac 24:1 **25:16** [b]ver 4,5; Ac 23:30 **25:17** [c]ver 6,10 **25:19** [d]Ac 18:15; 23:29 [e]Ac 17:22 **25:20** [f]ver 9 **25:21** [g]ver 11, 12 **25:22** [h]Ac 9:15 **25:23** [i]ver 13; Ac 26:30 **25:24** [j]ver 2,3,7 [k]Ac 22:22 **25:25** [l]S Ac 23:9 [m]S ver 11 **26:1** [n]Ac 9:15; 25:22 [o]S Ac 12:17 **26:2** [p]Ps 119:46 [q]Ac 24:1,5; 25:2, 7,11 **26:3** [r]ver 7; S Ac 6:14 [s]Ac 25:19 **26:4** [t]Gal 1:13, 14; Php 3:5 **26:5** [u]Ac 22:3 [v]S Ac 24:5 [w]Ac 23:6; Php 3:5 **26:6** [x]Ac 23:6; 24:15; 28:20 [y]S Ac 13:32; Ro 15:8 **26:7** [z]Jas 1:1 [a]1Th 3:10; 1Ti 5:5 [b]ver 2 **26:8** [c]Ac 23:6 **26:9** [d]1Ti 1:13 [e]Jn 16:2 [f]S Jn 15:21 **26:10** [g]S Ac 9:13 [h]S Ac 8:3; 9:2, 14,21 [i]Ac 22:20 **26:11** [j]S Mt 10:17 **26:14** [k]Ac 9:7 [l]S Jn 5:2 **26:16** [m]Eze 2:1; Da 10:11 [n]Ac 22:14,15 **26:17** [o]Jer 1:8, 19 [p]S Ac 9:15; S 13:46 **26:18** [q]Isa 35:5

[w]14 Or *Hebrew*

light,[a] and from the power of Satan to
God, so that they may receive forgive-
ness of sins[b] and a place among those
who are sanctified by faith in me.'[c]
19 "So then, King Agrippa, I was not
disobedient[d] to the vision from
heaven. 20 First to those in Damascus,[e]
then to those in Jerusalem[f] and in all
Judea, and to the Gentiles[g] also, I
preached that they should repent[h] and
turn to God and prove their repentance
by their deeds.[i] 21 That is why the Jews
seized me[j] in the temple courts and
tried to kill me.[k] 22 But I have had God's
help to this very day, and so I stand
here and testify to small and great
alike. I am saying nothing beyond what
the prophets and Moses said would
happen[l]— 23 that the Christ[x] would
suffer[m] and, as the first to rise from the
dead,[n] would proclaim light to his own
people and to the Gentiles."[o]
24 At this point Festus interrupted
Paul's defense. "You are out of your
mind,[p] Paul!" he shouted. "Your great
learning[q] is driving you insane."
25 "I am not insane, most excellent[r]
Festus," Paul replied. "What I am say-
ing is true and reasonable. 26 The king is
familiar with these things,[s] and I can
speak freely to him. I am convinced
that none of this has escaped his no-
tice, because it was not done in a cor-
ner. 27 King Agrippa, do you believe the
prophets? I know you do."
28 Then Agrippa said to Paul, "Do
you think that in such a short time you
can persuade me to be a Christian?"[t]
29 Paul replied, "Short time or long—I
pray God that not only you but all who
are listening to me today may become
what I am, except for these chains."[u]
30 The king rose, and with him the
governor and Bernice[v] and those sit-
ting with them. 31 They left the room,
and while talking with one another,
they said, "This man is not doing any-
thing that deserves death or imprison-
ment."[w]
32 Agrippa said to Festus, "This man
could have been set free[x] if he had not
appealed to Caesar."[y]

Paul Sails for Rome

27 When it was decided that we[z]
would sail for Italy,[a] Paul and
some other prisoners were handed
over to a centurion named Julius, who
belonged to the Imperial Regiment.[b]
2 We boarded a ship from Adramyttium
about to sail for ports along the coast of
the province of Asia,[c] and we put out
to sea. Aristarchus,[d] a Macedonian[e]
from Thessalonica,[f] was with us.
3 The next day we landed at Sidon;[g]
and Julius, in kindness to Paul,[h] al-
lowed him to go to his friends so they
might provide for his needs.[i] 4 From
there we put out to sea again and
passed to the lee of Cyprus because the
winds were against us.[j] 5 When we had
sailed across the open sea off the coast
of Cilicia[k] and Pamphylia,[l] we landed
at Myra in Lycia. 6 There the centurion
found an Alexandrian ship[m] sailing for
Italy[n] and put us on board. 7 We made
slow headway for many days and had
difficulty arriving off Cnidus. When
the wind did not allow us to hold our
course,[o] we sailed to the lee of Crete,[p]
opposite Salmone. 8 We moved along
the coast with difficulty and came to a
place called Fair Havens, near the town
of Lasea.
9 Much time had been lost, and sail-
ing had already become dangerous be-
cause by now it was after the Fast.[y][q]
So Paul warned them, 10 "Men, I can
see that our voyage is going to be disas-
trous and bring great loss to ship and
cargo, and to our own lives also."[r]
11 But the centurion, instead of listening
to what Paul said, followed the advice
of the pilot and of the owner of the
ship. 12 Since the harbor was unsuitable
to winter in, the majority decided that
we should sail on, hoping to reach
Phoenix and winter there. This was a
harbor in Crete,[s] facing both south-
west and northwest.

The Storm

13 When a gentle south wind began to
blow, they thought they had obtained
what they wanted; so they weighed
anchor and sailed along the shore of
Crete. 14 Before very long, a wind of
hurricane force,[t] called the "northeast-
er," swept down from the island. 15 The
ship was caught by the storm and
could not head into the wind; so we
gave way to it and were driven along.
16 As we passed to the lee of a small is-
land called Cauda, we were hardly able
to make the lifeboat[u] secure. 17 When
the men had hoisted it aboard, they
passed ropes under the ship itself to
hold it together. Fearing that they
would run aground[v] on the sandbars
of Syrtis, they lowered the sea anchor
and let the ship be driven along. 18 We

26:18 [a] Ps 18:28; Isa 42:7,16; Eph 5:8; Col 1:13; 1Pe 2:9 [b] Lk 24:47; Ac 2:38 [c] S Ac 20:21 **26:19** [d] Isa 50:5 **26:20** [e] Ac 9:19-25 [f] Ac 9:26-29; 22:17-20 [g] S Ac 9:15; S 13:46 [h] Ac 3:19 [i] Jer 18:11; 35:15; Mt 3:8; Lk 3:8 **26:21** [j] Ac 21:27, 30 [k] Ac 21:31 **26:22** [l] S Lk 24:27,44; Ac 10:43; 24:14 **26:23** [m] S Mt 16:21 [n] 1Co 15:20,23; Col 1:18; Rev 1:5 [o] S Lk 2:32 **26:24** [p] S Jn 10:20; S 1Co 4:10 [q] Jn 7:15 **26:25** [r] S Ac 23:26 **26:26** [s] ver 3 **26:28** [t] Ac 11:26 **26:29** [u] S Ac 21:33 **26:30** [v] Ac 25:23 **26:31** [w] S Ac 23:9 **26:32** [x] Ac 28:18 [y] S Ac 25:11 **27:1** [z] S Ac 16:10 [a] Ac 18:2; 25:12, 25 [b] Ac 10:1 **27:2** [c] S Ac 2:9 [d] S Ac 19:29 [e] S Ac 16:9 [f] S Ac 17:1 **27:3** [g] Mt 11:21 [h] ver 43 [i] Ac 24:23; 28:16 **27:4** [j] ver 7 **27:5** [k] S Ac 6:9 [l] S Ac 2:10 **27:6** [m] Ac 28:11 [n] ver 1; Ac 18:2; 25:12,25 **27:7** [o] ver 4 [p] ver 12,13,21; Tit 1:5 **27:9** [q] Lev 16:29-31; 23:27-29; Nu 29:7 **27:10** [r] ver 21 **27:12** [s] S ver 7 **27:14** [t] Mk 4:37 **27:16** [u] ver 30 **27:17** [v] ver 26, 39

[x] 23 Or *Messiah*
[y] 9 That is, the Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur)

took such a violent battering from the
storm that the next day they began to
throw the cargo overboard.[a] 19On the
third day, they threw the ship's tackle
overboard with their own hands.
20When neither sun nor stars appeared
for many days and the storm continued
raging, we finally gave up all hope of
being saved.
21After the men had gone a long time
without food, Paul stood up before
them and said: "Men, you should have
taken my advice[b] not to sail from
Crete;[c] then you would have spared
yourselves this damage and loss. 22But
now I urge you to keep up your cour-
age,[d] because not one of you will be
lost; only the ship will be destroyed.
23Last night an angel[e] of the God
whose I am and whom I serve[f] stood
beside me[g] 24and said, 'Do not be
afraid, Paul. You must stand trial be-
fore Caesar;[h] and God has graciously
given you the lives of all who sail with
you.'[i] 25So keep up your courage,[j]
men, for I have faith in God that it will
happen just as he told me.[k] 26Never-
theless, we must run aground[l] on
some island."[m]

The Shipwreck

27On the fourteenth night we were
still being driven across the Adriatic[z]
Sea, when about midnight the sailors
sensed they were approaching land.
28They took soundings and found that
the water was a hundred and twenty
feet[a] deep. A short time later they took
soundings again and found it was nine-
ty feet[b] deep. 29Fearing that we would
be dashed against the rocks, they
dropped four anchors from the stern
and prayed for daylight. 30In an at-
tempt to escape from the ship, the sail-
ors let the lifeboat[n] down into the sea,
pretending they were going to lower
some anchors from the bow. 31Then
Paul said to the centurion and the sol-
diers, "Unless these men stay with the
ship, you cannot be saved."[o] 32So the
soldiers cut the ropes that held the life-
boat and let it fall away.
33Just before dawn Paul urged them
all to eat. "For the last fourteen days,"
he said, "you have been in constant
suspense and have gone without
food—you haven't eaten anything.
34Now I urge you to take some food.
You need it to survive. Not one of you
will lose a single hair from his head."[p]
35After he said this, he took some bread
and gave thanks to God in front of
them all. Then he broke it[q] and began
to eat. 36They were all encouraged[r]
and ate some food themselves. 37Alto-
gether there were 276 of us on board.
38When they had eaten as much as they
wanted, they lightened the ship by
throwing the grain into the sea.[s]
39When daylight came, they did not
recognize the land, but they saw a bay
with a sandy beach,[t] where they de-
cided to run the ship aground if they
could. 40Cutting loose the anchors,[u]
they left them in the sea and at the
same time untied the ropes that held
the rudders. Then they hoisted the
foresail to the wind and made for the
beach. 41But the ship struck a sandbar
and ran aground. The bow stuck fast
and would not move, and the stern
was broken to pieces by the pounding
of the surf.[v]
42The soldiers planned to kill the
prisoners to prevent any of them from
swimming away and escaping. 43But
the centurion wanted to spare Paul's
life[w] and kept them from carrying out
their plan. He ordered those who could
swim to jump overboard first and get
to land. 44The rest were to get there on
planks or on pieces of the ship. In this
way everyone reached land in safety.[x]

Ashore on Malta

28 Once safely on shore, we[y] found
out that the island[z] was called
Malta. 2The islanders showed us
unusual kindness. They built a fire and
welcomed us all because it was raining
and cold. 3Paul gathered a pile of
brushwood and, as he put it on the
fire, a viper, driven out by the heat,
fastened itself on his hand. 4When the
islanders saw the snake hanging from
his hand,[a] they said to each other,
"This man must be a murderer; for
though he escaped from the sea, Justice
has not allowed him to live."[b] 5But
Paul shook the snake off into the fire
and suffered no ill effects.[c] 6The
people expected him to swell up or
suddenly fall dead, but after waiting a
long time and seeing nothing unusual
happen to him, they changed their
minds and said he was a god.[d]
7There was an estate nearby that be-
longed to Publius, the chief official of
the island. He welcomed us to his
home and for three days entertained us

27:18 [a]ver 19, 38; Jnh 1:5
27:21 [b]ver 10 [c]S ver 7
27:22 [d]ver 25, 36
27:23 [e]S Ac 5:19 [f]Ro 1:9 [g]Ac 18:9; 23:11; 2Ti 4:17
27:24 [h]Ac 23:11 [i]ver 44
27:25 [j]ver 22,36 [k]Ro 4:20,21
27:26 [l]ver 17,39 [m]Ac 28:1
27:30 [n]ver 16
27:31 [o]ver 24
27:34 [p]S Mt 10:30
27:35 [q]S Mt 14:19
27:36 [r]ver 22, 25
27:38 [s]ver 18; Jnh 1:5
27:39 [t]Ac 28:1
27:40 [u]ver 29
27:41 [v]2Co 11:25
27:43 [w]ver 3
27:44 [x]ver 22, 31
28:1 [y]S Ac 16:10 [z]Ac 27:26,39
28:4 [a]Mk 16:18 [b]Lk 13:2,4
28:5 [c]Lk 10:19
28:6 [d]Ac 14:11

[z]27 In ancient times the name referred to an area extending well south of Italy. [a]28 Greek *twenty orguias* (about 37 meters) [b]28 Greek *fifteen orguias* (about 27 meters)

hospitably. 8His father was sick in bed,
suffering from fever and dysentery.
Paul went in to see him and, after
prayer,[a] placed his hands on him[b] and
healed him.[c] 9When this had hap-
pened, the rest of the sick on the island
came and were cured. 10They honored
us[d] in many ways and when we were
ready to sail, they furnished us with
the supplies we needed.

Arrival at Rome

11After three months we put out to
sea in a ship that had wintered in the
island. It was an Alexandrian ship[e]
with the figurehead of the twin gods
Castor and Pollux. 12We put in at Syra-
cuse and stayed there three days.
13From there we set sail and arrived at
Rhegium. The next day the south wind
came up, and on the following day we
reached Puteoli. 14There we found
some brothers[f] who invited us to
spend a week with them. And so we
came to Rome. 15The brothers[g] there
had heard that we were coming, and
they traveled as far as the Forum of Ap-
pius and the Three Taverns to meet us.
At the sight of these men Paul thanked
God and was encouraged. 16When we
got to Rome, Paul was allowed to live
by himself, with a soldier to guard
him.[h]

Paul Preaches at Rome Under Guard

17Three days later he called together
the leaders of the Jews.[i] When they
had assembled, Paul said to them: "My
brothers,[j] although I have done noth-
ing against our people[k] or against the
customs of our ancestors,[l] I was arrest-
ed in Jerusalem and handed over to the
Romans. 18They examined me[m] and
wanted to release me,[n] because I was
not guilty of any crime deserving
death.[o] 19But when the Jews objected, I
was compelled to appeal to Cae-
sar[p]—not that I had any charge to
bring against my own people. 20For this
reason I have asked to see you and talk
with you. It is because of the hope of
Israel[q] that I am bound with this
chain."[r]
21They replied, "We have not re-
ceived any letters from Judea concern-
ing you, and none of the brothers[s]
who have come from there has re-
ported or said anything bad about you.
22But we want to hear what your views
are, for we know that people every-
where are talking against this sect."[t]
23They arranged to meet Paul on a
certain day, and came in even larger
numbers to the place where he was
staying. From morning till evening he
explained and declared to them the
kingdom of God[u] and tried to convince
them about Jesus[v] from the Law of
Moses and from the Prophets.[w] 24Some
were convinced by what he said, but
others would not believe.[x] 25They dis-
agreed among themselves and began to
leave after Paul had made this final
statement: "The Holy Spirit spoke the
truth to your forefathers when he said[y]
through Isaiah the prophet:

26" 'Go to this people and say,
"You will be ever hearing but never
understanding;
you will be ever seeing but never
perceiving."
27For this people's heart has become
calloused;[z]
they hardly hear with their ears,
and they have closed their eyes.
Otherwise they might see with their
eyes,
hear with their ears,
understand with their hearts
and turn, and I would heal them.'[c][a]

28"Therefore I want you to know that
God's salvation[b] has been sent to the
Gentiles,[c] and they will listen!"[d]
30For two whole years Paul stayed
there in his own rented house and wel-
comed all who came to see him. 31Bold-
ly[d] and without hindrance he preached
the kingdom of God[e] and taught about
the Lord Jesus Christ.

c27 Isaiah 6:9,10 d28 Some manuscripts *listen!"* 29*After he said this, the Jews left, arguing vigorously among themselves.*

28:8 a Jas 5:14,15 b S Ac 6:6 c Ac 9:40
28:10 d Ps 15:4
28:11 e Ac 27:6
28:14 f S Ac 1:16
28:15 g S Ac 1:16
28:16 h Ac 24:23; 27:3
28:17 i Ac 25:2 j S Ac 22:5 k S Ac 25:8 l S Ac 6:14
28:18 m Ac 22:24 n Ac 26:31,32 o S Ac 23:9
28:19 p S Ac 25:11
28:20 q Ac 26:6,7 r S Ac 21:33
28:21 s S Ac 22:5
28:22 t S Ac 24:5
28:23 u S Mt 3:2; Ac 19:8 v Ac 17:3 w S Ac 8:35
28:24 x Ac 14:4; 17:4,5
28:25 y S Heb 3:7
28:27 z Ps 119:70 a Isa 6:9,10; S Mt 13:15
28:28 b Lk 2:30 c S Ac 13:46
28:31 d S Ac 4:29 e ver 23; S Mt 4:23

Romans

1 Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus,
called to be an apostle[a] and set
apart[b] for the gospel of God[c]— 2 the
gospel he promised beforehand[d]
through his prophets[e] in the Holy
Scriptures[f] 3 regarding his Son, who as
to his human nature[g] was a descend-
ant of David,[h] 4 and who through the
Spirit[a] of holiness was declared with
power to be the Son of God[b][i] by his
resurrection from the dead:[j] Jesus
Christ our Lord.[k] 5 Through him and
for his name's sake, we received grace[l]
and apostleship to call people from
among all the Gentiles[m] to the obedi-
ence that comes from faith.[n] 6 And you
also are among those who are called to
belong to Jesus Christ.[o]

7 To all in Rome who are loved by
God[p] and called to be saints:[q]

Grace and peace to you from God
our Father and from the Lord Jesus
Christ.[r]

Paul's Longing to Visit Rome

8 First, I thank my God through Jesus
Christ for all of you,[s] because your
faith is being reported all over the
world.[t] 9 God, whom I serve[u] with my
whole heart in preaching the gospel of
his Son, is my witness[v] how constantly
I remember you 10 in my prayers at all
times;[w] and I pray that now at last by
God's will[x] the way may be opened for
me to come to you.[y]

11 I long to see you[z] so that I may im-
part to you some spiritual gift[a] to make
you strong— 12 that is, that you and I
may be mutually encouraged by each
other's faith. 13 I do not want you to be
unaware,[b] brothers,[c] that I planned
many times to come to you (but have
been prevented from doing so until
now)[d] in order that I might have a har-
vest among you, just as I have had
among the other Gentiles.

14 I am obligated[e] both to Greeks and
non-Greeks, both to the wise and the
foolish. 15 That is why I am so eager to
preach the gospel also to you who are
at Rome.[f]

16 I am not ashamed of the gospel,[g]
because it is the power of God[h] for the
salvation of everyone who believes:[i]
first for the Jew,[j] then for the Gen-
tile.[k] 17 For in the gospel a righteous-
ness from God is revealed,[l] a right-
eousness that is by faith[m] from first to
last,[c] just as it is written: "The right-
eous will live by faith."[d][n]

God's Wrath Against Mankind

18 The wrath of God[o] is being re-
vealed from heaven against all the god-
lessness and wickedness of men who
suppress the truth by their wickedness,
19 since what may be known about God
is plain to them, because God has
made it plain to them.[p] 20 For since the
creation of the world God's invisible
qualities—his eternal power and divine
nature—have been clearly seen, being
understood from what has been
made,[q] so that men are without ex-
cuse.[r]

21 For although they knew God, they
neither glorified him as God nor gave
thanks to him, but their thinking
became futile and their foolish hearts
were darkened.[s] 22 Although they
claimed to be wise, they became fools[t]
23 and exchanged the glory of the im-
mortal God for images[u] made to look
like mortal man and birds and animals
and reptiles.

24 Therefore God gave them over[v] in
the sinful desires of their hearts to sex-
ual impurity for the degrading of their
bodies with one another.[w] 25 They ex-
changed the truth of God for a lie,[x]
and worshiped and served created
things[y] rather than the Creator—who
is forever praised.[z] Amen.[a]

1:1 [a] S 1Co 1:1 [b] S Ac 9:15 [c] Ro 15:16; S 2Co 2:12; 11:7; 1Th 2:8,9; 1Pe 4:17 **1:2** [d] S Ac 13:32; Tit 1:2 [e] Lk 1:70; Ro 3:21 [f] Gal 3:8 **1:3** [g] S Jn 1:14; Ro 9:5 [h] S Mt 1:1 **1:4** [i] S Mt 4:3 [j] S Ac 2:24 [k] 1Co 1:2 **1:5** [l] 1Ti 1:14 [m] S Ac 9:15 [n] Ac 6:7; Ro 16:26 **1:6** [o] Jude 1; Rev 17:14 **1:7** [p] Ro 8:39; 1Th 1:4 [q] S Ac 9:13 [r] 1Co 1:3; Eph 1:2; 1Ti 1:2; Tit 1:4; 1Pe 1:2 **1:8** [s] 1Co 1:4; Eph 1:16; 1Th 2:13; 2Th 1:3; 2Ti 1:3 [t] S Ro 10:18; 16:19 **1:9** [u] 2Ti 1:3 [v] Job 16:19; Jer 42:5; 2Co 1:23; Gal 1:20; Php 1:8; 1Th 2:5, 10 **1:10** [w] 1Sa 12:23; S Lk 18:1; S Ac 1:14; Eph 1:16; Php 1:4; Col 1:9; 2Th 1:11; 2Ti 1:3; Phm 4 [x] S Ac 18:21 [y] ver 13; Ro 15:32 **1:11** [z] Ro 15:23 [a] 1Co 1:7; 12:1-31 **1:13** [b] S Ro 11:25 [c] S Ro 7:1 [d] Ro 15:22,23 **1:14** [e] 1Co 9:16 **1:15** [f] Ro 15:20 **1:16** [g] 2Ti 1:8 [h] 1Co 1:18 [i] S Jn 3:15 [j] Ac 3:26; 13:46 [k] S Ac 13:46; Ro 2:9,10 **1:17** [l] Ro 3:21; Php 3:9 [m] S Ro 9:30 [n] Hab 2:4; Gal 3:11; Heb 10:38 **1:18** [o] Jn 3:36; Ro 5:9; Eph 5:6; Col 3:6; 1Th 1:10; Rev 19:15 **1:19** [p] Ac 14:17 **1:20** [q] Ps 19:1-6 [r] Ro 2:1 **1:21** [s] Ge 8:21; Jer 2:5; 17:9; Eph 4:17,18

1:22 [t] 1Co 1:20,27; 3:18,19 **1:23** [u] Dt 4:16,17; Ps 106:20; Jer 2:11; Ac 17:29 **1:24** [v] ver 26,28; Ps 81:12; Eph 4:19 [w] 1Pe 4:3 **1:25** [x] Isa 44:20 [y] Jer 10:14; 13:25; 16:19,20 [z] Ro 9:5; 2Co 11:31 [a] S Ro 11:36

[a] 4 Or *who as to his spirit*
[b] 4 Or *was appointed to be the Son of God with power*
[c] 17 Or *is from faith to faith*
[d] 17 Hab. 2:4

26Because of this, God gave them
over[a] to shameful lusts.[b] Even their
women exchanged natural relations for
unnatural ones.[c] 27In the same way the
men also abandoned natural relations
with women and were inflamed with
lust for one another. Men committed
indecent acts with other men, and re-
ceived in themselves the due penalty
for their perversion.[d]
28Furthermore, since they did not
think it worthwhile to retain the knowl-
edge of God, he gave them over[e] to a
depraved mind, to do what ought not
to be done. 29They have become filled
with every kind of wickedness, evil,
greed and depravity. They are full of
envy, murder, strife, deceit and malice.
They are gossips,[f] 30slanderers, God-
haters, insolent, arrogant and boastful;
they invent ways of doing evil; they
disobey their parents;[g] 31they are
senseless, faithless, heartless,[h] ruth-
less. 32Although they know God's
righteous decree that those who do
such things deserve death,[i] they not
only continue to do these very things
but also approve[j] of those who prac-
tice them.

God's Righteous Judgment

2 You, therefore, have no excuse,[k]
you who pass judgment on some-
one else, for at whatever point you
judge the other, you are condemning
yourself, because you who pass judg-
ment do the same things.[l] 2Now we
know that God's judgment against
those who do such things is based on
truth. 3So when you, a mere man, pass
judgment on them and yet do the same
things, do you think you will escape
God's judgment? 4Or do you show con-
tempt for the riches[m] of his kindness,[n]
tolerance[o] and patience,[p] not realizing
that God's kindness leads you toward
repentance?[q]
5But because of your stubbornness
and your unrepentant heart, you are
storing up wrath against yourself for
the day of God's wrath[r], when his
righteous judgment[s] will be revealed.
6God "will give to each person accord-
ing to what he has done."[e][t] 7To those
who by persistence in doing good seek
glory, honor[u] and immortality,[v] he
will give eternal life.[w] 8But for those
who are self-seeking and who reject the
truth and follow evil,[x] there will be
wrath and anger.[y] 9There will be trou-
ble and distress for every human being
who does evil:[z] first for the Jew, then
for the Gentile;[a] 10but glory, honor and
peace for everyone who does good:
first for the Jew, then for the Gentile.[b]
11For God does not show favoritism.[c]
12All who sin apart from the law will
also perish apart from the law, and all
who sin under the law[d] will be judged
by the law. 13For it is not those who
hear the law who are righteous in
God's sight, but it is those who obey[e]
the law who will be declared righteous.
14(Indeed, when Gentiles, who do not
have the law, do by nature things re-
quired by the law,[f] they are a law for
themselves, even though they do not
have the law, 15since they show that
the requirements of the law are written
on their hearts, their consciences also
bearing witness, and their thoughts
now accusing, now even defending
them.) 16This will take place on the day
when God will judge men's secrets[g]
through Jesus Christ,[h] as my gospel[i]
declares.

The Jews and the Law

17Now you, if you call yourself a Jew;
if you rely on the law and brag about
your relationship to God;[j] 18if you
know his will and approve of what is
superior because you are instructed by
the law; 19if you are convinced that you
are a guide for the blind, a light for
those who are in the dark, 20an instruc-
tor of the foolish, a teacher of infants,
because you have in the law the em-
bodiment of knowledge and truth—
21you, then, who teach others, do you
not teach yourself? You who preach
against stealing, do you steal?[k] 22You
who say that people should not commit
adultery, do you commit adultery? You
who abhor idols, do you rob temples?[l]
23You who brag about the law,[m] do you
dishonor God by breaking the law?
24As it is written: "God's name is blas-
phemed among the Gentiles because of
you."[f][n]
25Circumcision has value if you ob-
serve the law,[o] but if you break the
law, you have become as though you
had not been circumcised.[p] 26If those
who are not circumcised keep the law's
requirements,[q] will they not be re-
garded as though they were circum-
cised?[r] 27The one who is not circum-
cised physically and yet obeys the law
will condemn you[s] who, even though

1:26 [a]ver 24,28 [b]Eph 4:19; 1Th 4:5 [c]Lev 18:22,23 **1:27** [d]Lev 18:22; 20:13; 1Co 6:18 **1:28** [e]ver 24,26 **1:29** [f]2Co 12:20 **1:30** [g]2Ti 3:2 **1:31** [h]2Ti 3:3 **1:32** [i]S Ro 6:23 [j]Ps 50:18; Lk 11:48; Ac 8:1; 22:20 **2:1** [k]Ro 1:20 [l]2Sa 12:5-7; S Mt 7:1,2 **2:4** [m]Ro 9:23; 11:33; Eph 1:7,18; 2:7; 3:8,16; Col 2:2 [n]Ro 11:22 [o]Ro 3:25 [p]Ex 34:6; Ro 9:22; 1Ti 1:16; 1Pe 3:20; 2Pe 3:15 [q]2Pe 3:9 **2:5** [r]Ps 110:5; Rev 6:17 [s]Jude 6 **2:6** [t]Ps 62:12; S Mt 16:27 **2:7** [u]ver 10 [v]1Co 15:53,54; 2Ti 1:10 [w]S Mt 25:46 **2:8** [x]2Th 2:12 [y]Eze 22:31 **2:9** [z]Ps 32:10

[a]ver 10; Ro 1:16 **2:10** [b]ver 9; Ro 1:16 **2:11** [c]S Ac 10:34 **2:12** [d]Ro 3:19; 6:14; 1Co 9:20, 21; Gal 4:21; 5:18; S Ro 7:4 **2:13** [e]Jas 1:22, 23,25 **2:14** [f]Ac 10:35 **2:16** [g]Ecc 12:14; 1Co 4:5 [h]Ac 10:42 [i]Ro 16:25; 2Ti 2:8 **2:17** [j]ver 23; Jer 8:8; Mic 3:11; Jn 5:45; Ro 9:4 **2:21** [k]Mt 23:3,4 **2:22** [l]Ac 19:37 **2:23** [m]S ver 17 **2:24** [n]Isa 52:5; Eze 36:22; 2Pe 2:2 **2:25** [o]ver 13,27; Gal 5:3 [p]Jer 4:4; 9:25,26 **2:26** [q]Ro 8:4 [r]S 1Co 7:19 **2:27** [s]Mt 12:41, 42

[e]6 Psalm 62:12; Prov. 24:12 [f]24 Isaiah 52:5; Ezek. 36:22

you have the[g] written code and cir-
cumcision, are a lawbreaker.
28A man is not a Jew if he is only one
outwardly,[a] nor is circumcision merely
outward and physical.[b] 29No, a man is
a Jew if he is one inwardly; and circum-
cision is circumcision of the heart,[c] by
the Spirit,[d] not by the written code.[e]
Such a man's praise is not from men,
but from God.[f]

God's Faithfulness

3 What advantage, then, is there in
being a Jew, or what value is there
in circumcision? 2Much in every way![g]
First of all, they have been entrusted
with the very words of God.[h]
3What if some did not have faith?[i]
Will their lack of faith nullify God's
faithfulness?[j] 4Not at all! Let God be
true,[k] and every man a liar.[l] As it is
written:

"So that you may be proved right
when you speak
and prevail when you judge."[h] [m]

5But if our unrighteousness brings
out God's righteousness more clearly,[n]
what shall we say? That God is unjust
in bringing his wrath on us? (I am us-
ing a human argument.)[o] 6Certainly
not! If that were so, how could God
judge the world?[p] 7Someone might
argue, "If my falsehood enhances
God's truthfulness and so increases his
glory,[q] why am I still condemned as a
sinner?"[r] 8Why not say—as we are be-
ing slanderously reported as saying
and as some claim that we say—"Let
us do evil that good may result"?[s]
Their condemnation is deserved.

No One Is Righteous

9What shall we conclude then? Are
we any better[i]?[t] Not at all! We have
already made the charge that Jews and
Gentiles alike are all under sin.[u] 10As it
is written:

"There is no one righteous, not even
one;
11 there is no one who understands,
no one who seeks God.
12 All have turned away,
they have together become
worthless;
there is no one who does good,
not even one."[j] [v]
13 "Their throats are open graves;
their tongues practice deceit."[k] [w]
"The poison of vipers is on their
lips."[l] [x]
14 "Their mouths are full of cursing
and bitterness."[m] [y]
15 "Their feet are swift to shed
blood;
16 ruin and misery mark their
ways,
17 and the way of peace they do not
know."[n] [z]
18 "There is no fear of God before
their eyes."[o] [a]

19Now we know that whatever the
law says,[b] it says to those who are un-
der the law,[c] so that every mouth may
be silenced[d] and the whole world held
accountable to God.[e] 20Therefore no
one will be declared righteous in his
sight by observing the law;[f] rather,
through the law we become conscious
of sin.[g]

Righteousness Through Faith

21But now a righteousness from
God,[h] apart from law, has been made
known, to which the Law and the
Prophets testify.[i] 22This righteousness
from God[j] comes through faith[k] in
Jesus Christ[l] to all who believe.[m]
There is no difference,[n] 23for all have
sinned[o] and fall short of the glory of
God, 24and are justified[p] freely by his
grace[q] through the redemption[r] that
came by Christ Jesus. 25God presented
him as a sacrifice of atonement,[p] [s]
through faith in his blood.[t] He did this
to demonstrate his justice, because in
his forbearance he had left the sins
committed beforehand unpun-
ished[u]— 26he did it to demonstrate his
justice at the present time, so as to be
just and the one who justifies those
who have faith in Jesus.
27Where, then, is boasting?[v] It is ex-
cluded. On what principle? On that of
observing the law? No, but on that of
faith. 28For we maintain that a man is
justified by faith apart from observing
the law.[w] 29Is God the God of Jews
only? Is he not the God of Gentiles too?
Yes, of Gentiles too,[x] 30since there is
only one God, who will justify the cir-
cumcised by faith and the uncircum-
cised through that same faith.[y] 31Do
we, then, nullify the law by this faith?
Not at all! Rather, we uphold the law.

2:28 a Mt 3:9; Jn 8:39; Ro 9:6,7 b Gal 6:15
2:29 c Dt 30:6 d Php 3:3; Col 2:11 e Ro 7:6; 2Co 3:6 f Jn 5:44; 12:43; 1Co 4:5; 2Co 10:18; Gal 1:10; 1Th 2:4; 1Pe 3:4
3:2 g Ro 9:4,5 h Dt 4:8; Ps 147:19; Ac 7:38
3:3 i Ro 10:16; Heb 4:2 j 2Ti 2:13
3:4 k Jn 3:33 l Ps 116:11 m Ps 51:4
3:5 n Ro 5:8 o Ro 6:19; Gal 3:15
3:6 p Ge 18:25; Ro 2:16
3:7 q ver 4 r Ro 9:19
3:8 s Ro 6:1
3:9 t ver 1 u ver 19,23; 1Ki 8:46; 2Ch 6:36; Ps 106:6; Ro 5:12; 11:32; Gal 3:22
3:12 v Ps 14:1-3; 53:1-3; Ecc 7:20
3:13 w Ps 5:9 x Ps 140:3
3:14 y Ps 10:7
3:17 z Isa 59:7,8
3:18 a Ps 36:1
3:19 b S Jn 10:34 c S Ro 2:12 d Ps 63:11; 107:42; Eze 16:63 e ver 9
3:20 f Ac 13:39; Gal 2:16 g S Ro 4:15
3:21 h Isa 46:13; Jer 23:6; Ro 1:17; 9:30 i Ac 10:43; Ro 1:2
3:22 j Ro 1:17 k S Ro 9:30 l Gal 2:16; 3:22 m S Jn 3:15; Ro 4:11; 10:4 n Ro 10:12; Gal 3:28; Col 3:11
3:23 o S ver 9
3:24 p S Ro 4:25 q Jn 1:14,16,17; Ro 4:16; 5:21; 6:14; 11:5; 2Co 12:9; Eph 2:8; 4:7; Tit 2:11; Heb 4:16 r Ps 130:7; 1Co 1:30; Gal 4:5; Eph 1:7, 14; Col 1:14; Heb 9:12
3:25 s Ex 25:17; Lev 16:10; Ps 65:3; Heb 2:17; 9:28; 1Jn 4:10 t Ac 20:28; Ro 5:9; Eph 1:7; Heb 9:12,14; 13:12; 1Pe 1:19; Rev 1:5 u Ac 14:16; 17:30
3:27 v Ro 2:17, 23; 4:2; 1Co 1:29-31; Eph 2:9
3:28 w Ac 13:39; Ro 3:20,21; Gal 2:16; 3:11; Eph 2:9; Jas 2:20,24,26
3:29 x Ac 10:34, 35; Ro 9:24; 10:12; 15:9; Gal 3:28 **3:30** y Ro 4:11,12; Gal 3:8

g27 Or *who, by means of a* h4 Psalm 51:4 i9 Or *worse* j12 Psalms 14:1-3; 53:1-3; Eccles. 7:20 k13 Psalm 5:9 l13 Psalm 140:3 m14 Psalm 10:7 n17 Isaiah 59:7,8 o18 Psalm 36:1 p25 Or *as the one who would turn aside his wrath, taking away sin*

Abraham Justified by Faith

4 What then shall we say[a] that Abra-
ham, our forefather,[b] discovered in
this matter? 2If, in fact, Abraham was
justified by works, he had something
to boast about—but not before God.[c]
3What does the Scripture say? "Abra-
ham believed God, and it was credited
to him as righteousness."[a][d]
4Now when a man works, his wages
are not credited to him as a gift,[e] but as
an obligation. 5However, to the man
who does not work but trusts God who
justifies the wicked, his faith is credited
as righteousness.[f] 6David says the
same thing when he speaks of the
blessedness of the man to whom God
credits righteousness apart from
works:

7"Blessed are they
whose transgressions are forgiven,
whose sins are covered.
8Blessed is the man
whose sin the Lord will never
count against him."[b][g]

9Is this blessedness only for the cir-
cumcised, or also for the uncircum-
cised?[h] We have been saying that
Abraham's faith was credited to him as
righteousness.[i] 10Under what circum-
stances was it credited? Was it after he
was circumcised, or before? It was not
after, but before! 11And he received the
sign of circumcision, a seal of the right-
eousness that he had by faith while he
was still uncircumcised.[j] So then, he is
the father[k] of all who believe[l] but
have not been circumcised, in order
that righteousness might be credited to
them. 12And he is also the father of the
circumcised who not only are circum-
cised but who also walk in the foot-
steps of the faith that our father Abra-
ham had before he was circumcised.
13It was not through law that Abra-
ham and his offspring received the
promise[m] that he would be heir of the
world,[n] but through the righteousness
that comes by faith.[o] 14For if those who
live by law are heirs, faith has no value
and the promise is worthless,[p] 15be-
cause law brings wrath.[q] And where
there is no law there is no transgres-
sion.[r]
16Therefore, the promise comes by
faith, so that it may be by grace[s] and
may be guaranteed[t] to all Abraham's
offspring—not only to those who are of
the law but also to those who are of the
faith of Abraham. He is the father of us
all.[u] 17As it is written: "I have made
you a father of many nations."[c][v] He is
our father in the sight of God, in whom
he believed—the God who gives life[w]
to the dead and calls[x] things that are
not[y] as though they were.
18Against all hope, Abraham in hope
believed and so became the father of
many nations,[z] just as it had been said
to him, "So shall your offspring be."[d][a]
19Without weakening in his faith, he
faced the fact that his body was as good
as dead[b]—since he was about a hun-
dred years old[c]—and that Sarah's
womb was also dead.[d] 20Yet he did not
waver through unbelief regarding the
promise of God, but was strength-
ened[e] in his faith and gave glory to
God,[f] 21being fully persuaded that
God had power to do what he had
promised.[g] 22This is why "it was cred-
ited to him as righteousness."[h] 23The
words "it was credited to him" were
written not for him alone, 24but also for
us,[i] to whom God will credit right-
eousness—for us who believe in him[j]
who raised Jesus our Lord from the
dead.[k] 25He was delivered over to
death for our sins[l] and was raised to
life for our justification.[m]

Peace and Joy

5 Therefore, since we have been jus-
tified[n] through faith,[o] we[e] have
peace[p] with God through our Lord
Jesus Christ,[q] 2through whom we have
gained access[r] by faith into this grace
in which we now stand.[s] And we[e] re-
joice in the hope[t] of the glory of God.
3Not only so, but we[e] also rejoice in
our sufferings,[u] because we know that
suffering produces perseverance;[v]
4perseverance, character; and char-
acter, hope. 5And hope[w] does not
disappoint us, because God has poured
out his love[x] into our hearts by the
Holy Spirit,[y] whom he has given us.
6You see, at just the right time,[z]
when we were still powerless,[a] Christ
died for the ungodly.[b] 7Very rarely will
anyone die for a righteous man,
though for a good man someone might
possibly dare to die. 8But God demon-
strates his own love for us in this:
While we were still sinners, Christ died
for us.[c]
9Since we have now been justified[d]
by his blood,[e] how much more shall
we be saved from God's wrath[f]

[illegible]
4:16 [s]S Ro 3:24 [t]Ro 15:8
[u]ver 11; S Lk 3:8; S Gal 3:16
4:17 [v]Ge 17:5 [w]S Jn 5:21 [x]Isa 48:13 [y]1Co 1:28
4:18 [z]ver 17 [a]Ge 15:5
4:19 [b]Heb 11:11,12 [c]Ge 17:17 [d]Ge 18:11
4:20 [e]1Sa 30:6 [f]S Mt 9:8
4:21 [g]Ge 18:14; S Mt 19:26
4:22 [h]S ver 3
4:24 [i]Ps 102:18; Hab 2:2; Ro 15:4; 1Co 9:10; 10:11; 2Ti 3:16,17 [j]Ro 10:9; 1Pe 1:21 [k]S Ac 2:24
4:25 [l]Isa 53:5,6; Ro 5:6,8; 8:32; 2Co 5:21 [m]Isa 53:11; Ro 3:24; 5:1,9,16,18; 8:30; 1Co 6:11; 2Co 5:15
5:1 [n]S Ro 4:25 [o]S Ro 3:28 [p]S Lk 2:14 [q]ver 10
5:2 [r]Eph 2:18; 3:12 [s]1Co 15:1 [t]S Heb 3:6
5:3 [u]S Mt 5:12 [v]S Heb 10:36
5:5 [w]Php 1:20; S Heb 3:6; 1Jn 3:2,3 [x]ver 8; Jn 3:16; Ro 8:39 [y]Ac 2:33; 10:45; Tit 3:5,6
5:6 [z]Mk 1:15; Gal 4:4; Eph 1:10 [a]ver 8,10 [b]Ro 4:25
5:8 [c]Jn 3:16; 15:13; 1Pe 3:18; 1Jn 3:16; 4:10
5:9 [d]S Ro 4:25 [e]S Ro 3:25 [f]S Ro 1:18

[a]3 Gen. 15:6; also in verse 22 [b]8 Psalm 32:1,2 [c]17 Gen. 17:5 [d]18 Gen. 15:5 [e]1,2,3 Or *let us*

through him! 10For if, when we were
God's enemies,[a] we were reconciled[b]
to him through the death of his Son,
how much more, having been recon-
ciled, shall we be saved through
his life![c] 11Not only is this so, but
we also rejoice in God through our
Lord Jesus Christ, through whom
we have now received reconcilia-
tion.[d]

Death Through Adam, Life Through Christ

12Therefore, just as sin entered the
world through one man,[e] and death
through sin,[f] and in this way death
came to all men, because all sinned[g]—
13for before the law was given, sin was
in the world. But sin is not taken into
account when there is no law.[h]
14Nevertheless, death reigned from the
time of Adam to the time of Moses,
even over those who did not sin by
breaking a command, as did Adam,[i]
who was a pattern of the one to
come.[j]
15But the gift is not like the trespass.
For if the many died by the trespass of
the one man,[k] how much more did
God's grace and the gift that came by
the grace of the one man, Jesus
Christ,[l] overflow to the many!
16Again, the gift of God is not like the
result of the one man's sin: The judg-
ment followed one sin and brought
condemnation, but the gift followed
many trespasses and brought justifica-
tion. 17For if, by the trespass of the one
man, death[m] reigned through that one
man, how much more will those who
receive God's abundant provision of
grace and of the gift of righteousness
reign in life[n] through the one man,
Jesus Christ.
18Consequently, just as the result of
one trespass was condemnation for all
men,[o] so also the result of one act of
righteousness was justification[p] that
brings life[q] for all men. 19For just as
through the disobedience of the one
man[r] the many were made sinners,[s]
so also through the obedience[t] of the
one man the many will be made right-
eous.
20The law was added so that the tres-
pass might increase.[u] But where sin in-
creased, grace increased all the more,[v]
21so that, just as sin reigned in death,[w]
so also grace[x] might reign through
righteousness to bring eternal life[y]
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

5:10 [a]Ro 11:28; Col 1:21 [b]ver 11; Ro 11:15; 2Co 5:18,19; Col 1:20,22 [c]Ro 8:34; Heb 7:25
5:11 [d]S ver 10
5:12 [e]ver 15,16, 17; Ge 3:1-7; 1Co 15:21,22 [f]ver 14,18; Ge 2:17; 3:19; S Ro 6:23 [g]S Ro 3:9
5:13 [h]S Ro 4:15
5:14 [i]Ge 3:11,12 [j]1Co 15:22,45
5:15 [k]ver 12,18, 19 [l]Ac 15:11
5:17 [m]S ver 12 [n]Jn 10:10
5:18 [o]S ver 12 [p]S Ro 4:25 [q]Isa 53:11
5:19 [r]ver 12 [s]S Ro 3:9 [t]S Php 2:8
5:20 [u]Ro 3:20; 7:7,8; Gal 3:19 [v]Ro 6:1; 1Ti 1:13,14
5:21 [w]ver 12,14; S Ro 6:16 [x]S Ro 3:24 [y]S Mt 25:46

6:1 [z]S Ro 8:31 [a]ver 15; Ro 3:5,8
6:2 [b]S ver 6; ver 10,11; S ver 18; Ro 8:13; Col 3:5; 1Pe 2:24
6:3 [c]S Mt 28:19
6:4 [d]S ver 6 [e]S Ac 2:24 [f]Ro 7:6; S 2Co 5:17; Eph 4:22-24; Col 3:10
6:5 [g]ver 4,8; Ro 8:11; 2Co 4:10; Eph 2:6; Php 3:10,11; Col 2:12; 3:1; 2Ti 2:11
6:6 [h]S Gal 5:24; Eph 4:22; Col 3:9 [i]S ver 2; ver 3-8; 2Co 4:10; Gal 2:20; 5:24; 6:14; Php 3:10; Col 2:12,20; 3:3 [j]Ro 7:24 [k]S ver 16
6:7 [l]S ver 18
6:8 [m]S ver 5
6:9 [n]ver 4; S Ac 2:24 [o]Rev 1:18
6:10 [p]S ver 2 [q]S Heb 7:27
6:11 [r]S ver 2
6:12 [s]ver 16
6:13 [t]ver 16,19; Ro 7:5 [u]Ro 12:1; 2Co 5:14,15; 1Pe 2:24
6:14 [v]S ver 16 [w]S Ro 2:12 [x]S Ro 3:24
6:15 [y]ver 1,14
6:16 [z]2Pe 2:19 [a]ver 6,12,14,17, 20; Ge 4:7; Ps 51:5; 119:133; Jn 8:34; Ro 5:21; 7:14,23,25; 8:2; 2Pe 2:19 [b]S ver 23
6:17 [c]Ro 1:8; S 2Co 2:14 [d]S ver 16 [e]2Ti 1:13

Dead to Sin, Alive in Christ

6 What shall we say, then?[z] Shall we
go on sinning so that grace may in-
crease?[a] 2By no means! We died to
sin;[b] how can we live in it any longer?
3Or don't you know that all of us who
were baptized[c] into Christ Jesus were
baptized into his death? 4We were
therefore buried with him through
baptism into death[d] in order that, just
as Christ was raised from the dead[e]
through the glory of the Father, we too
may live a new life.[f]
5If we have been united with him like
this in his death, we will certainly also
be united with him in his resurrec-
tion.[g] 6For we know that our old self[h]
was crucified with him[i] so that the
body of sin[j] might be done away
with,[v] that we should no longer be
slaves to sin[k]— 7because anyone who
has died has been freed from sin.[l]
8Now if we died with Christ, we be-
lieve that we will also live with him.[m]
9For we know that since Christ was
raised from the dead,[n] he cannot die
again; death no longer has mastery
over him.[o] 10The death he died, he
died to sin[p] once for all;[q] but the life he
lives, he lives to God.
11In the same way, count yourselves
dead to sin[r] but alive to God in Christ
Jesus. 12Therefore do not let sin reign[s]
in your mortal body so that you obey
its evil desires. 13Do not offer the parts
of your body to sin, as instruments of
wickedness,[t] but rather offer your-
selves to God, as those who have been
brought from death to life; and offer
the parts of your body to him as instru-
ments of righteousness.[u] 14For sin shall
not be your master,[v] because you are
not under law,[w] but under grace.[x]

Slaves to Righteousness

15What then? Shall we sin because
we are not under law but under
grace?[y] By no means! 16Don't you
know that when you offer yourselves
to someone to obey him as slaves, you
are slaves to the one whom you
obey[z]—whether you are slaves to sin,[a]
which leads to death,[b] or to obedience,
which leads to righteousness? 17But
thanks be to God[c] that, though you
used to be slaves to sin,[d] you whole-
heartedly obeyed the form of teaching[e]
to which you were entrusted. 18You

[v]6 *Or be rendered powerless*

have been set free from sin[a] and have
become slaves to righteousness.[b]
19 I put this in human terms[c] because
you are weak in your natural selves.
Just as you used to offer the parts of
your body in slavery to impurity and to
ever-increasing wickedness, so now of-
fer them in slavery to righteousness[d]
leading to holiness. 20 When you were
slaves to sin,[e] you were free from the
control of righteousness.[f] 21 What ben-
efit did you reap at that time from the
things you are now ashamed of? Those
things result in death![g] 22 But now that
you have been set free from sin[h] and
have become slaves to God,[i] the bene-
fit you reap leads to holiness, and the
result is eternal life.[j] 23 For the wages of
sin is death,[k] but the gift of God is eter-
nal life[l] in[w] Christ Jesus our Lord.

An Illustration From Marriage

7 Do you not know, brothers[m]—for I
am speaking to men who know the
law—that the law has authority over a
man only as long as he lives? 2 For ex-
ample, by law a married woman is
bound to her husband as long as he is
alive, but if her husband dies, she is
released from the law of marriage.[n] 3 So
then, if she marries another man while
her husband is still alive, she is called
an adulteress.[o] But if her husband
dies, she is released from that law and
is not an adulteress, even though she
marries another man.
4 So, my brothers, you also died to
the law[p] through the body of Christ,[q]
that you might belong to another,[r] to
him who was raised from the dead, in
order that we might bear fruit to God.
5 For when we were controlled by the
sinful nature,[x][s] the sinful passions
aroused by the law[t] were at work in
our bodies,[u] so that we bore fruit for
death.[v] 6 But now, by dying to what
once bound us, we have been released
from the law[w] so that we serve in the
new way of the Spirit, and not in the
old way of the written code.[x]

Struggling With Sin

7 What shall we say, then?[y] Is the law
sin? Certainly not![z] Indeed I would not
have known what sin was except
through the law.[a] For I would not have
known what coveting really was if the
law had not said, "Do not covet."[y][b]
8 But sin, seizing the opportunity af-
forded by the commandment,[c] pro-
duced in me every kind of covetous de-
sire. For apart from law, sin is dead.[d]
9 Once I was alive apart from law; but
when the commandment came, sin
sprang to life and I died. 10 I found that
the very commandment that was in-
tended to bring life[e] actually brought
death. 11 For sin, seizing the opportu-
nity afforded by the commandment,[f]
deceived me,[g] and through the com-
mandment put me to death. 12 So then,
the law is holy, and the commandment
is holy, righteous and good.[h]
13 Did that which is good, then,
become death to me? By no means! But
in order that sin might be recognized as
sin, it produced death in me[i] through
what was good,[j] so that through the
commandment sin might become utter-
ly sinful.
14 We know that the law is spiritual;
but I am unspiritual,[k] sold[l] as a slave
to sin.[m] 15 I do not understand what I
do. For what I want to do I do not do,
but what I hate I do.[n] 16 And if I do
what I do not want to do, I agree that
the law is good.[o] 17 As it is, it is no
longer I myself who do it, but it is sin
living in me.[p] 18 I know that nothing
good lives in me, that is, in my sinful
nature.[z][q] For I have the desire to do
what is good, but I cannot carry it out.
19 For what I do is not the good I want
to do; no, the evil I do not want to do—
this I keep on doing.[r] 20 Now if I do
what I do not want to do, it is no longer
I who do it, but it is sin living in me
that does it.[s]
21 So I find this law at work:[t] When I
want to do good, evil is right there with
me. 22 For in my inner being[u] I delight
in God's law;[v] 23 but I see another law
at work in the members of my body,
waging war[w] against the law of my
mind and making me a prisoner of the
law of sin[x] at work within my mem-
bers. 24 What a wretched man I am!
Who will rescue me from this body of
death?[y] 25 Thanks be to God—through
Jesus Christ our Lord![z]
So then, I myself in my mind am a
slave to God's law,[a] but in the sinful
nature a slave to the law of sin.[b]

Life Through the Spirit

8 Therefore, there is now no condem-
nation[c] for those who are in Christ
Jesus,[a][d] 2 because through Christ
Jesus[e] the law of the Spirit of life[f] set
me free[g] from the law of sin[h] and

6:18 [a] S ver 2; ver 7,22; Ro 8:2; 1Pe 4:1; S ver 16 [b] S ver 22 **6:19** [c] Ro 3:5; Gal 3:15 [d] S ver 13; S ver 22 **6:20** [e] S ver 16 [f] ver 16 **6:21** [g] S ver 23 **6:22** [h] S ver 18 [i] ver 18,19; Ro 7:25; 1Co 7:22; Eph 6:6; 1Pe 2:16 [j] S Mt 25:46 **6:23** [k] ver 16,21; Ge 2:17; Pr 10:16; Eze 18:4; Ro 1:32; S 5:12; 7:5,13; 8:6,13; Gal 6:7,8; Jas 1:15 [l] S Mt 25:46 **7:1** [m] S Ac 1:16; S 22:5; Ro 1:13; 1Co 1:10; 5:11; 6:6; 14:20,26; Gal 3:15; 6:18 **7:2** [n] 1Co 7:39 **7:3** [o] S Lk 16:18 **7:4** [p] ver 6; S Ro 6:6; 8:2; Gal 2:19; 3:23-25; 4:31; 5:1 [q] Col 1:22 [r] Gal 2:19,20 **7:5** [s] S Gal 5:24 [t] Ro 7:7-11 [u] Ro 6:13 [v] S Ro 6:23 **7:6** [w] S ver 4 [x] Ro 2:29; 2Co 3:6 **7:7** [y] S Ro 8:31 [z] S ver 12 [a] S Ro 4:15 [b] Ex 20:17; Dt 5:21 **7:8** [c] ver 11 [d] S Ro 4:15 **7:10** [e] Lev 18:5; Lk 10:26-28; S Ro 10:5; Gal 3:12 **7:11** [f] ver 8 [g] Ge 3:13 **7:12** [h] ver 7,13, 14,16; Ro 8:4; Gal 3:21; 1Ti 1:8; S Ro 4:15 **7:13** [i] S Ro 6:23 [j] S ver 12 **7:14** [k] 1Co 3:1 [l] 1Ki 21:20,25; 2Ki 17:17 [m] S Ro 6:16 **7:15** [n] ver 19; Gal 5:17 **7:16** [o] S ver 12 **7:17** [p] ver 20 **7:18** [q] ver 25; S Gal 5:24 **7:19** [r] ver 15 **7:20** [s] ver 17 **7:21** [t] ver 23,25 **7:22** [u] Eph 3:16 [v] Ps 1:2; 40:8 **7:23** [w] Gal 5:17; Jas 4:1; 1Pe 2:11 [x] S Ro 6:16 **7:24** [y] Ro 6:6; 8:2 **7:25** [z] S 2Co 2:14 [a] S Ro 6:22 [b] S Ro 6:16 **8:1** [c] ver 34 [d] ver 39; S Ro 16:3 **8:2** [e] Ro 7:25 [f] 1Co 15:45 [g] Jn 8:32,36; S Ro 6:18 [h] S Ro 6:16; S 7:4

[w] 23 Or *through* [x] 5 Or *the flesh;* also in verse 25
[y] 7 Exodus 20:17; Deut. 5:21 [z] 18 Or *my flesh*
[a] 1 Some later manuscripts *Jesus, who do not live according to the sinful nature but according to the Spirit,*

death. 3For what the law was power-
less[a] to do in that it was weakened by
the sinful nature,[b][b] God did by send-
ing his own Son in the likeness of sin-
ful man[c] to be a sin offering.[c][d] And so
he condemned sin in sinful man,[d] 4in
order that the righteous requirements[e]
of the law might be fully met in us,
who do not live according to the sinful
nature but according to the Spirit.[f]
5Those who live according to the sin-
ful nature have their minds set on what
that nature desires;[g] but those who live
in accordance with the Spirit have their
minds set on what the Spirit desires.[h]
6The mind of sinful man[e] is death,[i]
but the mind controlled by the Spirit is
life[j] and peace; 7the sinful mind[f] is
hostile to God.[k] It does not submit to
God's law, nor can it do so. 8Those con-
trolled by the sinful nature[l] cannot
please God.
9You, however, are controlled not by
the sinful nature[m] but by the Spirit, if
the Spirit of God lives in you.[n] And if
anyone does not have the Spirit of
Christ,[o] he does not belong to Christ.
10But if Christ is in you,[p] your body is
dead because of sin, yet your spirit is
alive because of righteousness. 11And if
the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from
the dead[q] is living in you, he who
raised Christ from the dead will also
give life to your mortal bodies[r]
through his Spirit, who lives in you.
12Therefore, brothers, we have an ob-
ligation—but it is not to the sinful na-
ture, to live according to it.[s] 13For if
you live according to the sinful nature,
you will die;[t] but if by the Spirit you
put to death the misdeeds of the
body,[u] you will live,[v] 14because those
who are led by the Spirit of God[w] are
sons of God.[x] 15For you did not receive
a spirit[y] that makes you a slave again
to fear,[z] but you received the Spirit of
sonship.[g] And by him we cry, "*Abba*,[h]
Father."[a] 16The Spirit himself testifies
with our spirit[b] that we are God's chil-
dren.[c] 17Now if we are children, then
we are heirs[d]—heirs of God and co-
heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in
his sufferings[e] in order that we may
also share in his glory.[f]

Future Glory

18I consider that our present suffer-
ings are not worth comparing with the
glory that will be revealed in us.[g] 19The
creation waits in eager expectation for
the sons of God[h] to be revealed. 20For
the creation was subjected to frustra-
tion, not by its own choice, but by the
will of the one who subjected it,[i] in
hope 21that[i] the creation itself will be
liberated from its bondage to decay[j]
and brought into the glorious freedom
of the children of God.[k]
22We know that the whole creation
has been groaning[l] as in the pains of
childbirth right up to the present time.
23Not only so, but we ourselves, who
have the firstfruits of the Spirit,[m]
groan[n] inwardly as we wait eagerly[o]
for our adoption as sons, the redemp-
tion of our bodies.[p] 24For in this hope
we were saved.[q] But hope that is seen
is no hope at all.[r] Who hopes for what
he already has? 25But if we hope for
what we do not yet have, we wait for it
patiently.[s]
26In the same way, the Spirit helps us
in our weakness. We do not know
what we ought to pray for, but the
Spirit[t] himself intercedes for us[u] with
groans that words cannot express.
27And he who searches our hearts[v]
knows the mind of the Spirit, because
the Spirit intercedes[w] for the saints in
accordance with God's will.

More Than Conquerors

28And we know that in all things God
works for the good[x] of those who love
him,[j] who[k] have been called[y] accord-
ing to his purpose.[z] 29For those God
foreknew[a] he also predestined[b] to be
conformed to the likeness of his Son,[c]
that he might be the firstborn[d] among
many brothers. 30And those he predes-
tined,[e] he also called;[f] those he called,
he also justified;[g] those he justified, he
also glorified.[h]
31What, then, shall we say in re-
sponse to this?[i] If God is for us,[j] who
can be against us?[k] 32He who did not
spare his own Son,[l] but gave him up
for us all—how will he not also, along
with him, graciously give us all things?
33Who will bring any charge[m] against
those whom God has chosen? It is
God who justifies. 34Who is he that
condemns?[n] Christ Jesus, who

8:3 [a]Heb 7:18; 10:1-4 [b]Ro 7:18, 19; S Gal 5:24 [c]S Php 2:7 [d]Heb 2:14,17 **8:4** [e]Ro 2:26 [f]S Gal 5:16 **8:5** [g]Gal 5:19-21 [h]Gal 5:22-25 **8:6** [i]S Ro 6:23 [j]ver 13; Gal 6:8 **8:7** [k]Jas 4:4 **8:8** [l]S Gal 5:24 **8:9** [m]S Gal 5:24 [n]ver 11; 1Co 6:19; 2Ti 1:14 [o]Jn 14:17; S Ac 16:7; 1Jn 4:13 **8:10** [p]ver 9; Ex 29:45; Jn 14:20,23; 2Co 13:5; Gal 2:20; Eph 3:17; Col 1:27; Rev 3:20 **8:11** [q]S Ac 2:24 [r]Jn 5:21; S Ro 6:5 **8:12** [s]ver 4; S Gal 5:24 **8:13** [t]S Ro 6:23 [u]S Ro 6:2 [v]ver 6; Gal 6:8 **8:14** [w]S Gal 5:18 [x]ver 19; Hos 1:10; Mal 3:17; Mt 5:9; S Jn 1:12; Gal 3:26; 4:5; Eph 1:5; Rev 21:7 **8:15** [y]S Jn 20:22 [z]S 2Ti 1:7 [a]Mk 14:36; Gal 4:5,6 **8:16** [b]2Co 1:22; Eph 1:13 [c]S ver 14; S Jn 1:12 **8:17** [d]S Ac 20:32; Gal 3:29; 4:7; Eph 3:6; Tit 3:7 [e]S 2Co 1:5 [f]2Ti 2:12; 1Pe 4:13 **8:18** [g]2Co 4:17; 1Pe 4:13; 5:1 **8:19** [h]S ver 14 **8:20** [i]Ge 3:17-19; 5:29 **8:21** [j]Ac 3:21; 2Pe 3:13; Rev 21:1 [k]S Jn 1:12 **8:22** [l]Jer 12:4 **8:23** [m]S 2Co 5:5 [n]2Co 5:2,4 [o]ver 19; Gal 5:5 [p]ver 11; Php 3:21 **8:24** [q]1Th 5:8; Tit 3:7 [r]S 2Co 4:18 **8:25** [s]Ps 37:7 **8:26** [t]ver 15,16 [u]Eph 6:18 **8:27** [v]S Rev 2:23 [w]S ver 34 **8:28** [x]Ge 50:20; Isa 38:17; Jer 29:11 [y]ver 30; Ro 11:29; 1Co 1:9; Gal 1:6, 15; Eph 4:1,4; 1Th 2:12; 2Ti 1:9; Heb 9:15; 1Pe 2:9; 2Pe 1:10 [z]Eph 1:11; 3:11; Heb 6:17 **8:29** [a]Ro 11:2; 1Pe 1:2 [b]Eph 1:5,11 [c]1Co 15:49; 2Co 3:18; Php 3:21; 1Jn 3:2 [d]S Col 1:18

8:30 [e]Eph 1:5,11 [f]S ver 28 [g]S Ro 4:25 [h]Ro 9:23 **8:31** [i]Ro 4:1; 6:1; 7:7; 9:14,30 [j]Ex 3:12; Isa 41:10; Hag 1:13 [k]Ps 56:9; 118:6; Isa 8:10; Jer 20:11; Heb 13:6 **8:32** [l]Ge 22:13; Mal 3:17; Jn 3:16; Ro 5:8 **8:33** [m]Isa 50:8,9 **8:34** [n]ver 1

[b]3 Or *the flesh;* also in verses 4, 5, 8, 9, 12 and 13
[c]3 Or *man, for sin* [d]3 Or *in the flesh* [e]6 Or *mind set on the flesh* [f]7 Or *the mind set on the flesh*
[g]15 Or *adoption* [h]15 Aramaic for *Father*
[i]20,21 Or *subjected it in hope.* 21*For* [j]28 Some manuscripts *And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God* [k]28 Or *works together with those who love him to bring about what is good—with those who*

died[a]—more than that, who was raised to life[b]—is at the right hand of God[c] and is also interceding for us.[d] 35Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?[e] Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword?[f] 36As it is written:

"For your sake we face death all day
long;
we are considered as sheep to be
slaughtered."[l][g]

37No, in all these things we are more than conquerors[h] through him who loved us.[i] 38For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons,[m] neither the present nor the future,[j] nor any powers,[k] 39neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God[l] that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.[m]

God's Sovereign Choice

9 I speak the truth in Christ—I am not lying,[n] my conscience confirms[o] it in the Holy Spirit— 2I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. 3For I could wish that I myself[p] were cursed[q] and cut off from Christ for the sake of my brothers,[r] those of my own race,[s] 4the people of Israel.[t] Theirs is the adoption as sons;[u] theirs the divine glory,[v] the covenants,[w] the receiving of the law,[x] the temple worship[y] and the promises.[z] 5Theirs are the patriarchs,[a] and from them is traced the human ancestry of Christ,[b] who is God over all,[c] forever praised![n][d] Amen.

6It is not as though God's word[e] had failed. For not all who are descended from Israel are Israel.[f] 7Nor because they are his descendants are they all Abraham's children. On the contrary, "It is through Isaac that your offspring will be reckoned."[o][g] 8In other words, it is not the natural children who are God's children,[h] but it is the children of the promise who are regarded as Abraham's offspring.[i] 9For this was how the promise was stated: "At the appointed time I will return, and Sarah will have a son."[p][j]

10Not only that, but Rebekah's children had one and the same father, our father Isaac.[k] 11Yet, before the twins were born or had done anything good or bad[l]—in order that God's purpose[m] in election might stand: 12not by works but by him who calls—she was told, "The older will serve the younger."[q][n] 13Just as it is written: "Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated."[r][o]

14What then shall we say?[p] Is God unjust? Not at all![q] 15For he says to Moses,

"I will have mercy on whom I have
mercy,
and I will have compassion on
whom I have
compassion."[s][r]

16It does not, therefore, depend on man's desire or effort, but on God's mercy.[s] 17For the Scripture says to Pharaoh: "I raised you up for this very purpose, that I might display my power in you and that my name might be proclaimed in all the earth."[t][t] 18Therefore God has mercy on whom he wants to have mercy, and he hardens whom he wants to harden.[u]

19One of you will say to me:[v] "Then why does God still blame us?[w] For who resists his will?"[x] 20But who are you, O man, to talk back to God?[y] "Shall what is formed say to him who formed it,[z] 'Why did you make me like this?'"[u][a] 21Does not the potter have the right to make out of the same lump of clay some pottery for noble purposes and some for common use?[b]

22What if God, choosing to show his wrath and make his power known, bore with great patience[c] the objects of his wrath—prepared for destruction?[d] 23What if he did this to make the riches of his glory[e] known to the objects of his mercy, whom he prepared in advance for glory[f]— 24even us, whom he also called,[g] not only from the Jews but also from the Gentiles?[h] 25As he says in Hosea:

"I will call them 'my people' who are
not my people;
and I will call her 'my loved one'
who is not my loved one,"[v][i]

26and,

"It will happen that in the very place
where it was said to them,
'You are not my people,'
they will be called 'sons of the living
God.'"[w][j]

27Isaiah cries out concerning Israel:

8:34 [a]Ro 5:6-8 [b]S Ac 2:24 [c]S Mk 16:19 [d]ver 27; Job 16:20; Isa 53:12; Heb 7:25; 9:24; 1Jn 2:1
8:35 [e]ver 37-39 [f]1Co 4:11; 2Co 11:26,27
8:36 [g]Ps 44:22; 1Co 4:9; 15:30,31; 2Co 4:11; 6:9; 11:23
8:37 [h]1Co 15:57 [i]Ro 5:8; Gal 2:20; Eph 5:2; Rev 1:5; 3:9
8:38 [j]1Co 3:22 [k]Eph 1:21; Col 1:16; 1Pe 3:22
8:39 [l]S Ro 5:8 [m]ver 1; S Ro 16:3
9:1 [n]Ps 15:2; 2Co 11:10; Gal 1:20; 1Ti 2:7 [o]S Ro 1:9
9:3 [p]Ex 32:32 [q]1Co 12:3; 16:22 [r]S Ac 22:5 [s]Ro 11:14
9:4 [t]ver 6 [u]Ex 4:22; 6:7; Dt 7:6 [v]Heb 9:5 [w]Ge 17:2; Dt 4:13; Ac 3:25; Eph 2:12 [x]Ps 147:19 [y]Heb 9:1 [z]S Ac 13:32; S Gal 3:16
9:5 [a]Ro 11:28 [b]Mt 1:1-16; Ro 1:3 [c]Jn 1:1; Col 2:9 [d]Ro 1:25; 2Co 11:31
9:6 [e]S Heb 4:12 [f]Ro 2:28,29; Gal 6:16
9:7 [g]Ge 21:12; Heb 11:18
9:8 [h]S Ro 8:14 [i]S Gal 3:16
9:9 [j]Ge 18:10,14
9:10 [k]Ge 25:21
9:11 [l]ver 16 [m]Ro 8:28
9:12 [n]Ge 25:23
9:13 [o]Mal 1:2,3
9:14 [p]S Ro 8:31 [q]2Ch 19:7
9:15 [r]Ex 33:19
9:16 [s]Eph 2:8; Tit 3:5
9:17 [t]Ex 9:16; 14:4; Ps 76:10
9:18 [u]Ex 4:21; 7:3; 14:4,17; Dt 2:30; Jos 11:20; Ro 11:25
9:19 [v]Ro 11:19; 1Co 15:35; Jas 2:18 [w]Ro 3:7 [x]2Sa 16:10; 2Ch 20:6; Da 4:35
9:20 [y]Job 1:22; 9:12; 40:2 [z]Isa 64:8; Jer 18:6 [a]Isa 29:16; 45:9; 10:15
9:21 [b]2Ti 2:20
9:22 [c]S Ro 2:4 [d]Pr 16:4
9:23 [e]S Ro 2:4 [f]Ro 8:30
9:24 [g]S Ro 8:28 [h]S Ro 3:29
9:25 [i]Hos 2:23; 1Pe 2:10
9:26 [j]Hos 1:10; S Mt 16:16; S Ro 8:14

[l]36 Psalm 44:22 [m]38 Or *nor heavenly rulers* [n]5 Or *Christ, who is over all. God be forever praised!* Or *Christ. God who is over all be forever praised!* [o]7 Gen. 21:12 [p]9 Gen. 18:10,14 [q]12 Gen. 25:23 [r]13 Mal. 1:2,3 [s]15 Exodus 33:19 [t]17 Exodus 9:16 [u]20 Isaiah 29:16; 45:9 [v]25 Hosea 2:23 [w]26 Hosea 1:10

"Though the number of the Israelites
be like the sand by the sea,[a]
only the remnant will be saved.[b]
28For the Lord will carry out
his sentence on earth with speed
and finality."[x][c]
29It is just as Isaiah said previously:

"Unless the Lord Almighty[d]
had left us descendants,
we would have become like Sodom,
we would have been like
Gomorrah."[y][e]

Israel's Unbelief

30What then shall we say?[f] That the
Gentiles, who did not pursue right-
eousness, have obtained it, a right-
eousness that is by faith;[g] 31but Israel,
who pursued a law of righteousness,[h]
has not attained it.[i] 32Why not? Be-
cause they pursued it not by faith but
as if it were by works. They stumbled
over the "stumbling stone."[j] 33As it is
written:

"See, I lay in Zion a stone that
causes men to stumble
and a rock that makes them fall,
and the one who trusts in him will
never be put to shame."[z][k]

10 Brothers, my heart's desire[l] and
prayer to God for the Israelites is
that they may be saved. 2For I can testi-
fy about them that they are zealous[m]
for God, but their zeal is not based on
knowledge. 3Since they did not know
the righteousness that comes from God
and sought to establish their own, they
did not submit to God's righteous-
ness.[n] 4Christ is the end of the law[o] so
that there may be righteousness for
everyone who believes.[p]
5Moses describes in this way the
righteousness that is by the law: "The
man who does these things will live by
them."[a][q] 6But the righteousness that is
by faith[r] says: "Do not say in your
heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?'[b]
"[s] (that is, to bring Christ down) 7"or
'Who will descend into the deep?'[c]"[t]
(that is, to bring Christ up from the
dead).[u] 8But what does it say? "The
word is near you; it is in your mouth
and in your heart,"[d][v] that is, the word
of faith we are proclaiming: 9That if you
confess[w] with your mouth, "Jesus is
Lord,"[x] and believe[y] in your heart that
God raised him from the dead,[z] you
will be saved.[a] 10For it is with your
heart that you believe and are justified,
and it is with your mouth that you con-
fess and are saved. 11As the Scripture
says, "Anyone who trusts in him will
never be put to shame."[e][b] 12For there
is no difference between Jew and Gen-
tile[c]—the same Lord is Lord of all[d]
and richly blesses all who call on him,
13for, "Everyone who calls on the name
of the Lord[e] will be saved."[f][f]
14How, then, can they call on the one
they have not believed in? And how
can they believe in the one of whom
they have not heard? And how can
they hear without someone preaching
to them? 15And how can they preach
unless they are sent? As it is written,
"How beautiful are the feet of those
who bring good news!"[g][g]
16But not all the Israelites accepted
the good news.[h] For Isaiah says,
"Lord, who has believed our mes-
sage?"[h][i] 17Consequently, faith comes
from hearing the message,[j] and the
message is heard through the word of
Christ.[k] 18But I ask: Did they not hear?
Of course they did:

"Their voice has gone out into all the
earth,
their words to the ends of the
world."[i][l]

19Again I ask: Did Israel not under-
stand? First, Moses says,

"I will make you envious[m] by those
who are not a nation;
I will make you angry by a nation
that has no
understanding."[j][n]

20And Isaiah boldly says,

"I was found by those who did not
seek me;
I revealed myself to those who did
not ask for me."[k][o]

21But concerning Israel he says,

"All day long I have held out my
hands
to a disobedient and obstinate
people."[l][p]

The Remnant of Israel

11 I ask then: Did God reject his
people? By no means![q] I am an
Israelite myself, a descendant of Abra-
ham,[r] from the tribe of Benjamin.[s]
2God did not reject his people,[t] whom

9:27 [a]Ge 22:17; Hos 1:10 [b]2Ki 19:4; Jer 44:14; 50:20; Joel 2:32; Ro 11:5
9:28 [c]Isa 10:22,23
9:29 [d]Jas 5:4 [e]Isa 1:9; Ge 19:24-29; Dt 29:23; Isa 13:19; Jer 50:40
9:30 [f]S Ro 8:31 [g]Ro 1:17; 3:22; 4:5,13; 10:6; Gal 2:16; Php 3:9; Heb 11:7
9:31 [h]Dt 6:25; Isa 51:1; Ro 10:2,3; 11:7 [i]Gal 5:4
9:32 [j]1Pe 2:8
9:33 [k]Isa 8:14; 28:16; Ro 10:11; 1Pe 2:6,8
10:1 [l]Ps 20:4
10:2 [m]S Ac 21:20
10:3 [n]Ro 1:17; S 9:31
10:4 [o]Gal 3:24; Ro 7:1-4 [p]S Ro 3:22
10:5 [q]Lev 18:5; Dt 4:1; 6:24; Ne 9:29; Pr 19:16; Isa 55:3; Eze 20:11,13,21; S Ro 7:10
10:6 [r]S Ro 9:30 [s]Dt 30:12
10:7 [t]Dt 30:13 [u]S Ac 2:24
10:8 [v]Dt 30:14
10:9 [w]Mt 10:32 [x]S Jn 13:13 [y]S Jn 3:15 [z]S Ac 2:24 [a]S Ro 11:14
10:11 [b]Isa 28:16; Ro 9:33
10:12 [c]S Ro 3:22,29 [d]S Mt 28:18
10:13 [e]S Ac 2:21 [f]Joel 2:32
10:15 [g]Isa 52:7; Na 1:15
10:16 [h]Heb 4:2 [i]Isa 53:1; Jn 12:38
10:17 [j]Gal 3:2,5 [k]Col 3:16
10:18 [l]Ps 19:4; S Mt 24:14; Ro 1:8; Col 1:6,23; 1Th 1:8
10:19 [m]Ro 11:11,14 [n]Dt 32:21
10:20 [o]Isa 65:1; Ro 9:30
10:21 [p]Isa 65:2; Jer 35:17
11:1 [q]Lev 26:44; 1Sa 12:22; Ps 94:14; Jer 31:37; 33:24-26 [r]2Co 11:22 [s]Php 3:5
11:2 [t]S ver 1

[x]28 Isaiah 10:22,23 [y]29 Isaiah 1:9 [z]33 Isaiah 8:14; 28:16 [a]5 Lev. 18:5 [b]6 Deut. 30:12 [c]7 Deut. 30:13 [d]8 Deut. 30:14 [e]11 Isaiah 28:16 [f]13 Joel 2:32 [g]15 Isaiah 52:7 [h]16 Isaiah 53:1 [i]18 Psalm 19:4 [j]19 Deut. 32:21 [k]20 Isaiah 65:1 [l]21 Isaiah 65:2

he foreknew.[a] Don't you know what
the Scripture says in the passage about
Elijah—how he appealed to God
against Israel: 3"Lord, they have killed
your prophets and torn down your al-
tars; I am the only one left, and they
are trying to kill me"[m]?[b] 4And what
was God's answer to him? "I have re-
served for myself seven thousand who
have not bowed the knee to Baal."[n][c]
5So too, at the present time there is a
remnant[d] chosen by grace.[e] 6And if by
grace, then it is no longer by works;[f] if
it were, grace would no longer be
grace.[o]
7What then? What Israel sought so
earnestly it did not obtain,[g] but the
elect did. The others were hardened,[h]
8as it is written:

"God gave them a spirit of stupor,
eyes so that they could not see
and ears so that they could not
hear,[i]
to this very day."[p][j]

9And David says:

"May their table become a snare and
a trap,
a stumbling block and a retribution
for them.
10May their eyes be darkened so they
cannot see,[k]
and their backs be bent
forever."[q][l]

Ingrafted Branches

11Again I ask: Did they stumble so as
to fall beyond recovery? Not at all![m]
Rather, because of their transgression,
salvation has come to the Gentiles[n] to
make Israel envious.[o] 12But if their
transgression means riches for the
world, and their loss means riches for
the Gentiles,[p] how much greater riches
will their fullness bring!
13I am talking to you Gentiles. Inas-
much as I am the apostle to the Gen-
tiles,[q] I make much of my ministry 14in
the hope that I may somehow arouse
my own people to envy[r] and save[s]
some of them. 15For if their rejection is
the reconciliation[t] of the world, what
will their acceptance be but life from
the dead?[u] 16If the part of the dough
offered as firstfruits[v] is holy, then the
whole batch is holy; if the root is holy,
so are the branches.
17If some of the branches have been
broken off,[w] and you, though a wild
olive shoot, have been grafted in
among the others[x] and now share in
the nourishing sap from the olive root,
18do not boast over those branches. If
you do, consider this: You do not sup-
port the root, but the root supports
you.[y] 19You will say then, "Branches
were broken off so that I could be graft-
ed in." 20Granted. But they were bro-
ken off because of unbelief, and you
stand by faith.[z] Do not be arrogant,[a]
but be afraid.[b] 21For if God did not
spare the natural branches, he will not
spare you either.
22Consider therefore the kindness[c]
and sternness of God: sternness to
those who fell, but kindness to you,
provided that you continue[d] in his
kindness. Otherwise, you also will be
cut off.[e] 23And if they do not persist in
unbelief, they will be grafted in, for
God is able to graft them in again.[f]
24After all, if you were cut out of an
olive tree that is wild by nature, and
contrary to nature were grafted into a
cultivated olive tree,[g] how much more
readily will these, the natural branches,
be grafted into their own olive tree!

All Israel Will Be Saved

25I do not want you to be ignorant[h]
of this mystery,[i] brothers, so that you
may not be conceited:[j] Israel has
experienced a hardening[k] in part until
the full number of the Gentiles has
come in.[l] 26And so all Israel will be
saved,[m] as it is written:

"The deliverer will come from Zion;
he will turn godlessness away
from Jacob.
27And this is[r] my covenant with them
when I take away their sins."[s][n]

28As far as the gospel is concerned,
they are enemies[o] on your account; but
as far as election is concerned, they are
loved on account of the patriarchs,[p]
29for God's gifts and his call[q] are ir-
revocable.[r] 30Just as you who were at
one time disobedient[s] to God have
now received mercy as a result of their
disobedience, 31so they too have now
become disobedient in order that they
too may now[t] receive mercy as a result
of God's mercy to you. 32For God has
bound all men over to disobedience[t]
so that he may have mercy on them all.

11:2 [a] S Ro 8:29
11:3 [b] 1Ki 19:10, 14
11:4 [c] 1Ki 19:18
11:5 [d] S Ro 9:27 [e] S Ro 3:24
11:6 [f] Ro 4:4
11:7 [g] Ro 9:31 [h] ver 25; S Ro 9:18
11:8 [i] S Mt 13:13-15 [j] Dt 29:4; Isa 29:10
11:10 [k] ver 8 [l] Ps 69:22,23
11:11 [m] ver 1 [n] S Ac 13:46 [o] ver 14; Ro 10:19
11:12 [p] ver 25
11:13 [q] S Ac 9:15
11:14 [r] ver 11; Ro 10:19; 1Co 10:33; 1Th 2:16 [s] S Mt 1:21; S Lk 2:11; S Jn 3:17; Ac 4:12; 16:31; 1Co 1:21; 1Ti 2:4; Tit 3:5
11:15 [t] S Ro 5:10 [u] Lk 15:24,32
11:16 [v] Lev 23:10,17; Nu 15:18-21
11:17 [w] Jer 11:16; Jn 15:2 [x] Ac 2:39; Eph 2:11-13
11:18 [y] Jn 4:22
11:20 [z] 1Co 10:12; 2Co 1:24 [a] 1Ti 6:17 [b] 1Pe 1:17
11:22 [c] Ro 2:4 [d] 1Co 15:2; Col 1:23; Heb 3:6 [e] Jn 15:2
11:23 [f] 2Co 3:16
11:24 [g] Jer 11:16
11:25 [h] Ro 1:13; 1Co 10:1; 12:1; 2Co 1:8; 1Th 4:13 [i] S Ro 16:25 [j] Ro 12:16 [k] ver 7; S Ro 9:18 [l] Lk 21:24
11:26 [m] Isa 45:17; Jer 31:34
11:27 [n] Isa 59:20,21; 27:9; Heb 8:10, 12
11:28 [o] Ro 5:10 [p] Dt 7:8; 10:15; Ro 9:5
11:29 [q] S Ro 8:28 [r] S Heb 7:21
11:30 [s] S Eph 2:2
11:32 [t] S Ro 3:9

[m]3 1 Kings 19:10,14 [n]4 1 Kings 19:18 [o]6 Some manuscripts *by grace. But if by works, then it is no longer grace; if it were, work would no longer be work.*
[p]8 Deut. 29:4; Isaiah 29:10 [q]10 Psalm 69:22,23
[r]27 Or *will be* [s]27 Isaiah 59:20,21; 27:9; Jer. 31:33,34 [t]31 Some manuscripts do not have *now*.

Doxology

33 Oh, the depth of the riches[a] of the
wisdom and[a] knowledge of
God![b]
How unsearchable his judgments,
and his paths beyond tracing out![c]
34 "Who has known the mind of the
Lord?
Or who has been his
counselor?"[b] [d]
35 "Who has ever given to God,
that God should repay him?"[c] [e]
36 For from him and through him and
to him are all things.[f]
To him be the glory forever!
Amen.[g]

Living Sacrifices

12 Therefore, I urge you,[h] brothers,
in view of God's mercy, to offer
your bodies as living sacrifices,[i] holy
and pleasing to God—this is your spiri-
tual[d] act of worship. 2 Do not conform[j]
any longer to the pattern of this
world,[k] but be transformed by the
renewing of your mind.[l] Then you will
be able to test and approve what God's
will is[m]—his good, pleasing[n] and per-
fect will.
3 For by the grace given me[o] I say to
every one of you: Do not think of your-
self more highly than you ought, but
rather think of yourself with sober
judgment, in accordance with the mea-
sure of faith God has given you. 4 Just
as each of us has one body with many
members, and these members do not
all have the same function,[p] 5 so in
Christ we who are many form one
body,[q] and each member belongs to all
the others. 6 We have different gifts,[r]
according to the grace given us. If a
man's gift is prophesying,[s] let him use
it in proportion to his[e] faith.[t] 7 If it is
serving, let him serve; if it is teaching,
let him teach;[u] 8 if it is encouraging, let
him encourage;[v] if it is contributing to
the needs of others, let him give gener-
ously;[w] if it is leadership, let him gov-
ern diligently; if it is showing mercy,
let him do it cheerfully.

Love

9 Love must be sincere.[x] Hate what is
evil; cling to what is good.[y] 10 Be devot-
ed to one another in brotherly love.[z]
Honor one another above yourselves.[a]
11 Never be lacking in zeal, but keep
your spiritual fervor,[b] serving the
Lord. 12 Be joyful in hope,[c] patient in
affliction,[d] faithful in prayer.[e] 13 Share
with God's people who are in need.[f]
Practice hospitality.[g]
14 Bless those who persecute you;[h]
bless and do not curse. 15 Rejoice with
those who rejoice; mourn with those
who mourn.[i] 16 Live in harmony with
one another.[j] Do not be proud, but be
willing to associate with people of low
position.[f] Do not be conceited.[k]
17 Do not repay anyone evil for evil.[l]
Be careful to do what is right in the
eyes of everybody.[m] 18 If it is possible,
as far as it depends on you, live at
peace with everyone.[n] 19 Do not take re-
venge,[o] my friends, but leave room for
God's wrath, for it is written: "It is
mine to avenge; I will repay,"[g] [p] says
the Lord. 20 On the contrary:

"If your enemy is hungry, feed him;
if he is thirsty, give him something
to drink.
In doing this, you will heap burning
coals on his head."[h] [q]

21 Do not be overcome by evil, but over-
come evil with good.

Submission to the Authorities

13 Everyone must submit himself to
the governing authorities,[r] for
there is no authority except that which
God has established.[s] The authorities
that exist have been established by
God. 2 Consequently, he who rebels
against the authority is rebelling
against what God has instituted,[t] and
those who do so will bring judgment
on themselves. 3 For rulers hold no ter-
ror for those who do right, but for
those who do wrong. Do you want to
be free from fear of the one in author-
ity? Then do what is right and he will
commend you.[u] 4 For he is God's ser-
vant to do you good. But if you do
wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear
the sword for nothing. He is God's ser-
vant, an agent of wrath to bring pun-
ishment on the wrongdoer.[v] 5 There-
fore, it is necessary to submit to the au-
thorities, not only because of possible
punishment but also because of con-
science.[w]
6 This is also why you pay taxes,[x] for
the authorities are God's servants, who

11:33 [a]S Ro 2:4 [b]Ps 92:5; Eph 3:10; Col 2:3 [c]Job 5:9; 11:7; Ps 139:6; Ecc 8:17; Isa 40:28 **11:34** [d]Isa 40:13,14; Job 15:8; 36:22; Jer 23:18; 1Co 2:16 **11:35** [e]Job 41:11; 35:7 **11:36** [f]1Co 8:6; 11:12; Col 1:16; Heb 2:10 [g]Ro 16:27; Eph 3:21; 1Ti 1:17; 1Pe 5:11; Jude 25; Rev 5:13; 7:12 **12:1** [h]Eph 4:1; 1Pe 2:11 [i]Ro 6:13,16,19; 1Co 6:20; 1Pe 2:5 **12:2** [j]1Pe 1:14 [k]1Co 1:20; 2Co 10:2; 1Jn 2:15 [l]Eph 4:23 [m]S Eph 5:17 [n]S 1Ti 5:4 **12:3** [o]Ro 15:15; 1Co 15:10; Gal 2:9; Eph 3:7; 4:7; 1Pe 4:10,11 **12:4** [p]1Co 12:12-14; Eph 4:16 **12:5** [q]1Co 6:15; 10:17; 12:12,20, 27; Eph 2:16; 4:4,25; 5:30; Col 3:15 **12:6** [r]1Co 7:7; 12:4,8-10 [s]S Eph 4:11 [t]1Pe 4:10,11 **12:7** [u]S Eph 4:11 **12:8** [v]Ac 11:23; 13:15; 15:32 [w]2Co 8:2; 9:5-13 **12:9** [x]2Co 6:6; 1Ti 1:5 [y]Ps 97:10; Am 5:15; 1Th 5:21,22 **12:10** [z]Ps 133:1; 1Th 4:9; Heb 13:1; 1Pe 1:22 [a]Php 2:3 **12:11** [b]Ac 18:25 **12:12** [c]Ro 5:2 [d]Heb 10:32,36 [e]S Lk 18:1 **12:13** [f]S Ac 24:17 [g]2Ki 4:10; Job 31:32; 1Ti 3:2; 5:10; Heb 13:2; 1Pe 4:9 **12:14** [h]S Mt 5:44 **12:15** [i]Job 30:25 **12:16** [j]S Ro 15:5 [k]ver 3; Ps 131:1; Isa 5:21; Jer 45:5; Ro 11:25 **12:17** [l]ver 19; Pr 20:22; 24:29 [m]2Co 8:21 **12:18** [n]S Mk 9:50; S Ro 14:19 **12:19** [o]ver 17; Lev 19:18; Pr 20:22; 24:29 [p]Dt 32:35; Ge 50:19; 1Sa 26:10; Ps 94:1; Jer 51:36 **12:20** [q]Pr 25:21, 22; Ex 23:4; Mt 5:44; Lk 6:27 **13:1** [r]Tit 3:1; 1Pe 2:13,14 [s]Da 2:21; 4:17; Jn 19:11 **13:2** [t]Ex 16:8 **13:3** [u]1Pe 2:14 **13:4** [v]1Th 4:6 **13:5** [w]Pr 24:21,22 **13:6** [x]Mt 22:17

[a]33 Or *riches and the wisdom and the* [b]34 Isaiah 40:13 [c]35 Job 41:11 [d]1 Or *reasonable* [e]6 Or *in agreement with the* [f]16 Or *willing to do menial work* [g]19 Deut. 32:35 [h]20 Prov. 25:21,22

give their full time to governing. 7 Give
everyone what you owe him: If you
owe taxes, pay taxes;[a] if revenue, then
revenue; if respect, then respect; if
honor, then honor.

Love, for the Day Is Near

8 Let no debt remain outstanding, ex-
cept the continuing debt to love one
another, for he who loves his fellow-
man has fulfilled the law.[b] 9 The com-
mandments, "Do not commit adul-
tery," "Do not murder," "Do not
steal," "Do not covet,"[c][c] and what-
ever other commandment there may
be, are summed up[d] in this one rule:
"Love your neighbor as yourself."[d][e]
10 Love does no harm to its neighbor.
Therefore love is the fulfillment of the
law.[f]

11 And do this, understanding the
present time. The hour has come[g] for
you to wake up from your slumber,[h]
because our salvation is nearer now
than when we first believed. 12 The
night is nearly over; the day is almost
here.[i] So let us put aside the deeds of
darkness[j] and put on the armor[k] of
light. 13 Let us behave decently, as in
the daytime, not in orgies and drunk-
enness,[l] not in sexual immorality and
debauchery, not in dissension and jeal-
ousy.[m] 14 Rather, clothe yourselves with
the Lord Jesus Christ,[n] and do not
think about how to gratify the desires
of the sinful nature.[e][o]

The Weak and the Strong

14 Accept him whose faith is
weak,[p] without passing judg-
ment on disputable matters. 2 One
man's faith allows him to eat every-
thing, but another man, whose faith is
weak, eats only vegetables.[q] 3 The man
who eats everything must not look
down on[r] him who does not, and the
man who does not eat everything must
not condemn[s] the man who does, for
God has accepted him. 4 Who are you to
judge someone else's servant?[t] To his
own master he stands or falls. And he
will stand, for the Lord is able to make
him stand.

5 One man considers one day more
sacred than another;[u] another man
considers every day alike. Each one
should be fully convinced in his own
mind. 6 He who regards one day as
special, does so to the Lord. He who
eats meat, eats to the Lord, for he gives
thanks to God;[v] and he who abstains,
does so to the Lord and gives thanks to
God. 7 For none of us lives to himself
alone[w] and none of us dies to himself
alone. 8 If we live, we live to the Lord;
and if we die, we die to the Lord. So,
whether we live or die, we belong to
the Lord.[x]

9 For this very reason, Christ died and
returned to life[y] so that he might be
the Lord of both the dead and the liv-
ing.[z] 10 You, then, why do you judge
your brother? Or why do you look
down on[a] your brother? For we will all
stand before God's judgment seat.[b] 11 It
is written:

"'As surely as I live,'[c] says the
Lord,
'every knee will bow before me;
every tongue will confess to
God.'"[f][d]

12 So then, each of us will give an ac-
count of himself to God.[e]

13 Therefore let us stop passing judg-
ment[f] on one another. Instead, make
up your mind not to put any stumbling
block or obstacle in your brother's
way.[g] 14 As one who is in the Lord
Jesus, I am fully convinced that no
food[g] is unclean in itself.[h] But if any-
one regards something as unclean,
then for him it is unclean.[i] 15 If your
brother is distressed because of what
you eat, you are no longer acting in
love.[j] Do not by your eating destroy
your brother for whom Christ died.[k]
16 Do not allow what you consider good
to be spoken of as evil.[l] 17 For the king-
dom of God is not a matter of eating
and drinking,[m] but of righteousness,
peace[n] and joy in the Holy Spirit,[o]
18 because anyone who serves Christ in
this way is pleasing to God and ap-
proved by men.[p]

19 Let us therefore make every effort
to do what leads to peace[q] and to
mutual edification.[r] 20 Do not destroy
the work of God for the sake of food.[s]
All food is clean,[t] but it is wrong for a
man to eat anything that causes some-
one else to stumble.[u] 21 It is better not
to eat meat or drink wine or to do any-
thing else that will cause your brother
to fall.[v]

22 So whatever you believe about
these things keep between yourself
and God. Blessed is the man who does
not condemn[w] himself by what he ap-

13:7 [a]Mt 17:25; Mk 12:17; Lk 23:2 **13:8** [b]ver 10; S Mt 5:43; Jn 13:34; Col 3:14 **13:9** [c]Ex 20:13-15,17; Dt 5:17-19,21 [d]Mt 7:12 [e]Lev 19:18; S Mt 5:43 **13:10** [f]S ver 8; ver 9 **13:11** [g]1Co 7:29-31; 10:11; Jas 5:8; 1Pe 4:7; 1Jn 2:18; Rev 22:10 [h]Eph 5:14; 1Th 5:5,6 **13:12** [i]Heb 10:25; 1Jn 2:8 [j]Eph 5:11 [k]Eph 6:11,13; 1Th 5:8 **13:13** [l]S Eph 5:18 [m]Lk 21:34; Gal 5:20,21; Eph 5:18; 1Pe 4:3 **13:14** [n]Gal 3:27; Eph 4:24; Col 3:10,12 [o]S Gal 5:24 **14:1** [p]Ro 15:1; 1Co 8:9-12; 9:22 **14:2** [q]ver 14 **14:3** [r]ver 10; Lk 18:9 [s]ver 10, 13; Col 2:16 **14:4** [t]S Mt 7:1 **14:5** [u]Gal 4:10; Col 2:16 **14:6** [v]S Mt 14:19; 1Co 10:30,31; 1Ti 4:3,4 **14:7** [w]2Co 5:15; Gal 2:20 **14:8** [x]Php 1:20 **14:9** [y]Rev 1:18; 2:8 [z]S Ac 10:42; 2Co 5:15 **14:10** [a]ver 3; S Mt 7:1 [b]S 2Co 5:10 **14:11** [c]Isa 49:18 [d]Isa 45:23; Php 2:10,11 **14:12** [e]Mt 12:36; 1Pe 4:5 **14:13** [f]ver 1; S Mt 7:1 [g]S 2Co 6:3 **14:14** [h]ver 20; S Ac 10:15 [i]1Co 8:7 **14:15** [j]Eph 5:2 [k]ver 20; 1Co 8:11 **14:16** [l]1Co 10:30 **14:17** [m]1Co 8:8 [n]Isa 32:17 [o]Ro 15:13; Gal 5:22 **14:18** [p]Lk 2:52; Ac 24:16; 2Co 8:21 **14:19** [q]Ps 34:14; Ro 12:18; 1Co 7:15; 2Ti 2:22; Heb 12:14 [r]Ro 15:2; 1Co 14:3-5,12,17,26; 2Co 12:19; Eph 4:12,29 **14:20** [s]ver 15 [t]ver 14; S Ac 10:15 [u]ver 13; 1Co 8:9-12 **14:21** [v]S Mt 5:29 **14:22** [w]1Jn 3:21

[c]9 Exodus 20:13-15,17; Deut. 5:17-19,21 [d]9 Lev. 19:18 [e]14 Or *the flesh* [f]11 Isaiah 45:23 [g]14 Or *that nothing*

proves. 23But the man who has doubts[a]
is condemned if he eats, because his
eating is not from faith; and everything
that does not come from faith is sin.
15 We who are strong ought to bear
with the failings of the weak[b]
and not to please ourselves. 2Each of us
should please his neighbor for his
good,[c] to build him up.[d] 3For even
Christ did not please himself[e] but, as it
is written: "The insults of those who
insult you have fallen on me."[h][f] 4For
everything that was written in the past
was written to teach us,[g] so that
through endurance and the encourage-
ment of the Scriptures we might have
hope.

5May the God who gives endurance
and encouragement give you a spirit of
unity[h] among yourselves as you follow
Christ Jesus, 6so that with one heart
and mouth you may glorify[i] the God
and Father[j] of our Lord Jesus Christ.
7Accept one another,[k] then, just as
Christ accepted you, in order to bring
praise to God. 8For I tell you that Christ
has become a servant of the Jews[i][l] on
behalf of God's truth, to confirm the
promises[m] made to the patriarchs 9so
that the Gentiles[n] may glorify God[o] for
his mercy, as it is written:

"Therefore I will praise you among
the Gentiles;
I will sing hymns to your
name."[j][p]

10Again, it says,

"Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his
people."[k][q]

11And again,

"Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles,
and sing praises to him, all you
peoples."[l][r]

12And again, Isaiah says,

"The Root of Jesse[s] will spring up,
one who will arise to rule over the
nations;
the Gentiles will hope in him."[m][t]

13May the God of hope fill you with
all joy and peace[u] as you trust in him,
so that you may overflow with hope by
the power of the Holy Spirit.[v]

Paul the Minister to the Gentiles

14I myself am convinced, my broth-
ers, that you yourselves are full of
goodness,[w] complete in knowledge[x]
and competent to instruct one another.
15I have written you quite boldly on
some points, as if to remind you of
them again, because of the grace God
gave me[y] 16to be a minister of Christ
Jesus to the Gentiles[z] with the priestly
duty of proclaiming the gospel of
God,[a] so that the Gentiles might
become an offering[b] acceptable to God,
sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

17Therefore I glory in Christ Jesus[c] in
my service to God.[d] 18I will not venture
to speak of anything except what
Christ has accomplished through me in
leading the Gentiles[e] to obey God[f] by
what I have said and done— 19by the
power of signs and miracles,[g] through
the power of the Spirit.[h] So from
Jerusalem[i] all the way around to Il-
lyricum, I have fully proclaimed the
gospel of Christ.[j] 20It has always been
my ambition to preach the gospel[k]
where Christ was not known, so that I
would not be building on someone
else's foundation.[l] 21Rather, as it is
written:

"Those who were not told about him
will see,
and those who have not heard will
understand."[n][m]

22This is why I have often been hin-
dered from coming to you.[n]

Paul's Plan to Visit Rome

23But now that there is no more place
for me to work in these regions, and
since I have been longing for many
years to see you,[o] 24I plan to do so
when I go to Spain.[p] I hope to visit you
while passing through and to have you
assist[q] me on my journey there, after I
have enjoyed your company for a
while. 25Now, however, I am on my
way to Jerusalem[r] in the service[s] of
the saints[t] there. 26For Macedonia[u]
and Achaia[v] were pleased to make a
contribution for the poor among the
saints in Jerusalem.[w] 27They were
pleased to do it, and indeed they owe it
to them. For if the Gentiles have shared
in the Jews' spiritual blessings, they
owe it to the Jews to share with them
their material blessings.[x] 28So after I
have completed this task and have
made sure that they have received this
fruit, I will go to Spain[y] and visit you
on the way. 29I know that when I come
to you,[z] I will come in the full measure
of the blessing of Christ.

14:23 [a]ver 5
15:1 [b]Ro 14:1; 1Th 5:14
15:2 [c]S 1Co 10:24 [d]S Ro 14:19
15:3 [e]2Co 8:9 [f]Ps 69:9
15:4 [g]S Ro 4:23, 24
15:5 [h]Ro 12:16; 1Co 1:10; 2Co 13:11; Eph 4:3; Php 2:2; Col 3:14; 1Pe 3:8
15:6 [i]Ps 34:3 [j]Rev 1:6
15:7 [k]Ro 14:1
15:8 [l]Mt 15:24; Ac 3:25, 26 [m]2Co 1:20
15:9 [n]S Ro 3:29 [o]S Mt 9:8 [p]2Sa 22:50; Ps 18:49
15:10 [q]Dt 32:43; Isa 66:10
15:11 [r]Ps 117:1
15:12 [s]S Rev 5:5 [t]Isa 11:10; Mt 12:21
15:13 [u]Ro 14:17 [v]ver 19; 1Co 2:4; 4:20; 1Th 1:5
15:14 [w]Eph 5:9 [x]S 2Co 8:7; 2Pe 1:12
15:15 [y]S Ro 12:3
15:16 [z]S Ac 9:15 [a]ver 19; S Ro 1:1 [b]Isa 66:20
15:17 [c]Php 3:3 [d]Heb 2:17
15:18 [e]Ac 15:12; 21:19; Ro 1:5 [f]Ro 16:26
15:19 [g]S Jn 4:48; Ac 19:11 [h]S ver 13 [i]Ac 22:17-21 [j]S 2Co 2:12
15:20 [k]Ro 1:15 [l]2Co 10:15, 16
15:21 [m]Isa 52:15
15:22 [n]Ro 1:13
15:23 [o]Ac 19:21; Ro 1:10, 11
15:24 [p]ver 28 [q]1Co 16:6; Tit 3:13
15:25 [r]S Ac 19:21 [s]S Ac 24:17 [t]S Ac 9:13
15:26 [u]S Ac 16:9 [v]S Ac 18:12 [w]S Ac 24:17
15:27 [x]1Co 9:11
15:28 [y]ver 24
15:29 [z]Ro 1:10, 11

[h]*3* Psalm 69:9 [i]*8* Greek *circumcision* [j]*9* 2 Samuel 22:50; Psalm 18:49 [k]*10* Deut. 32:43 [l]*11* Psalm 117:1 [m]*12* Isaiah 11:10 [n]*21* Isaiah 52:15

30I urge you, brothers, by our Lord
Jesus Christ and by the love of the
Spirit,[a] to join me in my struggle by
praying to God for me.[b] 31Pray that I
may be rescued[c] from the unbelievers
in Judea and that my service[d] in
Jerusalem may be acceptable to the
saints[e] there, 32so that by God's will[f] I
may come to you[g] with joy and to-
gether with you be refreshed.[h] 33The
God of peace[i] be with you all. Amen.

Personal Greetings

16 1I commend[j] to you our sister
Phoebe, a servant[o] of the church
in Cenchrea.[k] 2I ask you to receive her
in the Lord[l] in a way worthy of the
saints[m] and to give her any help she
may need from you, for she has been a
great help to many people, including
me.

3Greet Priscilla[p] and Aquila,[n] my fel-
low workers[o] in Christ Jesus.[p]
4They risked their lives for me.
Not only I but all the churches
of the Gentiles are grateful to
them.
5Greet also the church that meets at
their house.[q]
Greet my dear friend Epenetus, who
was the first convert[r] to Christ in
the province of Asia.[s]
6Greet Mary, who worked very hard
for you.
7Greet Andronicus and Junias, my
relatives[t] who have been in pris-
on with me.[u] They are outstand-
ing among the apostles, and they
were in Christ[v] before I was.
8Greet Ampliatus, whom I love in the
Lord.
9Greet Urbanus, our fellow worker in
Christ,[w] and my dear friend Sta-
chys.
10Greet Apelles, tested and approved
in Christ.[x]
Greet those who belong to the house-
hold[y] of Aristobulus.
11Greet Herodion, my relative.[z]
Greet those in the household[a] of
Narcissus who are in the Lord.
12Greet Tryphena and Tryphosa, those
women who work hard in the
Lord.
Greet my dear friend Persis, another
woman who has worked very
hard in the Lord.

15:30 [a]Gal 5:22; Col 1:8 [b]2Co 1:11; Col 4:12 **15:31** [c]2Co 1:10; 2Th 3:2; 2Ti 3:11; 2Pe 2:9 [d]ver 25; S Ac 24:17 [e]S Ac 9:13 **15:32** [f]S Ac 18:21 [g]Ro 1:10,13 [h]1Co 16:18; Phm 7 **15:33** [i]Ro 16:20; 2Co 13:11; Php 4:9; 1Th 5:23; 2Th 3:16; Heb 13:20 **16:1** [j]S 2Co 3:1 [k]Ac 18:18 **16:2** [l]Php 2:29 [m]S Ac 9:13 **16:3** [n]S Ac 18:2 [o]S Php 2:25 [p]ver 7,9,10; Ro 8:1, 39; 1Co 1:30; 2Co 5:17; Gal 1:22; 5:6; Eph 1:13 **16:5** [q]1Co 16:19; Col 4:15; Phm 2 [r]1Co 16:15 [s]S Ac 2:9 **16:7** [t]ver 11,21 [u]Col 4:10; Phm 23 [v]S ver 3 **16:9** [w]S ver 3 **16:10** [x]S ver 3 [y]S Ac 11:14 **16:11** [z]ver 7,21 [a]S Ac 11:14 **16:13** [b]Mk 15:21 [c]S 2Jn 1 **16:15** [d]ver 2; S Ac 9:13 [e]ver 14 **16:16** [f]1Co 16:20; 2Co 13:12; 1Th 5:26; 1Pe 5:14 **16:17** [g]Gal 1:8, 9; 1Ti 1:3; 6:3 [h]Mt 18:15-17; 1Co 5:11; 2Th 3:6,14; 2Ti 3:5; Tit 3:10; 2Jn 10 **16:18** [i]Ro 14:18 [j]Php 3:19 [k]2Sa 15:6; Ps 12:2; Isa 30:10; Col 2:4 **16:19** [l]Ro 1:8 [m]S 1Co 14:20 **16:20** [n]S Ro 15:33 [o]Ge 3:15 [p]S Mt 4:10 [q]2Co 13:14; S Gal 6:18; 1Th 5:28; Rev 22:21 **16:21** [r]S Ac 16:1 [s]Ac 13:1 [t]Ac 17:5 [u]ver 7, 11 **16:23** [v]S Ac 19:29 [w]Ac 19:22; 2Ti 4:20 **16:25** [x]2Co 9:8; Eph 3:20; Jude 24 [y]Ro 2:16;

13Greet Rufus,[b] chosen[c] in the Lord,
and his mother, who has been a
mother to me, too.
14Greet Asyncritus, Phlegon, Hermes,
Patrobas, Hermas and the broth-
ers with them.
15Greet Philologus, Julia, Nereus and
his sister, and Olympas and all
the saints[d] with them.[e]
16Greet one another with a holy kiss.[f]
All the churches of Christ send greet-
ings.

17I urge you, brothers, to watch out
for those who cause divisions and put
obstacles in your way that are contrary
to the teaching you have learned.[g]
Keep away from them.[h] 18For such
people are not serving our Lord
Christ,[i] but their own appetites.[j] By
smooth talk and flattery they deceive[k]
the minds of naive people. 19Everyone
has heard[l] about your obedience, so I
am full of joy over you; but I want you
to be wise about what is good, and in-
nocent about what is evil.[m]
20The God of peace[n] will soon crush[o]
Satan[p] under your feet.
The grace of our Lord Jesus be with
you.[q]
21Timothy,[r] my fellow worker,
sends his greetings to you, as do Luci-
us,[s] Jason[t] and Sosipater, my rela-
tives.[u]
22I, Tertius, who wrote down this let-
ter, greet you in the Lord.
23Gaius,[v] whose hospitality I and the
whole church here enjoy, sends you
his greetings.
Erastus,[w] who is the city's director of
public works, and our brother Quartus
send you their greetings.[q]
25Now to him who is able[x] to estab-
lish you by my gospel[y] and the procla-
mation of Jesus Christ, according to the
revelation of the mystery[z] hidden for
long ages past, 26but now revealed and
made known through the prophetic
writings[a] by the command of the eter-
nal God, so that all nations might be-
lieve and obey[b] him— 27to the only
wise God be glory forever through
Jesus Christ! Amen.[c]

2Ti 2:8 [z]Isa 48:6; Eph 1:9; 3:3-6,9; Col 1:26,27; 2:2; 1Ti 3:16 **16:26** [a]Ro 1:2 [b]Ro 1:5 **16:27** [c]S Ro 11:36

[o]1 Or *deaconess* [p]3 Greek *Prisca*, a variant of *Priscilla* [q]23 Some manuscripts *their greetings.* 24*May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with all of you. Amen.*

1 Corinthians

1 Paul, called to be an apostle[a] of Christ Jesus by the will of God,[b] and our brother Sosthenes,[c]

2To the church of God[d] in Corinth,[e] to those sanctified in Christ Jesus and called[f] to be holy, together with all those everywhere who call on the name[g] of our Lord Jesus Christ—their Lord and ours:

3Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.[h]

Thanksgiving

4I always thank God for you[i] because of his grace given you in Christ Jesus. 5For in him you have been enriched[j] in every way—in all your speaking and in all your knowledge[k]— 6because our testimony[l] about Christ was confirmed in you. 7Therefore you do not lack any spiritual gift[m] as you eagerly wait for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed.[n] 8He will keep you strong to the end, so that you will be blameless[o] on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.[p] 9God, who has called you[q] into fellowship with his Son Jesus Christ our Lord,[r] is faithful.[s]

Divisions in the Church

10I appeal to you, brothers,[t] in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another so that there may be no divisions among you[u] and that you may be perfectly united[v] in mind and thought. 11My brothers, some from Chloe's household[w] have informed me that there are quarrels among you. 12What I mean is this: One of you says, "I follow Paul";[x] another, "I follow Apollos";[y] another, "I follow Cephas[a]";[z] still another, "I follow Christ."

13Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Were you baptized into[b] the name of Paul?[a] 14I am thankful that I did not baptize any of you except Crispus[b] and Gaius,[c] 15so no one can say that you were baptized into my name. 16(Yes, I also baptized the household[d] of Stephanas;[e] beyond that, I don't remember if I baptized anyone else.) 17For Christ did not send me to baptize,[f] but to preach the gospel—not with words of human wisdom,[g] lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

Christ the Wisdom and Power of God

18For the message of the cross is foolishness[h] to those who are perishing,[i] but to us who are being saved[j] it is the power of God.[k] 19For it is written:

"I will destroy the wisdom of the wise;
the intelligence of the intelligent I will frustrate."[c][l]

20Where is the wise man?[m] Where is the scholar? Where is the philosopher of this age?[n] Has not God made foolish[o] the wisdom of the world? 21For since in the wisdom of God the world[p] through its wisdom did not know him, God was pleased through the foolishness of what was preached to save[q] those who believe.[r] 22Jews demand miraculous signs[s] and Greeks look for wisdom, 23but we preach Christ crucified:[t] a stumbling block[u] to Jews and foolishness[v] to Gentiles, 24but to those whom God has called,[w] both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God[x] and the wisdom of God.[y] 25For the foolishness[z] of God is wiser than man's wisdom, and the weakness[a] of God is stronger than man's strength.

26Brothers, think of what you were when you were called.[b] Not many of you were wise[c] by human standards; not many were influential; not many were of noble birth. 27But God chose[d] the foolish[e] things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the

1:1 [a]Ro 1:1; Eph 1:1; 2Ti 1:1 [b]S 2Co 1:1 [c]Ac 18:17 **1:2** [d]S 1Co 10:32 [e]S Ac 18:1 [f]Ro 1:7 [g]S Ac 2:21 **1:3** [h]S Ro 1:7 **1:4** [i]S Ro 1:8 **1:5** [j]2Co 9:11 [k]S 2Co 8:7 **1:6** [l]2Th 1:10; 1Ti 2:6; Rev 1:2 **1:7** [m]Ro 1:11; 1Co 12:1-31 [n]S Mt 16:27; S Lk 17:30; 1Th 1:10; S 2:19; Tit 2:13; Jas 5:7, 8; 1Pe 1:13; 2Pe 3:12; S Rev 1:7 **1:8** [o]S 1Th 3:13 [p]Am 5:18; 1Co 5:5; Php 1:6,10; 2:16; 1Th 5:2 **1:9** [q]S Ro 8:28 [r]1Jn 1:3 [s]Dt 7:9; Isa 49:7; 1Co 10:13; 1Th 5:24; 2Th 3:3; 2Ti 2:13; Heb 10:23; 11:11 **1:10** [t]S Ro 7:1 [u]1Co 11:18 [v]S Ro 15:5 **1:11** [w]S Ac 11:14 **1:12** [x]1Co 3:4, 22 [y]S Ac 18:24 [z]Jn 1:42; 1Co 3:22; 9:5 **1:13** [a]S Mt 28:19 **1:14** [b]Ac 18:8 [c]S Ac 19:29 **1:16** [d]S Ac 11:14 [e]1Co 16:15 **1:17** [f]Jn 4:2; S Ac 2:38 [g]1Co 2:1,4,13 **1:18** [h]ver 21,23, 25; 1Co 2:14 [i]2Co 2:15; 4:3; 2Th 2:10 [j]Ac 2:47 [k]ver 24; Ro 1:16 **1:19** [l]Isa 29:14 **1:20** [m]Isa 19:11, 12 [n]1Co 2:6,8; 3:18; 2Co 4:4; Gal 1:4 [o]ver 27; Job 12:17; Isa 44:25; Jer 8:9; Ro 1:22; 1Co 3:18,19 **1:21** [p]ver 27,28; 1Co 6:2; 11:32 [q]S Ro 11:14 [r]S Ro 3:22 **1:22** [s]S Mt 12:38; S Jn 2:11; S 4:48 **1:23** [t]1Co 2:2; Gal 3:1 [u]S Lk 2:34 [v]S ver 18

1:24 [w]S Ro 8:28 [x]ver 18; Ro 1:16 [y]ver 30; S Col 2:3 **1:25** [z]S ver 18 [a]2Co 13:4 **1:26** [b]S Ro 8:28 [c]ver 20 **1:27** [d]Jas 2:5 [e]ver 20; Ro 1:22; 1Co 3:18,19

[a]12 That is, Peter [b]13 Or *in*; also in verse 15
[c]19 Isaiah 29:14

strong. [28]He chose the lowly things of
this world and the despised things—
and the things that *are not*[s]—to nullify
the things that are, [29]so that no one
may boast before him.[t] [30]It is because
of him that you are in Christ Jesus,[u]
who has become for us wisdom from
God—that is, our righteousness,[v] holi-
ness[w] and redemption.[x] [31]Therefore,
as it is written: "Let him who boasts
boast in the Lord."[d][y]

2 When I came to you, brothers, I did
not come with eloquence or supe-
rior wisdom[h] as I proclaimed to you
the testimony about God.[e] [2]For I re-
solved to know nothing while I was
with you except Jesus Christ and him
crucified.[i] [3]I came to you[j] in weak-
ness[k] and fear, and with much trem-
bling.[l] [4]My message and my preaching
were not with wise and persuasive
words,[m] but with a demonstration of
the Spirit's power,[n] [5]so that your faith
might not rest on men's wisdom, but
on God's power.[o]

Wisdom From the Spirit

[6]We do, however, speak a message
of wisdom among the mature,[p] but not
the wisdom of this age[q] or of the rulers
of this age, who are coming to noth-
ing.[r] [7]No, we speak of God's secret
wisdom, a wisdom[s] that has been hid-
den[t] and that God destined for our
glory before time began. [8]None of the
rulers of this age[u] understood it, for if
they had, they would not have cruci-
fied the Lord of glory.[v] [9]However, as it
is written:

"No eye has seen,
no ear has heard,
no mind has conceived
what God has prepared for those
who love him"[f][w]—

[10]but God has revealed[x] it to us by his
Spirit.[y]
The Spirit searches all things, even
the deep things of God. [11]For who
among men knows the thoughts of a
man[z] except the man's spirit[a] within
him? In the same way no one knows
the thoughts of God except the Spirit of
God. [12]We have not received the spirit[b]
of the world[c] but the Spirit who is
from God, that we may understand
what God has freely given us. [13]This is
what we speak, not in words taught us
by human wisdom[d] but in words
taught by the Spirit, expressing spiri-
tual truths in spiritual words.[g] [14]The
man without the Spirit does not accept

1:28 [s]Ro 4:17
1:29 [t]Eph 2:9
1:30 [u]S Ro 16:3
[v]Jer 23:5,6;
33:16; 2Co 5:21;
Php 3:9 [w]1Co 1:2
[x]S Ro 3:24
1:31 [y]Jer 9:23,
24; Ps 34:2; 44:8;
2Co 10:17
2:1 [h]ver 4,13;
1Co 1:17
2:2 [i]Gal 6:14;
1Co 1:23
2:3 [j]Ac 18:1-18
[k]1Co 4:10; 9:22;
2Co 11:29,30;
12:5,9,10; 13:9
[l]S 2Co 7:15
2:4 [m]ver 1
[n]S Ro 15:13
2:5 [o]2Co 4:7; 6:7
2:6 [p]Eph 4:13;
Php 3:15;
Col 4:12;
Heb 5:14; 6:1;
Jas 1:4 [q]ver 8;
S 1Co 1:20
[r]Ps 146:4
2:7 [s]ver 1
[t]Ro 16:25
2:8 [u]ver 6;
S 1Co 1:20
[v]Ps 24:7; Ac 7:2;
Jas 2:1
2:9 [w]Isa 64:4;
65:17
2:10
[x]S Mt 13:11;
2Co 12:1,7;
Gal 1:12; 2:2;
Eph 3:3,5
[y]Jn 14:26
2:11 [z]Jer 17:9
[a]Pr 20:27
2:12 [b]Ro 8:15
[c]1Co 1:20,27;
Jas 2:5
2:13 [d]ver 1,4;
1Co 1:17
2:14 [e]Jn 14:17
[f]S 1Co 1:18
2:15 [g]1Co 3:1;
Gal 6:1
2:16 [h]Isa 40:13;
S Ro 11:34
[i]Jn 15:15
3:1 [j]1Co 2:15
[k]Ro 7:14;
1Co 2:14
[l]1Co 14:20
3:2
[m]Heb 5:12-14;
1Pe 2:2 [n]Jn 16:12
3:3 [o]Ro 13:13;
1Co 1:11;
Gal 5:20
3:4 [p]1Co 1:12
3:5 [q]S Ac 18:24
[r]1Co 4:1;
2Co 6:4; Eph 3:7;
Col 1:23,25
3:6 [s]Ac 18:4-11;
1Co 4:15; 9:1;
15:1
3:8 [t]ver 14;
Ps 18:20; 62:12;
Mt 25:21;
1Co 9:17
3:9 [u]Mk 16:20;
2Co 6:1; 1Th 3:2
[v]Isa 61:3
[w]Eph 2:20-22;
1Pe 2:5
3:10 [x]S Ro 12:3
[y]Ro 15:20;
S Eph 2:20
3:11 [z]Isa 28:16;
Eph 2:20
3:13 [a]1Co 4:5
[b]S 1Co 1:8;
2Th 1:7-10;
2Ti 1:12,18; 4:8

the things that come from the Spirit of
God,[e] for they are foolishness[f] to him,
and he cannot understand them, be-
cause they are spiritually discerned.
[15]The spiritual[g] man makes judgments
about all things, but he himself is not
subject to any man's judgment:

[16]"For who has known the mind of
the Lord
that he may instruct him?"[h][h]

But we have the mind of Christ.[i]

On Divisions in the Church

3 Brothers, I could not address you as
spiritual[j] but as worldly[k]—mere
infants[l] in Christ. [2]I gave you milk, not
solid food,[m] for you were not yet ready
for it.[n] Indeed, you are still not ready.
[3]You are still worldly. For since there is
jealousy and quarreling[o] among you,
are you not worldly? Are you not act-
ing like mere men? [4]For when one
says, "I follow Paul," and another, "I
follow Apollos,"[p] are you not mere
men?
[5]What, after all, is Apollos?[q] And
what is Paul? Only servants,[r] through
whom you came to believe—as the
Lord has assigned to each his task. [6]I
planted the seed,[s] Apollos watered it,
but God made it grow. [7]So neither he
who plants nor he who waters is any-
thing, but only God, who makes things
grow. [8]The man who plants and the
man who waters have one purpose,
and each will be rewarded according to
his own labor.[t] [9]For we are God's fel-
low workers;[u] you are God's field,[v]
God's building.[w]
[10]By the grace God has given me,[x] I
laid a foundation[y] as an expert builder,
and someone else is building on it. But
each one should be careful how he
builds. [11]For no one can lay any foun-
dation other than the one already laid,
which is Jesus Christ.[z] [12]If any man
builds on this foundation using gold,
silver, costly stones, wood, hay or
straw, [13]his work will be shown for
what it is,[a] because the Day[b] will bring
it to light. It will be revealed with fire,
and the fire will test the quality of each
man's work.[c] [14]If what he has built
survives, he will receive his reward.[d]
[15]If it is burned up, he will suffer loss;

[c]Nu 31:22,23; Jer 23:28,29; Mal 3:3; S 2Th 1:7 **3:14** [d]S ver 8

[d]31 Jer. 9:24 [e]1 Some manuscripts as *I proclaimed to you God's mystery* [f]9 Isaiah 64:4 [g]13 Or *Spirit, interpreting spiritual truths to spiritual men* [h]16 Isaiah 40:13

he himself will be saved, but only as
one escaping through the flames.[a]
16Don't you know that you your-
selves are God's temple[b] and that
God's Spirit lives in you?[c] 17If anyone
destroys God's temple, God will de-
stroy him; for God's temple is sacred,
and you are that temple.
18Do not deceive yourselves. If any
one of you thinks he is wise[d] by the
standards of this age,[e] he should
become a "fool" so that he may become
wise. 19For the wisdom of this world is
foolishness[f] in God's sight. As it is
written: "He catches the wise in their
craftiness"[i][g]; 20and again, "The Lord
knows that the thoughts of the wise are
futile."[j][h] 21So then, no more boasting
about men![i] All things are yours,[j]
22whether Paul or Apollos[k] or Ce-
phas[k][l] or the world or life or death or
the present or the future[m]—all are
yours, 23and you are of Christ,[n] and
Christ is of God.

Apostles of Christ

4 So then, men ought to regard us as
servants[o] of Christ and as those en-
trusted[p] with the secret things[q] of
God. 2Now it is required that those
who have been given a trust must
prove faithful. 3I care very little if I am
judged by you or by any human court;
indeed, I do not even judge myself.
4My conscience[r] is clear, but that does
not make me innocent.[s] It is the Lord
who judges me.[t] 5Therefore judge
nothing[u] before the appointed time;
wait till the Lord comes.[v] He will bring
to light[w] what is hidden in darkness
and will expose the motives of men's
hearts. At that time each will receive
his praise from God.[x]
6Now, brothers, I have applied these
things to myself and Apollos for your
benefit, so that you may learn from us
the meaning of the saying, "Do not go
beyond what is written."[y] Then you
will not take pride in one man over
against another.[z] 7For who makes you
different from anyone else? What do
you have that you did not receive?[a]
And if you did receive it, why do you
boast as though you did not?
8Already you have all you want! Al-
ready you have become rich![b] You
have become kings—and that without
us! How I wish that you really had
become kings so that we might be
kings with you! 9For it seems to me that
God has put us apostles on display at
the end of the procession, like men

3:15 aJude 23 **3:16** bS 1Co 6:19 cRo 8:9 **3:18** dIsa 5:21 eS 1Co 1:20 **3:19** fver 18; S 1Co 1:20,27 gJob 5:13 **3:20** hPs 94:11 **3:21** i1Co 4:6 jRo 8:32 **3:22** kver 5,6 l1Co 1:12 mRo 8:38 **3:23** n1Co 15:23; 2Co 10:7; Gal 3:29 **4:1** oS 1Co 3:5 p1Co 9:17; Tit 1:7 qS Ro 16:25 **4:4** rS Ac 23:1 sRo 2:13 t2Co 10:18 **4:5** uS Mt 7:1,2 vS 1Th 2:19 wJob 12:22; Ps 90:8; 1Co 3:13 xS Ro 2:29 **4:6** y1Co 1:19,31; 3:19,20 z1Co 1:12; 3:4 **4:7** aJn 3:27; Ro 12:3,6 **4:8** bRev 3:17,18
4:9 cS Ro 8:36 dPs 71:7; Heb 10:33 **4:10** eS 1Co 1:18; Ac 17:18; 26:24 f1Co 3:18; 2Co 11:19 gS 1Co 2:3 **4:11** hRo 8:35; 2Co 11:23-27 **4:12** iS Ac 18:3 jRo 12:14; 1Pe 3:9 kS Mt 5:44 **4:13** lJer 20:18; La 3:45 **4:14** m1Co 6:5; 15:34; 2Th 3:14 nS 1Th 2:11 **4:15** oS ver 14 p1Co 9:12,14,18,23; 15:1 **4:16** q1Co 11:1; Php 3:17; 4:9; 1Th 1:6; 2Th 3:7,9 **4:17** r1Co 16:10 sS Ac 16:1 tS 1Ti 1:2 uS 1Co 7:17 **4:18** vJer 43:2 wver 21 **4:19** x1Co 16:5,6; 2Co 1:15,16 yS Ac 18:21 **4:20** zRo 14:17 aS Ro 15:13 **4:21** b2Co 1:23; 2:1; 13:2,10 **5:1** cLev 18:8; Dt 22:30; 27:20 **5:2** d2Co 7:7-11 ever 13 **5:3** fCol 2:5; 1Th 2:17 **5:4** g2Th 3:6 **5:5** h1Ti 1:20

condemned to die[c] in the arena. We
have been made a spectacle[d] to the
whole universe, to angels as well as to
men. 10We are fools for Christ,[e] but
you are so wise in Christ![f] We are
weak, but you are strong![g] You are
honored, we are dishonored! 11To this
very hour we go hungry and thirsty,
we are in rags, we are brutally treated,
we are homeless.[h] 12We work hard
with our own hands.[i] When we are
cursed, we bless;[j] when we are perse-
cuted,[k] we endure it; 13when we are
slandered, we answer kindly. Up to
this moment we have become the scum
of the earth, the refuse[l] of the world.
14I am not writing this to shame
you,[m] but to warn you, as my dear chil-
dren.[n] 15Even though you have ten
thousand guardians in Christ, you do
not have many fathers, for in Christ
Jesus I became your father[o] through
the gospel.[p] 16Therefore I urge you to
imitate me.[q] 17For this reason I am
sending to you[r] Timothy,[s] my son[t]
whom I love, who is faithful in the
Lord. He will remind you of my way of
life in Christ Jesus, which agrees with
what I teach everywhere in every
church.[u]
18Some of you have become arro-
gant,[v] as if I were not coming to you.[w]
19But I will come to you very soon,[x] if
the Lord is willing,[y] and then I will
find out not only how these arrogant
people are talking, but what power
they have. 20For the kingdom of God is
not a matter of[z] talk but of power.[a]
21What do you prefer? Shall I come to
you with a whip,[b] or in love and with a
gentle spirit?

Expel the Immoral Brother!

5 It is actually reported that there is
sexual immorality among you, and
of a kind that does not occur even
among pagans: A man has his father's
wife.[c] 2And you are proud! Shouldn't
you rather have been filled with grief[d]
and have put out of your fellowship[e]
the man who did this? 3Even though I
am not physically present, I am with
you in spirit.[f] And I have already
passed judgment on the one who did
this, just as if I were present. 4When
you are assembled in the name of our
Lord Jesus[g] and I am with you in
spirit, and the power of our Lord Jesus
is present, 5hand this man over[h] to Sa-

i19 Job 5:13 j20 Psalm 94:11 k22 That is, Peter

man,[x] so that the sinful nature[b] may be destroyed and his spirit saved on the day of the Lord.[y]

[6]Your boasting is not good.[z] Don't you know that a little yeast[a] works through the whole batch of dough?[b] [7]Get rid of the old yeast that you may be a new batch without yeast—as you really are. For Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed.[c] [8]Therefore let us keep the Festival, not with the old yeast, the yeast of malice and wickedness, but with bread without yeast,[d] the bread of sincerity and truth.

[9]I have written you in my letter not to associate[e] with sexually immoral people— [10]not at all meaning the people of this world[f] who are immoral, or the greedy and swindlers, or idolaters. In that case you would have to leave this world. [11]But now I am writing you that you must not associate with anyone who calls himself a brother[g] but is sexually immoral or greedy, an idolater[h] or a slanderer, a drunkard or a swindler. With such a man do not even eat.[i]

[12]What business is it of mine to judge those outside[j] the church? Are you not to judge those inside?[k] [13]God will judge those outside. "Expel the wicked man from among you."[c][l]

Lawsuits Among Believers

6 If any of you has a dispute with another, dare he take it before the ungodly for judgment instead of before the saints?[m] [2]Do you not know that the saints will judge the world?[n] And if you are to judge the world, are you not competent to judge trivial cases? [3]Do you not know that we will judge angels? How much more the things of this life! [4]Therefore, if you have disputes about such matters, appoint as judges even men of little account in the church![d] [5]I say this to shame you.[o] Is it possible that there is nobody among you wise enough to judge a dispute between believers?[p] [6]But instead, one brother[q] goes to law against another—and this in front of unbelievers![r]

[7]The very fact that you have lawsuits among you means you have been completely defeated already. Why not rather be wronged? Why not rather be cheated?[s] [8]Instead, you yourselves cheat and do wrong, and you do this to your brothers.[t]

[9]Do you not know that the wicked will not inherit the kingdom of God?[u] Do not be deceived:[v] Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers[z] nor male prostitutes nor homosexual offenders[a] [10]nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers[b] will inherit the kingdom of God. [11]And that is what some of you were.[c] But you were washed,[d] you were sanctified,[e] you were justified[f] in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

Sexual Immorality

[12]"Everything is permissible for me"—but not everything is beneficial.[g] "Everything is permissible for me"—but I will not be mastered by anything. [13]"Food for the stomach and the stomach for food"—but God will destroy them both.[h] The body is not meant for sexual immorality, but for the Lord,[i] and the Lord for the body. [14]By his power God raised the Lord from the dead,[j] and he will raise us also.[k] [15]Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ himself?[l] Shall I then take the members of Christ and unite them with a prostitute? Never! [16]Do you not know that he who unites himself with a prostitute is one with her in body? For it is said, "The two will become one flesh."[e][m] [17]But he who unites himself with the Lord is one with him in spirit.[n]

[18]Flee from sexual immorality.[o] All other sins a man commits are outside his body, but he who sins sexually sins against his own body.[p] [19]Do you not know that your body is a temple[q] of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own;[r] [20]you were bought at a price.[s] Therefore honor God with your body.[t]

Marriage

7 Now for the matters you wrote about: It is good for a man not to marry.[f][u] [2]But since there is so much immorality, each man should have his own wife, and each woman her own husband. [3]The husband should fulfill his marital duty to his wife,[v] and likewise the wife to her husband. [4]The wife's body does not belong to her alone but also to her husband. In the same way, the husband's body does not belong to him alone but also to his

5:5 Mt 4:10; 1Co 1:8 · 5:6 Jas 4:16; Gal 5:9 · 5:7 Ex 12:3-6; Mk 14:12; 1Pe 1:19 · 5:8 Ex 12:19; Dt 16:3 · 5:9 Eph 5:11; 2Th 3:6,14 · 5:10 1Co 10:27 · 5:11 Ro 1:29; 1Co 10:7,14 · 5:12 Mk 4:11; 1Co 6:1-4 · 5:13 Dt 13:5; 17:7; 19:19; 22:21,24; 24:7 · 6:1 Mt 18:17 · 6:2 Mt 19:28; Lk 22:30; 1Co 5:12 · 6:5 1Co 4:14; Ac 1:15 · 6:6 2Co 6:14,15; 1Ti 5:8 · 6:7 Mt 5:39,40 · 6:8 1Th 4:6 · 6:9 Mt 25:34; Jas 1:16; 1Co 15:33; Gal 6:7; Jas 1:16 · Lev 18:20; Dt 22:22; Lev 18:22 · 6:10 1Ti 1:10; Rev 21:8; 22:15 · 6:11 Eph 2:2; Ac 22:16; 1Co 1:2; Ro 4:25 · 6:12 1Co 10:23 · 6:13 Col 2:22; ver 15,19; Ro 12:1 · 6:14 Ac 2:24; Ro 6:5; Eph 1:19,20; 1Th 4:16 · 6:15 Ro 12:5 · 6:16 Ge 2:24; Mt 19:5; Eph 5:31 · 6:17 Jn 17:21-23; Ro 8:9-11; Gal 2:20 · 6:18 ver 9; 1Co 5:1; 2Co 12:21; Gal 5:19; Eph 5:3; 1Th 4:3,4; Heb 13:4; Ro 6:12 · 6:19 Jn 2:21; Ro 14:7,8 · 6:20 Ps 74:2; Mt 20:28; Ac 20:28; 1Co 7:23; Rev 5:9; 14:4; Php 1:20 · 7:1 ver 8,26 · 7:3 Ex 21:10; 1Pe 3:7

b5 Or *that his body;* or *that the flesh* c13 Deut. 17:7; 19:19; 21:21; 22:21,24; 24:7 d4 Or *matters, do you appoint as judges men of little account in the church?* e16 Gen. 2:24 f1 Or *"It is good for a man not to have sexual relations with a woman."*

wife. 5Do not deprive each other except
by mutual consent and for a time,[a] so
that you may devote yourselves to
prayer. Then come together again so
that Satan[b] will not tempt you[c] be-
cause of your lack of self-control. 6I say
this as a concession, not as a com-
mand.[d] 7I wish that all men were as I
am.[e] But each man has his own gift
from God; one has this gift, another
has that.[f]

8Now to the unmarried and the wid-
ows I say: It is good for them to stay
unmarried, as I am.[g] 9But if they can-
not control themselves, they should
marry,[h] for it is better to marry than to
burn with passion.

10To the married I give this command
(not I, but the Lord): A wife must not
separate from her husband.[i] 11But if
she does, she must remain unmarried
or else be reconciled to her husband.[j]
And a husband must not divorce his
wife.

12To the rest I say this (I, not the
Lord):[k] If any brother has a wife who is
not a believer and she is willing to live
with him, he must not divorce her.
13And if a woman has a husband who
is not a believer and he is willing to live
with her, she must not divorce him.
14For the unbelieving husband has
been sanctified through his wife, and
the unbelieving wife has been sancti-
fied through her believing husband.
Otherwise your children would be un-
clean, but as it is, they are holy.[l]

15But if the unbeliever leaves, let him
do so. A believing man or woman is
not bound in such circumstances; God
has called us to live in peace.[m] 16How
do you know, wife, whether you will
save[n] your husband?[o] Or, how do you
know, husband, whether you will save
your wife?

17Nevertheless, each one should re-
tain the place in life that the Lord as-
signed to him and to which God has
called him.[p] This is the rule I lay down
in all the churches.[q] 18Was a man al-
ready circumcised when he was called?
He should not become uncircumcised.
Was a man uncircumcised when he
was called? He should not be circum-
cised.[r] 19Circumcision is nothing and
uncircumcision is nothing.[s] Keeping
God's commands is what counts.
20Each one should remain in the situa-
tion which he was in when God called
him.[t] 21Were you a slave when you
were called? Don't let it trouble you—
although if you can gain your freedom,

7:5 [a]Ex 19:15; 1Sa 21:4,5 [b]S Mt 4:10 [c]1Th 3:5
7:6 [d]2Co 8:8
7:7 [e]ver 8; 1Co 9:5 [f]Mt 19:11,12; Ro 12:6; 1Co 12:4,11
7:8 [g]ver 1,26
7:9 [h]1Ti 5:14
7:10 [i]Mal 2:14-16; S Lk 16:18
7:11 [j]ver 39; Ro 7:2,3
7:12 [k]ver 6,10; 2Co 11:17
7:14 [l]Mal 2:15
7:15 [m]S Ro 14:19; 1Co 14:33
7:16 [n]S Ro 11:14 [o]1Pe 3:1
7:17 [p]Ro 12:3 [q]1Co 4:17; 14:33; 2Co 8:18; 11:28
7:18 [r]Ac 15:1,2
7:19 [s]Ro 2:25-27; Gal 5:6; 6:15; Col 3:11
7:20 [t]ver 24

do so. 22For he who was a slave when
he was called by the Lord is the Lord's
freedman;[u] similarly, he who was a
free man when he was called is Christ's
slave.[v] 23You were bought at a price;[w]
do not become slaves of men. 24Broth-
ers, each man, as responsible to God,
should remain in the situation God
called him to.[x]

25Now about virgins: I have no com-
mand from the Lord,[y] but I give a
judgment as one who by the Lord's
mercy[z] is trustworthy. 26Because of the
present crisis, I think that it is good for
you to remain as you are.[a] 27Are you
married? Do not seek a divorce. Are
you unmarried? Do not look for a
wife.[b] 28But if you do marry, you have
not sinned;[c] and if a virgin marries,
she has not sinned. But those who
marry will face many troubles in this
life, and I want to spare you this.

29What I mean, brothers, is that the
time is short.[d] From now on those who
have wives should live as if they had
none; 30those who mourn, as if they
did not; those who are happy, as if
they were not; those who buy some-
thing, as if it were not theirs to keep;
31those who use the things of the
world, as if not engrossed in them. For
this world in its present form is passing
away.[e]

32I would like you to be free from
concern. An unmarried man is con-
cerned about the Lord's affairs[f]—how
he can please the Lord. 33But a married
man is concerned about the affairs of
this world—how he can please his
wife— 34and his interests are divided.
An unmarried woman or virgin is con-
cerned about the Lord's affairs: Her
aim is to be devoted to the Lord in both
body and spirit.[g] But a married woman
is concerned about the affairs of this
world—how she can please her hus-
band. 35I am saying this for your own
good, not to restrict you, but that you
may live in a right way in undivided[h]
devotion to the Lord.

36If anyone thinks he is acting im-
properly toward the virgin he is en-
gaged to, and if she is getting along in
years and he feels he ought to marry,
he should do as he wants. He is not
sinning.[i] They should get married.
37But the man who has settled the mat-
ter in his own mind, who is under no
compulsion but has control over his
own will, and who has made up his
mind not to marry the virgin—this man
also does the right thing. 38So then, he

7:22 [u]Jn 8:32,36 [v]S Ro 6:22
7:23 [w]S 1Co 6:20
7:24 [x]ver 20
7:25 [y]ver 6; 2Co 8:8 [z]2Co 4:1; 1Ti 1:13,16
7:26 [a]ver 1,8
7:27 [b]ver 20,21
7:28 [c]ver 36
7:29 [d]ver 31; S Ro 13:11,12
7:31 [e]ver 29; S Heb 12:27
7:32 [f]1Ti 5:5
7:34 [g]Lk 2:37
7:35 [h]Ps 86:11
7:36 [i]ver 28

who marries the virgin does right,[a] but
he who does not marry her does even
better.[q]
39A woman is bound to her husband
as long as he lives.[b] But if her husband
dies, she is free to marry anyone she
wishes, but he must belong to the
Lord.[c] 40In my judgment,[d] she is hap-
pier if she stays as she is—and I think
that I too have the Spirit of God.

Food Sacrificed to Idols

8 Now about food sacrificed to
idols:[e] We know that we all pos-
sess knowledge.[r][f] Knowledge puffs
up, but love builds up. 2The man who
thinks he knows something[g] does not
yet know as he ought to know.[h] 3But
the man who loves God is known by
God.[i]
4So then, about eating food sacrificed
to idols:[j] We know that an idol is noth-
ing at all in the world[k] and that there is
no God but one.[l] 5For even if there are
so-called gods,[m] whether in heaven or
on earth (as indeed there are many
"gods" and many "lords"), 6yet for us
there is but one God,[n] the Father,[o]
from whom all things came[p] and for
whom we live; and there is but one
Lord,[q] Jesus Christ, through whom all
things came[r] and through whom we
live.
7But not everyone knows this.[s]
Some people are still so accustomed to
idols that when they eat such food they
think of it as having been sacrificed to
an idol, and since their conscience is
weak,[t] it is defiled. 8But food does not
bring us near to God;[u] we are no worse
if we do not eat, and no better if we do.
9Be careful, however, that the exer-
cise of your freedom does not become a
stumbling block[v] to the weak.[w] 10For if
anyone with a weak conscience sees
you who have this knowledge eating in
an idol's temple, won't he be embold-
ened to eat what has been sacrificed to
idols?[x] 11So this weak brother, for
whom Christ died, is destroyed[y] by
your knowledge. 12When you sin
against your brothers[z] in this way and
wound their weak conscience, you sin
against Christ.[a] 13Therefore, if what I
eat causes my brother to fall into sin, I
will never eat meat again, so that I will
not cause him to fall.[b]

The Rights of an Apostle

9 Am I not free?[c] Am I not an apos-
tle?[d] Have I not seen Jesus our
Lord?[e] Are you not the result of my
work in the Lord?[f] 2Even though I may
not be an apostle to others, surely I am
to you! For you are the seal[g] of my
apostleship in the Lord.
3This is my defense to those who sit
in judgment on me. 4Don't we have the
right to food and drink?[h] 5Don't we
have the right to take a believing wife[i]
along with us, as do the other apostles
and the Lord's brothers[j] and Ce-
phas[s]?[k] 6Or is it only I and Barnabas[l]
who must work for a living?
7Who serves as a soldier[m] at his own
expense? Who plants a vineyard[n] and
does not eat of its grapes? Who tends a
flock and does not drink of the milk?
8Do I say this merely from a human
point of view? Doesn't the Law say the
same thing? 9For it is written in the
Law of Moses: "Do not muzzle an ox
while it is treading out the grain."[t][o] Is
it about oxen that God is concerned?[p]
10Surely he says this for us, doesn't he?
Yes, this was written for us,[q] because
when the plowman plows and the
thresher threshes, they ought to do so
in the hope of sharing in the harvest.[r]
11If we have sown spiritual seed among
you, is it too much if we reap a material
harvest from you?[s] 12If others have this
right of support from you, shouldn't
we have it all the more?
But we did not use this right.[t] On
the contrary, we put up with anything
rather than hinder[u] the gospel of
Christ. 13Don't you know that those
who work in the temple get their food
from the temple, and those who serve
at the altar share in what is offered on
the altar?[v] 14In the same way, the Lord
has commanded that those who preach
the gospel should receive their living
from the gospel.[w]
15But I have not used any of these
rights.[x] And I am not writing this in
the hope that you will do such things
for me. I would rather die than have
anyone deprive me of this boast.[y] 16Yet
when I preach the gospel, I cannot
boast, for I am compelled to preach.[z]
Woe to me if I do not preach the gos-
pel! 17If I preach voluntarily, I have a

7:38 [a]Heb 13:4 **7:39** [b]Ro 7:2,3 [c]2Co 6:14 **7:40** [d]ver 25 **8:1** [e]ver 4,7,10; Ac 15:20 [f]Ro 15:14 **8:2** [g]1Co 3:18 [h]1Co 13:8,9,12; 1Ti 6:4 **8:3** [i]Jer 1:5; Ro 8:29; Gal 4:9 **8:4** [j]ver 1,7,10; Ex 34:15 [k]Ac 14:15; 1Co 10:19; Gal 4:8 [l]ver 6; Dt 6:4; Ps 86:10; Eph 4:6; 1Ti 2:5 **8:5** [m]2Th 2:4 **8:6** [n]S ver 4 [o]Mal 2:10 [p]S Ro 11:36 [q]Eph 4:5 [r]S Jn 1:3 **8:7** [s]ver 1 [t]Ro 14:14; 1Co 10:28 **8:8** [u]Ro 14:17 **8:9** [v]S 2Co 6:3; Gal 5:13 [w]Ro 14:1 **8:10** [x]ver 1,4,7 **8:11** [y]Ro 14:15, 20 **8:12** [z]Mt 18:6 [a]Mt 25:40,45 **8:13** [b]S Mt 5:29 **9:1** [c]ver 19 [d]S 1Co 1:1; 2Co 12:12 [e]S 1Co 15:8

[f]1Co 3:6; 4:15 **9:2** [g]2Co 3:2,3 **9:4** [h]ver 14; S Ac 18:3 **9:5** [i]1Co 7:7,8 [j]S Mt 12:46 [k]S 1Co 1:12 **9:6** [l]S Ac 4:36 **9:7** [m]2Ti 2:3,4 [n]Dt 20:6; Pr 27:18; 1Co 3:6,8 **9:9** [o]Dt 25:4; 1Ti 5:18 [p]Dt 22:1-4; Pr 12:10 **9:10** [q]S Ro 4:23, 24 [r]Pr 11:25; 2Ti 2:6 **9:11** [s]ver 14; Ro 15:27; Gal 6:6 **9:12** [t]ver 15,18; S Ac 18:3 [u]2Co 6:3; 11:7-12 **9:13** [v]Lev 6:16, 26; Dt 18:1 **9:14** [w]S 1Ti 5:18 **9:15** [x]ver 12,18; S Ac 18:3 [y]2Co 11:9,10 **9:16** [z]Ro 1:14; Ac 9:15; 26:16-18

[q]36-38 Or 36*If anyone thinks he is not treating his daughter properly, and if she is getting along in years, and he feels she ought to marry, he should do as he wants. He is not sinning. He should let her get married.* 37*But the man who has settled the matter in his own mind, who is under no compulsion but has control over his own will, and who has made up his mind to keep the virgin unmarried—this man also does the right thing.* 38*So then, he who gives his virgin in marriage does right, but he who does not give her in marriage does even better.* [r]1 Or "*We all possess knowledge," as you say* [s]5 That is, Peter [t]9 Deut. 25:4

reward;[a] if not voluntarily, I am simply
discharging the trust committed to
me.[b] 18What then is my reward? Just
this: that in preaching the gospel I may
offer it free of charge,[c] and so not
make use of my rights[d] in preaching it.
19Though I am free[e] and belong to
no man, I make myself a slave to every-
one,[f] to win as many as possible.[g]
20To the Jews I became like a Jew, to
win the Jews.[h] To those under the law
I became like one under the law
(though I myself am not under the
law),[i] so as to win those under the
law. 21To those not having the law I
became like one not having the law[j]
(though I am not free from God's law
but am under Christ's law),[k] so as to
win those not having the law. 22To the
weak I became weak, to win the
weak.[l] I have become all things to all
men[m] so that by all possible means I
might save some.[n] 23I do all this for the
sake of the gospel, that I may share in
its blessings.
24Do you not know that in a race all
the runners run, but only one gets the
prize?[o] Run[p] in such a way as to get
the prize. 25Everyone who competes in
the games goes into strict training.
They do it to get a crown[q] that will not
last; but we do it to get a crown that
will last forever.[r] 26Therefore I do not
run like a man running aimlessly;[s] I do
not fight like a man beating the air.[t]
27No, I beat my body[u] and make it my
slave so that after I have preached to
others, I myself will not be disqualified
for the prize.[v]

Warnings From Israel's History

10 For I do not want you to be igno-
rant[w] of the fact, brothers, that
our forefathers were all under the
cloud[x] and that they all passed
through the sea.[y] 2They were all bap-
tized into[z] Moses in the cloud and in
the sea. 3They all ate the same spiritual
food[a] 4and drank the same spiritual
drink; for they drank from the spiritual
rock[b] that accompanied them, and that
rock was Christ. 5Nevertheless, God
was not pleased with most of them;
their bodies were scattered over the
desert.[c]
6Now these things occurred as exam-
ples[u][d] to keep us from setting our
hearts on evil things as they did. 7Do
not be idolaters,[e] as some of them
were; as it is written: "The people sat
down to eat and drink and got up to
indulge in pagan revelry."[v][f] 8We
should not commit sexual immorality,
as some of them did—and in one day
twenty-three thousand of them died.[g]
9We should not test the Lord,[h] as some
of them did—and were killed by
snakes.[i] 10And do not grumble, as
some of them did[j]—and were killed[k]
by the destroying angel.[l]
11These things happened to them as
examples[m] and were written down as
warnings for us,[n] on whom the fulfill-
ment of the ages has come.[o] 12So, if
you think you are standing firm,[p] be
careful that you don't fall! 13No tempta-
tion has seized you except what is com-
mon to man. And God is faithful;[q] he
will not let you be tempted beyond
what you can bear.[r] But when you are
tempted, he will also provide a way out
so that you can stand up under it.

Idol Feasts and the Lord's Supper

14Therefore, my dear friends,[s] flee
from idolatry.[t] 15I speak to sensible
people; judge for yourselves what I
say. 16Is not the cup of thanksgiving for
which we give thanks a participation in
the blood of Christ? And is not the
bread that we break[u] a participation in
the body of Christ?[v] 17Because there is
one loaf, we, who are many, are one
body,[w] for we all partake of the one
loaf.
18Consider the people of Israel: Do
not those who eat the sacrifices[x] par-
ticipate in the altar? 19Do I mean then
that a sacrifice offered to an idol is any-
thing, or that an idol is anything?[y]
20No, but the sacrifices of pagans are
offered to demons,[z] not to God, and I
do not want you to be participants with
demons. 21You cannot drink the cup of
the Lord and the cup of demons too;
you cannot have a part in both the
Lord's table and the table of demons.[a]
22Are we trying to arouse the Lord's
jealousy?[b] Are we stronger than he?[c]

The Believer's Freedom

23"Everything is permissible"—but
not everything is beneficial.[d] "Every-
thing is permissible"—but not every-
thing is constructive. 24Nobody should
seek his own good, but the good of
others.[e]
25Eat anything sold in the meat mar-
ket without raising questions of con-

9:17 [a]1Co 3:8,14 [b]1Co 4:1; Gal 2:7; Col 1:25 **9:18** [c]2Co 11:7; 12:13 [d]ver 12,15 **9:19** [e]ver 1 [f]2Co 4:5; Gal 5:13 [g]Mt 18:15; 1Pe 3:1 **9:20** [h]Ac 16:3; 21:20-26; Ro 11:14 [i]S Ro 2:12 **9:21** [j]Ro 2:12,14 [k]Gal 6:2 **9:22** [l]S Ro 14:1; S 1Co 2:3 [m]1Co 10:33 [n]S Ro 11:14 **9:24** [o]Php 3:14; Col 2:18 [p]ver 25,26; Gal 2:2; 5:7; Php 2:16; 2Ti 4:7; Heb 12:1 **9:25** [q]2Ti 2:5 [r]2Ti 4:8; Jas 1:12; 1Pe 5:4; Rev 2:10; 3:11 **9:26** [s]S ver 24 [t]1Ti 6:12 **9:27** [u]Ro 8:13 [v]ver 24 **10:1** [w]S Ro 11:25 [x]Ex 13:21; Ps 105:39 [y]Ex 14:22,29; Ps 66:6 **10:2** [z]Ro 6:3 **10:3** [a]S Jn 6:31 **10:4** [b]Ex 17:6; Nu 20:11; Ps 78:15; 105:41 **10:5** [c]Nu 14:29; Heb 3:17; Jude 5 **10:6** [d]ver 11 **10:7** [e]ver 14 [f]Ex 32:4,6,19 **10:8** [g]Nu 25:1-9 **10:9** [h]Ex 17:2; Ps 78:18; 95:9; 106:14 [i]Nu 21:5,6 **10:10** [j]Nu 16:41; 17:5,10 [k]Nu 16:49 [l]Ex 12:23; 1Ch 21:15; Heb 11:28 **10:11** [m]ver 6 [n]S Ro 4:24 [o]S Ro 13:11 **10:12** [p]Ro 11:20; 2Co 1:24 **10:13** [q]S 1Co 1:9 [r]2Pe 2:9 **10:14** [s]Heb 6:9; 1Pe 2:11; 1Jn 2:7; Jude 3 [t]ver 7; 1Jn 5:21 **10:16** [u]S Mt 14:19 [v]Mt 26:26-28; 1Co 11:23-25 **10:17** [w]S Ro 12:5 **10:18** [x]Lev 7:6,14,15 **10:19** [y]S 1Co 8:4 **10:20** [z]Lev 17:7; Dt 32:17; Ps 106:37; Rev 9:20 **10:21** [a]2Co 6:15,16 **10:22** [b]Dt 32:16,21; 1Ki 14:22; Ps 78:58; Jer 44:8 [c]Ecc 6:10; Isa 45:9 **10:23** [d]1Co 6:12 **10:24** [e]ver 33; S Ro 15:1,2; 1Co 13:5; Php 2:4,21

u6 Or *types*; also in verse 11 v7 Exodus 32:6

science,[a] 26for, "The earth is the
Lord's, and everything in it."[w][b]
27If some unbeliever invites you to a
meal and you want to go, eat whatever
is put before you[c] without raising
questions of conscience. 28But if anyone
says to you, "This has been offered in
sacrifice," then do not eat it, both for
the sake of the man who told you and
for conscience' sake[x][d]— 29the other
man's conscience, I mean, not yours.
For why should my freedom[e] be
judged by another's conscience? 30If I
take part in the meal with thankful-
ness, why am I denounced because of
something I thank God for?[f]
31So whether you eat or drink or
whatever you do, do it all for the glory
of God.[g] 32Do not cause anyone to
stumble,[h] whether Jews, Greeks or the
church of God[i]— 33even as I try to
please everybody in every way.[j] For I
am not seeking my own good but the
good of many,[k] so that they may be
11 saved.[l] 1Follow my example,[m]
as I follow the example of
Christ.[n]

Propriety in Worship

2I praise you[o] for remembering me in
everything[p] and for holding to the
teachings,[y] just as I passed them on to
you.[q]
3Now I want you to realize that the
head of every man is Christ,[r] and the
head of the woman is man,[s] and the
head of Christ is God.[t] 4Every man
who prays or prophesies[u] with his
head covered dishonors his head. 5And
every woman who prays or prophe-
sies[v] with her head uncovered dishon-
ors her head—it is just as though her
head were shaved.[w] 6If a woman does
not cover her head, she should have
her hair cut off; and if it is a disgrace for
a woman to have her hair cut or shaved
off, she should cover her head. 7A man
ought not to cover his head,[z] since he
is the image[x] and glory of God; but the
woman is the glory of man. 8For man
did not come from woman, but woman
from man;[y] 9neither was man created
for woman, but woman for man.[z] 10For
this reason, and because of the angels,
the woman ought to have a sign of au-
thority on her head.
11In the Lord, however, woman is
not independent of man, nor is man
independent of woman. 12For as
woman came from man, so also man is
born of woman. But everything comes
from God.[a] 13Judge for yourselves: Is it
proper for a woman to pray to God
with her head uncovered? 14Does not
the very nature of things teach you that
if a man has long hair, it is a disgrace to
him, 15but that if a woman has long
hair, it is her glory? For long hair is giv-
en to her as a covering. 16If anyone
wants to be contentious about this, we
have no other practice—nor do the
churches of God.[b]

The Lord's Supper

11:23-25pp — Mt 26:26-28; Mk 14:22-24; Lk 22:17-20

17In the following directives I have no
praise for you,[c] for your meetings do
more harm than good. 18In the first
place, I hear that when you come to-
gether as a church, there are divisions[d]
among you, and to some extent I be-
lieve it. 19No doubt there have to be dif-
ferences among you to show which of
you have God's approval.[e] 20When
you come together, it is not the Lord's
Supper you eat, 21for as you eat, each
of you goes ahead without waiting for
anybody else.[f] One remains hungry,
another gets drunk. 22Don't you have
homes to eat and drink in? Or do you
despise the church of God[g] and
humiliate those who have nothing?[h]
What shall I say to you? Shall I praise
you[i] for this? Certainly not!
23For I received from the Lord[j] what
I also passed on to you:[k] The Lord
Jesus, on the night he was betrayed,
took bread, 24and when he had given
thanks, he broke it and said, "This is
my body,[l] which is for you; do this in
remembrance of me." 25In the same
way, after supper he took the cup, say-
ing, "This cup is the new covenant[m] in
my blood;[n] do this, whenever you
drink it, in remembrance of me." 26For
whenever you eat this bread and drink
this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death
until he comes.[o]
27Therefore, whoever eats the bread
or drinks the cup of the Lord in an un-
worthy manner will be guilty of sin-
ning against the body and blood of the
Lord.[p] 28A man ought to examine him-
self[q] before he eats of the bread and
drinks of the cup. 29For anyone who

10:25 [a]S Ac 10:15; 1Co 8:7
10:26 [b]Ps 24:1; Ex 9:29; 19:5; Job 41:11; Ps 50:12; 1Ti 4:4
10:27 [c]Lk 10:7
10:28 [d]1Co 8:7, 10-12
10:29 [e]1Co 9:1, 19
10:30 [f]S Ro 14:6
10:31 [g]Zec 14:21; Col 3:17; 1Pe 4:11
10:32 [h]S Mt 5:29; Ac 24:16; S 2Co 6:3 [i]Ac 20:28; 1Co 1:2; 11:16, 22; 15:9; 1Ti 3:5, 15
10:33 [j]Ro 15:2; 1Co 9:22 [k]S ver 24 [l]S Ro 11:14
11:1 [m]S 1Co 4:16 [n]Ro 15:3; 1Pe 2:21
11:2 [o]ver 17,22 [p]1Co 4:17 [q]ver 23; 1Co 15:2,3; 2Th 2:15; 3:6
11:3 [r]S Eph 1:22 [s]Ge 3:16; Eph 5:23 [t]1Co 3:23
11:4 [u]S Ac 11:27
11:5 [v]S Ac 21:9 [w]Dt 21:12
11:7 [x]Ge 1:26; 5:1; 9:6; Jas 3:9
11:8 [y]Ge 2:21-23; 1Ti 2:13
11:9 [z]Ge 2:18
11:12 [a]S Ro 11:36
11:16 [b]S 1Co 7:17; S 10:32
11:17 [c]ver 2,22
11:18 [d]1Co 1:10-12; 3:3
11:19 [e]1Jn 2:19
11:21 [f]2Pe 2:13; Jude 12
11:22 [g]S 1Co 10:32 [h]Jas 2:6 [i]ver 2, 17
11:23 [j]Gal 1:12 [k]S ver 2
11:24 [l]1Co 10:16
11:25 [m]S Lk 22:20 [n]1Co 10:16
11:26 [o]S 1Co 1:7
11:27 [p]Heb 10:29
11:28 [q]2Co 13:5

[w]26 Psalm 24:1 [x]28 Some manuscripts *conscience' sake, for "the earth is the Lord's and everything in it"* [y]2 Or *traditions* [z]4-7 Or *4Every man who prays or prophesies with long hair dishonors his head. 5And every woman who prays or prophesies with no covering of hair on her head dishonors her head—she is just like one of the "shorn women." 6If a woman has no covering, let her be for now with short hair, but since it is a disgrace for a woman to have her hair shorn or shaved, she should grow it again. 7A man ought not to have long hair*

eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself. 30 That is why many among you are weak and sick, and a number of you have fallen asleep.[a] 31 But if we judged ourselves, we would not come under judgment.[b] 32 When we are judged by the Lord, we are being disciplined[c] so that we will not be condemned with the world.[d]

33 So then, my brothers, when you come together to eat, wait for each other. 34 If anyone is hungry,[e] he should eat at home,[f] so that when you meet together it may not result in judgment.

And when I come[g] I will give further directions.

Spiritual Gifts

12 Now about spiritual gifts,[h] brothers, I do not want you to be ignorant.[i] 2 You know that when you were pagans,[j] somehow or other you were influenced and led astray to mute idols.[k] 3 Therefore I tell you that no one who is speaking by the Spirit of God says, "Jesus be cursed,"[l] and no one can say, "Jesus is Lord,"[m] except by the Holy Spirit.[n]

4 There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit.[o] 5 There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. 6 There are different kinds of working, but the same God[p] works all of them in all men.[q]

7 Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good.[r] 8 To one there is given through the Spirit the message of wisdom,[s] to another the message of knowledge[t] by means of the same Spirit, 9 to another faith[u] by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing[v] by that one Spirit, 10 to another miraculous powers,[w] to another prophecy,[x] to another distinguishing between spirits,[y] to another speaking in different kinds of tongues,[a][z] and to still another the interpretation of tongues.[a] 11 All these are the work of one and the same Spirit,[a] and he gives them to each one, just as he determines.

One Body, Many Parts

12 The body is a unit, though it is made up of many parts; and though all its parts are many, they form one body.[b] So it is with Christ.[c] 13 For we were all baptized[d] by[b] one Spirit[e] into one body—whether Jews or Greeks, slave or free[f]—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink.[g]

14 Now the body is not made up of one part but of many.[h] 15 If the foot should say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," it would not for that reason cease to be part of the body. 16 And if the ear should say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," it would not for that reason cease to be part of the body. 17 If the whole body were an eye, where would the sense of hearing be? If the whole body were an ear, where would the sense of smell be? 18 But in fact God has arranged[i] the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be.[j] 19 If they were all one part, where would the body be? 20 As it is, there are many parts, but one body.[k]

21 The eye cannot say to the hand, "I don't need you!" And the head cannot say to the feet, "I don't need you!" 22 On the contrary, those parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, 23 and the parts that we think are less honorable we treat with special honor. And the parts that are unpresentable are treated with special modesty, 24 while our presentable parts need no special treatment. But God has combined the members of the body and has given greater honor to the parts that lacked it, 25 so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. 26 If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it.

27 Now you are the body of Christ,[l] and each one of you is a part of it.[m] 28 And in the church[n] God has appointed first of all apostles,[o] second prophets,[p] third teachers, then workers of miracles, also those having gifts of healing,[q] those able to help others, those with gifts of administration,[r] and those speaking in different kinds of tongues.[s] 29 Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? 30 Do all have gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues[c]?[t] Do all interpret? 31 But eagerly desire[d][u] the greater gifts.

Love

And now I will show you the most excellent way.

11:30 [a] S Mt 9:24 11:31 [b] Ps 32:5; 1Jn 1:9 11:32 [c] Ps 94:12; 118:18; Pr 3:11, 12; Heb 12:7-10; Rev 3:19 [d] Jn 15:18, 19 11:34 [e] ver 21 [f] ver 22 [g] S 1Co 4:19 12:1 [h] Ro 1:11; 1Co 1:7; 14:1, 37 [i] S Ro 11:25 12:2 [j] S Eph 2:2 [k] Ps 115:5; Jer 10:5; Hab 2:18, 19 12:3 [l] Ro 9:3; 1Co 16:22 [m] S Jn 13:13 [n] 1Jn 4:2, 3 12:4 [o] ver 8-11; Ro 12:4-8; Eph 4:11; Heb 2:4 12:6 [p] Eph 4:6 [q] S Php 2:13 12:7 [r] 1Co 14:12; Eph 4:12 12:8 [s] 1Co 2:6 [t] S 2Co 8:7 12:9 [u] Mt 17:19, 20; 1Co 13:2 [v] ver 28, 30; Mt 10:1 12:10 [w] ver 28-30; Gal 3:5 [x] S Eph 4:11 [y] 1Jn 4:1 [z] S Mk 16:17 12:11 [a] S ver 4 12:12 [b] S Ro 12:5 [c] ver 27 12:13 [d] S Mk 1:8 [e] Eph 2:18 [f] Gal 3:28; Col 3:11 [g] Jn 7:37-39 12:14 [h] ver 12, 20 12:18 [i] ver 28 [j] ver 11 12:20 [k] ver 12, 14; S Ro 12:5 12:27 [l] Eph 1:23; 4:12; Col 1:18, 24 [m] S Ro 12:5 12:28 [n] S 1Co 10:32 [o] S Eph 4:11 [p] S Eph 4:11 [q] ver 9 [r] Ro 12:6-8 [s] ver 10; S Mk 16:17 12:30 [t] ver 10 12:31 [u] 1Co 14:1, 39

[a] 10 Or *languages;* also in verse 28 [b] 13 Or *with;* or *in* [c] 30 Or *other languages* [d] 31 Or *But you are eagerly desiring*

13 If I speak in the tongues[e][a] of
men and of angels, but have not
love, I am only a resounding gong or a
clanging cymbal. 2If I have the gift of
prophecy[b] and can fathom all myster-
ies[c] and all knowledge,[d] and if I have
a faith[e] that can move mountains,[f] but
have not love, I am nothing. 3If I give
all I possess to the poor[g] and surrender
my body to the flames,[f][h] but have not
love, I gain nothing.
4Love is patient,[i] love is kind. It
does not envy, it does not boast, it is
not proud.[j] 5It is not rude, it is not self-
seeking,[k] it is not easily angered,[l] it
keeps no record of wrongs.[m] 6Love
does not delight in evil[n] but rejoices
with the truth.[o] 7It always protects, al-
ways trusts, always hopes, always per-
severes.[p]
8Love never fails. But where there
are prophecies,[q] they will cease; where
there are tongues,[r] they will be stilled;
where there is knowledge, it will pass
away. 9For we know in part[s] and we
prophesy in part, 10but when perfec-
tion comes,[t] the imperfect disappears.
11When I was a child, I talked like a
child, I thought like a child, I reasoned
like a child. When I became a man, I
put childish ways[u] behind me. 12Now
we see but a poor reflection as in a mir-
ror;[v] then we shall see face to face.[w]
Now I know in part; then I shall know
fully, even as I am fully known.[x]
13And now these three remain: faith,
hope and love.[y] But the greatest of
these is love.[z]

Gifts of Prophecy and Tongues

14 Follow the way of love[a] and ea-
gerly desire[b] spiritual gifts,[c]
especially the gift of prophecy.[d] 2For
anyone who speaks in a tongue[g][e] does
not speak to men but to God. Indeed,
no one understands him;[f] he utters
mysteries[g] with his spirit.[h] 3But every-
one who prophesies speaks to men for
their strengthening,[k] encouragement[l]
and comfort. 4He who speaks in a
tongue[j] edifies[k] himself, but he who
prophesies[l] edifies the church. 5I
would like every one of you to speak in
tongues,[i] but I would rather have you
prophesy.[m] He who prophesies is
greater than one who speaks in
tongues,[i] unless he interprets, so that
the church may be edified.[n]
6Now, brothers, if I come to you and
speak in tongues, what good will I be
to you, unless I bring you some revela-
tion[o] or knowledge[p] or prophecy or
word of instruction?[q] 7Even in the case
of lifeless things that make sounds,
such as the flute or harp, how will any-
one know what tune is being played
unless there is a distinction in the
notes? 8Again, if the trumpet does not
sound a clear call, who will get ready
for battle?[r] 9So it is with you. Unless
you speak intelligible words with your
tongue, how will anyone know what
you are saying? You will just be speak-
ing into the air. 10Undoubtedly there
are all sorts of languages in the world,
yet none of them is without meaning.
11If then I do not grasp the meaning of
what someone is saying, I am a for-
eigner to the speaker, and he is a for-
eigner to me.[s] 12So it is with you. Since
you are eager to have spiritual gifts,[t]
try to excel in gifts that build up[u] the
church.
13For this reason anyone who speaks
in a tongue should pray that he may
interpret what he says.[v] 14For if I pray
in a tongue, my spirit prays,[w] but my
mind is unfruitful. 15So what shall I do?
I will pray with my spirit,[x] but I will
also pray with my mind; I will sing[y]
with my spirit, but I will also sing with
my mind. 16If you are praising God
with your spirit, how can one who
finds himself among those who do not
understand[j] say "Amen"[z] to your
thanksgiving,[a] since he does not know
what you are saying? 17You may be giv-
ing thanks well enough, but the other
man is not edified.[b]
18I thank God that I speak in tongues
more than all of you. 19But in the
church I would rather speak five intelli-
gible words to instruct others than ten
thousand words in a tongue.[c]
20Brothers, stop thinking like chil-
dren.[d] In regard to evil be infants,[e] but
in your thinking be adults. 21In the
Law[f] it is written:

"Through men of strange tongues
and through the lips of foreigners
I will speak to this people,
but even then they will not listen
to me,"[k][g]
says the Lord.

22Tongues, then, are a sign, not for
believers but for unbelievers; proph-

13:1 [a]ver 8; S Mk 16:17
13:2 [b]ver 8; S Eph 4:11; S Ac 11:27 [c]1Co 14:2 [d]S 2Co 8:7 [e]1Co 12:9 [f]Mt 17:20; 21:21
13:3 [g]Lk 19:8; S Ac 2:45 [h]Da 3:28
13:4 [i]1Th 5:14 [j]1Co 5:2
13:5 [k]S 1Co 10:24 [l]S Mt 5:22 [m]Job 14:16,17; Pr 10:12; 17:9; 1Pe 4:8
13:6 [n]2Th 2:12 [o]2Jn 4; 3Jn 3,4
13:7 [p]ver 8,13
13:8 [q]ver 2 [r]ver 1
13:9 [s]ver 12; S 1Co 8:2
13:10 [t]Php 3:12
13:11 [u]Ps 131:2
13:12 [v]Job 26:14; 36:26 [w]Ge 32:30; Job 19:26; 1Jn 3:2 [x]1Co 8:3; Gal 4:9
13:13 [y]Ro 5:2-5; Gal 5:5,6; Eph 4:2-5; Col 1:4,5; 1Th 1:3; 5:8; Heb 6:10-12 [z]Mt 22:37-40; 1Co 16:14; Gal 5:6; 1Jn 4:7-12,16
14:1 [a]1Co 16:14 [b]ver 39; 1Co 12:31 [c]S 1Co 12:1 [d]ver 39; S Eph 4:11
14:2 [e]S Mk 16:17 [f]ver 6-11,16 [g]1Co 13:2
14:3 [h]ver 4,5,12,17,26; S Ro 14:19 [i]ver 31
14:4 [j]S Mk 16:17 [k]S ver 3 [l]S 1Co 13:2
14:5 [m]Nu 11:29 [n]S ver 3
14:6 [o]ver 26; Eph 1:17 [p]S 2Co 8:7 [q]Ro 6:17
14:8 [r]Nu 10:9; Jer 4:19
14:11 [s]Ge 11:7
14:12 [t]S 1Co 12:1 [u]S ver 3
14:13 [v]ver 5
14:14 [w]ver 2
14:15 [x]ver 2,14 [y]S Eph 5:19
14:16 [z]Dt 27:15-26; 1Ch 16:36; Ne 8:6; Ps 106:48; Rev 5:14; 7:12 [a]S Mt 14:19; 1Co 11:24
14:17 [b]S ver 3
14:19 [c]ver 6
14:20 [d]1Co 3:1; Eph 4:14; Heb 5:12,13; 1Pe 2:2 [e]Jer 4:22; Mt 10:16; Ro 16:19
14:21 [f]ver 34; S Jn 10:34 [g]Dt 28:49; Isa 28:11,12

[e]1 *Or languages* [f]3 Some early manuscripts *body that I may boast* [g]2 *Or another language;* also in verses 4, 13, 14, 19, 26 and 27 [h]2 *Or by the Spirit* [i]5 *Or other languages;* also in verses 6, 18, 22, 23 and 39 [j]16 *Or among the inquirers* [k]21 Isaiah 28:11,12

ecy,[a] however, is for believers, not for
unbelievers. 23So if the whole church
comes together and everyone speaks in
tongues, and some who do not under-
stand[l] or some unbelievers come in,
will they not say that you are out of
your mind?[b] 24But if an unbeliever or
someone who does not understand[m]
comes in while everybody is prophesy-
ing, he will be convinced by all that he
is a sinner and will be judged by all,
25and the secrets[c] of his heart will be
laid bare. So he will fall down and wor-
ship God, exclaiming, "God is really
among you!"[d]

Orderly Worship

26What then shall we say, brothers?[e]
When you come together, everyone[f]
has a hymn,[g] or a word of instruc-
tion,[h] a revelation, a tongue[i] or an in-
terpretation.[j] All of these must be
done for the strengthening[k] of the
church. 27If anyone speaks in a tongue,
two—or at the most three—should
speak, one at a time, and someone
must interpret. 28If there is no inter-
preter, the speaker should keep quiet
in the church and speak to himself and
God.
29Two or three prophets[l] should
speak, and the others should weigh
carefully what is said.[m] 30And if a reve-
lation comes to someone who is sitting
down, the first speaker should stop.
31For you can all prophesy in turn so
that everyone may be instructed and
encouraged. 32The spirits of prophets
are subject to the control of prophets.[n]
33For God is not a God of disorder[o] but
of peace.[p]
As in all the congregations[q] of the
saints,[r] 34women should remain silent
in the churches. They are not allowed
to speak,[s] but must be in submission,[t]
as the Law[u] says. 35If they want to in-
quire about something, they should
ask their own husbands at home; for it
is disgraceful for a woman to speak in
the church.
36Did the word of God[v] originate
with you? Or are you the only people it
has reached? 37If anybody thinks he is a
prophet[w] or spiritually gifted,[x] let him
acknowledge that what I am writing to
you is the Lord's command.[y] 38If he ig-
nores this, he himself will be ignored.[n]
39Therefore, my brothers, be eager[z]
to prophesy,[a] and do not forbid speak-
ing in tongues. 40But everything should
be done in a fitting and orderly[b] way.

The Resurrection of Christ

15 Now, brothers, I want to remind
you of the gospel[c] I preached to
you,[d] which you received and on
which you have taken your stand. 2By
this gospel you are saved,[e] if you hold
firmly[f] to the word I preached to you.
Otherwise, you have believed in vain.
3For what I received[g] I passed on to
you[h] as of first importance[o]: that
Christ died for our sins[i] according to
the Scriptures,[j] 4that he was buried,[k]
that he was raised[l] on the third day[m]
according to the Scriptures,[n] 5and that
he appeared to Peter,[p o] and then to
the Twelve.[p] 6After that, he appeared
to more than five hundred of the broth-
ers at the same time, most of whom are
still living, though some have fallen
asleep.[q] 7Then he appeared to James,[r]
then to all the apostles,[s] 8and last of all
he appeared to me also,[t] as to one ab-
normally born.
9For I am the least of the apostles[u]
and do not even deserve to be called an
apostle, because I persecuted[v] the
church of God.[w] 10But by the grace[x] of
God I am what I am, and his grace to
me[y] was not without effect. No, I
worked harder than all of them[z]—yet
not I, but the grace of God that was
with me.[a] 11Whether, then, it was I or
they,[b] this is what we preach, and this
is what you believed.

The Resurrection of the Dead

12But if it is preached that Christ has
been raised from the dead,[c] how can
some of you say that there is no resur-
rection[d] of the dead?[e] 13If there is no
resurrection of the dead, then not even
Christ has been raised. 14And if Christ
has not been raised,[f] our preaching is
useless and so is your faith. 15More
than that, we are then found to be false
witnesses about God, for we have testi-
fied about God that he raised Christ
from the dead.[g] But he did not raise
him if in fact the dead are not raised.
16For if the dead are not raised, then
Christ has not been raised either. 17And
if Christ has not been raised, your faith
is futile; you are still in your sins.[h]
18Then those also who have fallen
asleep[i] in Christ are lost. 19If only for
this life we have hope in Christ, we are
to be pitied more than all men.[j]
20But Christ has indeed been raised

14:22 [a]ver 1 **14:23** [b]Ac 2:13 **14:25** [c]Ro 2:16 [d]Isa 45:14; Zec 8:23 **14:26** [e]S Ro 7:1 [f]1Co 12:7-10 [g]S Eph 5:19 [h]ver 6 [i]ver 2 [j]1Co 12:10 [k]S Ro 14:19 **14:29** [l]ver 32, 37; S 1Co 13:2 [m]1Co 12:10 **14:32** [n]1Jn 4:1 **14:33** [o]ver 40 [p]S Ro 15:33 [q]S 1Co 7:17; S 10:32 [r]S Ac 9:13 **14:34** [s]1Co 11:5,13 [t]S Eph 5:22; 1Ti 2:11,12 [u]ver 21; Ge 3:16 **14:36** [v]S Heb 4:12 **14:37** [w]S Ac 11:27; 1Co 13:2; 2Co 10:7 [x]1Co 2:15; S 12:1 [y]1Jn 4:6 **14:39** [z]ver 1; 1Co 12:31 [a]ver 1; S Eph 4:11 **14:40** [b]ver 33; Col 2:5

15:1 [c]Isa 40:9; Ro 2:16 [d]S 1Co 3:6; S Gal 1:8 **15:2** [e]Ro 1:16 [f]S Ro 11:22 **15:3** [g]Gal 1:12 [h]S 1Co 11:2 [i]Isa 53:5; Jn 1:29; S Gal 1:4; 1Pe 2:24 [j]S Mt 26:24; S Lk 24:27; S 24:44; Ac 17:2; 26:22,23 **15:4** [k]Mt 27:59, 60 [l]S Ac 2:24 [m]S Mt 16:21 [n]Jn 2:21,22; Ac 2:25,30,31 **15:5** [o]Lk 24:34 [p]Mk 16:14; Lk 24:36-43 **15:6** [q]ver 18,20; S Mt 9:24 **15:7** [r]S Ac 15:13 [s]Lk 24:33,36,37; Ac 1:3,4 **15:8** [t]Ac 9:3-6, 17; 1Co 9:1; Gal 1:16 **15:9** [u]2Co 12:11; Eph 3:8; 1Ti 1:15 [v]S Ac 8:3 [w]S 1Co 10:32 **15:10** [x]S Ro 3:24 [y]S Ro 12:3 [z]2Co 11:23; Col 1:29 [a]S Php 2:13 **15:11** [b]Gal 2:6 **15:12** [c]ver 4 [d]S Jn 11:24 [e]Ac 17:32; 23:8; 2Ti 2:18 **15:14** [f]1Th 4:14 **15:15** [g]S Ac 2:24 **15:17** [h]S Ro 4:25 **15:18** [i]ver 6,20; S Mt 9:24 **15:19** [j]S 1Co 4:9

[l]23 Or *some inquirers* [m]24 Or *or some inquirer* [n]38 Some manuscripts *If he is ignorant of this, let him be ignorant* [o]3 Or *you at the first* [p]5 Greek *Cephas*

from the dead,[a] the firstfruits[b] of those who have fallen asleep.[c] 21For since death came through a man,[d] the resurrection of the dead[e] comes also through a man. 22For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive.[f] 23But each in his own turn: Christ, the firstfruits;[g] then, when he comes,[h] those who belong to him.[i] 24Then the end will come, when he hands over the kingdom[j] to God the Father after he has destroyed all dominion, authority and power.[k] 25For he must reign[l] until he has put all his enemies under his feet.[m] 26The last enemy to be destroyed is death.[n] 27For he "has put everything under his feet."[q][o] Now when it says that "everything" has been put under him, it is clear that this does not include God himself, who put everything under Christ.[p] 28When he has done this, then the Son himself will be made subject to him who put everything under him,[q] so that God may be all in all.[r]

29Now if there is no resurrection, what will those do who are baptized for the dead? If the dead are not raised at all, why are people baptized for them? 30And as for us, why do we endanger ourselves every hour?[s] 31I die every day[t]—I mean that, brothers—just as surely as I glory over you in Christ Jesus our Lord. 32If I fought wild beasts[u] in Ephesus[v] for merely human reasons, what have I gained? If the dead are not raised,

"Let us eat and drink,
for tomorrow we die."[r][w]

33Do not be misled:[x] "Bad company corrupts good character."[y] 34Come back to your senses as you ought, and stop sinning; for there are some who are ignorant of God[z]—I say this to your shame.[a]

The Resurrection Body

35But someone may ask,[b] "How are the dead raised? With what kind of body will they come?"[c] 36How foolish![d] What you sow does not come to life unless it dies.[e] 37When you sow, you do not plant the body that will be, but just a seed, perhaps of wheat or of something else. 38But God gives it a body as he has determined, and to each kind of seed he gives its own body.[f] 39All flesh is not the same: Men have one kind of flesh, animals have another, birds another and fish another. 40There are also heavenly bodies and there are earthly bodies; but the splendor of the heavenly bodies is one kind, and the splendor of the earthly bodies is another. 41The sun has one kind of splendor,[g] the moon another and the stars another;[h] and star differs from star in splendor.

42So will it be[i] with the resurrection of the dead.[j] The body that is sown is perishable, it is raised imperishable;[k] 43it is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory;[l] it is sown in weakness, it is raised in power; 44it is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body.[m]

If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body. 45So it is written: "The first man Adam became a living being"[s];[n] the last Adam,[o] a life-giving spirit.[p] 46The spiritual did not come first, but the natural, and after that the spiritual.[q] 47The first man was of the dust of the earth,[r] the second man from heaven.[s] 48As was the earthly man, so are those who are of the earth; and as is the man from heaven, so also are those who are of heaven.[t] 49And just as we have borne the likeness of the earthly man,[u] so shall we[t] bear the likeness of the man from heaven.[v]

50I declare to you, brothers, that flesh and blood[w] cannot inherit the kingdom of God,[x] nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.[y] 51Listen, I tell you a mystery:[z] We will not all sleep,[a] but we will all be changed[b]— 52in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound,[c] the dead[d] will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. 53For the perishable[e] must clothe itself with the imperishable,[f] and the mortal with immortality. 54When the perishable has been clothed with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality, then the saying that is written will come true: "Death has been swallowed up in victory."[u][g]

55"Where, O death, is your victory?
Where, O death, is your sting?"[v][h]

56The sting of death is sin,[i] and the power of sin is the law.[j] 57But thanks be to God![k] He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.[l]

58Therefore, my dear brothers, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord,[m] because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.[n]

15:20 [a]1Pe 1:3 [b]ver 23; S Ac 26:23 [c]ver 6,18; S Mt 9:24
15:21 [d]S Ro 5:12 [e]ver 12
15:22 [f]Ro 5:14-18; S 1Co 6:14
15:23 [g]ver 20 [h]ver 52; S 1Th 2:19 [i]S 1Co 3:23
15:24 [j]Da 2:44; 7:14,27; 2Pe 1:11 [k]Ro 8:38
15:25 [l]Isa 9:7; 52:7 [m]ver 27; S Mt 22:44
15:26 [n]2Ti 1:10; Rev 20:14; 21:4
15:27 [o]ver 25; Ps 8:6; S Mt 22:44 [p]S Mt 28:18
15:28 [q]Php 3:21 [r]1Co 3:23
15:30 [s]2Co 11:26
15:31 [t]S Ro 8:36
15:32 [u]2Co 1:8 [v]S Ac 18:19 [w]Isa 22:13; Lk 12:19
15:33 [x]S 1Co 6:9 [y]Pr 22:24,25
15:34 [z]S Gal 4:8 [a]S 1Co 4:14
15:35 [b]Ro 9:19 [c]Eze 37:3
15:36 [d]Lk 11:40; 12:20 [e]Jn 12:24
15:38 [f]Ge 1:11
15:41 [g]Ps 19:4-6 [h]Ps 8:1,3
15:42 [i]Da 12:3; Mt 13:43 [j]ver 12 [k]ver 50,53,54
15:43 [l]Php 3:21; Col 3:4
15:44 [m]ver 50
15:45 [n]Ge 2:7 [o]Ro 5:14 [p]Jn 5:21; 6:57,58; Ro 8:2
15:46 [q]ver 44
15:47 [r]Ge 2:7; 3:19; Ps 90:3 [s]Jn 3:13,31
15:48 [t]Php 3:20,21
15:49 [u]Ge 5:3 [v]S Ro 8:29
15:50 [w]Eph 6:12; Heb 2:14 [x]S Mt 25:34 [y]ver 42,53,54
15:51 [z]1Co 13:2; 14:2 [a]S Mt 9:24 [b]2Co 5:4; Php 3:21
15:52 [c]S Mt 24:31 [d]Jn 5:25
15:53 [e]ver 42, 50,54 [f]2Co 5:2,4
15:54 [g]Isa 25:8; Heb 2:14; Rev 20:14
15:55 [h]Hos 13:14
15:56 [i]S Ro 5:12 [j]S Ro 4:15
15:57 [k]S 2Co 2:14 [l]Ro 8:37; Heb 2:14,15
15:58 [m]1Co 16:10 [n]Isa 65:23

[q]27 Psalm 8:6 [r]32 Isaiah 22:13 [s]45 Gen. 2:7 [t]49 Some early manuscripts *so let us* [u]54 Isaiah 25:8 [v]55 Hosea 13:14

The Collection for God's People

16 Now about the collection[a] for
God's people:[b] Do what I told
the Galatian[c] churches to do. 2On the
first day of every week,[d] each one of
you should set aside a sum of money in
keeping with his income, saving it up,
so that when I come no collections will
have to be made.[e] 3Then, when I ar-
rive, I will give letters of introduction
to the men you approve[f] and send
them with your gift to Jerusalem. 4If it
seems advisable for me to go also, they
will accompany me.

Personal Requests

5After I go through Macedonia, I will
come to you[g]—for I will be going
through Macedonia.[h] 6Perhaps I will
stay with you awhile, or even spend
the winter, so that you can help me on
my journey,[i] wherever I go. 7I do not
want to see you now and make only a
passing visit; I hope to spend some
time with you, if the Lord permits.[j]
8But I will stay on at Ephesus[k] until
Pentecost,[l] 9because a great door for
effective work has opened to me,[m] and
there are many who oppose me.

10If Timothy[n] comes, see to it that he
has nothing to fear while he is with
you, for he is carrying on the work of
the Lord,[o] just as I am. 11No one, then,
should refuse to accept him.[p] Send
him on his way[q] in peace[r] so that he
may return to me. I am expecting him
along with the brothers.

12Now about our brother Apollos:[s] I
strongly urged him to go to you with
the brothers. He was quite unwilling to
go now, but he will go when he has the
opportunity.

13Be on your guard; stand firm[t] in
the faith; be men of courage; be
strong.[u] 14Do everything in love.[v]

15You know that the household of
Stephanas[w] were the first converts[x] in
Achaia,[y] and they have devoted them-
selves to the service[z] of the saints.[a] I
urge you, brothers, 16to submit[b] to
such as these and to everyone who
joins in the work, and labors at it. 17I
was glad when Stephanas, Fortunatus
and Achaicus arrived, because they
have supplied what was lacking from
you.[c] 18For they refreshed[d] my spirit
and yours also. Such men deserve rec-
ognition.[e]

Final Greetings

19The churches in the province of
Asia[f] send you greetings. Aquila and
Priscilla[w][g] greet you warmly in the
Lord, and so does the church that
meets at their house.[h] 20All the broth-
ers here send you greetings. Greet one
another with a holy kiss.[i]

21I, Paul, write this greeting in my
own hand.[j]

22If anyone does not love the
Lord[k]—a curse[l] be on him. Come, O
Lord[x]![m]

23The grace of the Lord Jesus be with
you.[n]

24My love to all of you in Christ
Jesus. Amen.[y]

16:1 [a]S Ac 24:17 [b]S Ac 9:13 [c]S Ac 16:6
16:2 [d]Ac 20:7 [e]2Co 9:4,5
16:3 [f]2Co 3:1; 8:18,19
16:5 [g]S 1Co 4:19 [h]S Ac 16:9
16:6 [i]Ro 15:24; Tit 3:13
16:7 [j]S Ac 18:21
16:8 [k]S Ac 18:19 [l]S Ac 2:1
16:9 [m]S Ac 14:27
16:10 [n]S Ac 16:1 [o]1Co 15:58
16:11 [p]1Ti 4:12 [q]2Co 1:16; 3Jn 6 [r]S Ac 15:33
16:12 [s]S Ac 18:24
16:13 [t]1Co 1:8; 2Co 1:21; Gal 5:1; Php 1:27; 1Th 3:8; S Tit 1:9 [u]S Eph 6:10
16:14 [v]1Co 14:1
16:15 [w]1Co 1:16 [x]Ro 16:5 [y]S Ac 18:12 [z]S Ac 24:17 [a]S Ac 9:13
16:16 [b]1Th 5:12; Heb 13:17
16:17 [c]2Co 11:9; Php 2:30
16:18 [d]Ro 15:32; Phm 7 [e]Php 2:29
16:19 [f]S Ac 2:9 [g]S Ac 18:2 [h]S Ro 16:5
16:20 [i]S Ro 16:16
16:21 [j]Gal 6:11; Col 4:18; 2Th 3:17; Phm 19
16:22 [k]Eph 6:24 [l]Ro 9:3 [m]Rev 22:20
16:23 [n]S Ro 16:20

w19 Greek *Prisca*, a variant of *Priscilla* x22 In Aramaic the expression *Come, O Lord* is *Marana tha.* y24 Some manuscripts do not have *Amen*.

2 Corinthians

1 Paul, an apostle[a] of Christ Jesus by
the will of God,[b] and Timothy[c] our
brother,

To the church of God[d] in Corinth,[e]
together with all the saints throughout
Achaia:[f]

2 Grace and peace to you from God
our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.[g]

The God of All Comfort

3 Praise be to the God and Father of
our Lord Jesus Christ,[h] the Father of
compassion and the God of all comfort,
4 who comforts us[i] in all our troubles,
so that we can comfort those in any
trouble with the comfort we ourselves
have received from God. 5 For just as
the sufferings of Christ flow over into
our lives,[j] so also through Christ our
comfort overflows. 6 If we are dis-
tressed, it is for your comfort and sal-
vation;[k] if we are comforted, it is for
your comfort, which produces in you
patient endurance of the same suffer-
ings we suffer. 7 And our hope for you
is firm, because we know that just as
you share in our sufferings,[l] so also
you share in our comfort.

8 We do not want you to be unin-
formed,[m] brothers, about the hard-
ships we suffered[n] in the province of
Asia.[o] We were under great pressure,
far beyond our ability to endure, so
that we despaired even of life. 9 Indeed,
in our hearts we felt the sentence of
death. But this happened that we
might not rely on ourselves but on
God,[p] who raises the dead.[q] 10 He has
delivered us from such a deadly peril,[r]
and he will deliver us. On him we have
set our hope[s] that he will continue to
deliver us, 11 as you help us by your
prayers.[t] Then many will give thanks[u]
on our[a] behalf for the gracious favor
granted us in answer to the prayers of
many.

Paul's Change of Plans

12 Now this is our boast: Our con-
science[v] testifies that we have conduct-
ed ourselves in the world, and espe-
cially in our relations with you, in the
holiness[w] and sincerity[x] that are from
God. We have done so not according to
worldly wisdom[y] but according to
God's grace. 13 For we do not write you
anything you cannot read or under-
stand. And I hope that, 14 as you have
understood us in part, you will come to
understand fully that you can boast of
us just as we will boast of you in the
day of the Lord Jesus.[z]

15 Because I was confident of this, I
planned to visit you[a] first so that you
might benefit twice.[b] 16 I planned to
visit you on my way[c] to Macedonia[d]
and to come back to you from Mace-
donia, and then to have you send me
on my way[e] to Judea.[f] 17 When I
planned this, did I do it lightly? Or do I
make my plans in a worldly manner[g]
so that in the same breath I say, "Yes,
yes" and "No, no"?

18 But as surely as God is faithful,[h]
our message to you is not "Yes" and
"No." 19 For the Son of God,[i] Jesus
Christ, who was preached among you
by me and Silas[b][j] and Timothy,[k] was
not "Yes" and "No," but in him it has
always[l] been "Yes." 20 For no matter
how many promises[m] God has made,
they are "Yes" in Christ. And so
through him the "Amen"[n] is spoken
by us to the glory of God.[o] 21 Now it is
God who makes both us and you stand
firm[p] in Christ. He anointed[q] us, 22 set
his seal[r] of ownership on us, and put
his Spirit in our hearts as a deposit,
guaranteeing what is to come.[s]

23 I call God as my witness[t] that it
was in order to spare you[u] that I did
not return to Corinth. 24 Not that we
lord it over[v] your faith, but we work
with you for your joy, because it is by
2 faith you stand firm.[w] 1 So I made
up my mind that I would not make
another painful visit to you.[x] 2 For if I

1:1 [a]S 1Co 1:1 [b]1Co 1:1; Eph 1:1; Col 1:1; 2Ti 1:1 [c]S Ac 16:1 [d]S 1Co 10:32 [e]S Ac 18:1 [f]S Ac 18:12
1:2 [g]S Ro 1:7
1:3 [h]Eph 1:3; 1Pe 1:3
1:4 [i]Isa 49:13; 51:12; 66:13; 2Co 7:6,7,13
1:5 [j]Ro 8:17; 2Co 4:10; Gal 6:17; Php 3:10; Col 1:24; 1Pe 4:13
1:6 [k]2Co 4:15
1:7 [l]S ver 5
1:8 [m]S Ro 11:25 [n]1Co 15:32 [o]S Ac 2:9
1:9 [p]Jer 17:5,7 [q]S Jn 5:21
1:10 [r]S Ro 15:31 [s]1Ti 4:10
1:11 [t]Ro 15:30; Php 1:19 [u]2Co 4:15; 9:11
1:12 [v]S Ac 23:1 [w]1Th 2:10 [x]2Co 2:17 [y]1Co 1:17; 2:1,4, 13
1:14 [z]S 1Co 1:8
1:15 [a]S 1Co 4:19 [b]Ro 1:11,13; 15:29
1:16 [c]1Co 16:5-7 [d]S Ac 16:9 [e]1Co 16:11; 3Jn 6 [f]Ac 19:21
1:17 [g]2Co 10:2, 3; 11:18
1:18 [h]S 1Co 1:9
1:19 [i]S Mt 4:3 [j]S Ac 15:22 [k]S Ac 16:1 [l]Heb 13:8
1:20 [m]Ro 15:8 [n]S 1Co 14:16 [o]Ro 15:9
1:21 [p]S 1Co 16:13 [q]1Jn 2:20,27
1:22 [r]Ge 38:18; Eze 9:4; Hag 2:23 [s]S 2Co 5:5
1:23 [t]S Ro 1:9 [u]1Co 4:21; 2Co 2:1,3; 13:2, 10
1:24 [v]1Pe 5:3 [w]Ro 11:20; 1Co 15:1
2:1 [x]S 2Co 1:23

[a]11 Many manuscripts *your* [b]19 Greek *Silvanus*, a variant of *Silas*

grieve you,[a] who is left to make me
glad but you whom I have grieved? 3I
wrote as I did[b] so that when I came I
should not be distressed[c] by those
who ought to make me rejoice. I had
confidence[d] in all of you, that you
would all share my joy. 4For I wrote
you[e] out of great distress and anguish
of heart and with many tears, not to
grieve you but to let you know the
depth of my love for you.

Forgiveness for the Sinner

5If anyone has caused grief,[f] he has
not so much grieved me as he has
grieved all of you, to some extent—not
to put it too severely. 6The punish-
ment[g] inflicted on him by the majority
is sufficient for him. 7Now instead, you
ought to forgive and comfort him,[h] so
that he will not be overwhelmed by
excessive sorrow. 8I urge you, there-
fore, to reaffirm your love for him. 9The
reason I wrote you[i] was to see if you
would stand the test and be obedient in
everything.[j] 10If you forgive anyone, I
also forgive him. And what I have for-
given—if there was anything to for-
give—I have forgiven in the sight of
Christ for your sake, 11in order that Sa-
tan[k] might not outwit us. For we are
not unaware of his schemes.[l]

Ministers of the New Covenant

12Now when I went to Troas[m] to
preach the gospel of Christ[n] and found
that the Lord had opened a door[o] for
me, 13I still had no peace of mind,[p] be-
cause I did not find my brother Titus[q]
there. So I said good-by to them and
went on to Macedonia.[r]

14But thanks be to God,[s] who always
leads us in triumphal procession in
Christ and through us spreads every-
where the fragrance[t] of the knowl-
edge[u] of him. 15For we are to God the
aroma[v] of Christ among those who are
being saved and those who are perish-
ing.[w] 16To the one we are the smell of
death;[x] to the other, the fragrance of
life. And who is equal to such a task?[y]
17Unlike so many, we do not peddle
the word of God for profit.[z] On the
contrary, in Christ we speak before
God with sincerity,[a] like men sent
from God.[b]

3 Are we beginning to commend our-
selves[c] again? Or do we need, like
some people, letters of recommenda-
tion[d] to you or from you? 2You your-
selves are our letter, written on our
hearts, known and read by every-
body.[e] 3You show that you are a letter
from Christ, the result of our ministry,
written not with ink but with the Spirit
of the living God,[f] not on tablets of
stone[g] but on tablets of human
hearts.[h]

4Such confidence[i] as this is ours
through Christ before God. 5Not that
we are competent in ourselves[j] to
claim anything for ourselves, but our
competence comes from God.[k] 6He has
made us competent as ministers of a
new covenant[l]—not of the letter[m] but
of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the
Spirit gives life.[n]

The Glory of the New Covenant

7Now if the ministry that brought
death,[o] which was engraved in letters
on stone, came with glory, so that the
Israelites could not look steadily at the
face of Moses because of its glory,[p]
fading though it was, 8will not the min-
istry of the Spirit be even more glori-
ous? 9If the ministry that condemns
men[q] is glorious, how much more
glorious is the ministry that brings
righteousness![r] 10For what was glori-
ous has no glory now in comparison
with the surpassing glory. 11And if
what was fading away came with
glory, how much greater is the glory of
that which lasts!

12Therefore, since we have such a
hope,[s] we are very bold.[t] 13We are not
like Moses, who would put a veil over
his face[u] to keep the Israelites from
gazing at it while the radiance was fad-
ing away. 14But their minds were made
dull,[v] for to this day the same veil re-
mains when the old covenant[w] is
read.[x] It has not been removed, be-
cause only in Christ is it taken away.
15Even to this day when Moses is read,
a veil covers their hearts. 16But when-
ever anyone turns to the Lord,[y] the
veil is taken away.[z] 17Now the Lord is
the Spirit,[a] and where the Spirit of the
Lord is, there is freedom.[b] 18And we,
who with unveiled faces all reflect[c c]
the Lord's glory,[d] are being trans-
formed into his likeness[e] with ever-
increasing glory, which comes from the
Lord, who is the Spirit.

Treasures in Jars of Clay

4 Therefore, since through God's
mercy[f] we have this ministry, we
do not lose heart.[g] 2Rather, we have

2:2 [a]2Co 7:8
2:3 [b]ver 4,9;
2Co 7:8,12
[c]2Co 12:21
[d]2Co 7:16; 8:22;
Gal 5:10;
2Th 3:4; Phm 21
2:4 [e]ver 3,9;
2Co 7:8,12
2:5 [f]1Co 5:1,2
2:6 [g]1Co 5:4,5;
2Co 7:11
2:7 [h]Gal 6:1;
Eph 4:32;
Col 3:13
2:9 [i]ver 3,4;
2Co 7:8,12
[j]2Co 7:15; 10:6
2:11 [k]S Mt 4:10
[l]Lk 22:31;
2Co 4:4;
1Pe 5:8,9
2:12 [m]S Ac 16:8
[n]S Ro 1:1;
2Co 4:3,4; 8:18;
9:13; 1Th 3:2
[o]S Ac 14:27
2:13 [p]2Co 7:5
[q]2Co 7:6,13; 8:6,
16,23; 12:18;
Gal 2:1,3; Tit 1:4
[r]S Ac 16:9
2:14 [s]Ro 6:17;
7:25; 1Co 15:57;
2Co 9:15
[t]Eze 20:41;
Eph 5:2;
Php 4:18
[u]S 2Co 8:7
2:15 [v]S ver 14;
Ge 8:21;
Ex 29:18;
Nu 15:3
[w]S 1Co 1:18
2:16 [x]S Lk 2:34;
Jn 3:36
[y]2Co 3:5,6
2:17
[z]S Ac 20:33;
2Co 4:2; 1Th 2:5
[a]1Co 5:8
[b]2Co 1:12; 12:19
3:1 [c]Ro 16:1;
2Co 5:12; 10:12,
18; 12:11
[d]Ac 18:27;
Ro 16:1;
1Co 16:3

3:2 [e]1Co 9:2
3:3 [f]S Mt 16:16
[g]ver 7; Ex 24:12;
31:18; 32:15,16
[h]Pr 3:3; 7:3;
Jer 31:33;
Eze 36:26
3:4 [i]S Eph 3:12
3:5 [j]2Co 2:16
[k]1Co 15:10
3:6 [l]S Lk 22:20
[m]Ro 2:29; 7:6
[n]Jn 6:63
3:7 [o]ver 9;
S Ro 4:15 [p]ver
13; Ex 34:29-35;
Isa 42:21
3:9 [q]ver 7;
Dt 27:26
[r]Ro 1:17; 3:21,22
3:12 [s]Ro 5:4,5;
8:24,25
[t]S Ac 4:29
3:13 [u]ver 7;
Ex 34:33
3:14 [v]Ro 11:7,8;
2Co 4:4
[w]Ac 13:15; 15:21
[x]ver 6
3:16 [y]Ro 11:23
[z]Ex 34:34;
Isa 25:7
3:17 [a]Isa 61:1,2;
Gal 4:6,7
[b]S Jn 8:32
3:18 [c]1Co 13:12
[d]Jn 17:22,24;
2Co 4:4,6
[e]S Ro 8:29

4:1 [f]1Co 7:25; 1Ti 1:13,16 [g]ver 16; Ps 18:45; Isa 40:31

[c]18 Or *contemplate*

renounced secret and shameful ways;[a]
we do not use deception, nor do we
distort the word of God.[b] On the con-
trary, by setting forth the truth plainly
we commend ourselves to every man's
conscience[c] in the sight of God. 3And
even if our gospel[d] is veiled,[e] it is
veiled to those who are perishing.[f]
4The god[g] of this age[h] has blinded[i]
the minds of unbelievers, so that they
cannot see the light of the gospel of the
glory of Christ,[j] who is the image of
God.[k] 5For we do not preach our-
selves,[l] but Jesus Christ as Lord,[m] and
ourselves as your servants[n] for Jesus'
sake. 6For God, who said, "Let light
shine out of darkness,"[a][o] made his
light shine in our hearts[p] to give us the
light of the knowledge of the glory of
God in the face of Christ.[q]
7But we have this treasure in jars of
clay[r] to show that this all-surpassing
power is from God[s] and not from us.
8We are hard pressed on every side,[t]
but not crushed; perplexed,[u] but not in
despair; 9persecuted,[v] but not aban-
doned;[w] struck down, but not de-
stroyed.[x] 10We always carry around in
our body the death of Jesus,[y] so that
the life of Jesus may also be revealed in
our body.[z] 11For we who are alive are
always being given over to death for
Jesus' sake,[a] so that his life may be re-
vealed in our mortal body. 12So then,
death is at work in us, but life is at
work in you.[b]
13It is written: "I believed; therefore I
have spoken."[b][c] With that same spirit
of faith[d] we also believe and therefore
speak, 14because we know that the one
who raised the Lord Jesus from the
dead[e] will also raise us with Jesus[f]
and present us with you in his pres-
ence.[g] 15All this is for your benefit, so
that the grace that is reaching more and
more people may cause thanksgiving[h]
to overflow to the glory of God.
16Therefore we do not lose heart.[i]
Though outwardly we are wasting
away, yet inwardly[j] we are being
renewed[k] day by day. 17For our light
and momentary troubles are achieving
for us an eternal glory that far out-
weighs them all.[l] 18So we fix our eyes
not on what is seen, but on what is un-
seen.[m] For what is seen is temporary,
but what is unseen is eternal.

Our Heavenly Dwelling

5 Now we know that if the earthly[n]
tent[o] we live in is destroyed, we
have a building from God, an eternal
house in heaven, not built by human
hands. 2Meanwhile we groan,[p] long-
ing to be clothed with our heavenly
dwelling,[q] 3because when we are
clothed, we will not be found naked.
4For while we are in this tent, we
groan[r] and are burdened, because we
do not wish to be unclothed but to be
clothed with our heavenly dwelling,[s]
so that what is mortal may be swal-
lowed up by life. 5Now it is God who
has made us for this very purpose and
has given us the Spirit as a deposit,
guaranteeing what is to come.[t]
6Therefore we are always confident
and know that as long as we are at
home in the body we are away from
the Lord. 7We live by faith, not by
sight.[u] 8We are confident, I say, and
would prefer to be away from the body
and at home with the Lord.[v] 9So we
make it our goal to please him,[w]
whether we are at home in the body or
away from it. 10For we must all appear
before the judgment seat of Christ, that
each one may receive what is due him[x]
for the things done while in the body,
whether good or bad.

The Ministry of Reconciliation

11Since, then, we know what it is to
fear the Lord,[y] we try to persuade
men. What we are is plain to God, and
I hope it is also plain to your con-
science.[z] 12We are not trying to com-
mend ourselves to you again,[a] but are
giving you an opportunity to take pride
in us,[b] so that you can answer those
who take pride in what is seen rather
than in what is in the heart. 13If we are
out of our mind,[c] it is for the sake of
God; if we are in our right mind, it is
for you. 14For Christ's love compels us,
because we are convinced that one died
for all, and therefore all died.[d] 15And
he died for all, that those who live
should no longer live for themselves[e]
but for him who died for them[f] and
was raised again.
16So from now on we regard no one
from a worldly[g] point of view. Though
we once regarded Christ in this way,
we do so no longer. 17Therefore, if any-
one is in Christ,[h] he is a new creation;[i]
the old has gone, the new has come![j]
18All this is from God,[k] who reconciled
us to himself through Christ[l] and gave
us the ministry of reconciliation: 19that
God was reconciling the world to him-

4:2 [a]Ro 6:21; S 1Th 2:3; [b]2Co 2:17; [c]Heb 4:13; 2Co 5:11 **4:3** [d]S 2Co 2:12; 2Co 3:14; [f]S 1Co 1:18 **4:4** [g]S Jn 12:31; S 1Co 1:20; 2Co 3:14; ver 6; S Jn 14:9 **4:5** 1Co 1:13; S 2Co 1:24; 1Co 9:19 **4:6** Ge 1:3; Ps 18:28; 2Pe 1:19; ver 4 **4:7** Job 4:19; Isa 64:8; 2Ti 2:20; Jdg 7:2; 1Co 2:5; 2Co 6:7 **4:8** 2Co 7:5; Gal 4:20 **4:9** Jn 15:20; Ro 8:35; Heb 13:5; Ps 37:24; Ps 34:16 **4:10** S Ro 6:6; S 2Co 1:5; S Ro 6:5 **4:11** Ro 8:36 **4:12** 2Co 13:9 **4:13** Ps 116:10; 1Co 12:9 **4:14** S Ac 2:24; 1Th 4:14; Eph 5:27; Col 1:22; Jude 24 **4:15** 2Co 1:11; 9:11 **4:16** ver 1; Ps 18:45; Ro 7:22; Ps 103:5; Isa 40:31; Col 3:10 **4:17** Ps 30:5; Ro 8:18; 1Pe 1:6, 7 **4:18** 2Co 5:7; Ro 8:24; Heb 11:1 **5:1** [n]1Co 15:47; [o]Isa 38:12; 2Pe 1:13, 14

5:2 [p]ver 4; Ro 8:23 [q]ver 4; 1Co 15:53, 54 **5:4** [r]ver 2; Ro 8:23 [s]ver 2; 1Co 15:53, 54 **5:5** [t]Ro 8:23; 2Co 1:22; Eph 1:13, 14 **5:7** [u]1Co 13:12; S 2Co 4:18 **5:8** [v]S Jn 12:26 **5:9** [w]Ro 14:18; Eph 5:10; Col 1:10; 1Th 4:1 **5:10** [x]S Mt 16:27; Ac 10:42; Ro 2:16; 14:10; Eph 6:8 **5:11** [y]Job 23:15; Heb 10:31; 12:29; Jude 23 [z]2Co 4:2 **5:12** [a]S 2Co 3:1 [b]2Co 1:14 **5:13** [c]2Co 11:1, 16, 17; 12:11 **5:14** [d]Ro 6:6, 7; Gal 2:20; Col 3:3 **5:15** [e]Ro 14:7-9 [f]Ro 4:25 **5:16** [g]2Co 10:4; 11:18 **5:17** [h]S Ro 16:3 [i]S Jn 1:13; S Ro 6:4; Gal 6:15 [j]Isa 65:17; Rev 21:4,5 **5:18** [k]S Ro 11:36 [l]S Ro 5:10

[a]6 Gen. 1:3 [b]13 Psalm 116:10

self in Christ, not counting men's sins
against them.[a] And he has committed
to us the message of reconciliation.
20We are therefore Christ's ambassa-
dors,[b] as though God were making his
appeal through us.[c] We implore you
on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to
God.[d] 21God made him who had no
sin[e] to be sin[f] for us, so that in him we
might become the righteousness of
God.[f]

6 As God's fellow workers[g] we urge
you not to receive God's grace in
vain.[h] 2For he says,

"In the time of my favor I heard you,
and in the day of salvation I
helped you."[g][i]

I tell you, now is the time of God's fa-
vor, now is the day of salvation.

Paul's Hardships

3We put no stumbling block in any-
one's path,[j] so that our ministry will
not be discredited. 4Rather, as servants
of God we commend ourselves in every
way: in great endurance; in troubles,
hardships and distresses; 5in beatings,
imprisonments[k] and riots; in hard
work, sleepless nights and hunger;[l]
6in purity, understanding, patience
and kindness; in the Holy Spirit[m] and
in sincere love;[n] 7in truthful speech[o]
and in the power of God;[p] with weap-
ons of righteousness[q] in the right hand
and in the left; 8through glory and dis-
honor,[r] bad report[s] and good report;
genuine, yet regarded as impostors;[t]
9known, yet regarded as unknown; dy-
ing,[u] and yet we live on;[v] beaten, and
yet not killed; 10sorrowful, yet always
rejoicing;[w] poor, yet making many
rich;[x] having nothing,[y] and yet pos-
sessing everything.[z]

11We have spoken freely to you,
Corinthians, and opened wide our
hearts to you.[a] 12We are not withhold-
ing our affection from you, but you are
withholding yours from us. 13As a fair
exchange—I speak as to my chil-
dren[b]—open wide your hearts[c] also.

Do Not Be Yoked With Unbelievers

14Do not be yoked together[d] with un-
believers.[e] For what do righteousness
and wickedness have in common? Or
what fellowship can light have with
darkness?[f] 15What harmony is there
between Christ and Belial[h]?[g] What
does a believer[h] have in common with
an unbeliever?[i] 16What agreement is
there between the temple of God and
idols?[j] For we are the temple[k] of the
living God.[l] As God has said: "I will
live with them and walk among them,
and I will be their God, and they will be
my people."[i][m]

17"Therefore come out from them[n]
and be separate,
says the Lord.
Touch no unclean thing,
and I will receive you."[j][o]
18"I will be a Father to you,
and you will be my sons and
daughters,[p]
says the Lord Almighty."[k][q]

7 Since we have these promises,[r]
dear friends,[s] let us purify our-
selves from everything that contami-
nates body and spirit, perfecting holi-
ness[t] out of reverence for God.

Paul's Joy

2Make room for us in your hearts.[u]
We have wronged no one, we have
corrupted no one, we have exploited
no one. 3I do not say this to condemn
you; I have said before that you have
such a place in our hearts[v] that we
would live or die with you. 4I have
great confidence in you; I take great
pride in you.[w] I am greatly encour-
aged;[x] in all our troubles my joy knows
no bounds.[y]

5For when we came into Mace-
donia,[z] this body of ours had no rest,
but we were harassed at every
turn[a]—conflicts on the outside, fears
within.[b] 6But God, who comforts the
downcast,[c] comforted us by the com-
ing of Titus,[d] 7and not only by his com-
ing but also by the comfort you had
given him. He told us about your long-
ing for me, your deep sorrow, your ar-
dent concern for me, so that my joy
was greater than ever.

8Even if I caused you sorrow by my
letter,[e] I do not regret it. Though I did
regret it—I see that my letter hurt you,
but only for a little while— 9yet now I
am happy, not because you were made
sorry, but because your sorrow led you
to repentance. For you became sorrow-
ful as God intended and so were not
harmed in any way by us. 10Godly sor-
row brings repentance that leads to sal-
vation[f] and leaves no regret, but
worldly sorrow brings death. 11See
what this godly sorrow has produced

5:19 [a]S Ro 4:8 **5:20** [b]2Co 6:1; Eph 6:20 [c]ver 18 [d]Isa 27:5 **5:21** [e]Heb 4:15; 7:26; 1Pe 2:22, 24; 1Jn 3:5 [f]S Ro 1:17; S 1Co 1:30 **6:1** [g]S 1Co 3:9; 2Co 5:20 [h]1Co 15:2 **6:2** [i]Isa 49:8; Ps 69:13; Isa 55:6 **6:3** [j]S Mt 5:29; Ro 14:13,20; 1Co 8:9,13; 9:12; 10:32 **6:5** [k]Ac 16:23; 2Co 11:23-25 [l]1Co 4:11 **6:6** [m]1Co 2:4; 1Th 1:5 [n]Ro 12:9; 1Ti 1:5 **6:7** [o]2Co 4:2 [p]2Co 4:7 [q]Ro 13:12; 2Co 10:4; Eph 6:10-18 **6:8** [r]1Co 4:10 [s]1Co 4:13 [t]Mt 27:63 **6:9** [u]S Ro 8:36 [v]2Co 1:8-10; 4:10,11 **6:10** [w]S Mt 5:12; 2Co 7:4; Php 2:17; 4:4; Col 1:24; 1Th 1:6 [x]2Co 8:9 [y]Ac 3:6 [z]Ro 8:32; 1Co 3:21 **6:11** [a]2Co 7:3 **6:13** [b]S 1Th 2:11 [c]2Co 7:2 **6:14** [d]Ge 24:3; Dt 22:10; 1Co 5:9,10 [e]1Co 6:6 [f]Eph 5:7,11; 1Jn 1:6 **6:15** [g]1Co 10:21 [h]Ac 5:14 [i]1Co 6:6 **6:16** [j]1Co 10:21 [k]S 1Co 3:16 [l]S Mt 16:16 [m]Lev 26:12; Jer 32:38; Eze 37:27; Rev 21:3 **6:17** [n]Rev 18:4 [o]Isa 52:11; Eze 20:34,41 **6:18** [p]Ex 4:22; 2Sa 7:14; 1Ch 17:13; Isa 43:6; S Ro 8:14 [q]2Sa 7:8 **7:1** [r]2Co 6:17,18 [s]S 1Co 10:14 [t]1Th 4:7; 1Pe 1:15,16 **7:2** [u]2Co 6:12,13 **7:3** [v]2Co 6:11,12; Php 1:7 **7:4** [w]ver 14; 2Co 8:24 [x]ver 13 [y]S 2Co 6:10 **7:5** [z]2Co 2:13; S Ac 16:9 [a]2Co 4:8 [b]Dt 32:25 **7:6** [c]2Co 1:3,4 [d]ver 13; S 2Co 2:13 **7:8** [e]2Co 2:2,4 **7:10** [f]Ac 11:18

[f]21 Or *be a sin offering* [g]2 Isaiah 49:8 [h]15 Greek *Beliar*, a variant of *Belial* [i]16 Lev. 26:12; Jer. 32:38; Ezek. 37:27 [j]17 Isaiah 52:11; Ezek. 20:34,41 [k]18 2 Samuel 7:14; 7:8

in you: what earnestness, what eager-
ness to clear yourselves, what indigna-
tion, what alarm, what longing, what
concern,[a] what readiness to see justice
done. At every point you have proved
yourselves to be innocent in this mat-
ter. 12So even though I wrote to you,[b]
it was not on account of the one who
did the wrong[c] or of the injured party,
but rather that before God you could
see for yourselves how devoted to us
you are. 13By all this we are encour-
aged.

In addition to our own encourage-
ment, we were especially delighted to
see how happy Titus[d] was, because his
spirit has been refreshed by all of you.
14I had boasted to him about you,[e] and
you have not embarrassed me. But just
as everything we said to you was true,
so our boasting about you to Titus[f] has
proved to be true as well. 15And his af-
fection for you is all the greater when
he remembers that you were all obedi-
ent,[g] receiving him with fear and trem-
bling.[h] 16I am glad I can have complete
confidence in you.[i]

Generosity Encouraged

8 And now, brothers, we want you to
know about the grace that God has
given the Macedonian[j] churches. 2Out
of the most severe trial, their overflow-
ing joy and their extreme poverty
welled up in rich generosity.[k] 3For I
testify that they gave as much as they
were able,[l] and even beyond their abil-
ity. Entirely on their own, 4they urgent-
ly pleaded with us for the privilege of
sharing[m] in this service[n] to the saints.[o]
5And they did not do as we expected,
but they gave themselves first to the
Lord and then to us in keeping with
God's will. 6So we urged[p] Titus,[q] since
he had earlier made a beginning, to
bring also to completion[r] this act of
grace on your part. 7But just as you ex-
cel in everything[s]—in faith, in speech,
in knowledge,[t] in complete earnest-
ness and in your love for us[l]—see that
you also excel in this grace of giving.

8I am not commanding you,[u] but I
want to test the sincerity of your love
by comparing it with the earnestness of
others. 9For you know the grace[v] of
our Lord Jesus Christ,[w] that though he
was rich, yet for your sakes he became
poor,[x] so that you through his poverty
might become rich.[y]

10And here is my advice[z] about what
is best for you in this matter: Last year
you were the first not only to give but

7:11 [a]ver 7
7:12 [b]ver 8; 2Co 2:3,9 [c]1Co 5:1,2
7:13 [d]ver 6; S 2Co 2:13
7:14 [e]ver 4 [f]ver 6
7:15 [g]2Co 2:9; 10:6 [h]Ps 55:5; 1Co 2:3; Php 2:12
7:16 [i]S 2Co 2:3
8:1 [j]S Ac 16:9
8:2 [k]Ex 36:5; 2Co 9:11
8:3 [l]1Co 16:2
8:4 [m]ver 1 [n]S Ac 24:17 [o]S Ac 9:13
8:6 [p]ver 17; 2Co 12:18 [q]ver 16,23; S 2Co 2:13 [r]ver 10,11
8:7 [s]2Co 9:8 [t]Ro 15:14; 1Co 1:5; 12:8; 13:1,2; 14:6
8:8 [u]1Co 7:6
8:9 [v]S Ro 3:24 [w]2Co 13:14 [x]Mt 20:28; Php 2:6-8 [y]2Co 6:10
8:10 [z]1Co 7:25, 40

also to have the desire to do so.[a]
11Now finish the work, so that your ea-
ger willingness[b] to do it may be
matched by your completion of it, ac-
cording to your means. 12For if the will-
ingness is there, the gift is acceptable
according to what one has,[c] not ac-
cording to what he does not have.

13Our desire is not that others might
be relieved while you are hard pressed,
but that there might be equality. 14At
the present time your plenty will sup-
ply what they need,[d] so that in turn
their plenty will supply what you need.
Then there will be equality, 15as it is
written: "He who gathered much did
not have too much, and he who gath-
ered little did not have too little."[m]

Titus Sent to Corinth

16I thank God,[f] who put into the
heart[g] of Titus[h] the same concern I
have for you. 17For Titus not only wel-
comed our appeal, but he is coming to
you with much enthusiasm and on his
own initiative.[i] 18And we are sending
along with him the brother[j] who is
praised by all the churches[k] for his ser-
vice to the gospel.[l] 19What is more, he
was chosen by the churches to accom-
pany us[m] as we carry the offering,
which we administer in order to honor
the Lord himself and to show our ea-
gerness to help.[n] 20We want to avoid
any criticism of the way we administer
this liberal gift. 21For we are taking
pains to do what is right, not only in
the eyes of the Lord but also in the eyes
of men.[o]

22In addition, we are sending with
them our brother who has often proved
to us in many ways that he is zealous,
and now even more so because of his
great confidence in you. 23As for
Titus,[p] he is my partner[q] and fellow
worker[r] among you; as for our broth-
ers,[s] they are representatives of the
churches and an honor to Christ.
24Therefore show these men the proof
of your love and the reason for our
pride in you,[t] so that the churches can
see it.

9 There is no need[u] for me to write to
you about this service[v] to the
saints.[w] 2For I know your eagerness to
help,[x] and I have been boasting[y] about
it to the Macedonians, telling them that
since last year[z] you in Achaia[a] were
ready to give; and your enthusiasm has

[a]1Co 16:2,3; 2Co 9:2
8:11 [b]ver 12,19; Ex 25:2; 2Co 9:2
8:12 [c]Mk 12:43,44; 2Co 9:7
8:14 [d]Ac 4:34; 2Co 9:12
8:15 [e]Ex 16:18
8:16 [f]S 2Co 2:14 [g]Rev 17:17 [h]S 2Co 2:13
8:17 [i]ver 6
8:18 [j]2Co 12:18 [k]S 1Co 7:17 [l]S 2Co 2:12
8:19 [m]Ac 14:23; 1Co 16:3,4 [n]ver 11,12
8:21 [o]Ro 12:17; S 14:18; S Tit 2:14
8:23 [p]S 2Co 2:13 [q]Phm 17 [r]S Php 2:25 [s]ver 18,22
8:24 [t]2Co 7:4, 14; 9:2
9:1 [u]1Th 4:9 [v]S Ac 24:17 [w]S Ac 9:13
9:2 [x]2Co 8:11, 12,19 [y]2Co 7:4, 14; 8:24 [z]2Co 8:10 [a]S Ac 18:12

[l]7 Some manuscripts *in our love for you*
[m]15 Exodus 16:18

stirred most of them to action. 3But I
am sending the brothers[a] in order that
our boasting about you in this matter
should not prove hollow, but that you
may be ready, as I said you would be.[b]
4For if any Macedonians[c] come with
me and find you unprepared, we—not
to say anything about you—would be
ashamed of having been so confident.
5So I thought it necessary to urge the
brothers[d] to visit you in advance and
finish the arrangements for the gener-
ous gift you had promised. Then it will
be ready as a generous gift,[e] not as one
grudgingly given.[f]

Sowing Generously

6Remember this: Whoever sows
sparingly will also reap sparingly, and
whoever sows generously will also
reap generously.[g] 7Each man should
give what he has decided in his heart to
give,[h] not reluctantly or under compul-
sion,[i] for God loves a cheerful giver.[j]
8And God is able[k] to make all grace
abound to you, so that in all things at
all times, having all that you need,[l]
you will abound in every good work.
9As it is written:

> "He has scattered abroad his gifts[m]
> to the poor;
> his righteousness endures
> forever."[n][n]

10Now he who supplies seed to the
sower and bread for food[o] will also
supply and increase your store of seed
and will enlarge the harvest of your
righteousness.[p] 11You will be made
rich[q] in every way so that you can be
generous[r] on every occasion, and
through us your generosity will result
in thanksgiving to God.[s]
12This service that you perform is not
only supplying the needs[t] of God's
people but is also overflowing in many
expressions of thanks to God.[u] 13Be-
cause of the service[v] by which you
have proved yourselves, men will
praise God[w] for the obedience that ac-
companies your confession[x] of the gos-
pel of Christ,[y] and for your generos-
ity[z] in sharing with them and with
everyone else. 14And in their prayers
for you their hearts will go out to you,
because of the surpassing grace God
has given you. 15Thanks be to God[a] for
his indescribable gift![b]

Paul's Defense of His Ministry

10 By the meekness and gentle-
ness[c] of Christ, I appeal to
you—I, Paul,[d] who am "timid" when
face to face with you, but "bold" when
away! 2I beg you that when I come I
may not have to be as bold[e] as I expect
to be toward some people who think
that we live by the standards of this
world.[f] 3For though we live in the
world, we do not wage war as the
world does.[g] 4The weapons we fight
with[h] are not the weapons of the
world. On the contrary, they have di-
vine power[i] to demolish strong-
holds.[j] 5We demolish arguments and
every pretension that sets itself up
against the knowledge of God,[k] and
we take captive every thought to make
it obedient[l] to Christ. 6And we will be
ready to punish every act of disobedi-
ence, once your obedience is com-
plete.[m]
7You are looking only on the surface
of things.[o][n] If anyone is confident that
he belongs to Christ,[o] he should con-
sider again that we belong to Christ
just as much as he.[p] 8For even if I boast
somewhat freely about the authority
the Lord gave us[q] for building you up
rather than pulling you down,[r] I will
not be ashamed of it. 9I do not want to
seem to be trying to frighten you with
my letters. 10For some say, "His letters
are weighty and forceful, but in person
he is unimpressive[s] and his speaking
amounts to nothing."[t] 11Such people
should realize that what we are in our
letters when we are absent, we will be
in our actions when we are present.
12We do not dare to classify or com-
pare ourselves with some who com-
mend themselves.[u] When they mea-
sure themselves by themselves and
compare themselves with themselves,
they are not wise. 13We, however, will
not boast beyond proper limits, but will
confine our boasting to the field God
has assigned to us,[v] a field that reaches
even to you. 14We are not going too far
in our boasting, as would be the case if
we had not come to you, for we did get
as far as you[w] with the gospel of
Christ.[x] 15Neither do we go beyond
our limits[y] by boasting of work done
by others.[p][z] Our hope is that, as your
faith continues to grow,[a] our area of
activity among you will greatly expand,
16so that we can preach the gospel[b] in

n9 Psalm 112:9 o7 Or *Look at the obvious facts*
p13-15 Or *13We, however, will not boast about things that cannot be measured, but we will boast according to the standard of measurement that the God of measure has assigned us—a measurement that relates even to you. 14 . . . . 15Neither do we boast about things that cannot be measured in regard to the work done by others.*

9:3 [a]2Co 8:23 [b]1Co 16:2 **9:4** [c]Ro 15:26 **9:5** [d]ver 3 [e]Php 4:17 [f]2Co 12:17, 18 **9:6** [g]Pr 11:24, 25; 22:9; Gal 6:7, 9 **9:7** [h]Ex 25:2; 2Co 8:12 [i]Dt 15:10 [j]Ro 12:8 **9:8** [k]Eph 3:20 [l]Php 4:19 **9:9** [m]Mal 3:10 [n]Ps 112:9 **9:10** [o]Isa 55:10 [p]Hos 10:12 **9:11** [q]1Co 1:5 [r]ver 5 [s]2Co 1:11; 4:15 **9:12** [t]2Co 8:14 [u]S 2Co 1:11 **9:13** [v]S 2Co 8:4 [w]S Mt 9:8 [x]S Heb 3:1 [y]S 2Co 2:12 [z]ver 5 **9:15** [a]S 2Co 2:14 [b]Ro 5:15, 16 **10:1** [c]Mt 11:29 [d]Gal 5:2; Eph 3:1 **10:2** [e]S 1Co 4:21 [f]Ro 12:2 **10:3** [g]ver 2 **10:4** [h]S 2Co 6:7 [i]1Co 2:5 [j]ver 8; Jer 1:10; 23:29; 2Co 13:10 **10:5** [k]Isa 2:11, 12; 1Co 1:19 [l]2Co 9:13 **10:6** [m]2Co 2:9; 7:15 **10:7** [n]S Jn 7:24; 2Co 5:12 [o]1Co 1:12; S 3:23; 14:37 [p]2Co 11:23 **10:8** [q]ver 13, 15 [r]ver 4; Jer 1:10; 2Co 13:10 **10:10** [s]ver 1; 1Co 2:3; Gal 4:13, 14 [t]1Co 1:17; 2Co 11:6 **10:12** [u]ver 18; S 2Co 3:1 **10:13** [v]ver 15, 16; S Ro 12:3 **10:14** [w]S 1Co 3:6 [x]S 2Co 2:12 **10:15** [y]ver 13 [z]Ro 15:20 [a]2Th 1:3 **10:16** [b]S Ro 1:1; S 2Co 2:12

the regions beyond you.[a] For we do
not want to boast about work already
done in another man's territory. 17But,
"Let him who boasts boast in the
Lord."[q][b] 18For it is not the one who
commends himself[c] who is approved,
but the one whom the Lord com-
mends.[d]

Paul and the False Apostles

11 I hope you will put up with[e] a
little of my foolishness;[f] but you
are already doing that. 2I am jealous for
you with a godly jealousy. I promised
you to one husband,[g] to Christ, so that
I might present you[h] as a pure virgin to
him. 3But I am afraid that just as Eve
was deceived by the serpent's cun-
ning,[i] your minds may somehow be
led astray from your sincere and pure
devotion to Christ. 4For if someone
comes to you and preaches a Jesus
other than the Jesus we preached,[j] or
if you receive a different spirit[k] from
the one you received, or a different
gospel[l] from the one you accepted,
you put up with it[m] easily enough. 5But
I do not think I am in the least inferior
to those "super-apostles."[n] 6I may not
be a trained speaker,[o] but I do have
knowledge.[p] We have made this per-
fectly clear to you in every way.
7Was it a sin[q] for me to lower myself
in order to elevate you by preaching
the gospel of God[r] to you free of
charge?[s] 8I robbed other churches by
receiving support from them[t] so as to
serve you. 9And when I was with you
and needed something, I was not a
burden to anyone, for the brothers who
came from Macedonia supplied what I
needed.[u] I have kept myself from be-
ing a burden to you[v] in any way, and
will continue to do so. 10As surely as
the truth of Christ is in me,[w] nobody in
the regions of Achaia[x] will stop this
boasting[y] of mine. 11Why? Because I do
not love you? God knows[z] I do![a]
12And I will keep on doing what I am
doing in order to cut the ground from
under those who want an opportunity
to be considered equal with us in the
things they boast about.
13For such men are false apostles,[b]
deceitful[c] workmen, masquerading as
apostles of Christ.[d] 14And no wonder,
for Satan[e] himself masquerades as an
angel of light. 15It is not surprising,
then, if his servants masquerade as ser-
vants of righteousness. Their end will
be what their actions deserve.[f]

10:16 [a]S Ac 19:21
10:17 [b]Jer 9:24; Ps 34:2; 44:8; 1Co 1:31
10:18 [c]ver 12 [d]S Ro 2:29
11:1 [e]ver 4,19,20; Mt 17:17 [f]ver 16,17,21; 2Co 5:13
11:2 [g]Hos 2:19; Eph 5:26,27 [h]S 2Co 4:14
11:3 [i]Ge 3:1-6,13; 1Ti 2:14; Rev 12:9
11:4 [j]1Co 3:11 [k]Ro 8:15 [l]Gal 1:6-9 [m]S ver 1
11:5 [n]2Co 12:11; Gal 2:6
11:6 [o]S 1Co 1:17 [p]S 2Co 8:7; Eph 3:4
11:7 [q]2Co 12:13 [r]S Ro 1:1 [s]1Co 9:18
11:8 [t]Php 4:15,18
11:9 [u]Php 4:15,18 [v]2Co 12:13,14,16
11:10 [w]S Ro 9:1 [x]S Ac 18:12 [y]1Co 9:15
11:11 [z]ver 31; S Ro 1:9 [a]2Co 12:15
11:13 [b]S Mt 7:15 [c]Tit 1:10 [d]Rev 2:2
11:14 [e]S Mt 4:10
11:15 [f]S Mt 16:27; Php 3:19
11:16 [g]ver 1
11:17 [h]1Co 7:12,25 [i]ver 21
11:18 [j]2Co 5:16; 10:4 [k]ver 21; Php 3:3,4
11:19 [l]S ver 1 [m]1Co 4:10
11:20 [n]S ver 1 [o]Gal 2:4; 4:9; 5:1
11:21 [p]2Co 10:1,10 [q]ver 17,18; Php 3:4
11:22 [r]Php 3:5 [s]Ro 9:4; 11:1 [t]S Lk 3:8; Ro 11:1
11:23 [u]S 1Co 3:5 [v]S 1Co 15:10 [w]Ac 16:23; 2Co 6:4,5 [x]Ac 16:23; 2Co 6:4,5 [y]S Ro 8:36
11:24 [z]Dt 25:3
11:25 [a]Ac 16:22 [b]Ac 14:19 [c]Ac 27:1-44
11:26 [d]S Ac 20:3 [e]Ac 21:31 [f]Gal 2:4
11:27 [g]S Ac 18:3; Col 1:29 [h]1Co 4:11,12; 2Co 6:5
11:28 [i]S 1Co 7:17
11:29 [j]S Ro 14:1; S 1Co 2:3 [k]S Mt 5:29

Paul Boasts About His Sufferings

16I repeat: Let no one take me for a
fool.[g] But if you do, then receive me
just as you would a fool, so that I may
do a little boasting. 17In this self-confi-
dent boasting I am not talking as the
Lord would,[h] but as a fool.[i] 18Since
many are boasting in the way the
world does,[j] I too will boast.[k] 19You
gladly put up with[l] fools since you are
so wise![m] 20In fact, you even put up
with[n] anyone who enslaves you[o] or
exploits you or takes advantage of you
or pushes himself forward or slaps you
in the face. 21To my shame I admit that
we were too weak[p] for that!
What anyone else dares to boast
about—I am speaking as a fool—I also
dare to boast about.[q] 22Are they He-
brews? So am I.[r] Are they Israelites?
So am I.[s] Are they Abraham's de-
scendants? So am I.[t] 23Are they ser-
vants of Christ?[u] (I am out of my mind
to talk like this.) I am more. I have
worked much harder,[v] been in prison
more frequently,[w] been flogged more
severely,[x] and been exposed to death
again and again.[y] 24Five times I re-
ceived from the Jews the forty lashes[z]
minus one. 25Three times I was beaten
with rods,[a] once I was stoned,[b] three
times I was shipwrecked,[c] I spent a
night and a day in the open sea, 26I
have been constantly on the move. I
have been in danger from rivers, in
danger from bandits, in danger from
my own countrymen,[d] in danger from
Gentiles; in danger in the city,[e] in dan-
ger in the country, in danger at sea;
and in danger from false brothers.[f] 27I
have labored and toiled[g] and have
often gone without sleep; I have
known hunger and thirst and have
often gone without food;[h] I have been
cold and naked. 28Besides everything
else, I face daily the pressure of my
concern for all the churches.[i] 29Who is
weak, and I do not feel weak?[j] Who is
led into sin,[k] and I do not inwardly
burn?
30If I must boast, I will boast[l] of the
things that show my weakness.[m] 31The
God and Father of the Lord Jesus, who
is to be praised forever,[n] knows[o] that I
am not lying. 32In Damascus the gover-
nor under King Aretas had the city of
the Damascenes guarded in order to ar-
rest me.[p] 33But I was lowered in a bas-

11:30 [l]ver 16; Gal 6:14; 2Co 12:5,9 [m]S 1Co 2:3 **11:31** [n]Ro 1:25; 9:5 [o]ver 11; S Ro 1:9 **11:32** [p]Ac 9:24

[q]17 Jer. 9:24

ket from a window in the wall and
slipped through his hands.[a]

Paul's Vision and His Thorn

12 I must go on boasting.[b] Although there is nothing to be
gained, I will go on to visions and reve-
lations[c] from the Lord. 2I know a man
in Christ[d] who fourteen years ago was
caught up[e] to the third heaven.[f]
Whether it was in the body or out of
the body I do not know—God knows.[g]
3And I know that this man—whether in
the body or apart from the body I do
not know, but God knows— 4was
caught up[h] to paradise.[i] He heard in-
expressible things, things that man is
not permitted to tell. 5I will boast about
a man like that, but I will not boast
about myself, except about my weak-
nesses.[j] 6Even if I should choose to
boast,[k] I would not be a fool,[l] because
I would be speaking the truth. But I
refrain, so no one will think more of me
than is warranted by what I do or say.
7To keep me from becoming conceit-
ed because of these surpassingly great
revelations,[m] there was given me a
thorn in my flesh,[n] a messenger of Sa-
tan,[o] to torment me. 8Three times I
pleaded with the Lord to take it away
from me.[p] 9But he said to me, "My
grace[q] is sufficient for you, for my
power[r] is made perfect in weak-
ness.[s][t] Therefore I will boast all the
more gladly about my weaknesses, so
that Christ's power may rest on me.
10That is why, for Christ's sake, I de-
light[u] in weaknesses, in insults, in
hardships,[v] in persecutions,[w] in dif-
ficulties. For when I am weak, then I
am strong.[x]

Paul's Concern for the Corinthians

11I have made a fool of myself,[y] but
you drove me to it. I ought to have
been commended by you, for I am not
in the least inferior to the "super-apos-
tles,"[z] even though I am nothing.[a]
12The things that mark an apostle—
signs, wonders and miracles[b]—were
done among you with great persever-
ance. 13How were you inferior to the
other churches, except that I was never
a burden to you?[c] Forgive me this
wrong![d]
14Now I am ready to visit you for the
third time,[e] and I will not be a burden
to you, because what I want is not your
possessions but you. After all, children
should not have to save up for their
parents,[f] but parents for their chil-
dren.[g] 15So I will very gladly spend for
you everything I have and expend my-
self as well.[h] If I love you more,[i] will
you love me less? 16Be that as it may, I
have not been a burden to you.[j] Yet,
crafty fellow that I am, I caught you by
trickery! 17Did I exploit you through
any of the men I sent you? 18I urged[k]
Titus[l] to go to you and I sent our
brother[m] with him. Titus did not ex-
ploit you, did he? Did we not act in the
same spirit and follow the same
course?
19Have you been thinking all along
that we have been defending ourselves
to you? We have been speaking in the
sight of God[n] as those in Christ; and
everything we do, dear friends,[o] is for
your strengthening.[p] 20For I am afraid
that when I come[q] I may not find you
as I want you to be, and you may not
find me as you want me to be.[r] I fear
that there may be quarreling,[s] jeal-
ousy, outbursts of anger, factions,[t]
slander,[u] gossip,[v] arrogance[w] and dis-
order.[x] 21I am afraid that when I come
again my God will humble me before
you, and I will be grieved[y] over many
who have sinned earlier[z] and have not
repented of the impurity, sexual sin
and debauchery[a] in which they have
indulged.

Final Warnings

13 This will be my third visit to
you.[b] "Every matter must be
established by the testimony of two or
three witnesses."[r][c] 2I already gave
you a warning when I was with you
the second time. I now repeat it while
absent:[d] On my return I will not
spare[e] those who sinned earlier[f] or
any of the others, 3since you are de-
manding proof that Christ is speaking
through me.[g] He is not weak in deal-
ing with you, but is powerful among
you. 4For to be sure, he was crucified in
weakness,[h] yet he lives by God's
power.[i] Likewise, we are weak[j] in
him, yet by God's power we will live
with him[k] to serve you.
5Examine yourselves[l] to see whether
you are in the faith; test yourselves.[m]
Do you not realize that Christ Jesus is
in you[n]—unless, of course, you fail the
test? 6And I trust that you will discover
that we have not failed the test. 7Now
we pray to God that you will not do
anything wrong. Not that people will

11:33 [a]Ac 9:25
12:1 [b]ver 5,9; 2Co 11:16,30 [c]ver 7; S 1Co 2:10
12:2 [d]S Ro 16:3 [e]ver 4; S Ac 8:39 [f]Eph 4:10 [g]2Co 11:11
12:4 [h]ver 2 [i]Lk 23:43; Rev 2:7
12:5 [j]ver 9,10; S 1Co 2:3
12:6 [k]2Co 10:8 [l]ver 11; 2Co 11:16
12:7 [m]ver 1; S 1Co 2:10 [n]Nu 33:55 [o]S Mt 4:10
12:8 [p]Mt 26:39, 44
12:9 [q]S Ro 3:24 [r]S Php 4:13 [s]S 1Co 2:3 [t]1Ki 19:12
12:10 [u]S Mt 5:12 [v]2Co 6:4 [w]2Th 1:4 [x]2Co 13:4
12:11 [y]2Co 11:1 [z]2Co 11:5 [a]1Co 15:9,10
12:12 [b]S Jn 4:48
12:13 [c]ver 14; 1Co 9:12,18 [d]2Co 11:7
12:14 [e]2Co 13:1 [f]1Co 4:14,15 [g]Pr 19:14
12:15 [h]Php 2:17; 1Th 2:8 [i]2Co 11:11
12:16 [j]2Co 11:9
12:18 [k]2Co 8:6, 16 [l]S 2Co 2:13 [m]2Co 8:18
12:19 [n]Ro 9:1 [o]S 1Co 10:14 [p]S Ro 14:19; 2Co 10:8
12:20 [q]2Co 2:1-4 [r]1Co 4:21 [s]1Co 1:11; 3:3 [t]Gal 5:20 [u]Ro 1:30 [v]S Ro 1:29 [w]1Co 4:18 [x]1Co 14:33
12:21 [y]2Co 2:1, 4 [z]2Co 13:2 [a]S 1Co 6:18
13:1 [b]2Co 12:14 [c]Dt 19:15; S Mt 18:16
13:2 [d]ver 10 [e]2Co 1:23 [f]2Co 12:21
13:3 [g]Mt 10:20; 1Co 5:4
13:4 [h]1Co 1:25; Php 2:7,8; 1Pe 3:18 [i]Ro 1:4; 6:4; 1Co 6:14 [j]ver 9; S 1Co 2:3 [k]S Ro 6:5
13:5 [l]1Co 11:28 [m]La 3:40; Jn 6:6 [n]S Ro 8:10

[r]1 Deut. 19:15

see that we have stood the test but that
you will do what is right even though
we may seem to have failed. 8For we
cannot do anything against the truth,
but only for the truth. 9We are glad
whenever we are weak[a] but you are
strong;[b] and our prayer is for your perfection.[c]
10This is why I write these
things when I am absent, that when I
come I may not have to be harsh[d] in
my use of authority—the authority the
Lord gave me for building you up, not
for tearing you down.[e]

13:9 [a]S 1Co 2:3 [b]2Co 4:12 [c]ver 11; Eph 4:13
13:10 [d]S 2Co 1:23 [e]2Co 10:8
13:11 [f]1Th 4:1; 2Th 3:1 [g]S Mk 9:50 [h]1Jn 4:16 [i]S Ro 15:33; Eph 6:23
13:12 [j]S Ro 16:16
13:13 [k]Php 4:22
13:14 [l]S Ro 16:20; 2Co 8:9 [m]Ro 5:5; Jude 21 [n]Php 2:1

Final Greetings

11Finally, brothers,[f] good-by. Aim
for perfection, listen to my appeal, be
of one mind, live in peace.[g] And the
God of love[h] and peace[i] will be with
you.

12Greet one another with a holy
kiss.[j] 13All the saints send their greetings.[k]

14May the grace of the Lord Jesus
Christ,[l] and the love of God,[m] and the
fellowship of the Holy Spirit[n] be with
you all.

Galatians

1 Paul, an apostle[a]—sent not from
men nor by man,[b] but by Jesus
Christ[c] and God the Father,[d] who
raised him from the dead[e]— 2and all
the brothers with me,[f]

To the churches in Galatia:[g]

3Grace and peace to you from God
our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ,[h]
4who gave himself for our sins[i] to res-
cue us from the present evil age,[j] ac-
cording to the will of our God and Fa-
ther,[k] 5to whom be glory for ever and
ever. Amen.[l]

No Other Gospel

6I am astonished that you are so
quickly deserting the one who called[m]
you by the grace of Christ and are turn-
ing to a different gospel[n]— 7which is
really no gospel at all. Evidently some
people are throwing you into confu-
sion[o] and are trying to pervert[p] the
gospel of Christ. 8But even if we or an
angel from heaven should preach a
gospel other than the one we preached
to you,[q] let him be eternally con-
demned![r] 9As we have already said, so
now I say again: If anybody is preach-
ing to you a gospel other than what
you accepted,[s] let him be eternally
condemned!

10Am I now trying to win the approv-
al of men, or of God? Or am I trying to
please men?[t] If I were still trying to
please men, I would not be a servant of
Christ.

Paul Called by God

11I want you to know, brothers,[u] that
the gospel I preached[v] is not some-
thing that man made up. 12I did not re-
ceive it from any man,[w] nor was I
taught it; rather, I received it by revela-
tion[x] from Jesus Christ.[y]

13For you have heard of my previous
way of life in Judaism,[z] how intensely
I persecuted the church of God[a] and
tried to destroy it.[b] 14I was advancing
in Judaism beyond many Jews of my
own age and was extremely zealous[c]
for the traditions of my fathers.[d] 15But
when God, who set me apart from
birth[a][e] and called me[f] by his grace,
was pleased 16to reveal his Son in me so
that I might preach him among the
Gentiles,[g] I did not consult any man,[h]
17nor did I go up to Jerusalem to see
those who were apostles before I was,
but I went immediately into Arabia and
later returned to Damascus.[i]

18Then after three years,[j] I went up
to Jerusalem[k] to get acquainted with
Peter[b] and stayed with him fifteen
days. 19I saw none of the other apos-
tles—only James,[l] the Lord's brother.
20I assure you before God[m] that what I
am writing you is no lie.[n] 21Later I
went to Syria[o] and Cilicia.[p] 22I was
personally unknown to the churches of
Judea[q] that are in Christ.[r] 23They only
heard the report: "The man who for-
merly persecuted us is now preaching
the faith[s] he once tried to destroy."[t]
24And they praised God[u] because of
me.

Paul Accepted by the Apostles

2 Fourteen years later I went up
again to Jerusalem,[v] this time with
Barnabas.[w] I took Titus[x] along also. 2I
went in response to a revelation[y] and
set before them the gospel that I preach
among the Gentiles.[z] But I did this pri-
vately to those who seemed to be lead-
ers, for fear that I was running or had
run my race[a] in vain. 3Yet not even
Titus,[b] who was with me, was com-
pelled to be circumcised, even though
he was a Greek.[c] 4This matter arose
because some false brothers[d] had infil-
trated our ranks to spy on[e] the free-
dom[f] we have in Christ Jesus and to
make us slaves. 5We did not give in to
them for a moment, so that the truth of
the gospel[g] might remain with you.

6As for those who seemed to be im-
portant[h]—whatever they were makes
no difference to me; God does not

1:1 [a]S 1Co 1:1 [b]ver 11,12 [c]ver 15,16; S Ac 9:15; 20:24 [d]ver 15,16; S Ac 9:15; 20:24 [e]S Ac 2:24
1:2 [f]Php 4:21 [g]S Ac 16:6
1:3 [h]S Ro 1:7
1:4 [i]S Mt 20:28; S Ro 4:25; S 1Co 15:3; Gal 2:20 [j]S 1Co 1:20 [k]S Php 4:20
1:5 [l]S Ro 11:36
1:6 [m]ver 15; S Ro 8:28 [n]2Co 11:4
1:7 [o]Ac 15:24; Gal 5:10 [p]Jer 23:16,36
1:8 [q]ver 11,16; 1Co 15:1; 2Co 11:4; Gal 2:2 [r]Ro 9:3
1:9 [s]Ro 16:17
1:10 [t]S Ro 2:29
1:11 [u]1Co 15:1 [v]S ver 8
1:12 [w]ver 1 [x]ver 16; S 1Co 2:10 [y]1Co 11:23; 15:3
1:13 [z]Ac 26:4,5 [a]S 1Co 10:32 [b]S Ac 8:3
1:14 [c]S Ac 21:20 [d]Mt 15:2
1:15 [e]Isa 49:1,5; Jer 1:5 [f]S Ac 9:15; S Ro 8:28
1:16 [g]S Ac 9:15; Gal 2:9 [h]Mt 16:17
1:17 [i]Ac 9:2, 19-22
1:18 [j]Ac 9:22,23 [k]Ac 9:26,27
1:19 [l]Mt 13:55; S Ac 15:13
1:20 [m]S Ro 1:9 [n]S Ro 9:1
1:21 [o]S Lk 2:2 [p]S Ac 6:9
1:22 [q]1Th 2:14 [r]S Ro 16:3
1:23 [s]Ac 6:7 [t]S Ac 8:3
1:24 [u]S Mt 9:8
2:1 [v]Ac 15:2 [w]S Ac 4:36 [x]S 2Co 2:13
2:2 [y]S 1Co 2:10 [z]Ac 15:4,12 [a]S 1Co 9:24
2:3 [b]ver 1; S 2Co 2:13 [c]Ac 16:3; 1Co 9:21
2:4 [d]S Ac 1:16; 2Co 11:26 [e]Jude 4 [f]Gal 5:1,13
2:5 [g]ver 14
2:6 [h]ver 2

[a]15 Or *from my mother's womb* [b]18 Greek *Cephas*

judge by external appearance[a]—those
men added nothing to my message.[b]
7On the contrary, they saw that I had
been entrusted with the task[c] of
preaching the gospel to the Gentiles,[c][d]
just as Peter[e] had been to the Jews.[d]
8For God, who was at work in the min-
istry of Peter as an apostle[f] to the
Jews, was also at work in my ministry
as an apostle[g] to the Gentiles. 9James,[h]
Peter[e][i] and John, those reputed to be
pillars,[j] gave me and Barnabas[k] the
right hand of fellowship when they
recognized the grace given to me.[l]
They agreed that we should go to the
Gentiles,[m] and they to the Jews. 10All
they asked was that we should con-
tinue to remember the poor,[n] the very
thing I was eager to do.

Paul Opposes Peter

11When Peter[o] came to Antioch,[p] I
opposed him to his face, because he
was clearly in the wrong. 12Before cer-
tain men came from James,[q] he used to
eat with the Gentiles.[r] But when they
arrived, he began to draw back and
separate himself from the Gentiles be-
cause he was afraid of those who be-
longed to the circumcision group.[s]
13The other Jews joined him in his hy-
pocrisy, so that by their hypocrisy even
Barnabas[t] was led astray.

14When I saw that they were not act-
ing in line with the truth of the gos-
pel,[u] I said to Peter[v] in front of them
all, "You are a Jew, yet you live like a
Gentile and not like a Jew.[w] How is it,
then, that you force Gentiles to follow
Jewish customs?[x]

15"We who are Jews by birth[y] and
not 'Gentile sinners'[z] 16know that a
man is not justified by observing the
law,[a] but by faith in Jesus Christ.[b] So
we, too, have put our faith in Christ
Jesus that we may be justified by faith
in Christ and not by observing the law,
because by observing the law no one
will be justified.[c]

17"If, while we seek to be justified in
Christ, it becomes evident that we our-
selves are sinners,[d] does that mean
that Christ promotes sin? Absolutely
not![e] 18If I rebuild what I destroyed, I
prove that I am a lawbreaker. 19For
through the law I died to the law[f] so
that I might live for God.[g] 20I have
been crucified with Christ[h] and I no
longer live, but Christ lives in me.[i]
The life I live in the body, I live by faith
in the Son of God,[j] who loved me[k]
and gave himself for me.[l] 21I do not set
aside the grace of God, for if righteous-
ness could be gained through the law,[m]
Christ died for nothing!"[f]

Faith or Observance of the Law

3 You foolish[n] Galatians![o] Who has
bewitched you?[p] Before your very
eyes Jesus Christ was clearly portrayed
as crucified.[q] 2I would like to learn just
one thing from you: Did you receive
the Spirit[r] by observing the law,[s] or
by believing what you heard?[t] 3Are
you so foolish? After beginning with
the Spirit, are you now trying to attain
your goal by human effort? 4Have you
suffered so much for nothing—if it
really was for nothing? 5Does God give
you his Spirit and work miracles[u]
among you because you observe the
law, or because you believe what you
heard?[v]

6Consider Abraham: "He believed
God, and it was credited to him as
righteousness."[g][w] 7Understand, then,
that those who believe[x] are children of
Abraham.[y] 8The Scripture foresaw that
God would justify the Gentiles by faith,
and announced the gospel in advance
to Abraham: "All nations will be
blessed through you."[h][z] 9So those
who have faith[a] are blessed along with
Abraham, the man of faith.[b]

10All who rely on observing the law[c]
are under a curse,[d] for it is written:
"Cursed is everyone who does not con-
tinue to do everything written in the
Book of the Law."[i][e] 11Clearly no one is
justified before God by the law,[f] be-
cause, "The righteous will live by
faith."[j][g] 12The law is not based on
faith; on the contrary, "The man who
does these things will live by them."[k][h]
13Christ redeemed us from the curse of
the law[i] by becoming a curse for us,
for it is written: "Cursed is everyone
who is hung on a tree."[l][j] 14He re-
deemed us in order that the blessing
given to Abraham might come to the
Gentiles through Christ Jesus,[k] so that
by faith we might receive the promise
of the Spirit.[l]

The Law and the Promise

15Brothers,[m] let me take an example
from everyday life. Just as no one can
set aside or add to a human covenant

2:6 [a]S Ac 10:34; S Rev 2:23 [b]1Co 15:11
2:7 [c]1Th 2:4; 1Ti 1:11 [d]S Ac 9:15 [e]ver 9,11,14
2:8 [f]Ac 1:25 [g]S 1Co 1:1
2:9 [h]S Ac 15:13 [i]ver 7,11,14 [j]1Ti 3:15; Rev 3:12 [k]ver 1; S Ac 4:36 [l]S Ro 12:3 [m]S Ac 9:15
2:10 [n]S Ac 24:17
2:11 [o]ver 7,9,14 [p]S Ac 11:19
2:12 [q]S Ac 15:13 [r]Ac 11:3 [s]Ac 10:45; 11:2
2:13 [t]ver 1; S Ac 4:36
2:14 [u]ver 5 [v]ver 7,9,11 [w]Ac 10:28 [x]ver 12
2:15 [y]Php 3:4,5 [z]1Sa 15:18; Lk 24:7
2:16 [a]S Ro 3:28 [b]S Ro 9:30 [c]S Ro 3:28; S 4:25
2:17 [d]ver 15 [e]Gal 3:21
2:19 [f]S Ro 7:4 [g]Ro 6:10,11,14; 2Co 5:15
2:20 [h]S Ro 6:6 [i]S Ro 8:10; 1Pe 4:2 [j]S Mt 4:3 [k]S Ro 8:37 [l]S Gal 1:4
2:21 [m]Gal 3:21
3:1 [n]Lk 24:25 [o]S Ac 16:6 [p]Gal 5:7 [q]1Co 1:23
3:2 [r]S Jn 20:22 [s]ver 5,10; Gal 2:16 [t]Ro 10:17; Heb 4:2
3:5 [u]1Co 12:10 [v]ver 2,10; Gal 2:16
3:6 [w]Ge 15:6; S Ro 4:3
3:7 [x]ver 9 [y]S Lk 3:8
3:8 [z]Ge 12:3; 18:18; 22:18; 26:4; Ac 3:25
3:9 [a]ver 7; Ro 4:16 [b]Ro 4:18-22
3:10 [c]ver 2,5; Gal 2:16 [d]ver 13; S Ro 4:15 [e]Dt 27:26; Jer 11:3
3:11 [f]S Ro 3:28 [g]Hab 2:4; S Ro 9:30; Heb 10:38
3:12 [h]Lev 18:5; S Ro 10:5
3:13 [i]Gal 4:5 [j]Dt 21:23; S Ac 5:30
3:14 [k]Ro 4:9,16 [l]ver 2; Joel 2:28; S Jn 20:22; S Ac 2:33
3:15 [m]S Ro 7:1

[c]7 Greek *uncircumcised* [d]7 Greek *circumcised*; also in verses 8 and 9 [e]9 Greek *Cephas*; also in verses 11 and 14 [f]21 Some interpreters end the quotation after verse 14. [g]6 Gen. 15:6 [h]8 Gen. 12:3; 18:18; 22:18 [i]10 Deut. 27:26 [j]11 Hab. 2:4 [k]12 Lev. 18:5 [l]13 Deut. 21:23

that has been duly established, so it is in this case. 16The promises were spoken to Abraham and to his seed.[a] The Scripture does not say "and to seeds," meaning many people, but "and to your seed,"[m][b] meaning one person, who is Christ. 17What I mean is this: The law, introduced 430 years[c] later, does not set aside the covenant previously established by God and thus do away with the promise. 18For if the inheritance depends on the law, then it no longer depends on a promise;[d] but God in his grace gave it to Abraham through a promise.

19What, then, was the purpose of the law? It was added because of transgressions[e] until the Seed[f] to whom the promise referred had come. The law was put into effect through angels[g] by a mediator.[h] 20A mediator,[i] however, does not represent just one party; but God is one.

21Is the law, therefore, opposed to the promises of God? Absolutely not![j] For if a law had been given that could impart life, then righteousness would certainly have come by the law.[k] 22But the Scripture declares that the whole world is a prisoner of sin,[l] so that what was promised, being given through faith in Jesus Christ, might be given to those who believe.

23Before this faith came, we were held prisoners[m] by the law, locked up until faith should be revealed.[n] 24So the law was put in charge to lead us to Christ[n][o] that we might be justified by faith.[p] 25Now that faith has come, we are no longer under the supervision of the law.[q]

Sons of God

26You are all sons of God[r] through faith in Christ Jesus, 27for all of you who were baptized into Christ[s] have clothed yourselves with Christ.[t] 28There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free,[u] male nor female,[v] for you are all one in Christ Jesus.[w] 29If you belong to Christ,[x] then you are Abraham's seed,[y] and heirs[z] according to the promise.[a]

4 What I am saying is that as long as the heir is a child, he is no different from a slave, although he owns the whole estate. 2He is subject to guardians and trustees until the time set by his father. 3So also, when we were children, we were in slavery[b] under the basic principles of the world.[c] 4But when the time had fully come,[d] God sent his Son,[e] born of a woman,[f] born under law,[g] 5to redeem[h] those under law, that we might receive the full rights[i] of sons.[j] 6Because you are sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son[k] into our hearts,[l] the Spirit who calls out, "*Abba*,[o] Father."[m] 7So you are no longer a slave, but a son; and since you are a son, God has made you also an heir.[n]

Paul's Concern for the Galatians

8Formerly, when you did not know God,[o] you were slaves[p] to those who by nature are not gods.[q] 9But now that you know God—or rather are known by God[r]—how is it that you are turning back to those weak and miserable principles? Do you wish to be enslaved[s] by them all over again?[t] 10You are observing special days and months and seasons and years![u] 11I fear for you, that somehow I have wasted my efforts on you.[v]

12I plead with you, brothers,[w] become like me, for I became like you. You have done me no wrong. 13As you know, it was because of an illness[x] that I first preached the gospel to you. 14Even though my illness was a trial to you, you did not treat me with contempt or scorn. Instead, you welcomed me as if I were an angel of God, as if I were Christ Jesus himself.[y] 15What has happened to all your joy? I can testify that, if you could have done so, you would have torn out your eyes and given them to me. 16Have I now become your enemy by telling you the truth?[z]

17Those people are zealous to win you over, but for no good. What they want is to alienate you ⌞from us⌟, so that you may be zealous for them.[a] 18It is fine to be zealous, provided the purpose is good, and to be so always and not just when I am with you.[b] 19My dear children,[c] for whom I am again in the pains of childbirth until Christ is formed in you,[d] 20how I wish I could be with you now and change my tone, because I am perplexed about you!

Hagar and Sarah

21Tell me, you who want to be under the law,[e] are you not aware of what the law says? 22For it is written that Abraham had two sons, one by the slave woman[f] and the other by the free woman.[g] 23His son by the slave

3:16 [a]Ge 17:19; Ps 132:11; Mic 7:20; Lk 1:55; Ro 4:13, 16; 9:4,8; Gal 3:29; 4:28 [b]Ge 12:7; 13:15; 17:7,8,10; 24:7
3:17 [c]Ge 15:13, 14; Ex 12:40; Ac 7:6
3:18 [d]Ro 4:14
3:19 [e]Ro 5:20 [f]ver 16 [g]Dt 33:2; Ac 7:53 [h]Ex 20:19; Dt 5:5
3:20 [i]1Ti 2:5; Heb 8:6; 9:15; 12:24
3:21 [j]Gal 2:17; S Ro 7:12 [k]Gal 2:21
3:22 [l]Ro 3:9-19; 11:32
3:23 [m]Ro 11:32 [n]ver 25
3:24 [o]ver 19; Ro 10:4; S 4:15 [p]Gal 2:16
3:25 [q]S Ro 7:4
3:26 [r]S Ro 8:14
3:27 [s]S Mt 28:19 [t]S Ro 13:14
3:28 [u]1Co 12:13; Col 3:11 [v]Ge 1:27; 5:2; Joel 2:29 [w]Jn 10:16; 17:11; Eph 2:14,15
3:29 [x]S 1Co 3:23 [y]ver 16; S Lk 3:8 [z]S Ro 8:17 [a]S Gal 3:16
4:3 [b]ver 8,9,24, 25; Gal 2:4 [c]Col 2:8,20
4:4 [d]Mk 1:15; Ro 5:6; Eph 1:10 [e]S Jn 3:17 [f]S Jn 1:14 [g]Lk 2:27
4:5 [h]S Ro 3:24 [i]Jn 1:12 [j]S Ro 8:14
4:6 [k]S Ac 16:7 [l]Ro 5:5 [m]Ro 8:15,16
4:7 [n]S Ro 8:17
4:8 [o]Ro 1:28; 1Co 1:21; 15:34; 1Th 4:5; 2Th 1:8 [p]S ver 3 [q]2Ch 13:9; Isa 37:19; Jer 2:11; 5:7; 16:20; 1Co 8:4,5
4:9 [r]1Co 8:3 [s]S ver 3 [t]Col 2:20
4:10 [u]Ro 14:5; Col 2:16
4:11 [v]1Th 3:5
4:12 [w]S Ro 7:1; Gal 6:18
4:13 [x]1Co 2:3
4:14 [y]Mt 10:40
4:16 [z]Am 5:10
4:17 [a]Gal 2:4,12
4:18 [b]ver 13,14
4:19 [c]S 1Th 2:11 [d]Ro 8:29; Eph 4:13
4:21 [e]S Ro 2:12
4:22 [f]Ge 16:15 [g]Ge 21:2

[m]16 Gen. 12:7; 13:15; 24:7 [n]24 Or *charge until Christ came* [o]6 Aramaic for *Father*

woman was born in the ordinary way;
but his son by the free woman was
born as the result of a promise.
24These things may be taken figura-
tively, for the women represent two
covenants. One covenant is from
Mount Sinai and bears children who
are to be slaves: This is Hagar. 25Now
Hagar stands for Mount Sinai in Arabia
and corresponds to the present city of
Jerusalem, because she is in slavery
with her children. 26But the Jerusalem
that is above is free, and she is our
mother. 27For it is written:

"Be glad, O barren woman,
who bears no children;
break forth and cry aloud,
you who have no labor pains;
because more are the children of the
desolate woman
than of her who has a
husband."[p]

28Now you, brothers, like Isaac, are
children of promise. 29At that time the
son born in the ordinary way perse-
cuted the son born by the power of the
Spirit. It is the same now. 30But what
does the Scripture say? "Get rid of the
slave woman and her son, for the slave
woman's son will never share in the in-
heritance with the free woman's
son."[q] 31Therefore, brothers, we are
not children of the slave woman, but
of the free woman.

Freedom in Christ

5 It is for freedom that Christ has set
us free. Stand firm, then, and do
not let yourselves be burdened again
by a yoke of slavery.
2Mark my words! I, Paul, tell you
that if you let yourselves be circum-
cised, Christ will be of no value to you
at all. 3Again I declare to every man
who lets himself be circumcised that he
is obligated to obey the whole law.
4You who are trying to be justified by
law have been alienated from Christ;
you have fallen away from grace. 5But
by faith we eagerly await through the
Spirit the righteousness for which we
hope. 6For in Christ Jesus neither cir-
cumcision nor uncircumcision has any
value. The only thing that counts is
faith expressing itself through love.
7You were running a good race.
Who cut in on you and kept you from
obeying the truth? 8That kind of per-
suasion does not come from the one
who calls you. 9"A little yeast works
through the whole batch of dough."

10I am confident in the Lord that you
will take no other view. The one who
is throwing you into confusion will
pay the penalty, whoever he may be.
11Brothers, if I am still preaching cir-
cumcision, why am I still being perse-
cuted? In that case the offense of the
cross has been abolished. 12As for those
agitators, I wish they would go the
whole way and emasculate themselves!
13You, my brothers, were called to be
free. But do not use your freedom to
indulge the sinful nature[r]; rather,
serve one another in love. 14The entire
law is summed up in a single com-
mand: "Love your neighbor as your-
self."[s] 15If you keep on biting and de-
vouring each other, watch out or you
will be destroyed by each other.

Life by the Spirit

16So I say, live by the Spirit, and
you will not gratify the desires of the
sinful nature. 17For the sinful nature
desires what is contrary to the Spirit,
and the Spirit what is contrary to the
sinful nature. They are in conflict with
each other, so that you do not do what
you want. 18But if you are led by the
Spirit, you are not under law.
19The acts of the sinful nature are
obvious: sexual immorality, impurity
and debauchery; 20idolatry and witch-
craft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of
rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, fac-
tions 21and envy; drunkenness, orgies,
and the like. I warn you, as I did be-
fore, that those who live like this will
not inherit the kingdom of God.
22But the fruit of the Spirit is love,
joy, peace, patience, kindness, good-
ness, faithfulness, 23gentleness and
self-control. Against such things there
is no law. 24Those who belong to
Christ Jesus have crucified the sinful
nature with its passions and desires.
25Since we live by the Spirit, let us
keep in step with the Spirit. 26Let us
not become conceited, provoking and
envying each other.

Doing Good to All

6 Brothers, if someone is caught in a
sin, you who are spiritual should
restore him gently. But watch your-
self, or you also may be tempted. 2Car-
ry each other's burdens, and in this
way you will fulfill the law of Christ.
3If anyone thinks he is something

[p]27 Isaiah 54:1 [q]30 Gen. 21:10 [r]13 Or the flesh; also in verses 16, 17, 19 and 24 [s]14 Lev. 19:18

when he is nothing, he deceives him-
self.[a] 4Each one should test his own ac-
tions. Then he can take pride in him-
self,[b] without comparing himself to
somebody else,[c] 5for each one should
carry his own load.[d]

6Anyone who receives instruction in
the word must share all good things
with his instructor.[e]

7Do not be deceived:[f] God cannot be
mocked. A man reaps what he sows.[g]
8The one who sows to please his sinful
nature,[h] from that nature[t] will reap
destruction;[i] the one who sows to
please the Spirit, from the Spirit will
reap eternal life.[j] 9Let us not become
weary in doing good,[k] for at the
proper time we will reap a harvest if we
do not give up.[l] 10Therefore, as we
have opportunity, let us do good[m] to
all people, especially to those who be-
long to the family[n] of believers.

Not Circumcision but a New Creation

11See what large letters I use as I
write to you with my own hand![o]

12Those who want to make a good
impression outwardly[p] are trying to
compel you to be circumcised.[q] The
only reason they do this is to avoid be-
ing persecuted[r] for the cross of Christ.
13Not even those who are circumcised
obey the law,[s] yet they want you to be
circumcised that they may boast about
your flesh.[t] 14May I never boast except
in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ,[u]
through which[u] the world has been
crucified to me, and I to the world.[v]
15Neither circumcision nor uncircumci-
sion means anything;[w] what counts is a
new creation.[x] 16Peace and mercy to all
who follow this rule, even to the Israel
of God.

17Finally, let no one cause me trou-
ble, for I bear on my body the marks[y]
of Jesus.

18The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ[z]
be with your spirit,[a] brothers. Amen.

6:3 [a]1Co 3:18 **6:4** [b]2Co 13:5 [c]2Co 10:12 **6:5** [d]ver 2; Jer 31:30 **6:6** [e]1Co 9:11, 14; 1Ti 5:17,18 **6:7** [f]S 1Co 6:9 [g]Pr 22:8; Jer 34:17; Hos 10:12,13; 2Co 9:6 **6:8** [h]S Gal 5:24 [i]Job 4:8; Hos 8:7; S Ro 6:23 [j]Jas 3:18 **6:9** [k]1Co 15:58; 2Co 4:1 [l]Job 42:12; Ps 126:5; Heb 12:3; Rev 2:10 **6:10** [m]Pr 3:27; S Tit 2:14 [n]Eph 2:19; 1Pe 4:17 **6:11** [o]S 1Co 16:21 **6:12** [p]Mt 23:25, 26 [q]Ac 15:1 [r]Gal 5:11 **6:13** [s]Ro 2:25 [t]Php 3:3 **6:14** [u]1Co 2:2 [v]S Ro 6:2,6 **6:15** [w]S 1Co 7:19 [x]S 2Co 5:17 **6:17** [y]Isa 44:5; S 2Co 1:5; 11:23 **6:18** [z]S Ro 16:20 [a]Php 4:23; 2Ti 4:22; Phm 25

[t]8 Or *his flesh, from the flesh* [u]14 Or *whom*

Ephesians

1 Paul, an apostle[a] of Christ Jesus by
the will of God,[b]

To the saints[c] in Ephesus,[a][d] the
faithful[b][e] in Christ Jesus:

[2]Grace and peace to you from God
our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.[f]

Spiritual Blessings in Christ

[3]Praise be to the God and Father of
our Lord Jesus Christ,[g] who has
blessed us in the heavenly realms[h]
with every spiritual blessing in Christ.
[4]For he chose us[i] in him before the
creation of the world[j] to be holy and
blameless[k] in his sight. In love[l] [5]he[c]
predestined[m] us to be adopted as his
sons[n] through Jesus Christ, in accor-
dance with his pleasure[o] and will— [6]to
the praise of his glorious grace,[p] which
he has freely given us in the One he
loves.[q] [7]In him we have redemption[r]
through his blood,[s] the forgiveness of
sins, in accordance with the riches[t] of
God's grace [8]that he lavished on us
with all wisdom and understanding.
[9]And he[d] made known to us the mys-
tery[u] of his will according to his good
pleasure, which he purposed[v] in
Christ, [10]to be put into effect when the
times will have reached their fulfill-
ment[w]—to bring all things in heaven
and on earth together under one head,
even Christ.[x]

[11]In him we were also chosen,[e] hav-
ing been predestined[y] according to the
plan of him who works out everything
in conformity with the purpose[z] of his
will, [12]in order that we, who were the
first to hope in Christ, might be for the
praise of his glory.[a] [13]And you also
were included in Christ[b] when you
heard the word of truth,[c] the gospel of
your salvation. Having believed, you
were marked in him with a seal,[d] the
promised Holy Spirit,[e] [14]who is a de-
posit guaranteeing our inheritance[f]
until the redemption[g] of those who are
God's possession—to the praise of his
glory.[h]

1:1 [a]S 1Co 1:1 [b]S 2Co 1:1 [c]S Ac 9:13 [d]S Ac 18:19 [e]Col 1:2 **1:2** [f]S Ro 1:7 **1:3** [g]2Co 1:3; 1Pe 1:3 [h]ver 20; Eph 2:6; 3:10; 6:12 **1:4** [i]2Th 2:13 [j]S Mt 25:34 [k]Lev 11:44; 20:7; 2Sa 22:24; Ps 15:2; Eph 5:27; Col 1:22 [l]Eph 4:2,15,16 **1:5** [m]ver 11; Ro 8:29,30 [n]S Ro 8:14,15 [o]Lk 12:32; 1Co 1:21; Col 1:19 **1:6** [p]ver 12,14 [q]Mt 3:17 **1:7** [r]ver 14; S Ro 3:24 [s]S Ro 3:25 [t]S Ro 2:4 **1:9** [u]S Ro 16:25 [v]S ver 11 **1:10** [w]Mk 1:15; Ro 5:6; Gal 4:4 [x]Col 1:20 **1:11** [y]ver 5; Ro 8:29,30 [z]ver 9; Ro 8:28; Eph 3:11; Heb 6:17 **1:12** [a]ver 6,14 **1:13** [b]S Ro 16:3 [c]Eph 4:21; Col 1:5 [d]Eph 4:30 [e]Jn 14:16,17 **1:14** [f]S Ac 20:32; S 2Co 5:5 [g]ver 7; S Ro 3:24 [h]ver 6, 12

1:15 [i]S Ac 20:21 [j]S Col 1:4 **1:16** [k]S Ro 1:8 [l]S Ro 1:10 **1:17** [m]Jn 20:17; Ro 15:6; Rev 1:6 [n]Ex 28:3; Isa 11:2; Php 1:9; Col 1:9 **1:18** [o]Job 42:5; 2Co 4:6; Heb 6:4 [p]S Ro 8:28 [q]ver 7; S Ro 2:4 [r]ver 11 [s]Col 1:12 **1:19** [t]Eph 3:7; Col 1:29 [u]Isa 40:26; Eph 6:10 **1:20** [v]S Ac 2:24 [w]S Mk 16:19 [x]S ver 3 **1:21** [y]Eph 3:10; Col 1:16 [z]Php 2:9,10 [a]S Mt 12:32 **1:22** [b]S Mt 22:44; S 28:18

Thanksgiving and Prayer

[15]For this reason, ever since I heard
about your faith in the Lord Jesus[i] and
your love for all the saints,[j] [16]I have
not stopped giving thanks for you,[k]
remembering you in my prayers.[l] [17]I
keep asking that the God of our Lord
Jesus Christ, the glorious Father,[m] may
give you the Spirit[f] of wisdom[n] and
revelation, so that you may know him
better. [18]I pray also that the eyes of
your heart may be enlightened[o] in or-
der that you may know the hope to
which he has called[p] you, the riches[q]
of his glorious inheritance[r] in the
saints,[s] [19]and his incomparably great
power for us who believe. That power[t]
is like the working of his mighty
strength,[u] [20]which he exerted in Christ
when he raised him from the dead[v]
and seated him at his right hand[w] in
the heavenly realms,[x] [21]far above all
rule and authority, power and domin-
ion,[y] and every title[z] that can be giv-
en, not only in the present age but also
in the one to come.[a] [22]And God placed
all things under his feet[b] and ap-
pointed him to be head[c] over every-
thing for the church, [23]which is his
body,[d] the fullness of him[e] who fills
everything in every way.[f]

Made Alive in Christ

2 As for you, you were dead in your
transgressions and sins,[g] [2]in which
you used to live[h] when you followed
the ways of this world[i] and of the ruler
of the kingdom of the air,[j] the spirit
who is now at work in those who are
disobedient.[k] [3]All of us also lived
among them at one time,[l] gratifying
the cravings of our sinful nature[g][m] and

[c]1Co 11:3; Eph 4:15; 5:23; Col 1:18; 2:19 **1:23** [d]S 1Co 12:27 [e]S Jn 1:16; Eph 3:19 [f]Eph 4:10 **2:1** [g]ver 5; Col 2:13 **2:2** [h]ver 3,11-13; Ro 11:30; 1Co 6:11; 5:8; Col 3:7; Tit 3:3; 1Pe 4:3 [i]Ro 12:2 [j]S Jn 12:31 [k]Eph 5:6 **2:3** [l]S ver 2 [m]S Gal 5:24

[a]1 Some early manuscripts do not have *in Ephesus*.
[b]1 Or *believers who are*
[c]4,5 Or *sight in love.* [5]*He*
[d]8,9 Or *us. With all wisdom and understanding,* [9]*he*
[e]11 Or *were made heirs*
[f]17 Or *a spirit*
[g]3 Or *our flesh*

following its desires and thoughts. Like
the rest, we were by nature objects of
wrath. 4But because of his great love
for us,[a] God, who is rich in mercy,
5made us alive with Christ even when
we were dead in transgressions[b]—it is
by grace you have been saved.[c] 6And
God raised us up with Christ[d] and
seated us with him[e] in the heavenly
realms[f] in Christ Jesus, 7in order that
in the coming ages he might show the
incomparable riches of his grace,[g]
expressed in his kindness[h] to us in
Christ Jesus. 8For it is by grace[i] you
have been saved,[j] through faith[k]
—and this not from yourselves, it
is the gift of God— 9not by works,[l] so
that no one can boast.[m] 10For we are
God's workmanship,[n] created[o] in
Christ Jesus to do good works,[p] which
God prepared in advance for us to do.

One in Christ

11Therefore, remember that former-
ly[q] you who are Gentiles by birth and
called "uncircumcised" by those who
call themselves "the circumcision"
(that done in the body by the hands of
men)[r]— 12remember that at that time
you were separate from Christ, ex-
cluded from citizenship in Israel and
foreigners[s] to the covenants of the
promise,[t] without hope[u] and without
God in the world. 13But now in Christ
Jesus you who once[v] were far away
have been brought near[w] through the
blood of Christ.[x]

14For he himself is our peace,[y] who
has made the two one[z] and has de-
stroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of
hostility, 15by abolishing in his flesh[a]
the law with its commandments and
regulations.[b] His purpose was to cre-
ate in himself one[c] new man out of the
two, thus making peace, 16and in this
one body to reconcile both of them to
God through the cross,[d] by which he
put to death their hostility. 17He came
and preached peace[e] to you who were
far away and peace to those who were
near.[f] 18For through him we both have
access[g] to the Father[h] by one Spirit.[i]

19Consequently, you are no longer
foreigners and aliens,[j] but fellow citi-
zens[k] with God's people and members
of God's household,[l] 20built[m] on the
foundation[n] of the apostles and proph-
ets,[o] with Christ Jesus himself[p] as the
chief cornerstone.[q] 21In him the whole
building is joined together and rises to
become a holy temple[r] in the Lord.
22And in him you too are being built
together to become a dwelling in which
God lives by his Spirit.[s]

Paul the Preacher to the Gentiles

3 For this reason I, Paul, the prison-
er[t] of Christ Jesus for the sake of
you Gentiles—

2Surely you have heard about the ad-
ministration of God's grace that was
given to me[u] for you, 3that is, the mys-
tery[v] made known to me by revela-
tion,[w] as I have already written briefly.
4In reading this, then, you will be able
to understand my insight[x] into the
mystery of Christ, 5which was not
made known to men in other genera-
tions as it has now been revealed by
the Spirit to God's holy apostles and
prophets.[y] 6This mystery is that
through the gospel the Gentiles are
heirs[z] together with Israel, members
together of one body,[a] and sharers to-
gether in the promise in Christ Jesus.[b]

7I became a servant of this gospel[c]
by the gift of God's grace given me[d]
through the working of his power.[e]
8Although I am less than the least of all
God's people,[f] this grace was given
me: to preach to the Gentiles[g] the un-
searchable riches of Christ,[h] 9and to
make plain to everyone the administra-
tion of this mystery,[i] which for ages
past was kept hidden in God, who
created all things. 10His intent was that
now, through the church, the manifold
wisdom of God[j] should be made
known[k] to the rulers and authorities[l]
in the heavenly realms,[m] 11according to
his eternal purpose[n] which he accom-
plished in Christ Jesus our Lord. 12In
him and through faith in him we may
approach God[o] with freedom and con-
fidence.[p] 13I ask you, therefore, not to
be discouraged because of my suffer-
ings for you, which are your glory.

A Prayer for the Ephesians

14For this reason I kneel[q] before the
Father, 15from whom his whole family[h]
in heaven and on earth derives its
name. 16I pray that out of his glorious
riches[r] he may strengthen you with
power[s] through his Spirit in your inner
being,[t] 17so that Christ may dwell in
your hearts[u] through faith. And I pray
that you, being rooted[v] and estab-
lished in love, 18may have power, to-
gether with all the saints,[w] to grasp

2:4 [a]S Jn 3:16 **2:5** [b]ver 1; Ps 103:12 [c]ver 8; Jn 5:24; S Ac 15:11 **2:6** [d]S Ro 6:5 [e]Eph 1:20 [f]S Eph 1:3 **2:7** [g]S Ro 2:4 [h]Tit 3:4 **2:8** [i]S Ro 3:24 [j]ver 5 [k]S Ro 9:30 **2:9** [l]Dt 9:5; Ro 4:2; 2Ti 1:9; Tit 3:5 [m]1Co 1:29 **2:10** [n]Isa 29:23; 43:7; 60:21 [o]Eph 4:24 [p]S Tit 2:14 **2:11** [q]S ver 2 [r]Col 2:11 **2:12** [s]Isa 14:1; 65:1 [t]Gal 3:17 [u]1Th 4:13 **2:13** [v]S ver 2 [w]ver 17 [x]Col 1:20 **2:14** [y]ver 15; S Jn 14:27 [z]1Co 12:13; Eph 3:6 **2:15** [a]Col 1:21, 22 [b]Col 2:14 [c]Gal 3:28 **2:16** [d]2Co 5:18; Col 1:20,22 **2:17** [e]S Lk 2:14 [f]ver 13; Ps 148:14; Isa 57:19 **2:18** [g]Eph 3:12 [h]Col 1:12 [i]1Co 12:13; Eph 4:4 **2:19** [j]ver 12 [k]Php 3:20 [l]Gal 6:10 **2:20** [m]1Co 3:9 [n]Mt 16:18; 1Co 3:10; Rev 21:14 [o]S Eph 4:11 [p]1Co 3:11 [q]S Ac 4:11; 1Pe 2:4-8 **2:21** [r]1Co 3:16, 17 **2:22** [s]1Co 3:16 **3:1** [t]Ac 23:18; Eph 4:1; 2Ti 1:8; Phm 1,9 **3:2** [u]Col 1:25 **3:3** [v]S Ro 16:25 [w]S 1Co 2:10 **3:4** [x]2Co 11:6 **3:5** [y]Ro 16:26; S Eph 4:11 **3:6** [z]S Ro 8:17 [a]Eph 2:15,16 [b]Eze 47:22 **3:7** [c]S 1Co 3:5 [d]S Ro 12:3 [e]Eph 1:19; Col 1:29 **3:8** [f]S 1Co 15:9 [g]S Ac 9:15 [h]S Ro 2:4 **3:9** [i]S Ro 16:25 **3:10** [j]S Ro 11:33; 1Co 2:7 [k]1Pe 1:12 [l]Eph 1:21; 6:12; Col 2:10,15 [m]S Eph 1:3 **3:11** [n]S Eph 1:11 **3:12** [o]Eph 2:18 [p]2Co 3:4; Heb 3:14; 4:16; 10:19,35; 1Jn 2:28; 3:21; 4:17 **3:14** [q]Php 2:10 **3:16** [r]ver 8; S Ro 2:4 [s]S Php 4:13 [t]Ro 7:22 **3:17** [u]S Ro 8:10 [v]Col 2:7 **3:18** [w]Eph 1:15

[h]15 Or *whom all fatherhood*

how wide and long and high and
deep[a] is the love of Christ, 19and to
know this love that surpasses knowl-
edge[b]—that you may be filled[c] to the
measure of all the fullness of God.[d]
20Now to him who is able[e] to do im-
measurably more than all we ask[f] or
imagine, according to his power[g] that
is at work within us, 21to him be glory
in the church and in Christ Jesus
throughout all generations, for ever
and ever! Amen.[h]

Unity in the Body of Christ

4 As a prisoner[i] for the Lord, then, I
urge you to live a life worthy[j] of
the calling[k] you have received. 2Be
completely humble and gentle; be pa-
tient, bearing with one another[l] in
love.[m] 3Make every effort to keep the
unity[n] of the Spirit through the bond
of peace.[o] 4There is one body[p] and one
Spirit[q]— just as you were called to one
hope when you were called[r]— 5one
Lord,[s] one faith, one baptism; 6one
God and Father of all,[t] who is over all
and through all and in all.[u]
7But to each one of us[v] grace[w] has
been given[x] as Christ apportioned it.
8This is why it[i] says:

"When he ascended on high,
he led captives[y] in his train
and gave gifts to men."[j] [z]

9(What does "he ascended" mean ex-
cept that he also descended to the low-
er, earthly regions[k]? 10He who descend-
ed is the very one who ascended[a]
higher than all the heavens, in order to
fill the whole universe.)[b] 11It was he
who gave[c] some to be apostles,[d] some
to be prophets,[e] some to be evange-
lists,[f] and some to be pastors and
teachers,[g] 12to prepare God's people
for works of service, so that the body of
Christ[h] may be built up[i] 13until we all
reach unity[j] in the faith and in the
knowledge of the Son of God[k] and
become mature,[l] attaining to the
whole measure of the fullness of
Christ.[m]
14Then we will no longer be infants,[n]
tossed back and forth by the waves,[o]
and blown here and there by every
wind of teaching and by the cunning
and craftiness of men in their deceitful
scheming.[p] 15Instead, speaking the
truth in love,[q] we will in all things
grow up into him who is the Head,[r]
that is, Christ. 16From him the whole
body, joined and held together by
every supporting ligament, grows[s]
and builds itself up[t] in love,[u] as each
part does its work.

Living as Children of Light

17So I tell you this, and insist on it in
the Lord, that you must no longer[v] live
as the Gentiles do, in the futility of
their thinking.[w] 18They are darkened in
their understanding[x] and separated
from the life of God[y] because of the
ignorance that is in them due to the
hardening of their hearts.[z] 19Having
lost all sensitivity,[a] they have given
themselves over[b] to sensuality[c] so as
to indulge in every kind of impurity,
with a continual lust for more.
20You, however, did not come to
know Christ that way. 21Surely you
heard of him and were taught in him in
accordance with the truth that is in
Jesus. 22You were taught, with regard
to your former way of life, to put off[d]
your old self,[e] which is being corrupt-
ed by its deceitful desires;[f] 23to be
made new in the attitude of your
minds;[g] 24and to put on[h] the new
self,[i] created to be like God in true
righteousness and holiness.[j]
25Therefore each of you must put off
falsehood and speak truthfully[k] to his
neighbor, for we are all members of
one body.[l] 26"In your anger do not
sin"[l] [m] Do not let the sun go down
while you are still angry, 27and do not
give the devil a foothold.[n] 28He who
has been stealing must steal no longer,
but must work,[o] doing something use-
ful with his own hands,[p] that he may
have something to share with those in
need.[q]
29Do not let any unwholesome talk
come out of your mouths,[r] but only
what is helpful for building others up[s]
according to their needs, that it may
benefit those who listen. 30And do not
grieve the Holy Spirit of God,[t] with
whom you were sealed[u] for the day of
redemption.[v] 31Get rid of[w] all bitter-
ness, rage and anger, brawling and
slander, along with every form of mal-
ice.[x] 32Be kind and compassionate to
one another,[y] forgiving each other,
just as in Christ God forgave you.[z]

5 Be imitators of God,[a] therefore, as
dearly loved children[b] 2and live a
life of love, just as Christ loved us[c] and

3:18 [a]Job 11:8,9; Ps 103:11 **3:19** [b]Php 4:7 [c]Col 2:10 [d]Eph 1:23 **3:20** [e]Ro 16:25; 2Co 9:8 [f]1Ki 3:13 [g]ver 7 **3:21** [h]S Ro 11:36 **4:1** [i]S Eph 3:1 [j]Php 1:27; Col 1:10; 1Th 2:12 [k]S Ro 8:28 **4:2** [l]Col 3:12,13 [m]ver 15,16; Eph 1:4 **4:3** [n]S Ro 15:5 [o]Col 3:15 **4:4** [p]S Ro 12:5 [q]1Co 12:13; Eph 2:18 [r]S Ro 8:28 **4:5** [s]1Co 8:6 **4:6** [t]Dt 6:4; Zec 14:9 [u]S Ro 11:36 **4:7** [v]1Co 12:7,11 [w]S Ro 3:24 [x]S Ro 12:3 **4:8** [y]Col 2:15 [z]Ps 68:18 **4:10** [a]Pr 30:1-4 [b]Eph 1:23 **4:11** [c]ver 8 [d]1Co 12:28; Eph 2:20; 3:5; 2Pe 3:2; Jude 17 [e]S Ac 11:27; Ro 12:6; 1Co 12:10,28; 13:2,8; 14:1,39; Eph 2:20; 3:5; 2Pe 3:2 [f]Ac 21:8; 2Ti 4:5 [g]Ac 13:1; Ro 2:21; 12:7; 1Co 12:28; 14:26; 1Ti 1:7; Jas 3:1 **4:12** [h]S 1Co 12:27 [i]S Ro 14:19 **4:13** [j]ver 3,5 [k]S Php 3:8 [l]S 1Co 2:6; Col 1:28 [m]Jn 1:16; Eph 1:23; 3:19 **4:14** [n]S 1Co 14:20 [o]Isa 57:20; Jas 1:6 [p]Eph 6:11 **4:15** [q]ver 2,16; Eph 1:4 [r]S Eph 1:22 **4:16** [s]Col 2:19 [t]1Co 12:7 [u]ver 2,15; Eph 1:4 **4:17** [v]Eph 2:2 [w]Ro 1:21 **4:18** [x]Dt 29:4; Ro 1:21 [y]Eph 2:12 [z]2Co 3:14 **4:19** [a]1Ti 4:2 [b]Ro 1:24 [c]Col 3:5; 1Pe 4:3 **4:22** [d]ver 25,31; Col 3:5,8,9; Jas 1:21; 1Pe 2:1 [e]S Ro 6:6 [f]Jer 17:9; Heb 3:13 **4:23** [g]Ro 12:2; Col 3:10 **4:24** [h]S Ro 13:14 [i]S Ro 6:4 [j]Eph 2:10 **4:25** [k]Ps 15:2; Lev 19:11; Zec 8:16; Col 3:9 [l]S Ro 12:5 **4:26** [m]Ps 4:4; S Mt 5:22 **4:27** [n]2Co 2:10,11

4:28 [o]Ac 20:35 [p]1Th 4:11 [q]Gal 6:10 **4:29** [r]Mt 12:36; Eph 5:4; Col 3:8 [s]S Ro 14:19 **4:30** [t]Isa 63:10; 1Th 5:19 [u]2Co 1:22; 5:5; Eph 1:13 [v]Ro 8:23 **4:31** [w]S ver 22 [x]Col 3:8; 1Pe 2:1 **4:32** [y]1Pe 3:8 [z]Mt 6:14,15; Col 3:12,13 **5:1** [a]Mt 5:48; Lk 6:36 [b]S Jn 1:12 **5:2** [c]S Jn 13:34

[i]8 Or *God* [j]8 Psalm 68:18 [k]9 *Or the depths of the earth* [l]26 Psalm 4:4

gave himself up for us[a] as a fragrant
offering and sacrifice to God.[b]
3But among you there must not be
even a hint of sexual immorality,[c] or of
any kind of impurity, or of greed,[d] be-
cause these are improper for God's
holy people. 4Nor should there be ob-
scenity, foolish talk[e] or coarse joking,
which are out of place, but rather
thanksgiving.[f] 5For of this you can be
sure: No immoral, impure or greedy
person—such a man is an idola-
ter[g]—has any inheritance[h] in the king-
dom of Christ and of God.[m][i] 6Let no
one deceive you[j] with empty words,
for because of such things God's
wrath[k] comes on those who are
disobedient.[l] 7Therefore do not be
partners with them.
8For you were once[m] darkness, but
now you are light in the Lord. Live as
children of light[n] 9(for the fruit[o] of the
light consists in all goodness,[p] right-
eousness and truth) 10and find out
what pleases the Lord.[q] 11Have noth-
ing to do with the fruitless deeds of
darkness,[r] but rather expose them.
12For it is shameful even to mention
what the disobedient do in secret. 13But
everything exposed by the light[s]
becomes visible, 14for it is light that
makes everything visible. This is why it
is said:

"Wake up, O sleeper,[t]
rise from the dead,[u]
and Christ will shine on you."[v]

15Be very careful, then, how you
live[w]—not as unwise but as wise,
16making the most of every opportu-
nity,[x] because the days are evil.[y]
17Therefore do not be foolish, but un-
derstand what the Lord's will is.[z] 18Do
not get drunk on wine,[a] which leads to
debauchery. Instead, be filled with the
Spirit.[b] 19Speak to one another with
psalms, hymns and spiritual songs.[c]
Sing and make music in your heart to
the Lord, 20always giving thanks[d] to
God the Father for everything, in the
name of our Lord Jesus Christ.
21Submit to one another[e] out of rev-
erence for Christ.

Wives and Husbands

5:22-6:9pp — Col 3:18-4:1

22Wives, submit to your husbands[f]
as to the Lord.[g] 23For the husband is
the head of the wife as Christ is the
head of the church,[h] his body, of
which he is the Savior. 24Now as the
church submits to Christ, so also wives
should submit to their husbands[i] in
everything.
25Husbands, love your wives,[j] just
as Christ loved the church and gave
himself up for her[k] 26to make her
holy,[l] cleansing[n] her by the washing[m]
with water through the word, 27and to
present her to himself[n] as a radiant
church, without stain or wrinkle or any
other blemish, but holy and blame-
less.[o] 28In this same way, husbands
ought to love their wives[p] as their own
bodies. He who loves his wife loves
himself. 29After all, no one ever hated
his own body, but he feeds and cares
for it, just as Christ does the church—
30for we are members of his body.[q]
31"For this reason a man will leave his
father and mother and be united to his
wife, and the two will become one
flesh."[o][r] 32This is a profound mys-
tery—but I am talking about Christ and
the church. 33However, each one of
you also must love his wife[s] as he
loves himself, and the wife must re-
spect her husband.

Children and Parents

6 Children, obey your parents in the
Lord, for this is right.[t] 2"Honor
your father and mother"—which is the
first commandment with a promise—
3"that it may go well with you and that
you may enjoy long life on the
earth."[p][u]
4Fathers, do not exasperate your chil-
dren;[v] instead, bring them up in the
training and instruction of the Lord.[w]

Slaves and Masters

5Slaves, obey your earthly masters
with respect[x] and fear, and with sin-
cerity of heart,[y] just as you would obey
Christ.[z] 6Obey them not only to win
their favor when their eye is on you,
but like slaves of Christ,[a] doing the
will of God from your heart. 7Serve
wholeheartedly, as if you were serving
the Lord, not men,[b] 8because you
know that the Lord will reward every-
one for whatever good he does,[c]
whether he is slave or free.
9And masters, treat your slaves in
the same way. Do not threaten them,
since you know that he who is both
their Master and yours[d] is in heaven,
and there is no favoritism[e] with him.

5:2 [a]ver 25; S Gal 1:4; 2:20 [b]Heb 7:27 **5:3** [c]S 1Co 6:18 [d]Col 3:5 **5:4** [e]Eph 4:29 [f]S ver 20 **5:5** [g]Col 3:5 [h]S Ac 20:32 [i]S Mt 25:34 **5:6** [j]S Mk 13:5 [k]S Ro 1:18 [l]Eph 2:2 **5:8** [m]S Eph 2:2 [n]Jn 8:12; S Lk 16:8; S Ac 26:18 **5:9** [o]Mt 7:16-20; Gal 5:22 [p]Ro 15:14 **5:10** [q]S 1Ti 5:4 **5:11** [r]Ro 13:12; 2Co 6:14 **5:13** [s]Jn 3:20,21 **5:14** [t]Ro 13:11 [u]Isa 26:19; Jn 5:25 [v]Isa 60:1; Mal 4:2 **5:15** [w]ver 2 **5:16** [x]Col 4:5 [y]Eph 6:13 **5:17** [z]Ro 12:2; Col 1:9; 1Th 4:3 **5:18** [a]Lev 10:9; Pr 20:1; Isa 28:7; Ro 13:13 [b]S Lk 1:15 **5:19** [c]Ps 27:6; 95:2; Ac 16:25; 1Co 14:15,26; Col 3:16 **5:20** [d]ver 4; Job 1:21; Ps 34:1; Col 3:17; Heb 13:15 **5:21** [e]Gal 5:13; 1Pe 5:5 **5:22** [f]Ge 3:16; 1Co 14:34; Col 3:18; 1Ti 2:12; Tit 2:5; 1Pe 3:1,5,6 [g]Eph 6:5 **5:23** [h]S Eph 1:22

5:24 [i]S ver 22 **5:25** [j]ver 28,33; Col 3:19 [k]S ver 2 **5:26** [l]Jn 17:19; Heb 2:11; 10:10, 14; 13:12 [m]S Ac 22:16 **5:27** [n]S 2Co 4:14 [o]Eph 1:4 **5:28** [p]ver 25 **5:30** [q]S Ro 12:5; S 1Co 12:27 **5:31** [r]Ge 2:24; Mt 19:5; 1Co 6:16 **5:33** [s]ver 25 **6:1** [t]Pr 6:20; Col 3:20 **6:3** [u]Ex 20:12; Dt 5:16 **6:4** [v]Col 3:21 [w]Ge 18:19; Dt 6:7; Pr 13:24; 22:6 **6:5** [x]1Ti 6:1; Tit 2:9; 1Pe 2:18 [y]Col 3:22 [z]Eph 5:22 **6:6** [a]S Ro 6:22 **6:7** [b]Col 3:23 **6:8** [c]S Mt 16:27; Col 3:24 **6:9** [d]Job 31:13, 14 [e]S Ac 10:34

m5 Or *kingdom of the Christ and God* n26 Or *having cleansed* o31 Gen. 2:24 p3 Deut. 5:16

The Armor of God

10Finally, be strong in the Lord[a] and
in his mighty power.[b] 11Put on the full
armor of God[c] so that you can take
your stand against the devil's schemes.
12For our struggle is not against flesh
and blood,[d] but against the rulers,
against the authorities,[e] against the
powers[f] of this dark world and against
the spiritual forces of evil in the heav-
enly realms.[g] 13Therefore put on the
full armor of God,[h] so that when the
day of evil comes, you may be able to
stand your ground, and after you have
done everything, to stand. 14Stand firm
then, with the belt of truth buckled
around your waist,[i] with the breast-
plate of righteousness in place,[j] 15and
with your feet fitted with the readiness
that comes from the gospel of peace.[k]
16In addition to all this, take up the
shield of faith,[l] with which you can ex-
tinguish all the flaming arrows of the
evil one.[m] 17Take the helmet of salva-
tion[n] and the sword of the Spirit,[o]
which is the word of God.[p] 18And pray
in the Spirit[q] on all occasions[r] with all
kinds of prayers and requests.[s] With
this in mind, be alert and always keep
on praying[t] for all the saints.

19Pray also for me,[u] that whenever I
open my mouth, words may be given
me so that I will fearlessly[v] make
known the mystery[w] of the gospel,
20for which I am an ambassador[x] in
chains.[y] Pray that I may declare it fear-
lessly, as I should.

Final Greetings

21Tychicus,[z] the dear brother and
faithful servant in the Lord, will tell
you everything, so that you also may
know how I am and what I am doing.
22I am sending him to you for this very
purpose, that you may know how we
are,[a] and that he may encourage you.[b]

23Peace[c] to the brothers, and love
with faith from God the Father and the
Lord Jesus Christ. 24Grace to all who
love our Lord Jesus Christ with an
undying love.

6:10 [a]2Sa 10:12; Ps 27:14; Hag 2:4; 1Co 16:13; 2Ti 2:1 [b]Eph 1:19 **6:11** [c]ver 13; Ro 13:12; 1Th 5:8 **6:12** [d]1Co 15:50; Heb 2:14 [e]Eph 1:21; 3:10 [f]Ro 8:38 [g]S Eph 1:3 **6:13** [h]ver 11; S 2Co 6:7 **6:14** [i]Isa 11:5 [j]Ps 132:9; Isa 59:17; 1Th 5:8 **6:15** [k]Isa 52:7; Ro 10:15 **6:16** [l]1Jn 5:4 [m]S Mt 5:37 **6:17** [n]Isa 59:17 [o]Isa 49:2 [p]S Heb 4:12 **6:18** [q]Ro 8:26,27 [r]S Lk 18:1 [s]Mt 26:41; Php 1:4; 4:6 [t]S Ac 1:14; Col 1:3 **6:19** [u]S 1Th 5:25 [v]S Ac 4:29 [w]S Ro 16:25 **6:20** [x]2Co 5:20 [y]S Ac 21:33

6:21 [z]S Ac 20:4 **6:22** [a]Col 4:7-9 [b]Col 2:2; 4:8 **6:23** [c]Gal 6:16; 2Th 3:16; 1Pe 5:14

Philippians

1 Paul and Timothy,[a] servants of
Christ Jesus,

To all the saints[b] in Christ Jesus at
Philippi,[c] together with the over-
seers[a][d] and deacons:[e]

2 Grace and peace to you from God
our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.[f]

Thanksgiving and Prayer

3 I thank my God every time I remem-
ber you.[g] 4 In all my prayers for all of
you, I always pray[h] with joy 5 because
of your partnership[i] in the gospel from
the first day[j] until now, 6 being confi-
dent of this, that he who began a good
work in you will carry it on to com-
pletion[k] until the day of Christ Jesus.[l]

7 It is right[m] for me to feel this way
about all of you, since I have you in my
heart;[n] for whether I am in chains[o] or
defending[p] and confirming the gospel,
all of you share in God's grace with me.
8 God can testify[q] how I long for all of
you with the affection of Christ Jesus.

9 And this is my prayer: that your
love[r] may abound more and more in
knowledge and depth of insight,[s] 10 so
that you may be able to discern what is
best and may be pure and blameless
until the day of Christ,[t] 11 filled with
the fruit of righteousness[u] that comes
through Jesus Christ—to the glory and
praise of God.

Paul's Chains Advance the Gospel

12 Now I want you to know, brothers,
that what has happened to me has
really served to advance the gospel.
13 As a result, it has become clear
throughout the whole palace guard[b]
and to everyone else that I am in
chains[v] for Christ. 14 Because of my
chains,[w] most of the brothers in the
Lord have been encouraged to speak
the word of God more courageously
and fearlessly.[x]

15 It is true that some preach Christ
out of envy and rivalry, but others out
of goodwill. 16 The latter do so in love,
knowing that I am put here for the de-
fense of the gospel.[y] 17 The former
preach Christ out of selfish ambition,[z]
not sincerely, supposing that they can
stir up trouble for me while I am in
chains.[c][a] 18 But what does it matter?
The important thing is that in every
way, whether from false motives or
true, Christ is preached. And because
of this I rejoice.

Yes, and I will continue to rejoice,
19 for I know that through your
prayers[b] and the help given by the
Spirit of Jesus Christ,[c] what has hap-
pened to me will turn out for my deliv-
erance.[d][d] 20 I eagerly expect[e] and hope
that I will in no way be ashamed, but
will have sufficient courage[f] so that
now as always Christ will be exalted in
my body,[g] whether by life or by
death.[h] 21 For to me, to live is Christ[i]
and to die is gain. 22 If I am to go on
living in the body, this will mean fruit-
ful labor for me. Yet what shall I
choose? I do not know! 23 I am torn be-
tween the two: I desire to depart[j] and
be with Christ,[k] which is better by far;
24 but it is more necessary for you that I
remain in the body. 25 Convinced of
this, I know that I will remain, and I
will continue with all of you for your
progress and joy in the faith, 26 so that
through my being with you again your
joy in Christ Jesus will overflow on ac-
count of me.

27 Whatever happens, conduct your-
selves in a manner worthy[l] of the gos-
pel of Christ. Then, whether I come
and see you or only hear about you in
my absence, I will know that you stand
firm[m] in one spirit, contending[n] as one
man for the faith of the gospel 28 with-
out being frightened in any way by
those who oppose you. This is a sign to
them that they will be destroyed, but
that you will be saved—and that by
God. 29 For it has been granted to you[o]

1:1 [a]S Ac 16:1; 2Co 1:1 [b]S Ac 9:13 [c]S Ac 16:12 [d]S 1Ti 3:1 [e]1Ti 3:8 **1:2** [f]S Ro 1:7 **1:3** [g]S Ro 1:8 **1:4** [h]S Ro 1:10 **1:5** [i]Ac 2:42; Php 4:15 [j]Ac 16:12-40 **1:6** [k]Ps 138:8 [l]ver 10; S 1Co 1:8 **1:7** [m]2Pe 1:13 [n]2Co 7:3 [o]ver 13,14,17; S Ac 21:33 [p]ver 16 **1:8** [q]S Ro 1:9 **1:9** [r]1Th 3:12 [s]S Eph 1:17 **1:10** [t]ver 6; S 1Co 1:8 **1:11** [u]S Jas 3:18 **1:13** [v]ver 7,14, 17; S Ac 21:33 **1:14** [w]ver 7,13, 17; S Ac 21:33 [x]S Ac 4:29 **1:16** [y]ver 7,12 **1:17** [z]Php 2:3 [a]ver 7,13,14; S Ac 21:33 **1:19** [b]2Co 1:11 [c]S Ac 16:7 [d]Phm 22 **1:20** [e]Ro 8:19 [f]ver 14 [g]1Co 6:20 [h]Ro 14:8 **1:21** [i]Gal 2:20 **1:23** [j]2Ti 4:6 [k]S Jn 12:26 **1:27** [l]S Eph 4:1 [m]S 1Co 16:13 [n]Jude 3 **1:29** [o]Mt 5:11, 12; Ac 5:41

[a]1 Traditionally *bishops* [b]13 Or *whole palace* [c]16,17 Some late manuscripts have verses 16 and 17 in reverse order. [d]19 Or *salvation*

on behalf of Christ not only to believe
on him, but also to suffer[a] for him,
30since you are going through the same
struggle[b] you saw[c] I had, and now
hear[d] that I still have.

Imitating Christ's Humility

2 If you have any encouragement
from being united with Christ, if
any comfort from his love, if any fel-
lowship with the Spirit,[e] if any tender-
ness and compassion,[f] 2then make my
joy complete[g] by being like-minded,[h]
having the same love, being one[i] in
spirit and purpose. 3Do nothing out of
selfish ambition or vain conceit,[j] but in
humility consider others better than
yourselves.[k] 4Each of you should look
not only to your own interests, but also
to the interests of others.[l]
5Your attitude should be the same as
that of Christ Jesus:[m]

6Who, being in very nature[e] God,[n]
did not consider equality with
God[o] something to be
grasped,
7but made himself nothing,[p]
taking the very nature[f] of a
servant,[q]
being made in human likeness.[r]
8And being found in appearance as a
man,
he humbled himself
and became obedient to death[s]—
even death on a cross![t]
9Therefore God exalted him[u] to the
highest place
and gave him the name that is
above every name,[v]
10that at the name of Jesus every knee
should bow,[w]
in heaven and on earth and under
the earth,[x]
11and every tongue confess that Jesus
Christ is Lord,[y]
to the glory of God the Father.

Shining as Stars

12Therefore, my dear friends, as you
have always obeyed—not only in my
presence, but now much more in my
absence—continue to work out your
salvation with fear and trembling,[z]
13for it is God who works in you[a] to
will and to act according to his good
purpose.[b]
14Do everything without complain-
ing[c] or arguing, 15so that you may
become blameless[d] and pure, children
of God[e] without fault in a crooked and
depraved generation,[f] in which you
shine like stars in the universe 16as you
hold out[g] the word of life—in order
that I may boast on the day of Christ[g]
that I did not run[h] or labor for noth-
ing.[i] 17But even if I am being poured
out like a drink offering[j] on the sacri-
fice[k] and service coming from your
faith, I am glad and rejoice with all of
you.[l] 18So you too should be glad and
rejoice with me.

Timothy and Epaphroditus

19I hope in the Lord Jesus to send
Timothy[m] to you soon,[n] that I also may
be cheered when I receive news about
you. 20I have no one else like him,[o]
who takes a genuine interest in your
welfare. 21For everyone looks out for
his own interests,[p] not those of Jesus
Christ. 22But you know that Timothy
has proved himself, because as a son
with his father[q] he has served with me
in the work of the gospel. 23I hope,
therefore, to send him as soon as I see
how things go with me.[r] 24And I am
confident[s] in the Lord that I myself
will come soon.
25But I think it is necessary to send
back to you Epaphroditus, my brother,
fellow worker[t] and fellow soldier,[u]
who is also your messenger, whom
you sent to take care of my needs.[v]
26For he longs for all of you[w] and is dis-
tressed because you heard he was ill.
27Indeed he was ill, and almost died.
But God had mercy on him, and not on
him only but also on me, to spare me
sorrow upon sorrow. 28Therefore I am
all the more eager to send him,[x] so that
when you see him again you may be
glad and I may have less anxiety.
29Welcome him in the Lord with great
joy, and honor men like him,[y] 30be-
cause he almost died for the work of
Christ, risking his life to make up for
the help you could not give me.[z]

No Confidence in the Flesh

3 Finally, my brothers, rejoice in the
Lord! It is no trouble for me to write
the same things to you again,[a] and it is
a safeguard for you.
2Watch out for those dogs,[b] those
men who do evil, those mutilators of
the flesh. 3For it is we who are the cir-
cumcision,[c] we who worship by the
Spirit of God, who glory in Christ
Jesus,[d] and who put no confidence in

1:29 [a]S Ac 14:22 **1:30** [b]1Th 2:2; Heb 10:32 [c]Ac 16:19-40 [d]ver 13 **2:1** [e]2Co 13:14 [f]Col 3:12 **2:2** [g]S Jn 3:29 [h]Php 4:2 [i]S Ro 15:5 **2:3** [j]Gal 5:26 [k]Ro 12:10; 1Pe 5:5 **2:4** [l]S 1Co 10:24 **2:5** [m]S Mt 11:29 **2:6** [n]Jn 1:1; S 14:9 [o]Jn 5:18 **2:7** [p]2Co 8:9 [q]S Mt 20:28 [r]S Jn 1:14; Ro 8:3; Heb 2:17 **2:8** [s]S Mt 26:39; Jn 10:18; Ro 5:19; Heb 5:8 [t]S 1Co 1:23 **2:9** [u]Isa 52:13; 53:12; Da 7:14; Ac 2:33; Heb 2:9 [v]Eph 1:20,21 **2:10** [w]Ps 95:6; Isa 45:23; Ro 14:11 [x]Mt 28:18; Eph 1:10; Col 1:20 **2:11** [y]S Jn 13:13 **2:12** [z]S 2Co 7:15 **2:13** [a]Ezr 1:5; 1Co 12:6; 15:10; Gal 2:8; Heb 13:21 [b]Eph 1:5 **2:14** [c]1Co 10:10; 1Pe 4:9 **2:15** [d]S 1Th 3:13 [e]Mt 5:45,48; Eph 5:1 [f]Ac 2:40

2:16 [g]S 1Co 1:8 [h]S 1Co 9:24 [i]1Th 2:19 **2:17** [j]2Co 12:15; 2Ti 4:6 [k]Ro 15:16 [l]S 2Co 6:10 **2:19** [m]S Ac 16:1 [n]ver 23 **2:20** [o]1Co 16:10 **2:21** [p]S 1Co 10:24 **2:22** [q]1Co 4:17; 1Ti 1:2 **2:23** [r]ver 19 **2:24** [s]Php 1:25 **2:25** [t]Ro 16:3,9, 21; 2Co 8:23; Php 4:3; Col 4:11; Phm 1 [u]Phm 2 [v]Php 4:18 **2:26** [w]Php 1:8 **2:28** [x]ver 25 **2:29** [y]1Co 16:18; 1Ti 5:17 **2:30** [z]1Co 16:17 **3:1** [a]Php 2:18 **3:2** [b]Ps 22:16,20; Rev 22:15 **3:3** [c]Ro 2:28,29; Gal 6:15; Col 2:11 [d]Ro 15:17; Gal 6:14

[e]6 *Or in the form of* [f]7 *Or the form* [g]16 *Or hold on to*

the flesh— 4though I myself have rea-
sons for such confidence.[a]
If anyone else thinks he has reasons
to put confidence in the flesh, I have
more: 5circumcised[b] on the eighth day,
of the people of Israel,[c] of the tribe of
Benjamin,[d] a Hebrew of Hebrews; in
regard to the law, a Pharisee;[e] 6as for
zeal,[f] persecuting the church;[g] as for
legalistic righteousness,[h] faultless.
7But whatever was to my profit I now
consider loss[i] for the sake of Christ.
8What is more, I consider everything a
loss compared to the surpassing great-
ness of knowing[j] Christ Jesus my
Lord, for whose sake I have lost all
things. I consider them rubbish, that I
may gain Christ[k] 9and be found in
him, not having a righteousness of my
own that comes from the law;[l] but that
which is through faith in Christ—the
righteousness[m] that comes from God
and is by faith.[n] 10I want to know[o]
Christ and the power of his resurrec-
tion and the fellowship of sharing in
his sufferings,[p] becoming like him in
his death,[q] 11and so, somehow, to at-
tain to the resurrection[r] from the dead.

Pressing on Toward the Goal

12Not that I have already obtained all
this, or have already been made per-
fect,[s] but I press on to take hold[t] of
that for which Christ Jesus took hold of
me.[u] 13Brothers, I do not consider my-
self yet to have taken hold of it. But one
thing I do: Forgetting what is behind[v]
and straining toward what is ahead, 14I
press on[w] toward the goal to win the
prize[x] for which God has called[y] me
heavenward in Christ Jesus.
15All of us who are mature[z] should
take such a view of things.[a] And if on
some point you think differently, that
too God will make clear to you.[b]
16Only let us live up to what we have
already attained.
17Join with others in following my ex-
ample,[c] brothers, and take note of
those who live according to the pattern
we gave you.[d] 18For, as I have often
told you before and now say again
even with tears,[e] many live as enemies
of the cross of Christ.[f] 19Their destiny[g]
is destruction, their god is their stom-
ach,[h] and their glory is in their
shame.[i] Their mind is on earthly
things.[j] 20But our citizenship[k] is in
heaven.[l] And we eagerly await a Sav-
ior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ,[m]
21who, by the power[n] that enables him
to bring everything under his control,

3:4 [a]2Co 11:21
3:5 [b]S Lk 1:59
[c]2Co 11:22
[d]Ro 11:1
[e]Ac 23:6
3:6 [f]S Ac 21:20
[g]S Ac 8:3 [h]ver 9;
Ro 10:5
3:7 [i]Mt 13:44;
Lk 14:33
3:8 [j]ver 10;
Jer 9:23,24;
Jn 17:3;
Eph 4:13;
S 2Pe 1:2
[k]Ps 73:25
3:9 [l]ver 6;
Ro 10:5
[m]Jer 33:16
[n]S Ro 9:30
3:10 [o]S ver 8
[p]S 2Co 1:5
[q]S Ro 6:3-5
3:11 [r]S Jn 11:24;
S Ro 6:5;
Rev 20:5,6
3:12 [s]1Co 13:10
[t]1Ti 6:12
[u]Ac 9:5,6
3:13 [v]Lk 9:62
3:14 [w]Heb 6:1
[x]1Co 9:24
[y]S Ro 8:28
3:15 [z]S 1Co 2:6
[a]Gal 5:10
[b]Eph 1:17;
1Th 4:9
3:17 [c]S 1Co 4:16
[d]S 1Ti 4:12
3:18 [e]Ac 20:31
[f]Gal 6:12
3:19 [g]Ps 73:17
[h]Ro 16:18
[i]Ro 6:21; Jude 13
[j]Ro 8:5,6;
Col 3:2
3:20 [k]Eph 2:19
[l]Col 3:1;
Heb 12:22
[m]S 1Co 1:7
3:21 [n]Eph 1:19
[o]1Co 15:43-53
[p]Ro 8:29; Col 3:4
4:1 [q]Php 1:8
[r]S 1Co 16:13
4:2 [s]Php 2:2
4:3 [t]S Php 2:25
[u]S Lk 10:20
4:4 [v]Ps 85:6;
97:12; Hab 3:18;
S Mt 5:12;
Ro 12:12;
Php 3:1
4:5 [w]Ps 119:151;
145:18;
Heb 10:37;
Jas 5:8,9
4:6 [x]Mt 6:25-34
[y]Eph 6:18;
1Ti 2:1
4:7 [z]Isa 26:3;
S Jn 14:27
[a]Eph 3:19
4:9 [b]S 1Co 4:16
[c]S Ro 15:33
4:10 [d]2Co 11:9
4:11 [e]1Ti 6:6,8;
Heb 13:5
4:12 [f]S 1Co 4:11
[g]2Co 11:9
4:13 [h]2Co 12:9;
Eph 3:16;
Col 1:11;
1Ti 1:12; 2Ti 4:17
4:14 [i]Php 1:7
4:15 [j]Php 1:5
[k]S Ac 16:9

will transform our lowly bodies[o] so
that they will be like his glorious
body.[p]
4 Therefore, my brothers, you whom
I love and long for,[q] my joy and
crown, that is how you should stand
firm[r] in the Lord, dear friends!

Exhortations

2I plead with Euodia and I plead with
Syntyche to agree with each other[s] in
the Lord. 3Yes, and I ask you, loyal
yokefellow,[h] help these women who
have contended at my side in the cause
of the gospel, along with Clement and
the rest of my fellow workers,[t] whose
names are in the book of life.[u]
4Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say
it again: Rejoice![v] 5Let your gentleness
be evident to all. The Lord is near.[w]
6Do not be anxious about anything,[x]
but in everything, by prayer and peti-
tion, with thanksgiving, present your
requests to God.[y] 7And the peace of
God,[z] which transcends all under-
standing,[a] will guard your hearts and
your minds in Christ Jesus.
8Finally, brothers, whatever is true,
whatever is noble, whatever is right,
whatever is pure, whatever is lovely,
whatever is admirable—if anything is
excellent or praiseworthy—think about
such things. 9Whatever you have
learned or received or heard from me,
or seen in me—put it into practice.[b]
And the God of peace[c] will be with
you.

Thanks for Their Gifts

10I rejoice greatly in the Lord that at
last you have renewed your concern for
me.[d] Indeed, you have been con-
cerned, but you had no opportunity to
show it. 11I am not saying this because I
am in need, for I have learned to be
content[e] whatever the circumstances.
12I know what it is to be in need, and I
know what it is to have plenty. I have
learned the secret of being content in
any and every situation, whether well
fed or hungry,[f] whether living in
plenty or in want.[g] 13I can do every-
thing through him who gives me
strength.[h]
14Yet it was good of you to share[i] in
my troubles. 15Moreover, as you
Philippians know, in the early days[j] of
your acquaintance with the gospel,
when I set out from Macedonia,[k] not
one church shared with me in the mat-

h3 Or *loyal Syzygus*

ter of giving and receiving, except you
only;[a] 16for even when I was in Thessa-
lonica,[b] you sent me aid again and
again when I was in need.[c] 17Not that I
am looking for a gift, but I am looking
for what may be credited to your ac-
count.[d] 18I have received full payment
and even more; I am amply supplied,
now that I have received from Epaph-
roditus[e] the gifts you sent. They are a
fragrant[f] offering, an acceptable sacri-
fice, pleasing to God. 19And my God
will meet all your needs[g] according to
his glorious riches[h] in Christ Jesus.

4:15 [a]2Co 11:8,9
4:16 [b]S Ac 17:1 [c]1Th 2:9
4:17 [d]1Co 9:11,12
4:18 [e]Php 2:25 [f]S 2Co 2:14
4:19 [g]Ps 23:1; 2Co 9:8 [h]S Ro 2:4
4:20 [i]Gal 1:4; 1Th 1:3; 3:11,13 [j]S Ro 11:36
4:21 [k]Gal 1:2
4:22 [l]S Ac 9:13
4:23 [m]S Ro 16:20 [n]S Gal 6:18

20To our God and Father[i] be glory
for ever and ever. Amen.[j]

Final Greetings

21Greet all the saints in Christ Jesus.
The brothers who are with me[k] send
greetings. 22All the saints[l] send you
greetings, especially those who belong
to Caesar's household.
23The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ[m]
be with your spirit.[n] Amen.[i]

[i]23 Some manuscripts do not have *Amen*.

Colossians

1 Paul, an apostle[a] of Christ Jesus by
the will of God,[b] and Timothy[c] our
brother,

2To the holy and faithful[a] brothers in
Christ at Colosse:

Grace[d] and peace to you from God
our Father.[b] [e]

Thanksgiving and Prayer

3We always thank God,[f] the Father
of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray
for you, 4because we have heard of
your faith in Christ Jesus and of the
love[g] you have for all the saints[h]—
5the faith and love that spring from the
hope[i] that is stored up for you in
heaven[j] and that you have already
heard about in the word of truth,[k] the
gospel 6that has come to you. All over
the world[l] this gospel is bearing fruit[m]
and growing, just as it has been doing
among you since the day you heard it
and understood God's grace in all its
truth. 7You learned it from Epaphras,[n]
our dear fellow servant, who is a faith-
ful minister[o] of Christ on our[c] behalf,
8and who also told us of your love in
the Spirit.[p]

9For this reason, since the day we
heard about you,[q] we have not
stopped praying for you[r] and asking
God to fill you with the knowledge of
his will[s] through all spiritual wisdom
and understanding.[t] 10And we pray
this in order that you may live a life
worthy[u] of the Lord and may please
him[v] in every way: bearing fruit in
every good work, growing in the
knowledge of God,[w] 11being strength-
ened with all power[x] according to his
glorious might so that you may have
great endurance and patience,[y] and
joyfully 12giving thanks to the Father,[z]
who has qualified you[d] to share in the
inheritance[a] of the saints in the king-
dom of light.[b] 13For he has rescued us
from the dominion of darkness[c] and
brought us into the kingdom[d] of the
Son he loves,[e] 14in whom we have re-
demption,[e] [f] the forgiveness of sins.[g]

The Supremacy of Christ

15He is the image[h] of the invisible
God,[i] the firstborn[j] over all creation.
16For by him all things were created:[k]
things in heaven and on earth, visible
and invisible, whether thrones or pow-
ers or rulers or authorities;[l] all things
were created by him and for him.[m]
17He is before all things,[n] and in him all
things hold together. 18And he is the
head[o] of the body, the church;[p] he is
the beginning and the firstborn[q] from
among the dead,[r] so that in everything
he might have the supremacy. 19For
God was pleased[s] to have all his full-
ness[t] dwell in him, 20and through him
to reconcile[u] to himself all things,
whether things on earth or things in
heaven,[v] by making peace[w] through
his blood,[x] shed on the cross.

21Once you were alienated from God
and were enemies[y] in your minds[z] be-
cause of[f] your evil behavior. 22But now
he has reconciled[a] you by Christ's
physical body[b] through death to
present you[c] holy in his sight, without
blemish and free from accusation[d]—
23if you continue[e] in your faith, estab-
lished[f] and firm, not moved from the
hope[g] held out in the gospel. This is
the gospel that you heard and that has
been proclaimed to every creature un-
der heaven,[h] and of which I, Paul,
have become a servant.[i]

Paul's Labor for the Church

24Now I rejoice[j] in what was suf-
fered for you, and I fill up in my flesh
what is still lacking in regard to Christ's
afflictions,[k] for the sake of his body,
which is the church.[l] 25I have become
its servant[m] by the commission God
gave me[n] to present to you the word of

1:1 [a]S 1Co 1:1 [b]S 2Co 1:1 [c]S Ac 16:1 **1:2** [d]Col 4:18 [e]S Ro 1:7 **1:3** [f]S Ro 1:8 **1:4** [g]Gal 5:6 [h]S Ac 9:13; Eph 1:15; Phm 5 **1:5** [i]ver 23; 1Th 5:8; Tit 1:2 [j]1Pe 1:4 [k]S 2Ti 2:15 **1:6** [l]ver 23; S Ro 10:18 [m]Jn 15:16 **1:7** [n]Col 4:12; Phm 23 [o]Col 4:7 **1:8** [p]Ro 15:30 **1:9** [q]ver 4; Eph 1:15 [r]S Ro 1:10 [s]S Eph 5:17 [t]S Eph 1:17 **1:10** [u]S Eph 4:1 [v]S 2Co 5:9 [w]ver 6 **1:11** [x]S Php 4:13 [y]Eph 4:2 **1:12** [z]Eph 5:20 [a]S Ac 20:32 [b]S Ac 26:18 **1:13** [c]S Ac 26:18 [d]2Pe 1:11 [e]Mt 3:17

1:14 [f]S Ro 3:24 [g]Eph 1:7 **1:15** [h]S Jn 14:9 [i]S Jn 1:18; 1Ti 1:17; Heb 11:27 [j]S ver 18 **1:16** [k]S Jn 1:3 [l]Eph 1:20,21 [m]S Ro 11:36 **1:17** [n]S Jn 1:2 **1:18** [o]S Eph 1:22 [p]ver 24; S 1Co 12:27 [q]ver 15; Ps 89:27; Ro 8:29; Heb 1:6 [r]Ac 26:23; Rev 1:5 **1:19** [s]S Eph 1:5 [t]S Jn 1:16 **1:20** [u]S Ro 5:10 [v]Eph 1:10 [w]S Lk 2:14 [x]Eph 2:13 **1:21** [y]Ro 5:10 [z]Eph 2:3 **1:22** [a]ver 20; S Ro 5:10 [b]Ro 7:4 [c]S 2Co 4:14 [d]Eph 1:4; 5:27 **1:23** [e]S Ro 11:22 [f]Eph 3:17 [g]ver 5 [h]ver 6; S Ro 10:18 [i]ver 25; S 1Co 3:5 **1:24** [j]S 2Co 6:10 [k]S 2Co 1:5 [l]S 1Co 12:27 **1:25** [m]ver 23; S 1Co 3:5 [n]Eph 3:2

[a]2 Or *believing* [b]2 Some manuscripts *Father and the Lord Jesus Christ* [c]7 Some manuscripts *your* [d]12 Some manuscripts *us* [e]14 A few late manuscripts *redemption through his blood* [f]21 Or *minds, as shown by*

God—in its fullness— 26the mystery
that has been kept hidden for ages and
generations, but is now disclosed to the
saints. 27To them God has chosen to
make known among the Gentiles the
glorious riches of this mystery, which
is Christ in you, the hope of glory.
28We proclaim him, admonishing
and teaching everyone with all wis-
dom, so that we may present every-
one perfect in Christ. 29To this end I
labor, struggling with all his energy,
which so powerfully works in me.

2 I want you to know how much I am
struggling for you and for those at
Laodicea, and for all who have not
met me personally. 2My purpose is that
they may be encouraged in heart and
united in love, so that they may have
the full riches of complete understand-
ing, in order that they may know the
mystery of God, namely, Christ, 3in
whom are hidden all the treasures of
wisdom and knowledge. 4I tell you
this so that no one may deceive you by
fine-sounding arguments. 5For
though I am absent from you in body, I
am present with you in spirit and de-
light to see how orderly you are and
how firm your faith in Christ is.

Freedom From Human Regulations Through Life With Christ

6So then, just as you received Christ
Jesus as Lord, continue to live in him,
7rooted and built up in him, strength-
ened in the faith as you were taught,
and overflowing with thankfulness.
8See to it that no one takes you cap-
tive through hollow and deceptive phi-
losophy, which depends on human
tradition and the basic principles of this
world rather than on Christ.
9For in Christ all the fullness of the
Deity lives in bodily form, 10and you
have been given fullness in Christ, who
is the head over every power and au-
thority. 11In him you were also cir-
cumcised, in the putting off of the sin-
ful nature,[g] not with a circumcision
done by the hands of men but with the
circumcision done by Christ, 12having
been buried with him in baptism and
raised with him through your faith in
the power of God, who raised him
from the dead.
13When you were dead in your sins
and in the uncircumcision of your sin-
ful nature,[h] God made you[i] alive
with Christ. He forgave us all our
sins, 14having canceled the written
code, with its regulations, that was
against us and that stood opposed to
us; he took it away, nailing it to the
cross. 15And having disarmed the
powers and authorities, he made a
public spectacle of them, triumphing
over them[j] by the cross.
16Therefore do not let anyone judge
you by what you eat or drink, or
with regard to a religious festival, a
New Moon celebration or a Sabbath
day. 17These are a shadow of the
things that were to come; the reality,
however, is found in Christ. 18Do not
let anyone who delights in false humili-
ty and the worship of angels disquali-
fy you for the prize. Such a person
goes into great detail about what he
has seen, and his unspiritual mind
puffs him up with idle notions. 19He
has lost connection with the Head,
from whom the whole body, sup-
ported and held together by its liga-
ments and sinews, grows as God
causes it to grow.
20Since you died with Christ to the
basic principles of this world, why, as
though you still belonged to it, do you
submit to its rules: 21"Do not handle!
Do not taste! Do not touch!"? 22These
are all destined to perish with use, be-
cause they are based on human com-
mands and teachings. 23Such regula-
tions indeed have an appearance of
wisdom, with their self-imposed wor-
ship, their false humility and their
harsh treatment of the body, but they
lack any value in restraining sensual in-
dulgence.

Rules for Holy Living

3 Since, then, you have been raised
with Christ, set your hearts on
things above, where Christ is seated at
the right hand of God. 2Set your
minds on things above, not on earthly
things. 3For you died, and your life
is now hidden with Christ in God.
4When Christ, who is your[k] life, ap-
pears, then you also will appear with
him in glory.
5Put to death, therefore, whatever
belongs to your earthly nature: sexual
immorality, impurity, lust, evil de-
sires and greed, which is idolatry.
6Because of these, the wrath of God[l] is
coming. 7You used to walk in these

[illegible]
2:14 Eph 2:15 1Pe 2:24
2:15 ver 10; Eph 6:12 Mt 12:29; Lk 10:18; Jn 12:31
2:16 Ro 14:3,4 Mk 7:19; Ro 14:17 Lev 23:2; Ro 14:5 1Ch 23:31 Mk 2:27,28; Gal 4:10
2:17 Heb 8:5; 10:1
2:18 ver 23 1Co 9:24; Php 3:14
2:19 S Eph 1:22 S 1Co 12:27 Eph 4:16
2:20 S Ro 6:6 ver 8; Gal 4:3,9 ver 14,16
2:22 1Co 6:13 Isa 29:13; Mt 15:9; Tit 1:14
2:23 ver 18
3:1 S Ro 6:5 S Mk 16:19
3:2 Php 3:19,20
3:3 S Ro 6:2; 2Co 5:14
3:4 Gal 2:20 1Co 1:7 1Pe 1:13; 1Jn 3:2
3:5 S Ro 6:2; S Eph 4:22 S Gal 5:24 S 1Co 6:18 Eph 5:3 Gal 5:19-21; Eph 5:5
3:6 S Ro 1:18

g11 Or *the flesh* h13 Or *your flesh* i13 Some manuscripts *us* j15 Or *them in him* k4 Some manuscripts *our* l6 Some early manuscripts *coming on those who are disobedient*

ways, in the life you once lived.[a] 8But
now you must rid yourselves[b] of all
such things as these: anger, rage, mal-
ice, slander,[c] and filthy language from
your lips.[d] 9Do not lie to each other,[e]
since you have taken off your old self[f]
with its practices 10and have put on the
new self,[g] which is being renewed[h] in
knowledge in the image of its Creator.[i]
11Here there is no Greek or Jew,[j] cir-
cumcised or uncircumcised,[k] barbari-
an, Scythian, slave or free,[l] but Christ
is all,[m] and is in all.

12Therefore, as God's chosen people,
holy and dearly loved, clothe your-
selves[n] with compassion, kindness,
humility,[o] gentleness and patience.[p]
13Bear with each other[q] and forgive
whatever grievances you may have
against one another. Forgive as the
Lord forgave you.[r] 14And over all these
virtues put on love,[s] which binds them
all together in perfect unity.[t]

15Let the peace of Christ[u] rule in
your hearts, since as members of one
body[v] you were called to peace.[w] And
be thankful. 16Let the word of Christ[x]
dwell in you richly as you teach and
admonish one another with all wis-
dom,[y] and as you sing psalms,[z]
hymns and spiritual songs with grati-
tude in your hearts to God.[a] 17And
whatever you do,[b] whether in word or
deed, do it all in the name of the Lord
Jesus, giving thanks[c] to God the Father
through him.

Rules for Christian Households

3:18-4:1pp — Eph 5:22-6:9

18Wives, submit to your husbands,[d]
as is fitting in the Lord.

19Husbands, love your wives and do
not be harsh with them.

20Children, obey your parents in
everything, for this pleases the Lord.

21Fathers, do not embitter your chil-
dren, or they will become discour-
aged.

22Slaves, obey your earthly masters
in everything; and do it, not only when
their eye is on you and to win their fa-
vor, but with sincerity of heart and rev-
erence for the Lord. 23Whatever you
do, work at it with all your heart, as
working for the Lord, not for men,
24since you know that you will receive
an inheritance[e] from the Lord as a re-
ward.[f] It is the Lord Christ you are
serving. 25Anyone who does wrong
will be repaid for his wrong, and there
is no favoritism.[g]

3:7 [a]S Eph 2:2 **3:8** [b]S Eph 4:22 [c]Eph 4:31 [d]Eph 4:29 **3:9** [e]S Eph 4:25 [f]S Ro 6:6 **3:10** [g]S Ro 6:4; S 13:14 [h]Ro 12:2; S 2Co 4:16; Eph 4:23 [i]Eph 2:10 **3:11** [j]Ro 10:12; 1Co 12:13 [k]S 1Co 7:19 [l]Gal 3:28 [m]Eph 1:23 **3:12** [n]ver 10 [o]Php 2:3 [p]2Co 6:6; Gal 5:22,23; Eph 4:2 **3:13** [q]Eph 4:2 [r]Eph 4:32 **3:14** [s]1Co 13:1-13 [t]S Ro 15:5 **3:15** [u]S Jn 14:27 [v]S Ro 12:5 [w]S Ro 14:19 **3:16** [x]Ro 10:17 [y]Col 1:28 [z]Ps 47:7 [a]S Eph 5:19 **3:17** [b]1Co 10:31 [c]S Eph 5:20 **3:18** [d]S Eph 5:22 **3:24** [e]S Ac 20:32 [f]S Mt 16:27 **3:25** [g]S Ac 10:34

4:1 [h]Lev 25:43, 53 **4:2** [i]S Lk 18:1 **4:3** [j]S Ac 14:27 [k]S Ro 16:25 [l]S Ac 21:33 **4:5** [m]Eph 5:15 [n]S Mk 4:11 [o]Eph 5:16 **4:6** [p]Eph 4:29 [q]Mk 9:50 [r]1Pe 3:15 **4:7** [s]S Ac 20:4 [t]Eph 6:21,22; Col 1:7 **4:8** [u]Eph 6:21, 22; Col 2:2 **4:9** [v]Phm 10 [w]ver 12 **4:10** [x]S Ac 19:29 [y]S Ac 12:12 [z]S Ac 4:36 **4:11** [a]S Php 2:25 **4:12** [b]Col 1:7; Phm 23 [c]ver 9 [d]S Ro 15:30 [e]S 1Co 2:6 **4:13** [f]S Col 2:1 **4:14** [g]2Ti 4:11; Phm 24 [h]2Ti 4:10; Phm 24 **4:15** [i]S Col 2:1 [j]S Ro 16:5 **4:16** [k]2Th 3:14; S 1Ti 4:13

4 Masters, provide your slaves with
what is right and fair,[h] because you
know that you also have a Master in
heaven.

Further Instructions

2Devote yourselves to prayer,[i] being
watchful and thankful. 3And pray for
us, too, that God may open a door[j] for
our message, so that we may proclaim
the mystery[k] of Christ, for which I am
in chains.[l] 4Pray that I may proclaim it
clearly, as I should. 5Be wise[m] in the
way you act toward outsiders;[n] make
the most of every opportunity.[o] 6Let
your conversation be always full of
grace,[p] seasoned with salt,[q] so that
you may know how to answer every-
one.[r]

Final Greetings

7Tychicus[s] will tell you all the news
about me. He is a dear brother, a faith-
ful minister and fellow servant[t] in the
Lord. 8I am sending him to you for the
express purpose that you may know
about our[m] circumstances and that he
may encourage your hearts.[u] 9He is
coming with Onesimus,[v] our faithful
and dear brother, who is one of you.[w]
They will tell you everything that is
happening here.

10My fellow prisoner Aristarchus[x]
sends you his greetings, as does
Mark,[y] the cousin of Barnabas.[z] (You
have received instructions about him; if
he comes to you, welcome him.)
11Jesus, who is called Justus, also sends
greetings. These are the only Jews
among my fellow workers[a] for the
kingdom of God, and they have proved
a comfort to me. 12Epaphras,[b] who is
one of you[c] and a servant of Christ
Jesus, sends greetings. He is always
wrestling in prayer for you,[d] that you
may stand firm in all the will of God,
mature[e] and fully assured. 13I vouch
for him that he is working hard for you
and for those at Laodicea[f] and
Hierapolis. 14Our dear friend Luke,[g]
the doctor, and Demas[h] send greet-
ings. 15Give my greetings to the broth-
ers at Laodicea,[i] and to Nympha and
the church in her house.[j]

16After this letter has been read to
you, see that it is also read[k] in the
church of the Laodiceans and that you
in turn read the letter from Laodicea.

m8 Some manuscripts *that he may know about your*

17Tell Archippus:[a] "See to it that you
complete the work you have received
in the Lord."[b]

4:17 [a]Phm 2; [b]2Ti 4:5
4:18 [c]S 1Co 16:21 [d]Heb 13:3 [e]S Ac 21:33 [f]1Ti 6:21; 2Ti 4:22; Tit 3:15; Heb 13:25

18I, Paul, write this greeting in my
own hand.[c] Remember[d] my chains.[e]
Grace be with you.[f]

1 Thessalonians

1 Paul, Silas[a][a] and Timothy,[b]
To the church of the Thessalo-
nians[c] in God the Father and the Lord
Jesus Christ:

Grace and peace to you.[b][d]

Thanksgiving for the Thessalonians' Faith

2We always thank God for all of
you,[e] mentioning you in our prayers.[f]
3We continually remember before our
God and Father[g] your work produced
by faith,[h] your labor prompted by
love,[i] and your endurance inspired by
hope[j] in our Lord Jesus Christ.
4For we know, brothers loved by
God,[k] that he has chosen you, 5be-
cause our gospel[l] came to you not sim-
ply with words, but also with power,[m]
with the Holy Spirit and with deep
conviction. You know[n] how we lived
among you for your sake. 6You became
imitators of us[o] and of the Lord; in
spite of severe suffering,[p] you wel-
comed the message with the joy[q] given
by the Holy Spirit.[r] 7And so you
became a model[s] to all the believers in
Macedonia[t] and Achaia.[u] 8The Lord's
message[v] rang out from you not only
in Macedonia and Achaia—your faith
in God has become known every-
where.[w] Therefore we do not need to
say anything about it, 9for they them-
selves report what kind of reception
you gave us. They tell how you
turned[x] to God from idols[y] to serve
the living and true God,[z] 10and to wait
for his Son from heaven,[a] whom he
raised from the dead[b]—Jesus, who res-
cues us from the coming wrath.[c]

Paul's Ministry in Thessalonica

2 You know, brothers, that our visit
to you[d] was not a failure.[e] 2We had
previously suffered[f] and been insulted
in Philippi,[g] as you know, but with the
help of our God we dared to tell you
his gospel in spite of strong opposi-
tion.[h] 3For the appeal we make does
not spring from error or impure mo-
tives,[i] nor are we trying to trick you.[j]
4On the contrary, we speak as men ap-
proved by God to be entrusted with the
gospel.[k] We are not trying to please
men[l] but God, who tests our hearts.[m]
5You know we never used flattery, nor
did we put on a mask to cover up
greed[n]—God is our witness.[o] 6We
were not looking for praise from men,[p]
not from you or anyone else.
As apostles[q] of Christ we could have
been a burden to you,[r] 7but we were
gentle among you, like a mother caring
for her little children.[s] 8We loved you
so much that we were delighted to
share with you not only the gospel of
God[t] but our lives as well,[u] because
you had become so dear to us. 9Surely
you remember, brothers, our toil and
hardship; we worked[v] night and day
in order not to be a burden to anyone[w]
while we preached the gospel of God
to you.
10You are witnesses,[x] and so is
God,[y] of how holy,[z] righteous and
blameless we were among you who be-
lieved. 11For you know that we dealt
with each of you as a father deals with
his own children,[a] 12encouraging,
comforting and urging you to live lives
worthy[b] of God, who calls[c] you into
his kingdom and glory.
13And we also thank God continual-
ly[d] because, when you received the
word of God,[e] which you heard from
us, you accepted it not as the word of
men, but as it actually is, the word of
God, which is at work in you who be-
lieve. 14For you, brothers, became
imitators[f] of God's churches in
Judea,[g] which are in Christ Jesus: You
suffered from your own countrymen[h]
the same things those churches suf-
fered from the Jews, 15who killed the
Lord Jesus[i] and the prophets[j] and

1:1 [a]S Ac 15:22 [b]S Ac 16:1; 2Th 1:1 [c]S Ac 17:1 [d]S Ro 1:7 **1:2** [e]S Ro 1:8; Eph 5:20 [f]S Ro 1:10 **1:3** [g]S Php 4:20 [h]Gal 5:6; 2Th 1:11; Jas 2:14-26 [i]1Th 3:6 2Th 1:3; S 1Co 13:13 [j]Ro 8:25 **1:4** [k]Col 3:12; 2Th 2:13 **1:5** [l]S 2Co 2:12; 2Th 2:14 [m]Ro 1:16; S Ro 15:13 [n]1Th 2:10 **1:6** [o]S 1Co 4:16 [p]Ac 17:5-10 [q]S 2Co 6:10 [r]Ac 13:52 **1:7** [s]S 1Ti 4:12 [t]S Ac 16:9 [u]S Ac 18:12 **1:8** [v]2Th 3:1 [w]Ro 1:8 **1:9** [x]Ac 14:15 [y]1Co 12:2; Gal 4:8 [z]S Mt 16:16 **1:10** [a]S 1Co 1:7 [b]S Ac 2:24 [c]S Ro 1:18 **2:1** [d]1Th 1:5,9 [e]2Th 1:10 **2:2** [f]Ac 14:19; 16:22; Php 1:30 [g]S Ac 16:12 [h]Ac 17:1-9 **2:3** [i]2Co 2:17 [j]2Co 4:2 **2:4** [k]Gal 2:7; 1Ti 1:11 [l]S Ro 2:29 [m]S Rev 2:23 **2:5** [n]S Ac 20:33 [o]ver 10; S Ro 1:9 **2:6** [p]Jn 5:41,44 [q]1Co 9:1,2 [r]2Co 11:7-11 **2:7** [s]S ver 11 **2:8** [t]S Ro 1:1 [u]2Co 12:15; 1Jn 3:16 **2:9** [v]S Ac 18:3 [w]S 2Co 11:9; 2Th 3:8 **2:10** [x]1Th 1:5 [y]ver 5; S Ro 1:9 [z]2Co 1:12 **2:11** [a]ver 7; 1Co 4:14; Gal 4:19; S 1Ti 1:2; Phm 10; S 1Jn 2:1 **2:12** [b]S Eph 4:1 [c]S Ro 8:28 **2:13** [d]1Th 1:2; S Ro 1:8 [e]S Heb 4:12 **2:14** [f]1Th 1:6 [g]Gal 1:22 [h]Ac 17:5; 2Th 1:4 **2:15** [i]Lk 24:20; Ac 2:23 [j]S Mt 5:12

[a]1 Greek *Silvanus*, a variant of *Silas* [b]1 Some early manuscripts *you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ*

also drove us out. They displease God
and are hostile to all men 16in their ef-
fort to keep us from speaking to the
Gentiles[a] so that they may be saved. In
this way they always heap up their sins
to the limit.[b] The wrath of God has
come upon them at last.[c]

Paul's Longing to See the Thessalonians

17But, brothers, when we were torn
away from you for a short time (in per-
son, not in thought),[c] out of our in-
tense longing we made every effort to
see you.[d] 18For we wanted to come to
you—certainly I, Paul, did, again and
again—but Satan[e] stopped us.[f] 19For
what is our hope, our joy, or the
crown[g] in which we will glory[h] in the
presence of our Lord Jesus when he
comes?[i] Is it not you? 20Indeed, you
are our glory[j] and joy.

3 So when we could stand it no
longer,[k] we thought it best to be
left by ourselves in Athens.[l] 2We sent
Timothy,[m] who is our brother and
God's fellow worker[d][n] in spreading
the gospel of Christ,[o] to strengthen
and encourage you in your faith, 3so
that no one would be unsettled by
these trials.[p] You know quite well that
we were destined for them.[q] 4In fact,
when we were with you, we kept tell-
ing you that we would be persecuted.
And it turned out that way, as you well
know.[r] 5For this reason, when I could
stand it no longer,[s] I sent to find out
about your faith.[t] I was afraid that in
some way the tempter[u] might have
tempted you and our efforts might
have been useless.[v]

Timothy's Encouraging Report

6But Timothy[w] has just now come to
us from you[x] and has brought good
news about your faith and love.[y] He
has told us that you always have pleas-
ant memories of us and that you long
to see us, just as we also long to see
you.[z] 7Therefore, brothers, in all our
distress and persecution we were en-
couraged about you because of your
faith. 8For now we really live, since you
are standing firm[a] in the Lord. 9How
can we thank God enough for you[b] in
return for all the joy we have in the
presence of our God because of you?[c]
10Night and day we pray[d] most ear-
nestly that we may see you again[e] and
supply what is lacking in your faith.
11Now may our God and Father[f]

2:16 Ac 13:45; 17:5; S 20:3; 21:27; 24:9 Mt 23:32
2:17 1Co 5:3; Col 2:5 1Th 3:10
2:18 S Mt 4:10 Ro 1:13; 15:22
2:19 Isa 62:3; Php 4:1 S 2Co 1:14 S Mt 16:27; S Lk 17:30; S 1Co 1:7; 4:5; 1Th 3:13; 2Th 1:8-10; 1Ti 6:14; 2Ti 4:1; 1Jn 2:28; S Rev 1:7
2:20 2Co 1:14
3:1 ver 5 S Ac 17:15
3:2 S Ac 16:1 S 1Co 3:9 S 2Co 2:12
3:3 Mk 4:17; Jn 16:33; Ro 5:3; 2Co 1:4; 4:17; 2Ti 3:12 S Ac 9:16; 14:22
3:4 1Th 2:14
3:5 ver 1 ver 2 Mt 4:3 Gal 2:2; Php 2:16
3:6 S Ac 16:1 Ac 18:5 1Th 1:3 1Th 2:17,18
3:8 S 1Co 16:13
3:9 1Th 1:2 1Th 2:19,20
3:10 2Ti 1:3 1Th 2:17
3:11 ver 13; S Php 4:20
3:12 Php 1:9; 1Th 4:9,10; 2Th 1:3
3:13 Ps 15:2; 1Co 1:8; Php 2:15; 1Th 5:23; 1Ti 6:14; 2Pe 3:14 ver 11; S Php 4:20 S 1Th 2:19 Mt 25:31; 2Th 1:7
4:1 2Co 13:11; 2Th 3:1 S Eph 4:1 S 2Co 5:9
4:3 S Eph 5:17 S 1Co 6:18
4:4 1Co 7:2,9
4:5 Ro 1:26 Eph 4:17 S Gal 4:8
4:6 Lev 25:17; 1Co 6:8 Dt 32:35; Ps 94:1; Ro 2:5-11; 12:19; Heb 10:30,31 Heb 13:4
4:7 Lev 11:44; 1Pe 1:15
4:8 Eze 36:27; Ro 5:5; 2Co 1:22; Gal 4:6; 1Jn 3:24
4:9 S Ro 12:10 1Th 5:1 S Jn 6:45 S Jn 13:34
4:10 S Ac 16:9 S 1Th 3:12
4:11 Eph 4:28; 2Th 3:10-12
4:12 S Mk 4:11
4:13 S Ro 11:25 S Mt 9:24 Eph 2:12
4:14 Ro 14:9; 1Co 15:3,4; 2Co 5:15

himself and our Lord Jesus clear the
way for us to come to you. 12May the
Lord make your love increase and over-
flow for each other[g] and for everyone
else, just as ours does for you. 13May
he strengthen your hearts so that you
will be blameless[h] and holy in the pres-
ence of our God and Father[i] when our
Lord Jesus comes[j] with all his holy
ones.[k]

Living to Please God

4 Finally, brothers,[l] we instructed
you how to live[m] in order to please
God,[n] as in fact you are living. Now
we ask you and urge you in the Lord
Jesus to do this more and more. 2For
you know what instructions we gave
you by the authority of the Lord Jesus.
3It is God's will[o] that you should be
sanctified: that you should avoid sexual
immorality;[p] 4that each of you should
learn to control his own body[e][q] in a
way that is holy and honorable, 5not in
passionate lust[r] like the heathen,[s]
who do not know God;[t] 6and that in
this matter no one should wrong his
brother or take advantage of him.[u] The
Lord will punish men[v] for all such
sins,[w] as we have already told you and
warned you. 7For God did not call us to
be impure, but to live a holy life.[x]
8Therefore, he who rejects this instruc-
tion does not reject man but God, who
gives you his Holy Spirit.[y]
9Now about brotherly love[z] we do
not need to write to you,[a] for you your-
selves have been taught by God[b] to love
each other.[c] 10And in fact, you do love
all the brothers throughout Mace-
donia.[d] Yet we urge you, brothers, to do
so more and more.[e]
11Make it your ambition to lead a qui-
et life, to mind your own business and
to work with your hands,[f] just as we
told you, 12so that your daily life may
win the respect of outsiders[g] and so
that you will not be dependent on any-
body.

The Coming of the Lord

13Brothers, we do not want you to be
ignorant[h] about those who fall
asleep,[i] or to grieve like the rest of
men, who have no hope.[j] 14We believe
that Jesus died and rose again[k] and so
we believe that God will bring with
Jesus those who have fallen asleep in

c16 Or *them fully* d2 Some manuscripts *brother and fellow worker;* other manuscripts *brother and God's servant* e4 Or *learn to live with his own wife;* or *learn to acquire a wife*

him.[a] 15According to the Lord's own
word, we tell you that we who are still
alive, who are left till the coming of the
Lord,[b] will certainly not precede those
who have fallen asleep.[c] 16For the Lord
himself will come down from heaven,[d]
with a loud command, with the voice
of the archangel[e] and with the trumpet
call of God,[f] and the dead in Christ
will rise first.[g] 17After that, we who are
still alive and are left[h] will be caught
up together with them in the clouds[i]
to meet the Lord in the air. And so we
will be with the Lord[j] forever. 18There-
fore encourage each other[k] with these
words.

5 Now, brothers, about times and
dates[l] we do not need to write to
you,[m] 2for you know very well that the
day of the Lord[n] will come like a thief
in the night.[o] 3While people are say-
ing, "Peace and safety,"[p] destruction
will come on them suddenly,[q] as labor
pains on a pregnant woman, and they
will not escape.[r]

4But you, brothers, are not in dark-
ness[s] so that this day should surprise
you like a thief.[t] 5You are all sons of
the light[u] and sons of the day. We do
not belong to the night or to the dark-
ness. 6So then, let us not be like others,
who are asleep,[v] but let us be alert[w]
and self-controlled.[x] 7For those who
sleep, sleep at night, and those who
get drunk, get drunk at night.[y] 8But
since we belong to the day,[z] let us be
self-controlled, putting on faith and
love as a breastplate,[a] and the hope of
salvation[b] as a helmet.[c] 9For God did
not appoint us to suffer wrath[d] but to
receive salvation through our Lord
Jesus Christ.[e] 10He died for us so that,
whether we are awake or asleep, we
may live together with him.[f] 11There-
fore encourage one another[g] and build
each other up,[h] just as in fact you are
doing.

Final Instructions

12Now we ask you, brothers, to re-
spect those who work hard[i] among
you, who are over you in the Lord[j]
and who admonish you. 13Hold them
in the highest regard in love because of
their work. Live in peace with each
other.[k] 14And we urge you, brothers,
warn those who are idle,[l] encourage
the timid, help the weak,[m] be patient
with everyone. 15Make sure that no-
body pays back wrong for wrong,[n] but
always try to be kind to each other[o]
and to everyone else.

16Be joyful always;[p] 17pray continual-
ly;[q] 18give thanks in all circumstances,[r]
for this is God's will for you in Christ
Jesus.

19Do not put out the Spirit's fire;[s]
20do not treat prophecies[t] with con-
tempt. 21Test everything.[u] Hold on to
the good.[v] 22Avoid every kind of evil.

23May God himself, the God of
peace,[w] sanctify you through and
through. May your whole spirit, soul[x]
and body be kept blameless[y] at the
coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.[z]
24The one who calls[a] you is faithful[b]
and he will do it.[c]

25Brothers, pray for us.[d] 26Greet all
the brothers with a holy kiss.[e] 27I
charge you before the Lord to have this
letter read to all the brothers.[f]

28The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ
be with you.[g]

4:14 [a]1Co 15:18 **4:15** [b]S 1Co 1:7 [c]1Co 15:52 **4:16** [d]S Mt 16:27 [e]Jude 9 [f]S Mt 24:31 [g]1Co 15:23; 2Th 2:1; Rev 14:13 **4:17** [h]1Co 15:52 [i]Ac 1:9; S Ac 8:39; S Rev 1:7; 11:12 [j]S Jn 12:26 **4:18** [k]1Th 5:11 **5:1** [l]Ac 1:7 [m]1Th 4:9 **5:2** [n]S 1Co 1:8 [o]S Lk 12:39 **5:3** [p]Jer 4:10; 6:14; Eze 13:10 [q]Job 15:21; Ps 35:8; 55:15; Isa 29:5; 47:9,11 [r]2Th 1:9 **5:4** [s]S Ac 26:18; 1Jn 2:8 [t]ver 2 **5:5** [u]S Lk 16:8 **5:6** [v]Ro 13:11 [w]S Mt 25:13 [x]S Ac 24:25 **5:7** [y]Ac 2:15; Ro 13:13; 2Pe 2:13 **5:8** [z]ver 5 [a]S Eph 6:14 [b]Ro 8:24 [c]Isa 59:17; Eph 6:17 **5:9** [d]1Th 1:10 [e]2Th 2:13,14 **5:10** [f]Ro 14:9; 2Co 5:15

5:11 [g]1Th 4:18 [h]Eph 4:29 **5:12** [i]Ro 16:6, 12; 1Co 15:10 [j]1Ti 5:17; Heb 13:17 **5:13** [k]S Mk 9:50 **5:14** [l]2Th 3:6,7, 11 [m]Ro 14:1; 1Co 8:7-12 **5:15** [n]Ro 12:17; 1Pe 3:9 [o]Eph 4:32 **5:16** [p]Php 4:4 **5:17** [q]S Lk 18:1 **5:18** [r]S Eph 5:20 **5:19** [s]Eph 4:30 **5:20** [t]1Co 14:1-40

5:21 [u]1Co 14:29; 1Jn 4:1 [v]Ro 12:9 **5:23** [w]S Ro 15:33 [x]Heb 4:12 [y]S 1Th 3:13 [z]S 1Th 2:19 **5:24** [a]S Ro 8:28 [b]S 1Co 1:9 [c]Nu 23:19; Php 1:6 **5:25** [d]Eph 6:19; Col 4:3; 2Th 3:1; Heb 13:18 **5:26** [e]S Ro 16:16 **5:27** [f]2Th 3:14; S 1Ti 4:13 **5:28** [g]S Ro 16:20

2 Thessalonians

1 Paul, Silas[a][a] and Timothy,[b]
To the church of the Thessalo-
nians[c] in God our Father and the Lord
Jesus Christ:

2Grace and peace to you from God
the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.[d]

Thanksgiving and Prayer

3We ought always to thank God for
you,[e] brothers, and rightly so, because
your faith is growing more and more,
and the love every one of you has for
each other is increasing.[f] 4Therefore,
among God's churches we boast[g]
about your perseverance and faith[h] in
all the persecutions and trials you are
enduring.[i]
5All this is evidence[j] that God's
judgment is right, and as a result you
will be counted worthy[k] of the king-
dom of God, for which you are suffer-
ing. 6God is just:[l] He will pay back
trouble to those who trouble you[m] 7and
give relief to you who are troubled, and
to us as well. This will happen when
the Lord Jesus is revealed from
heaven[n] in blazing fire[o] with his pow-
erful angels.[p] 8He will punish[q] those
who do not know God[r] and do not
obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus.[s]
9They will be punished with everlast-
ing destruction[t] and shut out from the
presence of the Lord[u] and from the
majesty of his power[v] 10on the day[w] he
comes to be glorified[x] in his holy
people and to be marveled at among all
those who have believed. This includes
you, because you believed our testi-
mony to you.[y]
11With this in mind, we constantly
pray for you,[z] that our God may count
you worthy[a] of his calling,[b] and that
by his power he may fulfill every good
purpose[c] of yours and every act
prompted by your faith.[d] 12We pray
this so that the name of our Lord Jesus
may be glorified in you,[e] and you in
him, according to the grace of our God
and the Lord Jesus Christ.[b]

1:1 [a]S Ac 15:22 [b]S Ac 16:1; 1Th 1:1 [c]S Ac 17:1 **1:2** [d]S Ro 1:7 **1:3** [e]S Ro 1:8; Eph 5:20 [f]S 1Th 3:12 **1:4** [g]2Co 7:14 [h]1Th 1:3 [i]1Th 1:6; 2:14; S 3:3 **1:5** [j]Php 1:28 [k]Lk 20:35 **1:6** [l]Lk 18:7,8 [m]Ro 12:19; Col 3:25; S Rev 6:10 **1:7** [n]S Lk 17:30 [o]Heb 10:27; S 12:29; 2Pe 3:7; S Rev 1:14 [p]Jude 14 **1:8** [q]Ps 79:6; Isa 66:15; Jer 10:25 [r]S Gal 4:8 [s]Ro 2:8; S 2Co 2:12 **1:9** [t]Php 3:19; 1Th 5:3; 2Pe 3:7 [u]2Ki 17:18 [v]Isa 2:10,19; 2Th 2:8 **1:10** [w]1Co 3:13 [x]Jn 17:10 [y]1Co 1:6 **1:11** [z]S Ro 1:10 [a]ver 5 [b]S Ro 8:28 [c]Ro 15:14 [d]1Th 1:3 **1:12** [e]Isa 24:15; Php 2:9-11

2:1 [f]S 1Th 2:19 [g]Mk 13:27; 1Th 4:15-17 **2:2** [h]ver 15; 2Th 3:17 [i]S 1Co 1:8 [j]2Ti 2:18 **2:3** [k]S Mk 13:5 [l]Mt 24:10-12 [m]ver 8; Da 7:25; 8:25; 11:36; Rev 13:5,6 **2:4** [n]1Co 8:5 [o]Isa 14:13,14; Eze 28:2 **2:5** [p]1Th 3:4 **2:6** [q]ver 7 **2:7** [r]ver 6 **2:8** [s]S ver 3 [t]Isa 11:4; Rev 2:16; 19:15 [u]S Lk 17:30 **2:9** [v]S Mt 4:10 [w]Mt 24:24; Rev 13:13; S Jn 4:48 **2:10** [x]S 1Co 1:18 [y]Pr 4:6; Jn 3:17-19 **2:11** [z]Ro 1:28 [a]Mt 24:5; S Mk 13:5 [b]Ro 1:25 **2:12** [c]Ro 1:32; 2:8

The Man of Lawlessness

2 Concerning the coming of our Lord
Jesus Christ[f] and our being gath-
ered to him,[g] we ask you, brothers,
2not to become easily unsettled or
alarmed by some prophecy, report or
letter[h] supposed to have come from us,
saying that the day of the Lord[i] has
already come.[j] 3Don't let anyone de-
ceive you[k] in any way, for that day
will not come, until the rebellion[l] oc-
curs and the man of lawlessness[c] is re-
vealed,[m] the man doomed to destruc-
tion. 4He will oppose and will exalt
himself over everything that is called
God[n] or is worshiped, so that he sets
himself up in God's temple, proclaim-
ing himself to be God.[o]
5Don't you remember that when I
was with you I used to tell you these
things?[p] 6And now you know what is
holding him back,[q] so that he may be
revealed at the proper time. 7For the
secret power of lawlessness is already
at work; but the one who now holds it
back[r] will continue to do so till he is
taken out of the way. 8And then the
lawless one will be revealed,[s] whom
the Lord Jesus will overthrow with the
breath of his mouth[t] and destroy by
the splendor of his coming.[u] 9The com-
ing of the lawless one will be in accor-
dance with the work of Satan[v] dis-
played in all kinds of counterfeit mira-
cles, signs and wonders,[w] 10and in
every sort of evil that deceives those
who are perishing.[x] They perish be-
cause they refused to love the truth
and so be saved.[y] 11For this reason
God sends them[z] a powerful delu-
sion[a] so that they will believe the lie[b]
12and so that all will be condemned
who have not believed the truth but
have delighted in wickedness.[c]

Stand Firm

13But we ought always to thank God

[a]1 Greek *Silvanus,* a variant of *Silas* [b]12 Or *God and Lord, Jesus Christ* [c]3 Some manuscripts *sin*

for you,[a] brothers loved by the Lord,
because from the beginning God chose
you[d][b] to be saved[c] through the sancti-
fying work of the Spirit[d] and through
belief in the truth. 14He called you[e] to
this through our gospel,[f] that you
might share in the glory of our Lord
Jesus Christ. 15So then, brothers, stand
firm[g] and hold to the teachings[e] we
passed on to you,[h] whether by word of
mouth or by letter.
16May our Lord Jesus Christ himself
and God our Father,[i] who loved us[j]
and by his grace gave us eternal en-
couragement and good hope, 17encour-
age[k] your hearts and strengthen[l] you
in every good deed and word.

Request for Prayer

3 Finally, brothers,[m] pray for us[n] that
the message of the Lord[o] may
spread rapidly and be honored, just as
it was with you.[p] 2And pray that we
may be delivered from wicked and evil
men,[q] for not everyone has faith. 3But
the Lord is faithful,[r] and he will
strengthen and protect you from the
evil one.[s] 4We have confidence[t] in the
Lord that you are doing and will con-
tinue to do the things we command.
5May the Lord direct your hearts[u] into
God's love and Christ's perseverance.

Warning Against Idleness

6In the name of the Lord Jesus
Christ,[v] we command you, brothers,
to keep away from[w] every brother who
is idle[x] and does not live according to
the teaching[f] you received from us.[y]
7For you yourselves know how you
ought to follow our example.[z] We
were not idle when we were with you,
8nor did we eat anyone's food without
paying for it. On the contrary, we
worked[a] night and day, laboring and
toiling so that we would not be a bur-
den to any of you. 9We did this, not
because we do not have the right to
such help,[b] but in order to make our-
selves a model for you to follow.[c] 10For
even when we were with you,[d] we
gave you this rule: "If a man will not
work,[e] he shall not eat."
11We hear that some among you are
idle. They are not busy; they are busy-
bodies.[f] 12Such people we command
and urge in the Lord Jesus Christ[g] to
settle down and earn the bread they
eat.[h] 13And as for you, brothers, never
tire of doing what is right.[i]
14If anyone does not obey our in-
struction in this letter, take special note
of him. Do not associate with him,[j] in
order that he may feel ashamed.[k] 15Yet
do not regard him as an enemy, but
warn him as a brother.[l]

Final Greetings

16Now may the Lord of peace[m] him-
self give you peace at all times and in
every way. The Lord be with all of
you.[n]
17I, Paul, write this greeting in my
own hand,[o] which is the distinguish-
ing mark in all my letters. This is how I
write.
18The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ
be with you all.[p]

2:13 [a]S Ro 1:8 [b]Eph 1:4 [c]1Th 5:9 [d]1Pe 1:2 **2:14** [e]S Ro 8:28; S 11:29 [f]1Th 1:5 **2:15** [g]S 1Co 16:13 [h]S 1Co 11:2 **2:16** [i]S Php 4:20 [j]S Jn 3:16 **2:17** [k]1Th 3:2 [l]2Th 3:3 **3:1** [m]1Th 4:1 [n]S 1Th 5:25 [o]1Th 1:8 [p]1Th 2:13 **3:2** [q]S Ro 15:31 **3:3** [r]S 1Co 1:9 [s]S Mt 5:37 **3:4** [t]S 2Co 2:3 **3:5** [u]1Ch 29:18 **3:6** [v]1Co 5:4 [w]ver 14; S Ro 16:17 [x]ver 7,11 [y]S 1Co 11:2 **3:7** [z]ver 9; S 1Co 4:16 **3:8** [a]S Ac 18:3; Eph 4:28 **3:9** [b]1Co 9:4-14 [c]ver 7; S 1Co 4:16 **3:10** [d]1Th 3:4 [e]1Th 4:11 **3:11** [f]ver 6,7; 1Ti 5:13 **3:12** [g]1Th 4:1 [h]1Th 4:11; Eph 4:28 **3:13** [i]Gal 6:9 **3:14** [j]ver 6; S Ro 16:17 [k]S 1Co 4:14 **3:15** [l]Gal 6:1; 1Th 5:14; Phm 16 **3:16** [m]S Ro 15:33 [n]Ru 2:4 **3:17** [o]S 1Co 16:21 **3:18** [p]S Ro 16:20

[d]13 Some manuscripts *because God chose you as his firstfruits* [e]15 Or *traditions* [f]6 Or *tradition*

1 Timothy

1 Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by
the command of God[a] our Savior[b]
and of Christ Jesus our hope,[c]

2To Timothy[d] my true son[e] in the
faith:

Grace, mercy and peace from God
the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.[f]

Warning Against False Teachers of the Law

3As I urged you when I went into
Macedonia,[g] stay there in Ephesus[h] so
that you may command certain men
not to teach false doctrines[i] any longer
4nor to devote themselves to myths[j]
and endless genealogies.[k] These pro-
mote controversies[l] rather than God's
work—which is by faith. 5The goal of
this command is love, which comes
from a pure heart[m] and a good con-
science[n] and a sincere faith.[o] 6Some
have wandered away from these and
turned to meaningless talk. 7They want
to be teachers[p] of the law, but they do
not know what they are talking about
or what they so confidently affirm.[q]
8We know that the law is good[r] if
one uses it properly. 9We also know
that law[a] is made not for the right-
eous[s] but for lawbreakers and rebels,[t]
the ungodly and sinful, the unholy and
irreligious; for those who kill their fa-
thers or mothers, for murderers, 10for
adulterers and perverts, for slave trad-
ers and liars and perjurers—and for
whatever else is contrary to the sound
doctrine[u] 11that conforms to the glori-
ous gospel of the blessed God, which
he entrusted to me.[v]

The Lord's Grace to Paul

12I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who
has given me strength,[w] that he con-
sidered me faithful, appointing me to
his service.[x] 13Even though I was once
a blasphemer and a persecutor[y] and a
violent man, I was shown mercy[z] be-
cause I acted in ignorance and un-
belief.[a] 14The grace of our Lord was
poured out on me abundantly,[b] along
with the faith and love that are in
Christ Jesus.[c]
15Here is a trustworthy saying[d] that
deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus
came into the world to save sin-
ners[e]—of whom I am the worst. 16But
for that very reason I was shown
mercy[f] so that in me, the worst of sin-
ners, Christ Jesus might display his un-
limited patience[g] as an example for
those who would believe[h] on him and
receive eternal life.[i] 17Now to the
King[j] eternal, immortal,[k] invisible,[l]
the only God,[m] be honor and glory for
ever and ever. Amen.[n]
18Timothy, my son,[o] I give you this
instruction in keeping with the prophe-
cies once made about you,[p] so that by
following them you may fight the good
fight,[q] 19holding on to faith and a good
conscience.[r] Some have rejected these
and so have shipwrecked their faith.[s]
20Among them are Hymenaeus[t] and
Alexander,[u] whom I have handed over
to Satan[v] to be taught not to blas-
pheme.

Instructions on Worship

2 I urge, then, first of all, that re-
quests, prayers,[w] intercession and
thanksgiving be made for everyone—
2for kings and all those in authority,[x]
that we may live peaceful and quiet
lives in all godliness[y] and holiness.
3This is good, and pleases[z] God our
Savior,[a] 4who wants[b] all men[c] to be
saved[d] and to come to a knowledge of
the truth.[e] 5For there is one God[f] and
one mediator[g] between God and men,
the man Christ Jesus,[h] 6who gave him-
self as a ransom[i] for all men—the testi-
mony[j] given in its proper time.[k] 7And
for this purpose I was appointed a her-
ald and an apostle—I am telling the

1:1 aS 2Co 1:1; Tit 1:3 bS Lk 1:47 cCol 1:27 **1:2** dS Ac 16:1 ever 18; 1Co 4:17; S 1Th 2:11; 2Ti 1:2; Tit 1:4 fS Ro 1:7 **1:3** gS Ac 16:9 hS Ac 18:19 iGal 1:6,7; 1Ti 6:3 **1:4** j1Ti 4:7; 2Ti 4:4; Tit 1:14 kTit 3:9 lS 2Ti 2:14 **1:5** m2Ti 2:22 nS Ac 23:1; 1Ti 4:2 oGal 5:6; 2Ti 1:5 **1:7** pS Eph 4:11 qJob 38:2 **1:8** rRo 7:12 **1:9** sGal 5:23 tGal 3:19 **1:10** u1Ti 6:3; 2Ti 1:13; 4:3; Tit 1:9; 2:1 **1:11** vGal 2:7; 1Th 2:4; Tit 1:3 **1:12** wS Php 4:13 xS Ac 9:15 **1:13** yS Ac 8:3 zver 16 aAc 26:9 **1:14** b2Co 4:15 c2Ti 1:13; S 1Th 1:3 **1:15** d1Ti 3:1; 4:9; 2Ti 2:11; Tit 3:8 eMk 2:17; S Jn 3:17 **1:16** fver 13 gS Ro 2:4 hS Jn 3:15 iS Mt 25:46 **1:17** jRev 15:3 k1Ti 6:16 lS Col 1:15 mJude 25 nS Ro 11:36 **1:18** oS ver 2 p1Ti 4:14 q1Ti 6:12; 2Ti 2:3; 4:7 **1:19** rver 5; S Ac 23:1 s1Ti 6:21; 2Ti 2:18 **1:20** t2Ti 2:17 u2Ti 4:14 v1Co 5:5 **2:1** wEph 6:18 **2:2** xEzr 6:10; Ro 13:1 y1Ti 3:16; 4:7,8; 6:3,5,6,11; 2Ti 3:5; Tit 1:1 **2:3** zS 1Ti 5:4 aS Lk 1:47 **2:4** bEze 18:23,32; 33:11 c1Ti 4:10; Tit 2:11; 2Pe 3:9 dS Jn 3:17; S Ro 11:14 e2Ti 2:25; Tit 1:1; Heb 10:26

2:5 fDt 6:4; Ro 3:29,30; 10:12 gS Gal 3:20 hRo 1:3 **2:6** iS Mt 20:28 jS 1Co 1:6 k1Ti 6:15; Tit 1:3

a9 *Or that the law*

truth, I am not lying[a]—and a teacher[b] of the true faith to the Gentiles.[c]

8 I want men everywhere to lift up holy hands[d] in prayer, without anger or disputing.

9 I also want women to dress modestly, with decency and propriety, not with braided hair or gold or pearls or expensive clothes,[e] 10 but with good deeds,[f] appropriate for women who profess to worship God.

11 A woman should learn in quietness and full submission.[g] 12 I do not permit a woman to teach or to have authority over a man; she must be silent.[h] 13 For Adam was formed first, then Eve.[i] 14 And Adam was not the one deceived; it was the woman who was deceived and became a sinner.[j] 15 But women[b] will be saved[c] through childbearing—if they continue in faith, love[k] and holiness with propriety.

Overseers and Deacons

3 Here is a trustworthy saying:[l] If anyone sets his heart on being an overseer,[d][m] he desires a noble task. 2 Now the overseer must be above reproach,[n] the husband of but one wife,[o] temperate,[p] self-controlled, respectable, hospitable,[q] able to teach,[r] 3 not given to drunkenness,[s] not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome,[t] not a lover of money.[u] 4 He must manage his own family well and see that his children obey him with proper respect.[v] 5 (If anyone does not know how to manage his own family, how can he take care of God's church?)[w] 6 He must not be a recent convert, or he may become conceited[x] and fall under the same judgment[y] as the devil. 7 He must also have a good reputation with outsiders,[z] so that he will not fall into disgrace and into the devil's trap.[a]

8 Deacons,[b] likewise, are to be men worthy of respect, sincere, not indulging in much wine,[c] and not pursuing dishonest gain. 9 They must keep hold of the deep truths of the faith with a clear conscience.[d] 10 They must first be tested;[e] and then if there is nothing against them, let them serve as deacons.

11 In the same way, their wives[e] are to be women worthy of respect, not malicious talkers[f] but temperate[g] and trustworthy in everything.

12 A deacon must be the husband of but one wife[h] and must manage his children and his household well.[i] 13 Those who have served well gain an excellent standing and great assurance in their faith in Christ Jesus.

14 Although I hope to come to you soon, I am writing you these instructions so that, 15 if I am delayed, you will know how people ought to conduct themselves in God's household, which is the church[j] of the living God,[k] the pillar and foundation of the truth. 16 Beyond all question, the mystery[l] of godliness[m] is great:

He[f] appeared in a body,[g][n]
was vindicated by the Spirit,
was seen by angels,
was preached among the nations,[o]
was believed on in the world,
was taken up in glory.[p]

Instructions to Timothy

4 The Spirit[q] clearly says that in later times[r] some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits[s] and things taught by demons. 2 Such teachings come through hypocritical liars, whose consciences have been seared as with a hot iron.[t] 3 They forbid people to marry[u] and order them to abstain from certain foods,[v] which God created[w] to be received with thanksgiving[x] by those who believe and who know the truth. 4 For everything God created is good,[y] and nothing is to be rejected[z] if it is received with thanksgiving, 5 because it is consecrated by the word of God[a] and prayer.

6 If you point these things out to the brothers, you will be a good minister of Christ Jesus, brought up in the truths of the faith[b] and of the good teaching that you have followed.[c] 7 Have nothing to do with godless myths and old wives' tales;[d] rather, train yourself to be godly.[e] 8 For physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things,[f] holding promise for both the present life[g] and the life to come.[h]

9 This is a trustworthy saying[i] that deserves full acceptance 10 (and for this we labor and strive), that we have put our hope in the living God,[j] who is the Savior of all men,[k] and especially of those who believe.

11 Command and teach these things.[l] 12 Don't let anyone look down on you[m] because you are young, but set an example[n] for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith[o] and in purity.

2:7 [a]S Ro 9:1 [b]2Ti 1:11 [c]S Ac 9:15
2:8 [d]Ps 24:4; 63:4; 134:2; 141:2; Lk 24:50
2:9 [e]1Pe 3:3
2:10 [f]Pr 31:13
2:11 [g]1Pe 3:3,4
2:12 [h]S Eph 5:22
2:13 [i]Ge 2:7,22; 1Co 11:8
2:14 [j]Ge 3:1-6, 13; 2Co 11:3
2:15 [k]1Ti 1:14
3:1 [l]S 1Ti 1:15 [m]Ac 20:28; Php 1:1; Tit 1:7
3:2 [n]Tit 1:6-8 [o]ver 12 [p]ver 11; Tit 2:2 [q]S Ro 12:13 [r]2Ti 2:24
3:3 [s]Tit 1:7 [t]2Ti 2:24 [u]Lk 16:14; 1Ti 6:10; 2Ti 3:2; Heb 13:5; 1Pe 5:2
3:4 [v]ver 12; Tit 1:6
3:5 [w]S 1Co 10:32
3:6 [x]1Ti 6:4; 2Ti 3:4 [y]S 2Pe 2:4
3:7 [z]S Mk 4:11 [a]2Ti 2:26
3:8 [b]Php 1:1 [c]1Ti 5:23; Tit 1:7; 2:3
3:9 [d]S Ac 23:1
3:10 [e]1Ti 5:22
3:11 [f]2Ti 3:3; Tit 2:3 [g]ver 2
3:12 [h]ver 2 [i]ver 4
3:15 [j]ver 5; S 1Co 10:32 [k]S Mt 16:16
3:16 [l]S Ro 16:25 [m]S 1Ti 2:2 [n]S Jn 1:14 [o]Ps 9:11; Col 1:23 [p]S Mk 16:19
4:1 [q]Jn 16:13; S Ac 8:29; 1Co 2:10 [r]2Ti 3:1; 2Pe 3:3 [s]S Mk 13:5
4:2 [t]Eph 4:19
4:3 [u]Heb 13:4 [v]Col 2:16 [w]Ge 1:29; 9:3 [x]ver 4; Ro 14:6; 1Co 10:30
4:4 [y]Ge 1:10,12, 18,21,25,31; Mk 7:18,19; Ro 14:14-18 [z]S Ac 10:15
4:5 [a]S Heb 4:12
4:6 [b]1Ti 1:10 [c]2Ti 3:15
4:7 [d]1Ti 1:4; 2Ti 2:16 [e]S 1Ti 2:2
4:8 [f]1Ti 6:6 [g]Ps 37:9,11; Pr 22:4; Mt 6:33; Mk 10:29,30 [h]Mk 10:29,30
4:9 [i]S 1Ti 1:15
4:10 [j]S Mt 16:16 [k]S Lk 1:47; S 2:11
4:11 [l]1Ti 5:7; 6:2
4:12 [m]S 2Ti 1:7; Tit 2:15 [n]Php 3:17; 1Th 1:7; 2Th 3:9; Tit 2:7; 1Pe 5:3 [o]1Ti 1:14

[b]15 Greek *she* [c]15 Or *restored* [d]1 Traditionally *bishop;* also in verse 2 [e]11 Or *way, deaconesses* [f]16 Some manuscripts *God* [g]16 Or *in the flesh*

13Until I come,[a] devote yourself to the
public reading of Scripture,[b] to preach-
ing and to teaching. 14Do not neglect
your gift, which was given you
through a prophetic message[c] when
the body of elders[d] laid their hands on
you.[e]
15Be diligent in these matters; give
yourself wholly to them, so that every-
one may see your progress. 16Watch
your life and doctrine closely. Per-
severe in them, because if you do, you
will save[f] both yourself and your hear-
ers.

Advice About Widows, Elders and Slaves

5 Do not rebuke an older man[g]
harshly,[h] but exhort him as if he
were your father. Treat younger men[i]
as brothers, 2older women as mothers,
and younger women as sisters, with
absolute purity.
3Give proper recognition to those
widows who are really in need.[j] 4But if
a widow has children or grandchildren,
these should learn first of all to put
their religion into practice by caring for
their own family and so repaying their
parents and grandparents,[k] for this is
pleasing to God.[l] 5The widow who is
really in need[m] and left all alone puts
her hope in God[n] and continues night
and day to pray[o] and to ask God for
help. 6But the widow who lives for
pleasure is dead even while she lives.[p]
7Give the people these instructions,[q]
too, so that no one may be open to
blame. 8If anyone does not provide for
his relatives, and especially for his im-
mediate family, he has denied[r] the
faith and is worse than an unbeliever.
9No widow may be put on the list of
widows unless she is over sixty, has
been faithful to her husband,[h] 10and is
well known for her good deeds,[s] such
as bringing up children, showing hos-
pitality,[t] washing the feet[u] of the
saints, helping those in trouble[v] and
devoting herself to all kinds of good
deeds.
11As for younger widows, do not put
them on such a list. For when their sen-
sual desires overcome their dedication
to Christ, they want to marry. 12Thus
they bring judgment on themselves,
because they have broken their first
pledge. 13Besides, they get into the
habit of being idle and going about
from house to house. And not only do
they become idlers, but also gossips[w]
and busybodies,[x] saying things they
ought not to. 14So I counsel younger
widows to marry,[y] to have children, to
manage their homes and to give the
enemy no opportunity for slander.[z]
15Some have in fact already turned
away to follow Satan.[a]
16If any woman who is a believer has
widows in her family, she should help
them and not let the church be bur-
dened with them, so that the church
can help those widows who are really
in need.[b]
17The elders[c] who direct the affairs
of the church well are worthy of double
honor,[d] especially those whose work is
preaching and teaching. 18For the
Scripture says, "Do not muzzle the ox
while it is treading out the grain,"[i][e]
and "The worker deserves his
wages."[j][f] 19Do not entertain an accu-
sation against an elder[g] unless it is
brought by two or three witnesses.[h]
20Those who sin are to be rebuked[i]
publicly, so that the others may take
warning.[j]
21I charge you, in the sight of God
and Christ Jesus[k] and the elect angels,
to keep these instructions without par-
tiality, and to do nothing out of favorit-
ism.
22Do not be hasty in the laying on of
hands,[l] and do not share in the sins of
others.[m] Keep yourself pure.[n]
23Stop drinking only water, and use a
little wine[o] because of your stomach
and your frequent illnesses.
24The sins of some men are obvious,
reaching the place of judgment ahead
of them; the sins of others trail behind
them. 25In the same way, good deeds
are obvious, and even those that are
not cannot be hidden.
6 All who are under the yoke of slav-
ery should consider their masters
worthy of full respect,[p] so that God's
name and our teaching may not be
slandered.[q] 2Those who have believing
masters are not to show less respect for
them because they are brothers.[r] In-
stead, they are to serve them even bet-
ter, because those who benefit from
their service are believers, and dear to
them. These are the things you are to
teach and urge on them.[s]

Love of Money

3If anyone teaches false doctrines[t]
and does not agree to the sound in-

4:13 [illegible]
5:6 pS Lk 15:24
5:7 q1Ti 4:11
5:8 r2Pe 2:1; Jude 4
5:10 sAc 9:36; 1Ti 6:18; 1Pe 2:12 tS Ro 12:13 uS Lk 7:44 vver 16
5:13 wS Ro 1:29 x2Th 3:11
5:14 y1Co 7:9 z1Ti 6:1
5:15 aS Mt 4:10
5:16 bver 3-5
5:17 cS Ac 11:30 dPhp 2:29; 1Th 5:12
5:18 eDt 25:4; 1Co 9:7-9 fLk 10:7; Lev 19:13; Dt 24:14,15; Mt 10:10; 1Co 9:14
5:19 gS Ac 11:30 hS Mt 18:16
5:20 i2Ti 4:2; Tit 1:13; 2:15 jDt 13:11
5:21 k1Ti 6:13; 2Ti 4:1
5:22 lS Ac 6:6 mEph 5:11 nPs 18:26
5:23 o1Ti 3:8
6:1 pS Eph 6:5 q1Ti 5:14; Tit 2:5,8
6:2 rPhm 16 s1Ti 4:11
6:3 t1Ti 1:3

h9 *Or has had but one husband*
i18 Deut. 25:4
j18 Luke 10:7

struction[a] of our Lord Jesus Christ and
to godly teaching, [4]he is conceited[b]
and understands nothing. He has an
unhealthy interest in controversies and
quarrels about words[c] that result in
envy, strife, malicious talk, evil suspi-
cions [5]and constant friction between
men of corrupt mind, who have been
robbed of the truth[d] and who think
that godliness is a means to financial
gain.
[6]But godliness with contentment[e] is
great gain.[f] [7]For we brought nothing
into the world, and we can take noth-
ing out of it.[g] [8]But if we have food and
clothing, we will be content with that.[h]
[9]People who want to get rich[i] fall into
temptation and a trap[j] and into many
foolish and harmful desires that plunge
men into ruin and destruction. [10]For
the love of money[k] is a root of all kinds
of evil. Some people, eager for money,
have wandered from the faith[l] and
pierced themselves with many griefs.[m]

Paul's Charge to Timothy

[11]But you, man of God,[n] flee from all
this, and pursue righteousness, godli-
ness,[o] faith, love,[p] endurance and
gentleness. [12]Fight the good fight[q] of
the faith. Take hold of[r] the eternal
life[s] to which you were called when
you made your good confession[t] in the
presence of many witnesses. [13]In the
sight of God, who gives life to every-
thing, and of Christ Jesus, who while
testifying before Pontius Pilate[u] made
the good confession,[v] I charge you[w]
[14]to keep this command without spot or
blame[x] until the appearing of our Lord
Jesus Christ,[y] [15]which God will bring
about in his own time[z]—God, the
blessed[a] and only Ruler,[b] the King of
kings and Lord of lords,[c] [16]who alone
is immortal[d] and who lives in unap-
proachable light,[e] whom no one has
seen or can see.[f] To him be honor and
might forever. Amen.[g]

[17]Command those who are rich[h] in
this present world not to be arrogant
nor to put their hope in wealth,[i] which
is so uncertain, but to put their hope in
God,[j] who richly provides us with
everything for our enjoyment.[k] [18]Com-
mand them to do good, to be rich in
good deeds,[l] and to be generous and
willing to share.[m] [19]In this way they
will lay up treasure for themselves[n] as
a firm foundation for the coming age,
so that they may take hold of[o] the life
that is truly life.
[20]Timothy, guard what has been en-
trusted[p] to your care. Turn away from
godless chatter[q] and the opposing
ideas of what is falsely called knowl-
edge, [21]which some have professed
and in so doing have wandered from
the faith.[r]
Grace be with you.[s]

6:3 [a]S 1Ti 1:10 **6:4** [b]1Ti 3:6; 2Ti 3:4 [c]S 2Ti 2:14 **6:5** [d]2Ti 3:8; Tit 1:15 **6:6** [e]Php 4:11; Heb 13:5 [f]1Ti 4:8 **6:7** [g]Job 1:21; Ps 49:17; Ecc 5:15 **6:8** [h]Pr 30:8; Heb 13:5 **6:9** [i]Pr 15:27; 28:20 [j]1Ti 3:7 **6:10** [k]S 1Ti 3:3 [l]ver 21; Jas 5:19 [m]Jos 7:21 **6:11** [n]2Ti 3:17 [o]ver 3,5,6; S 1Ti 2:2 [p]1Ti 1:14; 2Ti 2:22; 3:10 **6:12** [q]1Co 9:25, 26; S 1Ti 1:18 [r]ver 19; Php 3:12 [s]S Mt 25:46 [t]S Heb 3:1 **6:13** [u]Jn 18:33-37 [v]ver 12 [w]1Ti 5:21; 2Ti 4:1 **6:14** [x]S 1Th 3:13 [y]S 1Co 1:7; 2Ti 1:10; 4:1,8 **6:15** [z]1Ti 2:6; Tit 1:3 [a]1Ti 1:11 [b]1Ti 1:17 [c]Dt 10:17; Ps 136:3; Da 2:47; Rev 1:5; 17:14; 19:16 **6:16** [d]1Ti 1:17 [e]Ps 104:2; 1Jn 1:7 [f]S Jn 1:18 [g]S Ro 11:36 **6:17** [h]ver 9 [i]Ps 62:10; Jer 49:4; Lk 12:20,21 [j]1Ti 4:10 [k]Ac 14:17

6:18 [l]S 1Ti 5:10 [m]Ro 12:8,13; Eph 4:28 **6:19** [n]S Mt 6:20 [o]ver 12; Php 3:12 **6:20** [p]2Ti 1:12,14 [q]2Ti 2:16 **6:21** [r]ver 10; 2Ti 2:18 [s]S Col 4:18

2 Timothy

1 Paul, an apostle[a] of Christ Jesus by
the will of God,[b] according to the
promise of life that is in Christ Jesus,[c]

2To Timothy,[d] my dear son:[e]

Grace, mercy and peace from God
the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.[f]

Encouragement to Be Faithful

3I thank God,[g] whom I serve, as my
forefathers did, with a clear con-
science,[h] as night and day I constantly
remember you in my prayers.[i] 4Recall-
ing your tears,[j] I long to see you,[k] so
that I may be filled with joy. 5I have
been reminded of your sincere faith,[l]
which first lived in your grandmother
Lois and in your mother Eunice[m] and, I
am persuaded, now lives in you also.
6For this reason I remind you to fan
into flame the gift of God, which is in
you through the laying on of my
hands.[n] 7For God did not give us a
spirit of timidity,[o] but a spirit of
power,[p] of love and of self-discipline.
8So do not be ashamed[q] to testify
about our Lord, or ashamed of me his
prisoner.[r] But join with me in suffer-
ing for the gospel,[s] by the power of
God, 9who has saved[t] us and called[u]
us to a holy life—not because of any-
thing we have done[v] but because of his
own purpose and grace. This grace was
given us in Christ Jesus before the be-
ginning of time, 10but it has now been
revealed[w] through the appearing of our
Savior, Christ Jesus,[x] who has de-
stroyed death[y] and has brought life
and immortality to light through the
gospel. 11And of this gospel[z] I was ap-
pointed[a] a herald and an apostle and a
teacher.[b] 12That is why I am suffering
as I am. Yet I am not ashamed,[c] be-
cause I know whom I have believed,
and am convinced that he is able to
guard[d] what I have entrusted to him
for that day.[e]
13What you heard from me,[f] keep[g]
as the pattern[h] of sound teaching,[i]
with faith and love in Christ Jesus.[j]
14Guard[k] the good deposit that was en-
trusted to you—guard it with the help
of the Holy Spirit who lives in us.[l]
15You know that everyone in the
province of Asia[m] has deserted me,[n]
including Phygelus and Hermogenes.
16May the Lord show mercy to the
household of Onesiphorus,[o] because
he often refreshed me and was not
ashamed[p] of my chains.[q] 17On the con-
trary, when he was in Rome, he
searched hard for me until he found
me. 18May the Lord grant that he will
find mercy from the Lord on that day![r]
You know very well in how many ways
he helped me[s] in Ephesus.[t]

2 You then, my son,[u] be strong[v] in
the grace that is in Christ Jesus.
2And the things you have heard me
say[w] in the presence of many wit-
nesses[x] entrust to reliable men who
will also be qualified to teach others.
3Endure hardship with us[y] like a good
soldier[z] of Christ Jesus. 4No one serv-
ing as a soldier gets involved in civilian
affairs—he wants to please his com-
manding officer. 5Similarly, if anyone
competes as an athlete, he does not re-
ceive the victor's crown[a] unless he
competes according to the rules. 6The
hardworking farmer should be the first
to receive a share of the crops.[b] 7Re-
flect on what I am saying, for the Lord
will give you insight into all this.
8Remember Jesus Christ, raised from
the dead,[c] descended from David.[d]
This is my gospel,[e] 9for which I am suf-
fering[f] even to the point of being
chained[g] like a criminal. But God's
word[h] is not chained. 10Therefore I en-
dure everything[i] for the sake of the
elect,[j] that they too may obtain the sal-
vation[k] that is in Christ Jesus, with
eternal glory.[l]
11Here is a trustworthy saying:[m]

If we died with him,
we will also live with him;[n]
12if we endure,
we will also reign with him.[o]

1:1 [a]S 1Co 1:1 [b]S 2Co 1:1 [c]Eph 3:6; Tit 1:2; 1Ti 6:19 **1:2** [d]S Ac 16:1 [e]S 1Ti 1:2 [f]S Ro 1:7 **1:3** [g]S Ro 1:8 [h]S Ac 23:1 [i]S Ro 1:10 **1:4** [j]Ac 20:37 [k]2Ti 4:9 **1:5** [l]1Ti 1:5 [m]Ac 16:1; 2Ti 3:15 **1:6** [n]S Ac 6:6; 1Ti 4:14 **1:7** [o]Jer 42:11; Ro 8:15; 1Co 16:10,11; 1Ti 4:12; Heb 2:15 [p]Isa 11:2 **1:8** [q]ver 12,16; Mk 8:38 [r]S Eph 3:1 [s]2Ti 2:3,9; 4:5 **1:9** [t]S Ro 11:14 [u]S Ro 8:28 [v]S Eph 2:9 **1:10** [w]Eph 1:9 [x]S 1Ti 6:14 [y]1Co 15:26,54 **1:11** [z]ver 8 [a]S Ac 9:15 [b]1Ti 2:7 **1:12** [c]ver 8,16; Mk 8:38 [d]ver 14; 1Ti 6:20 [e]ver 18; S 1Co 1:8; 2Ti 4:8 **1:13** [f]2Ti 2:2 [g]S Tit 1:9 [h]Ro 6:17 [i]S 1Ti 1:10 [j]S 1Th 1:3; 1Ti 1:14 **1:14** [k]ver 12 [l]S Ro 8:9 **1:15** [m]S Ac 2:9 [n]2Ti 4:10,11,16 **1:16** [o]2Ti 4:19 [p]ver 8,12; Mk 8:38 [q]S Ac 21:33 **1:18** [r]S ver 12 [s]Heb 6:10 [t]S Ac 18:19 **2:1** [u]S 1Ti 1:2 [v]S Eph 6:10 **2:2** [w]2Ti 1:13 [x]1Ti 6:12 **2:3** [y]ver 9; 2Ti 1:8; 4:5 [z]S 1Ti 1:18 **2:5** [a]S 1Co 9:25 **2:6** [b]1Co 9:10 **2:8** [c]S Ac 2:24 [d]S Mt 1:1 [e]Ro 2:16; 16:25 **2:9** [f]S Ac 9:16 [g]S Ac 21:33 [h]S Heb 4:12 **2:10** [i]Col 1:24 [j]Tit 1:1 [k]2Co 1:6 [l]2Co 4:17; 1Pe 5:10

2:11 [m]S 1Ti 1:15 [n]Ro 6:2-11 **2:12** [o]Ro 8:17; 1Pe 4:13

If we disown him,
he will also disown us;[a]
13if we are faithless,
he will remain faithful,[b]
for he cannot disown himself.

A Workman Approved by God

14Keep reminding them of these
things. Warn them before God against
quarreling about words;[c] it is of no
value, and only ruins those who listen.
15Do your best to present yourself to
God as one approved, a workman who
does not need to be ashamed and who
correctly handles the word of truth.[d]
16Avoid godless chatter,[e] because
those who indulge in it will become
more and more ungodly. 17Their teach-
ing will spread like gangrene. Among
them are Hymenaeus[f] and Philetus,
18who have wandered away from the
truth. They say that the resurrection
has already taken place,[g] and they de-
stroy the faith of some.[h] 19Neverthe-
less, God's solid foundation stands
firm,[i] sealed with this inscription:
"The Lord knows those who are
his,"[a][j] and, "Everyone who confesses
the name of the Lord[k] must turn away
from wickedness."
20In a large house there are articles
not only of gold and silver, but also of
wood and clay; some are for noble pur-
poses and some for ignoble.[l] 21If a man
cleanses himself from the latter, he will
be an instrument for noble purposes,
made holy, useful to the Master and
prepared to do any good work.[m]
22Flee the evil desires of youth, and
pursue righteousness, faith, love[n] and
peace, along with those who call on the
Lord[o] out of a pure heart.[p] 23Don't
have anything to do with foolish and
stupid arguments, because you know
they produce quarrels.[q] 24And the
Lord's servant must not quarrel; in-
stead, he must be kind to everyone,
able to teach, not resentful.[r] 25Those
who oppose him he must gently in-
struct, in the hope that God will grant
them repentance leading them to a
knowledge of the truth,[s] 26and that
they will come to their senses and es-
cape from the trap of the devil,[t] who
has taken them captive to do his will.

Godlessness in the Last Days

3 But mark this: There will be terrible
times in the last days.[u] 2People will
be lovers of themselves, lovers of
money,[v] boastful, proud,[w] abusive,[x]
disobedient to their parents,[y] ungrate-
ful, unholy, 3without love, unforgiv-
ing, slanderous, without self-control,
brutal, not lovers of the good, 4treach-
erous,[z] rash, conceited,[a] lovers of
pleasure rather than lovers of God—
5having a form of godliness[b] but deny-
ing its power. Have nothing to do with
them.[c]
6They are the kind who worm their
way[d] into homes and gain control over
weak-willed women, who are loaded
down with sins and are swayed by all
kinds of evil desires, 7always learning
but never able to acknowledge the
truth.[e] 8Just as Jannes and Jambres op-
posed Moses,[f] so also these men op-
pose[g] the truth—men of depraved
minds,[h] who, as far as the faith is con-
cerned, are rejected. 9But they will not
get very far because, as in the case of
those men,[i] their folly will be clear to
everyone.

Paul's Charge to Timothy

10You, however, know all about my
teaching,[j] my way of life, my purpose,
faith, patience, love, endurance, 11per-
secutions, sufferings—what kinds of
things happened to me in Antioch,[k]
Iconium[l] and Lystra,[m] the persecu-
tions I endured.[n] Yet the Lord res-
cued[o] me from all of them.[p] 12In fact,
everyone who wants to live a godly life
in Christ Jesus will be persecuted,[q]
13while evil men and impostors will go
from bad to worse,[r] deceiving and be-
ing deceived.[s] 14But as for you, con-
tinue in what you have learned and
have become convinced of, because
you know those from whom you
learned it,[t] 15and how from infancy[u]
you have known the holy Scriptures,[v]
which are able to make you wise[w] for
salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.
16All Scripture is God-breathed[x] and is
useful for teaching,[y] rebuking, correct-
ing and training in righteousness,[z] 17so
that the man of God[a] may be
thoroughly equipped for every good
work.[b]

4 In the presence of God and of
Christ Jesus, who will judge the liv-
ing and the dead,[c] and in view of his
appearing[d] and his kingdom, I give
you this charge:[e] 2Preach[f] the Word;[g]
be prepared in season and out of sea-
son; correct, rebuke[h] and encour-
age[i]—with great patience and careful
instruction. 3For the time will come
when men will not put up with sound

[a]19 Num. 16:5 (see Septuagint)

2:12 [a]Mt 10:33
2:13 [b]Ro 3:3; S 1Co 1:9
2:14 [c]ver 23; 1Ti 1:4; 6:4; Tit 3:9
2:15 [d]Eph 1:13; Col 1:5; Jas 1:18
2:16 [e]Tit 3:9; 1Ti 6:20
2:17 [f]1Ti 1:20
2:18 [g]2Th 2:2 [h]1Ti 1:19; 6:21
2:19 [i]Isa 28:16 [j]Ex 33:12; Nu 16:5; Jn 10:14; 1Co 8:3; Gal 4:9 [k]1Co 1:2
2:20 [l]Ro 9:21
2:21 [m]2Co 9:8; Eph 2:10; 2Ti 3:17
2:22 [n]1Ti 1:14; 6:11 [o]S Ac 2:21 [p]1Ti 1:5
2:23 [q]S ver 14
2:24 [r]1Ti 3:2,3
2:25 [s]S 1Ti 2:4
2:26 [t]1Ti 3:7
3:1 [u]1Ti 4:1; 2Pe 3:3
3:2 [v]S 1Ti 3:3 [w]Ro 1:30 [x]2Pe 2:10-12 [y]Ro 1:30
3:4 [z]Ps 25:3 [a]1Ti 3:6; 6:4
3:5 [b]S 1Ti 2:2 [c]S Ro 16:17
3:6 [d]Jude 4
3:7 [e]S 1Ti 2:4
3:8 [f]Ex 7:11 [g]Ac 13:8 [h]1Ti 6:5
3:9 [i]Ex 7:12; 8:18; 9:11
3:10 [j]1Ti 4:6
3:11 [k]Ac 13:14, 50 [l]S Ac 13:51 [m]Ac 14:6 [n]2Co 11:23-27 [o]S Ro 15:31 [p]Ps 34:19
3:12 [q]Jn 15:20; S Ac 14:22
3:13 [r]2Ti 2:16 [s]S Mk 13:5
3:14 [t]2Ti 1:13
3:15 [u]2Ti 1:5 [v]Jn 5:39 [w]Dt 4:6; Ps 119:98,99
3:16 [x]2Pe 1:20, 21 [y]S Ro 4:23,24 [z]Dt 29:29
3:17 [a]1Ti 6:11 [b]2Ti 2:21
4:1 [c]S Ac 10:42 [d]ver 8; S 1Ti 6:14 [e]1Ti 5:21; 6:13
4:2 [f]1Ti 4:13 [g]Gal 6:6 [h]1Ti 5:20; Tit 1:13; 2:15 [i]Tit 2:15

doctrine. Instead, to suit their own
desires, they will gather around them a
great number of teachers to say what
their itching ears want to hear. 4 They
will turn their ears away from the truth
and turn aside to myths. 5 But you,
keep your head in all situations, en-
dure hardship, do the work of an
evangelist, discharge all the duties of
your ministry.
6 For I am already being poured out
like a drink offering, and the time has
come for my departure. 7 I have fought
the good fight, I have finished the
race, I have kept the faith. 8 Now there
is in store for me the crown of right-
eousness, which the Lord, the right-
eous Judge, will award to me on that
day—and not only to me, but also to
all who have longed for his appear-
ing.

Personal Remarks

9 Do your best to come to me
quickly, 10 for Demas, because he
loved this world, has deserted me and
has gone to Thessalonica. Crescens
has gone to Galatia, and Titus to
Dalmatia. 11 Only Luke is with me.
Get Mark and bring him with you, be-
cause he is helpful to me in my minis-
try. 12 I sent Tychicus to Ephesus.
13 When you come, bring the cloak that
I left with Carpus at Troas, and my
scrolls, especially the parchments.

[illegible]

14 Alexander the metalworker did
me a great deal of harm. The Lord will
repay him for what he has done.
15 You too should be on your guard
against him, because he strongly op-
posed our message.
16 At my first defense, no one came to
my support, but everyone deserted
me. May it not be held against them.
17 But the Lord stood at my side and
gave me strength, so that through me
the message might be fully proclaimed
and all the Gentiles might hear it.
And I was delivered from the lion's
mouth. 18 The Lord will rescue me
from every evil attack and will bring
me safely to his heavenly kingdom.
To him be glory for ever and ever.
Amen.

Final Greetings

19 Greet Priscilla[a] and Aquila and
the household of Onesiphorus.
20 Erastus stayed in Corinth, and I left
Trophimus sick in Miletus. 21 Do
your best to get here before winter.
Eubulus greets you, and so do Pudens,
Linus, Claudia and all the brothers.
22 The Lord be with your spirit.
Grace be with you.

[illegible]

[a] 4:19 Greek *Prisca*, a variant of *Priscilla*

Titus

1 Paul, a servant of God[a] and an apostle[b] of Jesus Christ for the faith of God's elect and the knowledge of the truth[c] that leads to godliness[d]— 2a faith and knowledge resting on the hope of eternal life,[e] which God, who does not lie,[f] promised before the beginning of time,[g] 3and at his appointed season[h] he brought his word to light[i] through the preaching entrusted to me[j] by the command of God[k] our Savior,[l]

4To Titus,[m] my true son[n] in our common faith:

Grace and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Savior.[o]

Titus' Task on Crete

1:6-8Ref — 1Ti 3:2-4

5The reason I left you in Crete[p] was that you might straighten out what was left unfinished and appoint[a] elders[q] in every town, as I directed you. 6An elder must be blameless,[r] the husband of but one wife, a man whose children believe and are not open to the charge of being wild and disobedient. 7Since an overseer[b][s] is entrusted with God's work,[t] he must be blameless—not overbearing, not quick-tempered, not given to drunkenness, not violent, not pursuing dishonest gain.[u] 8Rather he must be hospitable,[v] one who loves what is good,[w] who is self-controlled,[x] upright, holy and disciplined. 9He must hold firmly[y] to the trustworthy message as it has been taught, so that he can encourage others by sound doctrine[z] and refute those who oppose it.

10For there are many rebellious people, mere talkers[a] and deceivers, especially those of the circumcision group.[b] 11They must be silenced, because they are ruining whole households[c] by teaching things they ought not to teach—and that for the sake of dishonest gain. 12Even one of their own prophets[d] has said, "Cretans[e] are always liars, evil brutes, lazy gluttons." 13This testimony is true. Therefore, rebuke[f] them sharply, so that they will be sound in the faith[g] 14and will pay no attention to Jewish myths[h] or to the commands[i] of those who reject the truth.[j] 15To the pure, all things are pure,[k] but to those who are corrupted and do not believe, nothing is pure.[l] In fact, both their minds and consciences are corrupted.[m] 16They claim to know God, but by their actions they deny him.[n] They are detestable, disobedient and unfit for doing anything good.[o]

What Must Be Taught to Various Groups

2 You must teach what is in accord with sound doctrine.[p] 2Teach the older men[q] to be temperate,[r] worthy of respect, self-controlled,[s] and sound in faith,[t] in love and in endurance.

3Likewise, teach the older women to be reverent in the way they live, not to be slanderers[u] or addicted to much wine,[v] but to teach what is good. 4Then they can train the younger women[w] to love their husbands and children, 5to be self-controlled[x] and pure, to be busy at home,[y] to be kind, and to be subject to their husbands,[z] so that no one will malign the word of God.[a]

6Similarly, encourage the young men[b] to be self-controlled.[c] 7In everything set them an example[d] by doing what is good.[e] In your teaching show integrity, seriousness 8and soundness of speech that cannot be condemned, so that those who oppose you may be ashamed because they have nothing bad to say about us.[f]

9Teach slaves to be subject to their masters in everything,[g] to try to please them, not to talk back to them, 10and not to steal from them, but to show that they can be fully trusted, so that in every way they will make the teaching about God our Savior[h] attractive.[i]

1:1 [a]Ro 1:1; Jas 1:1 [b]S 1Co 1:1 [c]S 1Ti 2:4 [d]S 1Ti 2:2
1:2 [e]Tit 3:7; 2Ti 1:1 [f]Nu 23:19; Heb 6:18 [g]2Ti 1:9
1:3 [h]1Ti 2:6; 6:15 [i]2Ti 1:10 [j]S 1Ti 1:11 [k]S 2Co 1:1; 1Ti 1:1 [l]S Lk 1:47
1:4 [m]S 2Co 2:13 [n]S 1Ti 1:2 [o]S Ro 1:7
1:5 [p]Ac 27:7 [q]S Ac 11:30
1:6 [r]S 1Th 3:13; 1Ti 3:2
1:7 [s]S 1Ti 3:1 [t]1Co 4:1 [u]S 1Ti 3:3,8
1:8 [v]S Ro 12:13 [w]2Ti 3:3 [x]Tit 2:2, 5,6,12
1:9 [y]S 1Co 16:13; 1Ti 1:19; 2Ti 1:13; 3:14 [z]S 1Ti 1:10
1:10 [a]1Ti 1:6 [b]Ac 10:45; 11:2
1:11 [c]1Ti 5:13
1:12 [d]Ac 17:28 [e]Ac 2:11
1:13 [f]S 1Ti 5:20 [g]Tit 2:2
1:14 [h]S 1Ti 1:4 [i]S Col 2:22 [j]2Ti 4:4
1:15 [k]Ps 18:26; Mt 15:10,11; Mk 7:14-19; Ac 10:9-16,28; Col 2:20-22 [l]Ro 14:14,23 [m]1Ti 6:5
1:16 [n]Jer 5:2; 12:2; 1Jn 2:4 [o]Hos 8:2,3
2:1 [p]S 1Ti 1:10
2:2 [q]1Ti 5:1 [r]1Ti 3:2 [s]ver 5,6, 12; Tit 1:8 [t]Tit 1:13
2:3 [u]1Ti 3:11 [v]1Ti 3:8
2:4 [w]1Ti 5:2
2:5 [x]ver 2,6,12; Tit 1:8 [y]1Ti 5:14 [z]S Eph 5:22 [a]1Ti 6:1; S Heb 4:12
2:6 [b]1Ti 5:1 [c]ver 2,5,12; Tit 1:8
2:7 [d]S 1Ti 4:12 [e]S ver 14
2:8 [f]S 1Pe 2:12
2:9 [g]S Eph 6:5
2:10 [h]S Lk 1:47 [i]Mt 5:16

[a]5 Or *ordain* [b]7 Traditionally *bishop*

11For the grace[a] of God that brings salvation has appeared[b] to all men.[c] 12It teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions,[d] and to live self-controlled,[e] upright and godly lives[f] in this present age, 13while we wait for the blessed hope—the glorious appearing[g] of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ,[h] 14who gave himself for us[i] to redeem us from all wickedness[j] and to purify[k] for himself a people that are his very own,[l] eager to do what is good.[m]

15These, then, are the things you should teach. Encourage and rebuke with all authority. Do not let anyone despise you.

Doing What Is Good

3 Remind the people to be subject to rulers and authorities,[n] to be obedient, to be ready to do whatever is good,[o] 2to slander no one,[p] to be peaceable and considerate, and to show true humility toward all men.

3At one time[q] we too were foolish, disobedient, deceived and enslaved by all kinds of passions and pleasures. We lived in malice and envy, being hated and hating one another. 4But when the kindness[r] and love of God our Savior[s] appeared,[t] 5he saved us,[u] not because of righteous things we had done,[v] but because of his mercy.[w] He saved us through the washing[x] of rebirth and renewal[y] by the Holy Spirit, 6whom he poured out on us[z] generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, 7so that, having been justified by his grace,[a] we might become heirs[b] having the hope[c] of eternal life.[d] 8This is a trustworthy saying.[e] And I want you to stress these things, so that those who have trusted in God may be careful to devote themselves to doing what is good.[f] These things are excellent and profitable for everyone.

9But avoid[g] foolish controversies and genealogies and arguments and quarrels[h] about the law,[i] because these are unprofitable and useless.[j] 10Warn a divisive person once, and then warn him a second time. After that, have nothing to do with him.[k] 11You may be sure that such a man is warped and sinful; he is self-condemned.

Final Remarks

12As soon as I send Artemas or Tychicus[l] to you, do your best to come to me at Nicopolis, because I have decided to winter there.[m] 13Do everything you can to help Zenas the lawyer and Apollos[n] on their way and see that they have everything they need. 14Our people must learn to devote themselves to doing what is good,[o] in order that they may provide for daily necessities and not live unproductive lives.

15Everyone with me sends you greetings. Greet those who love us in the faith.[p]

Grace be with you all.[q]

2:11 [a]S Ro 3:24 [b]2Ti 1:10 [c]S 1Ti 2:4
2:12 [d]Tit 3:3 [e]ver 2,5,6; Tit 1:8 [f]2Ti 3:12
2:13 [g]S 1Co 1:7; S 1Ti 6:14 [h]2Pe 1:1
2:14 [i]S Mt 20:28 [j]S Mt 1:21 [k]Heb 1:3; 1Jn 1:7 [l]Ex 19:5; Dt 4:20; 14:2; Ps 135:4; Mal 3:17; 1Pe 2:9 [m]ver 7; Pr 16:7; Mt 5:16; 2Co 8:21; Eph 2:10; Tit 3:1, 8,14; 1Pe 2:12, 15; 3:13
3:1 [n]Ro 13:1; 1Pe 2:13,14 [o]S 2Ti 2:21; S Tit 2:14
3:2 [p]Eph 4:31
3:3 [q]S Eph 2:2
3:4 [r]Eph 2:7 [s]S Lk 1:47 [t]Tit 2:11
3:5 [u]S Ro 11:14 [v]S Eph 2:9 [w]1Pe 1:3 [x]S Ac 22:16 [y]Ro 12:2
3:6 [z]S Ro 5:5
3:7 [a]S Ro 3:24 [b]S Ro 8:17 [c]Ro 8:24 [d]S Mt 25:46; Tit 1:2
3:8 [e]S 1Ti 1:15 [f]S Tit 2:14
3:9 [g]2Ti 2:16 [h]S 2Ti 2:14 [i]Tit 1:10-16 [j]2Ti 2:14
3:10 [k]S Ro 16:17
3:12 [l]S Ac 20:4 [m]2Ti 4:9,21
3:13 [n]S Ac 18:24
3:14 [o]S Tit 2:14
3:15 [p]1Ti 1:2 [q]S Col 4:18

Philemon

1Paul, a prisoner[a] of Christ Jesus,
and Timothy[b] our brother,[c]

To Philemon our dear friend and fel-
low worker,[d] 2to Apphia our sister, to
Archippus[e] our fellow soldier[f] and to
the church that meets in your home:[g]

3Grace to you and peace from God
our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.[h]

Thanksgiving and Prayer

4I always thank my God[i] as I
remember you in my prayers,[j] 5be-
cause I hear about your faith in the
Lord Jesus[k] and your love for all the
saints.[l] 6I pray that you may be active
in sharing your faith, so that you will
have a full understanding of every
good thing we have in Christ. 7Your
love has given me great joy and en-
couragement,[m] because you, brother,
have refreshed[n] the hearts of the
saints.

Paul's Plea for Onesimus

8Therefore, although in Christ I
could be bold and order you to do what
you ought to do, 9yet I appeal to you[o]
on the basis of love. I then, as Paul—an
old man and now also a prisoner[p] of
Christ Jesus— 10I appeal to you for my
son[q] Onesimus,[a][r] who became my
son while I was in chains.[s] 11Formerly
he was useless to you, but now he has
become useful both to you and to me.

12I am sending him—who is my very
heart—back to you. 13I would have
liked to keep him with me so that he
could take your place in helping me
while I am in chains[t] for the gospel.
14But I did not want to do anything
without your consent, so that any favor
you do will be spontaneous and not
forced.[u] 15Perhaps the reason he was
separated from you for a little while
was that you might have him back for
good— 16no longer as a slave,[v] but bet-
ter than a slave, as a dear brother.[w] He
is very dear to me but even dearer to
you, both as a man and as a brother in
the Lord.

17So if you consider me a partner,[x]
welcome him as you would welcome
me. 18If he has done you any wrong or
owes you anything, charge it to me.[y]
19I, Paul, am writing this with my own
hand.[z] I will pay it back—not to men-
tion that you owe me your very self. 20I
do wish, brother, that I may have some
benefit from you in the Lord; refresh[a]
my heart in Christ. 21Confident[b] of
your obedience, I write to you, know-
ing that you will do even more than I
ask.

22And one thing more: Prepare a
guest room for me, because I hope to
be[c] restored to you in answer to your
prayers.[d]

23Epaphras,[e] my fellow prisoner[f] in
Christ Jesus, sends you greetings.
24And so do Mark,[g] Aristarchus,[h]
Demas[i] and Luke, my fellow work-
ers.[j]

25The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ
be with your spirit.[k]

1 [a]ver 9,23; S Eph 3:1 [b]S Ac 16:1 [c]2Co 1:1 [d]S Php 2:25 **2** [e]Col 4:17 [f]Php 2:25 [g]S Ro 16:5 **3** [h]S Ro 1:7 **4** [i]S Ro 1:8 [j]S Ro 1:10 **5** [k]S Ac 20:21 [l]S Col 1:4; 1Th 3:6 **7** [m]2Co 7:4,13 [n]ver 20; Ro 15:32; 1Co 16:18 **9** [o]1Co 1:10 [p]ver 1,23; S Eph 3:1 **10** [q]S 1Th 2:11 [r]Col 4:9 [s]S Ac 21:33

13 [t]ver 10; S Ac 21:33 **14** [u]2Co 9:7; 1Pe 5:2 **16** [v]1Co 7:22 [w]Mt 23:8; S Ac 1:16; 1Ti 6:2 **17** [x]2Co 8:23 **18** [y]Ge 43:9 **19** [z]S 1Co 16:21 **20** [a]ver 7; 1Co 16:18 **21** [b]S 2Co 2:3 **22** [c]Php 1:25; 2:24; Heb 13:19 [d]2Co 1:11; Php 1:19 **23** [e]Col 1:7 [f]ver 1; Ro 16:7; Col 4:10 **24** [g]S Ac 12:12 [h]S Ac 19:29 [i]Col 4:14; 2Ti 4:10 [j]ver 1 **25** [k]S Gal 6:18

[a]10 *Onesimus* means *useful.*

Hebrews

The Son Superior to Angels

1 In the past God spoke[a] to our fore-
fathers through the prophets[b] at
many times and in various ways,[c] 2 but
in these last days[d] he has spoken to us
by his Son,[e] whom he appointed heir[f]
of all things, and through whom[g] he
made the universe.[h] 3 The Son is the
radiance of God's glory[i] and the exact
representation of his being,[j] sustain-
ing all things[k] by his powerful word.
After he had provided purification for
sins,[l] he sat down at the right hand of
the Majesty in heaven.[m] 4 So he became
as much superior to the angels as the
name he has inherited is superior to
theirs.[n]
5 For to which of the angels did God
ever say,

"You are my Son;
today I have become your
Father[a]"[b]?[o]

Or again,

"I will be his Father,
and he will be my Son"[c]?[p]

6 And again, when God brings his first-
born[q] into the world,[r] he says,

"Let all God's angels worship
him."[d][s]

7 In speaking of the angels he says,

"He makes his angels winds,
his servants flames of fire."[e][t]

8 But about the Son he says,

"Your throne, O God, will last for
ever and ever,[u]
and righteousness will be the
scepter of your kingdom.
9 You have loved righteousness and
hated wickedness;
therefore God, your God, has set
you above your companions[v]
by anointing you with the oil[w] of
joy."[f][x]

10 He also says,

"In the beginning, O Lord, you laid
the foundations of the earth,
and the heavens are the work of
your hands.[y]
11 They will perish, but you remain;
they will all wear out like a
garment.[z]
12 You will roll them up like a robe;
like a garment they will be
changed.
But you remain the same,[a]
and your years will never end."[g][b]

13 To which of the angels did God ever
say,

"Sit at my right hand[c]
until I make your enemies
a footstool[d] for your feet"[h]?[e]

14 Are not all angels ministering spirits[f]
sent to serve those who will inherit[g]
salvation?[h]

Warning to Pay Attention

2 We must pay more careful atten-
tion, therefore, to what we have
heard, so that we do not drift away.[i]
2 For if the message spoken[j] by angels[k]
was binding, and every violation and
disobedience received its just punish-
ment,[l] 3 how shall we escape if we ig-
nore such a great salvation?[m] This sal-
vation, which was first announced by
the Lord,[n] was confirmed to us by
those who heard him.[o] 4 God also testi-
fied to it by signs, wonders and various
miracles,[p] and gifts of the Holy Spirit[q]
distributed according to his will.[r]

Jesus Made Like His Brothers

5 It is not to angels that he has sub-
jected the world to come, about which
we are speaking. 6 But there is a place
where someone[s] has testified:

"What is man that you are mindful
of him,

1:1 [a]Jn 9:29; Heb 2:2,3; 4:8; 12:25 [b]Lk 1:70; Ac 2:30 [c]Nu 12:6,8 **1:2** [d]Dt 4:30; Heb 9:26; 1Pe 1:20 [e]ver 5; S Mt 3:17; Heb 3:6; 5:8; 7:28 [f]Ps 2:8; Mt 11:27; S 28:18 [g]S Jn 1:3 [h]Heb 11:3 **1:3** [i]Jn 1:14 [j]S Jn 14:9 [k]Col 1:17 [l]Tit 2:14; Heb 7:27; 9:11-14 [m]S Mk 16:19 **1:4** [n]Eph 1:21; Php 2:9,10; Heb 8:6 **1:5** [o]Ps 2:7; S Mt 3:17 [p]2Sa 7:14 **1:6** [q]Jn 3:16; S Col 1:18 [r]Heb 10:5 [s]Dt 32:43 (LXX and DSS); Ps 97:7 **1:7** [t]Ps 104:4 **1:8** [u]S Lk 1:33 **1:9** [v]Php 2:9 [w]Isa 61:1,3 [x]Ps 45:6,7 **1:10** [y]Ps 8:6; Zec 12:1 **1:11** [z]Isa 34:4; 51:6; SHeb 12:27 **1:12** [a]Heb 13:8 [b]Ps 102:25-27 **1:13** [c]ver 3; S Mk 16:19 [d]Jos 10:24; Heb 10:13 [e]Ps 110:1; S Mt 22:44 **1:14** [f]Ps 91:11; 103:20; Da 7:10 [g]Mt 25:34; Mk 10:17; S Ac 20:32 [h]S Ro 11:14; Heb 2:3; 5:9; 9:28 **2:1** [i]S Ro 11:22 **2:2** [j]S Heb 1:1 [k]Dt 33:2; Ac 7:53; Gal 3:19 [l]Heb 10:28 **2:3** [m]Heb 10:29; 12:25 [n]Heb 1:2 [o]S Lk 1:2 **2:4** [p]Mk 16:20; S Jn 4:48 [q]S 1Co 12:4 [r]S Eph 1:5 **2:6** [s]Heb 4:4

[a]5 Or *have begotten you* [b]5 Psalm 2:7 [c]5 2 Samuel 7:14; 1 Chron. 17:13 [d]6 Deut. 32:43 (see Dead Sea Scrolls and Septuagint) [e]7 Psalm 104:4 [f]9 Psalm 45:6,7 [g]12 Psalm 102:25-27 [h]13 Psalm 110:1

the son of man that you care for
him?[a]
7You made him a little[i] lower than
the angels;
you crowned him with glory and
honor
8 and put everything under his
feet."[j] [b]

In putting everything under him, God
left nothing that is not subject to him.
Yet at present we do not see everything
subject to him. 9But we see Jesus, who
was made a little lower than the angels,
now crowned with glory and honor[c]
because he suffered death,[d] so that by
the grace of God he might taste death
for everyone.[e]

10In bringing many sons to glory, it
was fitting that God, for whom and
through whom everything exists,[f]
should make the author of their salva-
tion perfect through suffering.[g] 11Both
the one who makes men holy[h] and
those who are made holy[i] are of the
same family. So Jesus is not ashamed
to call them brothers.[j] 12He says,

"I will declare your name to my
brothers;
in the presence of the
congregation I will sing
your praises."[k] [k]

13And again,

"I will put my trust in him."[l] [l]

And again he says,

"Here am I, and the children God
has given me."[m] [m]

14Since the children have flesh and
blood,[n] he too shared in their humani-
ty[o] so that by his death he might de-
stroy[p] him who holds the power of
death—that is, the devil[q]— 15and free
those who all their lives were held in
slavery by their fear[r] of death. 16For
surely it is not angels he helps, but
Abraham's descendants.[s] 17For this
reason he had to be made like his
brothers[t] in every way, in order that
he might become a merciful[u] and faith-
ful high priest[v] in service to God,[w] and
that he might make atonement for[n] the
sins of the people.[x] 18Because he him-
self suffered when he was tempted, he
is able to help those who are being
tempted.[y]

Jesus Greater Than Moses

3 Therefore, holy brothers,[z] who
share in the heavenly calling,[a] fix
your thoughts on Jesus, the apostle
and high priest[b] whom we confess.[c]
2He was faithful to the one who ap-
pointed him, just as Moses was faithful
in all God's house.[d] 3Jesus has been
found worthy of greater honor than
Moses,[e] just as the builder of a house
has greater honor than the house itself.
4For every house is built by someone,
but God is the builder of everything.[f]
5Moses was faithful as a servant[g] in all
God's house,[h] testifying to what
would be said in the future. 6But Christ
is faithful as a son[i] over God's house.
And we are his house,[j] if we hold on[k]
to our courage and the hope[l] of which
we boast.

Warning Against Unbelief

7So, as the Holy Spirit says:[m]

"Today, if you hear his voice,
8 do not harden your hearts[n]
as you did in the rebellion,
during the time of testing in the
desert,
9where your fathers tested and tried
me
and for forty years saw what I
did.[o]
10That is why I was angry with that
generation,
and I said, 'Their hearts are always
going astray,
and they have not known my
ways.'
11So I declared on oath in my anger,[p]
'They shall never enter my
rest.'[q] "[o] [r]

12See to it, brothers, that none of you
has a sinful, unbelieving heart that
turns away from the living God.[s] 13But
encourage one another daily,[t] as long
as it is called Today, so that none of
you may be hardened by sin's deceit-
fulness.[u] 14We have come to share in
Christ if we hold firmly[v] till the end
the confidence[w] we had at first. 15As
has just been said:

"Today, if you hear his voice,
do not harden your hearts
as you did in the rebellion."[p] [x]

16Who were they who heard and re-
belled? Were they not all those Moses
led out of Egypt?[y] 17And with whom
was he angry for forty years? Was it not

2:6 [a]Job 7:17; Ps 144:3 **2:8** [b]Ps 8:4-6; S Mt 22:44 **2:9** [c]ver 7; Ac 3:13; S Php 2:9 [d]Php 2:7-9 [e]2Co 5:15 **2:10** [f]S Ro 11:36 [g]Lk 24:26; Heb 5:8,9; 7:28 **2:11** [h]Heb 13:12 [i]S Eph 5:26 [j]S Mt 28:10 **2:12** [k]Ps 22:22; 68:26 **2:13** [l]Isa 8:17 [m]Isa 8:18; Jn 10:29 **2:14** [n]1Co 15:50; Eph 6:12 [o]S Jn 1:14 [p]Ge 3:15; 1Co 15:54-57; 2Ti 1:10 [q]1Jn 3:8 **2:15** [r]S 2Ti 1:7 **2:16** [s]S Lk 3:8 **2:17** [t]ver 14; S Php 2:7 [u]Heb 5:2 [v]Heb 3:1; 4:14, 15; 5:5,10; 7:26, 28; 8:1,3; 9:11 [w]Heb 5:1 [x]S Ro 3:25 **2:18** [y]Heb 4:15 **3:1** [z]Heb 2:11 [a]S Ro 8:28

[b]S Heb 2:17 [c]1Ti 6:12; Heb 4:14; 10:23; 2Co 9:13 **3:2** [d]ver 5; Nu 12:7 **3:3** [e]Dt 34:12 **3:4** [f]Ge 1:1 **3:5** [g]Ex 14:31 [h]ver 2; Nu 12:7 **3:6** [i]S Heb 1:2 [j]S 1Co 3:16; 1Ti 3:15 [k]ver 14; S Ro 11:22; Heb 4:14 [l]Ro 5:2; Heb 6:11,18,19; 7:19; 11:1 **3:7** [m]Ac 28:25; Heb 9:8; 10:15 **3:8** [n]ver 15; Heb 4:7 **3:9** [o]Nu 14:33; Dt 1:3; Ac 7:36 **3:11** [p]Dt 1:34,35 [q]Heb 4:3,5 [r]Ps 95:7-11 **3:12** [s]S Mt 16:16 **3:13** [t]Heb 10:24,25 [u]Jer 17:9; Eph 4:22 **3:14** [v]ver 6 [w]S Eph 3:12 **3:15** [x]Ps 95:7,8; ver 7,8; Heb 4:7 **3:16** [y]Nu 14:2

[i]7 Or *him for a little while;* also in verse 9 [j]8 Psalm 8:4-6 [k]12 Psalm 22:22 [l]13 Isaiah 8:17 [m]13 Isaiah 8:18 [n]17 Or *and that he might turn aside God's wrath, taking away* [o]11 Psalm 95:7-11 [p]15 Psalm 95:7,8

with those who sinned, whose bodies
fell in the desert?[a] 18And to whom did
God swear that they would never enter
his rest[b] if not to those who dis-
obeyed[q]?[c] 19So we see that they were
not able to enter, because of their un-
belief.[d]

A Sabbath-Rest for the People of God

4 Therefore, since the promise of en-
tering his rest still stands, let us be
careful that none of you be found to
have fallen short of it.[e] 2For we also
have had the gospel preached to us,
just as they did; but the message they
heard was of no value to them, because
those who heard did not combine it
with faith.[r][f] 3Now we who have be-
lieved enter that rest, just as God has
said,

> "So I declared on oath in my anger,
> 'They shall never enter my
> rest.' "[s][g]

And yet his work has been finished
since the creation of the world. 4For
somewhere he has spoken about the
seventh day in these words: "And on
the seventh day God rested from all his
work."[t][h] 5And again in the passage
above he says, "They shall never enter
my rest."[i]

6It still remains that some will enter
that rest, and those who formerly had
the gospel preached to them did not go
in, because of their disobedience.[j]
7Therefore God again set a certain day,
calling it Today, when a long time later
he spoke through David, as was said
before:

> "Today, if you hear his voice,
> do not harden your hearts."[u][k]

8For if Joshua had given them rest,[l]
God would not have spoken[m] later
about another day. 9There remains,
then, a Sabbath-rest for the people of
God; 10for anyone who enters God's
rest also rests from his own work,[n] just
as God did from his.[o] 11Let us, there-
fore, make every effort to enter that
rest, so that no one will fall by follow-
ing their example of disobedience.[p]

12For the word of God[q] is living[r] and
active.[s] Sharper than any double-
edged sword,[t] it penetrates even to di-
viding soul and spirit, joints and mar-
row; it judges the thoughts and atti-
tudes of the heart.[u] 13Nothing in all
creation is hidden from God's sight[v]
Everything is uncovered and laid bare
before the eyes of him to whom we
must give account.

3:17 [a]Nu 14:29; Ps 106:26; 1Co 10:5 **3:18** [b]Nu 14:20-23; Dt 1:34,35 [c]Heb 4:6 **3:19** [d]Ps 78:22; 106:24; Jn 3:36 **4:1** [e]Heb 12:15 **4:2** [f]1Th 2:13 **4:3** [g]Ps 95:11; Dt 1:34,35; Heb 3:11 **4:4** [h]Ge 2:2,3; Ex 20:11 **4:5** [i]Ps 95:11; S ver 3 **4:6** [j]ver 11; Heb 3:18 **4:7** [k]Ps 95:7,8; Heb 3:7,8,15 **4:8** [l]Jos 22:4 [m]S Heb 1:1 **4:10** [n]Lev 23:3; Rev 14:13 [o]ver 4 **4:11** [p]ver 6; Heb 3:18 **4:12** [q]S Mk 4:14; Lk 5:1; 11:28; Jn 10:35; Ac 12:24; 1Th 2:13; 2Ti 2:9; 1Pe 1:23; 1Jn 2:14; Rev 1:2,9 [r]Ac 7:38; 1Pe 1:23 [s]Isa 55:11; Jer 23:29; 1Th 2:13 [t]Eph 6:17; S Rev 1:16 [u]1Co 14:24,25 **4:13** [v]Ps 33:13-15; Pr 5:21; Jer 16:17; 23:24; Da 2:22 **4:14** [w]S Heb 2:17 [x]Heb 6:20; 8:1; 9:24 [y]S Mt 4:3 [z]S Heb 3:1 **4:15** [a]S Heb 2:17 [b]Heb 2:18 [c]S 2Co 5:21 **4:16** [d]S Heb 7:19 [e]S Eph 3:12 **5:1** [f]Heb 2:17 [g]Heb 8:3; 9:9 [h]Heb 7:27 **5:2** [i]Isa 29:24; Heb 2:18; 4:15 [j]Heb 7:28 **5:3** [k]Lev 9:7; 16:6; Heb 7:27; 9:7 **5:4** [l]Ex 28:1; Nu 14:40; 18:7 **5:5** [m]Jn 8:54 [n]S Heb 2:17 [o]S Heb 1:1 [p]Ps 2:7; S Mt 3:17 **5:6** [q]ver 10; Ge 14:18; Heb 6:20; 7:1-22 [r]Ps 110:4; Heb 7:17,21 **5:7** [s]Lk 22:41-44 [t]Mt 27:46,50; Lk 23:46 [u]Ps 22:24 [v]Mk 14:36 **5:8** [w]S Heb 1:2 [x]S Php 2:8 **5:9** [y]S Heb 2:10 **5:10** [z]ver 5; S Heb 2:17 [a]S ver 6

Jesus the Great High Priest

14Therefore, since we have a great
high priest[w] who has gone through the
heavens,[v][x] Jesus the Son of God,[y] let
us hold firmly to the faith we profess.[z]
15For we do not have a high priest[a]
who is unable to sympathize with our
weaknesses, but we have one who has
been tempted in every way, just as we
are[b]—yet was without sin.[c] 16Let us
then approach[d] the throne of grace
with confidence,[e] so that we may re-
ceive mercy and find grace to help us in
our time of need.

5 Every high priest is selected from
among men and is appointed to
represent them in matters related to
God,[f] to offer gifts and sacrifices[g] for
sins.[h] 2He is able to deal gently with
those who are ignorant and are going
astray,[i] since he himself is subject to
weakness.[j] 3This is why he has to offer
sacrifices for his own sins, as well as for
the sins of the people.[k]

4No one takes this honor upon him-
self; he must be called by God, just as
Aaron was.[l] 5So Christ also did not
take upon himself the glory[m] of becom-
ing a high priest.[n] But God said[o] to
him,

> "You are my Son;
> today I have become your
> Father.[w]"[x][p]

6And he says in another place,

> "You are a priest forever,
> in the order of Melchizedek.[q]"[y][r]

7During the days of Jesus' life on
earth, he offered up prayers and peti-
tions[s] with loud cries and tears[t] to the
one who could save him from death,
and he was heard[u] because of his rev-
erent submission.[v] 8Although he was a
son,[w] he learned obedience from what
he suffered[x] 9and, once made perfect,[y]
he became the source of eternal salva-
tion for all who obey him 10and was
designated by God to be high priest[z] in
the order of Melchizedek.[a]

Warning Against Falling Away

6:4-6Ref — Heb 10:26-31

11We have much to say about this,

[q]18 Or *disbelieved* [r]2 Many manuscripts *because they did not share in the faith of those who obeyed* [s]3 Psalm 95:11; also in verse 5 [t]4 Gen. 2:2 [u]7 Psalm 95:7,8 [v]14 Or *gone into heaven* [w]5 Or *have begotten you* [x]5 Psalm 2:7 [y]6 Psalm 110:4

but it is hard to explain because you are
slow to learn. 12In fact, though by this
time you ought to be teachers, you
need someone to teach you the elemen-
tary truths[a] of God's word all over
again. You need milk, not solid food![b]
13Anyone who lives on milk, being still
an infant,[c] is not acquainted with the
teaching about righteousness. 14But
solid food is for the mature,[d] who by
constant use have trained themselves
to distinguish good from evil.[e]

6 Therefore let us leave[f] the elemen-
tary teachings[g] about Christ and go
on to maturity, not laying again the
foundation of repentance from acts that
lead to death,[z][h] and of faith in God,
2instruction about baptisms,[i] the lay-
ing on of hands,[j] the resurrection of
the dead,[k] and eternal judgment. 3And
God permitting,[l] we will do so.

4It is impossible for those who have
once been enlightened,[m] who have
tasted the heavenly gift,[n] who have
shared in the Holy Spirit,[o] 5who have
tasted the goodness[p] of the word of
God[q] and the powers of the coming
age, 6if they fall away, to be brought
back to repentance,[r] because[a] to their
loss they are crucifying the Son of
God[s] all over again and subjecting him
to public disgrace.

7Land that drinks in the rain often
falling on it and that produces a crop
useful to those for whom it is farmed
receives the blessing of God. 8But land
that produces thorns and thistles is
worthless and is in danger of being
cursed.[t] In the end it will be burned.

9Even though we speak like this,
dear friends,[u] we are confident of bet-
ter things in your case—things that ac-
company salvation. 10God is not unjust;
he will not forget your work and the
love you have shown him as you have
helped his people and continue to help
them.[v] 11We want each of you to show
this same diligence to the very end, in
order to make your hope[w] sure. 12We
do not want you to become lazy, but to
imitate[x] those who through faith and
patience[y] inherit what has been prom-
ised.[z]

The Certainty of God's Promise

13When God made his promise to
Abraham, since there was no one
greater for him to swear by, he swore
by himself,[a] 14saying, "I will surely
bless you and give you many descend-
ants."[b][b] 15And so after waiting pa-
tiently, Abraham received what was
promised.[c]

16Men swear by someone greater
than themselves, and the oath confirms
what is said and puts an end to all ar-
gument.[d] 17Because God wanted to
make the unchanging[e] nature of his
purpose very clear to the heirs of what
was promised,[f] he confirmed it with
an oath. 18God did this so that, by two
unchangeable things in which it is im-
possible for God to lie,[g] we who have
fled to take hold of the hope[h] offered
to us may be greatly encouraged. 19We
have this hope as an anchor for the
soul, firm and secure. It enters the in-
ner sanctuary behind the curtain,[i]
20where Jesus, who went before us, has
entered on our behalf.[j] He has become
a high priest[k] forever, in the order of
Melchizedek.[l]

Melchizedek the Priest

7 This Melchizedek was king of
Salem[m] and priest of God Most
High.[n] He met Abraham returning
from the defeat of the kings and
blessed him,[o] 2and Abraham gave him
a tenth of everything. First, his name
means "king of righteousness"; then
also, "king of Salem" means "king of
peace." 3Without father or mother,
without genealogy,[p] without begin-
ning of days or end of life, like the Son
of God[q] he remains a priest forever.

4Just think how great he was: Even
the patriarch[r] Abraham gave him a
tenth of the plunder![s] 5Now the law
requires the descendants of Levi who
become priests to collect a tenth from
the people[t]—that is, their brothers—
even though their brothers are de-
scended from Abraham. 6This man,
however, did not trace his descent
from Levi, yet he collected a tenth from
Abraham and blessed[u] him who had
the promises.[v] 7And without doubt the
lesser person is blessed by the greater.
8In the one case, the tenth is collected
by men who die; but in the other case,
by him who is declared to be living.[w]
9One might even say that Levi, who
collects the tenth, paid the tenth
through Abraham, 10because when
Melchizedek met Abraham, Levi was
still in the body of his ancestor.

Jesus Like Melchizedek

11If perfection could have been at-

5:12 [a]Heb 6:1 [b]1Co 3:2; 1Pe 2:2 **5:13** [c]S 1Co 14:20 **5:14** [d]S 1Co 2:6 [e]Isa 7:15 **6:1** [f]Php 3:12-14 [g]Heb 5:12 [h]Heb 9:14 **6:2** [i]Jn 3:25 [j]S Ac 6:6 [k]S Ac 2:24; Ac 17:18,32 **6:3** [l]Ac 18:21 **6:4** [m]Heb 10:32 [n]Eph 2:8 [o]Gal 3:2 **6:5** [p]Ps 34:8 [q]S Heb 4:12 **6:6** [r]2Pe 2:21; 1Jn 5:16 [s]S Mt 4:3 **6:8** [t]Ge 3:17,18; Isa 5:6; 27:4 **6:9** [u]S 1Co 10:14 **6:10** [v]S Mt 10:40,42; 1Th 1:3 **6:11** [w]S Heb 3:6 **6:12** [x]Heb 13:7 [y]2Th 1:4; Jas 1:3; Rev 13:10; 14:12 [z]Heb 10:36 **6:13** [a]Ge 22:16; Lk 1:73 **6:14** [b]Ge 22:17

6:15 [c]Ge 21:5 **6:16** [d]Ex 22:11 **6:17** [e]ver 18; Ps 110:4 [f]Ro 4:16; Heb 11:9 **6:18** [g]Nu 23:19; Tit 1:2 [h]S Heb 3:6 **6:19** [i]Lev 16:2; Heb 9:2,3,7 **6:20** [j]S Heb 4:14 [k]S Heb 2:17 [l]S Heb 5:6 **7:1** [m]Ps 76:2 [n]S Mk 5:7 [o]ver 6; Ge 14:18-20 **7:3** [p]ver 6 [q]S Mt 4:3 **7:4** [r]Ac 2:29 [s]Ge 14:20 **7:5** [t]Nu 18:21, 26 **7:6** [u]Ge 14:19, 20 [v]Ro 4:13 **7:8** [w]Heb 5:6; 6:20

[z]1 Or *from useless rituals* [a]6 Or *repentance while*
[b]14 Gen. 22:17

tained through the Levitical priesthood
(for on the basis of it the law was given
to the people),[a] why was there still
need for another priest to come[b]—one
in the order of Melchizedek,[c] not in
the order of Aaron? 12For when there is
a change of the priesthood, there must
also be a change of the law. 13He of
whom these things are said belonged
to a different tribe,[d] and no one from
that tribe has ever served at the altar.[e]
14For it is clear that our Lord descended
from Judah,[f] and in regard to that tribe
Moses said nothing about priests.
15And what we have said is even more
clear if another priest like Melchizedek
appears, 16one who has become a priest
not on the basis of a regulation as to his
ancestry but on the basis of the power
of an indestructible life. 17For it is de-
clared:

"You are a priest forever,
in the order of Melchizedek."[f][g]

18The former regulation is set aside
because it was weak and useless[h] 19(for
the law made nothing perfect),[i] and a
better hope[j] is introduced, by which
we draw near to God.[k]
20And it was not without an oath!
Others became priests without any
oath, 21but he became a priest with an
oath when God said to him:

"The Lord has sworn
and will not change his mind:[l]
'You are a priest forever.'"[f][m]

22Because of this oath, Jesus has
become the guarantee of a better cov-
enant.[n]
23Now there have been many of
those priests, since death prevented
them from continuing in office; 24but
because Jesus lives forever, he has a
permanent priesthood.[o] 25Therefore he
is able to save[p] completely[g] those who
come to God[q] through him, because he
always lives to intercede for them.[r]
26Such a high priest[s] meets our
need—one who is holy, blameless,
pure, set apart from sinners,[t] exalted
above the heavens.[u] 27Unlike the other
high priests, he does not need to offer
sacrifices[v] day after day, first for his
own sins,[w] and then for the sins of the
people. He sacrificed for their sins once
for all[x] when he offered himself.[y] 28For
the law appoints as high priests men
who are weak;[z] but the oath, which
came after the law, appointed the
Son,[a] who has been made perfect[b] for-
ever.

7:11 [a]ver 18,19; Heb 8:7 [b]Heb 10:1 [c]ver 17; S Heb 5:6 7:13 [d]ver 11 [e]ver 14 7:14 [f]Isa 11:1; Mt 1:3; 2:6; Lk 3:33; Rev 5:5 7:17 [g]Ps 110:4; ver 21; S Heb 5:6 7:18 [h]Ro 8:3 7:19 [i]ver 11; Ro 3:20; 7:7,8; Gal 3:21; Heb 9:9; 10:1 [j]S Heb 3:6 [k]ver 25; Heb 4:16; 10:1,22; Jas 4:8 7:21 [l]Nu 23:19; 1Sa 15:29; Mal 3:6; Ro 11:29 [m]Ps 110:4; S Heb 5:6 7:22 [n]S Lk 22:20 7:24 [o]ver 28 7:25 [p]S Ro 11:14 [q]S ver 19 [r]S Ro 8:34 7:26 [s]S Heb 2:17 [t]S 2Co 5:21 [u]S Heb 4:14 7:27 [v]Heb 5:1 [w]S Heb 5:3 [x]Ro 6:10; Heb 9:12,26,28; 10:10; 1Pe 3:18 [y]Eph 5:2; Heb 9:14,28 7:28 [z]Heb 5:2 [a]S Heb 1:2 [b]S Heb 2:10

8:1 [c]S Heb 2:17 [d]S Mk 16:19; S Heb 4:14 8:2 [e]Heb 9:11,24 8:3 [f]S Heb 2:17 [g]Heb 5:1; 9:9 [h]Heb 9:14 8:4 [i]Heb 5:1; 9:9 8:5 [j]Heb 9:23 [k]Col 2:17; Heb 10:1 [l]Heb 11:7; 12:25 [m]Ex 25:40 8:6 [n]ver 8,13; S Lk 22:20 [o]S Gal 3:20 8:7 [p]Heb 7:11,18; 10:1 8:8 [q]ver 6,13; S Lk 22:20 8:9 [r]Ex 19:5,6; 20:1-17 8:10 [s]Ro 11:27 [t]2Co 3:3; Heb 10:16 [u]Eze 11:20; Zec 8:8 8:11 [v]Isa 54:13; S Jn 6:45

The High Priest of a New Covenant

8 The point of what we are saying is
this: We do have such a high
priest,[c] who sat down at the right
hand of the throne of the Majesty in
heaven,[d] 2and who serves in the sanc-
tuary, the true tabernacle[e] set up by
the Lord, not by man.
3Every high priest[f] is appointed to
offer both gifts and sacrifices,[g] and so
it was necessary for this one also to
have something to offer.[h] 4If he were
on earth, he would not be a priest, for
there are already men who offer the
gifts prescribed by the law.[i] 5They
serve at a sanctuary that is a copy[j] and
shadow[k] of what is in heaven. This is
why Moses was warned[l] when he was
about to build the tabernacle: "See to it
that you make everything according to
the pattern shown you on the moun-
tain."[h][m] 6But the ministry Jesus has re-
ceived is as superior to theirs as the
covenant[n] of which he is mediator[o] is
superior to the old one, and it is found-
ed on better promises.
7For if there had been nothing wrong
with that first covenant, no place
would have been sought for another.[p]
8But God found fault with the people
and said[i]:

"The time is coming, declares the
Lord,
when I will make a new covenant[q]
with the house of Israel
and with the house of Judah.
9It will not be like the covenant
I made with their forefathers[r]
when I took them by the hand
to lead them out of Egypt,
because they did not remain faithful
to my covenant,
and I turned away from them,
declares the Lord.
10This is the covenant[s] I will make
with the house of Israel
after that time, declares the Lord.
I will put my laws in their minds
and write them on their hearts.[t]
I will be their God,
and they will be my people.[u]
11No longer will a man teach his
neighbor,
or a man his brother, saying,
'Know the Lord,'
because they will all know me,[v]
from the least of them to the
greatest.

[f]17,21 Psalm 110:4 [g]25 Or *forever* [h]5 Exodus 25:40 [i]8 Some manuscripts may be translated *fault and said to the people.*

12 For I will forgive their wickedness
and will remember their sins no
more.[a]"[g][b]

13 By calling this covenant "new,"[c]
he has made the first one obsolete;[d]
and what is obsolete and aging will
soon disappear.

Worship in the Earthly Tabernacle

9 Now the first covenant had regula-
tions for worship and also an earth-
ly sanctuary.[e] 2 A tabernacle[f] was set
up. In its first room were the lamp-
stand,[g] the table[h] and the consecrated
bread;[i] this was called the Holy
Place.[j] 3 Behind the second curtain was
a room called the Most Holy Place,[k]
4 which had the golden altar of incense[l]
and the gold-covered ark of the cov-
enant.[m] This ark contained the gold jar
of manna,[n] Aaron's staff that had bud-
ded,[o] and the stone tablets of the cov-
enant.[p] 5 Above the ark were the cher-
ubim of the Glory,[q] overshadowing
the atonement cover.[h][r] But we cannot
discuss these things in detail now.
6 When everything had been ar-
ranged like this, the priests entered
regularly[s] into the outer room to carry
on their ministry. 7 But only the high
priest entered[t] the inner room,[u] and
that only once a year,[v] and never with-
out blood,[w] which he offered for him-
self[x] and for the sins the people had
committed in ignorance.[y] 8 The Holy
Spirit was showing[z] by this that the
way[a] into the Most Holy Place had not
yet been disclosed as long as the first
tabernacle was still standing. 9 This is
an illustration[b] for the present time, in-
dicating that the gifts and sacrifices be-
ing offered[c] were not able to clear the
conscience[d] of the worshiper. 10 They
are only a matter of food[e] and drink[f]
and various ceremonial wash-
ings[g]—external regulations[h] applying
until the time of the new order.

The Blood of Christ

11 When Christ came as high priest[i]
of the good things that are already
here,[i][j] he went through the greater
and more perfect tabernacle[k] that is
not man-made,[l] that is to say, not a
part of this creation. 12 He did not enter
by means of the blood of goats and
calves;[m] but he entered the Most Holy
Place[n] once for all[o] by his own blood,[p]
having obtained eternal redemption.
13 The blood of goats and bulls[q] and the
ashes of a heifer[r] sprinkled on those
who are ceremonially unclean sanctify
them so that they are outwardly clean.
14 How much more, then, will the blood
of Christ, who through the eternal
Spirit[s] offered himself[t] unblemished
to God, cleanse our consciences[u] from
acts that lead to death,[j][v] so that we
may serve the living God![w]
15 For this reason Christ is the media-
tor[x] of a new covenant,[y] that those
who are called[z] may receive the prom-
ised[a] eternal inheritance[b]—now that
he has died as a ransom to set them
free from the sins committed under the
first covenant.[c]
16 In the case of a will,[k] it is necessary
to prove the death of the one who
made it, 17 because a will is in force only
when somebody has died; it never
takes effect while the one who made it
is living. 18 This is why even the first
covenant was not put into effect with-
out blood.[d] 19 When Moses had pro-
claimed[e] every commandment of the
law to all the people, he took the blood
of calves,[f] together with water, scarlet
wool and branches of hyssop, and
sprinkled the scroll and all the people.[g]
20 He said, "This is the blood of the cov-
enant, which God has commanded you
to keep."[l][h] 21 In the same way, he
sprinkled with the blood both the tab-
ernacle and everything used in its
ceremonies. 22 In fact, the law requires
that nearly everything be cleansed with
blood,[i] and without the shedding of
blood there is no forgiveness.[j]
23 It was necessary, then, for the cop-
ies[k] of the heavenly things to be puri-
fied with these sacrifices, but the heav-
enly things themselves with better sac-
rifices than these. 24 For Christ did not
enter a man-made sanctuary that was
only a copy of the true one;[l] he en-
tered heaven itself,[m] now to appear for
us in God's presence.[n] 25 Nor did he en-
ter heaven to offer himself again and
again, the way the high priest enters
the Most Holy Place[o] every year with
blood that is not his own.[p] 26 Then
Christ would have had to suffer many
times since the creation of the world.[q]
But now he has appeared[r] once for
all[s] at the end of the ages to do away
with sin by the sacrifice of himself.[t]
27 Just as man is destined to die once,[u]
and after that to face judgment,[v] 28 so
Christ was sacrificed once[w] to take

8:12 [a]Heb 10:17 [b]Jer 31:31-34 **8:13** [c]ver 6,8; S Lk 22:20 [d]2Co 5:17 **9:1** [e]Ex 25:8 **9:2** [f]Ex 25:8,9 [g]Ex 25:31-39 [h]Ex 25:23-29 [i]Ex 25:30; Lev 24:5-8 [j]Ex 26:33,34 **9:3** [k]Ex 26:31-33 **9:4** [l]Ex 30:1-5 [m]Ex 25:10-22 [n]Ex 16:32,33 [o]Nu 17:10 [p]Ex 31:18; 32:15 **9:5** [q]Ex 25:17-19 [r]Ex 25:20-22; 26:34 **9:6** [s]Nu 28:3 **9:7** [t]Lev 16:11-19 [u]ver 2,3 [v]Lev 16:34 [w]Lev 16:11,14 [x]Lev 16:11; Heb 5:2,3 [y]Heb 5:2,3 **9:8** [z]S Heb 3:7 [a]Jn 14:6; Heb 10:19,20 **9:9** [b]Heb 10:1 [c]Heb 5:1; 8:3 [d]S Heb 7:19 **9:10** [e]Lev 11:2-23 [f]Nu 6:3; Col 2:16 [g]Lev 11:25,28,40 [h]Heb 7:16 **9:11** [i]S Heb 2:17 [j]Heb 10:1 [k]ver 24; Heb 8:2 [l]S Jn 2:19 **9:12** [m]ver 19; Lev 16:6,15; Heb 10:4 [n]ver 24 [o]ver 26,28; S Heb 7:27 [p]ver 14; S Ro 3:25 **9:13** [q]Heb 10:4 [r]Nu 19:9,17,18 **9:14** [s]1Pe 3:18 [t]S Eph 5:2 [u]Ps 51:2; 65:3; Jer 33:8; Zec 13:1; S Tit 2:14; Heb 10:2,22 [v]Heb 6:1 [w]S Mt 16:16 **9:15** [x]S Gal 3:20 [y]S Lk 22:20 [z]S Ro 8:28; S 11:29 [a]Heb 6:15; 10:36 [b]S Ac 20:32 [c]Heb 7:22 **9:18** [d]Ex 24:6-8 **9:19** [e]Heb 1:1 [f]ver 12 [g]Ex 24:6-8 **9:20** [h]Ex 24:8; S Mt 26:28 **9:22** [i]Ex 29:21; Lev 8:15 [j]Lev 17:11 **9:23** [k]Heb 8:5 **9:24** [l]Heb 8:2 [m]ver 12; S Heb 4:14 [n]S Ro 8:34 **9:25** [o]Heb 10:19 [p]ver 7,8 **9:26** [q]Heb 4:3 [r]1Jn 3:5 [s]ver 12, 28; S Heb 7:27 [t]ver 12 **9:27** [u]Ge 3:19 [v]2Co 5:10 **9:28** [w]ver 12,26; S Heb 7:27

[g]12 Jer. 31:31-34 [h]5 Traditionally *the mercy seat* [i]11 Some early manuscripts *are to come* [j]14 Or *from useless rituals* [k]16 Same Greek word as *covenant*; also in verse 17 [l]20 Exodus 24:8

away the sins of many people; and he will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who are waiting for him.

Christ's Sacrifice Once for All

10 The law is only a shadow of the good things that are coming—not the realities themselves. For this reason it can never, by the same sacrifices repeated endlessly year after year, make perfect those who draw near to worship. 2If it could, would they not have stopped being offered? For the worshipers would have been cleansed once for all, and would no longer have felt guilty for their sins. 3But those sacrifices are an annual reminder of sins, 4because it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins.

5Therefore, when Christ came into the world, he said:

"Sacrifice and offering you did not desire,
but a body you prepared for me;
6with burnt offerings and sin offerings
you were not pleased.
7Then I said, 'Here I am—it is written about me in the scroll—
I have come to do your will, O God.'"[a]

8First he said, "Sacrifices and offerings, burnt offerings and sin offerings you did not desire, nor were you pleased with them" (although the law required them to be made). 9Then he said, "Here I am, I have come to do your will." He sets aside the first to establish the second. 10And by that will, we have been made holy through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

11Day after day every priest stands and performs his religious duties; again and again he offers the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. 12But when this priest had offered for all time one sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God. 13Since that time he waits for his enemies to be made his footstool, 14because by one sacrifice he has made perfect forever those who are being made holy.

15The Holy Spirit also testifies to us about this. First he says:

16"This is the covenant I will make with them
after that time, says the Lord.
I will put my laws in their hearts,
and I will write them on their minds."[b]

17Then he adds:

"Their sins and lawless acts
I will remember no more."[c]

18And where these have been forgiven, there is no longer any sacrifice for sin.

A Call to Persevere

19Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, 20by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body, 21and since we have a great priest over the house of God, 22let us draw near to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water. 23Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. 24And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. 25Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

26If we deliberately keep on sinning after we have received the knowledge of the truth, no sacrifice for sins is left, 27but only a fearful expectation of judgment and of raging fire that will consume the enemies of God. 28Anyone who rejected the law of Moses died without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses. 29How much more severely do you think a man deserves to be punished who has trampled the Son of God under foot, who has treated as an unholy thing the blood of the covenant that sanctified him, and who has insulted the Spirit of grace? 30For we know him who said, "It is mine to avenge; I will repay,"[d] and again, "The Lord will judge his people."[e] 31It is a dreadful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

32Remember those earlier days after you had received the light, when you stood your ground in a great contest in

[a]7 Psalm 40:6-8 (see Septuagint) [b]16 Jer. 31:33 [c]17 Jer. 31:34 [d]30 Deut. 32:35 [e]30 Deut. 32:36; Psalm 135:14

the face of suffering.[a] 33Sometimes you
were publicly exposed to insult and
persecution;[b] at other times you stood
side by side with those who were so
treated.[c] 34You sympathized with
those in prison[d] and joyfully accepted
the confiscation of your property, be-
cause you knew that you yourselves
had better and lasting possessions.[e]
35So do not throw away your confi-
dence;[f] it will be richly rewarded.
36You need to persevere[g] so that when
you have done the will of God, you will
receive what he has promised.[h] 37For
in just a very little while,

"He who is coming[i] will come and
will not delay.[j]
38 But my righteous one[r] will live by
faith.[k]
And if he shrinks back,
I will not be pleased with
him."[s][l]

39But we are not of those who shrink
back and are destroyed, but of those
who believe and are saved.

By Faith

11 Now faith is being sure of what
we hope for[m] and certain of what
we do not see.[n] 2This is what the an-
cients were commended for.[o]
3By faith we understand that the uni-
verse was formed at God's command,[p]
so that what is seen was not made out
of what was visible.
4By faith Abel offered God a better
sacrifice than Cain did. By faith he was
commended[q] as a righteous man,
when God spoke well of his offerings.[r]
And by faith he still speaks, even
though he is dead.[s]
5By faith Enoch was taken from this
life, so that he did not experience
death; he could not be found, because
God had taken him away.[t] For before
he was taken, he was commended as
one who pleased God. 6And without
faith it is impossible to please God, be-
cause anyone who comes to him[u] must
believe that he exists and that he re-
wards those who earnestly seek him.
7By faith Noah, when warned about
things not yet seen,[v] in holy fear built
an ark[w] to save his family.[x] By his faith
he condemned the world and became
heir of the righteousness that comes by
faith.[y]
8By faith Abraham, when called to go
to a place he would later receive as his
inheritance,[z] obeyed and went,[a] even
though he did not know where he was
going. 9By faith he made his home in
the promised land[b] like a stranger in a
foreign country; he lived in tents,[c] as
did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs
with him of the same promise.[d] 10For
he was looking forward to the city[e]
with foundations[f] whose architect
and builder is God.[g]
11By faith Abraham, even though he
was past age—and Sarah herself was
barren[h]—was enabled to become a fa-
ther[i] because he[t] considered him
faithful[j] who had made the promise.
12And so from this one man, and he as
good as dead,[k] came descendants as
numerous as the stars in the sky and as
countless as the sand on the seashore.[l]
13All these people were still living by
faith when they died. They did not re-
ceive the things promised;[m] they only
saw them and welcomed them from a
distance.[n] And they admitted that they
were aliens and strangers on earth.[o]
14People who say such things show
that they are looking for a country of
their own. 15If they had been thinking
of the country they had left, they
would have had opportunity to re-
turn.[p] 16Instead, they were longing for
a better country—a heavenly one.[q]
Therefore God is not ashamed[r] to be
called their God,[s] for he has prepared
a city[t] for them.
17By faith Abraham, when God test-
ed him, offered Isaac as a sacrifice.[u] He
who had received the promises was
about to sacrifice his one and only son,
18even though God had said to him, "It
is through Isaac that your offspring[u]
will be reckoned."[v][v] 19Abraham rea-
soned that God could raise the dead,[w]
and figuratively speaking, he did re-
ceive Isaac back from death.
20By faith Isaac blessed Jacob and
Esau in regard to their future
21By faith Jacob, when he was dying,
blessed each of Joseph's sons,[y] and
worshiped as he leaned on the top of
his staff.
22By faith Joseph, when his end was
near, spoke about the exodus of the Is-
raelites from Egypt and gave instruc-
tions about his bones.[z]
23By faith Moses' parents hid him for
three months after he was born,[a] be-
cause they saw he was no ordinary

10:32 [a]Php 1:29,30 **10:33** [b]1Co 4:9 [c]Php 4:14; 1Th 2:14 **10:34** [d]Heb 13:3 [e]Heb 11:16; 1Pe 1:4,5 **10:35** [f]S Eph 3:12 **10:36** [g]Ro 5:3; Heb 12:1; Jas 1:3,4,12; 5:11; 2Pe 1:6 [h]Heb 6:15; 9:15 **10:37** [i]Mt 11:3 [j]Rev 22:20 **10:38** [k]Ro 1:17; Gal 3:11 [l]Hab 2:3,4 **11:1** [m]S Heb 3:6 [n]S 2Co 4:18 **11:2** [o]ver 4,39 **11:3** [p]Ge 1; Jn 1:3; Heb 1:2; 2Pe 3:5 **11:4** [q]ver 2,39 [r]Ge 4:4; 1Jn 3:12 [s]Heb 12:24 **11:5** [t]Ge 5:21-24 **11:6** [u]Heb 7:19 **11:7** [v]S ver 1 [w]Ge 6:13-22 [x]1Pe 3:20 [y]Ge 6:9; Eze 14:14,20; S Ro 9:30 **11:8** [z]Ge 12:7 [a]Ge 12:1-4; Ac 7:2-4

11:9 [b]Ac 7:5 [c]Ge 12:8; 18:1,9 [d]Heb 6:17 **11:10** [e]Heb 12:22; 13:14 [f]Rev 21:2, 14 [g]ver 16 **11:11** [h]Ge 17:17-19; 18:11-14 [i]Ge 21:2 [j]S 1Co 1:9 **11:12** [k]Ro 4:19 [l]Ge 22:17 **11:13** [m]ver 39 [n]S Mt 13:17 [o]Ge 23:4; Lev 25:23; Php 3:20; 1Pe 1:17; 2:11 **11:15** [p]Ge 24:6-8 **11:16** [q]2Ti 4:18 [r]Mk 8:38 [s]Ge 26:24; 28:13; Ex 3:6,15 [t]ver 10; Heb 13:14 **11:17** [u]Ge 22:1-10; Jas 2:21 **11:18** [v]Ge 21:12; Ro 9:7 **11:19** [w]Ro 4:21; S Jn 5:21 **11:20** [x]Ge 27:27-29,39, 40 **11:21** [y]Ge 48:1, 8-22 **11:22** [z]Ge 50:24,25; Ex 13:19; Jos 24:32 **11:23** [a]Ex 2:2

[r]38 One early manuscript *But the righteous*
[s]38 Hab. 2:3,4 [t]11 Or *By faith even Sarah, who was past age, was enabled to bear children because she*
[u]18 Greek *seed* [v]18 Gen. 21:12

child, and they were not afraid of the
king's edict.[a]
24By faith Moses, when he had
grown up, refused to be known as the
son of Pharaoh's daughter.[b] 25He
chose to be mistreated[c] along with the
people of God rather than to enjoy the
pleasures of sin for a short time. 26He
regarded disgrace[d] for the sake of
Christ[e] as of greater value than the
treasures of Egypt, because he was
looking ahead to his reward.[f] 27By
faith he left Egypt,[g] not fearing the
king's anger; he persevered because he
saw him who is invisible. 28By faith he
kept the Passover and the sprinkling of
blood, so that the destroyer[h] of the
firstborn would not touch the firstborn
of Israel.[i]
29By faith the people passed through
the Red Sea[w] as on dry land; but when
the Egyptians tried to do so, they were
drowned.[j]
30By faith the walls of Jericho fell, af-
ter the people had marched around
them for seven days.[k]
31By faith the prostitute Raḥab, be-
cause she welcomed the spies, was not
killed with those who were disobedi-
ent.[x] [l]
32And what more shall I say? I do not
have time to tell about Gideon,[m]
Barak,[n] Samson,[o] Jephthah,[p] David,[q]
Samuel[r] and the prophets, 33who
through faith conquered kingdoms,[s]
administered justice, and gained what
was promised; who shut the mouths of
lions,[t] 34quenched the fury of the
flames,[u] and escaped the edge of the
sword;[v] whose weakness was turned
to strength;[w] and who became power-
ful in battle and routed foreign ar-
mies.[x] 35Women received back their
dead, raised to life again.[y] Others were
tortured and refused to be released, so
that they might gain a better resurrec-
tion. 36Some faced jeers and flogging,[z]
while still others were chained and put
in prison.[a] 37They were stoned[y];[b] they
were sawed in two; they were put to
death by the sword.[c] They went about
in sheepskins and goatskins,[d] desti-
tute, persecuted and mistreated— 38the
world was not worthy of them. They
wandered in deserts and mountains,
and in caves[e] and holes in the ground.
39These were all commended[f] for
their faith, yet none of them received
what had been promised.[g] 40God had
planned something better for us so that
only together with us[h] would they be
made perfect.[i]

11:23 [a]Ex 1:16,22
11:24 [b]Ex 2:10, 11
11:25 [c]ver 37
11:26 [d]Heb 13:13 [e]Lk 14:33 [f]Heb 10:35
11:27 [g]Ex 12:50, 51
11:28 [h]1Co 10:10 [i]Ex 12:21-23
11:29 [j]Ex 14:21-31
11:30 [k]Jos 6:12-20
11:31 [l]Jos 2:1, 9-14; 6:22-25; Jas 2:25
11:32 [m]Jdg 6-8 [n]Jdg 4-5 [o]Jdg 13-16 [p]Jdg 11-12 [q]1Sa 16:1,13 [r]1Sa 1:20
11:33 [s]2Sa 8:1-3 [t]Da 6:22
11:34 [u]Da 3:19-27 [v]Ex 18:4 [w]2Ki 20:7 [x]Jdg 15:8
11:35 [y]1Ki 17:22,23; 2Ki 4:36,37
11:36 [z]Jer 20:2; 37:15 [a]Ge 39:20
11:37 [b]2Ch 24:21 [c]1Ki 19:10; Jer 26:23 [d]2Ki 1:8
11:38 [e]1Ki 18:4; 19:9
11:39 [f]ver 2,4 [g]ver 13; Heb 10:36
11:40 [h]Rev 6:11 [i]S Heb 2:10

God Disciplines His Sons

12 Therefore, since we are sur-
rounded by such a great cloud of
witnesses, let us throw off everything
that hinders and the sin that so easily
entangles, and let us run[j] with perse-
verance[k] the race marked out for us.
2Let us fix our eyes on Jesus,[l] the au-
thor[m] and perfecter of our faith, who
for the joy set before him endured the
cross,[n] scorning its shame,[o] and sat
down at the right hand of the throne of
God.[p] 3Consider him who endured
such opposition from sinful men, so
that you will not grow weary[q] and lose
heart.
4In your struggle against sin, you
have not yet resisted to the point of
shedding your blood.[r] 5And you have
forgotten that word of encouragement
that addresses you as sons:

"My son, do not make light of the
Lord's discipline,
and do not lose heart[s] when he
rebukes you,
6because the Lord disciplines those he
loves,[t]
and he punishes everyone he
accepts as a son."[z] [u]

7Endure hardship as discipline; God
is treating you as sons.[v] For what son
is not disciplined by his father? 8If you
are not disciplined (and everyone un-
dergoes discipline),[w] then you are il-
legitimate children and not true sons.
9Moreover, we have all had human fa-
thers who disciplined us and we re-
spected them for it. How much more
should we submit to the Father of our
spirits[x] and live![y] 10Our fathers disci-
plined us for a little while as they
thought best; but God disciplines us for
our good, that we may share in his
holiness.[z] 11No discipline seems pleas-
ant at the time, but painful. Later on,
however, it produces a harvest of right-
eousness and peace[a] for those who
have been trained by it.
12Therefore, strengthen your feeble
arms and weak knees.[b] 13"Make level
paths for your feet,"[a] [c] so that the lame
may not be disabled, but rather
healed.[d]

Warning Against Refusing God

14Make every effort to live in peace
with all men[e] and to be holy;[f] without

12:1 [j]S 1Co 9:24 [k]S Heb 10:36
12:2 [l]Ps 25:15 [m]Heb 2:10 [n]Php 2:8,9; Heb 2:9 [o]Heb 13:13 [p]S Mk 16:19
12:3 [q]Gal 6:9; Rev 2:3
12:4 [r]Heb 10:32-34; 13:13
12:5 [s]ver 3
12:6 [t]Ps 94:12; 119:75; Rev 3:19 [u]Pr 3:11,12
12:7 [v]Dt 8:5; 2Sa 7:14; Pr 13:24
12:8 [w]1Pe 5:9
12:9 [x]Nu 16:22; 27:16; Rev 22:6 [y]Isa 38:16
12:10 [z]S 2Pe 1:4
12:11 [a]Isa 32:17; Jas 3:17,18
12:12 [b]Isa 35:3
12:13 [c]Pr 4:26 [d]Gal 6:1
12:14 [e]S Ro 14:19 [f]Ro 6:22

[w]29 That is, Sea of Reeds [x]31 Or *unbelieving*
[y]37 Some early manuscripts *stoned; they were put to the test;* [z]6 Prov. 3:11,12 [a]13 Prov. 4:26

holiness no one will see the Lord.[a]
15See to it that no one misses the grace
of God[b] and that no bitter root[c] grows
up to cause trouble and defile many.
16See that no one is sexually immoral,[d]
or is godless like Esau, who for a single
meal sold his inheritance rights as the
oldest son.[e] 17Afterward, as you know,
when he wanted to inherit this
blessing, he was rejected. He could
bring about no change of mind, though
he sought the blessing with tears.[f]

18You have not come to a mountain
that can be touched and that is burning
with fire; to darkness, gloom and
storm;[g] 19to a trumpet blast[h] or to such
a voice speaking words[i] that those
who heard it begged that no further
word be spoken to them,[j] 20because
they could not bear what was com-
manded: "If even an animal touches
the mountain, it must be stoned."[b][k]
21The sight was so terrifying that Moses
said, "I am trembling with fear."[c][l]

22But you have come to Mount
Zion,[m] to the heavenly Jerusalem,[n] the
city[o] of the living God.[p] You have
come to thousands upon thousands of
angels in joyful assembly, 23to the
church of the firstborn,[q] whose names
are written in heaven.[r] You have come
to God, the judge of all men,[s] to the
spirits of righteous men made perfect,[t]
24to Jesus the mediator[u] of a new cov-
enant, and to the sprinkled blood[v] that
speaks a better word than the blood of
Abel.[w]

25See to it that you do not refuse[x]
him who speaks.[y] If they did not es-
cape when they refused him who
warned[z] them on earth, how much
less will we, if we turn away from him
who warns us from heaven?[a] 26At that
time his voice shook the earth,[b] but
now he has promised, "Once more I
will shake not only the earth but also
the heavens."[d][c] 27The words "once
more" indicate the removing of what
can be shaken[d]—that is, created
things—so that what cannot be shaken
may remain.

28Therefore, since we are receiving a
kingdom that cannot be shaken,[e] let us
be thankful, and so worship God ac-
ceptably with reverence and awe,[f]
29for our "God is a consuming fire."[e][g]

Concluding Exhortations

13 Keep on loving each other as
brothers.[h] 2Do not forget to en-
tertain strangers,[i] for by so doing
some people have entertained angels
without knowing it.[j] 3Remember those
in prison[k] as if you were their fellow
prisoners, and those who are mistreat-
ed as if you yourselves were suffering.
4Marriage should be honored by all,[l]
and the marriage bed kept pure, for
God will judge the adulterer and all the
sexually immoral.[m] 5Keep your lives
free from the love of money[n] and be
content with what you have,[o] because
God has said,

"Never will I leave you;
never will I forsake you."[f][p]

6So we say with confidence,

"The Lord is my helper; I will not be
afraid.
What can man do to me?"[g][q]

7Remember your leaders,[r] who
spoke the word of God[s] to you. Con-
sider the outcome of their way of life
and imitate[t] their faith. 8Jesus Christ is
the same yesterday and today and for-
ever.[u]

9Do not be carried away by all kinds
of strange teachings.[v] It is good for our
hearts to be strengthened[w] by grace,
not by ceremonial foods,[x] which are of
no value to those who eat them.[y] 10We
have an altar from which those who
minister at the tabernacle[z] have no
right to eat.[a]

11The high priest carries the blood of
animals into the Most Holy Place as a
sin offering,[b] but the bodies are
burned outside the camp.[c] 12And so
Jesus also suffered outside the city
gate[d] to make the people holy[e]
through his own blood.[f] 13Let us,
then, go to him[g] outside the camp,
bearing the disgrace he bore.[h] 14For
here we do not have an enduring city,[i]
but we are looking for the city that is to
come.[j]

15Through Jesus, therefore, let us
continually offer to God a sacrifice[k] of
praise—the fruit of lips[l] that confess
his name. 16And do not forget to do
good and to share with others,[m] for
with such sacrifices[n] God is pleased.

17Obey your leaders[o] and submit to
their authority. They keep watch over
you[p] as men who must give an ac-
count. Obey them so that their work

12:14 [a]S Mt 5:8
12:15 [b]Gal 5:4; Heb 3:12; 4:1 [c]Dt 29:18
12:16 [d]S 1Co 6:18 [e]Ge 25:29-34
12:17 [f]Ge 27:30-40
12:18 [g]Ex 19:12-22; 20:18; Dt 4:11
12:19 [h]Ex 20:18 [i]Dt 4:12 [j]Ex 20:19; Dt 5:5, 25; 18:16
12:20 [k]Ex 19:12, 13
12:21 [l]Dt 9:19
12:22 [m]Isa 24:23; 60:14; Rev 14:1 [n]S Gal 4:26 [o]Heb 11:10; 13:14 [p]S Mt 16:16
12:23 [q]Ex 4:22 [r]S Lk 10:20 [s]Ge 18:25; Ps 94:2 [t]Php 3:12
12:24 [u]S Gal 3:20 [v]Heb 9:19; 10:22; 1Pe 1:2 [w]Ge 4:10; Heb 11:4
12:25 [x]Heb 3:12 [y]S Heb 1:1 [z]Heb 8:5; 11:7 [a]Dt 18:19; Heb 2:2,3; 10:29
12:26 [b]Ex 19:18 [c]Hag 2:6
12:27 [d]Isa 34:4; 54:10; 1Co 7:31; Heb 1:11,12; 2Pe 3:10; 1Jn 2:17
12:28 [e]Ps 15:5; Da 2:44 [f]Mal 2:5; 4:2; Heb 13:15
12:29 [g]Ex 24:17; Dt 4:24; 9:3; Ps 97:3; Isa 33:14; S 2Th 1:7
13:1 [h]S Ro 12:10
13:2 [i]Job 31:32; Mt 25:35; S Ro 12:13 [j]Ge 18:1-33; 19:1-3
13:3 [k]Mt 25:36; Col 4:18; Heb 10:34
13:4 [l]Mal 2:15; 1Co 7:38; 1Ti 4:3 [m]Dt 22:22; 1Co 6:9; Rev 22:15
13:5 [n]S 1Ti 3:3 [o]Php 4:11; 1Ti 6:6,8 [p]Dt 31:6,8; Jos 1:5
13:6 [q]Ps 118:6,7
13:7 [r]ver 17,24; 1Co 16:16 [s]S Heb 4:12 [t]Heb 6:12
13:8 [u]Ps 102:27; Heb 1:12
13:9 [v]Eph 4:14 [w]Col 2:7 [x]Col 2:16 [y]Heb 9:10
13:10 [z]Heb 8:5 [a]1Co 9:13; 10:18
13:11 [b]Lev 16:15 [c]Ex 29:14; Lev 4:12,21; 9:11; 16:27
13:12 [d]Jn 19:17 [e]S Eph 5:26 [f]S Ro 3:25
13:13 [g]Lk 9:23 [h]Heb 11:26
13:14 [i]Heb 12:27 [j]Php 3:20; Heb 11:10,27; 12:22
13:15 [k]1Pe 2:5 [l]Isa 57:19; Hos 14:2
13:16 [m]Ro 12:13 [n]Php 4:18
13:17 [o]ver 7,24 [p]Isa 62:6; Ac 20:28

[b]20 Exodus 19:12,13 [c]21 Deut. 9:19 [d]26 Haggai 2:6 [e]29 Deut. 4:24 [f]5 Deut. 31:6 [g]6 Psalm 118:6,7

will be a joy, not a burden, for that
would be of no advantage to you.
[18]Pray for us.[a] We are sure that we
have a clear conscience[b] and desire to
live honorably in every way. [19]I particu-
larly urge you to pray so that I may be
restored to you soon.[c]
[20]May the God of peace,[d] who
through the blood of the eternal cov-
enant[e] brought back from the dead[f]
our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of
the sheep,[g] [21]equip you with every-
thing good for doing his will,[h] and
may he work in us[i] what is pleasing to
him,[j] through Jesus Christ, to whom
be glory for ever and ever. Amen.[k]

[22]Brothers, I urge you to bear with
my word of exhortation, for I have
written you only a short letter.[l]
[23]I want you to know that our broth-
er Timothy[m] has been released. If he
arrives soon, I will come with him to
see you.
[24]Greet all your leaders[n] and all
God's people. Those from Italy[o] send
you their greetings.
[25]Grace be with you all.[p]

13:18 [a]S 1Th 5:25 [b]S Ac 23:1 **13:19** [c]Phm 22 **13:20** [d]S Ro 15:33 [e]Ge 9:16; 17:7, 13,19; Isa 55:3; 61:8; Eze 37:26; S Mt 26:28 [f]S Ac 2:24 [g]S Jn 10:11 **13:21** [h]2Co 9:8 [i]S Php 2:13 [j]1Jn 3:22 [k]S Ro 11:36 **13:22** [l]1Pe 5:12 **13:23** [m]S Ac 16:1 **13:24** [n]ver 7,17 [o]Ac 18:2 **13:25** [p]S Col 4:18

James

1 James,[a] a servant of God[b] and of
the Lord Jesus Christ,

To the twelve tribes[c] scattered[d]
among the nations:

Greetings.[e]

Trials and Temptations

2Consider it pure joy, my brothers,
whenever you face trials of many
kinds,[f] 3because you know that the
testing of your faith[g] develops perse-
verance.[h] 4Perseverance must finish its
work so that you may be mature[i] and
complete, not lacking anything. 5If any
of you lacks wisdom, he should ask
God,[j] who gives generously to all
without finding fault, and it will be giv-
en to him.[k] 6But when he asks, he
must believe and not doubt,[l] because
he who doubts is like a wave of the sea,
blown and tossed by the wind. 7That
man should not think he will receive
anything from the Lord; 8he is a dou-
ble-minded man,[m] unstable[n] in all he
does.

9The brother in humble circum-
stances ought to take pride in his high
position.[o] 10But the one who is rich
should take pride in his low position,
because he will pass away like a wild
flower.[p] 11For the sun rises with
scorching heat[q] and withers[r] the
plant; its blossom falls and its beauty is
destroyed.[s] In the same way, the rich
man will fade away even while he goes
about his business.

12Blessed is the man who perseveres
under trial,[t] because when he has
stood the test, he will receive the
crown of life[u] that God has promised
to those who love him.[v]

13When tempted, no one should say,
"God is tempting me." For God cannot
be tempted by evil, nor does he tempt
anyone; 14but each one is tempted
when, by his own[w] evil desire, he is
dragged away and enticed. 15Then, af-
ter desire has conceived, it gives birth
to sin;[x] and sin, when it is full-grown,
gives birth to death.[y]

16Don't be deceived,[z] my dear broth-
ers.[a] 17Every good and perfect gift is
from above,[b] coming down from the
Father of the heavenly lights,[c] who
does not change[d] like shifting shad-
ows. 18He chose to give us birth[e]
through the word of truth,[f] that we
might be a kind of firstfruits[g] of all he
created.

Listening and Doing

19My dear brothers,[h] take note of
this: Everyone should be quick to lis-
ten, slow to speak[i] and slow to
become angry, 20for man's anger[j] does
not bring about the righteous life that
God desires. 21Therefore, get rid of[k] all
moral filth and the evil that is so preva-
lent and humbly accept the word
planted in you,[l] which can save you.

22Do not merely listen to the word,
and so deceive yourselves. Do what it
says.[m] 23Anyone who listens to the
word but does not do what it says is
like a man who looks at his face in a
mirror 24and, after looking at himself,
goes away and immediately forgets
what he looks like. 25But the man who
looks intently into the perfect law that
gives freedom,[n] and continues to do
this, not forgetting what he has heard,
but doing it—he will be blessed in what
he does.[o]

26If anyone considers himself reli-
gious and yet does not keep a tight rein
on his tongue,[p] he deceives himself
and his religion is worthless. 27Religion
that God our Father accepts as pure
and faultless is this: to look after[q] or-
phans and widows[r] in their distress
and to keep oneself from being pollut-
ed by the world.[s]

Favoritism Forbidden

2 My brothers, as believers in our
glorious[t] Lord Jesus Christ, don't

1:1 [a]S Ac 15:13 [b]Ro 1:1; Tit 1:1 [c]Ac 26:7 [d]Dt 32:26; Jn 7:35; 1Pe 1:1 [e]Ac 15:23 **1:2** [f]ver 12; S Mt 5:12; Heb 10:34; 12:11 **1:3** [g]1Pe 1:7 [h]S Heb 10:36 **1:4** [i]S 1Co 2:6 **1:5** [j]1Ki 3:9,10; Pr 2:3-6 [k]Ps 51:6; Da 1:17; 2:21; S Mt 7:7 **1:6** [l]S Mt 21:21; Mk 11:24 **1:8** [m]Ps 119:113; Jas 4:8 [n]2Pe 2:14; 3:16 **1:9** [o]S Mt 23:12 **1:10** [p]Job 14:2; Ps 103:15,16; Isa 40:6,7; 1Co 7:31; 1Pe 1:24 **1:11** [q]Mt 20:12 [r]Ps 102:4,11 [s]Isa 40:6-8 **1:12** [t]ver 2; Ge 22:1; Jas 5:11; 1Pe 3:14 [u]S 1Co 9:25 [v]Ex 20:6; 1Co 2:9; 8:3; Jas 2:5 **1:14** [w]Pr 19:3 **1:15** [x]Ge 3:6; Job 15:35; Ps 7:14; Isa 59:4 [y]S Ro 6:23 **1:16** [z]S 1Co 6:9 [a]ver 19; Jas 2:5 **1:17** [b]Ps 85:12; Jn 3:27; Jas 3:15, 17 [c]Ge 1:16; Ps 136:7; Da 2:22; 1Jn 1:5 [d]Nu 23:19; Ps 102:27; Mal 3:6 **1:18** [e]S Jn 1:13 [f]S 2Ti 2:15 [g]Jer 2:3; Rev 14:4 **1:19** [h]ver 16; Jas 2:5 [i]Pr 10:19; Jas 3:3-12 **1:20** [j]S Mt 5:22 **1:21** [k]S Eph 4:22 [l]Eph 1:13 **1:22** [m]S Mt 7:21; Jas 2:14-20 **1:25** [n]Ps 19:7; Jn 8:32; Gal 2:4; Jas 2:12 [o]S Jn 13:17 **1:26** [p]Ps 34:13; 39:1; 141:3; Jas 3:2-12; 1Pe 3:10 **1:27** [q]Mt 25:36 [r]Dt 14:29; Job 31:16,17,21; Ps 146:9; Isa 1:17,23 [s]Ro 12:2; Jas 4:4; 2Pe 1:4; 2:20 **2:1** [t]Ac 7:2; 1Co 2:8

show favoritism.[a] 2Suppose a man
comes into your meeting wearing a
gold ring and fine clothes, and a poor
man in shabby clothes also comes in.
3If you show special attention to the
man wearing fine clothes and say,
"Here's a good seat for you," but say to
the poor man, "You stand there" or
"Sit on the floor by my feet," 4have you
not discriminated among yourselves
and become judges[b] with evil
thoughts?

5Listen, my dear brothers:[c] Has not
God chosen those who are poor in the
eyes of the world[d] to be rich in faith[e]
and to inherit the kingdom[f] he prom-
ised those who love him?[g] 6But you
have insulted the poor.[h] Is it not the
rich who are exploiting you? Are they
not the ones who are dragging you into
court?[i] 7Are they not the ones who are
slandering the noble name of him to
whom you belong?

8If you really keep the royal law
found in Scripture, "Love your neigh-
bor as yourself,"[a][j] you are doing
right. 9But if you show favoritism,[k]
you sin and are convicted by the law as
lawbreakers.[l] 10For whoever keeps the
whole law and yet stumbles[m] at just
one point is guilty of breaking all of it.[n]
11For he who said, "Do not commit
adultery,"[b][o] also said, "Do not mur-
der."[c][p] If you do not commit adultery
but do commit murder, you have
become a lawbreaker.

12Speak and act as those who are go-
ing to be judged[q] by the law that gives
freedom,[r] 13because judgment without
mercy will be shown to anyone who
has not been merciful.[s] Mercy tri-
umphs over judgment!

Faith and Deeds

14What good is it, my brothers, if a
man claims to have faith but has no
deeds?[t] Can such faith save him?
15Suppose a brother or sister is without
clothes and daily food.[u] 16If one of you
says to him, "Go, I wish you well; keep
warm and well fed," but does nothing
about his physical needs, what good is
it?[v] 17In the same way, faith by itself, if
it is not accompanied by action, is
dead.[w]

18But someone will say, "You have
faith; I have deeds."

Show me your faith without deeds,[x]
and I will show you my faith[y] by what
I do.[z] 19You believe that there is one
God.[a] Good! Even the demons believe
that[b]—and shudder.

20You foolish man, do you want evi-
dence that faith without deeds is use-
less[d]?[c] 21Was not our ancestor Abra-
ham considered righteous for what he
did when he offered his son Isaac on
the altar?[d] 22You see that his faith and
his actions were working together,[e]
and his faith was made complete by
what he did.[f] 23And the scripture was
fulfilled that says, "Abraham believed
God, and it was credited to him as
righteousness,"[e][g] and he was called
God's friend.[h] 24You see that a person
is justified by what he does and not by
faith alone.

25In the same way, was not even
Rahab the prostitute considered right-
eous for what she did when she gave
lodging to the spies and sent them off
in a different direction?[i] 26As the body
without the spirit is dead, so faith with-
out deeds is dead.[j]

Taming the Tongue

3 Not many of you should presume
to be teachers,[k] my brothers, be-
cause you know that we who teach will
be judged[l] more strictly.[m] 2We all
stumble[n] in many ways. If anyone is
never at fault in what he says,[o] he is a
perfect man,[p] able to keep his whole
body in check.[q]

3When we put bits into the mouths
of horses to make them obey us, we
can turn the whole animal.[r] 4Or take
ships as an example. Although they are
so large and are driven by strong
winds, they are steered by a very small
rudder wherever the pilot wants to go.
5Likewise the tongue is a small part of
the body, but it makes great boasts.[s]
Consider what a great forest is set on
fire by a small spark. 6The tongue also
is a fire,[t] a world of evil among the
parts of the body. It corrupts the whole
person,[u] sets the whole course of his
life on fire, and is itself set on fire by
hell.[v]

7All kinds of animals, birds, reptiles
and creatures of the sea are being
tamed and have been tamed by man,
8but no man can tame the tongue. It is a
restless evil, full of deadly poison.[w]

9With the tongue we praise our Lord
and Father, and with it we curse men,
who have been made in God's like-
ness.[x] 10Out of the same mouth come
praise and cursing. My brothers, this
should not be. 11Can both fresh water

2:1 [a]ver 9; Dt 1:17; Lev 19:15; Pr 24:23; S Ac 10:34 **2:4** [b]S Jn 7:24 **2:5** [c]Jas 1:16,19 [d]Job 34:19; 1Co 1:26-28 [e]Lk 12:21; Rev 2:9 [f]S Mt 25:34 [g]S Jas 1:12 **2:6** [h]1Co 11:22 [i]Ac 8:3; 16:19 **2:8** [j]Lev 19:18; S Mt 5:43 **2:9** [k]ver 1 [l]Dt 1:17 **2:10** [m]Jas 3:2 [n]Mt 5:19; Gal 3:10; 5:3 **2:11** [o]Ex 20:14; Dt 5:18 [p]Ex 20:13; Dt 5:17 **2:12** [q]S Mt 16:27 [r]S Jas 1:25 **2:13** [s]Mt 5:7; 9:13; 12:7; 18:32-35; Lk 6:37 **2:14** [t]Mt 7:26; Jas 1:22-25 **2:15** [u]Mt 25:35, 36 **2:16** [v]Lk 3:11; 1Jn 3:17,18 **2:17** [w]ver 20,26; Gal 5:6 **2:18** [x]Ro 3:28 [y]Heb 11 [z]Mt 7:16,17; Jas 3:13 **2:19** [a]Dt 6:4; Mk 12:29; 1Co 8:4-6 [b]Mt 8:29; Lk 4:34 **2:20** [c]ver 17,26 **2:21** [d]Ge 22:9, 12 **2:22** [e]Heb 11:17 [f]1Th 1:3 **2:23** [g]Ge 15:6; S Ro 4:3 [h]2Ch 20:7; Isa 41:8 **2:25** [i]S Heb 11:31 **2:26** [j]ver 17,20 **3:1** [k]S Eph 4:11 [l]S Mt 7:1 [m]Ro 2:21 **3:2** [n]1Ki 8:46; Ro 3:9-20; Jas 2:10; 1Jn 1:8 [o]Ps 39:1; Pr 10:19; 1Pe 3:10 [p]S Mt 12:37 [q]Jas 1:26 **3:3** [r]Ps 32:9 **3:5** [s]Ps 12:3,4; 73:8,9 **3:6** [t]Pr 16:27 [u]Mt 15:11,18,19 [v]S Mt 5:22 **3:8** [w]Ps 140:3; Ro 3:13 **3:9** [x]Ge 1:26,27; 1Co 11:7

[a]8 Lev. 19:18 [b]11 Exodus 20:14; Deut. 5:18 [c]11 Exodus 20:13; Deut. 5:17 [d]20 Some early manuscripts *dead* [e]23 Gen. 15:6

and salt[f] water flow from the same
spring? 12My brothers, can a fig tree
bear olives, or a grapevine bear figs?[a]
Neither can a salt spring produce fresh
water.

Two Kinds of Wisdom

13Who is wise and understanding
among you? Let him show it[b] by his
good life, by deeds[c] done in the
humility that comes from wisdom.
14But if you harbor bitter envy and self-
ish ambition[d] in your hearts, do not
boast about it or deny the truth.[e]
15Such "wisdom" does not come down
from heaven[f] but is earthly, unspiritu-
al, of the devil.[g] 16For where you have
envy and selfish ambition,[h] there you
find disorder and every evil practice.
17But the wisdom that comes from
heaven[i] is first of all pure; then peace-
loving,[j] considerate, submissive, full
of mercy[k] and good fruit, impartial and
sincere.[l] 18Peacemakers[m] who sow in
peace raise a harvest of righteous-
ness.[n]

Submit Yourselves to God

4 What causes fights and quarrels[o]
among you? Don't they come from
your desires that battle[p] within you?
2You want something but don't get it.
You kill[q] and covet, but you cannot
have what you want. You quarrel and
fight. You do not have, because you do
not ask God. 3When you ask, you do
not receive,[r] because you ask with
wrong motives,[s] that you may spend
what you get on your pleasures.
4You adulterous[t] people, don't you
know that friendship with the world[u]
is hatred toward God?[v] Anyone who
chooses to be a friend of the world
becomes an enemy of God.[w] 5Or do
you think Scripture says without rea-
son that the spirit he caused to live in
us[x] envies intensely?[g] 6But he gives us
more grace. That is why Scripture says:

"God opposes the proud
but gives grace to the humble."[h][y]

7Submit yourselves, then, to God.
Resist the devil,[z] and he will flee from
you. 8Come near to God and he will
come near to you.[a] Wash your hands,[b]
you sinners, and purify your hearts,[c]
you double-minded.[d] 9Grieve, mourn
and wail. Change your laughter to
mourning and your joy to gloom.[e]
10Humble yourselves before the Lord,
and he will lift you up.[f]
11Brothers, do not slander one an-
other.[g] Anyone who speaks against his
brother or judges him[h] speaks against
the law[i] and judges it. When you
judge the law, you are not keeping it,[j]
but sitting in judgment on it. 12There is
only one Lawgiver and Judge,[k] the one
who is able to save and destroy.[l] But
you—who are you to judge your neigh-
bor?[m]

Boasting About Tomorrow

13Now listen,[n] you who say, "Today
or tomorrow we will go to this or that
city, spend a year there, carry on
business and make money."[o] 14Why,
you do not even know what will hap-
pen tomorrow. What is your life? You
are a mist that appears for a little while
and then vanishes.[p] 15Instead, you
ought to say, "If it is the Lord's will,[q]
we will live and do this or that." 16As it
is, you boast and brag. All such boast-
ing is evil.[r] 17Anyone, then, who
knows the good he ought to do and
doesn't do it, sins.[s]

Warning to Rich Oppressors

5 Now listen,[t] you rich people,[u]
weep and wail[v] because of the mis-
ery that is coming upon you. 2Your
wealth has rotted, and moths have eat-
en your clothes.[w] 3Your gold and silver
are corroded. Their corrosion will testi-
fy against you and eat your flesh like
fire. You have hoarded wealth in the
last days.[x] 4Look! The wages you failed
to pay the workmen[y] who mowed
your fields are crying out against you.
The cries[z] of the harvesters have
reached the ears of the Lord Al-
mighty.[a] 5You have lived on earth in
luxury and self-indulgence. You have
fattened yourselves[b] in the day of
slaughter.[i][c] 6You have condemned
and murdered[d] innocent men,[e] who
were not opposing you.

Patience in Suffering

7Be patient, then, brothers, until the
Lord's coming.[f] See how the farmer
waits for the land to yield its valuable
crop and how patient he is[g] for the au-
tumn and spring rains.[h] 8You too, be
patient and stand firm, because the
Lord's coming[i] is near.[j] 9Don't grum-
ble against each other, brothers,[k] or

3:12 [a]Mt 7:16
3:13 [b]Jas 2:18
[c]S 1Pe 2:12
3:14 [d]ver 16; 2Co 12:20
[e]Jas 5:19
3:15 [f]ver 17; Jas 1:17 [g]1Ti 4:1
3:16 [h]ver 14; Gal 5:20,21
3:17 [i]1Co 2:6; Jas 1:17
[j]Heb 12:11
[k]Lk 6:36 [l]Ro 12:9
3:18 [m]Mt 5:9; S Ro 14:19
[n]Pr 11:18; Isa 32:17; Hos 10:12; Php 1:11
4:1 [o]Tit 3:9
[p]S Ro 7:23
4:2 [q]Mt 5:21,22; Jas 5:6; 1Jn 3:15
4:3 [r]Ps 18:41; S Mt 7:7
[s]Ps 66:18; 1Jn 3:22; 5:14
4:4 [t]Isa 54:5; Jer 3:20; Hos 2:2-5; 3:1; 9:1 [u]S Jas 1:27
[v]Ro 8:7; 1Jn 2:15
[w]Jn 15:19
4:5 [x]1Co 6:19
4:6 [y]Pr 3:34; S Mt 23:12
4:7 [z]Eph 4:27; 6:11; 1Pe 5:6-9
4:8 [a]Ps 73:28; Zec 1:3; Mal 3:7; Heb 7:19
[b]Isa 1:16
[c]Ps 24:4; Jer 4:14
[d]Ps 119:113; Jas 1:8
4:9 [e]Lk 6:25
4:10 [f]ver 6; Job 5:11; 1Pe 5:6

4:11 [g]Ro 1:30; 2Co 12:20; 1Pe 2:1
[h]S Mt 7:1
[i]Jas 2:8 [j]Jas 1:22
4:12 [k]Isa 33:22; S Jas 5:9
[l]Mt 10:28
[m]S Mt 7:1
4:13 [n]Jas 5:1
[o]Pr 27:1; Lk 12:18-20
4:14 [p]Job 7:7; Ps 39:5; 102:3; 144:4; Isa 2:22
4:15 [q]S Ac 18:21
4:16 [r]1Co 5:6
4:17 [s]Lk 12:47; Jn 9:41
5:1 [t]Jas 4:13
[u]Lk 6:24; 1Ti 6:9; Jas 2:2-6
[v]Isa 13:6; Eze 30:2
5:2 [w]Job 13:28; Ps 39:11; Isa 50:9; Mt 6:19, 20
5:3 [x]ver 7,8
5:4 [y]Lev 19:13; Jer 22:13; Mal 3:5
[z]Dt 24:15
[a]Ro 9:29
5:5 [b]Eze 16:49; Am 6:1; Lk 16:19
[c]Jer 12:3; 25:34
5:6 [d]Jas 4:2
[e]Heb 10:38
5:7 [f]S 1Co 1:7
[g]Gal 6:9
[h]Dt 11:14; Jer 5:24; Joel 2:23
5:8 [i]S 1Co 1:7
[j]S Ro 13:11
5:9 [k]Jas 4:11

[f]11 Greek *bitter* (see also verse 14) [g]5 Or *that God jealously longs for the spirit that he made to live in us,* or *that the Spirit he caused to live in us longs jealously*
[h]6 Prov. 3:34 [i]5 Or *yourselves as in a day of feasting*

you will be judged. The Judge[a] is
standing at the door![b]
[10]Brothers, as an example of patience
in the face of suffering, take the proph-
ets[c] who spoke in the name of the
Lord. [11]As you know, we consider
blessed[d] those who have persevered.
You have heard of Job's perseverance[e]
and have seen what the Lord finally
brought about.[f] The Lord is full of
compassion and mercy.[g]
[12]Above all, my brothers, do not
swear—not by heaven or by earth or by
anything else. Let your "Yes" be yes,
and your "No," no, or you will be con-
demned.[h]

The Prayer of Faith

[13]Is any one of you in trouble? He
should pray.[i] Is anyone happy? Let
him sing songs of praise.[j] [14]Is any one
of you sick? He should call the elders[k]
of the church to pray over him and
anoint him with oil[l] in the name of the
Lord. [15]And the prayer offered in faith[m]
will make the sick person well; the
Lord will raise him up. If he has
sinned, he will be forgiven. [16]Therefore
confess your sins[n] to each other and
pray for each other so that you may be
healed.[o] The prayer of a righteous man
is powerful and effective.[p]
[17]Elijah was a man just like us.[q] He
prayed earnestly that it would not rain,
and it did not rain on the land for three
and a half years.[r] [18]Again he prayed,
and the heavens gave rain, and the
earth produced its crops.[s]
[19]My brothers, if one of you should
wander from the truth[t] and someone
should bring him back,[u] [20]remember
this: Whoever turns a sinner from the
error of his way will save[v] him from
death and cover over a multitude of
sins.[w]

5:9 [a]Ps 94:2; 1Co 4:5; Jas 4:12; 1Pe 4:5 [b]Mt 24:33
5:10 [c]S Mt 5:12
5:11 [d]Mt 5:10 [e]Job 1:21,22; 2:10; S Heb 10:36 [f]Job 42:10,12-17 [g]Ex 34:6; Nu 14:18; Ps 103:8
5:12 [h]Mt 5:34-37
5:13 [i]Ps 50:15 [j]Col 3:16
5:14 [k]S Ac 11:30 [l]Ps 23:5; Isa 1:6; Mk 6:13; 16:18; Lk 10:34
5:15 [m]Jas 1:6
5:16 [n]Mt 3:6; Ac 19:18 [o]Heb 12:13; 1Pe 2:24 [p]S Mt 7:7; S Jn 9:31
5:17 [q]Ac 14:15 [r]1Ki 17:1; Lk 4:25
5:18 [s]1Ki 18:41-45
5:19 [t]Jas 3:14 [u]S Mt 18:15
5:20 [v]S Ro 11:14 [w]1Pe 4:8

1 Peter

1 Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ,[a]
To God's elect,[b] strangers in the
world,[c] scattered[d] throughout Pon-
tus,[e] Galatia,[f] Cappadocia, Asia and
Bithynia,[g] 2 who have been chosen ac-
cording to the foreknowledge[h] of God
the Father, through the sanctifying
work of the Spirit,[i] for obedience[j] to
Jesus Christ and sprinkling by his
blood:[k]

Grace and peace be yours in abun-
dance.[l]

Praise to God for a Living Hope

3 Praise be to the God and Father of
our Lord Jesus Christ![m] In his great
mercy[n] he has given us new birth[o]
into a living hope[p] through the resur-
rection of Jesus Christ from the dead,[q]
4 and into an inheritance[r] that can nev-
er perish, spoil or fade[s]—kept in
heaven for you,[t] 5 who through faith
are shielded by God's power[u] until the
coming of the salvation[v] that is ready
to be revealed[w] in the last time. 6 In this
you greatly rejoice,[x] though now for a
little while[y] you may have had to suf-
fer grief in all kinds of trials.[z] 7 These
have come so that your faith—of
greater worth than gold, which per-
ishes even though refined by
fire[a]—may be proved genuine[b] and
may result in praise, glory and honor[c]
when Jesus Christ is revealed.[d]
8 Though you have not seen him, you
love him; and even though you do not
see him now, you believe in him[e] and
are filled with an inexpressible and
glorious joy, 9 for you are receiving the
goal of your faith, the salvation of your
souls.[f]

10 Concerning this salvation, the
prophets, who spoke[g] of the grace that
was to come to you,[h] searched intently
and with the greatest care,[i] 11 trying to
find out the time and circumstances to
which the Spirit of Christ[j] in them was
pointing when he predicted[k] the suf-
ferings of Christ and the glories that
would follow. 12 It was revealed to them
that they were not serving themselves
but you,[l] when they spoke of the
things that have now been told you by
those who have preached the gospel to
you[m] by the Holy Spirit sent from
heaven.[n] Even angels long to look into
these things.

Be Holy

13 Therefore, prepare your minds for
action; be self-controlled;[o] set your
hope[p] fully on the grace to be given
you[q] when Jesus Christ is revealed.[r]
14 As obedient[s] children, do not con-
form[t] to the evil desires you had when
you lived in ignorance.[u] 15 But just as
he who called you is holy, so be holy in
all you do;[v] 16 for it is written: "Be holy,
because I am holy."[a] [w]

17 Since you call on a Father[x] who
judges each man's work[y] impartially,[z]
live your lives as strangers[a] here in
reverent fear.[b] 18 For you know that it
was not with perishable things such as
silver or gold that you were redeemed[c]
from the empty way of life[d] handed
down to you from your forefathers,
19 but with the precious blood[e] of
Christ, a lamb[f] without blemish or de-
fect.[g] 20 He was chosen before the crea-
tion of the world,[h] but was revealed in
these last times[i] for your sake.
21 Through him you believe in God,[j]
who raised him from the dead[k] and
glorified him,[l] and so your faith and
hope[m] are in God.

22 Now that you have purified[n] your-
selves by obeying[o] the truth so that
you have sincere love for your broth-
ers, love one another deeply,[p] from the
heart.[b] 23 For you have been born
again,[q] not of perishable seed, but of
imperishable,[r] through the living and
enduring word of God.[s] 24 For,

1:1 [a]2Pe 1:1 [b]Mt 24:22 [c]S Heb 11:13 [d]S Jas 1:1 [e]Ac 2:9; 18:2 [f]S Ac 16:6 [g]Ac 16:7 **1:2** [h]Ro 8:29 [i]2Th 2:13 [j]ver 14,22 [k]Heb 10:22; 12:24 [l]S Ro 1:7 **1:3** [m]2Co 1:3; Eph 1:3 [n]Tit 3:5 [o]ver 23; S Jn 1:13 [p]ver 13,21; S Heb 3:6 [q]1Co 15:20; 1Pe 3:21 **1:4** [r]S Ac 20:32; S Ro 8:17 [s]1Pe 5:4 [t]Col 1:5; 2Ti 4:8 **1:5** [u]1Sa 2:9; Jn 10:28 [v]S Ro 11:14 [w]S Ro 8:18 **1:6** [x]Ro 5:2 [y]1Pe 5:10 [z]Jas 1:2; 1Pe 4:12 **1:7** [a]Job 23:10; Ps 66:10; Pr 17:3; Isa 48:10 [b]Jas 1:3 [c]2Co 4:17 [d]ver 13; S 1Th 2:19; 1Pe 4:13 **1:8** [e]Jn 20:29 **1:9** [f]Ro 6:22 **1:10** [g]S Mt 26:24 [h]ver 13 [i]S Mt 13:17 **1:11** [j]S Ac 16:7; 2Pe 1:21 [k]S Mt 26:24

1:12 [l]S Ro 4:24 [m]ver 25 [n]S Lk 24:49 **1:13** [o]S Ac 24:25 [p]ver 3,21; S Heb 3:6 [q]ver 10 [r]ver 7; S 1Co 1:7 **1:14** [s]ver 2,22 [t]Ro 12:2 [u]Eph 4:18 **1:15** [v]Isa 35:8; 1Th 4:7; 1Jn 3:3 **1:16** [w]Lev 11:44,45; 19:2; 20:7 **1:17** [x]S Mt 6:9 [y]S Mt 16:27 [z]S Ac 10:34 [a]S Heb 11:13 [b]Heb 12:28 **1:18** [c]S Mt 20:28; S 1Co 6:20 [d]Gal 4:3 **1:19** [e]S Ro 3:25 [f]S Jn 1:29 [g]Ex 12:5 **1:20** [h]Eph 1:4; S Mt 25:34 [i]Heb 9:26 **1:21** [j]Ro 4:24; 10:9 [k]S Ac 2:24 [l]Php 2:7-9; Heb 2:9 [m]ver 3, 13; S Heb 3:6 **1:22** [n]Jas 4:8 [o]ver 2,14 [p]S Jn 13:34; S Ro 12:10 **1:23** [q]ver 3; S Jn 1:13 [r]Jn 1:13 [s]S Heb 4:12

[a]*16* Lev. 11:44,45; 19:2; 20:7 [b]*22* Some early manuscripts *from a pure heart*

"All men are like grass,
and all their glory is like the flowers of the field;
the grass withers and the flowers fall,
25 but the word of the Lord stands forever."[c a]

And this is the word that was preached
to you.

2 Therefore, rid yourselves[b] of all
malice and all deceit, hypocrisy,
envy, and slander[c] of every kind. 2Like
newborn babies, crave pure spiritual
milk,[d] so that by it you may grow up[e]
in your salvation, 3now that you have
tasted that the Lord is good.[f]

The Living Stone and a Chosen People

4As you come to him, the living
Stone[g]—rejected by men but chosen
by God[h] and precious to him— 5you
also, like living stones, are being built[i]
into a spiritual house[j] to be a holy
priesthood,[k] offering spiritual sacri-
fices acceptable to God through Jesus
Christ.[l] 6For in Scripture it says:

"See, I lay a stone in Zion,
a chosen and precious cornerstone,[m]
and the one who trusts in him
will never be put to shame."[d n]

7Now to you who believe, this stone is
precious. But to those who do not be-
lieve,[o]

"The stone the builders rejected[p]
has become the capstone,[e]"[f q]

8and,

"A stone that causes men to stumble
and a rock that makes them fall."[g r]

They stumble because they disobey the
message—which is also what they
were destined for.[s]

9But you are a chosen people,[t] a roy-
al priesthood,[u] a holy nation,[v] a
people belonging to God,[w] that you
may declare the praises of him who
called you out of darkness into his
wonderful light.[x] 10Once you were not
a people, but now you are the people
of God;[y] once you had not received
mercy, but now you have received
mercy.

11Dear friends,[z] I urge you, as aliens
and strangers in the world,[a] to abstain
from sinful desires,[b] which war against
your soul.[c] 12Live such good lives
among the pagans that, though they
accuse you of doing wrong, they may
see your good deeds[d] and glorify God[e]
on the day he visits us.

Submission to Rulers and Masters

13Submit yourselves for the Lord's
sake to every authority[f] instituted
among men: whether to the king, as
the supreme authority, 14or to gover-
nors, who are sent by him to punish
those who do wrong[g] and to commend
those who do right.[h] 15For it is God's
will[i] that by doing good you should
silence the ignorant talk of foolish
men.[j] 16Live as free men,[k] but do not
use your freedom as a cover-up for
evil;[l] live as servants of God.[m] 17Show
proper respect to everyone: Love the
brotherhood of believers,[n] fear God,
honor the king.[o]

18Slaves, submit yourselves to your
masters with all respect,[p] not only to
those who are good and considerate,[q]
but also to those who are harsh. 19For it
is commendable if a man bears up un-
der the pain of unjust suffering because
he is conscious of God.[r] 20But how is it
to your credit if you receive a beating
for doing wrong and endure it? But if
you suffer for doing good and you en-
dure it, this is commendable before
God.[s] 21To this[t] you were called,[u] be-
cause Christ suffered for you,[v] leaving
you an example,[w] that you should fol-
low in his steps.

22"He committed no sin,[x]
and no deceit was found in his mouth."[h y]

23When they hurled their insults at
him,[z] he did not retaliate; when he
suffered, he made no threats.[a] Instead,
he entrusted himself[b] to him who
judges justly.[c] 24He himself bore our
sins[d] in his body on the tree,[e] so that
we might die to sins[f] and live for right-
eousness; by his wounds you have
been healed.[g] 25For you were like
sheep going astray,[h] but now you have
returned to the Shepherd[i] and Over-
seer of your souls.[j]

Wives and Husbands

3 Wives, in the same way be submis-
sive[k] to your husbands[l] so that, if
any of them do not believe the word,
they may be won over[m] without words
by the behavior of their wives, 2when
they see the purity and reverence of
your lives. 3Your beauty should not

1:25 [a]Isa 40:6-8; S Jas 1:10,11
2:1 [b]S Eph 4:22 [c]S Jas 4:11
2:2 [d]1Co 3:2; Heb 5:12,13 [e]Eph 4:15,16
2:3 [f]Ps 34:8; Heb 6:5
2:4 [g]ver 7 [h]Isa 42:1
2:5 [i]Pr 9:1; 1Co 3:9; Eph 2:20-22 [j]1Ti 3:15 [k]ver 9; Ex 19:6; Isa 61:6; Rev 1:6; 5:10; 20:6 [l]Php 4:18; Heb 13:15
2:6 [m]Eph 2:20 [n]Isa 28:16; Ro 9:32,33; 10:11
2:7 [o]2Co 2:16 [p]ver 4 [q]Ps 118:22; S Ac 4:11
2:8 [r]Isa 8:14; S Lk 2:34 [s]Ro 9:22
2:9 [t]Dt 10:15; 1Sa 12:22 [u]ver 5 [v]Ex 19:6; Dt 7:6; Isa 62:12 [w]S Tit 2:14 [x]S Ac 26:18
2:10 [y]Hos 1:9, 10; 2:23; Ro 9:25, 26
2:11 [z]S 1Co 10:14 [a]S Heb 11:13 [b]Ro 13:14; Gal 5:16 [c]Jas 4:1
2:12 [d]Php 2:15; Tit 2:8; S Tit 2:14; 1Pe 3:16 [e]S Mt 9:8
2:13 [f]Ro 13:1; Tit 3:1
2:14 [g]Ro 13:4 [h]Ro 13:3
2:15 [i]1Pe 3:17; 4:19 [j]S ver 12
2:16 [k]S Jn 8:32 [l]Gal 5:13 [m]S Ro 6:22
2:17 [n]S Ro 12:10 [o]Pr 24:21; Ro 13:7
2:18 [p]S Eph 6:5 [q]Jas 3:17
2:19 [r]1Pe 3:14, 17
2:20 [s]1Pe 3:17
2:21 [t]S Ac 14:22; Php 1:29; 1Pe 3:9 [u]S Ro 8:28 [v]1Pe 3:18; 4:1,13 [w]S Mt 11:29; 16:24
2:22 [x]S 2Co 5:21 [y]Isa 53:9
2:23 [z]Heb 12:3; 1Pe 3:9 [a]Isa 53:7 [b]Lk 23:46 [c]Ps 9:4
2:24 [d]Isa 53:4, 11; Heb 9:28 [e]S Ac 5:30 [f]S Ro 6:2 [g]Dt 32:39; Ps 103:3; Isa 53:5; Heb 12:13; Jas 5:16
2:25 [h]Isa 53:6 [i]S Jn 10:11 [j]Job 10:12
3:1 [k]1Pe 2:18 [l]S Eph 5:22 [m]1Co 7:16; 9:19

[c]25 Isaiah 40:6-8 [d]6 Isaiah 28:16 [e]7 Or *cornerstone* [f]7 Psalm 118:22 [g]8 Isaiah 8:14
[h]22 Isaiah 53:9

come from outward adornment, such
as braided hair and the wearing of gold
jewelry and fine clothes.[a] 4Instead, it
should be that of your inner self,[b] the
unfading beauty of a gentle and quiet
spirit, which is of great worth in God's
sight.[c] 5For this is the way the holy
women of the past who put their hope
in God[d] used to make themselves
beautiful.[e] They were submissive to
their own husbands, 6like Sarah, who
obeyed Abraham and called him her
master.[f] You are her daughters if you
do what is right and do not give way to
fear.

7Husbands,[g] in the same way be
considerate as you live with your
wives, and treat them with respect as
the weaker partner and as heirs with
you of the gracious gift of life, so that
nothing will hinder your prayers.

Suffering for Doing Good

8Finally, all of you, live in harmony
with one another;[h] be sympathetic,
love as brothers,[i] be compassionate
and humble.[j] 9Do not repay evil with
evil[k] or insult with insult,[l] but with
blessing,[m] because to this[n] you were
called[o] so that you may inherit a
blessing.[p] 10For,

"Whoever would love life
 and see good days
must keep his tongue from evil
 and his lips from deceitful speech.
11He must turn from evil and do good;
 he must seek peace and pursue it.
12For the eyes of the Lord are on the
  righteous
 and his ears are attentive to their
  prayer,
but the face of the Lord is against
  those who do evil."[i] [q]

13Who is going to harm you if you are
eager to do good?[r] 14But even if you
should suffer for what is right, you are
blessed.[s] "Do not fear what they fear[j];
do not be frightened."[k] [t] 15But in your
hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always
be prepared to give an answer[u] to
everyone who asks you to give the rea-
son for the hope[v] that you have. But
do this with gentleness and respect,
16keeping a clear conscience,[w] so that
those who speak maliciously against
your good behavior in Christ may be
ashamed of their slander.[x] 17It is better,
if it is God's will,[y] to suffer for doing
good[z] than for doing evil. 18For Christ
died for sins[a] once for all,[b] the right-
eous for the unrighteous, to bring you
to God.[c] He was put to death in the
body[d] but made alive by the Spirit,[e]
19through whom[l] also he went and
preached to the spirits in prison[f] 20who
disobeyed long ago when God waited
patiently[g] in the days of Noah while
the ark was being built.[h] In it only a
few people, eight in all,[i] were saved[j]
through water, 21and this water sym-
bolizes baptism that now saves you[k]
also—not the removal of dirt from the
body but the pledge[m] of a good con-
science[l] toward God. It saves you by
the resurrection of Jesus Christ,[m] 22who
has gone into heaven[n] and is at God's
right hand[o]—with angels, authorities
and powers in submission to him.[p]

Living for God

4 Therefore, since Christ suffered in
his body,[q] arm yourselves also
with the same attitude, because he who
has suffered in his body is done with
sin.[r] 2As a result, he does not live the
rest of his earthly life for evil human
desires,[s] but rather for the will of God.
3For you have spent enough time in the
past[t] doing what pagans choose to
do—living in debauchery, lust, drunk-
enness, orgies, carousing and detest-
able idolatry.[u] 4They think it strange
that you do not plunge with them into
the same flood of dissipation, and they
heap abuse on you.[v] 5But they will
have to give account to him who is
ready to judge the living and the
dead.[w] 6For this is the reason the gos-
pel was preached even to those who
are now dead,[x] so that they might be
judged according to men in regard to
the body, but live according to God in
regard to the spirit.

7The end of all things is near.[y]
Therefore be clear minded and self-
controlled[z] so that you can pray.
8Above all, love each other deeply,[a]
because love covers over a multitude of
sins.[b] 9Offer hospitality[c] to one an-
other without grumbling.[d] 10Each one
should use whatever gift he has re-
ceived to serve others,[e] faithfully[f] ad-
ministering God's grace in its various
forms. 11If anyone speaks, he should
do it as one speaking the very words of
God.[g] If anyone serves, he should do it
with the strength God provides,[h] so
that in all things God may be praised[i]
through Jesus Christ. To him be the

3:3 [a]Isa 3:18-23; 1Ti 2:9
3:4 [b]Ro 7:22; Eph 3:16 [c]S Ro 2:29
3:5 [d]1Ti 5:5 [e]Est 2:15
3:6 [f]Ge 18:12
3:7 [g]Eph 5:25-33; Col 3:19
3:8 [h]S Ro 15:5 [i]S Ro 12:10 [j]Eph 4:2; 1Pe 5:5
3:9 [k]Ro 12:17; 1Th 5:15 [l]1Pe 2:23 [m]S Mt 5:44 [n]S 1Pe 2:21 [o]S Ro 8:28 [p]Heb 6:14
3:12 [q]Ps 34:12-16
3:13 [r]S Tit 2:14
3:14 [s]ver 17; 1Pe 2:19,20; 4:15,16 [t]Isa 8:12, 13
3:15 [u]Col 4:6 [v]S Heb 3:6
3:16 [w]ver 21; S Ac 23:1 [x]1Pe 2:12,15
3:17 [y]1Pe 2:15; 4:19 [z]1Pe 2:20; 4:15,16
3:18 [a]1Pe 2:21; 4:1,13 [b]S Heb 7:27 [c]S Ro 5:2 [d]Col 1:22; 1Pe 4:1 [e]1Pe 4:6
3:19 [f]1Pe 4:6
3:20 [g]S Ro 2:4 [h]Ge 6:3,5,13,14 [i]Ge 8:18 [j]Heb 11:7
3:21 [k]S Ac 22:16 [l]ver 16; S Ac 23:1 [m]1Pe 1:3
3:22 [n]S Heb 4:14 [o]S Mk 16:19 [p]S Mt 28:18; S Ro 8:38
4:1 [q]S 1Pe 2:21 [r]S Ro 6:18
4:2 [s]Ro 6:2; 1Pe 1:14
4:3 [t]S Eph 2:2 [u]S Ro 13:13
4:4 [v]1Pe 3:16
4:5 [w]S Ac 10:42
4:6 [x]1Pe 3:19
4:7 [y]S Ro 13:11 [z]S Ac 24:25
4:8 [a]S 1Pe 1:22 [b]Pr 10:12; Jas 5:20
4:9 [c]S Ro 12:13 [d]Php 2:14
4:10 [e]Ro 12:6,7 [f]1Co 4:2
4:11 [g]1Th 2:4 [h]Eph 6:10 [i]1Co 10:31

[i]12 Psalm 34:12-16
[j]14 Or *not fear their threats*
[k]14 Isaiah 8:12
[l]18,19 Or *alive in the spirit,* 19*through which*
[m]21 Or *response*

glory and the power for ever and ever.
Amen.

Suffering for Being a Christian

12Dear friends, do not be surprised at
the painful trial you are suffering, as
though something strange were hap-
pening to you. 13But rejoice that you
participate in the sufferings of Christ,
so that you may be overjoyed when his
glory is revealed. 14If you are insulted
because of the name of Christ, you
are blessed, for the Spirit of glory and
of God rests on you. 15If you suffer, it
should not be as a murderer or thief or
any other kind of criminal, or even as a
meddler. 16However, if you suffer as a
Christian, do not be ashamed, but
praise God that you bear that name.
17For it is time for judgment to begin
with the family of God; and if it be-
gins with us, what will the outcome be
for those who do not obey the gospel of
God? 18And,

"If it is hard for the righteous to be
saved,
what will become of the ungodly
and the sinner?"

19So then, those who suffer accord-
ing to God's will should commit
themselves to their faithful Creator and
continue to do good.

To Elders and Young Men

5 To the elders among you, I appeal
as a fellow elder, a witness of
Christ's sufferings and one who also
will share in the glory to be revealed:
2Be shepherds of God's flock that is
under your care, serving as overseers—
not because you must, but because you
are willing, as God wants you to be;
not greedy for money, but eager to
serve; 3not lording it over those en-
trusted to you, but being examples to
the flock. 4And when the Chief Shep-
herd appears, you will receive the
crown of glory that will never fade
away.
5Young men, in the same way be
submissive to those who are older. All
of you, clothe yourselves with humili-
ty toward one another, because,

"God opposes the proud
but gives grace to the humble."

6Humble yourselves, therefore, under
God's mighty hand, that he may lift
you up in due time. 7Cast all your
anxiety on him because he cares for
you.
8Be self-controlled and alert. Your
enemy the devil prowls around like a
roaring lion looking for someone to
devour. 9Resist him, standing firm in
the faith, because you know that your
brothers throughout the world are un-
dergoing the same kind of sufferings.
10And the God of all grace, who
called you to his eternal glory in
Christ, after you have suffered a little
while, will himself restore you and
make you strong, firm and steadfast.
11To him be the power for ever and
ever. Amen.

Final Greetings

12With the help of Silas, whom I
regard as a faithful brother, I have writ-
ten to you briefly, encouraging you
and testifying that this is the true grace
of God. Stand fast in it.
13She who is in Babylon, chosen to-
gether with you, sends you her greet-
ings, and so does my son Mark.
14Greet one another with a kiss of
love.
Peace to all of you who are in
Christ.

4:11 S Ro 11:36
4:12 1Pe 1:6,7
4:13 S Mt 5:12
S 2Co 1:5
Ro 8:17
1Pe 1:7; 5:1
4:14 S Jn 15:21
Mt 5:11
4:16 Ac 5:41
4:17 Jer 25:29;
Eze 9:6; Am 3:2
1Th 1:8; 2Th 1:8
4:18 Pr 11:31;
Lk 23:31
4:19 1Pe 2:15;
3:17
5:1 S Ac 11:30
S Lk 24:48
1Pe 1:5,7; 4:13;
Rev 1:9
5:2 S Jn 21:16
2Co 9:7;
Phm 14
S 1Ti 3:3
5:3 Eze 34:4;
Mt 20:25-28
S 1Ti 4:12
5:4 S Jn 10:11
S 1Co 9:25
1Pe 1:4
5:5 Eph 5:21
1Pe 3:8
Pr 3:34;
S Mt 23:12
5:6 Job 5:11;
Jas 4:10
5:7 Ps 37:5;
Mt 6:25
Ps 55:22;
Heb 13:5
5:8 S Ac 24:25
Job 1:7 2Ti 4:17
5:9 S Jas 4:7
Col 2:5
S Ac 14:22
5:10 S Ro 8:28
2Co 4:17;
2Ti 2:10 1Pe 1:6
Ps 18:32;
2Th 2:17
5:11
S Ro 11:36
5:12 S Ac 15:22
Heb 13:22
S 1Co 16:13
5:13 S Ac 12:12
5:14 S Ro 16:16
S Eph 6:23

18 Prov. 11:31 5 Prov. 3:34 12 Greek *Silvanus*, a variant of *Silas*

2 Peter

1 Simon Peter, a servant[a] and apos-
tle of Jesus Christ,[b]

To those who through the righteous-
ness[c] of our God and Savior Jesus
Christ[d] have received a faith as pre-
cious as ours:

2Grace and peace be yours in abun-
dance[e] through the knowledge of God
and of Jesus our Lord.[f]

Making One's Calling and Election Sure

3His divine power[g] has given us
everything we need for life and godli-
ness through our knowledge of him[h]
who called us[i] by his own glory and
goodness. 4Through these he has given
us his very great and precious prom-
ises,[j] so that through them you may
participate in the divine nature[k] and
escape the corruption in the world
caused by evil desires.[l]

5For this very reason, make every ef-
fort to add to your faith goodness; and
to goodness, knowledge;[m] 6and to
knowledge, self-control;[n] and to self-
control, perseverance;[o] and to perse-
verance, godliness;[p] 7and to godliness,
brotherly kindness; and to brotherly
kindness, love.[q] 8For if you possess
these qualities in increasing measure,
they will keep you from being in-
effective and unproductive[r] in your
knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.[s]
9But if anyone does not have them, he
is nearsighted and blind,[t] and has for-
gotten that he has been cleansed from
his past sins.[u]

10Therefore, my brothers, be all the
more eager to make your calling[v] and
election sure. For if you do these
things, you will never fall,[w] 11and you
will receive a rich welcome into the
eternal kingdom[x] of our Lord and Sav-
ior Jesus Christ.[y]

Prophecy of Scripture

12So I will always remind you of
these things,[z] even though you know
them and are firmly established in the
truth[a] you now have. 13I think it is
right to refresh your memory[b] as long
as I live in the tent of this body,[c] 14be-
cause I know that I will soon put it
aside,[d] as our Lord Jesus Christ has
made clear to me.[e] 15And I will make
every effort to see that after my depar-
ture[f] you will always be able to
remember these things.

16We did not follow cleverly invented
stories when we told you about the
power and coming of our Lord Jesus
Christ,[g] but we were eyewitnesses of
his majesty.[h] 17For he received honor
and glory from God the Father when
the voice came to him from the Majes-
tic Glory, saying, "This is my Son,
whom I love; with him I am well
pleased."[a][i] 18We ourselves heard this
voice that came from heaven when we
were with him on the sacred moun-
tain.[j]

19And we have the word of the
prophets made more certain,[k] and you
will do well to pay attention to it, as to
a light[l] shining in a dark place, until
the day dawns[m] and the morning star[n]
rises in your hearts.[o] 20Above all, you
must understand[p] that no prophecy of
Scripture came about by the prophet's
own interpretation. 21For prophecy
never had its origin in the will of man,
but men spoke from God[q] as they were
carried along by the Holy Spirit.[r]

False Teachers and Their Destruction

2 But there were also false prophets[s]
among the people, just as there will
be false teachers among you.[t] They
will secretly introduce destructive here-
sies, even denying the sovereign Lord[u]
who bought them[v]—bringing swift de-
struction on themselves. 2Many will
follow their shameful ways[w] and will
bring the way of truth into disrepute.
3In their greed[x] these teachers will ex-
ploit you[y] with stories they have made
up. Their condemnation has long been

[a]17 Matt. 17:5; Mark 9:7; Luke 9:35

1:1 [a]Ro 1:1 [b]1Pe 1:1 [c]Ro 3:21-26 [d]Tit 2:13
1:2 [e]S Ro 1:7 [f]ver 3,8; 2Pe 2:20; 3:18; S Php 3:8
1:3 [g]1Pe 1:5 [h]S ver 2 [i]S Ro 8:28
1:4 [j]2Co 7:1 [k]Eph 4:24; Heb 12:10; 1Jn 3:2 [l]Jas 1:27; 2Pe 2:18-20
1:5 [m]S ver 2; Col 2:3
1:6 [n]S Ac 24:25 [o]S Heb 10:36 [p]ver 3
1:7 [q]S Ro 12:10; 1Th 3:12
1:8 [r]Jn 15:2; Col 1:10; Tit 3:14 [s]S ver 2
1:9 [t]1Jn 2:11 [u]Eph 5:26; S Mt 1:21
1:10 [v]S Ro 8:28 [w]Ps 15:5; 2Pe 3:17; Jude 24
1:11 [x]Ps 145:13; 2Ti 4:18 [y]2Pe 2:20; 3:18
1:12 [z]Php 3:1; 1Jn 2:21; Jude 5 [a]2Jn 2
1:13 [b]2Pe 3:1 [c]Isa 38:12; 2Co 5:1,4
1:14 [d]2Ti 4:6 [e]Jn 13:36; 21:18, 19
1:15 [f]Lk 9:31
1:16 [g]Mk 13:26; 14:62 [h]Mt 17:1-8
1:17 [i]S Mt 3:17
1:18 [j]Mt 17:6
1:19 [k]1Pe 1:10, 11 [l]Ps 119:105 [m]Lk 1:78 [n]Rev 22:16 [o]2Co 4:6
1:20 [p]2Pe 3:3
1:21 [q]2Ti 3:16 [r]2Sa 23:2; Ac 1:16; 3:18; 1Pe 1:11
2:1 [s]Dt 13:1-3; Jer 6:13; S Mt 7:15 [t]1Ti 4:1 [u]Jude 4 [v]S 1Co 6:20
2:2 [w]Jude 4
2:3 [x]ver 14 [y]2Co 2:17; 1Th 2:5

hanging over them, and their destruc-
tion has not been sleeping.
4For if God did not spare angels
when they sinned,[a] but sent them to
hell,[b] putting them into gloomy dun-
geons[c] to be held for judgment;[b] 5if he
did not spare the ancient world[c] when
he brought the flood on its ungodly
people,[d] but protected Noah, a
preacher of righteousness, and seven
others;[e] 6if he condemned the cities of
Sodom and Gomorrah by burning
them to ashes,[f] and made them an ex-
ample[g] of what is going to happen to
the ungodly;[h] 7and if he rescued Lot,[i]
a righteous man, who was distressed
by the filthy lives of lawless men[j] 8(for
that righteous man,[k] living among
them day after day, was tormented in
his righteous soul by the lawless deeds
he saw and heard)— 9if this is so, then
the Lord knows how to rescue godly
men from trials[l] and to hold the un-
righteous for the day of judgment,[m]
while continuing their punishment.[d]
10This is especially true of those who
follow the corrupt desire[n] of the sinful
nature[e] and despise authority.

Bold and arrogant, these men are not
afraid to slander celestial beings;[o] 11yet
even angels, although they are strong-
er and more powerful, do not bring
slanderous accusations against such
beings in the presence of the Lord.[p]
12But these men blaspheme in matters
they do not understand. They are like
brute beasts, creatures of instinct, born
only to be caught and destroyed, and
like beasts they too will perish.[q]
13They will be paid back with harm
for the harm they have done. Their
idea of pleasure is to carouse in broad
daylight.[r] They are blots and
blemishes, reveling in their pleasures
while they feast with you.[f][s] 14With
eyes full of adultery, they never stop
sinning; they seduce[t] the unstable;[u]
they are experts in greed[v]—an ac-
cursed brood![w] 15They have left the
straight way and wandered off to fol-
low the way of Balaam[x] son of Beor,
who loved the wages of wickedness.
16But he was rebuked for his wrong-
doing by a donkey—a beast without
speech—who spoke with a man's voice
and restrained the prophet's mad-
ness.[y]
17These men are springs without
water[z] and mists driven by a storm.
Blackest darkness is reserved for
them.[a] 18For they mouth empty, boast-
ful words[b] and, by appealing to the
lustful desires of sinful human nature,
they entice people who are just escap-
ing[c] from those who live in error.
19They promise them freedom, while
they themselves are slaves of depravi-
ty—for a man is a slave to whatever has
mastered him.[d] 20If they have escaped
the corruption of the world by know-
ing[e] our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ[f]
and are again entangled in it and over-
come, they are worse off at the end
than they were at the beginning.[g] 21It
would have been better for them not to
have known the way of righteousness,
than to have known it and then to turn
their backs on the sacred command
that was passed on to them.[h] 22Of
them the proverbs are true: "A dog re-
turns to its vomit,"[g][i] and, "A sow that
is washed goes back to her wallowing
in the mud."

The Day of the Lord

3 Dear friends,[j] this is now my sec-
ond letter to you. I have written
both of them as reminders[k] to stimu-
late you to wholesome thinking. 2I
want you to recall the words spoken in
the past by the holy prophets[l] and the
command given by our Lord and Sav-
ior through your apostles.[m]
3First of all, you must understand
that in the last days[n] scoffers will
come, scoffing and following their own
evil desires.[o] 4They will say, "Where is
this 'coming' he promised?[p] Ever since
our fathers died, everything goes on as
it has since the beginning of crea-
tion."[q] 5But they deliberately forget
that long ago by God's word[r] the
heavens existed and the earth was
formed out of water and by water.[s] 6By
these waters also the world of that
time[t] was deluged and destroyed.[u]
7By the same word the present heavens
and earth are reserved for fire,[v] being
kept for the day of judgment[w] and de-
struction of ungodly men.
8But do not forget this one thing,
dear friends: With the Lord a day is like
a thousand years, and a thousand
years are like a day.[x] 9The Lord is not
slow in keeping his promise,[y] as some
understand slowness. He is patient[z]
with you, not wanting anyone to per-
ish, but everyone to come to repen-
tance.[a]
10But the day of the Lord will come

2:4 [a]Ge 6:1-4 [b]1Ti 3:6; Jude 6; Rev 20:1,2
2:5 [c]2Pe 3:6 [d]Ge 6:5-8:19 [e]Heb 11:7; 1Pe 3:20
2:6 [f]Ge 19:24,25 [g]Nu 26:10; Jude 7 [h]Mt 10:15; 11:23,24; Ro 9:29
2:7 [i]Ge 19:16 [j]2Pe 3:17
2:8 [k]Heb 11:4
2:9 [l]Ps 37:33; S Ro 15:31; Rev 3:10 [m]S Mt 10:15
2:10 [n]2Pe 3:3; Jude 16,18 [o]Jude 8
2:11 [p]Jude 9
2:12 [q]Ps 49:12; Jude 10
2:13 [r]S Ro 13:13; 1Th 5:7 [s]1Co 11:20,21; Jude 12
2:14 [t]ver 18 [u]Jas 1:8; 2Pe 3:16 [v]ver 3 [w]Eph 2:3
2:15 [x]Nu 22:4-20; 31:16; Dt 23:4; Jude 11; Rev 2:14
2:16 [y]Nu 22:21-30
2:17 [z]Jude 12 [a]Jude 13
2:18 [b]Jude 16 [c]ver 20; 2Pe 1:4
2:19 [d]S Ro 6:16
2:20 [e]S 2Pe 1:2 [f]2Pe 1:11; 3:18 [g]Mt 12:45
2:21 [h]Eze 18:24; Heb 6:4-6; 10:26,27
2:22 [i]Pr 26:11
3:1 [j]S 1Co 10:14 [k]2Pe 1:13
3:2 [l]Lk 1:70; Ac 3:21 [m]S Eph 4:11
3:3 [n]1Ti 4:1; 2Ti 3:1 [o]2Pe 2:10; Jude 18
3:4 [p]Isa 5:19; Eze 12:22; Mt 24:48; S Lk 17:30 [q]Mk 10:6
3:5 [r]Ge 1:6,9; Heb 11:3 [s]Ps 24:2
3:6 [t]2Pe 2:5 [u]Ge 7:21,22
3:7 [v]ver 10,12; S 2Th 1:7 [w]S Mt 10:15
3:8 [x]Ps 90:4
3:9 [y]Hab 2:3; Heb 10:37 [z]S Ro 2:4 [a]S 1Ti 2:4; Rev 2:21

b4 Greek *Tartarus* c4 Some manuscripts *into chains of darkness* d9 Or *unrighteous for punishment until the day of judgment* e10 Or *the flesh* f13 Some manuscripts *in their love feasts* g22 Prov. 26:11

like a thief.[a] The heavens will disap-
pear with a roar;[b] the elements will be
destroyed by fire,[c] and the earth and
everything in it will be laid bare.[h] [d]
11Since everything will be destroyed
in this way, what kind of people ought
you to be? You ought to live holy and
godly lives 12as you look forward[e] to
the day of God and speed its com-
ing.[i] [f] That day will bring about the
destruction of the heavens by fire, and
the elements will melt in the heat.[g]
13But in keeping with his promise we
are looking forward to a new heaven
and a new earth,[h] the home of right-
eousness.
14So then, dear friends, since you are
looking forward to this, make every ef-
fort to be found spotless, blameless[i]
and at peace with him. 15Bear in mind
that our Lord's patience[j] means salva-
tion,[k] just as our dear brother Paul also
wrote you with the wisdom that God
gave him.[l] 16He writes the same way
in all his letters, speaking in them of
these matters. His letters contain some
things that are hard to understand,
which ignorant and unstable[m] people
distort,[n] as they do the other Scrip-
tures,[o] to their own destruction.
17Therefore, dear friends, since you
already know this, be on your guard[p]
so that you may not be carried away by
the error[q] of lawless men[r] and fall
from your secure position.[s] 18But grow
in the grace[t] and knowledge[u] of our
Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.[v] To him
be glory both now and forever!
Amen.[w]

3:10 [a]S Lk 12:39 [b]Isa 34:4 [c]ver 7, 12; S 2Th 1:7 [d]Mt 24:35; S Heb 12:27; Rev 21:1
3:12 [e]S 1Co 1:7 [f]Ps 50:3 [g]ver 10
3:13 [h]Isa 65:17; 66:22; Rev 21:1
3:14 [i]S 1Th 3:13
3:15 [j]S Ro 2:4 [k]ver 9 [l]Eph 3:3
3:16 [m]Jas 1:8; 2Pe 2:14 [n]Ps 56:5; Jer 23:36 [o]ver 2
3:17 [p]1Co 10:12 [q]2Pe 2:18 [r]2Pe 2:7 [s]Rev 2:5
3:18 [t]S Ro 3:24 [u]S 2Pe 1:2 [v]2Pe 1:11; 2:20 [w]S Ro 11:36

h10 Some manuscripts *be burned up*

i12 Or *as you wait eagerly for the day of God to come*

1 John

The Word of Life

1 That which was from the begin-
ning,[a] which we have heard,
which we have seen with our eyes,[b]
which we have looked at and our
hands have touched[c]—this we pro-
claim concerning the Word of life. 2The
life appeared;[d] we have seen it and tes-
tify to it,[e] and we proclaim to you the
eternal life,[f] which was with the Fa-
ther and has appeared to us. 3We pro-
claim to you what we have seen and
heard,[g] so that you also may have fel-
lowship with us. And our fellowship is
with the Father and with his Son, Jesus
Christ.[h] 4We write this[i] to make our[a]
joy complete.[j]

Walking in the Light

5This is the message we have heard[k]
from him and declare to you: God is
light;[l] in him there is no darkness at
all. 6If we claim to have fellowship with
him yet walk in the darkness,[m] we lie
and do not live by the truth.[n] 7But if we
walk in the light,[o] as he is in the light,
we have fellowship with one another,
and the blood of Jesus, his Son, puri-
fies us from all[b] sin.[p]

8If we claim to be without sin,[q] we
deceive ourselves and the truth is not
in us.[r] 9If we confess our sins, he is
faithful and just and will forgive us our
sins[s] and purify us from all unright-
eousness.[t] 10If we claim we have not
sinned,[u] we make him out to be a liar[v]
and his word has no place in our
lives.[w]

2 My dear children,[x] I write this to
you so that you will not sin. But if
anybody does sin, we have one who
speaks to the Father in our de-
fense[y]—Jesus Christ, the Righteous
One. 2He is the atoning sacrifice for our
sins,[z] and not only for ours but also
for[c] the sins of the whole world.[a]

3We know[b] that we have come to
know him[c] if we obey his commands.[d]
4The man who says, "I know him,"[e]
but does not do what he commands is a
liar, and the truth is not in him.[f] 5But if
anyone obeys his word,[g] God's love[d]
is truly made complete in him.[h] This is
how we know[i] we are in him: 6Who-
ever claims to live in him must walk as
Jesus did.[j]

7Dear friends,[k] I am not writing you
a new command but an old one, which
you have had since the beginning.[l]
This old command is the message you
have heard. 8Yet I am writing you a
new command;[m] its truth is seen in
him and you, because the darkness is
passing[n] and the true light[o] is already
shining.[p]

9Anyone who claims to be in the
light but hates his brother[q] is still in
the darkness.[r] 10Whoever loves his
brother lives in the light,[s] and there is
nothing in him[e] to make him stum-
ble.[t] 11But whoever hates his brother[u]
is in the darkness and walks around in
the darkness;[v] he does not know
where he is going, because the dark-
ness has blinded him.[w]

12I write to you, dear children,[x]
because your sins have been
forgiven on account of
his name.[y]
13I write to you, fathers,
because you have known him who
is from the beginning.[z]
I write to you, young men,
because you have overcome[a] the
evil one.[b]
I write to you, dear children,[c]
because you have known the
Father.
14I write to you, fathers,
because you have known him who
is from the beginning.[d]
I write to you, young men,
because you are strong,[e]

1:1 [a]S Jn 1:2 [b]S Lk 24:48; Jn 1:14; 19:35; Ac 4:20; 2Pe 1:16; 1Jn 4:14 [c]Jn 20:27 **1:2** [d]Jn 1:1-4; 11:25; 14:6; 1Ti 3:16; 1Pe 1:20; 1Jn 3:5, 8 [e]S Jn 15:27 [f]S Mt 25:46 **1:3** [g]S ver 1 [h]1Co 1:9 **1:4** [i]1Jn 2:1 [j]S Jn 3:29 **1:5** [k]1Jn 3:11 [l]1Ti 6:16 **1:6** [m]Jn 3:19-21; 8:12; 2Co 6:14; Eph 5:8; 1Jn 2:11 [n]Jn 3:19-21; 1Jn 2:4; 4:20 **1:7** [o]Isa 2:5 [p]Heb 9:14; Rev 1:5; 7:14 **1:8** [q]Pr 20:9; Jer 2:35; Ro 3:9-19; Jas 3:2 [r]Jn 8:44; 1Jn 2:4 **1:9** [s]Ps 32:5; 51:2; Pr 28:13 [t]ver 7; Mic 7:18-20; Heb 10:22 **1:10** [u]ver 8 [v]1Jn 5:10 [w]Jn 5:38; 1Jn 2:14 **2:1** [x]ver 12,13, 28; 1Jn 3:7,18; 4:4; 5:21; S 1Th 2:11 [y]S Ro 8:34; 1Ti 2:5 **2:2** [z]Ro 3:25; 1Jn 4:10 [a]S Mt 1:21; S Jn 3:17 **2:3** [b]ver 5; 1Jn 3:24; 4:13; 5:2 [c]S ver 4 [d]S Jn 14:15 **2:4** [e]ver 3; Tit 1:16; 1Jn 3:6; 4:7,8

[f]1Jn 1:6,8 **2:5** [g]S Jn 14:15 [h]1Jn 4:12 [i]S ver 3 **2:6** [j]S Mt 11:29 **2:7** [k]S 1Co 10:14 [l]ver 24; 1Jn 3:11, 23; 4:21; 2Jn 5,6 **2:8** [m]S Jn 13:34 [n]Ro 13:12; Heb 10:25 [o]Jn 1:9 [p]Eph 5:8; 1Th 5:5 **2:9** [q]ver 11; Lev 19:17; 1Jn 3:10,15,16; 4:20,21 [r]1Jn 1:5 **2:10** [s]1Jn 3:14 [t]ver 11; Ps 119:165 **2:11** [u]S ver 9 [v]S 1Jn 1:6

[w]Jn 11:9; 12:35 **2:12** [x]S ver 1 [y]S 1Jn 3:23 **2:13** [z]S Jn 1:1 [a]S Jn 16:33 [b]ver 14; S Mt 5:37 [c]S ver 1 **2:14** [d]S Jn 1:1 [e]Eph 6:10

[a]4 Some manuscripts *your* [b]7 Or *every* [c]2 Or *He is the one who turns aside God's wrath, taking away our sins, and not only ours but also* [d]5 Or *word, love for God* [e]10 Or *it*

and the word of God[a] lives in
you,[b]
and you have overcome the evil
one.[c]

Do Not Love the World

15Do not love the world or anything
in the world.[d] If anyone loves the
world, the love of the Father is not in
him.[e] 16For everything in the world—
the cravings of sinful man,[f] the lust of
his eyes[g] and the boasting of what he
has and does—comes not from the Fa-
ther but from the world. 17The world
and its desires pass away,[h] but the
man who does the will of God[i] lives
forever.

Warning Against Antichrists

18Dear children, this is the last hour;[j]
and as you have heard that the anti-
christ is coming,[k] even now many anti-
christs have come.[l] This is how we
know it is the last hour. 19They went
out from us,[m] but they did not really
belong to us. For if they had belonged
to us, they would have remained with
us; but their going showed that none of
them belonged to us.[n]
20But you have an anointing[o] from
the Holy One,[p] and all of you know
the truth.[q][a] 21I do not write to you be-
cause you do not know the truth, but
because you do know it[r] and because
no lie comes from the truth. 22Who is
the liar? It is the man who denies that
Jesus is the Christ. Such a man is the
antichrist—he denies the Father and
the Son.[s] 23No one who denies the Son
has the Father; whoever acknowledges
the Son has the Father also.[t]
24See that what you have heard from
the beginning[u] remains in you. If it
does, you also will remain in the Son
and in the Father.[v] 25And this is what
he promised us—even eternal life.[w]
26I am writing these things to you
about those who are trying to lead you
astray.[x] 27As for you, the anointing[y]
you received from him remains in you,
and you do not need anyone to teach
you. But as his anointing teaches you
about all things[z] and as that anointing
is real, not counterfeit—just as it has
taught you, remain in him.[a]

Children of God

28And now, dear children,[b] continue
in him, so that when he appears[c] we
may be confident[d] and unashamed be-
fore him at his coming.[e]
29If you know that he is righteous,[f]
you know that everyone who does
what is right has been born of him.[g]
3 How great is the love[h] the Father
has lavished on us, that we should
be called children of God![i] And that is
what we are! The reason the world
does not know us is that it did not
know him.[j] 2Dear friends,[k] now we
are children of God,[l] and what we will
be has not yet been made known. But
we know that when he appears,[b][m] we
shall be like him,[n] for we shall see him
as he is.[o] 3Everyone who has this hope
in him purifies himself,[p] just as he is
pure.[q]
4Everyone who sins breaks the law;
in fact, sin is lawlessness.[r] 5But you
know that he appeared so that he
might take away our sins.[s] And in him
is no sin.[t] 6No one who lives in him
keeps on sinning.[u] No one who contin-
ues to sin has either seen him[v] or
known him.[w]
7Dear children,[x] do not let anyone
lead you astray.[y] He who does what is
right is righteous, just as he is right-
eous.[z] 8He who does what is sinful is
of the devil,[a] because the devil has
been sinning from the beginning. The
reason the Son of God[b] appeared was
to destroy the devil's work.[c] 9No one
who is born of God[d] will continue to
sin,[e] because God's seed[f] remains in
him; he cannot go on sinning, because
he has been born of God. 10This is how
we know who the children of God[g] are
and who the children of the devil[h] are:
Anyone who does not do what is right
is not a child of God; nor is anyone
who does not love[i] his brother.[j]

Love One Another

11This is the message you heard[k]
from the beginning:[l] We should love
one another.[m] 12Do not be like Cain,
who belonged to the evil one[n] and
murdered his brother.[o] And why did
he murder him? Because his own ac-
tions were evil and his brother's were
righteous.[p] 13Do not be surprised, my
brothers, if the world hates you.[q] 14We
know that we have passed from death
to life,[r] because we love our brothers.
Anyone who does not love remains in
death.[s] 15Anyone who hates his broth-
er[t] is a murderer,[u] and you know that
no murderer has eternal life in him.[v]
16This is how we know what love is:

2:14 [a] S Heb 4:12 [b] Jn 5:38; 1Jn 1:10 [c] S ver 13 **2:15** [d] Ro 12:2 [e] Jas 4:4 **2:16** [f] Ro 13:14; Eph 2:3 [g] Pr 27:20 **2:17** [h] S 1Co 7:31 [i] Mt 12:50 **2:18** [j] S Ro 13:11 [k] ver 22; 1Jn 4:3; 2Jn 7 [l] 1Jn 4:1 **2:19** [m] Ac 20:30 [n] 1Co 11:19 **2:20** [o] ver 27; 2Co 1:21 [p] S Mk 1:24 [q] Jer 31:34; Mt 13:11; Jn 14:26 **2:21** [r] 2Pe 1:12; Jude 5 **2:22** [s] 1Jn 4:3; 2Jn 7 **2:23** [t] Jn 8:19; 14:7; 1Jn 4:15; 5:1; 2Jn 9 **2:24** [u] S ver 7 [v] Jn 14:23; 15:4; 1Jn 1:3; 2Jn 9 **2:25** [w] S Mt 25:46 **2:26** [x] 1Jn 3:7 **2:27** [y] ver 20 [z] 1Co 2:12 [a] Jn 15:4 **2:28** [b] S ver 1 [c] 1Jn 3:2; Col 3:4 [d] S Eph 3:12 [e] S 1Th 2:19 **2:29** [f] 1Jn 3:7 [g] S Jn 1:13 **3:1** [h] S Jn 3:16 [i] ver 2,10; S Jn 1:12 [j] Jn 15:21; 16:3 **3:2** [k] S 1Co 10:14 [l] ver 1,10; S Jn 1:12 [m] Col 3:4; 1Jn 2:28 [n] Ro 8:29; 2Pe 1:4 [o] Ps 17:15; Jn 17:24; 2Co 3:18 **3:3** [p] 2Co 7:1; 2Pe 3:13,14 [q] Ps 18:26 **3:4** [r] 1Jn 5:17 **3:5** [s] ver 8; S Jn 3:17 [t] S 2Co 5:21 **3:6** [u] ver 9; 1Jn 5:18 [v] 3Jn 11 [w] S 1Jn 2:4 **3:7** [x] S 1Jn 2:1 [y] 1Jn 2:26 [z] 1Jn 2:29 **3:8** [a] ver 10; Jn 8:44 [b] S Mt 4:3 [c] Heb 2:14 **3:9** [d] S Jn 1:13 [e] ver 6; Ps 119:3; 1Jn 5:18 [f] 1Pe 1:23 **3:10** [g] ver 1,2; S Jn 1:12 [h] ver 8; 1Jn 4:8 [i] S 1Jn 2:9 **3:11** [j] 1Jn 1:5 [k] S 1Jn 2:7 [l] Jn 13:34,35; 15:12; 1Jn 4:7,11, 21; 2Jn 5 **3:12** [m] S Mt 5:37 [n] Ge 4:8 [o] Ps 38:20; Pr 29:10 **3:13** [p] Jn 15:18, 19; 17:14 **3:14** [q] Jn 5:24 [r] S 1Jn 2:9

3:15 [t] S 1Jn 2:9 [u] Mt 5:21,22; Jn 8:44 [v] Gal 5:20,21; Rev 21:8

[a]20 *Some manuscripts and you know all things*
[b]2 *Or when it is made known*

Jesus Christ laid down his life for us.[a]
And we ought to lay down our lives for
our brothers.[b] 17If anyone has material
possessions and sees his brother in
need but has no pity on him,[c] how can
the love of God be in him?[d] 18Dear chil-
dren,[e] let us not love with words or
tongue but with actions and in truth.[f]
19This then is how we know that we
belong to the truth, and how we set
our hearts at rest in his presence
20whenever our hearts condemn us.
For God is greater than our hearts, and
he knows everything.

21Dear friends,[g] if our hearts do not
condemn us, we have confidence be-
fore God[h] 22and receive from him any-
thing we ask,[i] because we obey his
commands[j] and do what pleases
him.[k] 23And this is his command: to
believe[l] in the name of his Son, Jesus
Christ,[m] and to love one another as he
commanded us.[n] 24Those who obey his
commands[o] live in him,[p] and he in
them. And this is how we know that he
lives in us: We know it by the Spirit he
gave us.[q]

Test the Spirits

4 Dear friends,[r] do not believe every
spirit,[s] but test the spirits to see
whether they are from God, because
many false prophets have gone out into
the world.[t] 2This is how you can
recognize the Spirit of God: Every spirit
that acknowledges that Jesus Christ
has come in the flesh[u] is from God,[v]
3but every spirit that does not acknowl-
edge Jesus is not from God. This is the
spirit of the antichrist,[w] which you
have heard is coming and even now is
already in the world.[x]

4You, dear children,[y] are from God
and have overcome them,[z] because the
one who is in you[a] is greater than the
one who is in the world.[b] 5They are
from the world[c] and therefore speak
from the viewpoint of the world, and
the world listens to them. 6We are from
God, and whoever knows God listens
to us; but whoever is not from God
does not listen to us.[d] This is how we
recognize the Spirit[h] of truth[e] and the
spirit of falsehood.[f]

God's Love and Ours

7Dear friends, let us love one an-
other,[g] for love comes from God.
Everyone who loves has been born of
God[h] and knows God.[i] 8Whoever
does not love does not know God, be-
cause God is love.[j] 9This is how God
showed his love among us: He sent his
one and only Son[i,k] into the world that
we might live through him.[l] 10This is
love: not that we loved God, but that
he loved us[m] and sent his Son as an
atoning sacrifice for[j] our sins.[n] 11Dear
friends,[o] since God so loved us,[p] we
also ought to love one another.[q] 12No
one has ever seen God;[r] but if we love
one another, God lives in us and his
love is made complete in us.[s]

13We know[t] that we live in him and
he in us, because he has given us of his
Spirit.[u] 14And we have seen and testi-
fy[v] that the Father has sent his Son to
be the Savior of the world.[w] 15If anyone
acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of
God,[x] God lives in him and he in
God.[y] 16And so we know and rely on
the love God has for us.

God is love.[z] Whoever lives in love
lives in God, and God in him.[a] 17In this
way, love is made complete[b] among us
so that we will have confidence[c] on the
day of judgment,[d] because in this
world we are like him. 18There is no
fear in love. But perfect love drives out
fear,[e] because fear has to do with pun-
ishment. The one who fears is not
made perfect in love.

19We love because he first loved us.[f]
20If anyone says, "I love God," yet
hates his brother,[g] he is a liar.[h] For
anyone who does not love his brother,
whom he has seen,[i] cannot love God,
whom he has not seen.[j] 21And he has
given us this command:[k] Whoever
loves God must also love his brother.[l]

Faith in the Son of God

5 Everyone who believes[m] that Jesus
is the Christ[n] is born of God,[o] and
everyone who loves the father loves his
child as well.[p] 2This is how we know[q]
that we love the children of God:[r] by
loving God and carrying out his com-
mands. 3This is love for God: to obey
his commands.[s] And his commands
are not burdensome,[t] 4for everyone
born of God[u] overcomes[v] the world.
This is the victory that has overcome
the world, even our faith. 5Who is it
that overcomes the world? Only he
who believes that Jesus is the Son of
God.[w]

6This is the one who came by water
and blood[x]—Jesus Christ. He did not

3:16 [a]Jn 10:11 [b]Jn 15:13; Php 2:17; 1Th 2:8 **3:17** [c]Dt 15:7,8; Jas 2:15,16 [d]1Jn 4:20 **3:18** [e]S 1Jn 2:1 [f]Eze 33:31; Ro 12:9 **3:21** [g]S 1Co 10:14 [h]S Eph 3:12; 1Jn 5:14 **3:22** [i]S Mt 7:7 [j]S Jn 14:15 [k]Jn 8:29; Heb 13:21 **3:23** [l]Jn 6:29 [m]S Lk 24:47; Jn 1:12; 3:18; 20:31; 1Co 6:11; 1Jn 5:13 [n]S Jn 13:34 **3:24** [o]1Jn 2:3 [p]1Jn 2:6; 4:15 [q]1Th 4:8; 1Jn 4:13 **4:1** [r]S 1Co 10:14 [s]Jer 29:8; 1Co 12:10; 2Th 2:2 [t]S Mt 7:15; 1Jn 2:18 **4:2** [u]S Jn 1:14; 1Jn 2:23 [v]1Co 12:3 **4:3** [w]1Jn 2:22; 2Jn 7 [x]1Jn 2:18 **4:4** [y]S 1Jn 2:1 [z]S Jn 16:33 [a]Ro 8:31 [b]2Ki 6:16; S Jn 12:31 **4:5** [c]Jn 15:19; 17:14,16 **4:6** [d]Jn 8:47 [e]S Jn 14:17 [f]S Mk 13:5 **4:7** [g]S 1Jn 3:11 [h]S Jn 1:13 [i]S 1Jn 2:4 **4:8** [j]ver 7,16 **4:9** [k]Jn 1:18 [l]Jn 3:16,17; 1Jn 5:11 **4:10** [m]Ro 5:8,10 [n]S Ro 3:25 **4:11** [o]S 1Co 10:14 [p]S Jn 3:16 [q]Jn 15:12; S 1Jn 3:11 **4:12** [r]S Jn 1:18 [s]ver 17; 1Jn 2:5 **4:13** [t]S 1Jn 2:3 [u]1Jn 3:24 **4:14** [v]S Jn 15:27 [w]S Lk 2:11; S Jn 3:17 **4:15** [x]S 1Jn 2:23; 5:5 [y]1Jn 3:24 **4:16** [z]ver 8 [a]ver 12,13; 1Jn 3:24 **4:17** [b]ver 12; 1Jn 2:5 [c]S Eph 3:12 [d]S Mt 10:15 **4:18** [e]Ro 8:15 **4:19** [f]ver 10 **4:20** [g]S 1Jn 2:9 [h]S 1Jn 1:6; 2:4 [i]1Jn 3:17 [j]ver 12; S Jn 1:18 **4:21** [k]1Jn 2:7 [l]S Mt 5:43; S 1Jn 2:9 **5:1** [m]S Jn 3:15 [n]1Jn 2:22; 4:2,15 [o]S Jn 1:13; S 1Jn 2:23 [p]Jn 8:42 **5:2** [q]S 1Jn 2:3 [r]1Jn 3:14 **5:3** [s]S Jn 14:15 [t]Mt 11:30; 23:4

5:4 [u]S Jn 1:13 [v]S Jn 16:33 **5:5** [w]ver 1; S 1Jn 2:23 **5:6** [x]Jn 19:34

[h]6 Or *spirit* [i]9 Or *his only begotten Son* [j]10 Or *as the one who would turn aside his wrath, taking away*

come by water only, but by water and
blood. And it is the Spirit who testifies,
because the Spirit is the truth.[a] 7For
there are three[b] that testify: 8the[k]
Spirit, the water and the blood; and the
three are in agreement. 9We accept
man's testimony,[c] but God's testi-
mony is greater because it is the testi-
mony of God,[d] which he has given
about his Son. 10Anyone who believes
in the Son of God has this testimony in
his heart.[e] Anyone who does not be-
lieve God has made him out to be a
liar,[f] because he has not believed the
testimony God has given about his
Son. 11And this is the testimony: God
has given us eternal life,[g] and this life
is in his Son.[h] 12He who has the Son
has life; he who does not have the Son
of God does not have life.[i]

Concluding Remarks

13I write these things to you who be-
lieve in the name of the Son of God[j] so
that you may know that you have eter-
nal life.[k] 14This is the confidence[l] we
have in approaching God: that if we
ask anything according to his will, he
hears us.[m] 15And if we know that he
hears us—whatever we ask—we
know[n] that we have what we asked of
him.[o]
16If anyone sees his brother commit a
sin that does not lead to death, he
should pray and God will give him
life.[p] I refer to those whose sin does
not lead to death. There is a sin that
leads to death.[q] I am not saying that he
should pray about that.[r] 17All wrong-
doing is sin,[s] and there is sin that does
not lead to death.[t]
18We know that anyone born of
God[u] does not continue to sin; the one
who was born of God keeps him safe,
and the evil one[v] cannot harm him.[w]
19We know that we are children of
God,[x] and that the whole world is un-
der the control of the evil one.[y] 20We
know also that the Son of God has
come[z] and has given us understand-
ing,[a] so that we may know him who is
true.[b] And we are in him who is true—
even in his Son Jesus Christ. He is the
true God and eternal life.[c]
21Dear children,[d] keep yourselves
from idols.[e]

5:6 [a]S Jn 14:17
5:7 [b]S Mt 18:16
5:9 [c]Jn 5:34 [d]Mt 3:16,17; Jn 5:32,37; 8:17, 18
5:10 [e]Ro 8:16; Gal 4:6 [f]Jn 3:33; 1Jn 1:10
5:11 [g]S Mt 25:46 [h]S Jn 1:4
5:12 [i]Jn 3:15,16, 36
5:13 [j]S 1Jn 3:23 [k]ver 11; S Mt 25:46
5:14 [l]S Eph 3:12; 1Jn 3:21 [m]S Mt 7:7
5:15 [n]ver 18,19, 20 [o]1Ki 3:12
5:16 [p]Jas 5:15 [q]Ex 23:21; Heb 6:4-6; 10:26 [r]Jer 7:16; 14:11
5:17 [s]1Jn 3:4 [t]ver 16; 1Jn 2:1
5:18 [u]S Jn 1:13 [v]S Mt 5:37 [w]Jn 14:30
5:19 [x]1Jn 4:6 [y]Jn 12:31; 14:30; 17:15
5:20 [z]ver 5 [a]Lk 24:45 [b]Jn 17:3 [c]ver 11; S Mt 25:46
5:21 [d]S 1Jn 2:1 [e]1Co 10:14; 1Th 1:9

[k]7,8 Late manuscripts of the Vulgate *testify in heaven: the Father, the Word and the Holy Spirit, and these three are one. 8And there are three that testify on earth: the* (not found in any Greek manuscript before the sixteenth century)

2 John

1 The elder,[a]

To the chosen[b] lady and her chil-
dren, whom I love in the truth[c]—and
not I only, but also all who know the
truth[d]— 2 because of the truth,[e] which
lives in us[f] and will be with us for-
ever:

3 Grace, mercy and peace from God
the Father and from Jesus Christ,[g] the
Father's Son, will be with us in truth
and love.

4 It has given me great joy to find
some of your children walking in the
truth,[h] just as the Father commanded
us. 5 And now, dear lady, I am not writ-
ing you a new command but one we
have had from the beginning.[i] I ask
that we love one another. 6 And this is
love:[j] that we walk in obedience to his
commands.[k] As you have heard from
the beginning,[l] his command is that
you walk in love.

7 Many deceivers, who do not ac-
knowledge Jesus Christ[m] as coming in
the flesh,[n] have gone out into the
world.[o] Any such person is the deceiv-
er and the antichrist.[p] 8 Watch out that
you do not lose what you have worked
for, but that you may be rewarded ful-
ly.[q] 9 Anyone who runs ahead and does
not continue in the teaching of Christ[r]
does not have God; whoever continues
in the teaching has both the Father and
the Son.[s] 10 If anyone comes to you and
does not bring this teaching, do not
take him into your house or welcome
him.[t] 11 Anyone who welcomes him
shares[u] in his wicked work.

12 I have much to write to you, but I
do not want to use paper and ink. In-
stead, I hope to visit you and talk with
you face to face,[v] so that our joy may
be complete.[w]

13 The children of your chosen[x] sister
send their greetings.

1 [a] S Ac 11:30; 3Jn 1 [b] ver 13; Ro 16:13; 1Pe 5:13 [c] ver 3 [d] Jn 8:32; 1Ti 2:4
2 [e] 2Pe 1:12 [f] Jn 14:17; 1Jn 1:8
3 [g] S Ro 1:7
4 [h] 3Jn 3,4
5 [i] S 1Jn 2:7
6 [j] 1Jn 2:5 [k] S Jn 14:15 [l] S 1Jn 2:7
7 [m] 1Jn 2:22; 4:2,3 [n] S Jn 1:14 [o] 1Jn 4:1 [p] S 1Jn 2:18
8 [q] S Mt 10:42; Mk 10:29,30; 1Co 3:8; Heb 10:35,36; 11:26
9 [r] Jn 8:31 [s] S 1Jn 2:23
10 [t] S Ro 16:17
11 [u] 1Ti 5:22
12 [v] 3Jn 13,14 [w] S Jn 3:29
13 [x] ver 1

3 John

1 The elder,[a]

To my dear friend Gaius, whom I
love in the truth.

2 Dear friend, I pray that you may en-
joy good health and that all may go
well with you, even as your soul is get-
ting along well. 3 It gave me great joy to
have some brothers[b] come and tell
about your faithfulness to the truth and
how you continue to walk in the
truth.[c] 4 I have no greater joy than to
hear that my children[d] are walking in
the truth.[e]

5 Dear friend, you are faithful in what
you are doing for the brothers,[f] even
though they are strangers to you.[g]
6 They have told the church about your
love. You will do well to send them on
their way[h] in a manner worthy[i] of
God. 7 It was for the sake of the Name[j]
that they went out, receiving no help
from the pagans.[k] 8 We ought therefore
to show hospitality to such men so that
we may work together for the truth.

1 [a] S Ac 11:30; 2Jn 1
3 [b] ver 5,10; S Ac 1:16 [c] 2Jn 4
4 [d] S 1Jn 2:1 [e] ver 3
5 [f] S ver 3 [g] Ro 12:13; Heb 13:2
6 [h] 1Co 16:11; 2Co 1:16 [i] S Eph 4:1
7 [j] S Jn 15:21 [k] Ac 20:33,35
10 [l] ver 14; 2Jn 12 [m] ver 5 [n] Jn 9:22,34
11 [o] Ps 34:14; 37:27 [p] 1Jn 2:29 [q] 1Jn 3:6,9,10
12 [r] 1Ti 3:7 [s] Jn 19:35; 21:24
14 [t] 2Jn 12 [u] S Ro 1:7; S Eph 6:23 [v] Jn 10:3

9 I wrote to the church, but Diotre-
phes, who loves to be first, will have
nothing to do with us. 10 So if I come,[l] I
will call attention to what he is doing,
gossiping maliciously about us. Not
satisfied with that, he refuses to wel-
come the brothers.[m] He also stops
those who want to do so and puts them
out of the church.[n]

11 Dear friend, do not imitate what is
evil but what is good.[o] Anyone who
does what is good is from God.[p] Any-
one who does what is evil has not seen
God.[q] 12 Demetrius is well spoken of by
everyone[r]—and even by the truth it-
self. We also speak well of him, and
you know that our testimony is true.[s]

13 I have much to write you, but I do
not want to do so with pen and ink. 14 I
hope to see you soon, and we will talk
face to face.[t]

Peace to you.[u] The friends here send
their greetings. Greet the friends there
by name.[v]

Jude

1 Jude,[a] a servant of Jesus Christ[b]
and a brother of James,

To those who have been called,[c]
who are loved by God the Father and
kept by[a] Jesus Christ:[d]

2 Mercy, peace[e] and love be yours in
abundance.[f]

The Sin and Doom of Godless Men

3 Dear friends,[g] although I was very
eager to write to you about the salva-
tion we share,[h] I felt I had to write and
urge you to contend[i] for the faith[j]
that was once for all entrusted to the
saints.[k] 4 For certain men whose con-
demnation was written about[b] long
ago have secretly slipped in among
you.[l] They are godless men, who
change the grace of our God into a li-
cense for immorality and deny Je-
sus Christ our only Sovereign and
Lord.[m]

5 Though you already know all this,[n]
I want to remind you[o] that the Lord[c]
delivered his people out of Egypt, but
later destroyed those who did not be-
lieve.[p] 6 And the angels who did not
keep their positions of authority but
abandoned their own home—these he
has kept in darkness, bound with ever-
lasting chains for judgment on the
great Day.[q] 7 In a similar way, Sodom
and Gomorrah[r] and the surrounding
towns[s] gave themselves up to sexual
immorality and perversion. They serve
as an example of those who suffer the
punishment of eternal fire.[t]

8 In the very same way, these dream-
ers pollute their own bodies, reject au-
thority and slander celestial beings.[u]
9 But even the archangel[v] Michael,[w]
when he was disputing with the devil
about the body of Moses,[x] did not dare
to bring a slanderous accusation
against him, but said, "The Lord
rebuke you!"[y] 10 Yet these men speak
abusively against whatever they do not
understand; and what things they do
understand by instinct, like unreason-
ing animals—these are the very things
that destroy them.[z]

11 Woe to them! They have taken the
way of Cain;[a] they have rushed for
profit into Balaam's error;[b] they have
been destroyed in Korah's rebellion.[c]

12 These men are blemishes at your
love feasts,[d] eating with you without
the slightest qualm—shepherds who
feed only themselves.[e] They are clouds
without rain,[f] blown along by the
wind;[g] autumn trees, without fruit and
uprooted[h]—twice dead. 13 They are
wild waves of the sea,[i] foaming up
their shame;[j] wandering stars, for
whom blackest darkness has been re-
served forever.[k]

14 Enoch,[l] the seventh from Adam,
prophesied about these men: "See, the
Lord is coming[m] with thousands upon
thousands of his holy ones[n] 15 to
judge[o] everyone, and to convict all the
ungodly of all the ungodly acts they
have done in the ungodly way, and of
all the harsh words ungodly sinners
have spoken against him."[p] 16 These
men are grumblers[q] and faultfinders;
they follow their own evil desires;[r]
they boast[s] about themselves and flat-
ter others for their own advantage.

A Call to Persevere

17 But, dear friends, remember what
the apostles[t] of our Lord Jesus Christ
foretold.[u] 18 They said to you, "In the
last times[v] there will be scoffers who
will follow their own ungodly de-
sires."[w] 19 These are the men who di-
vide you, who follow mere natural in-
stincts and do not have the Spirit.[x]

20 But you, dear friends, build your-
selves up[y] in your most holy faith[z]
and pray in the Holy Spirit.[a] 21 Keep
yourselves in God's love as you wait[b]
for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ
to bring you to eternal life.[c]

22 Be merciful to those who doubt;

1 [a]Mt 13:55; Jn 14:22; Ac 1:13 [b]Ro 1:1 [c]Ro 1:6,7 [d]Jn 17:12
2 [e]Gal 6:16; 1Ti 1:2 [f]S Ro 1:7
3 [g]S 1Co 10:14 [h]Tit 1:4 [i]1Ti 6:12 [j]ver 20; Ac 6:7 [k]S Ac 9:13
4 [l]Gal 2:4 [m]Tit 1:16; 2Pe 2:1; 1Jn 2:22
5 [n]S 1Jn 2:20 [o]2Pe 1:12,13; 3:1,2 [p]Nu 14:29; Dt 1:32; 2:15; Ps 106:26; 1Co 10:1-5; Heb 3:16,17
6 [q]S 2Pe 2:4,9
7 [r]S Mt 10:15 [s]Dt 29:23 [t]S Mt 25:41; 2Pe 3:7
8 [u]2Pe 2:10
9 [v]1Th 4:16 [w]Da 10:13,21; 12:1; Rev 12:7 [x]Dt 34:6 [y]Zec 3:2
10 [z]2Pe 2:12
11 [a]Ge 4:3-8; Heb 11:4; 1Jn 3:12 [b]S 2Pe 2:15 [c]Nu 16:1-3,31-35
12 [d]2Pe 2:13; 1Co 11:20-22 [e]Eze 34:2,8,10 [f]Pr 25:14; 2Pe 2:17 [g]Eph 4:14 [h]Mt 15:13
13 [i]Isa 57:20 [j]Php 3:19 [k]2Pe 2:17
14 [l]Ge 5:18,21-24 [m]S Mt 16:27 [n]Dt 33:2; Da 7:10; Zec 14:5; Heb 12:22
15 [o]2Pe 2:6-9 [p]1Ti 1:9
16 [q]1Co 10:10 [r]ver 18; 2Pe 2:10 [s]2Pe 2:18
17 [t]S Eph 4:11 [u]Heb 2:3; 2Pe 3:2
18 [v]1Ti 4:1; 2Ti 3:1; 2Pe 3:3 [w]ver 16; 2Pe 2:1; 3:3
19 [x]1Co 2:14,15
20 [y]Col 2:7; 1Th 5:11 [z]ver 3 [a]Eph 6:18
21 [b]Tit 2:13; Heb 9:28; 2Pe 3:12 [c]S Mt 25:46

[a]1 Or *for;* or *in*
[b]4 Or *men who were marked out for condemnation*
[c]5 Some early manuscripts *Jesus*

23 snatch others from the fire and save
them;[a] to others show mercy, mixed
with fear—hating even the clothing
stained by corrupted flesh.[b]

Doxology

24 To him who is able[c] to keep you
from falling and to present you before
his glorious presence[d] without fault[e]
and with great joy— 25 to the only God[f]
our Savior be glory, majesty, power
and authority, through Jesus Christ our
Lord, before all ages, now and forever-
more![g] Amen.[h]

23 [a] Am 4:11; Zec 3:2-5; 1Co 3:15 [b] Rev 3:4 **24** [c] S Ro 16:25 [d] S 2Co 4:14 [e] Col 1:22 **25** [f] Jn 5:44; 1Ti 1:17 [g] Heb 13:8 [h] S Ro 11:36

Revelation

Prologue

1 The revelation of Jesus Christ,
which God gave[a] him to show his
servants what must soon take place.[b]
He made it known by sending his an-
gel[c] to his servant John,[d] 2 who testifies
to everything he saw—that is, the word
of God[e] and the testimony of Jesus
Christ.[f] 3 Blessed is the one who reads
the words of this prophecy, and
blessed are those who hear it and take
to heart what is written in it,[g] because
the time is near.[h]

Greetings and Doxology

4 John,

To the seven churches[i] in the prov-
ince of Asia:

Grace and peace to you[j] from him
who is, and who was, and who is to
come,[k] and from the seven spirits[a][l]
before his throne, 5 and from Jesus
Christ, who is the faithful witness,[m]
the firstborn from the dead,[n] and the
ruler of the kings of the earth.[o]

To him who loves us[p] and has freed
us from our sins by his blood,[q] 6 and
has made us to be a kingdom and
priests[r] to serve his God and Fa-
ther[s]—to him be glory and power for
ever and ever! Amen.[t]

7 Look, he is coming with the clouds,[u]
and every eye will see him,
even those who pierced him;[v]
and all the peoples of the earth
will mourn[w] because of him.
So shall it be! Amen.

8 "I am the Alpha and the Omega,"[x]
says the Lord God, "who is, and who
was, and who is to come,[y] the Al-
mighty."[z]

One Like a Son of Man

9 I, John,[a] your brother and compan-
ion in the suffering[b] and kingdom[c]
and patient endurance[d] that are ours in
Jesus, was on the island of Patmos be-
cause of the word of God[e] and the tes-
timony of Jesus.[f] 10 On the Lord's Day[g]
I was in the Spirit,[h] and I heard behind
me a loud voice like a trumpet,[i]
11 which said: "Write on a scroll what
you see[j] and send it to the seven
churches:[k] to Ephesus,[l] Smyrna,[m]
Pergamum,[n] Thyatira,[o] Sardis,[p] Phila-
delphia[q] and Laodicea."[r]

12 I turned around to see the voice
that was speaking to me. And when I
turned I saw seven golden lamp-
stands,[s] 13 and among the lampstands[t]
was someone "like a son of man,"[b][u]
dressed in a robe reaching down to
his feet[v] and with a golden sash
around his chest.[w] 14 His head and hair
were white like wool, as white as
snow, and his eyes were like blazing
fire.[x] 15 His feet were like bronze glow-
ing in a furnace,[y] and his voice was
like the sound of rushing waters.[z] 16 In
his right hand he held seven stars,[a]
and out of his mouth came a sharp
double-edged sword.[b] His face was
like the sun[c] shining in all its bril-
liance.

17 When I saw him, I fell at his feet[d]
as though dead. Then he placed his
right hand on me[e] and said: "Do not
be afraid.[f] I am the First and the Last.[g]
18 I am the Living One; I was dead,[h]
and behold I am alive for ever and
ever![i] And I hold the keys of death
and Hades.[j]

19 "Write, therefore, what you have
seen,[k] what is now and what will take
place later. 20 The mystery of the seven
stars that you saw in my right hand[l]
and of the seven golden lampstands[m] is
this: The seven stars are the angels[c] of

1:1 [a]Jn 12:49; 17:8 [b]ver 19; Da 2:28,29; Rev 22:6 [c]Rev 22:16 [d]ver 4,9; Rev 22:8 **1:2** [e]ver 9; S Heb 4:12 [f]ver 9; 1Co 1:6; Rev 6:9; 12:17; 19:10 **1:3** [g]Lk 11:28; Rev 22:7 [h]S Ro 13:11 **1:4** [i]ver 11,20 [j]S Ro 1:7 [k]ver 8; Rev 4:8; 11:17; 16:5 [l]Isa 11:2; Rev 3:1; 4:5; 5:6 **1:5** [m]Isa 55:4; Jn 18:37; Rev 3:14 [n]Ps 89:27; Col 1:18 [o]S 1Ti 6:15 [p]S Ro 8:37 [q]S Ro 3:25 **1:6** [r]S 1Pe 2:5; Rev 5:10; 20:6 [s]Ro 15:6 [t]S Ro 11:36 **1:7** [u]Da 7:13; S Mt 16:27; 24:30; 26:64; S Lk 17:30; S 1Co 1:7; S 1Th 2:19; 4:16, 17 [v]Jn 19:34,37 [w]Zec 12:10; Mt 24:30 **1:8** [x]S ver 17; Rev 21:6; 22:13 [y]S ver 4 [z]Rev 4:8; 15:3; 19:6 **1:9** [a]ver 1 [b]S Ac 14:22; 2Co 1:7; Php 4:14 [c]ver 6 [d]2Ti 2:12 [e]ver 2; S Heb 4:12 [f]S ver 2 **1:10** [g]Ac 20:7 [h]Rev 4:2; 17:3; 21:10 [i]Ex 20:18; Rev 4:1 **1:11** [j]ver 19 [k]ver 4,20 [l]S Ac 18:19 [m]Rev 2:8 [n]Rev 2:12 [o]Ac 16:14; Rev 2:18,24 [p]Rev 3:1 [q]Rev 3:7 [r]S Col 2:1; Rev 3:14 **1:12** [s]ver 20; Ex 25:31-40; Zec 4:2; Rev 2:1 **1:13** [t]Rev 2:1 [u]Eze 1:26; Da 7:13; 10:16; Rev 14:14 [v]Isa 6:1 [w]Da 10:5; Rev 15:6

1:14 [x]Da 7:9; 10:6; Rev 2:18; 19:12 **1:15** [y]Eze 1:7; Da 10:6; Rev 2:18 [z]Eze 43:2; Rev 14:2; 19:6 **1:16** [a]ver 20; Rev 2:1; 3:1 [b]Isa 1:20; 49:2; Heb 4:12; Rev 2:12,16; 19:15,21 [c]Jdg 5:31; Mt 17:2 **1:17** [d]Eze 1:28; Da 8:17,18 [e]Da 8:18 [f]S Mt 14:27 [g]Isa 41:4; 44:6; 48:12; Rev 2:8; 22:13 **1:18** [h]Ro 6:9; Rev 2:8 [i]Dt 32:40; Da 4:34; 12:7; Rev 4:9,10; 10:6; 15:7 [j]Rev 9:1; 20:1 **1:19** [k]ver 11; Hab 2:2 **1:20** [l]S ver 16 [m]S ver 12

[a]4 Or *the sevenfold Spirit* [b]13 Daniel 7:13
[c]20 Or *messengers*

the seven churches,[a] and the seven
lampstands are the seven churches.[b]

To the Church in Ephesus

2 "To the angel[a1] of the church in
Ephesus[c] write:

These are the words of him who
holds the seven stars in his right
hand[d] and walks among the seven
golden lampstands:[e] 2 I know your
deeds,[f] your hard work and your
perseverance. I know that you can-
not tolerate wicked men, that you
have tested[g] those who claim to be
apostles but are not, and have
found them false.[h] 3 You have per-
severed and have endured hard-
ships for my name,[i] and have not
grown weary.
4 Yet I hold this against you: You
have forsaken your first love.[j]
5 Remember the height from which
you have fallen! Repent[k] and do
the things you did at first. If you do
not repent, I will come to you and
remove your lampstand[l] from its
place. 6 But you have this in your
favor: You hate the practices of the
Nicolaitans,[m] which I also hate.
7 He who has an ear, let him
hear[n] what the Spirit says to the
churches. To him who over-
comes,[o] I will give the right to eat
from the tree of life,[p] which is in
the paradise[q] of God.

To the Church in Smyrna

8 "To the angel of the church in Smyr-
na[r] write:

These are the words of him who
is the First and the Last,[s] who died
and came to life again.[t] 9 I know
your afflictions and your poverty—
yet you are rich![u] I know the slan-
der of those who say they are Jews
and are not,[v] but are a synagogue
of Satan.[w] 10 Do not be afraid of
what you are about to suffer. I tell
you, the devil will put some of you
in prison to test you,[x] and you will
suffer persecution for ten days.[y] Be
faithful,[z] even to the point of
death, and I will give you the
crown of life.[a]
11 He who has an ear, let him
hear[b] what the Spirit says to the
churches. He who overcomes will
not be hurt at all by the second
death.[c]

To the Church in Pergamum

12 "To the angel of the church in Per-
gamum[d] write:

These are the words of him who
has the sharp, double-edged
sword.[e] 13 I know where you live—
where Satan has his throne. Yet
you remain true to my name. You
did not renounce your faith in
me,[f] even in the days of Antipas,
my faithful witness,[g] who was put
to death in your city—where Satan
lives.[h]
14 Nevertheless, I have a few
things against you:[i] You have
people there who hold to the teach-
ing of Balaam,[j] who taught Balak
to entice the Israelites to sin by eat-
ing food sacrificed to idols[k] and by
committing sexual immorality.[l]
15 Likewise you also have those who
hold to the teaching of the Nicolai-
tans.[m] 16 Repent[n] therefore! Other-
wise, I will soon come to you and
will fight against them with the
sword of my mouth.[o]
17 He who has an ear, let him
hear[p] what the Spirit says to the
churches. To him who over-
comes,[q] I will give some of the hid-
den manna.[r] I will also give him a
white stone with a new name[s]
written on it, known only to him
who receives it.[t]

To the Church in Thyatira

18 "To the angel of the church in Thya-
tira[u] write:

These are the words of the Son of
God,[v] whose eyes are like blazing
fire and whose feet are like bur-
nished bronze.[w] 19 I know your
deeds,[x] your love and faith, your
service and perseverance, and that
you are now doing more than you
did at first.
20 Nevertheless, I have this
against you: You tolerate that
woman Jezebel,[y] who calls herself
a prophetess. By her teaching she
misleads my servants into sexual
immorality and the eating of food
sacrificed to idols.[z] 21 I have given
her time[a] to repent of her immoral-
ity, but she is unwilling.[b] 22 So I
will cast her on a bed of suffering,
and I will make those who commit
adultery[c] with her suffer intensely,
unless they repent of her ways. 23 I

1:20 [a]ver 4,11 [b]Mt 5:14,15
2:1 [c]S Ac 18:19 [d]Rev 1:16 [e]Rev 1:12,13
2:2 [f]ver 19; Rev 3:1,8,15 [g]1Jn 4:1 [h]2Co 11:13
2:3 [i]S Jn 15:21
2:4 [j]Jer 2:2; Mt 24:12
2:5 [k]ver 16,22; Rev 3:3,19 [l]Rev 1:20
2:6 [m]ver 15
2:7 [n]S Mt 11:15; ver 11,17,29; Rev 3:6,13,22; 13:9 [o]S Jn 16:33 [p]Ge 2:9; 3:22-24; Rev 22:2,14,19 [q]Lk 23:43
2:8 [r]Rev 1:11 [s]S Rev 1:17 [t]Rev 1:18
2:9 [u]2Co 6:10; Jas 2:5 [v]Rev 3:9 [w]ver 13,24; S Mt 4:10
2:10 [x]Rev 3:10 [y]Da 1:12,14 [z]ver 13; Rev 17:14 [a]S Mt 10:22; S 1Co 9:25
2:11 [b]S ver 7 [c]Rev 20:6,14; 21:8
2:12 [d]Rev 1:11 [e]ver 16; S Rev 1:16
2:13 [f]Rev 14:12 [g]Rev 1:5; 11:3 [h]ver 9,24; S Mt 4:10
2:14 [i]ver 20 [j]S 2Pe 2:15 [k]S Ac 15:20 [l]1Co 6:13
2:15 [m]ver 6
2:16 [n]S ver 5 [o]2Th 2:8; S Rev 1:16
2:17 [p]S ver 7 [q]S Jn 16:33 [r]Jn 6:49,50 [s]Isa 56:5; 62:2; 65:15 [t]Rev 19:12
2:18 [u]ver 24; Ac 16:14; Rev 1:11 [v]S Mt 4:3 [w]S Rev 1:14,15
2:19 [x]S ver 2
2:20 [y]1Ki 16:31; 21:25; 2Ki 9:7 [z]ver 14; S Ac 15:20
2:21 [a]Ro 2:4; 2Pe 3:9 [b]Ro 2:5; Rev 9:20; 16:9,11
2:22 [c]Rev 17:2; 18:9

a1 Or *messenger*; also in verses 8, 12 and 18

will strike her children dead. Then
all the churches will know that I am
he who searches hearts and
minds,[a] and I will repay each of
you according to your deeds.[b]
24Now I say to the rest of you in
Thyatira, to you who do not hold
to her teaching and have not
learned Satan's so-called deep se-
crets (I will not impose any other
burden on you):[c] 25Only hold on to
what you have[d] until I come.[e]
26To him who overcomes[f] and
does my will to the end,[g] I will
give authority over the nations[h]—

27'He will rule them with an iron
scepter;[i]
he will dash them to pieces
like pottery'[e][j]—

just as I have received authority
from my Father. 28I will also give
him the morning star.[k] 29He who
has an ear, let him hear[l] what the
Spirit says to the churches.

To the Church in Sardis

3 "To the angel[f] of the church in Sar-
dis[m] write:

These are the words of him who
holds the seven spirits[g][n] of God
and the seven stars.[o] I know your
deeds;[p] you have a reputation of
being alive, but you are dead.[q]
2Wake up! Strengthen what re-
mains and is about to die, for I
have not found your deeds com-
plete in the sight of my God.
3Remember, therefore, what you
have received and heard; obey it,
and repent.[r] But if you do not
wake up, I will come like a thief,[s]
and you will not know at what
time[t] I will come to you.
4Yet you have a few people in
Sardis who have not soiled their
clothes.[u] They will walk with me,
dressed in white,[v] for they are
worthy. 5He who overcomes[w] will,
like them, be dressed in white.[x] I
will never blot out his name from
the book of life,[y] but will acknowl-
edge his name before my Father[z]
and his angels. 6He who has an
ear, let him hear[a] what the Spirit
says to the churches.

To the Church in Philadelphia

7"To the angel of the church in Phila-
delphia[b] write:

These are the words of him who
is holy[c] and true,[d] who holds the
key of David.[e] What he opens no
one can shut, and what he shuts no
one can open. 8I know your
deeds.[f] See, I have placed before
you an open door[g] that no one can
shut. I know that you have little
strength, yet you have kept my
word and have not denied my
name.[h] 9I will make those who are
of the synagogue of Satan,[i] who
claim to be Jews though they are
not,[j] but are liars—I will make
them come and fall down at your
feet[k] and acknowledge that I have
loved you.[l] 10Since you have kept
my command to endure patiently, I
will also keep you[m] from the hour
of trial that is going to come upon
the whole world[n] to test[o] those
who live on the earth.[p]
11I am coming soon.[q] Hold on to
what you have,[r] so that no one
will take your crown.[s] 12Him who
overcomes[t] I will make a pillar[u] in
the temple of my God. Never again
will he leave it. I will write on him
the name of my God[v] and the
name of the city of my God,[w] the
new Jerusalem,[x] which is coming
down out of heaven from my God;
and I will also write on him my
new name. 13He who has an ear, let
him hear[y] what the Spirit says to
the churches.

To the Church in Laodicea

14"To the angel of the church in Laodi-
cea[z] write:

These are the words of the
Amen, the faithful and true wit-
ness,[a] the ruler of God's creation.[b]
15I know your deeds,[c] that you are
neither cold nor hot.[d] I wish you
were either one or the other! 16So,
because you are lukewarm—nei-
ther hot nor cold—I am about to
spit you out of my mouth. 17You
say, 'I am rich; I have acquired
wealth and do not need a thing.'[e]
But you do not realize that you are
wretched, pitiful, poor, blind and
naked.[f] 18I counsel you to buy
from me gold refined in the fire,[g]
so you can become rich; and white
clothes[h] to wear, so you can cover
your shameful nakedness;[i] and
salve to put on your eyes, so you
can see.

2:23 [a]1Sa 16:7; 1Ki 8:39; Ps 139:1,2,23; Pr 21:2; Jer 17:10; Lk 16:15; Ro 8:27; 1Th 2:4 [b]S Mt 16:27 **2:24** [c]Ac 15:28 **2:25** [d]Rev 3:11 [e]S Mt 16:27 **2:26** [f]S Jn 16:33 [g]Mt 10:22 [h]Ps 2:8; Rev 3:21 **2:27** [i]Rev 12:5; 19:15 [j]Ps 2:9; Isa 30:14; Jer 19:11 **2:28** [k]Rev 22:16 **2:29** [l]S ver 7 **3:1** [m]Rev 1:11 [n]S Rev 1:4 [o]S Rev 1:16 [p]S Rev 2:2 [q]1Ti 5:6 **3:3** [r]S Rev 2:5 [s]S Lk 12:39 [t]Lk 12:39 **3:4** [u]Jude 23 [v]ver 5,18; Rev 4:4; 6:11; 7:9,13,14; 19:14 **3:5** [w]S Jn 16:33 [x]S ver 4 [y]S Rev 20:12 [z]Mt 10:32 **3:6** [a]S Rev 2:7 **3:7** [b]Rev 1:11 [c]S Mk 1:24 [d]1Jn 5:20; Rev 6:10; 19:11 [e]Isa 22:22; Mt 16:19 **3:8** [f]S Rev 2:2 [g]S Ac 14:27 [h]Rev 2:13 **3:9** [i]Rev 2:9 [j]Rev 2:9 [k]Isa 49:23 [l]Isa 43:4; S Ro 8:37 **3:10** [m]2Pe 2:9 [n]S Mt 24:14 [o]Rev 2:10 [p]Rev 6:10; 8:13; 11:10; 13:8,14; 17:8 **3:11** [q]S Mt 16:27 [r]Rev 2:25 [s]S 1Co 9:25 **3:12** [t]S Jn 16:33 [u]Gal 2:9 [v]Rev 14:1; 22:4 [w]Eze 48:35 [x]Gal 4:26; Rev 21:2,10 **3:13** [y]S Rev 2:7 **3:14** [z]S Col 2:1; Rev 1:11 [a]Jn 18:37; Rev 1:5 [b]Pr 8:22; Jn 1:3; Col 1:16,18 **3:15** [c]S Rev 2:2 [d]Ro 12:11 **3:17** [e]Hos 12:8; 1Co 4:8 [f]Pr 13:7 **3:18** [g]S 1Pe 1:7 [h]S ver 4 [i]Rev 16:15

[e]27 Psalm 2:9 [f]1 Or *messenger;* also in verses 7 and 14 [g]1 Or *the sevenfold Spirit*

19Those whom I love I rebuke
and discipline.[a] So be earnest, and
repent.[b] 20Here I am! I stand at the
door[c] and knock. If anyone hears
my voice and opens the door,[d] I
will come in[e] and eat with him,
and he with me.
21To him who overcomes,[f] I will
give the right to sit with me on my
throne,[g] just as I overcame[h] and
sat down with my Father on his
throne. 22He who has an ear, let
him hear[i] what the Spirit says to
the churches."

The Throne in Heaven

4 After this I looked, and there before
me was a door standing open[j] in
heaven. And the voice I had first heard
speaking to me like a trumpet[k] said,
"Come up here,[l] and I will show you
what must take place after this."[m] 2At
once I was in the Spirit,[n] and there be-
fore me was a throne in heaven[o] with
someone sitting on it. 3And the one
who sat there had the appearance of
jasper[p] and carnelian.[q] A rainbow,[r]
resembling an emerald,[s] encircled the
throne. 4Surrounding the throne were
twenty-four other thrones, and seated
on them were twenty-four elders.[t]
They were dressed in white[u] and had
crowns of gold on their heads. 5From
the throne came flashes of lightning,
rumblings and peals of thunder.[v] Be-
fore the throne, seven lamps[w] were
blazing. These are the seven spirits[h][x]
of God. 6Also before the throne there
was what looked like a sea of glass,[y]
clear as crystal.
In the center, around the throne,
were four living creatures,[z] and they
were covered with eyes, in front and in
back.[a] 7The first living creature was
like a lion, the second was like an ox,
the third had a face like a man, the
fourth was like a flying eagle.[b] 8Each of
the four living creatures[c] had six
wings[d] and was covered with eyes all
around,[e] even under his wings. Day
and night[f] they never stop saying:

"Holy, holy, holy
is the Lord God Almighty,[g]
who was, and is, and is to come."[h]

9Whenever the living creatures give
glory, honor and thanks to him who
sits on the throne[i] and who lives for
ever and ever,[j] 10the twenty-four el-
ders[k] fall down before him[l] who sits
on the throne,[m] and worship him who
lives for ever and ever. They lay their
crowns before the throne and say:

11"You are worthy, our Lord and God,
to receive glory and honor and
power,[n]
for you created all things,
and by your will they were created
and have their being."[o]

The Scroll and the Lamb

5 Then I saw in the right hand of him
who sat on the throne[p] a scroll
with writing on both sides[q] and
sealed[r] with seven seals. 2And I saw a
mighty angel[s] proclaiming in a loud
voice, "Who is worthy to break the
seals and open the scroll?" 3But no one
in heaven or on earth or under the
earth could open the scroll or even look
inside it. 4I wept and wept because no
one was found who was worthy to
open the scroll or look inside. 5Then
one of the elders said to me, "Do not
weep! See, the Lion[t] of the tribe of
Judah,[u] the Root of David,[v] has tri-
umphed. He is able to open the scroll
and its seven seals."
6Then I saw a Lamb,[w] looking as if it
had been slain, standing in the center
of the throne, encircled by the four liv-
ing creatures[x] and the elders.[y] He had
seven horns and seven eyes,[z] which
are the seven spirits[h][a] of God sent out
into all the earth. 7He came and took
the scroll from the right hand of him
who sat on the throne.[b] 8And when he
had taken it, the four living creatures[c]
and the twenty-four elders[d] fell down
before the Lamb. Each one had a harp[e]
and they were holding golden bowls
full of incense, which are the prayers[f]
of the saints. 9And they sang a new
song:[g]

"You are worthy[h] to take the scroll
and to open its seals,
because you were slain,
and with your blood[i] you
purchased[j] men for God
from every tribe and language and
people and nation.[k]
10You have made them to be a
kingdom and priests[l] to
serve our God,
and they will reign on the earth."[m]

11Then I looked and heard the voice
of many angels, numbering thousands
upon thousands, and ten thousand

3:19 [a]Dt 8:5; Pr 3:12; 1Co 11:32; Heb 12:5,6 [b]S Rev 2:5 **3:20** [c]Mt 24:33; Jas 5:9 [d]Lk 12:36 [e]S Ro 8:10 **3:21** [f]S Jn 16:33 [g]S Mt 19:28 [h]Rev 5:5 **3:22** [i]S Rev 2:7 **4:1** [j]S Mt 3:16 [k]Rev 1:10 [l]Rev 11:12 [m]Rev 1:19; 22:6 **4:2** [n]S Rev 1:10 [o]ver 9,10; 1Ki 22:19; Isa 6:1; Eze 1:26-28; Da 7:9; Rev 20:11 **4:3** [p]Rev 21:11 [q]Rev 21:20 [r]Eze 1:28; Rev 10:1 [s]Rev 21:19 **4:4** [t]ver 10; Rev 5:6,8,14; 11:16; 19:4 [u]S Rev 3:4,5 **4:5** [v]Ex 19:16; Rev 8:5; 11:19; 16:18 [w]Zec 4:2 [x]S Rev 1:4 **4:6** [y]Rev 15:2 [z]ver 8,9; Eze 1:5; Rev 5:6; 6:1; 7:11; 14:3; 15:7; 19:4 [a]Eze 1:18; 10:12 **4:7** [b]Eze 1:10; 10:14 **4:8** [c]S ver 6 [d]Isa 6:2 [e]Eze 1:18 [f]Rev 14:11 [g]Isa 6:3; S Rev 1:8 [h]S Rev 1:4 **4:9** [i]ver 2; Ps 47:8; S Rev 5:1 [j]S Rev 1:18 **4:10** [k]S ver 4 [l]Dt 33:3; Rev 5:8,14; 7:11; 11:16 [m]S ver 2 **4:11** [n]Rev 1:6; 5:12 [o]Ac 14:15; Rev 10:6 **5:1** [p]ver 7,13; Rev 4:2,9; 6:16 [q]Eze 2:9,10 [r]Isa 29:11; Da 12:4 **5:2** [s]Rev 10:1 **5:5** [t]Ge 49:9 [u]S Heb 7:14 [v]Isa 11:1,10; Ro 15:12; Rev 22:16 **5:6** [w]ver 8,9,12, 13; S Jn 1:29 [x]S Rev 4:6 [y]S Rev 4:4 [z]Zec 4:10 [a]S Rev 1:4 **5:7** [b]S ver 1 **5:8** [c]S Rev 4:6 [d]S Rev 4:4 [e]Rev 14:2; 15:2 [f]Ps 141:2; Rev 8:3,4 **5:9** [g]Ps 40:3; 98:1; 149:1; Isa 42:10; Rev 14:3,4 [h]Rev 4:11 [i]Heb 9:12 [j]S 1Co 6:20 [k]S Rev 13:7 **5:10** [l]S 1Pe 2:5 [m]Rev 3:21; 20:4

[h]5,6 *Or the sevenfold Spirit*

times ten thousand.[a] They encircled
the throne and the living creatures[b]
and the elders.[c] 12 In a loud voice they
sang:

"Worthy is the Lamb,[d] who was
slain,[e]
to receive power and wealth and
wisdom and strength
and honor and glory and praise!"[f]

13 Then I heard every creature in
heaven and on earth and under the
earth[g] and on the sea, and all that is in
them, singing:

"To him who sits on the throne[h]
and to the Lamb[i]
be praise and honor and glory
and power,
for ever and ever!"[j]

14 The four living creatures[k] said,
"Amen,"[l] and the elders[m] fell down
and worshiped.[n]

The Seals

6 I watched as the Lamb[o] opened the
first of the seven seals.[p] Then I
heard one of the four living creatures[q]
say in a voice like thunder,[r] "Come!"
2 I looked, and there before me was a
white horse![s] Its rider held a bow, and
he was given a crown,[t] and he rode
out as a conqueror bent on conquest.[u]
3 When the Lamb opened the second
seal, I heard the second living crea-
ture[v] say, "Come!" 4 Then another
horse came out, a fiery red one.[w] Its
rider was given power to take peace
from the earth[x] and to make men slay
each other. To him was given a large
sword.
5 When the Lamb opened the third
seal, I heard the third living creature[y]
say, "Come!" I looked, and there be-
fore me was a black horse![z] Its rider
was holding a pair of scales in his
hand. 6 Then I heard what sounded like
a voice among the four living crea-
tures,[a] saying, "A quart[i] of wheat for
a day's wages,[j] and three quarts of
barley for a day's wages,[j][b] and do not
damage[c] the oil and the wine!"
7 When the Lamb opened the fourth
seal, I heard the voice of the fourth liv-
ing creature[d] say, "Come!" 8 I looked,
and there before me was a pale horse![e]
Its rider was named Death, and
Hades[f] was following close behind
him. They were given power over a
fourth of the earth to kill by sword,
famine and plague, and by the wild
beasts of the earth.[g]
9 When he opened the fifth seal, I saw
under[h] the altar[i] the souls of those
who had been slain[j] because of the
word of God[k] and the testimony they
had maintained. 10 They called out in a
loud voice, "How long,[l] Sovereign
Lord,[m] holy and true,[n] until you judge
the inhabitants of the earth[o] and
avenge our blood?"[p] 11 Then each of
them was given a white robe,[q] and
they were told to wait a little longer,
until the number of their fellow ser-
vants and brothers who were to be
killed as they had been was com-
pleted.[r]
12 I watched as he opened the sixth
seal. There was a great earthquake.[s]
The sun turned black[t] like sackcloth[u]
made of goat hair, the whole moon
turned blood red, 13 and the stars in the
sky fell to earth,[v] as late figs drop from
a fig tree[w] when shaken by a strong
wind. 14 The sky receded like a scroll,
rolling up,[x] and every mountain and
island was removed from its place.[y]
15 Then the kings of the earth, the
princes, the generals, the rich, the
mighty, and every slave and every free
man[z] hid in caves and among the
rocks of the mountains.[a] 16 They called
to the mountains and the rocks, "Fall
on us[b] and hide us from the face of
him who sits on the throne[c] and from
the wrath of the Lamb! 17 For the great
day[d] of their wrath has come, and who
can stand?"[e]

144,000 Sealed

7 After this I saw four angels stand-
ing at the four corners[f] of the
earth, holding back the four winds[g] of
the earth to prevent[h] any wind from
blowing on the land or on the sea or on
any tree. 2 Then I saw another angel
coming up from the east, having the
seal[i] of the living God.[j] He called out
in a loud voice to the four angels who
had been given power to harm the land
and the sea:[k] 3 "Do not harm[l] the land
or the sea or the trees until we put a
seal on the foreheads[m] of the servants
of our God." 4 Then I heard the num-
ber[n] of those who were sealed: 144,-
000[o] from all the tribes of Israel.

5:11 [a]Da 7:10; Heb 12:22; Jude 14 [b]S Rev 4:6 [c]S Rev 4:4 **5:12** [d]ver 13 [e]ver 9 [f]Rev 1:6; 4:11 **5:13** [g]ver 3; Php 2:10 [h]S ver 1, 7 [i]ver 6; Rev 6:16; 7:10 [j]1Ch 29:11; Mal 1:6; 2:2; S Ro 11:36 **5:14** [k]S Rev 4:6 [l]Rev 4:9 [m]S Rev 4:4 [n]Rev 4:10 **6:1** [o]S Rev 5:6 [p]Rev 5:1 [q]S Rev 4:6,7 [r]Rev 14:2; 19:6 **6:2** [s]Zec 1:8; 6:3; Rev 19:11 [t]Zec 6:11; Rev 14:14; 19:12 [u]Ps 45:4 **6:3** [v]Rev 4:7 **6:4** [w]Zec 1:8; 6:2 [x]Mt 10:34 **6:5** [y]Rev 4:7 [z]Zec 6:2 **6:6** [a]S Rev 4:6,7 [b]Eze 4:16 [c]Rev 7:1,3; 9:4 **6:7** [d]Rev 4:7 **6:8** [e]Zec 6:3 [f]Hos 13:14; Rev 1:18; 20:13, 14 [g]Jer 15:2,3; 24:10; Eze 5:12, 17 **6:9** [h]Ex 29:12; Lev 4:7 [i]Rev 14:18; 16:7 [j]Rev 20:4 [k]Ro 1:2; S Heb 4:12 **6:10** [l]Ps 119:84; Zec 1:12 [m]Lk 2:29; 2Pe 2:1 [n]S Rev 3:7 [o]S Rev 3:10 [p]Dt 32:43; 2Ki 9:7; Ps 79:10; Rev 16:6; 18:20; 19:2 **6:11** [q]S Rev 3:4 [r]Heb 11:40 **6:12** [s]Ps 97:4; Isa 29:6; Eze 38:19; Rev 8:5; 11:13; 16:18 [t]S Mt 24:29 [u]Isa 50:3 **6:13** [v]S Mt 24:29; Rev 8:10; 9:1 [w]Isa 34:4 **6:14** [x]S 2Pe 3:10; Rev 20:11; 21:1 [y]Ps 46:2; Isa 54:10; Jer 4:24; Eze 38:20; Na 1:5; Rev 16:20; 21:1 **6:15** [z]Rev 19:18 [a]Isa 2:10,19,21 **6:16** [b]Hos 10:8; Lk 23:30 [c]S Rev 5:1 **6:17** [d]Joel 1:15; 2:1,2,11,31; Zep 1:14,15; Rev 16:14 [e]Ps 76:7; Na 1:6; Mal 3:2 **7:1** [f]Isa 11:12 [g]Jer 49:36; Eze 37:9; Da 7:2; Zec 6:5; Mt 24:31 [h]S Rev 6:6 **7:2** [i]Rev 9:4 [j]S Mt 16:16 [k]ver 1 **7:3** [l]S Rev 6:6 [m]Eze 9:4; Rev 9:4; 14:1; 22:4 **7:4** [n]Rev 9:16 [o]Rev 14:1,3

[a]6 Greek *a choinix* (probably about a liter) [b]6 Greek *a denarius*

5From the tribe of Judah 12,000
were sealed,
from the tribe of Reuben 12,000,
from the tribe of Gad 12,000,
6from the tribe of Asher 12,000,
from the tribe of Naphtali 12,000,
from the tribe of Manasseh 12,000,
7from the tribe of Simeon 12,000,
from the tribe of Levi 12,000,
from the tribe of Issachar 12,000,
8from the tribe of Zebulun 12,000,
from the tribe of Joseph 12,000,
from the tribe of Benjamin 12,000.

The Great Multitude in White Robes

9After this I looked and there before
me was a great multitude that no one
could count, from every nation, tribe,
people and language,[a] standing before
the throne[b] and in front of the Lamb.
They were wearing white robes[c] and
were holding palm branches in their
hands. 10And they cried out in a loud
voice:

"Salvation belongs to our God,[d]
who sits on the throne,[e]
and to the Lamb."

11All the angels were standing around
the throne and around the elders[f] and
the four living creatures.[g] They fell
down on their faces[h] before the throne
and worshiped God, 12saying:

"Amen!
Praise and glory
and wisdom and thanks and honor
and power and strength
be to our God for ever and ever.
Amen!"[i]

13Then one of the elders asked me,
"These in white robes[j]—who are they,
and where did they come from?"
14I answered, "Sir, you know."
And he said, "These are they who
have come out of the great tribulation;
they have washed their robes[k] and
made them white in the blood of the
Lamb.[l] 15Therefore,

"they are before the throne of God[m]
and serve him[n] day and night in
his temple;[o]
and he who sits on the throne[p] will
spread his tent over them.[q]
16Never again will they hunger;
never again will they thirst.[r]
The sun will not beat upon them,
nor any scorching heat.[s]
17For the Lamb at the center of the
throne will be their
shepherd;[t]

7:9 [a]S Rev 13:7 [b]ver 15 [c]S Rev 3:4 **7:10** [d]Ps 3:8; Rev 12:10; 19:1 [e]S Rev 5:1 **7:11** [f]S Rev 4:4 [g]S Rev 4:6 [h]S Rev 4:10 **7:12** [i]S Ro 11:36; Rev 5:12-14 **7:13** [j]S Rev 3:4 **7:14** [k]Rev 22:14 [l]Heb 9:14; 1Jn 1:7; Rev 12:11 **7:15** [m]ver 9 [n]Rev 22:3 [o]Rev 11:19 [p]S Rev 5:1 [q]Isa 4:5,6; Rev 21:3 **7:16** [r]Jn 6:35 [s]Isa 49:10 **7:17** [t]S Jn 10:11

[u]S Jn 4:10 [v]Isa 25:8; 35:10; 51:11; 65:19; Rev 21:4 **8:1** [w]Rev 6:1 **8:2** [x]ver 6-13; Rev 9:1,13; 11:15 [y]S Mt 24:31 **8:3** [z]Rev 7:2 [a]Rev 5:8 [b]ver 5; Ex 30:1-6; Heb 9:4; Rev 9:13 **8:4** [c]Ps 141:2 **8:5** [d]Lev 16:12,13 [e]S Rev 4:5 [f]S Rev 6:12 **8:6** [g]S ver 2 **8:7** [h]S ver 2 [i]Eze 38:22 [j]ver 7-12; Rev 9:15,18; 12:4 [k]Rev 9:4 **8:8** [l]Jer 51:25 [m]S ver 7 [n]Rev 16:3 **8:9** [o]S ver 7 **8:10** [p]Isa 14:12; Rev 6:13; 9:1 [q]Rev 14:7; 16:4 **8:11** [r]S ver 7 [s]Jer 9:15; 23:15 **8:12** [t]S ver 7 [u]Ex 10:21-23; Rev 6:12,13 [v]Eze 32:7

he will lead them to springs of
living water.[u]
And God will wipe away every tear
from their eyes."[v]

The Seventh Seal and the Golden Censer

8 When he opened the seventh seal,[w]
there was silence in heaven for
about half an hour.
2And I saw the seven angels[x] who
stand before God, and to them were
given seven trumpets.[y]
3Another angel,[z] who had a golden
censer, came and stood at the altar. He
was given much incense to offer, with
the prayers of all the saints,[a] on the
golden altar[b] before the throne. 4The
smoke of the incense, together with the
prayers of the saints, went up before
God[c] from the angel's hand. 5Then the
angel took the censer, filled it with fire
from the altar,[d] and hurled it on the
earth; and there came peals of thun-
der,[e] rumblings, flashes of lightning
and an earthquake.[f]

The Trumpets

6Then the seven angels who had the
seven trumpets[g] prepared to sound
them.
7The first angel[h] sounded his trum-
pet, and there came hail and fire[i]
mixed with blood, and it was hurled
down upon the earth. A third[j] of the
earth was burned up, a third of the
trees were burned up, and all the green
grass was burned up.[k]
8The second angel sounded his trum-
pet, and something like a huge moun-
tain,[l] all ablaze, was thrown into the
sea. A third[m] of the sea turned into
blood,[n] 9a third[o] of the living creatures
in the sea died, and a third of the ships
were destroyed.
10The third angel sounded his trum-
pet, and a great star, blazing like a
torch, fell from the sky[p] on a third of
the rivers and on the springs of
water[q]— 11the name of the star is
Wormwood.[k] A third[r] of the waters
turned bitter, and many people died
from the waters that had become bit-
ter.[s]
12The fourth angel sounded his trum-
pet, and a third of the sun was struck, a
third of the moon, and a third of the
stars, so that a third[t] of them turned
dark.[u] A third of the day was without
light, and also a third of the night.[v]

[k]11 That is, Bitterness

13As I watched, I heard an eagle that was flying in midair[a] call out in a loud voice: "Woe! Woe! Woe[b] to the inhabitants of the earth,[c] because of the trumpet blasts about to be sounded by the other three angels!"

9 The fifth angel sounded his trumpet, and I saw a star that had fallen from the sky to the earth.[d] The star was given the key[e] to the shaft of the Abyss.[f] 2When he opened the Abyss, smoke rose from it like the smoke from a gigantic furnace.[g] The sun and sky were darkened[h] by the smoke from the Abyss.[i] 3And out of the smoke locusts[j] came down upon the earth and were given power like that of scorpions[k] of the earth. 4They were told not to harm[l] the grass of the earth or any plant or tree,[m] but only those people who did not have the seal of God on their foreheads.[n] 5They were not given power to kill them, but only to torture them for five months.[o] And the agony they suffered was like that of the sting of a scorpion[p] when it strikes a man. 6During those days men will seek death, but will not find it; they will long to die, but death will elude them.[q]

7The locusts looked like horses prepared for battle.[r] On their heads they wore something like crowns of gold, and their faces resembled human faces.[s] 8Their hair was like women's hair, and their teeth were like lions' teeth.[t] 9They had breastplates like breastplates of iron, and the sound of their wings was like the thundering of many horses and chariots rushing into battle.[u] 10They had tails and stings like scorpions, and in their tails they had power to torment people for five months.[v] 11They had as king over them the angel of the Abyss,[w] whose name in Hebrew[x] is Abaddon,[y] and in Greek, Apollyon.[l]

12The first woe is past; two other woes are yet to come.[z]

13The sixth angel sounded his trumpet, and I heard a voice coming from the horns[m][a] of the golden altar that is before God.[b] 14It said to the sixth angel who had the trumpet, "Release the four angels[c] who are bound at the great river Euphrates."[d] 15And the four angels who had been kept ready for this very hour and day and month and year were released[e] to kill a third[f] of mankind.[g] 16The number of the mounted troops was two hundred million. I heard their number.[h]

17The horses and riders I saw in my vision looked like this: Their breastplates were fiery red, dark blue, and yellow as sulfur. The heads of the horses resembled the heads of lions, and out of their mouths[i] came fire, smoke and sulfur.[j] 18A third[k] of mankind was killed[l] by the three plagues of fire, smoke and sulfur[m] that came out of their mouths. 19The power of the horses was in their mouths and in their tails; for their tails were like snakes, having heads with which they inflict injury.

20The rest of mankind that were not killed by these plagues still did not repent[n] of the work of their hands;[o] they did not stop worshiping demons,[p] and idols of gold, silver, bronze, stone and wood—idols that cannot see or hear or walk.[q] 21Nor did they repent[r] of their murders, their magic arts,[s] their sexual immorality[t] or their thefts.

The Angel and the Little Scroll

10 Then I saw another mighty angel[u] coming down from heaven.[v] He was robed in a cloud, with a rainbow[w] above his head; his face was like the sun,[x] and his legs were like fiery pillars.[y] 2He was holding a little scroll,[z] which lay open in his hand. He planted his right foot on the sea and his left foot on the land,[a] 3and he gave a loud shout like the roar of a lion.[b] When he shouted, the voices of the seven thunders[c] spoke. 4And when the seven thunders spoke, I was about to write;[d] but I heard a voice from heaven[e] say, "Seal up what the seven thunders have said and do not write it down."[f]

5Then the angel I had seen standing on the sea and on the land[g] raised his right hand to heaven.[h] 6And he swore[i] by him who lives for ever and ever,[j] who created the heavens and all that is in them, the earth and all that is in it, and the sea and all that is in it,[k] and said, "There will be no more delay![l] 7But in the days when the seventh angel is about to sound his trumpet,[m] the mystery[n] of God will be accomplished, just as he announced to his servants the prophets."[o]

8Then the voice that I had heard from heaven[p] spoke to me once more: "Go, take the scroll[q] that lies open in the

8:13 [a]Rev 14:6; 19:17 [b]Rev 9:12; 11:14; 12:12 [c]S Rev 3:10
9:1 [d]Rev 8:10 [e]Rev 1:18 [f]ver 2, 11; S Lk 8:31
9:2 [g]Ge 19:28; Ex 19:18 [h]Joel 2:2,10 [i]ver 1,11; S Lk 8:31
9:3 [j]Ex 10:12-15 [k]ver 5,10
9:4 [l]S Rev 6:6 [m]Rev 8:7 [n]S Rev 7:2,3
9:5 [o]ver 10 [p]ver 3
9:6 [q]Job 3:21; 7:15; Jer 8:3; Rev 6:16
9:7 [r]Joel 2:4 [s]Da 7:8
9:8 [t]Joel 1:6
9:9 [u]Joel 2:5
9:10 [v]ver 3,5,19
9:11 [w]ver 1,2; S Lk 8:31 [x]Rev 16:16 [y]Job 26:6; 28:22; 31:12; Ps 88:11
9:12 [z]S Rev 8:13
9:13 [a]Ex 30:1-3 [b]Rev 8:3
9:14 [c]Rev 7:1 [d]Ge 15:18; Dt 1:7; Jos 1:4; Isa 11:15; Rev 16:12
9:15 [e]Rev 20:7 [f]S Rev 8:7 [g]ver 18
9:16 [h]Rev 5:11; 7:4
9:17 [i]Rev 11:5 [j]ver 18; Ps 11:6; Isa 30:33; Eze 38:22; Rev 14:10; 19:20; 20:10; 21:8
9:18 [k]S Rev 8:7 [l]ver 15 [m]S ver 17
9:20 [n]S Rev 2:21 [o]Dt 4:28; 31:29; Jer 1:16; Mic 5:13; Ac 7:41 [p]S 1Co 10:20 [q]Ps 115:4-7; 135:15-17; Da 5:23
9:21 [r]S Rev 2:21 [s]Isa 47:9,12; Rev 18:23 [t]Rev 17:2,5
10:1 [u]Rev 5:2 [v]Rev 18:1; 20:1 [w]Eze 1:28; Rev 4:3 [x]Mt 17:2; Rev 1:16 [y]Rev 1:15
10:2 [z]ver 8-10; Rev 5:1 [a]ver 5,8
10:3 [b]Hos 11:10 [c]Rev 4:5
10:4 [d]Rev 1:11, 19 [e]ver 8 [f]Da 8:26; 12:4,9; Rev 22:10
10:5 [g]ver 1,2 [h]Dt 32:40; Da 12:7
10:6 [i]Ge 14:22; Ex 6:8; Nu 14:30 [j]S Rev 1:18 [k]Ps 115:15; 146:6; Rev 4:11; 14:7 [l]Rev 16:17
10:7 [m]S Mt 24:31 [n]S Ro 16:25 [o]Am 3:7
10:8 [p]ver 4 [q]ver 2

[l]11 *Abaddon* and *Apollyon* mean *Destroyer.*
[m]13 That is, projections

hand of the angel who is standing on
the sea and on the land."
9So I went to the angel and asked
him to give me the little scroll. He said
to me, "Take it and eat it. It will turn
your stomach sour, but in your mouth
it will be as sweet as honey."[a] 10I took
the little scroll from the angel's hand
and ate it. It tasted as sweet as honey in
my mouth,[b] but when I had eaten it,
my stomach turned sour. 11Then I was
told, "You must prophesy[c] again
about many peoples, nations, languages and kings."[d]

The Two Witnesses

11 I was given a reed like a measuring rod[e] and was told, "Go and
measure the temple of God and the altar, and count the worshipers there.
2But exclude the outer court;[f] do not
measure it, because it has been given to
the Gentiles.[g] They will trample on the
holy city[h] for 42 months.[i] 3And I will
give power to my two witnesses,[j] and
they will prophesy for 1,260 days,[k]
clothed in sackcloth."[l] 4These are the
two olive trees[m] and the two lampstands that stand before the Lord of the
earth.[n] 5If anyone tries to harm them,
fire comes from their mouths and devours their enemies.[o] This is how anyone who wants to harm them must
die.[p] 6These men have power to shut
up the sky[q] so that it will not rain during the time they are prophesying;[r]
and they have power to turn the waters
into blood[s] and to strike the earth with
every kind of plague as often as they
want.
7Now when they have finished their
testimony, the beast[t] that comes up
from the Abyss[u] will attack them,[v] and
overpower and kill them. 8Their bodies
will lie in the street of the great city,[w]
which is figuratively called Sodom[x]
and Egypt, where also their Lord was
crucified.[y] 9For three and a half days
men from every people, tribe, language
and nation[z] will gaze on their bodies
and refuse them burial.[a] 10The inhabitants of the earth[b] will gloat over them
and will celebrate by sending each
other gifts,[c] because these two prophets had tormented those who live on
the earth.
11But after the three and a half days[d]
a breath of life from God entered
them,[e] and they stood on their feet,
and terror struck those who saw them.
12Then they heard a loud voice from
heaven saying to them, "Come up

10:9 [a]Jer 15:16; Eze 2:8-3:3 **10:10** [b]S ver 9 **10:11** [c]Eze 37:4, 9 [d]Da 3:4; S Rev 13:7 **11:1** [e]Eze 40:3; Rev 21:15 **11:2** [f]Eze 40:17, 20 [g]Lk 21:24 [h]S Rev 21:2 [i]ver 3; Da 7:25; 12:7; Rev 12:6,14; 13:5 **11:3** [j]Rev 1:5; 2:13 [k]S ver 2 [l]Ge 37:34; 2Sa 3:31; Ne 9:1; Jnh 3:5 **11:4** [m]Ps 52:8; Jer 11:16; Zec 4:3,11 [n]Zec 4:14 **11:5** [o]2Sa 22:9; 2Ki 1:10; Jer 5:14; Rev 9:17,18 [p]Nu 16:29,35 **11:6** [q]S Lk 4:25 [r]ver 3 [s]Ex 7:17, 19; Rev 8:8 **11:7** [t]Rev 13:1-4 [u]S Lk 8:31 [v]Da 7:21; Rev 13:7 **11:8** [w]Rev 16:19 [x]Isa 1:9; Jer 23:14; Eze 16:46 [y]Heb 13:12 **11:9** [z]S Rev 13:7 [a]Ps 79:2,3 **11:10** [b]S Rev 3:10 [c]Ne 8:10,12; Est 9:19,22 **11:11** [d]ver 9 [e]Eze 37:5,9,10, 14 **11:12** [f]Rev 4:1 [g]2Ki 2:11; Ac 1:9 **11:13** [h]S Rev 6:12 [i]Rev 14:7; 16:9; 19:7 [j]Rev 16:11 **11:14** [k]S Rev 8:13 **11:15** [l]S Mt 24:31 [m]Rev 16:17; 19:1 [n]Rev 12:10 [o]Ps 145:13; Da 2:44; 7:14,27; Mic 4:7; Zec 14:9; Lk 1:33 **11:16** [p]S Rev 4:4 [q]S Rev 4:10 **11:17** [r]Ps 30:12 [s]S Rev 1:8 [t]S Rev 1:4 [u]Rev 19:6 **11:18** [v]Ps 2:1 [w]Rev 20:12 [x]Rev 10:7 [y]S Rev 19:5 **11:19** [z]Rev 15:5,8 [a]Ex 25:10-22; 2Ch 5:7; Heb 9:4 [b]S Rev 4:5 [c]Rev 16:21 **12:1** [d]ver 3 [e]Rev 11:19 [f]Ge 37:9 **12:2** [g]Isa 26:17; Gal 4:19 **12:3** [h]ver 1; Rev 15:1 [i]ver 9, 13,16,17; Rev 13:1 [j]Rev 13:1; 17:3, 7,9 [k]Da 7:7,20; Rev 13:1; 17:3,7, 12,16 [l]Rev 19:12

here."[f] And they went up to heaven in
a cloud,[g] while their enemies looked
on.
13At that very hour there was a
severe earthquake[h] and a tenth of the
city collapsed. Seven thousand people
were killed in the earthquake, and the
survivors were terrified and gave
glory[i] to the God of heaven.[j]
14The second woe has passed; the
third woe is coming soon.[k]

The Seventh Trumpet

15The seventh angel sounded his
trumpet,[l] and there were loud voices[m]
in heaven, which said:

"The kingdom of the world has
  become the kingdom of our
  Lord and of his Christ,[n]
and he will reign for ever and
  ever."[o]

16And the twenty-four elders,[p] who
were seated on their thrones before
God, fell on their faces[q] and worshiped
God, 17saying:

"We give thanks[r] to you, Lord God
  Almighty,[s]
the One who is and who was,[t]
because you have taken your great
  power
and have begun to reign.[u]
18The nations were angry;[v]
and your wrath has come.
The time has come for judging the
  dead,[w]
and for rewarding your servants
  the prophets[x]
and your saints and those who
  reverence your name,
both small and great[y]—
and for destroying those who
  destroy the earth."

19Then God's temple[z] in heaven was
opened, and within his temple was
seen the ark of his covenant.[a] And
there came flashes of lightning, rumblings, peals of thunder,[b] an earthquake and a great hailstorm.[c]

The Woman and the Dragon

12 A great and wondrous sign[d] appeared in heaven:[e] a woman
clothed with the sun, with the moon
under her feet and a crown of twelve
stars[f] on her head. 2She was pregnant
and cried out in pain[g] as she was about
to give birth. 3Then another sign appeared in heaven:[h] an enormous red
dragon[i] with seven heads[j] and ten
horns[k] and seven crowns[l] on his

heads. 4His tail swept a third[a] of the stars out of the sky and flung them to the earth.[b] The dragon stood in front of the woman who was about to give birth, so that he might devour her child[c] the moment it was born. 5She gave birth to a son, a male child, who will rule all the nations with an iron scepter.[d] And her child was snatched up[e] to God and to his throne. 6The woman fled into the desert to a place prepared for her by God, where she might be taken care of for 1,260 days.[f]

7And there was war in heaven. Michael[g] and his angels fought against the dragon,[h] and the dragon and his angels[i] fought back. 8But he was not strong enough, and they lost their place in heaven. 9The great dragon was hurled down—that ancient serpent[j] called the devil,[k] or Satan,[l] who leads the whole world astray.[m] He was hurled to the earth,[n] and his angels with him.

10Then I heard a loud voice in heaven[o] say:

"Now have come the salvation[p] and
the power and the kingdom
of our God,
and the authority of his Christ.
For the accuser of our brothers,[q]
who accuses them before our God
day and night,
has been hurled down.
11They overcame[r] him
by the blood of the Lamb[s]
and by the word of their
testimony;[t]
they did not love their lives so much
as to shrink from death.[u]
12Therefore rejoice, you heavens[v]
and you who dwell in them!
But woe[w] to the earth and the sea,[x]
because the devil has gone down
to you!
He is filled with fury,
because he knows that his time is
short."

13When the dragon[y] saw that he had been hurled to the earth, he pursued the woman who had given birth to the male child.[z] 14The woman was given the two wings of a great eagle,[a] so that she might fly to the place prepared for her in the desert, where she would be taken care of for a time, times and half a time,[b] out of the serpent's reach. 15Then from his mouth the serpent[c] spewed water like a river, to overtake the woman and sweep her away with the torrent. 16But the earth helped the woman by opening its mouth and swallowing the river that the dragon had spewed out of his mouth. 17Then the dragon was enraged at the woman and went off to make war[d] against the rest of her offspring[e]—those who obey God's commandments[f] and hold to the testimony of Jesus.[g]

13 1And the dragon[n] stood on the shore of the sea.

The Beast out of the Sea

And I saw a beast coming out of the sea.[h] He had ten horns and seven heads,[i] with ten crowns on his horns, and on each head a blasphemous name.[j] 2The beast I saw resembled a leopard,[k] but had feet like those of a bear[l] and a mouth like that of a lion.[m] The dragon gave the beast his power and his throne and great authority.[n] 3One of the heads of the beast seemed to have had a fatal wound, but the fatal wound had been healed.[o] The whole world was astonished[p] and followed the beast. 4Men worshiped the dragon because he had given authority to the beast, and they also worshiped the beast and asked, "Who is like[q] the beast? Who can make war against him?"

5The beast was given a mouth to utter proud words and blasphemies[r] and to exercise his authority for forty-two months.[s] 6He opened his mouth to blaspheme God, and to slander his name and his dwelling place and those who live in heaven.[t] 7He was given power to make war[u] against the saints and to conquer them. And he was given authority over every tribe, people, language and nation.[v] 8All inhabitants of the earth[w] will worship the beast—all whose names have not been written in the book of life[x] belonging to the Lamb[y] that was slain from the creation of the world.[o][z]

9He who has an ear, let him hear.[a]

10If anyone is to go into captivity,
into captivity he will go.
If anyone is to be killed[p] with the
sword,
with the sword he will be killed.[b]

This calls for patient endurance and faithfulness[c] on the part of the saints.[d]

12:4 [a]S Rev 8:7 [b]Da 8:10 [c]Mt 2:16
12:5 [d]Ps 2:9; Rev 2:27; 19:15 [e]S Ac 8:39
12:6 [f]S Rev 11:2
12:7 [g]S Jude 9 [h]ver 3 [i]Mt 25:41
12:9 [j]ver 15; Ge 3:1-7 [k]Mt 25:41; Rev 20:2 [l]S Mt 4:10 [m]Rev 20:3,8,10 [n]Lk 10:18; Jn 12:31
12:10 [o]Rev 11:15 [p]Rev 7:10 [q]Job 1:9-11; Zec 3:1; 1Pe 5:8
12:11 [r]S Jn 16:33; Rev 15:2 [s]S Rev 7:14 [t]Rev 6:9 [u]Lk 14:26; Rev 2:10
12:12 [v]Ps 96:11; Isa 44:23; 49:13; Rev 18:20 [w]S Rev 8:13 [x]Rev 10:6
12:13 [y]ver 3 [z]ver 5
12:14 [a]Ex 19:4 [b]S Rev 11:2
12:15 [c]ver 9
12:17 [d]Rev 11:7; 13:7 [e]Ge 3:15 [f]S Jn 14:15 [g]S Rev 1:2
13:1 [h]Da 7:1-6; Rev 15:2; 16:13 [i]S Rev 12:3 [j]Da 11:36; Rev 17:3
13:2 [k]Da 7:6 [l]Da 7:5 [m]Da 7:4 [n]Rev 2:13; 16:10
13:3 [o]ver 12,14 [p]Rev 17:8
13:4 [q]Ex 15:11
13:5 [r]Da 7:8,11,20,25; 11:36; 2Th 2:4 [s]S Rev 11:2
13:6 [t]Rev 12:12
13:7 [u]Da 7:21; Rev 11:7 [v]Rev 5:9; 7:9; 10:11; 17:15
13:8 [w]ver 12,14; S Rev 3:10 [x]S Rev 20:12 [y]S Jn 1:29 [z]S Mt 25:34
13:9 [a]S Rev 2:7
13:10 [b]Jer 15:2; 43:11 [c]S Heb 6:12 [d]Rev 14:12

[n]1 Some late manuscripts *And I* [o]8 *Or written from the creation of the world in the book of life belonging to the Lamb that was slain* [p]10 Some manuscripts *anyone kills*

The Beast out of the Earth

11Then I saw another beast, coming out of the earth.[a] He had two horns like a lamb, but he spoke like a dragon.[b] 12He exercised all the authority[c] of the first beast on his behalf,[d] and made the earth and its inhabitants worship the first beast,[e] whose fatal wound had been healed.[f] 13And he performed great and miraculous signs,[g] even causing fire to come down from heaven[h] to earth in full view of men. 14Because of the signs[i] he was given power to do on behalf of the first beast, he deceived[j] the inhabitants of the earth.[k] He ordered them to set up an image in honor of the beast who was wounded by the sword and yet lived.[l] 15He was given power to give breath to the image of the first beast, so that it could speak and cause all who refused to worship[m] the image to be killed.[n] 16He also forced everyone, small and great,[o] rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on his right hand or on his forehead,[p] 17so that no one could buy or sell unless he had the mark,[q] which is the name of the beast or the number of his name.[r]

18This calls for wisdom.[s] If anyone has insight, let him calculate the number of the beast, for it is man's number.[t] His number is 666.

The Lamb and the 144,000

14 Then I looked, and there before me was the Lamb,[u] standing on Mount Zion,[v] and with him 144,000[w] who had his name and his Father's name[x] written on their foreheads.[y] 2And I heard a sound from heaven like the roar of rushing waters[z] and like a loud peal of thunder.[a] The sound I heard was like that of harpists playing their harps.[b] 3And they sang a new song[c] before the throne and before the four living creatures[d] and the elders.[e] No one could learn the song except the 144,000[f] who had been redeemed from the earth. 4These are those who did not defile themselves with women, for they kept themselves pure.[g] They follow the Lamb wherever he goes.[h] They were purchased from among men[i] and offered as firstfruits[j] to God and the Lamb. 5No lie was found in their mouths;[k] they are blameless.[l]

The Three Angels

6Then I saw another angel flying in midair,[m] and he had the eternal gospel to proclaim to those who live on the earth[n]—to every nation, tribe, language and people.[o] 7He said in a loud voice, "Fear God[p] and give him glory,[q] because the hour of his judgment has come. Worship him who made[r] the heavens, the earth, the sea and the springs of water."[s]

8A second angel followed and said, "Fallen! Fallen is Babylon the Great,[t] which made all the nations drink the maddening wine of her adulteries."[u]

9A third angel followed them and said in a loud voice: "If anyone worships the beast[v] and his image[w] and receives his mark on the forehead[x] or on the hand, 10he, too, will drink of the wine of God's fury,[y] which has been poured full strength into the cup of his wrath.[z] He will be tormented with burning sulfur[a] in the presence of the holy angels and of the Lamb. 11And the smoke of their torment rises for ever and ever.[b] There is no rest day or night[c] for those who worship the beast and his image,[d] or for anyone who receives the mark of his name."[e] 12This calls for patient endurance[f] on the part of the saints[g] who obey God's commandments[h] and remain faithful to Jesus.

13Then I heard a voice from heaven say, "Write: Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord[i] from now on."

"Yes," says the Spirit,[j] "they will rest from their labor, for their deeds will follow them."

The Harvest of the Earth

14I looked, and there before me was a white cloud,[k] and seated on the cloud was one "like a son of man"[q][l] with a crown[m] of gold on his head and a sharp sickle in his hand. 15Then another angel came out of the temple[n] and called in a loud voice to him who was sitting on the cloud, "Take your sickle[o] and reap, because the time to reap has come, for the harvest[p] of the earth is ripe." 16So he who was seated on the cloud swung his sickle over the earth, and the earth was harvested.

17Another angel came out of the temple in heaven, and he too had a sharp sickle.[q] 18Still another angel, who had charge of the fire, came from the altar[r] and called in a loud voice to him who had the sharp sickle, "Take your sharp sickle[s] and gather the clusters of

13:11 [a] ver 1,2 [b] Rev 16:13 **13:12** [c] ver 4 [d] ver 14; Rev 19:20 [e] ver 15; Rev 14:9,11; 16:2; 19:20; 20:4 [f] ver 3 **13:13** [g] S Mt 24:24 [h] 1Ki 18:38; 2Ki 1:10; Lk 9:54; Rev 20:9 **13:14** [i] 2Th 2:9,10 [j] Rev 12:9 [k] S Rev 3:10 [l] ver 3,12 **13:15** [m] S ver 12 [n] Da 3:3-6 **13:16** [o] S Rev 19:5 [p] Rev 7:3; 14:9; 20:4 **13:17** [q] Rev 14:9 [r] ver 18; Rev 14:11; 15:2 **13:18** [s] Rev 17:9 [t] Rev 15:2; 21:17 **14:1** [u] S Rev 5:6 [v] Ps 2:6; Heb 12:22 [w] ver 3; Rev 7:4 [x] Rev 3:12; 22:4 [y] S Rev 7:3 **14:2** [z] S Rev 1:15 [a] Rev 6:1 [b] Rev 5:8; 15:2 **14:3** [c] S Rev 5:9 [d] S Rev 4:6 [e] S Rev 4:4 [f] ver 1 **14:4** [g] 2Co 11:2; Rev 3:4 [h] Rev 7:17 [i] Rev 5:9 [j] Jer 2:3; Jas 1:18 **14:5** [k] Ps 32:2; Zep 3:13; Jn 1:47; 1Pe 2:22 [l] Eph 5:27 **14:6** [m] Rev 8:13; 19:17 [n] S Rev 3:10 [o] S Rev 13:7 **14:7** [p] Ps 34:9; Rev 15:4 [q] S Rev 11:13 [r] S Rev 10:6 [s] Rev 8:10; 16:4 **14:8** [t] Isa 21:9; Jer 51:8; Rev 16:19; 17:5; 18:2,10 [u] Rev 17:2,4; 18:3,9 **14:9** [v] S Rev 13:12 [w] Rev 13:14 [x] S Rev 13:16 **14:10** [y] Isa 51:17; Jer 25:15 [z] Jer 51:7; Rev 18:6 [a] S Rev 9:17 **14:11** [b] Isa 34:10; Rev 19:3 [c] Rev 4:8 [d] ver 9; S Rev 13:12 [e] Rev 13:17 **14:12** [f] S Heb 6:12 [g] Rev 13:10 [h] S Jn 14:15 **14:13** [i] 1Co 15:18; 1Th 4:16 [j] Rev 2:7; 22:17 **14:14** [k] Mt 17:5 [l] Da 7:13; S Rev 1:13 [m] S Rev 6:2 **14:15** [n] ver 17; Rev 11:19 [o] ver 18; Joel 3:13; Mk 4:29 [p] Jer 51:33

14:17 [q] S ver 15 **14:18** [r] Rev 6:9; 8:5; 16:7 [s] S ver 15

[q] 14 Daniel 7:13

grapes from the earth's vine, because
its grapes are ripe." 19The angel swung
his sickle on the earth, gathered its
grapes and threw them into the great
winepress of God's wrath.[a] 20They
were trampled in the winepress[b] out-
side the city,[c] and blood[d] flowed out
of the press, rising as high as the
horses' bridles for a distance of 1,600
stadia.[r]

Seven Angels With Seven Plagues

15 I saw in heaven another great
and marvelous sign:[e] seven an-
gels[f] with the seven last plagues[g]—
last, because with them God's
wrath is completed. 2And I saw what
looked like a sea of glass[h] mixed
with fire and, standing beside the sea,
those who had been victorious[i] over
the beast[j] and his image[k] and over the
number of his name.[l] They held
harps[m] given them by God 3and sang
the song of Moses[n] the servant of
God[o] and the song of the Lamb:[p]

"Great and marvelous are your
deeds,[q]
Lord God Almighty.[r]
Just and true are your ways,[s]
King of the ages.
4Who will not fear you, O Lord,[t]
and bring glory to your name?[u]
For you alone are holy.
All nations will come
and worship before you,[v]
for your righteous acts[w] have been
revealed."

5After this I looked and in heaven the
temple,[x] that is, the tabernacle of the
Testimony,[y] was opened.[z] 6Out of the
temple[a] came the seven angels with
the seven plagues.[b] They were dressed
in clean, shining linen[c] and wore
golden sashes around their chests.[d]
7Then one of the four living creatures[e]
gave to the seven angels[f] seven golden
bowls filled with the wrath of God,
who lives for ever and ever.[g] 8And the
temple was filled with smoke[h] from
the glory of God and from his power,
and no one could enter the temple[i]
until the seven plagues of the seven an-
gels were completed.

The Seven Bowls of God's Wrath

16 Then I heard a loud voice from
the temple[j] saying to the seven
angels,[k] "Go, pour out the seven
bowls of God's wrath on the earth."[l]
2The first angel went and poured out
his bowl on the land,[m] and ugly and

14:19 [a]Rev 19:15
14:20 [b]ver 19; Isa 63:3; Joel 3:13; Rev 19:15 [c]Heb 13:12; Rev 11:8 [d]Ge 49:11; Dt 32:14
15:1 [e]Rev 12:1,3 [f]ver 6-8; Rev 16:1; 17:1; 21:9 [g]Lev 26:21; Rev 9:20
15:2 [h]Rev 4:6 [i]Rev 12:11 [j]Rev 13:1 [k]Rev 13:14 [l]Rev 13:17 [m]Rev 5:8; 14:2
15:3 [n]Ex 15:1 [o]Jos 1:1 [p]S Rev 5:9 [q]Ps 111:2 [r]S Rev 1:8 [s]Ps 145:17
15:4 [t]Jer 10:7 [u]Ps 86:9 [v]Isa 66:23 [w]Rev 19:8
15:5 [x]Rev 11:19 [y]Ex 38:21; Nu 1:50 [z]S Mt 3:16
15:6 [a]Rev 14:15 [b]S ver 1 [c]Eze 9:2; Da 10:5 [d]Rev 1:13
15:7 [e]S Rev 4:6 [f]S ver 1 [g]S Rev 1:18
15:8 [h]Isa 6:4 [i]Ex 40:34,35; 1Ki 8:10,11; 2Ch 5:13,14
16:1 [j]Rev 11:19 [k]S Rev 15:1 [l]ver 2-21; Ps 79:6; Zep 3:8
16:2 [m]Rev 8:7 [n]ver 11; Ex 9:9-11; Dt 28:35 [o]Rev 13:15-17; 14:9
16:3 [p]Ex 7:17-21; Rev 8:8,9; Rev 11:6
16:4 [q]Rev 8:10 [r]Ex 7:17-21
16:5 [s]Rev 15:3 [t]S Rev 1:4 [u]Rev 15:4 [v]Rev 6:10
16:6 [w]Lk 11:49-51 [x]Isa 49:26; Rev 17:6; 18:24
16:7 [y]Rev 6:9; 14:18 [z]S Rev 1:8 [a]Rev 15:3; 19:2
16:8 [b]Rev 8:12 [c]Rev 6:12 [d]Rev 14:18
16:9 [e]ver 11,21 [f]S Rev 2:21 [g]S Rev 11:13
16:10 [h]Rev 13:2 [i]Ex 10:21-23; Isa 8:22; Rev 8:12; 9:2
16:11 [j]ver 9,21 [k]Rev 11:13 [l]ver 2 [m]S Rev 2:21
16:12 [n]S Rev 9:14 [o]Isa 11:15,16 [p]Isa 41:2; 46:11
16:13 [q]Rev 18:2 [r]Ex 8:6 [s]S Rev 12:3 [t]S Rev 13:1 [u]Rev 19:20; 20:10
16:14 [v]1Ti 4:1 [w]S Mt 24:24 [x]S Mt 24:14 [y]Rev 17:14; 19:19; 20:8 [z]S Rev 6:17
16:15 [a]S Lk 12:39 [b]Lk 12:37

painful sores[n] broke out on the people
who had the mark of the beast and
worshiped his image.[o]
3The second angel poured out his
bowl on the sea, and it turned into
blood like that of a dead man, and
every living thing in the sea died.[p]
4The third angel poured out his bowl
on the rivers and springs of water,[q]
and they became blood.[r] 5Then I heard
the angel in charge of the waters say:

"You are just in these judgments,[s]
you who are and who were,[t] the
Holy One,[u]
because you have so judged;[v]
6for they have shed the blood of your
saints and prophets,[w]
and you have given them blood to
drink[x] as they deserve."

7And I heard the altar[y] respond:

"Yes, Lord God Almighty,[z]
true and just are your
judgments."[a]

8The fourth angel[b] poured out his
bowl on the sun,[c] and the sun was giv-
en power to scorch people with fire.[d]
9They were seared by the intense heat
and they cursed the name of God,[e]
who had control over these plagues,
but they refused to repent[f] and glorify
him.[g]
10The fifth angel poured out his bowl
on the throne of the beast,[h] and his
kingdom was plunged into darkness.[i]
Men gnawed their tongues in agony
11and cursed[j] the God of heaven[k] be-
cause of their pains and their sores,[l]
but they refused to repent of what they
had done.[m]
12The sixth angel poured out his bowl
on the great river Euphrates,[n] and its
water was dried up to prepare the
way[o] for the kings from the East.[p]
13Then I saw three evil[s] spirits[q] that
looked like frogs;[r] they came out of the
mouth of the dragon,[s] out of the
mouth of the beast[t] and out of the
mouth of the false prophet.[u] 14They are
spirits of demons[v] performing miracu-
lous signs,[w] and they go out to the
kings of the whole world,[x] to gather
them for the battle[y] on the great day[z]
of God Almighty.
15"Behold, I come like a thief![a]
Blessed is he who stays awake[b] and
keeps his clothes with him, so that he

[r]20 That is, about 180 miles (about 300 kilometers)
[s]13 Greek *unclean*

may not go naked and be shamefully
exposed."[a]
16 Then they gathered the kings to-
gether[b] to the place that in Hebrew[c] is
called Armageddon.[d]
17 The seventh angel poured out his
bowl into the air,[e] and out of the tem-
ple[f] came a loud voice[g] from the
throne, saying, "It is done!"[h] 18 Then
there came flashes of lightning, rum-
blings, peals of thunder[i] and a severe
earthquake.[j] No earthquake like it has
ever occurred since man has been on
earth,[k] so tremendous was the quake.
19 The great city[l] split into three parts,
and the cities of the nations collapsed.
God remembered[m] Babylon the Great[n]
and gave her the cup filled with the
wine of the fury of his wrath.[o] 20 Every
island fled away and the mountains
could not be found.[p] 21 From the sky
huge hailstones[q] of about a hundred
pounds each fell upon men. And they
cursed God[r] on account of the plague
of hail,[s] because the plague was so ter-
rible.

The Woman on the Beast

17 One of the seven angels[t] who
had the seven bowls[u] came and
said to me, "Come, I will show you the
punishment[v] of the great prostitute,[w]
who sits on many waters.[x] 2 With her
the kings of the earth committed adul-
tery and the inhabitants of the earth
were intoxicated with the wine of her
adulteries."[y]
3 Then the angel carried me away in
the Spirit[z] into a desert.[a] There I saw a
woman sitting on a scarlet[b] beast that
was covered with blasphemous
names[c] and had seven heads and ten
horns.[d] 4 The woman was dressed in
purple and scarlet, and was glittering
with gold, precious stones and pearls.[e]
She held a golden cup[f] in her hand,
filled with abominable things and the
filth of her adulteries.[g] 5 This title was
written on her forehead:

MYSTERY[h]
BABYLON THE GREAT[i]
THE MOTHER OF PROSTITUTES[j]
AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.

6 I saw that the woman was drunk with
the blood of the saints,[k] the blood of
those who bore testimony to Jesus.
When I saw her, I was greatly aston-
ished. 7 Then the angel said to me:
"Why are you astonished? I will ex-
plain to you the mystery[l] of the
woman and of the beast she rides,
which has the seven heads and ten
horns.[m] 8 The beast, which you saw,
once was, now is not, and will come up
out of the Abyss[n] and go to his de-
struction.[o] The inhabitants of the
earth[p] whose names have not been
written in the book of life[q] from the
creation of the world will be aston-
ished[r] when they see the beast, be-
cause he once was, now is not, and yet
will come.
9 "This calls for a mind with wis-
dom.[s] The seven heads[t] are seven
hills on which the woman sits. 10 They
are also seven kings. Five have fallen,
one is, the other has not yet come; but
when he does come, he must remain
for a little while. 11 The beast who once
was, and now is not,[u] is an eighth
king. He belongs to the seven and is
going to his destruction.
12 "The ten horns[v] you saw are ten
kings who have not yet received a
kingdom, but who for one hour[w] will
receive authority as kings along with
the beast. 13 They have one purpose and
will give their power and authority to
the beast.[x] 14 They will make war[y]
against the Lamb, but the Lamb will
overcome[z] them because he is Lord of
lords and King of kings[a]—and with
him will be his called, chosen[b] and
faithful followers."
15 Then the angel said to me, "The
waters[c] you saw, where the prostitute
sits, are peoples, multitudes, nations
and languages.[d] 16 The beast and the
ten horns[e] you saw will hate the pros-
titute.[f] They will bring her to ruin[g]
and leave her naked;[h] they will eat her
flesh[i] and burn her with fire.[j] 17 For
God has put it into their hearts[k] to ac-
complish his purpose by agreeing to
give the beast their power to rule,[l] un-
til God's words are fulfilled.[m] 18 The
woman you saw is the great city[n] that
rules over the kings of the earth."

The Fall of Babylon

18 After this I saw another angel[o]
coming down from heaven.[p] He
had great authority, and the earth was
illuminated by his splendor.[q] 2 With a
mighty voice he shouted:

"Fallen! Fallen is Babylon the Great![r]
She has become a home for
demons
and a haunt for every evil[a] spirit,[s]
a haunt for every unclean and
detestable bird.[t]

16:15 [a]Rev 3:18 **16:16** [b]ver 14 [c]Rev 9:11 [d]Jdg 5:19; 2Ki 23:29,30; Zec 12:11 **16:17** [e]Eph 2:2 [f]Rev 14:15 [g]Rev 11:15 [h]Rev 21:6 **16:18** [i]S Rev 4:5 [j]S Rev 6:12 [k]Da 12:1; Mt 24:21 **16:19** [l]S Rev 17:18 [m]Rev 18:5 [n]S Rev 14:8 [o]Rev 14:10 **16:20** [p]S Rev 6:14 **16:21** [q]Eze 13:13; 38:22; Rev 8:7; 11:19 [r]ver 9,11 [s]Ex 9:23-25 **17:1** [t]S Rev 15:1 [u]Rev 15:7 [v]Rev 16:19 [w]ver 5,15,16; Isa 23:17; Rev 19:2 [x]Jer 51:13 **17:2** [y]S Rev 14:8 **17:3** [z]S Rev 1:10 [a]Rev 12:6,14 [b]Rev 18:12,16 [c]Rev 13:1 [d]S Rev 12:3 **17:4** [e]Eze 28:13; Rev 18:16 [f]Jer 51:7; Rev 18:6 [g]ver 2; S Rev 14:8 **17:5** [h]ver 7 [i]S Rev 14:8 [j]ver 1,2 **17:6** [k]Rev 16:6; 18:24 **17:7** [l]ver 5 [m]ver 3; S Rev 12:3 **17:8** [n]S Lk 8:31 [o]Rev 13:10 [p]S Rev 3:10 [q]S Rev 20:12 [r]Rev 13:3 **17:9** [s]Rev 13:18 [t]ver 3 **17:11** [u]ver 8 **17:12** [v]S Rev 12:3 [w]Rev 18:10,17,19 **17:13** [x]ver 17 **17:14** [y]S Rev 16:14 [z]S Jn 16:33 [a]S 1Ti 6:15 [b]Mt 22:14 **17:15** [c]ver 1; Isa 8:7; Jer 47:2 [d]S Rev 13:7 **17:16** [e]S Rev 12:3 [f]ver 1 [g]Rev 18:17,19 [h]Eze 16:37,39 [i]Rev 19:18 [j]Rev 18:8 **17:17** [k]2Co 8:16 [l]ver 13 [m]Jer 39:16; Rev 10:7 **17:18** [n]Rev 16:19; 18:10,18,19,21 **18:1** [o]Rev 17:1 [p]Rev 10:1; 20:1 [q]Eze 43:2 **18:2** [r]S Rev 14:8 [s]Rev 16:13 [t]Isa 13:21,22; 34:11,13-15; Jer 50:39; 51:37; Zep 2:14,15

[a]2 Greek *unclean*

3For all the nations have drunk
the maddening wine of her
adulteries.[a]
The kings of the earth committed
adultery with her,[b]
and the merchants of the earth
grew rich[c] from her
excessive luxuries."[d]

4Then I heard another voice from
heaven say:

"Come out of her, my people,[e]
so that you will not share in her
sins,
so that you will not receive any of
her plagues;[f]
5for her sins are piled up to heaven,[g]
and God has remembered[h] her
crimes.
6Give back to her as she has given;
pay her back[i] double[j] for what
she has done.
Mix her a double portion from her
own cup.[k]
7Give her as much torture and grief
as the glory and luxury she gave
herself.[l]
In her heart she boasts,
'I sit as queen; I am not a widow,
and I will never mourn.'[m]
8Therefore in one day[n] her plagues
will overtake her:
death, mourning and famine.
She will be consumed by fire,[o]
for mighty is the Lord God who
judges her.

9"When the kings of the earth who
committed adultery with her[p] and
shared her luxury[q] see the smoke of
her burning,[r] they will weep and
mourn over her.[s] 10Terrified at her tor-
ment, they will stand far off[t] and cry:

" 'Woe! Woe, O great city,[u]
O Babylon, city of power!
In one hour[v] your doom has come!'

11"The merchants[w] of the earth will
weep and mourn[x] over her because no
one buys their cargoes any more[y]—
12cargoes of gold, silver, precious
stones and pearls; fine linen, purple,
silk and scarlet cloth; every sort of cit-
ron wood, and articles of every kind
made of ivory, costly wood, bronze,
iron and marble;[z] 13cargoes of cinna-
mon and spice, of incense, myrrh and
frankincense, of wine and olive oil, of
fine flour and wheat; cattle and sheep;
horses and carriages; and bodies and
souls of men.[a]
14"They will say, 'The fruit you
longed for is gone from you. All your
riches and splendor have vanished,
never to be recovered.' 15The mer-
chants who sold these things and
gained their wealth from her[b] will
stand far off,[c] terrified at her torment.
They will weep and mourn[d] 16and cry
out:

" 'Woe! Woe, O great city,[e]
dressed in fine linen, purple and
scarlet,
and glittering with gold, precious
stones and pearls![f]
17In one hour[g] such great wealth has
been brought to ruin!'[h]

"Every sea captain, and all who trav-
el by ship, the sailors, and all who earn
their living from the sea,[i] will stand far
off.[j] 18When they see the smoke of her
burning,[k] they will exclaim, 'Was there
ever a city like this great city[l]?'[m]
19They will throw dust on their heads,[n]
and with weeping and mourning[o] cry
out:

" 'Woe! Woe, O great city,[p]
where all who had ships on the
sea
became rich through her wealth!
In one hour she has been brought to
ruin![q]
20Rejoice over her, O heaven![r]
Rejoice, saints and apostles and
prophets!
God has judged her for the way she
treated you.' "[s]

21Then a mighty angel[t] picked up a
boulder the size of a large millstone
and threw it into the sea,[u] and said:

"With such violence
the great city[v] of Babylon will be
thrown down,
never to be found again.
22The music of harpists and musicians,
flute players and trumpeters,
will never be heard in you again.[w]
No workman of any trade
will ever be found in you again.
The sound of a millstone
will never be heard in you again.[x]
23The light of a lamp
will never shine in you again.
The voice of bridegroom and bride
will never be heard in you again.[y]
Your merchants were the world's
great men.[z]
By your magic spell[a] all the
nations were led astray.
24In her was found the blood of
prophets and of the saints,[b]

18:3 [a]S Rev 14:8 [b]Rev 17:2 [c]ver 11,15,23; Eze 27:9-25 [d]ver 7,9
18:4 [e]Isa 48:20; Jer 50:8; 51:6,9, 45; 2Co 6:17 [f]Ge 19:15
18:5 [g]2Ch 28:9; Ezr 9:6; Jer 51:9 [h]Rev 16:19
18:6 [i]Ps 137:8; Jer 50:15,29 [j]Isa 40:2 [k]Rev 14:10; 16:19; 17:4
18:7 [l]Eze 28:2-8 [m]Ps 10:6; Isa 47:7,8; Zep 2:15
18:8 [n]ver 10; Isa 9:14; 47:9; Jer 50:31,32 [o]Rev 17:16
18:9 [p]ver 3; Rev 14:8; 17:2,4 [q]ver 3,7 [r]ver 18; Rev 14:11; 19:3 [s]Jer 51:8; Eze 26:17,18
18:10 [t]ver 15, 17 [u]ver 16,19 [v]ver 17; Rev 17:12
18:11 [w]Eze 27:27 [x]ver 15,19; Eze 27:31 [y]S ver 3
18:12 [z]Eze 27:12-22; Rev 17:4
18:13 [a]Eze 27:13; 1Ti 1:10
18:15 [b]S ver 3 [c]ver 10,17 [d]ver 11,19; Eze 27:31
18:16 [e]ver 10, 19 [f]Rev 17:4
18:17 [g]ver 10; Rev 17:12 [h]Rev 17:16 [i]Eze 27:28-30 [j]ver 10,15
18:18 [k]ver 9; Rev 19:3 [l]S Rev 17:18 [m]Eze 27:32; Rev 13:4
18:19 [n]Jos 7:6; La 2:10; Eze 27:30 [o]ver 11,15; Eze 27:31 [p]ver 10,16; Rev 17:18 [q]Rev 17:16
18:20 [r]Jer 51:48; S Rev 12:12 [s]Rev 19:2
18:21 [t]Rev 5:2; 10:1 [u]Jer 51:63 [v]S Rev 17:18
18:22 [w]Isa 24:8; Eze 26:13 [x]Jer 25:10
18:23 [y]Jer 7:34; 16:9; 25:10 [z]ver 3; Isa 23:8 [a]Na 3:4
18:24 [b]Rev 16:6; 17:6

and of all who have been killed on
the earth."[a]

Hallelujah!

19 After this I heard what sounded like the roar of a great multitude[b] in heaven shouting:

"Hallelujah![c]
Salvation[d] and glory and power[e]
belong to our God,
2 for true and just are his
judgments.[f]
He has condemned the great
prostitute[g]
who corrupted the earth by her
adulteries.
He has avenged on her the blood of
his servants."[h]

3And again they shouted:

"Hallelujah![i]
The smoke from her goes up for ever
and ever."[j]

4The twenty-four elders[k] and the
four living creatures[l] fell down[m] and
worshiped God, who was seated on
the throne. And they cried:

"Amen, Hallelujah!"[n]

5Then a voice came from the throne,
saying:

"Praise our God,
all you his servants,[o]
you who fear him,
both small and great!"[p]

6Then I heard what sounded like a
great multitude,[q] like the roar of rushing waters[r] and like loud peals of
thunder, shouting:

"Hallelujah![s]
For our Lord God Almighty[t]
reigns.[u]
7Let us rejoice and be glad
and give him glory![v]
For the wedding of the Lamb[w] has
come,
and his bride[x] has made herself
ready.
8Fine linen,[y] bright and clean,
was given her to wear."

(Fine linen stands for the righteous acts[z] of the saints.)

9Then the angel said to me,[a]
"Write:[b] 'Blessed are those who are in-
vited to the wedding supper of the
Lamb!'"[c] And he added, "These are
the true words of God."[d]

10At this I fell at his feet to worship
him.[e] But he said to me, "Do not do it!
I am a fellow servant with you and
with your brothers who hold to the testimony of Jesus. Worship God![f] For
the testimony of Jesus[g] is the spirit of
prophecy."

The Rider on the White Horse

11I saw heaven standing open[h] and
there before me was a white horse,
whose rider[i] is called Faithful and
True.[j] With justice he judges and
makes war.[k] 12His eyes are like blazing
fire,[l] and on his head are many
crowns.[m] He has a name written on
him[n] that no one knows but he himself.[o] 13He is dressed in a robe dipped
in blood,[p] and his name is the Word of
God.[q] 14The armies of heaven were fol-
lowing him, riding on white horses and
dressed in fine linen,[r] white[s] and
clean. 15Out of his mouth comes a
sharp sword[t] with which to strike
down[u] the nations. "He will rule them
with an iron scepter."[w][v] He treads the
winepress[w] of the fury of the wrath of
God Almighty. 16On his robe and
on his thigh he has this name written:[x]

KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.[y]

17And I saw an angel standing in the
sun, who cried in a loud voice to all the
birds[z] flying in midair,[a] "Come,[b]
gather together for the great supper of
God,[c] 18so that you may eat the flesh of
kings, generals, and mighty men, of
horses and their riders, and the flesh of
all people,[d] free and slave,[e] small and
great."[f]

19Then I saw the beast[g] and the
kings of the earth[h] and their armies
gathered together to make war against
the rider on the horse[i] and his army.
20But the beast was captured, and with
him the false prophet[j] who had per-
formed the miraculous signs[k] on his
behalf.[l] With these signs he had
deluded[m] those who had received the
mark of the beast[n] and worshiped his
image.[o] The two of them were thrown
alive into the fiery lake[p] of burning sul-
fur.[q] 21The rest of them were killed
with the sword[r] that came out of the
mouth of the rider on the horse,[s] and
all the birds[t] gorged themselves on
their flesh.

18:24 [a]Jer 51:49; Mt 23:35
19:1 [b]ver 6; Rev 11:15 [c]ver 3,4,6 [d]Rev 7:10; 12:10 [e]Rev 4:11; 7:12
19:2 [f]Rev 16:7 [g]S Rev 17:1 [h]S Rev 6:10
19:3 [i]ver 1,4,6 [j]Isa 34:10; Rev 14:11
19:4 [k]S Rev 4:4 [l]S Rev 4:6 [m]S Rev 4:10 [n]ver 1,3,6
19:5 [o]Ps 134:1 [p]ver 18; Ps 115:13; Rev 11:18; 13:16; 20:12
19:6 [q]ver 1; Rev 11:15 [r]S Rev 1:15 [s]ver 1,3,4 [t]S Rev 1:8 [u]Rev 11:15
19:7 [v]S Rev 11:13 [w]ver 9; Mt 22:2; 25:10; Eph 5:32 [x]Rev 21:2,9; 22:17
19:8 [y]ver 14; Rev 15:6 [z]Isa 61:10; Eze 44:17; Zec 3:4; Rev 15:4
19:9 [a]ver 10 [b]Rev 1:19 [c]Lk 14:15 [d]Rev 21:5; 22:6
19:10 [e]Rev 22:8 [f]Ac 10:25,26; Rev 22:9 [g]S Rev 1:2
19:11 [h]S Mt 3:16 [i]ver 19,21; Rev 6:2 [j]Rev 3:14 [k]Ex 15:3; Ps 96:13; Isa 11:4
19:12 [l]S Rev 1:14 [m]Rev 6:2; 12:3 [n]ver 16 [o]S Rev 2:17
19:13 [p]Isa 63:2,3 [q]Jn 1:1
19:14 [r]ver 8 [s]S Rev 3:4
19:15 [t]ver 21; S Rev 1:16 [u]Isa 11:4; 2Th 2:8 [v]Ps 2:9; Rev 2:27; 12:5 [w]S Rev 14:20
19:16 [x]ver 12 [y]S 1Ti 6:15
19:17 [z]ver 21 [a]Rev 8:13; 14:6 [b]Jer 12:9; Eze 39:17 [c]Isa 34:6; Jer 46:10
19:18 [d]Eze 39:18-20 [e]Rev 6:15 [f]S ver 5
19:19 [g]S Rev 13:1 [h]Rev 16:14,16 [i]ver 11,21
19:20 [j]Rev 16:13 [k]S Mt 24:24 [l]Rev 13:12 [m]Rev 13:14 [n]Rev 13:16 [o]Rev 13:15 [p]Da 7:11; Rev 20:10,14,15; 21:8 [q]S Rev 9:17
19:21 [r]ver 15 S Rev 1:16 [s]ver 11,19 [t]ver 17

[w]15 Psalm 2:9

The Thousand Years

20 And I saw an angel coming
down out of heaven,[a] having
the key[b] to the Abyss[c] and holding in
his hand a great chain. 2He seized the
dragon, that ancient serpent, who is
the devil, or Satan,[d] and bound him
for a thousand years.[e] 3He threw him
into the Abyss,[f] and locked and
sealed[g] it over him, to keep him from
deceiving the nations[h] anymore until
the thousand years were ended. After
that, he must be set free for a short
time.
4I saw thrones[i] on which were seat-
ed those who had been given authority
to judge.[j] And I saw the souls of those
who had been beheaded[k] because of
their testimony for Jesus[l] and because
of the word of God.[m] They had not
worshiped the beast[n] or his image and
had not received his mark on their fore-
heads or their hands.[o] They came to
life and reigned[p] with Christ a thou-
sand years. 5(The rest of the dead did
not come to life until the thousand
years were ended.) This is the first
resurrection.[q] 6Blessed[r] and holy are
those who have part in the first resur-
rection. The second death[s] has no
power over them, but they will be
priests[t] of God and of Christ and will
reign with him[u] for a thousand years.

Satan's Doom

7When the thousand years are over,[v]
Satan will be released from his prison
8and will go out to deceive the nations[w]
in the four corners of the earth[x]—Gog
and Magog[y]—to gather them for bat-
tle.[z] In number they are like the sand
on the seashore.[a] 9They marched
across the breadth of the earth and sur-
rounded[b] the camp of God's people,
the city he loves.[c] But fire came down
from heaven[d] and devoured them.
10And the devil, who deceived them,[e]
was thrown into the lake of burning
sulfur,[f] where the beast[g] and the false
prophet[h] had been thrown. They will
be tormented day and night for ever
and ever.[i]

The Dead Are Judged

11Then I saw a great white throne[j]
and him who was seated on it. Earth
and sky fled from his presence,[k] and
there was no place for them. 12And I
saw the dead, great and small,[l] stand-
ing before the throne, and books were
opened.[m] Another book was opened,
which is the book of life.[n] The dead
were judged[o] according to what they
had done[p] as recorded in the books.
13The sea gave up the dead that were in
it, and death and Hades[q] gave up the
dead[r] that were in them, and each per-
son was judged according to what he
had done.[s] 14Then death[t] and Hades[u]
were thrown into the lake of fire.[v] The
lake of fire is the second death.[w] 15If
anyone's name was not found written
in the book of life,[x] he was thrown into
the lake of fire.

The New Jerusalem

21 Then I saw a new heaven and a
new earth,[y] for the first heaven
and the first earth had passed away,[z]
and there was no longer any sea. 2I saw
the Holy City,[a] the new Jerusalem,
coming down out of heaven from
God,[b] prepared as a bride[c] beautifully
dressed for her husband. 3And I heard
a loud voice from the throne saying,
"Now the dwelling of God is with
men, and he will live with them.[d] They
will be his people, and God himself
will be with them and be their God.[e]
4He will wipe every tear from their
eyes.[f] There will be no more death[g] or
mourning or crying or pain,[h] for the
old order of things has passed away."[i]
5He who was seated on the throne[j]
said, "I am making everything new!"[k]
Then he said, "Write this down, for
these words are trustworthy and
true."[l]
6He said to me: "It is done.[m] I am the
Alpha and the Omega,[n] the Beginning
and the End. To him who is thirsty I
will give to drink without cost[o] from
the spring of the water of life.[p] 7He
who overcomes[q] will inherit all this,
and I will be his God and he will be my
son.[r] 8But the cowardly, the unbeliev-
ing, the vile, the murderers, the sexual-
ly immoral, those who practice magic
arts, the idolaters and all liars[s]—their
place will be in the fiery lake of burning
sulfur.[t] This is the second death."[u]
9One of the seven angels who had
the seven bowls full of the seven last
plagues[v] came and said to me, "Come,
I will show you the bride,[w] the wife of
the Lamb." 10And he carried me away[x]
in the Spirit[y] to a mountain great and
high, and showed me the Holy City,
Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven

20:1 [a]Rev 10:1; 18:1 [b]Rev 1:18 [c]S Lk 8:31 **20:2** [d]S Mt 4:10 [e]Isa 24:22; S 2Pe 2:4 **20:3** [f]ver 1 [g]Da 6:17; Mt 27:66 [h]ver 8, 10; Rev 12:9 **20:4** [i]Da 7:9 [j]Mt 19:28; Rev 3:21 [k]Rev 6:9 [l]S Rev 1:2 [m]S Heb 4:12 [n]S Rev 13:12 [o]S Rev 13:16 [p]ver 6; Rev 22:5 **20:5** [q]ver 6; Lk 14:14; Php 3:11; 1Th 4:16 **20:6** [r]Rev 14:13 [s]S Rev 2:11 [t]S 1Pe 2:5 [u]ver 4; Rev 22:5 **20:7** [v]ver 2 **20:8** [w]ver 3,10; Rev 12:9 [x]Isa 11:12; Eze 7:2; Rev 7:1 [y]Eze 38:2; 39:1 [z]S Rev 16:14 [a]Eze 38:9,15; Heb 11:12 **20:9** [b]Eze 38:9, 16 [c]Ps 87:2 [d]Eze 38:22; 39:6; S Rev 13:13 **20:10** [e]ver 3,8; Rev 12:9; 19:20 [f]S Rev 9:17 [g]Rev 16:13 [h]Rev 16:13 [i]Rev 14:10,11 **20:11** [j]S Rev 4:2 [k]S Rev 6:14 **20:12** [l]S Rev 19:5 [m]Da 7:10 [n]ver 15; Ex 32:32; Dt 29:20; Da 12:1; Mal 3:16; Lk 10:20; Rev 3:5; 21:27 [o]Rev 11:18 [p]Jer 17:10; S Mt 16:27 **20:13** [q]Rev 1:18; 6:8 [r]Isa 26:19 [s]S Mt 16:27 **20:14** [t]1Co 15:26 [u]ver 13 [v]S Rev 19:20 [w]S Rev 2:11 **20:15** [x]S ver 12 **21:1** [y]S 2Pe 3:13 [z]S Rev 6:14 **21:2** [a]ver 10; Ne 11:18; Isa 52:1; Rev 11:2; 22:19 [b]ver 10; Heb 11:10; 12:22; Rev 3:12 [c]S Rev 19:7 **21:3** [d]Ex 25:8; 2Ch 6:18; Eze 48:35; Zec 2:10 [e]S 2Co 6:16 **21:4** [f]S Rev 7:17 [g]Isa 25:8; 1Co 15:26; Rev 20:14 [h]Isa 35:10; 65:19 [i]S 2Co 5:17 **21:5** [j]Rev 4:9; 20:11 [k]ver 4 [l]Rev 19:9; 22:6 **21:6** [m]Rev 16:17 [n]Rev 1:8; 22:13 [o]Isa 55:1 [p]S Jn 4:10 **21:7** [q]S Jn 16:33 [r]ver 3; 2Sa 7:14; 2Co 6:16; S Ro 8:14 **21:8** [s]ver 27; Ps 5:6; 1Co 6:9; Heb 12:14; Rev 22:15 [t]S Rev 9:17 [u]S Rev 2:11 **21:9** [v]S Rev 15:1,6,7 [w]S Rev 19:7 **21:10** [x]Eze 40:2; Rev 17:3 [y]S Rev 1:10

from God.[a] 11It shone with the glory of
God,[b] and its brilliance was like that of
a very precious jewel, like a jasper,[c]
clear as crystal.[d] 12It had a great, high
wall with twelve gates,[e] and with
twelve angels at the gates. On the gates
were written the names of the twelve
tribes of Israel.[f] 13There were three
gates on the east, three on the north,
three on the south and three on the
west. 14The wall of the city had twelve
foundations,[g] and on them were the
names of the twelve apostles[h] of the
Lamb.

15The angel who talked with me had
a measuring rod[i] of gold to measure
the city, its gates[j] and its walls. 16The
city was laid out like a square, as long
as it was wide. He measured the city
with the rod and found it to be 12,000
stadia[v] in length, and as wide and high
as it is long. 17He measured its wall and
it was 144 cubits[w] thick,[x] by man's[k]
measurement, which the angel was us-
ing. 18The wall was made of jasper,[l]
and the city of pure gold, as pure as
glass.[m] 19The foundations of the city
walls were decorated with every kind
of precious stone.[n] The first founda-
tion was jasper,[o] the second sapphire,
the third chalcedony, the fourth em-
erald, 20the fifth sardonyx, the sixth
carnelian,[p] the seventh chrysolite, the
eighth beryl, the ninth topaz, the tenth
chrysoprase, the eleventh jacinth, and
the twelfth amethyst.[y] 21The twelve
gates[q] were twelve pearls,[r] each gate
made of a single pearl. The great street
of the city was of pure gold, like trans-
parent glass.[s]

22I did not see a temple[t] in the city,
because the Lord God Almighty[u] and
the Lamb[v] are its temple. 23The city
does not need the sun or the moon to
shine on it, for the glory of God[w] gives
it light,[x] and the Lamb[y] is its lamp.
24The nations will walk by its light, and
the kings of the earth will bring their
splendor into it.[z] 25On no day will its
gates[a] ever be shut,[b] for there will be
no night there.[c] 26The glory and honor
of the nations will be brought into it.[d]
27Nothing impure will ever enter it, nor
will anyone who does what is shameful
or deceitful,[e] but only those whose
names are written in the Lamb's book
of life.[f]

The River of Life

22 Then the angel showed me the
river[g] of the water of life,[h] as
clear as crystal,[i] flowing[j] from the
throne of God and of the Lamb 2down
the middle of the great street of the
city. On each side of the river stood the
tree of life,[k] bearing twelve crops of
fruit, yielding its fruit every month.
And the leaves of the tree are for the
healing of the nations.[l] 3No longer will
there be any curse.[m] The throne of God
and of the Lamb will be in the city, and
his servants will serve him.[n] 4They will
see his face,[o] and his name will be on
their foreheads.[p] 5There will be no
more night.[q] They will not need the
light of a lamp or the light of the sun,
for the Lord God will give them light.[r]
And they will reign for ever and ever.[s]

6The angel said to me,[t] "These
words are trustworthy and true.[u] The
Lord, the God of the spirits of the
prophets,[v] sent his angel[w] to show his
servants the things that must soon take
place."

Jesus Is Coming

7"Behold, I am coming soon![x]
Blessed[y] is he who keeps the words of
the prophecy in this book."[z]

8I, John, am the one who heard and
saw these things.[a] And when I had
heard and seen them, I fell down to
worship at the feet[b] of the angel who
had been showing them to me. 9But he
said to me, "Do not do it! I am a fellow
servant with you and with your broth-
ers the prophets and of all who keep
the words of this book.[c] Worship
God!"[d]

10Then he told me, "Do not seal up[e]
the words of the prophecy of this
book,[f] because the time is near.[g] 11Let
him who does wrong continue to do
wrong; let him who is vile continue to
be vile; let him who does right continue
to do right; and let him who is holy
continue to be holy."[h]

12"Behold, I am coming soon![i] My
reward is with me,[j] and I will give to
everyone according to what he has
done.[k] 13I am the Alpha and the
Omega,[l] the First and the Last,[m] the
Beginning and the End.[n]

14"Blessed are those who wash their
robes,[o] that they may have the right to
the tree of life[p] and may go through

21:10 [a]S ver 2
21:11 [b]ver 23; Isa 60:1,2; Eze 43:2; Rev 15:8; 22:5 [c]ver 18,19; Rev 4:3 [d]Rev 4:6
21:12 [e]ver 15, 21,25; Rev 22:14 [f]Eze 48:30-34
21:14 [g]S Eph 2:20; Heb 11:10 [h]Ac 1:26; Eph 2:20
21:15 [i]Eze 40:3; Rev 11:1 [j]S ver 12
21:17 [k]Rev 13:18
21:18 [l]S ver 11 [m]ver 21
21:19 [n]Ex 28:17-20; Isa 54:11,12; Eze 28:13 [o]S ver 11
21:20 [p]Rev 4:3
21:21 [q]S ver 12 [r]Isa 54:12 [s]ver 18
21:22 [t]Jn 4:21, 23 [u]S Rev 1:8 [v]S Rev 5:6
21:23 [w]S ver 11 [x]Isa 24:23; 60:19, 20; Rev 22:5 [y]S Rev 5:6
21:24 [z]ver 26; Isa 60:3,5
21:25 [a]S ver 12 [b]Isa 60:11 [c]Zec 14:7; Rev 22:5
21:26 [d]ver 24
21:27 [e]Isa 52:1; Joel 3:17; Rev 22:14,15 [f]S Rev 20:12
22:1 [g]Ps 36:8; 46:4 [h]ver 17; S Jn 4:10 [i]Rev 4:6 [j]Eze 47:1; Zec 14:8
22:2 [k]S Rev 2:7 [l]Eze 47:12
22:3 [m]Zec 14:11 [n]Rev 7:15
22:4 [o]S Mt 5:8 [p]S Rev 7:3
22:5 [q]Rev 21:25; Zec 14:7 [r]Isa 60:19,20; Rev 21:23 [s]Da 7:27; Rev 20:4
22:6 [t]Rev 1:1 [u]Rev 21:5 [v]1Co 14:32; Heb 12:9 [w]ver 16; Rev 1:1
22:7 [x]ver 12,20; S Mt 16:27 [y]Rev 1:3; 16:15 [z]ver 10,18,19
22:8 [a]S Rev 1:1 [b]Rev 19:10
22:9 [c]ver 10,18, 19 [d]Rev 19:10
22:10 [e]Da 8:26; Rev 10:4 [f]ver 7, 18,19 [g]S Ro 13:11
22:11 [h]Eze 3:27; Da 12:10
22:12 [i]ver 7,20; S Mt 16:27 [j]Isa 40:10; 62:11 [k]S Mt 16:27
22:13 [l]Rev 1:8 [m]S Rev 1:17 [n]Rev 21:6
22:14 [o]Rev 7:14 [p]S Rev 2:7

[v]16 That is, about 1,400 miles (about 2,200 kilometers) [w]17 That is, about 200 feet (about 65 meters) [x]17 Or *high* [y]20 The precise identification of some of these precious stones is uncertain.

the gates into the city. 15Outside
are the dogs, those who practice mag-
ic arts, the sexually immoral, the mur-
derers, the idolaters and everyone who
loves and practices falsehood.
16"I, Jesus, have sent my angel to
give you[a] this testimony for the
churches. I am the Root and the Off-
spring of David, and the bright Morn-
ing Star."
17The Spirit and the bride say,
"Come!" And let him who hears say,
"Come!" Whoever is thirsty, let him
come; and whoever wishes, let him
take the free gift of the water of life.
18I warn everyone who hears the
words of the prophecy of this book:[n] If
anyone adds anything to them,[o] God
will add to him the plagues described
in this book.[p] 19And if anyone takes
words away[q] from this book of proph-
ecy,[r] God will take away from him his
share in the tree of life[s] and in the holy
city, which are described in this book.
20He who testifies to these things[t]
says, "Yes, I am coming soon."[u]
Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.[v]
21The grace of the Lord Jesus be with
God's people.[w] Amen.

22:14 S Rev 21:12; S Rev 21:27 22:15 Dt 23:18; 1Co 6:9,10; Gal 5:19-21; Col 3:5,6; Rev 21:8; Php 3:2 22:16 Rev 1:1; ver 8; Rev 1:4; S Rev 5:5; S Mt 1:1; 2Pe 1:19; Rev 2:28 22:17 Rev 2:7; 14:13; S Rev 19:7; S Jn 4:10 22:18 ver 7,10,19; Dt 4:2; 12:32; Pr 30:6; Rev 15:6-16:21 22:19 Dt 4:2; 12:32; Pr 30:6

[r]ver 7,10,18 [s]S Rev 2:7 22:20 [t]Rev 1:2 [u]ver 7,12; S Mt 16:27 [v]1Co 16:22 22:21 [w]S Ro 16:20

[a]16 The Greek is plural.